

The Sierra Pelonaagram



November 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.

**The Sierra Pelona
Rock Club**

Welcomes new members
Ron Rackliff and Pebble Pup
Christian Gordillo

Reminder

Your annual dues to the Sierra Pelona Rock Club for 2013 are now due and considered late as of the Business Meeting in January. This year, because of New Year's Day, the Business Meeting and your "dues late" date will be January 8, 2013. Dues are \$20 per year, and late fees are \$2.

CFMS Shows

November 17-18: Livermore, CA

Livermore Valley Lithophiles

Contact: Lee Davisson,
(925) 371-0699

Email: linfo@lithophiles.com

Website: [www.lithophiles.org/
lithorama.html](http://www.lithophiles.org/lithorama.html)

November 17-18: Oxnard, CA

Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society

Contact: Brett Johnson,
(805) 822-3836

Email: show_info@oxnardgem.com

Website: www.oxnardgem.com

December 1-2: Barstow, CA

Mojave Desert Gem & Mineral Society

Contact: Gene Haines,
(760) 256-0595

Email: email@mdgms.org

Website: www.mdgms.org

December 7-9: San Bernardino, CA

Orange Belt Mineralogical Society

Website:

<http://OBMSrocks.yolasite.com>

For further information, please go to the individual club website or the CFMS website. Shows start again in February.

**Birthdays:
Happy Birthday Fall and
Winter Babies!**

November:

Frank Humelbaugh Nov. 10

Diane Southwell Nov. 13

December:

Nancy Hilliard Dec. 1

Jon Meredith Dec. 15



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/>

Message from the President

The calendar year is winding down but the rock hounding year is in full swing. We've had some great field trips and Lombardi was a success both financially and in member participation.

November's Business Meeting was Tuesday night and even with a small group we were able to cover all the important items on the agenda. We have a great program for the general meeting on the 20th and two field trips this month. We finalized plans for the Holiday Party and talked about dues and club elections. We added two new members to our club's ranks and made plans to clean out our storage area.

My term as president of the club is soon up as are the terms of all the board members. At the November meeting we will hold elections of the new board so if any of you have an interest in running for one of these offices let Heidi know soon.

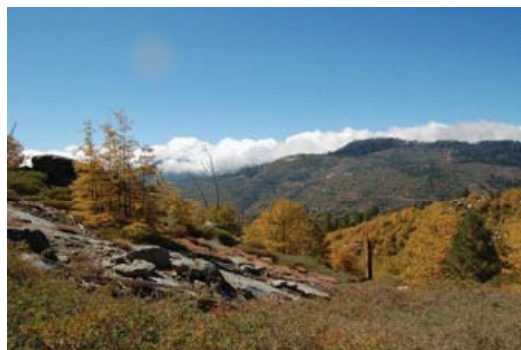
Ron Lawrence, President
Sierra Pelona Rock Club



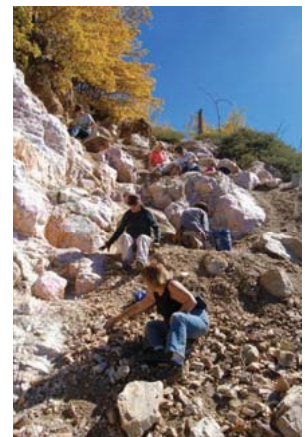
Rose Quartz Field Trip in Pictures



Judd and his wife, Cori.



Beautiful view walking from the parking spot.



The quartz was plentiful but difficult to work from the side of the hill.



Some very nice pieces.



Evelyn trying to get some of the quartz out of the hillside.

Sierra Pelona Rock Club
General Meeting
October 16, 2012
Greenbriar Estates Clubhouse

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm. There were 22 members and 3 guests: John Brady, Ron Rackliffe and Mike Thompson.

Ron Lawrence told the membership that Lombardi was very successful. 19 club members helped out and he said this was one of our most successful years at Lombardi.

Greg Langewisch announced that the October field trip would be to the Greenhill Mountains for Rose Quartz on Saturday, October 20.

Shep Koss said that the program for November would be on silver art clay and our guest speaker would fabricate a piece of jewelry from A-Z, including using a kiln.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 and a program on Tree Stories (petrified wood) was presented in the form of a video.

Respectfully Submitted
Heidi S. Webber, Secretary SPRC

Working the Rock at Ron's



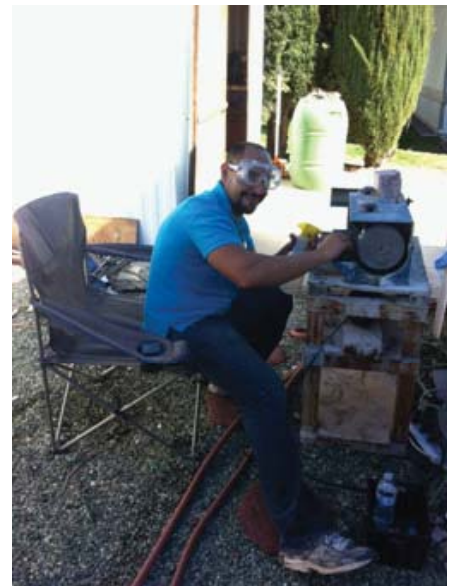
Vlad in his protective gear. This job isn't for sissies!



Morgan and Nancy hard at work.



Trina and Nancy cutting their rough.



Omid on the grinder.

Sierra Pelona Rock Club
Business Meeting
November 6, 2012
Greenbriar Estates Clubhouse

The meeting was brought to order at 7pm. In attendance were Ron Lawrence, Mike Serino, Shep Koss, Evelyn Velie, Greg Langewisch, Vlad Litt, Janelle Williams, D.J. Gervais, and Bill and Heidi Webber

The September Treasurers report was presented and accepted. Greg Mazourek wasn't at the meeting and so the October report will be presented along with the November report at the next meeting.

Old Business: The Lombardi Ranch event was discussed and was deemed a success.

New Business:

Welcome new SPRC members: Ron Rackliff and Christian Gordillo (Mike Serino's grandson) as a Pebble Pup.

The Holiday Party has been changed to December 9 (Sunday) from 12-5. We can start setting up at 11:30am. There will be a change of venue to the Placerita Canyon Nature Center. We will have the use of 2 rooms and the kitchen but there is no oven on site. That shouldn't be a problem as the SPRC has also decided to cater most of the meal, with membership bringing deserts and drinks and if you have a special side dish, feel free to contribute. Evelyn will make dinner arrangements with the help of Heidi. She will also send out an announcement with details and a menu so you can decide if you would like to bring afore-said side dish. There will also be the usual fund-raising auction, so go through your things. Please make sure they are clean and working properly. There will also be a silent auction with nice rock specimens. Sarita will be asked to make centerpieces. Because of the cost of catering, only members + 1 are invited. Extra persons will be asked to contribute \$10 toward the cost of their meal. RSVP will also be required so we will know how much to order.

The nominating committee for officers: Let us know if you are interested in any of the 5 positions open for election: President, vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Federation. Also, if you are interested in any of the chair positions, let us know as the incoming president will be assigning those positions in January. Please let Heidi know ASAP. Nominations will be announced at the November General Meeting and elections at the December general meeting/Holiday dinner.

Dues are due by the end of the year. They are considered late as of the January Business Meeting. Because the first Tuesday is New Year's Day, the January Business Meeting will be the following Tuesday, January 8.

Committee Reports:

Rock Table: Donations to the rock table are doing well.

Facebook: Because of Facebook changes, you will actually have to visit the page to see all posts. They will not appear on your page.

Field Trips: Sunday, Nov. 11 a trip to Gem Hill. The official November trip is a Federation trip to Wiley's Well. Greg will be emailing details.

Historian: Needs to put together an End of Year packet.

Hospitality: RSVP will be REQUIRED for the Holiday Dinner. Members + 1 are invited. Any extra persons will be charged \$10. Evelyn also announced that as she has had this position for 5 years, it is time for someone else to step in next year.

The Pelonagram: Except for 2 members who receive it in printed form, it is all emailed as PDF.

Programs: November's program is silver clay and has been confirmed.

Publicity: Still open, Diane Southwell is filling in until the position has been filled.

Storage: Needs another clear-out and organization. Vlad and Bill will be working on that soon.

Sunshine: Going fine.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20. Heidi made the motion/Bill seconded.

Respectfully Submitted
Heidi Webber, Secretary, SPRC

Shep Koss with Federation Announcements

November 17th - November 25th

We are heading back to Paradise Springs outside of Barstow for our Annual Thanksgiving week! We will be dry camping on private property. There is a club house with wood stove and tables, plus a flush toilet. Plenty of room for RV's and tents. There are hot springs on the property with a large tub and a swimming pool.

Rock collecting is great in the area. Can expect to find Strawberry Onyx, Butler Onyx, Silver Lace Onyx, Garnets, Walkerite and more.

We will have a pot luck for Thanksgiving dinner. Come join us for all or part of the week!

RSVP Email to Marshall Havner (who is coordinating this event) at: mdhavner@verizon.net

Additional information:

Directions:

Go past Barstow approx. 5 1/2 miles on Hwy 15 and take the Ghost Town Road (Peggy Sue's Restaurant) exit and turn left - North

Go approx. 2 1/4 miles and turn left on Yermo Cutoff

Go approx. 1 1/2 mile and turn Right on Fort Irwin Road

Go approx. 15 miles, watch for the Walker sign on the left side of the road- "Walkers" and a picture of a pair of dice (if you go past a cement plant on the right side of the road, you have gone too far)

Go up the dirt road, stay to the right at the first Y and at the second "Y" (there is a fence and gate on the road to the left - may or may not be open) go a little further and then go left up a small hill. That is where we will be camping. There will be TGMS signs along the dirt road for guidance.

Come see and use the great fire circle that TGMS constructed for the Walker family (the owners). There is plenty of fire wood there - no need to bring any!

Please RSVP to Marshall & Debbie Havner, email: mdhavner@verizon.net Let them know what day you plan to arrive. Marshall and Debbie are planning on being there the whole week, so join for all or part of the time.

Laura & Bill

If you have any questions either email Marshall or myself or call me: 559-584-3512

Elections

Don't forget, the election for officers of the Board will be held at the December General Meeting, which is the Holiday Dinner on December 9. If you are interested in a board position, please let Heidi know on or before the General Meeting in November. Term of office is one year. Also, please consider taking one of the available chair positions by letting Heidi know so that the incoming president can make his appointments at the January Business Meeting, when the new Board of Directors will have their first official meeting.

Holiday Dinner

This year, we will be doing things a bit differently than the last few years. First, we will be moving locations and second, we will be catering the dinner.

This years' location will be at the Placerita Canyon Nature Center. I believe you all know where it is, but if you need an address it is 19152 Placerita Canyon Road in Newhall. Time will be 11:30 am (setup) to 5pm. There will be plenty of parking.

The main meal will be catered with us bringing drinks and desserts. If you want to bring a side dish, feel free. Evelyn, with the help of Heidi, will be coordinating the meal. There will be updates via email.

One very important requirement—you **must** RSVP. We need to know how many persons to expect in order to be able to order the meal. Also, this will be for paid members plus a guest if you wish. Any extra persons will be charged \$10.

Ron said the club used to cater years ago and it evolved into a pot luck, which has been wonderful, but he would like to see it go back to catered or at least give it a try.

Because of the November program and demonstration, I thought it might be nice to have a bit of information on the subject. I pulled the following from Wikipedia.

Metal Clay



Pendant made from metal clay with gold powder

Metal clay is a crafting medium consisting of very small particles of metal such as silver, gold, bronze, or copper mixed with an organic binder and water for use in making jewelry, beads and small sculptures. Originating in Japan in 1990, metal clay can be shaped just like any soft clay, by hand or using molds. After drying, the clay can be fired in a variety of ways such as in a kiln, with a handheld gas torch, or on a gas stove. The binder burns away, leaving the pure sintered metal. Shrinkage of between 8% and 30% occurs (depending on the product used). Alloys such as bronze, sterling silver, and steel also are available.

History

Metal clay first came out in Japan in 1990 to allow craft jewelry makers to make sophisticated looking jewelry without the years of study needed to make fine jewelry.

Silver metal clay

Silver metal clay results in objects containing 99.9% pure silver, which is suitable for enameling. Although gold metal clay is more expensive, it provides richer color. Lump metal clay is sold in sealed packets to keep it moist and workable. The silver versions are also available as a softer paste in a pre-filled syringe which can be used to produce extruded forms, in small jars of slip and as paper-like sheets, from which most of the moisture has been removed. Common brands of silver metal clay include Precious Metal Clay (PMC) and Art Clay Silver (ACS).

Precious Metal Clay (PMC)

PMC was developed in the early 1990s in Japan by metallurgist Masaki Morikawa. As a solid-phase sintered product of a precious metal powder used to form a precious metal article, the material consists of microscopic particles of pure silver or fine gold powder and a water-soluble, non-toxic, organic binder that burns off during firing. Success was first achieved with gold and later duplicated with silver.

Art Clay Silver (ACS)

ACS was developed by AIDA Chemical Industries, also a Japanese company. ACS followed PMC Standard with their Art Clay Original clay (more like PMC+ than PMC Standard), which allows the user to fire with a handheld torch or on a gas hob. Owing to subtle differences in the binder and suggested firing times, this clay shrinks less than the PMC versions, approximately 8–10%.

Further developments introduced the Art Clay Slow Dry, a clay with a longer working time. Art Clay 650 and Art Clay 650 Slow Dry soon followed; both clays can be fired at 650 °C (1,202 °F), allowing the user to combine the clay with glass and sterling silver, which are affected negatively by the higher temperatures needed to fire the first generation clays. AIDA also manufactures Oil Paste, a product used only on fired metal clay or milled fine silver, and Overlay Paste, which is designed for drawing designs on glass and porcelain.

In 2006 AIDA introduced the Art Clay Gold Paste, a more economical way to work with gold. The paste is painted onto the fired silver clay, and then re-fired in a kiln, or with a torch or gas stove. When fired, it bonds with the silver, giving a 22ct gold accent. The same year also saw Art Clay Slow Tarnish introduced, a clay that tarnishes less rapidly than the other metal clays.

Lump metal clays

Lump metal clay in bronze was introduced in 2008 by Metal Adventures Inc. and in 2009 by Prometheus. Lump metal clays in copper were introduced in 2009 by Metal Adventures Inc. and Aida. Because of the lower cost, the bronze and copper metal clays are used by artists more often than the gold and silver metal clays in the American market place. Due to Hallmarking requirements laid out in the UK bronze and copper are not regarded as highly. The actual creation time of a bronze or copper piece is also far greater than that of its PMC3 counterpart.

Base metal clays

Base metal clays, such as bronze, copper, and steel metal clays are best fired in the absence of oxygen to eliminate the oxidation of copper by atmospheric oxygen. A simple means to accomplish this (place the pieces in activated carbon inside a container) was developed by Bill Struve.

Reference: Wikipedia