

The Sierra Pelona



March 2019

... 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.

A Message From Ruth Hidalgo

As those of you that have been on our field trips to the Calico area can attest, the trash out there is pretty bad. Friends of Calico has organized to get those of us that enjoy the area to act as one big force in helping to clean it up and keep it clean. Rockhounds have probably sought out the Calico area for recreation long before it became popular with any other stakeholder group.

We have a chance to participate on Saturday March 16. Please consider joining Paul and I for this event. There will be a free raffle and lots of reasons to feel good for you if you do. Who knows you may find some cool rocks while your out there.

Date: 3/16/19 Time: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Meet: Doran Scenic Drive, just off Calico Road

Please pass this along to your rockhound friends. We have been taking from the Calicos for years, time for us to give back a little. Hope to see you there.
Ruth

Birthdays

March

Richard Carlson
Cindy Gold
Ruth Hidalgo
Linda Jenkins
Ed Learn
Bruce Velie
Bill Webber

April

Lynne Alexander
Gerardo Guzman
Joaquin Guzman
Greg Mazourek
Yolanda Resnick
Michael Shane
Ron Strathmann
Michael Wertz

New Members

We have a great group of new members to introduce to everyone. Several have jumped in with both feet, enjoying their new club.

Welcome Everyone!

Don Cogan
Cheryl Cogan
Thomas Rossi
Monroe Quarles
Danny Quarles
Ember Guzman
Jack Jenkins
Linda Jenkins
Drew Perlmutter



Webber's Words

Happy March Everyone!

The year is just speeding on by, at least at our house. As a club, I think we are quite active, what with monthly meetings, great field trips, workshops and various Gem and Mineral shows around the southland (and further afield if you so desire).

This upcoming weekend alone there are multiple options to collect, clean up the desert, visit the CFMS show or the tailgate at Stoddard Wells. And don't forget that we are at the beginning of what looks to be another Super-Bloom year. It doesn't get any better than that.

This is the perfect time of year to be out in the desert before it gets too hot to enjoy safely. So be sure to take advantage of it all,

whether on your own, with a group of friends or with your club.

Officers:

President – Bill Webber
Vice-President – Kay Denson
Secretary: Heidi Webber
Treasurer –Shana Brunen-Ruiz
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

Visit the *SPRC* website www.sierrapelona.com

Where You Can Find Minerals and Gemstones in California?



Similar to the therapeutic relaxation of tossing a fishing line or hand-pressing fresh dough, a methodic hunt of natural resources—that is, finding gems—is worth a vacation, too. Consider taking a vacation to one of these geologically rich destinations and you might just find enough gemstones or precious metals to pay for the trip, because you can keep everything you find.

Himalaya Mine, Mesa Grande District, California

The Himalaya Tourmaline Mine is located near Santa Ysabel, CA at Lake Henshaw in the beautiful Mesa Grande. Visitors can dig at Lake Henshaw Resort where they will dig and screen through ore from the world famous Himalaya Mine. Many minerals can be found including pink and green tourmaline, black tourmaline, quartz crystals, spessertine garnet, lepidolite, cleveandite, and a variety of others. Adult Dig \$75, youth 13 years old to 15 years old half price (\$37.50), children 12 years old and under are free with paying adult.

Gold Prospecting Adventures, Jamestown, California

Gold Prospecting Adventures For over 40 years Gold Prospecting Adventures has offered an exciting variety of gold mining adventures. Located three hours east of San Francisco. Gold Prospecting Adventures is a great introduction for anyone, any age, who wants to find gold and learn something new.

Address: 18170 Main St, Jamestown, CA 95327

The OceanView Mine, San Diego County, California

A visit to the Oceanview Mine allows you a unique view of the only actively working underground mine in the world famous Pala Gem mining district and a chance to find your own gems—tourmalines, kunzites, morganites and more. Fees: Adults \$75 each, Under 11 years old \$60 each. 20+ Member Group Discounts.

Address: 37304 Magee Rd, Pala, San Diego, California

Opal Hill Mine, Mule Mountains District, Riverside Co., California

Opal Hill is well known for its beautiful and rare fire agate, opal eggs and quartz crystals. When one thinks of a mine, images of deep shafts or dark tunnels usually come to mind. The mine consists of rock outcroppings and holes where agate has been extracted. The Mine is located on BLM land which is an open area for camping.

California State Gem Mine, New Idria District, California

The Benitoite Gem mine is famous for its rare and unique gemstone, benitoite. The Benitoite Gem mine is located on a small mining claim (the Dallas claim) in San Benito County, California, about halfway between Los Angeles and San Francisco. Pricing: \$70 per person, Kids 12 and younger, only \$20.

Address: The Historic Old Road Camp, 48242 Los Gatos Rd. Coalinga, CA 93210

The Pala Chief Mine, San Diego County, California

The deposits here were discovered in May 1903, and the mine produced large amounts of tourmaline. It was also the primary discovery site of the purple gem variety of spodumene known as kunzite, and the first true source of gem-quality kunzite. Fees: Adults/Children \$75 each.

Address: 37304 Magee Rd, Pala, San Diego, California

Read more at <http://www.geologyin.com/2017/12/6-places-where-can-you-go-to-dig-for.html#MHtVl8wBqEFUYuOk.99>

Sierra Pelona Rock Club
General Meeting
February 19, 2019
Greenbriar Estates Clubhouse

President Bill Webber brought the meeting to order at 7:30pm. 28 members and 8 guests were in attendance. After the Pledge of Allegiance, guests were introduced and then the newest members were given their packets to applause.

Bill talked about the workshop coming up on Saturday February 23.

Evelyn spoke a bit about the CFMS conference coming up.

Julie Tinoco and Ron Lawrence talked about the field trip to Pisgah Crater, Lavic and Dish Hill. They went into a lava tube, collected some jasper and thulite. Everyone had a good time.

Julie is still waiting and will try again to contact the owners so we can get a club reservation for Shark Tooth Hill on March 16.

John Wheeler spoke a bit about thulite.

We are most likely going to need to find a place to hold our Holiday Party in December. Bill asked members to think about where we may go as it seems the clubhouse at Greenbriar won't be available.

The meeting ended at 7:48pm for Tina White to give her wonderfully informative slide show on Shark Tooth Hill titled "Sharks in Central Valley?"

2/19/19 9pm-9:10pm

There was an additional short meeting of the board so we could vote in new members in time to be able to participate in the Saturday Workshop, which is restricted to members only. Kay motioned to admit Don Cogan, Cheryl Cogan, Thomas Rossi, Monroe Quarles, Danny Quarles, Ember Guzman, Jack Jenkins, and Linda Jenkins, and Drew Perlmutter. Evelyn seconded/passed. Bill also asked for approval to buy a new motor for one of the saws that will be used at the workshop. Kay/Shana/passed. Meeting adjourned. Kay/Evelyn/passed.

Sierra Pelona Rock Club
Board Meeting
March 5, 2019
Greenbriar Estates Clubhouse

The meeting was called to order by Bill Webber at 7:10pm. In attendance were Bill and Heidi Webber, Kay Denson, Julie Tinoco and Ron Lawrence. Shana Bruner-Ruiz and Evelyn Velie were unable to attend.

The Treasurer's Report was presented and Kay motioned to accept it without change. Bill seconded, passed.

Tina White will give a talk on Strawberry Onyx at the March General Meeting.

Bill said that Ranger Frank at Placerita Canyon Nature Center asked if we could do a program on rocks. We decided that we could cut our club rock, hawlite as it is also soft and won't take a long time to make slabs. We can also take some tumble.

The Scouts outreach is set for April 20 at Gem Hill. If anyone would like to come along and assist, let Ron Lawrence or Julie Tinoco know. Your help will be gratefully accepted.

Ann Hardman was emailed regarding her request to exchange local rocks. Waiting to hear back from her.

Ron L. brought up fund-raising ideas for the club. He said that we could buy a table at the Antelope Valley Gem Show, Gilchrest Farms, Placerita Canyon Nature Center, and possibly Lombardi Ranch. Heidi tried to contact Lombardi, but the number is disconnected and an article in the October 2018 Signal said they only will be open 2 weekends in October for photos and pumpkin-selling only.

Business done, Kay motioned to adjourn, Bill seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Heidi Webber
Secretary, SPRC