

# The Sierra Pelonagram



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

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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.

## Board Meeting 10/02/2018

Start time: 5:00pm

End Time: 7:17pm

Attendees: Ron Rackliffe President, Bill Webber Vice President, Kay Denson Treasurer, Shana Ruiz Secretary, and Heidi Webber Membership/Publisher, Editor of the Pelonagram.

Our meeting began early due to, the IRS requesting documents of the Club. They have requested information from the Club to continue on, as a Non-Profit Organization. The information that has been asked of the Club to furnish, is the following: Club Inventory, Publications, Treasurer Reports take-in's as well as expenditures, Board Meeting Minutes, and Activities of the Club. such as field trips, dinners, picnics, workshops, and general meetings.

The meeting took longer than usual to be in compliance of getting the documents together and organizing them. Another approach in addition to the necessary documents is directing them to our website. It has a lot of information of what the Club is about and what is offered. The time frame that the IRS is requesting documentation is from July 1st, 2016 to June 1st, 2017.

We also discussed the workshop with a Halloween-themed Luncheon that was coming up on 10/6/18 at Bill & Heidi's house.

Before the meeting was adjourned, the Treasurer went over the Finance Activities Report and the Secretary went over the Board Meeting Minutes for the month of September. The Board Members unanimously approved them.

This concludes all business discussed at the meeting.

Our General Club Meeting will be held on October 16th Tuesday at 7:30pm. See you all there.

Sincerely your Club Secretary,

Shana Ruiz

## October Birthdays

Omid Aeen  
Josh Derenski  
Alex Hamilton  
Katherine Webber



### Officers:

President – Ron Rackliffe  
Vice-President – Bill Webber  
Secretary: Shana Brunes-Ruiz  
Treasurer –Kay Denson  
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 – Evelyn Velie  
Membership – Heidi Webber  
Website-- Larry Holt  
Pelonagram Publisher, Editor – Heidi Webber  
Programs –Tina White  
Publicity –Bruce Velie  
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](mailto:hwebber@pacbell.net)

Visit the SPRC website [www.sierrapelona.com](http://www.sierrapelona.com)



### Hi Everybody,

It was good to see all of you again at our meeting and eat some ice cream, yum. We had a good turnout for the last workshop of the year at Bill & Heidi's and once again Heidi provided us with delicious food, a big thanks to Heidi and Bill for this great activity. Our club will be setting up a booth at Gilchrist Farms on Saturday October 27th, this will be the clubs first time there, we used to do the Lombardi Ranch in October. This is a great opportunity to share your love of rocks with willing participants and it helps makes some money for the club while having fun. So plan to come on out for a few hours and join the fun.

Thanks, Ron R



### Club Meeting 09/18/18

Start: 7:38pm

End: 8:40pm

We opened up with Pledge of Allegiance with our President. Welcomed visitors Bridgette & Amber. Ron Rackliffe read the September Board Meeting minutes.

Talked about the October fieldtrip coming up to the Benitoite Mine by Clear Creek & Coalinga, CA. It is a rare gemstone with the only mine in the world, located right here in California. It is a paid site of \$70 per person with a 15 person max per group. Julie Tinoco started a sign-up sheet. If you are interested in going, please get with her to see if there is still availability.

Evelyn Velie went over the snacks and drink list participation for our Club Meetings. If you have not volunteered to bring something to this years' meetings and are able to-please get with Evelyn or put your name on the list at the next Club Meeting.

Evelyn then went over the CMFS Director's Meeting she just came back from in Chico, CA. Topics were the By Laws proposals that has to now to be decided by Governing Committee Society and taxes for non-profit fund raising.

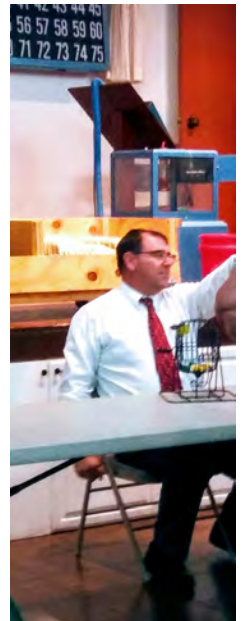
Bruce Velie went over the fundraiser that the Club will be doing on Oct. 27th. Sat. at the Gilchrist Farm Pumpkin Patch in Santa Clarita. Please let us know if you can volunteer that day for a few hours. Hours are from 8am-6pm that we need people in shifts. You can always come out and support. They are also having a food drive-bring those canned goods if you can. Groupon was having a special, for 4 tickets to Petting Zoo with wagon ride or pony ride \$24 reg. \$40. Then 2 tickets for \$13 reg. \$20 for the same options. Website for deal: [www.groupon.com](http://www.groupon.com). Fun for the whole Family and don't forget to pick-up some special treasures from our table on your way home.

We concluded our meeting with ice cream sundaes, bingo with great prizes, our raffle table, and silent auction.

Thank you all for coming.

Sincerely your Club Secretary,

Shana Ruiz





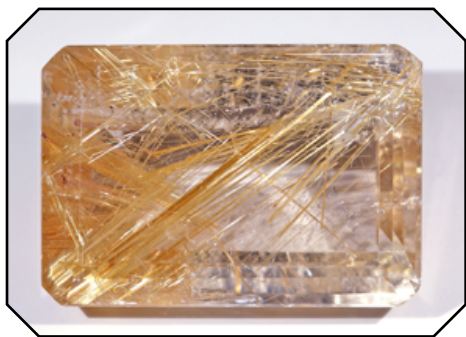
## Quartz

This month, I am going to discuss two different types of quartz, rutilated and cat's-eye. First is a very short introduction to quartz in general.

Quartz is a mineral composed of silicon and oxygen atoms. Quartz is the second most abundant mineral in Earth's continental crust, behind feldspar.

There are many different varieties of quartz, several of which are semi-precious gemstones. Since antiquity, varieties of quartz have been the most commonly used minerals in the making of jewelry and hardstone carvings, especially in Eurasia.

The word "quartz" is derived from the German word "Quarz". The term rock crystal is sometimes used as an alternative name for the purest form of quartz.



### Rutilated Quartz

Rutilated quartz is a variety of quartz which contains acicular (needle-like) inclusions of rutile. It is used for gemstones. These inclusions mostly look golden, but they also can look silver, copper red or deep black. They can be distributed randomly or in bundles, which sometimes are arranged star-like, and they can be sparse or dense enough to make the quartz body nearly opaque. While otherwise inclusions often reduce the value of a crystal, rutilated quartz in fact is valued for the quality and beauty of these inclusions.

### Cats-eye Quartz

Cat's-eye, any of several gemstones that, when cut en cabochon (in convex form, highly polished), display a luminous band reminiscent of the eye of a cat; this particular quality is termed chatoyancy. Precious, or oriental, cat's-eye, the rarest and most highly prized, is a greenish chatoyant variety of chrysoberyl called cymophane; the chatoyant effect is due to minute parallel cavities. Quartz cat's-eye, the commonest, owes its chatoyancy and grayish-green or greenish colour to parallel fibres of asbestos in the quartz; although it comes from the East, it is often called occidental cat's-eye to differentiate it from the more valuable oriental (chrysoberyl) cat's-eye. The two may be distinguished by their specific gravities; chrysoberyl is much denser. Crocidolite cat's-eye (African cat's-eye), more commonly known as tigereye (or tiger's-eye), is quartz that contains oriented fibres of crocidolite that have been replaced by silica. Corundum cat's-eye is an imperfect star sapphire or ruby in which the star is reduced to a luminous zone.

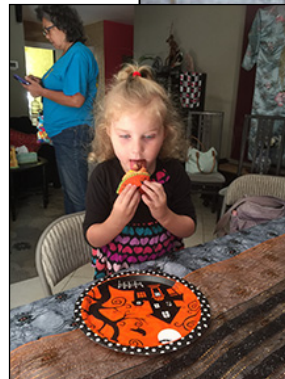
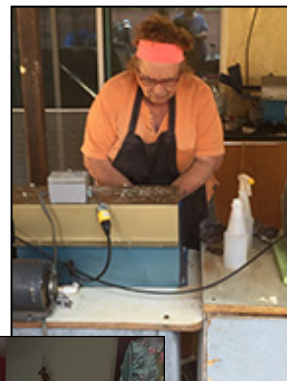


Photo by Didier Descouens

## Workshop

On October 6th the SPRC held its 3rd workshop of the year at Bill and Heidi's home. As a benefit for club members, they can learn to use club equipment to cut slabs and form and polish their found treasures.

This is also just a fun time to visit with members—and have a pretty good lunch (if I say so myself!) made by me—Heidi. Halloween was the theme this time around. Our next workshop should be sometime the end of January or in February.





## Club Field Trips

*Before our summer break, the club went on a couple of great field trips, for tourmaline in Pala in May and to Cambria for moonstone in June. Pictured below are some of the treasures club members found. This is only two of the fantastic field trips the club puts on 10 months of the year. Another great benefit of being a member of the SPRC! Thanks go to Julie Tinoco for planning these trips, I know they are a lot of work!*

Saturday May 19, 2018 Sierra Pelona Rock Club left Santa Clarita for its May field trip to the Stewart Mine in Pala, California. We met up at the gift shop and sorting area at Gems of Pala. Guests are not allowed at the actual mine due to insurance limitations. There were 16 in our group.

In the gift shop before we paid for our tailings there was a short introduction to the gems and minerals that we would be looking for. Tourmaline, Lepidolite, Quartz and other rocks and minerals could be found. Samples were shown and we purchased a 45 lb. bag (\$50.00) brought straight from the underground mine or went digging for our own 25 lb. bucket--\$30.00 brought weekly from the mine stock pile. The u-dig area was by the entrance. Most of us opted for the 45 lb. bag.

Everyone in the group found beautiful Tourmaline and many other wonderful finds. A couple of people even found a watermelon (pink and green graduated) tourmaline. One person found a stone that was worth several hundred dollars.

It took about 3 hours to go through the 45 lb. bag. Depending on how thorough you want to be it may take longer, but great treasures were found by all, so it was a fun and rewarding day.



Sierra Pelona Rock Club went on its last field trip before the summer months, on June 23, 2018. We went to Moonstone Beach and the riverbed in Cambria.

We had a great time. The riverbed was hot and sunny while the beach was foggy, windy and cold. Many beautiful rocks such as Jasper, Quartz, Chalcedony and Sandstone to name a few were found in the riverbed and at the beach.

Moonstones are a variety of the Feldspar group of minerals. Orthoclase and Albite (2 feldspar minerals) melt and intermingle and as the substance cools it forms separate layers and inter-alternating layers. In Cambria the Moonstones are chalcedony, a microcrystalline quartz in which the crystals are so small they can only be seen under a microscope. Moonstone is also used for a stand-in for pearl when pearls are not available.

Tina White found the first and largest Moonstone of the day.

