

The Sierra Pelonaogram



December 2016

... 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.

Birthdays

January

Larry Holt	Jan 29
Debra Martin	Jan 19
Larry Patrich	Jan 4
Martin Schreiner	Jan. 9
Robin Shane	Jan 15
Bruce Velie	Jan 3
Austin Williams	Jan 5



February

Brigitte Mazourek	Feb 1
Tina White	Feb 17



Announcements

Welcome!

A great big welcome to new members Karen and Anne Glavin, Michael and Robin Shane and Louise Rinker. They will be introduced to the club members at the Holiday Dinner this coming Saturday.

Dues are Due

Dues for membership to the SPRC are due in January and late as of the Business Meeting the first Tuesday of February. After that there will be a \$2 penalty. So to avoid this huge debt, I suggest you pull out your wallet or checkbook and pay Treasurer Sandy White your \$20, 2017 dues, at the Holiday Party! Don't let it hang over you. Don't let me have to chase you down. Just do it! I am! Have a nice day...



Officers:

President – Ron Rackliffe
Vice-President – Trina Aeen
Secretary: Tina White
Treasurer –Sandy White
Federation Director (CFMS/AFMS) --Evelyn Velie

Chairpersons:

Claim--Mike Serino
Donation Rock Table--Ron and Akiko Strathmann
Equipment--Bill Webber
Field Trips – Julie Tinoco
Historian -Open
Hospitality – Tina White
Membership – Heidi Webber
On-Line Presence (website)-- Trina Aeen
Pelonagram Publisher, Editor – Heidi Webber
Programs –Open
Publicity –Bruce Velie
Storage--Bill Webber
Sunshine--Brigitte Mazourek

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 www.sierrapelona.com

President's Message



It has been a good year! We have seen many new faces and old ones too! We have been active as a club in field trips and workshops, we have announced and supported nearby rock shows. I really enjoy being a part of Sierra Pelona Rock Club and look forward to continuing to participate with all of you in the years to come. We have our Holiday Party this Saturday at 11:00 AM and I see from the sign ups that we are going to have a good spread (yummy!!). Hope to see you all there for the Party and elections.



Thanks, Ron R

SIERRA PELONA ROCK CLUB GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 11/15/16

Club Vice-President Trina Aeen called the meeting to order at 7:57, and led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

New member Josh Derrenski was introduced to the group, and given his welcome packet.

Tonight's guests were introduced and welcomed; they included: Louise, Robin, Mike and member Lynn's hubby, Gale.

President Ron Rackliffe (having been delayed trying to resolve technical issue with tonight's presentation) then summarized the month's Business Meeting:

- Board elections will be held at the Club Holiday Party on 12/17; anyone interested in one of the positions is to contact Tina White.
- The desert cleanup has been (re)scheduled for April 18th, 2018.

Next was discussed the coming weekend's trip to collect Silverlace Agate at Calico. Those wishing to attend should meet at 7:30 a.m. at Mammoth Lane on Saturday, 11/19. Ron Lawrence added that he would be willing to take folks to collect in other nearby areas. Lastly, the group – or portions thereof – may wish to stop at the Hesperia Rock Club event on their way back to the SFV. An email reminder will be sent to all members.

The evening's planned speaker on flint knapping was unable to make it this month, so Trina leapt into the breach and put together a presentation on Calico, which was in turn presented by Ron R. We learned the history of Calico, viewed pictures of the collecting site. (That's one steep hill!)



Along that same line, Mike Serino shared information on 1890's mining infrastructure still present in the area, such as shafts and ladders. For more information, please check is website at carbide-lamps.com.

The usual raffle, rock auction, and partaking in refreshments followed; the meeting ended unofficially around 8:30 p.m.

Sierra Pelona Rock Club

Board Meeting

12/6/16

In attendance: Trina Aeen, Ron Rackliffe, Julie Tinoco, Evelyn Velie, Bill Webber, Tina White, and briefly, Ron Lawrence.

Our meeting began at 7:07 p.m., following the wonderful news from Bill Webber that his lovely culinary whiz of a wife, Heidi, has offered to make the turkey and ham for the SPRC Holiday Party. Yay, Heidi!

In official news...

Club President Ron Rackliffe confirmed that at the beginning of each General Meeting he will briefly summarize the prior Board Meeting.

New membership applications from Anne Glavin, Karen Glavin, Robin and Michael Shane, and Louise Rinker were unanimously approved.

No one signed up at last month's General Meeting to assist with the Desert Cleanup scheduled for April of next year; we will have to address that at future gatherings.

Trina Aeen suggested that Ron R. send out an email encouraging members to run for positions on the Board; he agreed to do so.

We are tentatively scheduled to have the flint knapping presentation at our January meeting.

Tina White has sent out an email asking for food offerings for the club Holiday Party.

Ron R. had provided us a list of events scheduled by other organizations; here is the summary:

- Jan. 18 – 22: Quartzite Pow-Wow
- Jan. 20: ALAA Open Meeting in Quartzite
- Jan. 22: 5th Annual ALAA BLM Clean-up in Quartzite
- March 1: Applications due for Camp Zzyzx
- March 10 – 12: Stoddard Wells tailgate event; tri-color marble field trip on 3/10
- June 9 – 11: CFMS-AFMS Show and Convention at Ventura Co. Fairgrounds
- Nov. 18 – 19: Oxnard gem show

Meanwhile, our club will be cleaning/sprucing up the area around our claim the next time folks go out that way.

Input into the Mojave Trails Monument and rockhounding is needed; check the website at <http://www.sdmg.org/calnatmonuments/mtnm.pdf>

And the pièce de résistance... the SPRC 2017 Field Trip schedule was developed!

- January 28th: the Cadys
- February 18th: Afton Canyon
- March 25th: Wiley's Well/Blythe
- April 22nd: Rose Quartz
- May 20th: Gem Hill
- June 24th & 25th: Lone Pine
- August 19th: San Simeon
- September 23rd: Clear Creek
- October 21st: Strawberry Onyx
- December 2nd: Trona

We weren't quite done; it was agreed that Tina would give the Thank You card for Nate back to Ron Lawrence, as he knows how to get it to him.

Our next workshop at the Webbers' is set for February 5th.

We will be having a rock-related silent auction at the Holiday Party.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

ICE

Although largely absent at lower latitudes, ice is still the most abundant mineral exposed at Earth's surface. Yet, in spite of being so common, ice is rarely seen in museums and virtually never in private collections. Water is not classified as a mineral because it has no crystalline form.

The name "ice" originates from the Middle English word *iis*, and also from the Dutch *ijs* and the German *eis*. As snow, it forms crystals that seldom exceed $\frac{1}{4}$ ", although as massive aggregates in glaciers, individual crystals may reach 18". Other forms include dendritic frost, frost as skeletal, hopper-shaped prisms, and rounded polycrystalline bodies with concentric structures (hailstones and icicles). Crystals are generally colorless, but larger, massive bodies can be light blue. Ice's common white color is due to gaseous inclusions of air. There are at least nine polymorphs—different crystalline forms—of ice, each forming under slightly different pressure and temperature conditions.

The hardness of ice varies with its crystal structure, purity, and temperature. Ice exists only at temperatures below 32°F. At -47°F, which is not unusual in arctic or high-alpine conditions, ice has a hardness of 4 on the Mohs scale, which is the same as fluorite. At -106°F, a temperature still within reach in arctic or high-alpine conditions, it has the hardness of feldspar—about 6. At this temperature, it is hard enough to erode stone when windblown. If ice exists on any of the planets or moons in the outer solar system, it could be even harder than this.

The classification applied to rocks can also be used for ice, dividing it into three types: igneous, when it crystallizes from liquid water, sedimentary, when it falls as snow, and metamorphic, when it is in glaciers under tremendous pressure, deforming and recrystallizing. Large crystals of hoar ice, 4" long, are often found in caves, old mines, and glacial crevasses where they have crystallized directly from the air. Natural ice has declined in economic value, but as a medium for playing winter sports, it is only marginally supplanted by the artificial form.

Ice-Core Research

Cores of ice recovered from holes bored deep into glaciers and ice sheets have provided important information about past atmospheric conditions, including temperature, pollutants, and the presence of dust particles (which can bring about climate change). An ice sheet preserves the entire history of its accumulation, in some cases extending back more than 300,000 years. Actual samples of ancient atmospheres are trapped in air bubbles within the ice, as are records of snow accumulation, air temperature, and fallout from volcanic, terrestrial, marine, cosmic, and human-made sources.

Preserving Food

Once the preservative properties of chilling were discovered, the harvesting and storing of ice for use as a refrigerant became a major winter occupation in parts of Europe and North America. The Chinese are said to have stored ice in caves as early as the 8th century BC. The first icehouse in Great Britain was built in the early 17th century, and by the 18th century an icehouse was a usual part of a large estate. Some were built as pits, others at ground level. They were usually insulated with straw, both in the walls and around the ice blocks. Some had a capacity of hundreds of tons. An ice crop could last for up to three years, but many did not last the entire summer, so it was an unreliable method of long-term food preservation. With the advent of modern refrigeration and the production of artificial ice, natural ice is no longer an important product as a refrigerant.



Ice-harvesting exhibit at Maine State Museum in Augusta, Maine. photo by Billy Hawthorn



Each snowflake is made up of platy, hexagonal crystals of ice. Photo by Wilson Bentley 1902



Frozen water in the form of an ordinary household ice cube. The white zone in the center is the result of tiny air bubbles. Home-made ice or synthetic ice is not a mineral, just as synthetic gemstones are not regarded as minerals.

photo by Lusilier

Resource: Smithsonian Rock and Gem