

The Sierra Pelonaagram



September 2010

... Member of the California Federation of Mineralogical Society Inc. ...

The Sierra Pelona Rock Club is a non-profit organization founded in 1959 with the objective to sponsor activities and promote interest and education in: mineralogy, lapidary, geology, paleontology and related subjects.



September Birthday

It looks like Bob has September
all to himself.
Happy Birthday!
Robert Caudill



A Message from Our President

Well, summer just flew past! It is now September and the nights are starting to cool and the days are just wonderful.

Bonnie and Ron have mapped out field trips for the year. We are planning the Holiday Dinner and our fund-raiser at Lombardi Ranch.

I hope to see the club grow this year as much as last.

We also need a Program Chair to arrange the monthly programs at the club house. If anyone is interested, please contact me or anyone on the board. Also if anyone has ideas for a program or would like to do one themselves, please let us know.

The program for the next meeting on September 21 at 7:30pm will be showing off your summer finds, so bring your treasures for us to ogle. See you there.

Bill Webber, President
SPRC

**Welcome New Members
Bud and Susan Sabatino.**

Officers:

President – Bill Webber
Vice-President – Ron Strathmann
Secretary: Minutes-Nancy Hilliard
Treasurer – Greg Mazourek
Federation Director (CFMS/AFMS) – Shep Koss

Chairpersons:

Pelonagram Editor – Heidi Webber
Claim - Mike Serino
Donation Rock Table - Al Brown
Field Trips – Bonnell Forstner
Historian - Frank Humelbaugh
Hospitality – Evelyn Velie
Membership – Ron & Akiko Strathmann
Programs – Open
Publicity – Diane Southwell
Storage - Mike Moreno
Sunshine - Evelyn Velie
Web site – Earl Kangas

The Sierra Pelona Rock Club, is a member of the California and American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. (CFMS/AFMS). The general club meetings (Open to the public) are at 7:30 PM, on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at:

**The Clubhouse of the Greenbrier
Mobile Estates EAST
21301 Soledad Canyon Rd
Canyon Country, CA 91351**

Contact the Club or the Sierra Pelonagram Editor at:

**Sierra Pelona Rock Club
P.O. Box 221256
Newhall, Ca. 91322**

Or E-mail: hwebber@pacbell.net

Visit the SPRC website <http://www.sierrapelona.com/>

SIERRA PELONA ROCK CLUB
BUSINESS MEETING AT
GREENHOUSE CAFÉ
TUESDAY, SEPT. 7, 2010 FROM 6:30-8:05 PM

IN ATTENDANCE: George & Ron Lawrence, Bill & Heidi Webber, Ron & Akiko Strathmann, Paul Kinney, Diane Southwell, Shep Koss, Mike Moreno, Greg Mazourek, Colleen Clough, and Evelyn Velie.

Claim maintenance fee for both claims have been paid. Mount Diablo Onyx Claim will be open to the public. Boundary lines will need to be established just like at the North Edwards Claim.

Frazier Park Show – we made some profit but not as much as in previous years. We did make more than other vendors. The net amount we took in did not pay for the amount of time we put into it. Turnout was not high – not enough paying visitors.

Lombardi Ranch – we have slabs, polished rocks, some rough pieces, and a few railroad nails with decorations on them. Greg said he would make more decorated railroad nails. We need to make more finished goods that can be priced inexpensively. Karen, Diane, and Ron S. have findings for future saleable items. It was suggested we can get a group of us to make items for the Lombardi fundraiser. October 9 & 10 is our time at Lombardi Ranch (this is the same weekend as Searles Lake Gem & Mineral Show).

Super Tumbler – It holds 4 double-sided tumblers. This item is homemade. It may cost approx \$250 to repair it but the group thinks it will be worth it since the super tumbler can hold so much. The idea to repair the tumbler and purchase new bearings was seconded. Bill will fix the tumbler.

We need to purchase water soluble oil. A 24-inch or larger saw can use regular oil. Softer rocks should be soaked for a minimum of 24 hours in water to prevent regular oil from seeping in. Ten-inch saws can use water soluble oil. It was agreed that we should purchase one gallon of the water soluble oil from Johnson Bros. Bill will do the purchasing.

Prize/Raffle Table – we need to upgrade our prize/raffle table we have at our meetings. It has been suggested the members bring rock & mineral donations for the raffle table.

The 27-inch flat lap with stand has been refinished by Paul Kinney. Paul will turn in his receipts for all the repairs. It has been suggested and voted on that the club should sell it on E-Bay, Craigslist, and/or LA Rocks. We should sell it for \$1,000. It should be mentioned that the purchaser will need to pay for the freight. Bill and Heidi will handle the sale.

New Members have been voted in. Please welcome: Bud & Susan Sebatino.

Field Trips – Ron and Bonnie have sent out a list of field trips. The Rose Quartz field trip scheduled for the 18th has been cancelled because we cannot get in touch with the owner of the property. The Rose Quartz field trip will be scheduled at another time. The September field trip's location is scheduled for the 25th which will be announced at the general meeting.

September's Program – Sept. 21st - Show-N-Tell of rocks and/or minerals you have collected over the summer. If you did not go collecting, please bring in rocks/or minerals you have collected in the past. Please turn in a write-up to Heidi as to "what you did during your summer vacation" so she can put it in the bulletin.

Holiday Club Get-Together at the Greenbriar Clubhouse has been tentatively scheduled for all day for Saturday, Dec. 18th, starting around 11am. It will be a potluck. A sign-up sheet will be provided at the general meeting. The club will supply the meat.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Clough,
Temporary Secretary



October 3 Field Trip

A reminder about the quartz crystal trip on Oct. 3. Bonnie and I will be staying at a cabin in Big Bear and plan to meet anyone coming up at the highway and Baldwin Lake Rd. at nine am. It's only a bit down the road and a short distance up a dirt trail to the parking area.

The Pacific Crest Trail comes through there and we hike about a mile along it to a wide spot with quartz everywhere. The small crystals are loose in the dirt and pieces of quartz and if the sun is right, they sparkle. Some people dig in the soft dirt so you will notice small pits.

Can't be sure of the weather on that day but you should bring a hat and always have water.

A snack is a good idea and if you plan to make a whole day of it, bring a lunch. Bring baggies for your finds and you may be lucky and find a cluster of crystals as Shep did one time.

Speaking of Shep, he is still trying to reach the owner of the Rose Quartz claim and we are still hoping for a trip on the 25 of this month to there. If we haven't heard back from him we will still head out on the 25th but to a different collecting local. We will have a field trip that weekend so save the date.

Ron Lawrence
Junior member of
the Field Trip Committee

Observation: Note Ron calls himself the Junior Member of the Field Trip Committee. Is he referring to age???

Holiday Pot Luck

The Holiday Dinner will be Saturday, December 18. We will have the clubhouse from 11am until 8pm. The club will provide the meat and paper goods, etc. You will provide the rest as pot luck. Sign-up sheets will be at the next couple of general meetings, starting with next week's meeting. We will probably start meeting at the clubhouse to set things up around 11, but we won't start our meal until around 1. We have lots of fun at this dinner, including an auction. This means, in addition to your dish, you should bring your checkbook and something to donate to the table if you like.

Bonnie and Ron on Upcoming Field Trips

We will have a day trip on the 25th to one of a couple of spots that we have talked about. We are thinking about Lavic Siding with a side trip to the Hector Hills or the antique marble out by Stoddard Wells. We still haven't been to the Thulite area out past Ludlow.

We also have a couple of off week trips planned to Ant Hill and for those of you who enjoy a walk, there is always the two mile walk each way to the strawberry onyx. Pretty stuff but you have to carry it out since we can't even take a wagon or cart into the area.

Bonnie will keep us up to date on these and other trips as dates get closer. We are looking forward to seeing all the things everyone will be bringing to the September meeting on the 21st.
Ron and Bonnie

September Gemstone: Sapphire



Sapphire, the September birthstone, has been popular since the Middle Ages and, according to folklore, will protect your loved ones from envy and harm. Medieval clergy wore sapphires to symbolize heaven, while commoners thought the gem attracted heavenly blessings. Blue sapphires range from very light to very dark greenish or violet-blue, as well as various shades of pure blue. The most prized colors are a medium to medium dark blue or slightly violet-blue. Sapphire is a variety of the gem species corundum and occurs in all colors of the rainbow. Pink, purple, green, orange, or yellow corundum are known by their color (pink

sapphire, green sapphire). Ruby is the red variety of corundum.

The sapphire's physical and chemical properties are virtually identical to those of ruby. In a natural state the gem crystallizes in the hexagonal system with two pyramidal faces. It is fractionally harder than ruby. Curiously, all corundums that are not rubies are classed as sapphires, which means that this particular gem exists in many colors, from blue to green, pink to mauve, white, grey, violet, yellow and orange.

The blue color of sapphire is due to small amounts of titanium oxides and iron. The finest color is found in the Kashmir specimens. Ceylon sapphires are generally of a vivid blue, sometimes only partially colored. Those found in the United States (Montana) have a bright metallic sheen, while Australian sapphires are of a deep blue-green, almost black even. These are the least valuable but most widespread, being mined in great quantity. The colored sapphires popular today come mainly from the mines in Thailand, Ceylon and Australia. Multi-colored specimens are also known to exist.

Transparent sapphire, too, cut en cabochon, reflects the light to produce star-like bands. These star stones range in color from black (black stone sapphire) to blue (saphir étoilé). There is also a variety known as alexandrite which is blue in daylight and red-violet in Artificial light.

Both sapphires and rubies have been successfully and widely produced synthetically by the chemist, and in appearance, chemical composition and hardness are almost identical to the natural gems. Manufactured gems can generally be detected by the presence of minute black-rimmed, bright-centered air bubbles or curved bands, visible with the aid of a 10x magnifier.

The focus of the synthetic corundum production is in France, and South East Asian countries are among the biggest buyers. So beware of buying stones from foreigners or well-meaning friends who have just returned from an oriental holiday with the "bargain of the year" Your best course of action is to consult a professional jeweler of sound reputation. In all events, seek expert advice.

References: www.mineralszone.com/gemstones/sapphires.html and www.americangemsociety.org/birthstones



CFMS Shows

September 18-19 2010, Redwood City, CA

Sequoia Gem & Mineral Society
Community Activities Building
1400 Roosevelt Ave.

Carol Corden (650) 248-7155

Email: ccorden@comcast.net

Website: <http://sgms.driftmine.com>

September 18-19 2010, Paso Robles, CA

Santa Lucia Rockhounds

Pioneer Park

2010 Riverside Drive

Hours: 10-5 Daily

Kim Patrick Noyes (805) 610-0603

Email: kimnoyes@gmail.com

Website: <http://slrockhounds.org>

September 18-19 2010, Stockton, CA

Stockton Lapidary & Mineral Club

Scottish Rite Masonic Center

33 W. Alpine Ave.

Hours: 10-5 Daily

(209) 946-0113

Email: footsey1@yahoo.com

Website: <http://www.stocktonlapidary.com>

September 24, 25, 26 2010, San Bernardino, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society

Little League Baseball Park

6707 Little League Dr.

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to Dusk

Chris Phillips 909-570-5817

Email: likearoq@msn.com

Website: obmsrocks@yolasite.com

September 25-26 2010, Monterey, CA

Carmel Valley Gem & Mineral Society

Monterey Fairgrounds

2004 Fairgrounds Road

Hours: Sat 10-6; Sun 10-5

Susie Harlow

Email: Susie@tghcpa.com

Website: <http://www.cvgms.org>

October 2-3 2010, Oroville, CA

Feather River Lapidary & Mineral Society

Oroville Municipal Auditorium

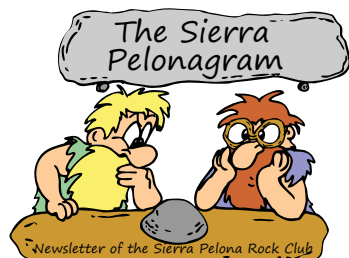
1200 Meyers Street

Hours: 10 - 5 Daily

Connie Rossetto (530) 589-1840

Email: crossetto@aol.com

Website: <http://www.Oroville.rocks.com>



Sierra Pelona Rock Club

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