

The Opal Express

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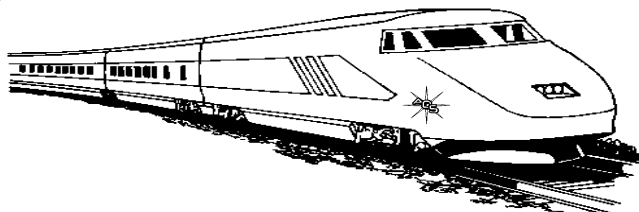


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President's Message

The Prez Sez...

I said it before but I'll say it again because we cannot overstate the importance of the November Opal Show.

!!! SHOW TIME !!! SHOW TIME !!! SHOW TIME !!!

OPAL GEM & JEWELRY SHOW NOV 4TH & 5TH!!!
Over 100 dealer tables are mapped to the floor!!!

YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOUR HELP WITH THE SHOW - here are several places you can help:

- Volunteer at the front desk welcoming guests and taking their admission.
- Volunteer to invite show guests to join AOS - help them fill out the membership application, give them a special gift goodie bag for new members joining at the show/
- Volunteer to sell drawing tickets and show guests the case of prizes on display (drawing Grand Prize custom jewelry piece by Stan McCall)/
- Volunteer who circulates the floor checking with dealers asking if they need a break or anything else/
- Volunteer who circulates the floor selling drawing tickets to dealers and show guests.

ANNUAL OPAL SHOW SUPPORT DRIVE: Reminder!

We continue to request your support for the show. Our goal is \$1,350. Please help in this important fund drive.

OCTOBER EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: We have Opal Society members teamed up for two events in Anaheim. First is the Anaheim Public Library STEAM day, Friday October 13th from 4pm to 7pm. The acronym stands for Science Technology Engineering Art Math (STEAM). Our booth will feature an Opal Show display and information to encourage the public to visit our show, opal mining, children's Australia facts and coloring booklet designed by yours truly,

children's treasure hunt with special prizes organized by Kathy James. Kathy, Veronica and Russ will be at the booth.

All day Saturday Oct 14th we are doing a booth for the Orange County Parks similar to the Science in the Park booth we had earlier this year. Event location is Ralph B Clark Park, 8800 Rosecrans Ave, Buena Park, CA 90621. The theme is Prehistoric OC and in our booth we will have fossils (both opal and others), children's treasure hunt with a dinosaur theme, and again, opal mining demonstration and Opal Show display. Many thanks to Veronica Purpura for getting these events scheduled and very special thanks to Kathy James for helping in many ways including treasure hunt prizes, providing the booth ez-up, plus tables and chairs.

These booth activities have proven to be great fun and a fantastic way for the Opal Society to expand our sphere of involvement in the community. All members are welcome to participate. Please keep this in mind as future opportunities develop. Come out and help!

See you at the October 25th meeting.

Cheers!

Pete Goetz, President

P.S. Did I mention our Opal Gem & Jewelry Show is coming first weekend of November! Don't miss it!!!

Opal, Gem and Jewelry Show Status

The AOS show is **SOLD OUT**. We've had a great response from vendors and we even have a wait list to get in. Piaggios will be present for the lunch shift providing delicious Argentinian food. Power Security will be monitoring the show's safety. Special thanks to our gold and silver sponsors, Gem Cutters Atelier and The Gem Garden. Also a special thanks to the Anaheim Arts Council and the Business Expo Center, along with the ladies of the Anaheim Fall Festival who will be volunteering at the show. Promotion for the show is going strong and our members and dealers are plugging the event wherever they can. We hope for an amazing turnout for our 50th Annual Show.

Veronica Purpura – Show Chairperson

October 25, 2017 Program: Opal Mining in Australia

By Larry Hoskinson and Leslie Neff

We have spent almost 4 years in Australia starting in 1985 and our last trip was in 2015. Each trip has included a visit to Coober Pedy, which will be the focus of the presentation we will make at our meeting on October 25, 2017.

Our program covers various opal mining techniques: useful travel information on how to get from Sydney to Coober Pedy and around there once you arrive. We finish with slides of rough and finished opal. Larry will also give a demonstration on how to find opal using a black light. There are samples of rough and finished opal, books and maps. It is a fun travelogue on Australia. Questions are encouraged.

New Deposit of Black Opal from Ethiopia

By Lore Kiefert, Pierre Hardy, Tewodros Sintayehu, Begosew Abate, and Girma Woldetinsae

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Opal was first discovered in Ethiopia in the early 1990s. Specimens from Mezezo in the historical Shewa province consist of nodules of a reddish brown volcanic rock with orange, reddish brown, or "chocolate" brown precious opal inside. The next major discovery occurred in 2008, when white precious opal was found in the province of Wollo near Wegel Tena, about 550 km north of Addis Ababa (F. Mazzero et al., "Nouveau gisement d'opales d'Ethiopie dans la Province du Welo: Premières informations," *Revue de Gemmologie a.f.g.*, No. 167, pp. 4–5). This deposit still produces large amounts of white and crystal precious opal and occasionally some black material (Winter 2011 Lab Notes, pp. 312–313).

In 2013, yet another source was discovered in Wollo, at the Stayish mine near the town of Gashena (figure 1). This discovery has yielded mostly dark and black opal, along with some white and crystal opal. Although it is only now being reported, the deposit has been actively producing since 2013. It is set in a distinct opal-bearing layer in a mountainous area at an altitude of around 3,000 meters. It lies approximately 700 km northeast of Addis Ababa, more than 100 km from the historic town of Lalibela by road, and about 30 km north of the white opal deposit.

up to 15–20 meters long that are dug horizontally into the mountain slope by local villagers. The material generally comes in nodules and chunks 2–5 cm long, but 10 cm pieces have also been retrieved from this deposit (figure 3).



Figure 2. While acidic ash layers occur repeatedly within the stratigraphic sequence at Stayish, precious black opal occurs only in this stratum. Photo by Pierre Hardy.



Figure 3. Pieces of black opal from the Stayish mine are usually 2–5 cm in diameter (bottom), though some may reach 10 cm in length (top). Photo by Tewodros Sintayehu.

The specimens are usually very dark, reminiscent of dyed or smoke-treated opal except that the surface does not show any staining in surface pits or fissures (figure 4). The stones also display a dark, even color all the way through and are sometimes layered with dark gray common opal. This separates it from sugar-acid treated opal (Winter



Figure 1. The Stayish black opal mine, active since 2013, is located in the Wollo province of northern Ethiopia.

Like the white opal, the black opal is found at the contact zone between the volcanic rock series and the underlying clay-rich layer (figure 2). The layer is one in a sequence of repeating volcanic ash and ignimbrite layers. Field observations at different locations show that the opal-bearing layer is contained in a single stratum extending for tens and even hundreds of kilometers along the mountain belt. The opal-bearing clay layer is about 60 cm thick and contains opal of various quality and color. The black opal is retrieved from flat tunnels

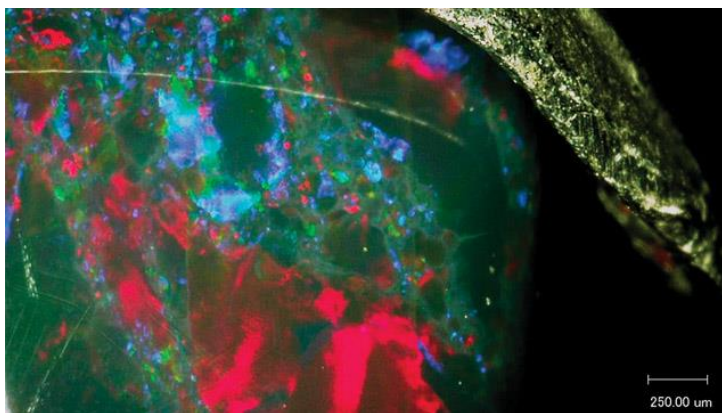


Figure 4. This microscopic image of an Ethiopian black opal with surface scratches shows none of the black staining seen in smoke-treated or dyed opal. Some grayish non-precious opal material can be observed between the color patches. Photo by Hpone-Phyo Kan-Nyunt.

Initial X-ray fluorescence analyses showed barium (Ba) values ranging from below detection limit for one deposit with more crystalline opal to 1000 ppmw for another deposit with more dense and grayish material. The two deposits are on adjacent sides of the same mountain. The wide range of Ba values confirmed the volcano-sedimentary character of the black opals, as previously described for white opals from Wegel Tena (B. Rondeau et al., "[Play-of-color opal from Wegel Tena, Wollo Province, Ethiopia](#)," Summer 2010 G&G, pp. 90–105).

Preliminary studies with Fourier-transform infrared (FTIR) spectrometry did not give conclusive results due to the relatively opaque character of our samples. Raman spectra showed very strong carbon peaks, though these alone do not allow a reliable distinction between treated opal from Wegel Tena and natural-color black opal from the Stayish mine. Careful microscopic observation should reveal the natural character of opal from this new deposit, and further studies are in progress.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Lore Kiefert is chief gemologist and Pierre Hardy is senior gemologist at the Gübelin Gem Lab in Lucerne, Switzerland. Tewodros Sintayehu and Begosew Abate are with Orbit Ethiopia plc in Addis Ababa. Girma Woldetinsae is director of research and development for the Ethiopian Ministry of Mines, as well as president of the Ethiopian Geoscience and Mineral Engineering Association (EGMEA).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors thank Mr. Bill Marcue from D.W. Enterprises for helping to finance this trip, as well as the Ministry of Mines of Ethiopia and the people of Wollo for their kindness and support.

From Gems & Gemology, Winter 2014, Vol. 50, No. 4

From <https://www.gia.edu/gems-gemology/winter-2014-gemnews-new-deposit-black-opal-from-ethiopia>

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Psychology, History and the Market: Why We Value Gemstones

Written by Marissa Miller, CNN, Updated 28th September 2017



Photo of US First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy relaxing in a chair, wearing a pearl necklace, a few weeks after her husband John F. Kennedy won the US presidential election.

Humankind's fascination with precious stones long predates the establishment of gemology. The Romans believed that diamonds were splinters of falling stars, while the ancient Greeks considered them to be the tears of the gods.

Pearls were also highly prized in ancient societies. Regarded as a currency for affection and love, the silky round bulbs were often offered to women on their wedding days to promote fertility.

Today, the value of a gem is more likely to be dictated by auction records than superstition. But while you can put a price on a precious stone, its value is determined by more than just supply and demand.

Instinctive attraction

There may be evolutionary reasons why we gravitate towards shiny objects. Research published in the Journal of Consumer Psychology suggests that gems evoke the glossy surface of a body of water. Our pursuit of them may be rooted in a simple urge to survive.

In the study, researchers blindfolded participants and asked them to touch a picture of a landscape. They were then asked to guess how much water featured in the image. Those touching glossy surfaces guessed a higher proportion of water than those given matte paper.



Jade is growing more popular in the West. Here actress Jessica Chastain attends the 2014 Hollywood premiere of "Interstellar" wearing a pair of finely carved jadeite earrings. Credit: Frazer Harrison/Getty Images North America/Getty Images

The study's co-author, Dr. Vanessa Patrick, believes that the association between glossy surfaces and the images they conjure may offer evolutionary reasons for our love of shiny objects.

"We wanted to rule out the 'pretty' explanation," said Patrick, who's also a professor of marketing and director of doctoral programs at the University of Houston.

The mental associations we make with colors may also explain the value assigned to certain gems. According to author and gemologist Antoinette Matlins, blue gems traditionally represent the heavens and the seas, red symbolizes heart and passion, while green signifies rebirth and loyalty -- reliable like the grass that regrows every spring.

Gem superstitions can also be gendered. Matlins says that yellow denotes secrecy on a man but generosity on a woman. White or transparent stones typically signify friendship, integrity and religious commitment for men, or purity, affability and thoughtfulness for women.



L'Ecole The School of Jewelry Arts was founded in Paris 2012. It returns to Hong Kong this September with courses such as "Art History of Jewelry" and "Universe of Gemstones." Credit: Van Cleef & Arpels

Pearls have often been used to project power, according to Inezita Gay-Eckel, a jewelry historian and professor at L'École, a Paris-based school founded by the jewelry brand Van Cleef & Arpels.

"Think of Elizabeth I of England who covered herself in pearls and makeup as a shield," Gay-Eckel said. "(She was) always walking the tightrope of not appearing unnatural and staying a woman -- so that people wouldn't think she was a monster -- (while) also keeping power.

"Look at any powerful woman. From Oprah to Nancy Pelosi to Jacqueline Kennedy, when they want to project the right image, pearls are going to come out."

Each gem has a story

Today, there are scientific ways of assessing the value of a precious stone. In addition to its rarity, a gem's market value is often determined by its clarity, cut, color and carat -- colloquially known as the "four Cs."

But ultimately, a jewel is worth whatever bidders are willing to pay for it. Just like in the art world, contemporary culture and trends also play their part.

History can too. Worn, transported or exchanged, a gem often carries the stories of its previous owners. Some of the world's most prized stones are valued for their pasts. The American Gem Trade Association now promotes the history of its stones by creating background cards to accompany those it sells, said Matlins.

"The (idea of) information (cards is) only a couple of years old, but retailers and customers love it," she said. "Almost all colored gemstones carry a story."

As cultural artifacts, gems can reflect the technology and the values of the civilizations that celebrated them, from carved Moghul emeralds to Chinese burial suits made from jade.



Myanmar generates a considerable income from the mining of precious jade stones, mostly from the northern part of the country. Credit: Paula Bronstein/Getty Images AsiaPac/Getty Images

Defining value

Of course, value isn't always monetary. At L'École jewelry school, which begins a series of classes in Hong Kong this month, students are taught to address a gem's worth through a broad range of factors, according to Gay-Eckel.

"If people want to know what makes jewelry valuable, we give them knowledge about everything that's around it," she said. "What goes into making it, how to enjoy the stones and how to obtain the knowledge with a sense of discovery and satisfaction. Do you love it? Is it something your mother gave you?"



This 887-carat raw emerald, one of the largest known rough emeralds from the Muzo mines, is probably the largest such emerald in the United States, according to New York-based auction house Guernsey's. Credit: Image: Courtesy Guernseys

For scientists, gemstones' value is drawn from the precious insights they can offer into plate tectonics -- and the mountains, oceans and environments of the past.

"The gem deposits of eastern Africa trace the outline of ancient mountains that once connected Sri Lanka and Madagascar over 500 million years ago," said Pay. "And the oldest emeralds formed just under three billion years ago, which rivals the age of some diamonds."

Related: Fifty shades of jade: Why Chinese buyers spend millions on this stone

Perhaps jewels' true worth lies in these timeless qualities. Having survived for millennia, gemstones have long been considered reliable investments, as they continue to hold their value through the generations.

"Of all of the ways to adorn yourself, what has nature created that has lasting beauty like a rock?" Matlins said. "As soon as you cut a flower, it wilts. A sunset is beautiful but you can't capture or wear it. There is something so special and everlasting about nature's creation of minerals and rocks."

<http://www.cnn.com/style/article/why-we-value-gemstones/index.html>

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Historic Gem: World's Largest Flawless Diamond Up For Auction

By [James Rogers, Fox News](#)



In this image released on Thursday, Sept. 28, 2017, a 163-carat flawless emerald stone, the largest of its kind ever to be put up for auction, has been unveiled in Hong Kong today. The finished piece, named *The Art of de Grisogono* will be presented in a series of public viewings around the world before it goes up for an auction at Christie's in Geneva on November 14. (Actua Films via AP Images)

A 163.41-carat D flawless diamond, described as the largest ever put up for auction, was unveiled in Hong Kong on Thursday.

'D' graded diamonds are colorless.

The diamond, unveiled by jewelry specialist de Grisogono, is cut from a 404.2-carat stone named the "4 de Fevereiro" that was discovered in Angola in February 2016. The stone is the 27th largest rough white diamond ever discovered and the largest in Angola, according to de Grisogono.

After analysis in Antwerp, the rough diamond was cut in New York, where a team of 10 specialists turned it into a 163.41-carat emerald-cut stone.



In this image released on Thursday, Sept. 28, 2017, a diamond necklace featuring a 163-carat flawless emerald stone, the largest of its kind ever to be put up for auction, has been unveiled in Hong Kong today. The finished piece, named *The Art of de Grisogono* will be presented in a series of public viewings around the world before it goes up for an auction at Christie's in Geneva on November (Actua Films via AP Images)

De Grisogono then suspended the stone from a diamond baguette necklace, from which it can be detached. The finished jewelry piece, named *The Art of de Grisogono*, will now be taken on a world tour, visiting London, Dubai and New York before it goes up for auction in Geneva, Switzerland on Nov. 14.

In 2015 a 'perfect' 100-carat flawless D diamond was sold at Sotheby's New York for \$22 million, including the buyer's premium.

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An uncut diamond the size of a tennis ball sold for \$53 million Tuesday. British jeweler Graff Diamonds bought the 1,109-carat stone, the Lesedi La Rona, which was mined in Botswana in 2015.

Follow James Rogers on Twitter [@jamesjrogers](#)

From <http://www.foxnews.com/science/2017/09/28/historic-gem-worlds-largest-flawless-diamond-up-for-auction.html>

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Napoleon's Black Opal



Napoleon Bonaparte

Emperor Napoleon gave his wife and Empress Josephine de Beauharnais a magnificent Black Opal. Due to the flashing crimson fire in its dark depths, it was named the Burning of Troy.

This gem was at the time undoubtedly the largest Black Opal in the world at the time at 700 carats in cut form. Its beauty and value attracted much attention and Josephine wore it often.

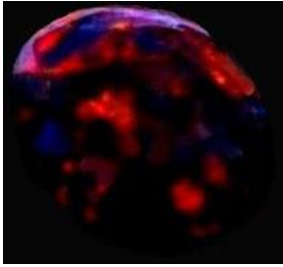
The Burning of Troy Black Opal disappeared after Josephine's death in 1814 and remained hidden for 100 years.



Josephine de Beauharnais

The Opal was purchased by the city of Vienna in Austria and at the time of World War One was valued at over \$50,000.

The Opal vanished once more at the outbreak of World War Two and has not been seen in public since.



The gem was thought to have been mined in Slovakia but a consensus of professional opinion disagrees with this theory.

Due to the Burning of Troy being a Black Opal and backed in the deepest black and its impressive size it is thought likely that the gem originated from Honduras. The Honduran mines are some of the oldest in the world and supplied the native population with gems throughout

history.

From <http://australianblackopal.blogspot.com/2011/10/napoleons-black-opal.html>

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I came across this new and rare gemstone on the Internet; it almost looks like it is man-made. It is not easily found and its price is quite high; on the order of \$1000 per carat. Rough is almost unattainable. The Editor

Rainbow Lattice Sunstone



Discovery and Location:



Rainbow Lattice Sunstone is found in a very small distant patch of desert in the Northern Territory Australia. It was first discovered in late 1985 by Darren Arthur and Sonny Mason (deceased) who happened upon it whilst scouting an area around an unlisted, abandoned Mica mine.

It was identified at the GIA and declared a new gem variety in 1989 (see Gems & Gemology Vol XXV - Spring 1989 p.47).

It is located at what is now known as the "Rainbow Serpent Mine" in the Harts Range Northeast of Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia. This little patch of ground is cross cut by quartz veins and

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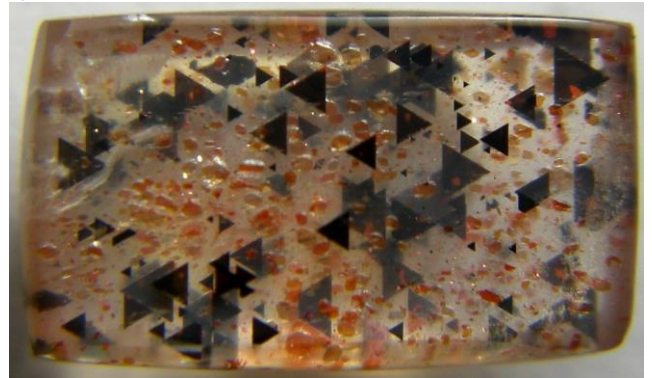
The American Opal Society

pegmatites jutting out between the rocks. The area is a desert with limited water and access to roads. The terrain is comprised of dry plains with rocky outcrops. Take away the few small trees and grasses and you would think you were on Mars. Beautiful, rugged, unforgiving and home to some of earth's most precious treasures.

Composition and appearance:

Rainbow Lattice Sunstone is a very unusual combination. Firstly it is a type of Feldspar which is predominantly Moonstone that is made up of 75% Orthoclase and 25% Albite. Most of the material from our mine is moonstone (displaying Adularescence).

The inclusions (internal features) are referred to as: the result of crystallographically oriented exsolution crystals within the feldspar mass, these are:



Hematite (Fe_2O_3) which are small mainly yellow to deep orange platelets which can be hexagonal shape and are generally in one plane within the Feldspar. This effect is called aventurescence or Sunstone effect and gives some of the gems an amazing orange glow.

and



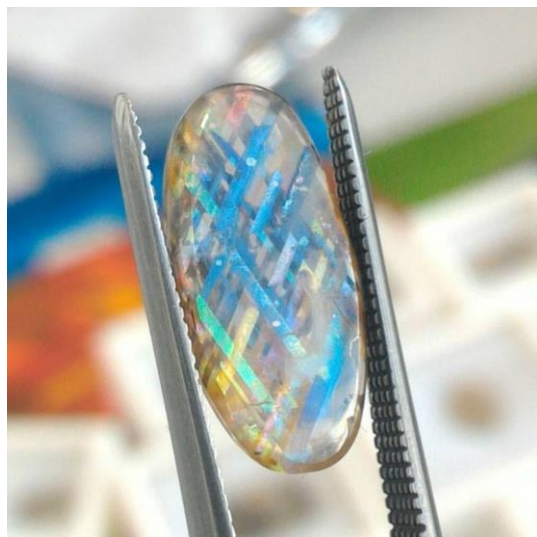
Ilmenite (FeTiO_3) Titanium Iron Oxide which creates the lattice effect. This forms as a very thin blades that occur in one plane at different levels (like pages in a book). These blades orientate (north/south) in different levels by a process known as lamellar twinning and also displays "Sagentic twinning", which forms the lattice pattern.

The Ilmenite inclusions in many cases have oxidized or altered through geophysical processes to give the iridescence or rainbow effect across the lattice patterning.

The Ilmenite that has no alteration remains black with a metallic sheen.

The Ilmenite also predominantly forms triangles and even the lattice pattern has triangular terminations.

It is a rare occurrence when Sunstone occurs in a Moonstone, let alone with the added presence of the other phenomena seen in this amazing stone, perfect parallel lines and equilateral triangles which are incredibly rare in nature.



A Beautiful Lattice Sunstone Cabochon

From <http://rainbowlatticesunstone.com>

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Gem & Mineral Shows

More shows can be found at <http://www.rockngem.com/show-dates-display/?ShowState=ALL>

20-22—SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA: Wholesale and retail show; Gem Faire Inc, Sonoma County Fairgrounds; 1350 Bennett Valley Rd; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Admission \$7, Children free (ages 0-11);; contact Allen Van, (503)-252-8300; e-mail: info@gemfaire.com; Web site: <http://www.gemfaire.com>

21-22—WHITTIER 90602, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; Whittier Gem & Mineral Society, Whittier Community Center; 7630 Washington Ave.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Free Admission; Whittier Gem & Mineral Society's Annual Show, "Found in America" Features gems, mineral, and jewelry displays, lapidary and jewelry demonstrations, vendors, educational children's activities, snack bar, silent auction, raffle with hourly drawings.; contact Yvonne Morton, 11319 Telechron Ave., Whittier, CA 90605, (562)-895-8667; e-mail: will.yvonne.morton@verizon.net; Web site: wgmsca.com

21-22—SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; Santa Rosa Mineral & Gem Society, Santa Rosa Vets Hall; 1351 Maple Ave., (across st. from Fairgrounds); Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; \$6., under 12 free; Minerals, rough rock, slabs, gold panning, beads, fossils, meteorites, lapidary jewelry. Kids' table with games, rock ID expert, wire wrap classes, bake sale, raffles and door prizes and lots more!; contact Jolene Coon, (707)-849-9551; Web site: www.SRMGS.org

28-29—LOS ALTOS, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; Peninsula Gem & Geology Society, Los Altos Youth Center; One No. San Antonio; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$5, Students 12-18 \$2, Children under 12 free; Easy access and free parking next to downtown Los Altos. Fossils, minerals, rocks, gems, and jewelry. Free Hourly drawing prizes. Raffle tickets \$2 each or 6 for \$10 for multiple quality prizes.; contact Steve Jobe, P O Box 4962, Los Altos, CA 94024, (408)-834-5384; e-mail: steve_job@sbccglobal.net; Web site: pggs.org

28-29—SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; Sacramento Mineral Society, Scottish Rite Masonic Center; 6151 H Street; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Admission \$6, Seniors \$5, Students \$6, under 12 are free; The 81st Sacramento Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show; contact Alyssa Meiszinger, P.O. Box 279291, Sacramento, CA 95827, (916)-662-5819; e-mail: gemshow@sacramentomineralsociety.org; Web site: <http://sacgemshow.com>

28-29—CAMBRIA, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Club, Cambria Vets Hall; 1000 Main Street; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission; The San Luis Obispo Gem & Mineral Club proudly presents its 2nd

Annual Autumn Cambria Gem & Mineral Show at the Cambria Vets Hall. The show is free to all and features a wide and eclectic selection of top-of-the-line dealers selling gems, minerals, fossils, crystals, jade, meteorites, slabs, beads, lapidary & jewelry supplies, etc. There will be a free drawing at the entrance. Also, there will be a plaster cast of a Montana T-Rex skull on display.; contact Kim Noyes, (805)-610-0603; e-mail: kimnoyes@gmail.com; Web site: slogem.org

November 2017

4-5—CONCORD, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society, Centre Concord; 5298 Clayton Road; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Admission \$6, Children free; Concord Gem Show. Gems, jewelry, fossils, minerals, crystals, jade, meteorites, tektites, fluorescent rocks, and lapidary tools & equipment, findings, books; Demonstrations: cabbing, beading, wire-wrapping, faceting, stone setting, stone carving, gold panning, and more; Exhibits and educational displays, fluorescent display room, free rock and gem identification; Activities for all ages: youth and scout activities, hourly door prizes, raffle, cafe. Giant T-Rex.; contact Harry Nichandros, Concord, CA 94520, (925)-289-0454; e-mail: showinfo@ccmgs.org; Web site: <http://ccmgs.org>

4-5—SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; The San Diego Mineral and Gem Society, Al Bahr Shrine Center; 5440 Kearney Mesa Blvd, behind the Hampton Inn; Sat. 9:30-5, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission; Featuring: High quality gem and mineral dealers, rough, gemstones, minerals, beads, jewelry, fossils.; contact Bob Hancock, (619)-889-6886; e-mail: rtourmaline2@aol.com; Web site: www.sdmg.org

4-5—CONCORD, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; Contra Costa Gem and Mineral Show, Centre Concord; 5298 Clayton Rd; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$6, Children under 12 free; Browse through Dealers tables, selling Gems, Jewelry, Minerals, Fossils, Meteorites, a Fluorescent room, Beads and Findings, Tools and Equipment as well as a Cafe to keep you nourished.; contact Mary Hicks, 2418 Larkin Ct., Antioch, CA 94531, (925)-779-0698; e-mail: maryhicks@comcast.net; Web site: www.ccmgsshowcoupon.com

4-5—RIDGECREST, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; Indian Wells Gem and Mineral Society, Desert Empire Fairgrounds; 520 South Richmond Road; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5; Free Admission; Display cases, door prizes, silent auctions, geode cutting.; contact John De Rosa, (760)-375-7905; e-mail: jfrocks@dslexreme.com

4-5—ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; American Opal Society, Business Expo Center; Business Expo Center, 1960 S. Anaheim Way; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults/Seniors \$5, 5.00, Students free with ID, Children under 15 free; Rough & Cut Opals; other gemstones; jewelry tools & supplies. Books. Prize drawing. Free Demonstrations - gemstone identification, gem cutting, jewelry making, gem carving, wire wrapping, inlay, faceting, cabbing. Free parking.; contact Veronica Pupura, American Opal Society, PO Box 4875, Garden Grove, CA 92842, (714)-501-9959; e-mail: info@opalsociety.org; Web site: <https://www.facebook.com/AmericanOpalSociety/>

10-12—SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA: Wholesale and retail show; LLD Productions, Inc., Holiday Inn - OCA; 2726 S Grand Ave; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Free Admission; Dealers selling minerals, fossils, rough and cut gems, jewelry, meteorites, crystals, metaphysical materials, lapidary supplies, home decor and more. Wholesale section for qualified buyers, international and local dealers. Items in all price ranges, for all interest levels.; contact Regina Aumente, PO Box 665, Bernalillo, NM 87004, (505)-867-0425; e-mail: mzexp@ms@gmail.com; Web site: <http://www.mzexp@ms.com>

11-12—YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; Sutter Buttes Gem & Mineral Society, Yuba Suter Fairgrounds; 442 Franklin Ave.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission; We will have many dealers, as well as a silent auction. We will be sponsoring a raffle and hourly drawings. We offer a large food menu with very reasonable prices.; contact karen horita, 1364 golden plover street, plumas lake, CA 95961-8730, (916)-677-6696; e-mail: horita@comcast.net; Web site: www.sutterbuttes.net

18-19—LAKESIDE, CA 92040, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; El Cajon Valley Gem and Mineral Society, Lakeside Rodeo Grounds; 12584 Mapleview Street; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission; Huge raffle, food booths and kids activities.; contact Mary Ness, PO Box 451, El Cajon, CA 92022, (619)-449-0759; e-mail: ecvgms@gmail.com; Web site: ecvgms.org

18-19—HESPERIA, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; Mining Supplies and Rock Shop, Mining Supplies and Rock Shop; 9565 C Ave; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; Free Admission; Jewelry, rocks, slabs, beads, jade, gold panning and more.; contact Cyndy Mandell, 9565 C Ave, Hesperia, CA 92345, (760)-244-9642; e-mail: cynmandell@me.com; Web site: www.miningsuppliesandrockshop.com

18-19—OXNARD, CALIFORNIA: Annual show; The Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society, Oxnard Performing Arts Center; 800 Hobson Way; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission; contact Stephanie Hagiwara, (805)-394-8002; e-mail: webmaster@oxnardgem.com; Web site: <http://www.oxnardgem.com>



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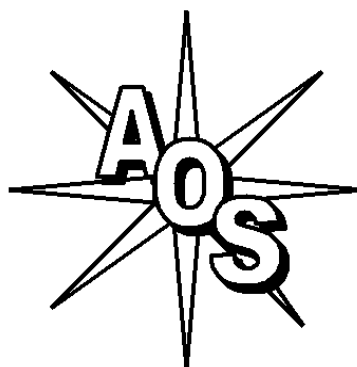
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American Opal Society Membership Application

FILL IN APPLICABLE INFORMATION		DUES / FEES)	AMOUNT PAID
DUES: SELECT ONE	RENEWING MEMBERS	\$35	
	NEW MEMBERS	\$45	
INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIP FEE (All addresses <u>outside</u> of USA)		\$10	
PRINTED NEWSLETTER FEE (Paper copy postal mailed instead of PDF file by e-mail)		\$5	
ADDITIONAL BADGES (Your First Badge is <u>free</u> when joining)		\$15	
TOTAL PAID DUES plus International, Print or Badge Fees if Applicable:			

Please make check or money order payable to "American Opal Society". Mail payment and application to:
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 An optional, quicker method of payment is via the Internet. To pay, just visit the membership page on our website at http://opalsociety.org/aos_application_by_web.htm and complete the form. You may pay with a Credit Card or via PayPal account. The transaction is completely secure and the AOS never sees your credit card number. The AOS PayPal account is membership@opalsociety.org.

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ADDRESS		APT # or PO BOX
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E-MAIL		
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OCCUPATION	HOBBIES AND INTERESTS	

NAME BADGE ORDER FORM:

PLEASE PRINT NAME AS YOU WISH IT TO APPEAR ON YOUR BADGE using up to two (2) lines of text for your name, nickname, or name of your opal related business.

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER: The AOS publishes a membership directory once per year in its Newsletter, the *Opal Express*. Your name will be included. Please check what additional personal information that you want listed for other members. If it is different from the information above, please note that on the application.

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Please sign here: _____ Date _____

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Are Your Dues Due Now?

PLEASE CHECK YOUR ADDRESS LABEL or NEWSLETTER E-MAIL.

There should be a date that shows the current month/year of your membership. If the date is older than the current date, your dues are overdue. A warning will be stated if you are overdue.

A Renewal Grace Period of two months will be provided. Please note, however, that as the system is now set up, if your renewal is not received you will be **AUTOMATICALLY** dropped from membership thereafter. It is your responsibility to assure your dues are current.

Thank you,
 The Editor

The Opal Express

American Opal Society
P.O. Box 4875
Garden Grove, CA 92842-4875

— GENERAL MEETINGS —

4th Wednesday of the Month
7:00 pm - 9:30 PM

Garden Grove Masonic Lodge

11270 Acacia Pkwy
Garden Grove, CA 92840

MEETING ACTIVITIES

Opal Cutting, Advice, Guest Speakers,
Slide Shows, Videos, Other Activities

Volume #50 Issue #10

October 2017

TO:

October 25th - General Meeting Opal Mining in Australia

By Larry Hoskinson and Leslie Neff

November 5th & 6th Opal Gem & Jewelry Show

The Business Expo Center
1960 S Anaheim Way
Anaheim, CA 92805



Some Topics In This Issue:

- Opal, Gem and Jewelry Show Status
- New Deposit of Black Opal from Ethiopia
- Why We Value Gemstones
- World's Largest Flawless Diamond
- Napoleon's Black Opal
- Rainbow Lattice Sunstone

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