

The Sierra Pelonaagram



December 2012

... 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.



**Welcome to Our
New President**

At the Holiday Dinner on December 9, Greg Langewisch was voted in as President for the year 2013. Congratulations Greg, I know you will be a fine leader of our club!

CFMS Shows

No shows in January
February 15 - 24: INDIO, CA
San Gorgonio Mineral & Gem Society
Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival
46-530 Arabia Street
Hours: 10 - 10 daily
Contact: Bert Grisham, (915) 849-1674
Email: bert67@verizon.net

Ron's Words of Wisdom

Forget the stander you have heard,
Forget the hasty, unkind word,
Forger the quarrel and the cause,
Forget the whole affair because
Forgetting is the only way.
Forget the storm of yesterday,
Forget the chap whose sour face
Forgets to smile in any place.
Forget to have the blues,
But don't forget to
PAY YOUR DUES!

This has been part of the club for many years but as true today as it was, maybe, forty years or more ago.

Don't forget, your dues are due January 1st and late as of the Business Meeting February 5th. You can mail your dues to the Sierra Pelona Rock Club, PO Box 221256, Newhall, CA 91322 or give them to Greg Mazourek at the January General Meeting.

December Birthdays

Nancy Hilliard Dec. 1
Morgan Langewisch Dec. 14
Jon Meredith Dec 15

January Birthdays

Bruce Velie Jan 3
Austin Williams Jan 5
Martin Schreiner Jan 9
Judd Figatner Jan 10
Debbie Meredith Jan 11
Diane Henry Jan 30



Officers:

President – Ron Lawrence
Vice-President – Bill Webber
Secretary: Heidi Webber
Treasurer – Greg Mazourek
Federation Director (CFMS/AFMS) – Shep Koss

Chairpersons:

Claim - Mike Serino
Donation Rock Table - Akiko Strathmann
Facebook--Greg Langewisch
Field Trips – Greg Langewisch
Historian - Frank Humelbaugh
Hospitality – Evelyn Velie
Membership – Janelle Williams
Pelonagram Publisher, Editor – Heidi Webber
Programs – Shep Koss
Publicity –Open
Storage - Vlad Litt
Sunshine - Brigitte Mazourek
Website – Greg 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 <http://www.sierrapelona.com/>



A Message from our President

As the year comes to an end I can say that I really enjoyed being president of the club, standing up front and looking over the group as it grew to fill the room.

Every time I went down to the clubhouse to set up the chairs for a meeting, I thought about how many chairs we would need and remembered when we met in the small card room on the other side of the building and had only two rows of chairs. I remember the day I had to go to the quilting group and ask them to trade rooms with us because we were growing too big to fit over there.

One of the advantages in a club growing to the size of ours is that the president can delegate almost everything. When you can count on chair people to not only do their jobs but suggest new ideas and even improve on the way things are done, it takes a lot of stress off the board. This last year I really appreciated not having to double check on things like

programs or field trips or the picnic or packets for new members.

The club ran smoothly with the Pelonagram and meeting minutes out every month and the donation wheel making more money for the club than ever before.

As I turn the presidency over Greg Langewisch, I know the club will continue on the right road, even if it is some unnamed dirt road somewhere in the Mojave.

I'm not leaving the club but I have plans to do a lot of traveling next year and may miss some meetings and field trips.

Thank you all for participating in the club this last year and please continue to be an active part of The Sierra Pelona Rock Club

December Business Meeting Minutes

Greenbriar Estates Clubhouse

December 4, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7pm. In attendance were Ron L, Heidi, Greg L, Shep, Evelyn, Greg M. A quorum was met.

The November minutes were approved as presented in the Pelonagram. The Treasurer's report was approved. Shep said that the CFMS coin drive was completed. The SPRC contributed \$61.

Evelyn said that 41 persons had RSVP'd for the Holiday Party being catered by Marie Calendar's at a cost of \$9.99 per person plus \$4 delivery charge and tip.

Elections to be held at the General Meeting before dinner.

Ron reiterated that dues are due and considered late as of the February business meeting.

Ron said that the donation rock table needs supplies. Several members are planning to go to Quartzite this winter and will see what can be picked up for the table.

There will be no December field trip. The club will also need a field trip chairperson. If anyone is interested, please contact the president, probably Greg L as he is the only nominee at this time.

Shep said that the January program will probably be a movie on obsidian.

Greg L said that the January field trip will be to the South Cady's to gather jasper, agate and moss agate in red, yellow and green or a combination of colors. The location is near Ludlow.

The Historian, Frank Humelbaugh, will be making up the annual packet of what happened over the last year.

Open chairperson positions will be Hospitality, publicity, field trips, an Online Presence Manager (Facebook and website).

Larry and Norma Holt were voted in as new members. They will be introduced to the club at the January meeting.

Greg M said he is getting ready to order shirts and hats for the club. If you want anything, let him know. Colors are teal or grey. T-shirts, polo or tank styles are available. Many members have a couple different styles. Your cost is unknown at this time, but figure in the \$15-\$20 range, give or take a bit.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.

Heidi S. Webber, Secretary SPRC

Holiday Dinner

As you all know, our holiday dinner was a bit different this year.

First, we catered it from Marie Calendar's rather than a full potluck. It was quite delicious too. Tons of delicious desserts were brought in as the potluck portion of the dinner. Martinelli's cider was the drink of the day.

Secondly, because of a mix-up at the clubhouse, the dinner was held at Placerita Canyon Nature Center. Everyone was able to eat in the company of many of our local native species, including rattlesnakes and a taxidermied Grizzly bear.

Greg Mazourek was great as auctioneer and Brigitte was in her usual role as "Vanna". Bids came swiftly and most of the items were sold quickly, making a nice profit for the club.

This year we also had a silent auction. Ron Lawrence brought over a dozen lovely specimens that he had given his late father George over the years. All items were auctioned and found new homes where they will be treasured for years to come. Thank you Ron, it was such a nice gesture.

Greg Langewisch was voted as President for the year 2013. All other current officers agreed to retain their positions unopposed. Many of the chairpersons will probably remain, but that is up to Greg to appoint his new chairpersons.

Sarita Hyde did her usual lovely centerpieces. This year they were clever wine cork birdhouses. Three of them were auctioned to the crowd. Sarita, thank you! When asked, Ralph said he doesn't drink. Hmmmm.....

There was so much to auction that Greg took a break and we had a brief animal show. One of the docents, Marietta, brought in Catori, a beautiful barn owl. Bill Webber showed Tidbit, an American kestrel and Chris Sapovchak then brought in Apollo, the center's Turkey vulture, to be admired.

All in all, I feel that this was a very successful end to the year 2012 with the Sierra Pelona Rock Club.





Druzy Quartz

Druzy Quartz (also spelled as Druzy or Druse) is a thin layer of quartz crystals covering the surface of a host stone. One good example of drusy is the crystals found inside the cavity of a geode. It is well-known that amethyst or citrine get the source of their color from this quartz crystal but usually drusy quartz takes the host stone's color which is seen through it as in chrysocolla or uvarovite garnet.



The term "druzy" refers to the tiny crystal which is formed on another stone in a large number. When the ground water that carries dissolved silica is forced into a porous area of rock, rapid cooling occurs and it causes the formation of minute crystals. As in drusy chrysocolla, the rock is composed of agatized chrysocolla with crusts of small sparkling quartz crystals in tiny cavities.

Druzy quartz is relatively inexpensive and beautiful when used in jewelry. It is a popular choice because of its sparkle and color and can readily be cut into interesting and unusual shapes. Druzy gems form naturally over millions of years. They are found on host materials such as agate and are usually found when mining for other semiprecious gems such as garnets and peridots.

Types



Druzy is most commonly made up of clear quartz crystals and is usually found on blue or gray agate. It can also be found in varying shades of yellow, orange, red and brown. More rarely, it has appeared with green garnet crystals or brilliant blue azurite. Druzy quartz is delicate and can be easily damaged, so it is generally used in pendants.

Features

Druzy quartz can be made up of tiny crystals, which gives it a soft and velvety appearance. It can have a sugar-like appearance with medium crystals, or it can have large, distinctly formed crystals. Druzy can also be coated with a microscopic film of titanium, platinum, gold or sterling silver. This process is called vapor deposition. When a drusy is coated with titanium, it adds a brilliant purple, cobalt or rainbow of colors. Drusies can also be dyed.

Size

Drusies can range in size from tiny pieces that can be made into cabochons or large pieces that can be used as display specimens. They must be cut carefully, so as not to damage the delicate crystals. They are usually cut free form, and not in the standard cabochon shapes, to accentuate the beautiful crystals. Some gem cutters prefer to cut drusy so that only the crystals show from the front, and not the substrate. However, you just as often will see cabochons that show the beautiful agate substrate as well, which adds to the finished piece.

Benefits

Druzy quartz is an inexpensive material, but when cut properly it can make beautiful jewelry that rivals more expensive gemstones. Good specimens of drusy can be purchased at rock and mineral shows at substantially lower prices than other semiprecious stones. Depending on the size and color, cut gems can be had for anywhere from \$15 to \$600.



Considerations

When using drusy for jewelry making, take into account its delicacy. It is recommended for pendants, brooches or earrings and does not hold up well to the wear and tear a ring or bracelet might receive. It is usually bezel-set so that the edges will not get chipped. It is also popular as a display specimen because the agate substrate may be polished to show its beautiful mineral layers.

Read more: [What Is Drusy Quartz? | eHow.com](#)
References [eHow.com](#) and [Mineralzone](#)



SPRC General Meeting
Greenbriar Estates Clubhouse
November 20, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:35. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Janelle announced 27 members and 4 guests were present—Hanna, Evelyn’s granddaughter, Karen Rackliff, and Larry and Norma Holt.

New members, Pebblepup Christian (Mike Serino’s grandson), and Ron Rackliff were introduced and given their membership packets.

Ron L stated he was interviewed by the Antelope Valley Press for an article in their publication.

Greg L said that the fieldtrip for November would be Wiley’s Well with the Federation on Thanksgiving Weekend.

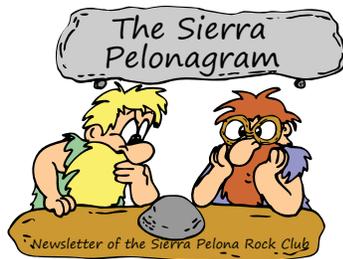
Ron L announced that the Holiday Party will be at Placerita Canyon Nature Center on December 9 at noon. We can start setting up around 11. It will be a catered dinner with drinks and dessert as a potluck for members. A charge of \$10 would be assessed for anyone bringing more than one guest to help pay for the meal.

Elections: Greg L is the only nominee for president. The election will be a show of hands at the Holiday Dinner. Anyone can self-nominate up to that point. All other board members have agreed to stay on in their position (per a show of hands) unless someone is nominated at the dinner.

The program for November is Art Clay Silver presented by Shirley Brown who will make a piece of jewelry from start to finish.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.

Heidi S. Webber, Secretary SPRC



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