



Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

by

Jeffrey Randolph Lee

13 August 2025

Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

Introduction

This is a *work in progress* which at present is primarily a collection of advertisements documenting product introductions, addresses, and revisions of Lee Lapidaries. I expect to work on developing this document on an irregular basis.

Fred J. Lee was founder of Lee Lapidaries, and I am honored to be his first son.

Jeffrey Randolph Lee

13 August 2025

Medina, Ohio

Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

YYMM	
Business Address (Cleveland, OH)	
Product Introduction	
4606	1916 W 75
5109	The Lee Facet Head (9y run)
5504	Double V-Block
5510	6617 Lorain The Lee Facet Cutting Bench
6002	BLMD lap unit (2y run)
6010	DR Facet Head (3-1/4y run)
6205	NBMD lap unit (5 y run)
6401	ID Facet Head (17-3/4y run)
6702	OVMD lap unit
7004	Drill Press Table Polisher
7110	3425 W 117
7308	R6 lap unit (25 y run)
7907	Preformers
8110	OK Facet Head (16-1/2 y run) cast body; thumb screw dop retention
8304	2D Facet Head (15 y run) OK Facet Head <i>first major revision</i> bar stock body ; thumb screw dop retention R6 DC motor option
8412	R6 slot
8702	OK Facet Head <i>second major revision</i> bar stock body; collet chuck dop retention
8708	Incorporated in name of son, Lawrence
9805	<i>last advertisement</i>

Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

1946 June *The Mineralogist*.

Earliest known *Lee* advertisement.



**DEALERS' and CUTTERS'
INQUIRIES INVITED**

Australian opal and other cabochon and facet-cut stones. The following offered as either rough material for facetting, roughed out blanks for facetting, or we can cut to your order.

Your Choice

Dark blue Australian sapphire, clean, facetable crystals, 1½ to 3-4 carats and up to 33 carats. Kunzite, lilac color.

Amethyst, light to fine dark colors, quartz-topaz, zircons, garnets, etc.

Synthetics, blue and white sapphire, ruby, and spinel in nearly all colors.

LEE LAPIDARIES
(Formerly Fred J. Lee)
1916 West 75 St., Cleveland 2, Ohio

Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

1951 September *The Mineralogist*.

Earliest known advertisement for *The Lee Facet Head*.

THE MINERALOGIST

415

TITANIA

THE WORLD'S MOST BRILLIANT GEM
(10% GREATER R. I. THAN DIAMOND)

The World's Best Quality Titania Round Brilliants and Emerald Cuts at Values that Meet or Beat All Competition.

GUARANTEE: Any cut Titania from our standard stock may be returned for full refund within 5 days of receipt, and in unaltered condition, if not equal or better quality and value than from any other source, at any price.

FULL DIAMOND CUT ROUND BRILLIANT

SIZE (carat weight)	Price
1/2 carat or under.....	\$5.00 each piece
3/4 carat or under.....	\$6.00 each piece
1 carat or under.....	\$7.00 each piece
1 to 3 carats.....	\$7.00 per carat
3 to 5 carats.....	\$6.00 per carat
5 carats or over.....	\$5.00 per carat

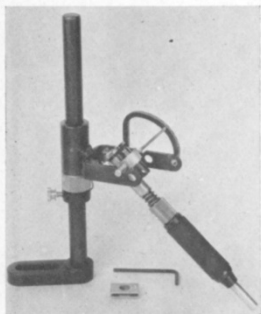
EMERALD CUT (very beautiful)

1 to 3 carats.....	\$7.50 per carat
3 to 5 carats.....	\$6.50 per carat
5 carats or over.....	\$5.00 per carat

Please add 20% Federal Excise Tax

**SPECIAL ATTENTION AND PRICES TO DEALERS
AND QUANTITY BUYERS.**

We can supply gold or white gold earrings, rings, for Titania,
or set in your own mountings.



LEE FACET HEAD NOW AVAILABLE

(Patent applied for)

The same heads we use for Titania and all other faceting.

Original models used for over five years intensive commercial cutting . . . and still good, but we now use the new improved ones with still greater ease and speed — uses the loos handpiece principle; very compact but sturdy; has vertical and radial verniers and other valuable features, but very simple to use or learn with.

Its design permits very fast work if desired, and practically any style of cut from simple to very fine or complex types. Has new type powerful grip collet chuck.

A simple feature allows dops to be removed and replaced in exactly same position during cutting, allowing more persons to use the same head at intervals, or for quantity or commercial cutting, as any number of stones may be cut or partially cut before changing to another angle or to the polishing wheel. Another simple feature allows round stones to be ground perfectly concentric on the dop, and girdles lapped and polished if desired. Neoprene rubber handgrip; indexing done by slight backward thrust on handpiece while turning to next position, all in one motion and without removing head from bracket. General design proves by years of actual performance to permit high quality and faster work than any other head we know of.

FACET HEAD COMPLETE with 32 hole index plate, 1 brass dop, girdling stop, Allen wrench, illustrated instructions. \$44.50
Extra index plates, 40 or 48 hole, \$2.50 each. Set of 10 dops in graduated size pairs, and one table dop (5/16" shanks) in water resistant Masonite block, \$9.00. F.O.B. Cleveland. Circular available.

LEE LAPIDARIES

Importers and Cutters of Precious Stones

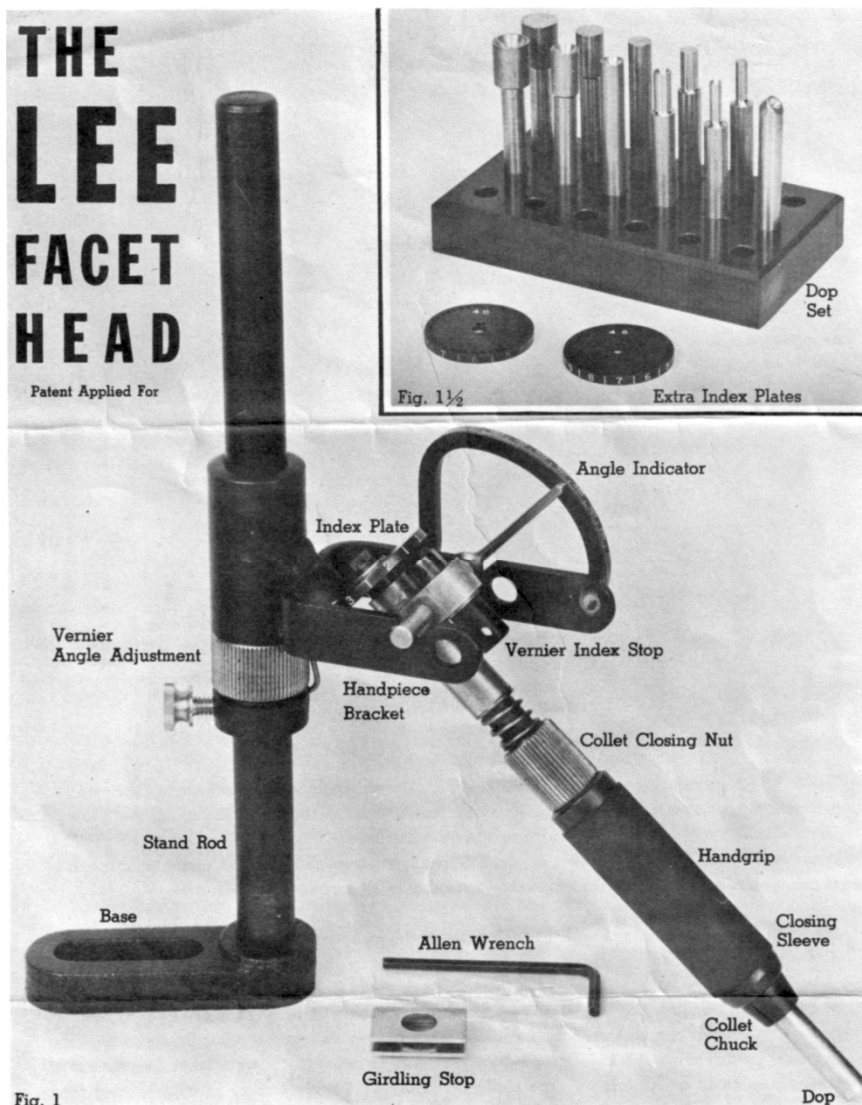
1916 West 75th Street

Cleveland 2, Ohio

Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

From period Lee literature.

The Lee Facet Head.



Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

Recent photograph of vintage equipment.

The Lee Facet Head.



Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

1955 April *The Lapidary Journal*.
Lee Precision Double V-Block introduced.

HIGHEST QUALITY - LOWEST PRICE

TITANIA—The World's finest quality direct from the leading cutters. Send for illustrations of many styles of rings and earrings. Set with full diamond cut or emerald cut **TITANIA, the world's most brilliant gem!** Lowest prices, due to large quantity cutting and mounting. **Mention this ad to get special discount lists.**

ATTENTION DEALERS! Fortunes being made with fine titania jewelry! Save money, time, trouble; increase your profits with our fast-selling complete rings and earrings. We cut large quantities of titania gems continuously — always plenty of gems, mountings, findings, and finished jewelry to fill orders in minimum time; can handle any setting, resizing, or special work involved. **Liberal Margin:** use letterhead or state resale qualifications for dealers' lists.

Make this your source for standard and special types of genuine and synthetic stones, Linde stars, mountings, cutting, etc. We pledge the best possible value, service and true representation of every item.

SURPLUS SPECIAL — PRECISION LUCITE LAPS

While 500 last, 5 $\frac{3}{8}$ "x1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " (1/2" arbor hole). Lathe faced for best polishing. action \$1.50 each; 2 for \$2.50 (25c shipping charge on 1 or 2 laps). **Other laps—6"x1/2"** (1/2" arbor hole). Cast iron \$4.50; lead \$6.50; zinc \$7.50; pure tin \$11.00 (plus shipping charges).

PRECISION DOUBLE V-BLOCK—Cast aluminum with quick acting dop clamp for any size dops. Handiest quality V-block made, only \$3.75 (shipping 25c).

THE LEE FACET HEAD

10 DAY EXAMINATION OFFER—Practically everyone familiar with the LEE agrees it is the **BEST FACET HEAD ON THE MARKET**, for beginner or professional alike, regardless of its low price (only \$36.50).

Send for free instruction and price circular with large detailed photo illustrations of the facet head and accessories and various operations pictured and explained.

Every operation performed with maximum precision and efficiency, using basic techniques well established as the best. You need not conform to freak methods, as with equipment that may appear very simple or elaborate and impressive superficially, but basically not very practical.

The Lee Facet Head is guaranteed for a year against defects in material and workmanship. You may order it with the understanding that if it does not meet with your full approval, after thorough examination, it may be returned in original unused condition within 10 days for full refund of purchase price.

If there is a lapidary equipment dealer in your locality, ask him about our facet head. If he is not now handling it, and you prefer to deal through him, it is likely that this can be easily arranged as we need more dealers and offer them a good proposition.

LEE LAPIDARIES

CUTTERS OF THE WORLD'S FINEST TITANIA GEMS

1916 WEST 75th STREET

Telephone MEIrose 1-4659

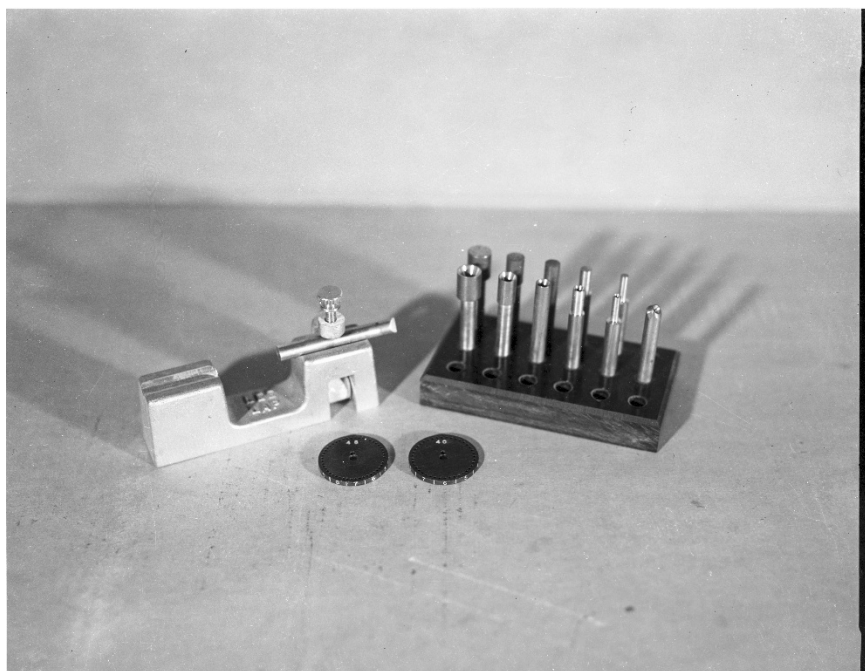
CLEVELAND 2, OHIO

Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

From period Lee photograph.

The Lee Precision Double V-Block.

Note: beveled end on dop rather than later generation notch, and index plates are drilled rather than later generations notched.



Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

1955 October *The Lapidary Journal*.

New address: 6617 Lorain Ave.

The Lee Facet Cutting Bench introduced.

NOTICE

New Address

LEE LAPIDARIES

CUTTERS OF THE WORLD'S FINEST TITANIA GEMS

6617 Lorain Ave. Telephone MEIrose 1-4659 Cleveland 2, Ohio

Almost directly across from U. S. Post Office (Station "A")

Lorain Ave. (Ohio Route 10) is one of Cleveland's main business streets and we are just far enough from the downtown area to be free of the heaviest traffic congestion and still be conveniently approached from anywhere within or outside of Cleveland either by car or public transportation.

Larger, more efficient salesrooms, offices and gem cutting shop plus the convenience of location means better and faster handling of mail business and better service to drop in trade.

As per previous ads we still are:

CUTTERS OF THE WORLD'S FINEST TITANIA GEMS

Large stocks of gems, mountings, and complete rings, earrings, etc. in solid gold and white gold. "Collectors" discount if you mention our ads.

We supply some of the leading Titania dealers and will quote wholesale prices to recognized gem or jewelry dealers who use a letterhead or clearly state resale qualifications in their order or inquiry.
SEND FOR ILLUSTRATIONS AND PRICES.

CUTTERS and SUPPLIERS of GENUINE and SYNTHETIC STONES
in GENERAL—For the Jeweler, Hobbyist, etc.

LINDE SYNTHETIC STAR SAPPHIRES AND RUBIES

MANUFACTURERS OF THE LEE FACET HEAD

The BEST FACET HEAD ON THE MARKET—Only \$36.50

The **LEE FACET CUTTING BENCH**, a heavy duty unit for amateur or professional use. Complete with Falmir ball bearing arbor and 1/4 h.p. continuous duty ball bearing motor—Only \$129.50 plus shipping charges. Crating charge for bench shipment, \$6.00.

Send for illustrated circulars.

Discounts to qualified equipment dealers.

See previous ads for additional details; watch future ads announcing additional lines of lapidary supplies, cutting materials, etc. to be added as we get more completely settled in our new quarters.

LEE LAPIDARIES

CUTTERS OF THE WORLD'S FINEST TITANIA GEMS

6617 Lorain Ave.

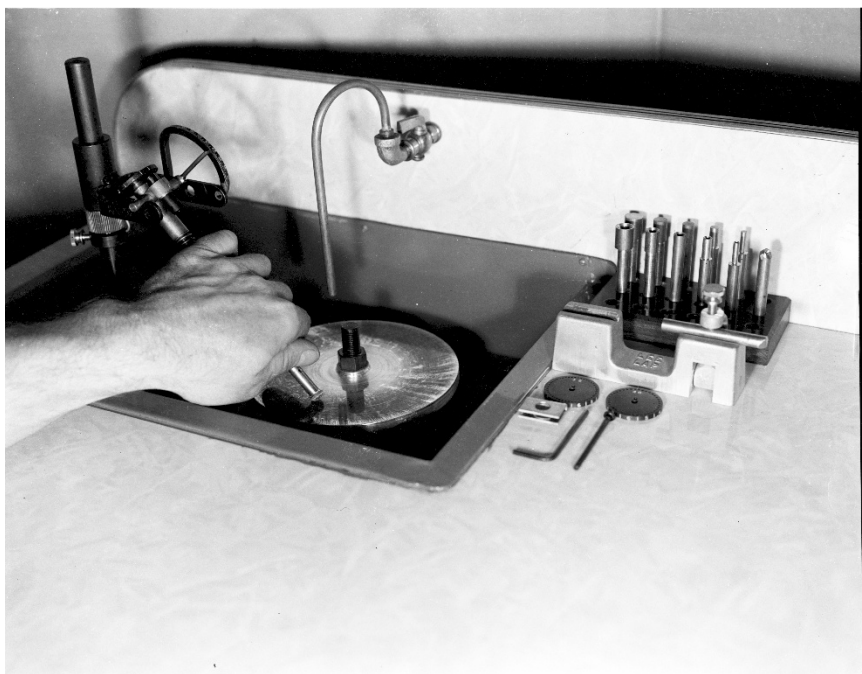
Telephone MEIrose 1-4659

CLEVELAND 2, OHIO

Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

From period Lee photograph.

The Lee Facet Cutting Bench.



Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

1960 February *The Lapidary Journal*.

Lee BLMD lap unit introduced.

LEE LAP UNITS **NEW**

FOR FACET and/or CABOCHON CUTTING
HIGHEST QUALITY and PRECISION
LOW PRICES — \$29.95 and up.

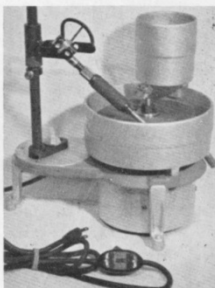
NEW TYPES, SEVERAL MODELS, all for 6 inch wheels. Belt drive or built-in motor type. Surface or flush mount types, etc. Precision ball bearings.

Model BLMD illustrated, believed the only integral motor gem lap on the market; most powerful for its size; most compact of all. $\frac{1}{2}$ h.p. 950 r.p.m. motor. COMPLETELY PORTABLE; rubber tipped legs require no screwing down, quiet and smooth running. Cord and switch attached. Price of this unit (less facet head and lap) only \$69.95 F.O.B. Shipping weight 26 lbs. Much simpler to use.

LEE FACET HEAD only \$36.50. Shipping weight 4 lbs. The best for less. Proved by many hundreds in use and rapidly increasing demand.

SOLID, PRECISION LAPS $6\frac{1}{2}'' \times \frac{1}{2}'' \times \frac{1}{2}''$ hole; Tin \$13.00, cast iron \$5.50; shipping wts. 5 lbs. each. Lucite laps, $5\frac{1}{4}'' \times \frac{1}{4}'' \times \frac{1}{2}''$ hole, \$1.50 each, 2/\$2.50; 1 or 2 laps per lb. of shipping wt. Improved double V-block, accurate and faster than triple blocks, \$3.75; shipping wt. 1 lb.

CIRCULARS AVAILABLE



Authentic dealers wanted.

Improved — TITANIA PREFORMS — Whiter

TOP PROFESSIONAL QUALITY MATERIAL, the finest of our own cutting stock; oriented, perfect, NOT rejects or second grade. Avoid the high waste in cutting from whole boules (usually 80% to 90%, even among professionals—ask someone who knows), order only exact size wanted. Know exactly what you are getting, priced per piece according to the weight of finished gem they can yield. Order a one carat preform that will weigh one carat AFTER cutting and so on. LIST AVAILABLE FOR ROUND AND EMERALD CUT. Quotations on other shapes. WE EXPECT ONLY COMPLIMENTS AND REPEAT ORDERS ON THIS PRODUCT. DEALERS WANTED.

TITANIA GEMS, JEWELRY

Our stock of FINE TITANIA GEMS is probably the world's largest. Thousands of carats of material cut monthly. CIRCULARS AVAILABLE FOR LOOSE AND MANY STYLES OF MOUNTED TITANIA RINGS, EARRINGS.

A GENERAL LINE OF GENUINE AND SYNTHETIC GEMS, ROUGH
FACET AND CAB MATERIAL, SOLID GOLD MOUNTINGS, LINDE
SYNTHETIC STARS, and other items stocked.

Try Your Dealer for Lee Products or Write Direct.

} DEALERS — TRY US FOR BETTER PRODUCTS
AND PROFITS. WRITE ON LETTERHEAD }

LEE LAPIDARIES

Cutters of the World's Finest Titania Gems
Manufacturers of Lee Faceting Equipment

6617 Lorain Avenue

CLEVELAND 2, OHIO

Phone MEIrose 1-4659

Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

1960 October *The Lapidary Journal*.

Lee DR Facet Head introduced.

NEW ADVANCED EXCLUSIVE

FINEST PRECISION EQUIPMENT — PRODUCTION PRICES

LEE DUAL RANGE FACET HEAD

MOST ABILITY, FACILITY. BEGINNER THROUGH PROFESSIONAL.

LEE KEYED PRECISION V-BLOCK

KEYS FACETS to LEE DOPS, to LEE FACET HEAD, to EACH OTHER.

LEE DIRECT DRIVE MOTORIZED LAP

ULTIMATE PORTABILITY, SIMPLICITY. For FACETING, etc.

LEE OUTBOARD DRIVE LAP UNITS

MOUNTING VERSATILITY. For FACETING, CABOCHON or BOTH.

SEND FOR CIRCULARS OF COMPLETE LINE

TITANIA PREFORMS — FINEST IN THE WORLD

Accurately machine ground for round brilliant. Rough ground for emerald cut and other shapes. Practical, convenient, economical. Send for list.

TITANIA GEMS, JEWELRY

Our stock of FINE TITANIA GEMS is probably the world's largest. Thousands of carats of material cut monthly. CIRCULARS AVAILABLE FOR LOOSE AND MANY STYLES OF MOUNTED TITANIA RINGS, EARRINGS. EXCELLENT as CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

Try Your Dealer for Lee Products or Write Direct.

**{ DEALERS — TRY US FOR BETTER PRODUCTS
AND PROFITS. WRITE ON LETTERHEAD }**

LEE LAPIDARIES

**Cutters of the World's Finest Titania Gems
Manufacturers of Lee Lapidary Equipment
Distributors of Linde Polishing Powders**

6617 Lorain Avenue

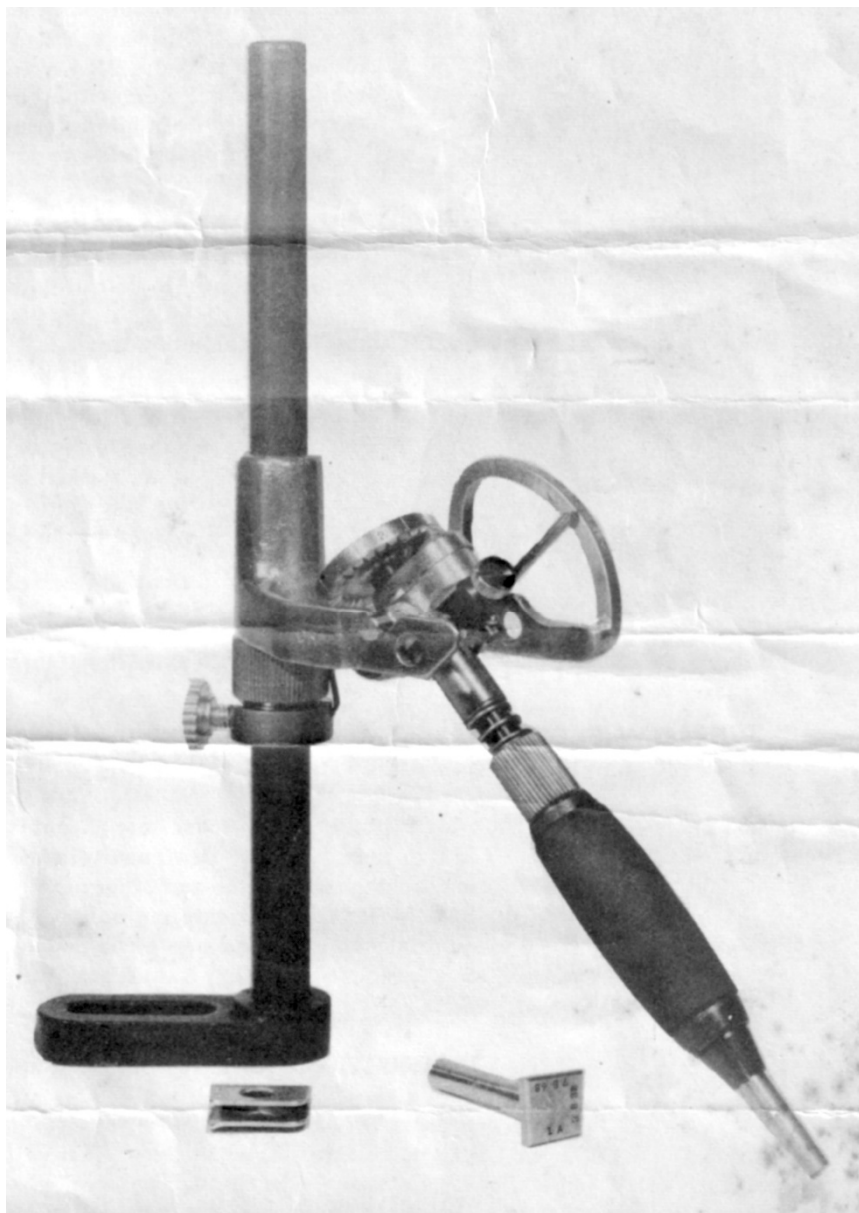
CLEVELAND 2, OHIO

Phone MEIrose 1-4659

Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

From period Lee literature.

The Lee DR Facet Head.



Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

From period Lee literature.

The Lee DR Facet Head.



Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

Recent photograph of vintage equipment.

The Lee DR Facet Head.



Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

1962 May. *The Lapidary Journal*.

Lee NBMD lap unit introduced.

During the Roman, i.e. Augustan period, the the grains of jade. It is well known that physicians.

NEW... LEE SIX SPEED FACET LAP UNIT, 425 to 2430 R.P.M.

This replaces our popular Direct Drive Model as illustrated in previous issues and is similar except for omission of direct drive motor and legs and addition of a few rugged steel frame mounting the Precision Ball Bearing Lap Unit and the vertical 1/4 H.P. Continuous Duty, 2 Speed 1725/1140 R.P.M. Motor as a compact portable unit. Complete with heavy cord and two speed switch, matched 3-step pulleys and V-belt; ready to plug into nearest outlet. Powerful, quiet, smooth. Stays put on its rubber feet without bolting down. We believe this to be the most advanced and efficient, highest quality lap of its type. Model NBMD, Shipping wt. 40 lb. **Only \$89.95 F.O.B.**

LEE FACET HEAD, Model DR with 32-44 Dual Index and other Exclusive Features **\$39.95**. Efficient Quality unequaled at any price. (Extra Index Plate 48-96 \$4.50 extra.)

COMPLETE FACETING OUTFIT including NBMD Lap Unit, Model DR Facet Head, Dop Set, Keyed Precision V-Block, Precision Laps 6x15x1/8 inch hole—1 each Cast Iron and Pure Tin, Squeeze Bottle with 3 oz. Crystolon 8 500 and Squeeze Bottle with 1 oz. Linde "A", 3 sticks finest Dop Wax plus Operating Instructions. **Only \$167.80 F.O.B.**

Send for illustrated circulars and complete list of accessories including diamond laps and powder, also highest quality wheels and supplies with which cabochon grinding and polishing may be done efficiently on a Lap Unit such as ours.

TITANIA

is still our leading product and we claim to be the World's finest cutters of these gems. We offer them as cut gems and mounted in jewelry. The World's whitest, finest quality Titania boules are offered sawed lengthwise into halves of about 75 to 125 carats per half at 40c per carat. Ends are polished and we select and send halves in which the optical axis is parallel with the boule, thus simplifying the cutting of properly oriented, clear, unblurred gems. Our material is harder and more pure, polishes easier, smoother, distinctly superior to Titania Boule generally offered past or present. Also offered as preforms for faceting. For free lists, specify item.

LEE LAPIDARIES

6617 Lorain Avenue

Manufacturers of LEE LAPIDARY EQUIPMENT

Distributors of LINDE POWDER and STARS, NORTON WHEELS, etc.

Cleveland 2, Ohio

Phone: MEIrose 1-4659

Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

1964 January. *The Lapidary Journal*.

Lee ID Facet Head introduced.

LEE FACET HEAD NEW FEATURES FOR 1964

ANGLE STOP, FREE WHEELING, LARGER INDEX PLATES, etc. WITHOUT SACRIFICE OF PREVIOUS ADVANTAGES. SIMPLIFIED INDEX DIVIDER PROVIDES 128 DIVISIONS FROM STANDARD 64 INDEX SIMPLY BY TURNING VERNIER DIAL TO A MARK ON EITHER SIDE OF CENTER. SPLITS 32 INDEX TO 64 OR 128 OR SPLITS ANY INDEX INFINITELY. (New features not shown in illustration below.)

MODEL 1D FACET HEAD WITH 64 INDEX (32 INDEX OPTIONAL) Sh. Wt. 4 lbs. \$49.50
(32 Index Ideal for Beginners or for Ultra Speed and Simplicity)

10 KEYED DOPS IN SELF CENTERING PAIRS PLUS ANGLE DOP AND BENELEX RACK \$9.00
PRECISION V-BLOCK, KEYED FOR ALIGNING CROWN AND PAVILION FACETS \$5.40

MODEL NBMD MOTORIZED 6 SPEED BALL BEARING LAP UNIT, 41 lbs. F.O.B. \$92.20

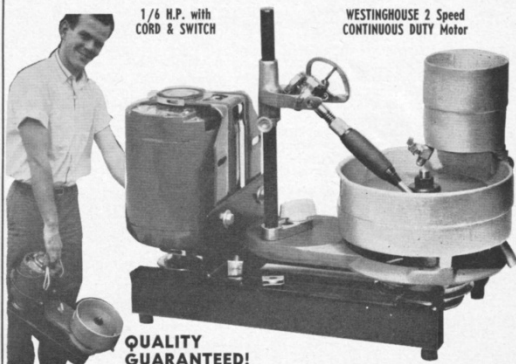
Nearly triple the speed range of costlier units: Switch electrically between 420-635, 855-1280, 1585-2425 RPM. Quiet, smooth, stable. Base is arc welded Parkerized steel. The most advanced, efficient and sturdy faceting lap generally available regardless of using 6 inch laps which in our long experience are specifically more efficient for faceting than larger sizes. Powerful enough for cabochon grinding as well.

Extra Thick Precision Laps, 6x1/2x1/2 Cast Iron \$5.50, Solid Tin \$15.00; Squeeze Bottle Crystolon 60c, Linde "A" \$2.00; Finest Dop Wax 70c

COMPLETE OUTFIT with LAPS, etc. AS ABOVE PLUS INSTRUCTIONS F.O.B. \$179.90

Extra Index Plates 32, 60 or 64 \$5.25 each; Diamond Laps 600/1200, 6 inch \$24.50, 5 inch \$11.20; Alcohol Lamp \$1.35; Norton Premium Grinding Wheel \$7.00

TAKE IT! IT was designed with YOU in mind.



LISTS: Facet and cab accessories for NBMD Laps, also Titania preforms, etc.

ACTUAL MANUFACTURERS OF LEE EQUIPMENT
CUTTERS OF WORLD'S FINEST TITANIA GEMS

LEE LAPIDARIES

6617 LORAIN AVENUE

Phone MEIrose 1-4659

CLEVELAND 2, OHIO

Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

From period Lee literature.

The Lee ID Facet Head.



LEE
MODEL ID
FACET HEAD
WITH 64 INDEX
AND INSTRUCTIONS
\$54.75
Shipping weight 4 lbs.

THE LEE FACET HEAD is for right handed people. Held by the left hand, it leaves the right hand free for taking notes. app-

A
s
g
B
a
d
a
a
b
c
i
t
s
f
c
u
t
g
h
o
i
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Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

Recent photograph of vintage equipment.

The Lee ID Facet Head.



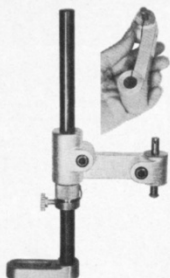
Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

1970 April. *The Lapidary Journal*.

Lee Table Polisher introduced.

Lee Drill Press introduced.

A MAJOR ADVANCE Another original by LEE



FACET TABLE POLISHER

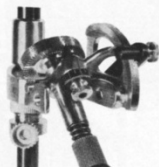
Used for sawing, shaping, scientific work, etc. in OVMD unit with extra accessories now in the making. Model $\frac{5}{8}$ 5/16 fits LEE mast and dops. ($\frac{3}{8}$ 1/4, $\frac{5}{8}$ 3/8, $\frac{5}{8}$ 1/2, $\frac{5}{8}$ 5/8, $\frac{3}{4}$ 1/4, $\frac{3}{4}$ 5/16, $\frac{1}{2}$ 1/4, $\frac{1}{2}$ 5/16 same price.) No more fussing and slipping, it assures true tables by proper use on an accurate unit or by truing table in V-block after polishing, before cutting other facets. Used by LEE since 1949; another example of advanced efficiency.

\$7.50 ARM ONLY, less Dop, plus Hex Key. 42c P.P. or 88c AIR MAIL in U.S.A.

\$29.50 with LEE $\frac{5}{8}$ Mast & Collar. Shipping wt. 3 lbs. (Specify Dop bore).

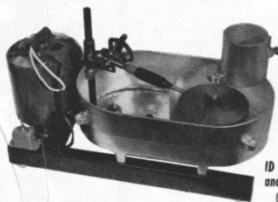
ACCURATE SIMPLE FAST

ANOTHER NEW PRODUCT (not illust.) LEE 13" B. B. Drill Press with $\frac{1}{2}$ " Jacobs Chuck set screwed to $\frac{5}{8}$ " straight arbor and other special features. Speeds 420 to 2425 RPM with $\frac{1}{2}$ HP 2-speed motor for gem and wood drilling, carving, metal drilling, etc. Shipping wt. 115 lbs. F.O.B. \$137.75. Less motor & wiring, 92 lbs. F.O.B. \$99.75.



MODEL ID VERNIER DIAL FACET HEAD with 64 (or 96) INDEX and INSTRUCTIONS (Mast incl.) Sh. wt. 4 lbs. \$63.00. EXTRA INDEX PLATES 96, 80, 64, 60, 32 \$7.50 each. PRECISION V-BLOCK \$5.70. SET BRASS DOPS IN BENELEX BLOCK \$9.00. FACET UNIT NO. M-2 incl. FACET HEAD, DOP SET, V-BLOCK, OVMD 6-SPEED BALL BEARING SUPER LAP UNIT F.O.B. \$225.00. LAP SETS: Cast Iron $6\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$, Tin $6 \times \frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{2}$, Crystolon Grit, Linde A, Dop Wax \$29.85. Same set but 8" Laps \$44.45. SOLID COPPER LAPS $6 \times .064 \times \frac{1}{2}$ \$5.20; SAME BUT 8" \$7.80. OVMD ONLY, 62 lbs., F.O.B. \$147.30.

Trigger, Splitter, Collet Chuck, etc., closely integrated as fewer, stronger, more profoundly calculated parts of a better total design with no obstructions to a relaxed, sensitive handhold. Lift-off handpiece for clear view of facets. Lap Unit is rugged, low slung, all metal, portable. Speeds 420 to 2425 for faceting to cab polishing, rough grinding, etc., with $\frac{1}{4}$ HP 2-speed motor. Identical unit now available except bottom frame is aluminum channel instead of heavy steel tube, $1\frac{1}{10}$ HP, 1-speed for faceting only, 30 lbs. Sh. wt. F.O.B. \$107.20. (Order as Lap Unit Model OVFD)



**FROM YOUR LEE
DEALER OR
DIRECT.**

**SEND FOR
DETAILED
CIRCULARS.**

**ID FACET HEAD
and OVMD 6 SPEED UNIT**
(Lap not included)

Made by

LEE LAPIDARIES

6617 LORAIN AVE., CLEVELAND, OHIO 44102

CUTTERS OF WORLD'S FINEST
TITANIA GEMS and PREFORMS

Phone 631-4659

Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

1971 October. *The Lapidary Journal*.

New address: 3425 West 117th Street.

ABOUT 500 SOLD THE FIRST YEAR OFFERED

(April 1970 to April 1971)

LEE FACET TABLE POLISHER

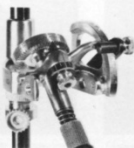
SIMPLER—FASTER—SURER—

—than flimsy adaptors. True tables assured by proper use in an accurate unit or by squaring table in V-block before cutting other facets. Model 5/8-5/16 fits LEE mast and dops. ARM ONLY, less Dop, plus Hex Key \$7.50 plus 42c P.P. or 88c Air.

THANKS TO MANY COMMERCIAL FACETERS WHO "DISCOVERED" LEE FACET EQUIPMENT—

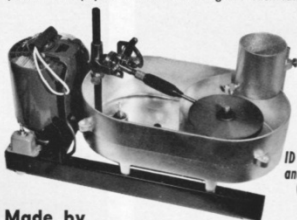
—and passed the word, BUSINESS IS BOOMING! Thousands of amateurs and many pros have purchased LEE equipment over the years but HUNDREDS OF LEE FACET UNITS have been sold and HUNDREDS MORE on order just for commercial use in U.S. and other countries in less than a year. (No brag, just facts).

Indications are that facet heads or units used or preferred by the majority in some cutting centers are LEE; PROS do not mistake gew-gaws for advantages, high price for high quality, "prettiness" for good functional design. Meanwhile we have expanded our manufacturing capacity and hope to catch up on deliveries by the time this ad appears but suggest ordering well in advance when possible.



MODEL ID VERNIER DIAL FACET HEAD with 64 (or 96) INDEX and INSTRUCTIONS (Mast incl.) Sh. wt. 4 lbs. \$69.00. EXTRA INDEX PLATES 96, 80, 64, 60, 32 \$7.50 each. PRECISION V-BLOCK \$5.85. SET BRASS DOPS IN BENELEX BLOCK \$9.00. FACET UNIT NO. M-2 incl. FACET HEAD, DOP SET, V-BLOCK, OVMD 6-SPEED BALL BEARING SUPER LAP UNIT F.O.B. \$249.80. LAP SETS: CAST IRON 6x1½x½, Tin 6x3/8x½, Crystolon Grit, Linde A, Dop Wax \$30.85. Same set but 8" Laps \$45.65. SOLID COPPER LAPS 6x.064x½ \$5.60; SAME BUT 8" \$8.40. OVMD ONLY, 62 lbs. F.O.B. \$165.95. Additional items available.

Trigger, Splitter, Collet Chuck, etc., closely integrated as fewer, stronger, more profoundly calculated parts of a better total design with no obstructions to a relaxed, sensitive handhold. Lift-off handpiece for clear view of facets. Lap Unit is rugged, low slung, all metal, portable. Speeds 420 to 2425 for faceting to cab polishing, rough grinding, etc., with ¼ HP 2-speed motor. No Lap Unit is better than its bearings; LEE has TWO large (40MM. O.D.) precision pre-lubricated, double sealed, well spaced ball bearings; one of many reasons so many pros prefer LEE equipment. Should YOU ignore such fundamental details when comparing?



FROM YOUR LEE
DEALER OR DIRECT
SEND FOR CIRCULARS

WE ARE MANUFACTURERS
AND COMMERCIAL CUTTERS
(Not a Rock Shop)

ID FACET HEAD
and OVMD 6 SPEED UNIT
(Lap not included)

Made by

LEE LAPIDARIES

CUTTERS OF FINEST YAG and
TITANIA GEMS and PREFORMS
PELLON and 3M DISTRIBUTOR

3425 WEST 117th St., CLEVELAND, OHIO 44111 Phone (216) 941-7458

Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

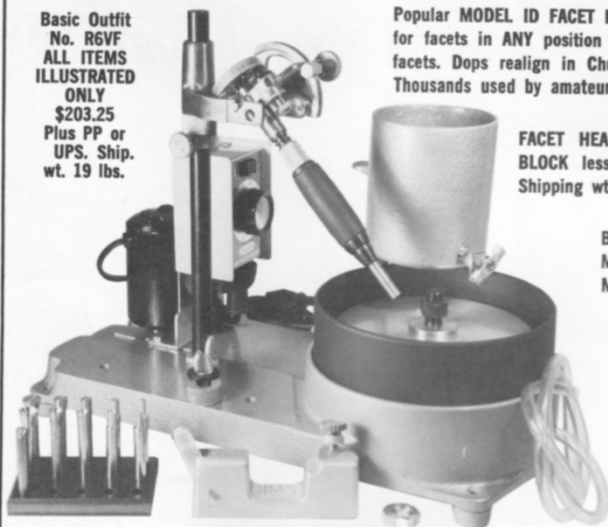
1973 August. *The Lapidary Journal*.

Lee R6 lap unit introduced.

LEE NEW FACET UNITS

DIAL 0 TO 720 RPM or 1125 RPM FULL

Basic Outfit
No. R6VF
ALL ITEMS
ILLUSTRATED
ONLY
\$203.25
Plus PP or
UPS. Ship.
wt. 19 lbs.



UNITIZED, PRECISION MACHINED, COMPACT ALUMINUM BASE (no wood) for STRENGTH, STABILITY, FACILITY. EXTRA LARGE SEALED BALL BEARINGS.

Exposed, Heat Sink mounted Motor is properly cooled even at low speeds.

Popular MODEL ID FACET HEAD with RADIAL VERNIER for facets in ANY position lifts off for proper view of facets. Dops realign in Chuck without extra adaptors. Thousands used by amateurs and pros the World over.

FACET HEAD & MAST, DOP SET, V-BLOCK less Lap Unit: ONLY \$90.00.
Shipping wt. 5 lbs.

BETTER DESIGN, EFFICIENT
MANUFACTURE; LEE GIVES
MORE for LESS.

FROM YOUR LEE
DEALER or DIRECT

AMPLE STOCK
PROMPT SHIPMENT

FREE LISTS of ALL
MODELS, LAPS, etc.

MORE FEATURES in FEWER PIECES

LEE LAPIDARIES

Facet Equipment Mfr. since 1940

3425 West 117th St.
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Phone (216) 941-7458

PELLON & 3M DISTRIBUTOR
Cutters of Finest YAG &
Titania Gems & Preforms
14K JEWELRY

Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

1979 July *The Lapidary Journal*.

Lee Performers introduced.

LEE VARIABLE SPEED FACET UNITS

DIAL 0 TO 720 RPM or 1125 RPM FULL

Basic Outfit
No. 6GVF
ALL ITEMS
ILLUSTRATED
\$319.71
Ship. wt.
21 lbs.

UNITIZED, PRECISION MACHINED, COMPACT ALUMINUM BASE (no wood) for STRENGTH, STABILITY, FACILITY, EXTRA LARGE SEALED BALL BEARINGS. STAINLESS STEEL INVERTIBLE SPLASH GUARD. Exposed, Heat Sink mounted Motor reduces Lap Height; cooled properly even at low speeds.

MORE FEATURES in FEWER PIECES

Popular MODEL 1D FACET HEAD with RADIAL VERNIER for facets in ANY position lifts off for proper view of facets. Dops realign in Chuck without extra adaptors. Thousands used by amateurs and pros the World over.

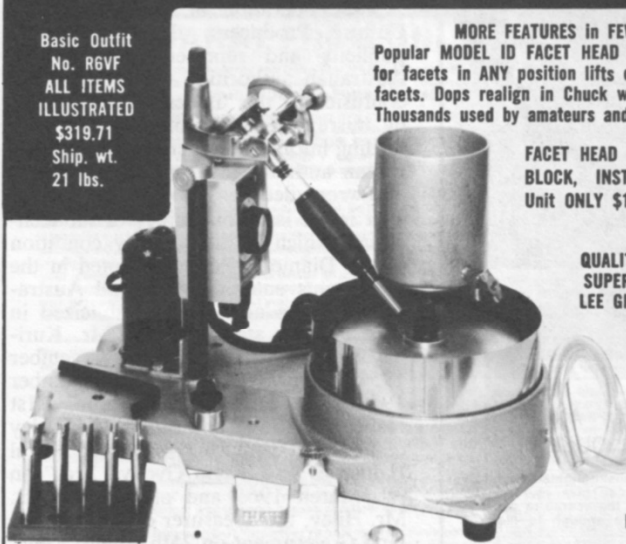
FACET HEAD & MAST, DOP SET, V-BLOCK, INSTRUCTIONS, less Lap Unit ONLY \$127.50. Sh. wt. 5 lbs.

DO COMPARE
QUALITY, PROVEN DESIGN,
SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE;
LEE GIVES MORE for LESS.
NO GEWGAWES

FROM YOUR LEE
DEALER or DIRECT

HEAVIER MODEL
6 SPEED M-2
ALSO IN STOCK

FREE LISTS of ALL
MODELS, LAPS, etc.



NEW! Optional Extra 3 DIMENSIONAL PREFORM ATTACHMENT. AUTOMATIC ELECTRIC also HAND OPERATED Models. Adapt to LEE FACET UNIT as a UNITIZED PREFORM-FACET SYSTEM. LEE Keyed Facet Dops Align Preform Shapes to Indexes of Facet Head. 47 Optional PRECISION CAMS; INFINITE Facet or Cab sizes from each. Form Outline, Pavilion, Steps, even Facets. Laps as used for Facet Cuts. Perfected by LEE in 31 years of 3D Performer mfr. and Commercial use. Send for FREE BROCHURE: Illust. details, Instructions, LOW PRICES.

LEE LAPIDARIES

Facet Equipment Mfr. since 1940

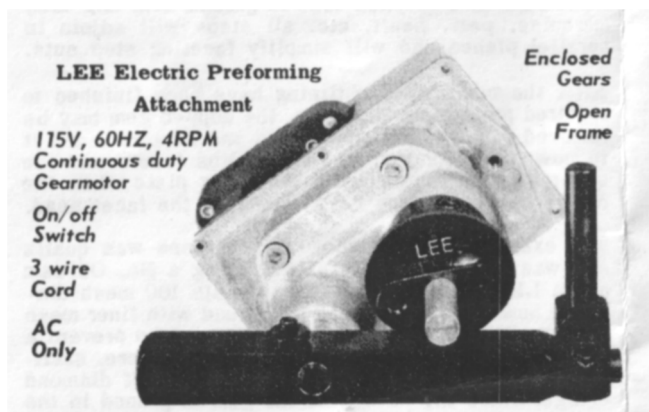
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Cleveland, Ohio 44111
Phone (216) 941-7458

PELLON & 3M DISTRIBUTOR
Cutters of Finest YAG &
Titanium Gems & Preforms
14K JEWELRY

Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

From period Lee literature.

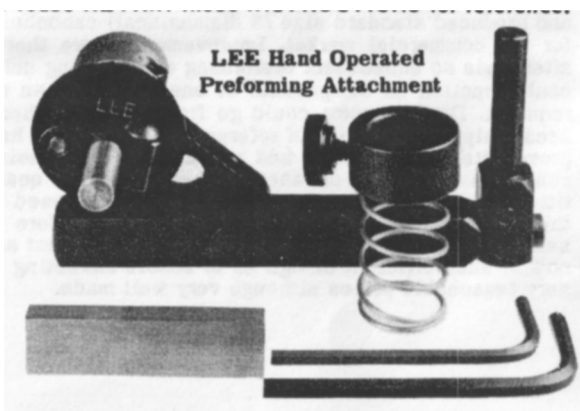
Lee Electric Preforming Attachment.



Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

From period Lee literature.

Lee Hand Preforming Attachment.



Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

1981 October. *The Lapidary Journal*.

Lee OK Facet Head introduced:
cast body and thumb screw dop retention.

LEE NEW MODEL OK



Question: WHICH IS THE BEST MEANS OF OBSERVING HAND PRESSURE FLEX VARIATIONS WHEN CUTTING FACETS?

Answer: WHY MERELY OBSERVE? YOU CAN CUT WITHOUT HAND PRESSURE WITH THE LEE NEW MODEL OK FACET HEAD!

Weighted arm adjusts to cut duplicate facets very rapidly without flex variations or individual inspection, provides handle enabling short, rigid design of indexing head. Lift-off, lock-on head for close inspections or transfer from one lap unit to another for production line faceting systems. Splitter with common denominators of standard index plates simplifies as many as 768 equal divisions of circle. Second splitter for compounding, transfer alignments without reserving first, etc. Dops (5/16"), mast (5/8") as previous ID model. Various lap units, PM motors, etc. improvements. Contact your dealer or us for details and current prices.

After 40 years commercial cutting we now concentrate on improving facet units and advising others in setting up cutting facilities.

Lee Lapidaries, Inc.
Facet Equipment Mfr. since 1940

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Phone (216) 941-7458

CRYSTALITE FACET
CUTTING LAPS. WE
STOCK, DISTRIBUTE.

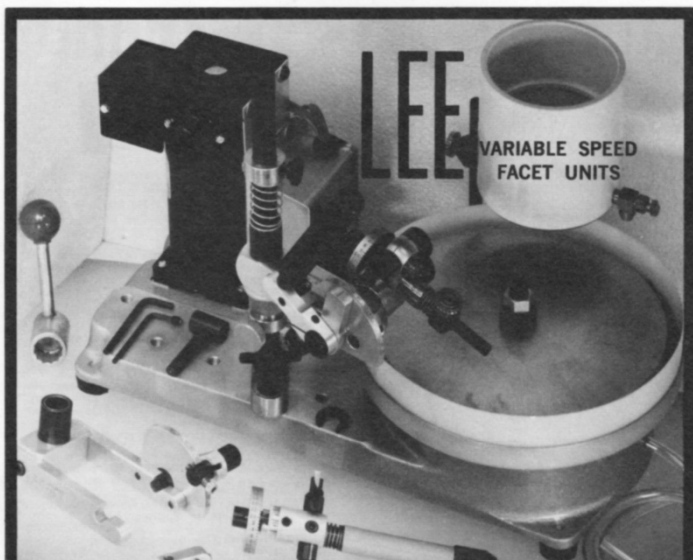
Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

1983 April. *The Lapidary Journal*.

Lee 2D Facet Head introduced.

Lee OK Facet Head first major revision: bar stock body.

Lee R Lap Unit has DC motor option.



Choice of MANY COMPLETE MODELS or SEPARATE HEADS, etc.

MODEL R LAP UNITS: Easily accommodate 8" laps (as above) or 6" laps with appropriate splash guards. Choose either or easily interchange on same unit.

MOTOR DRIVES, Variable Speed: High torque permanent magnet, $\frac{1}{2}$ " shaft diameter, 5000 hr. av. brush life, 0-1350 RPM. $\frac{1}{8}$ HP (as above) or 1/18 HP. Also optional with economical universal motor and control of lesser specs.

FACET HEADS: Model OK on unit above is most popular choice with Gravity Handle for precise mechanical duplication of facet angle, depth. Very fine Index Vernier (who else's vernier Co-ordinates to Standard Indexes)? Slight turn of thumbscrew allows handpiece liftoff if desired. Model 2D (foreground above) has Fine Adjust Screw as OK for facet angle infinite final settings, features freely liftoff handpiece for frequent, close facet inspections. Both models plus various special versions stocked. All Standardized for LEE OK Indexes, Keyed 5/16" Precision Dops, Co-ordinated Precision Transfer Gage & Block, $\frac{3}{8}$ " Mast, 45° Table Adapter, Electric or Manual Preformers, etc.

LEE HIGH QUALITY FACET EQUIPMENT ORIGINATES HERE. Contact a LEE dealer or our factory for details and LOW PRICES. 40 years commercial cutting experience.

LEE LAPIDARIES, INC.

Facet Equipment Mfr. since 1940

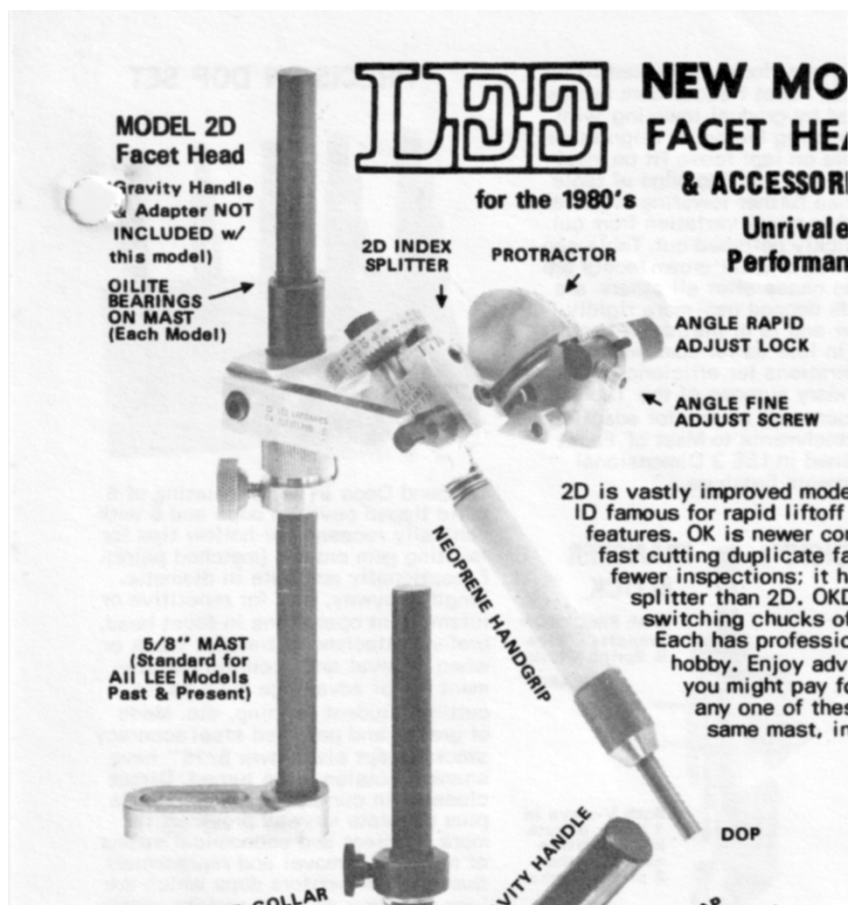
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CRYSTALITE FACET
CUTTING LAPS, WE
STOCK, DISTRIBUTE

Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

From period Lee literature.

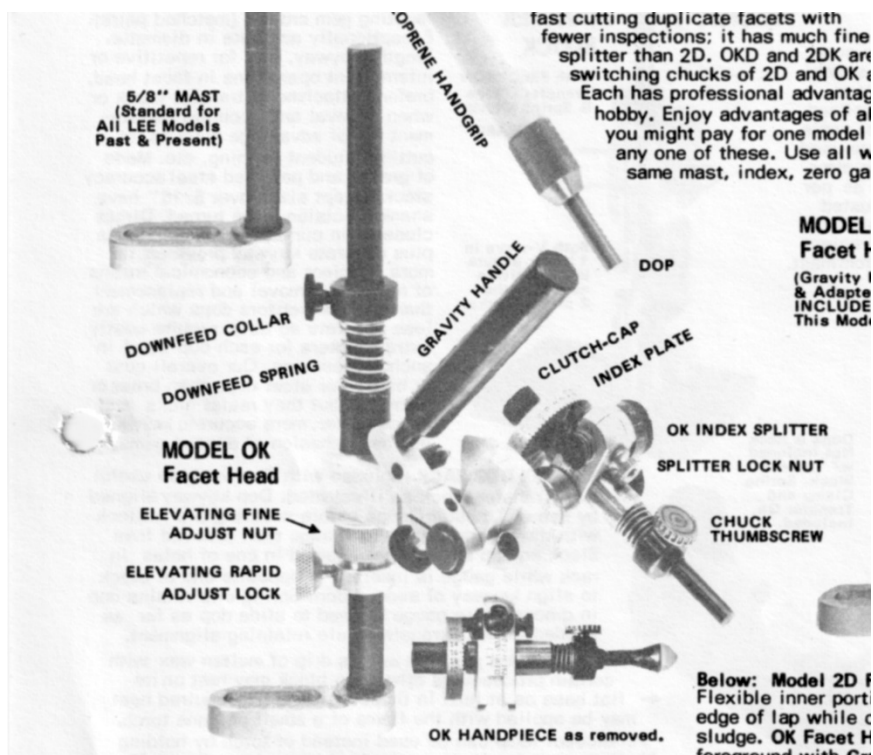
Lee 2D Facet Head.



Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

From period Lee literature.

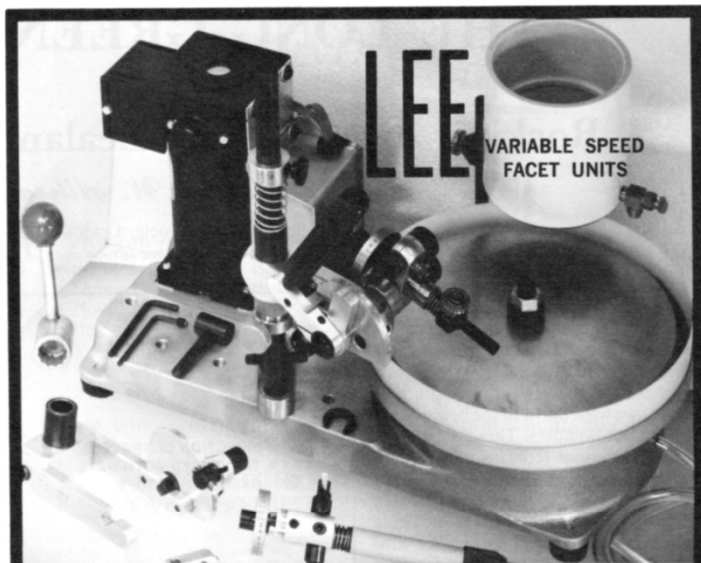
Lee OK Facet Head first major revision.



Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

1984 December. *The Lapidary Journal*.

Lee R6 Lap Unit gets a slot.



Choice of **MANY COMPLETE MODELS** or **SEPARATE HEADS**, etc.

MODEL R LAP UNITS: Easily accommodate 8" laps (as above) or 6" laps with appropriate splash guards. Choose either or easily interchange on same unit.

MOTOR DRIVES, Variable Speed: High torque permanent magnet, $\frac{1}{2}$ " shaft diameter, 5000 hr. av. brush life, 0-1350 RPM. 1/8 HP (as above) or 1/18 HP. Also optional with economical universal motor and control of lesser specs.

FACET HEADS: Model OK on unit above is most popular choice with Gravity Handle for precise mechanical duplication of facet angle, depth. Very fine Index Vernier (who else's vernier Co-ordinates to Standard Indexes)? Slight turn of thumbscrew allows handpiece liftoff if desired. Model 2D (foreground above) has Fine Adjust Screw as OK for facet angle infinite final settings, features freely liftoff handpiece for frequent, close facet inspections. Both models plus various special versions stocked. All Standardized for LEE OK Indexes, Keyed 5/16" Precision Dops, Co-ordinated Precision Transfer Gage & Block, $\frac{5}{8}$ " Mast, 45° Table Adapter, Electric or Manual Preformers, etc.

NEW: Mast Platform Slot instead bolt holes as above, etc.

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Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

1987 February. *The Lapidary Journal*.

Lee OK Facet Head second major revision:
collet chuck dop retention.

LEE FINER FACETERS



RECENT IMPROVEMENTS: Blue Metallic Hammettone Base, Gold Anodized portions of OK Facet Head, 1/10 Degree Angle Pointer Vernier Graduations instead of single line as above, Split Collet Precision Chuck. Platform and Mast slots allow adjustment in all directions to interchange 8" as above and 6" Splash Guards, other LEE Facet Heads as 2D, etc., 3 Dimensional Preformers (Electric or Hand), Fine Sawing Accessories for thin cuts at compound angles, etc.

VARIABLE SPEED 0 to 1350 RPM with High Quality and Torque PM Motor, Surge Protected Speed Control, 1/18 HP as above or 1/8 HP, unusually long brush life. Note control now on top end of motor, easily removable for shipping, etc. Economical Universal Motor and Control optional.

OK GRAVITY HANDLE allows short, rigid head. Weight provides uniform pressure to cut equal facets very rapidly without pressure flex variations or individual inspection in contrast to costly indicators which only display instead of controlling variations. Simple, Reliable.

INDEX SPLITTER with Standard Index Denominators for as many as 768 equal divisions also Second Splitter for compounding, transfer alignments without disturbing first splitter, etc.

CONTACT A LEE DEALER OR OUR FACTORY FOR MANY MORE FEATURES, ADVANTAGES AND LOW PRICES.

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**CRYSTALITE FACET
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Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

From period Lee literature.

Lee OK Facet Head second major revision.



Lee Model OK facet head, *zero gauge, free-wheeling spacer, and hex keys.
*Zero gauge now replaced by 45° adapter

Chronology of LEE LAPIDARIES

1998 May. *The Lapidary Journal*.
Lee Lapidaries' last advertisement.

Faceting Equipment for commercial cutters & hobbyists



Lee Lapidaries, Inc.



manufacturing
faceting equipment
for business
and individuals

Contact us now for brochures and price lists:

3425 West 117th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44111

Phone/Fax: 216-941-7458

We also stock & distribute Lapcraft cutting Laps.

