

The Sierra Pelonagram



The Pelonagram (and Heidi) are taking the summer off along with the rest of the club. We'll be back in September! Enjoy your summer.

June 2021

... 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.

SPRC General Meeting

June 26, 2021

Valencia Meadows Park

This meeting is our annual End-of-Year Picnic held at Valencia Meadows Park. We started gathering at 11, ate lunch around noon and before games and auction Bill had a very important announcement to make.

Effective this month (June) we no longer have use of the Greenbriar Estates clubhouse. We have been meeting there around 20 years. During the pandemic, the clubhouse was remodeled and also a new management company took over Greenbriar. Management decided to no longer allow outside groups to use the clubhouse even if residents were in attendance as had been the rule in the past. We now need to find a new meeting spot and are soliciting suggestions, including if other members have a clubhouse

in their community we can move to. Let one of the board members know any places we can move to. If in your community, see if we are allowed, if there is a cost, and that they know when we meet and the times.

After Bill's announcement, we went on to have a great time with Bingo and the auction. We broke up about 2:30.

Respectfully Submitted

Heidi S Webber

Secretary, SPRC



Birthdays



June

Connie Flores-Reisbeck

Paul Hobbs

Akiko Strathmann

Heidi Webber

Janelle Williams

Dianne Wohlleben

July

Trina Aeen

DJ Gervais

Sylvia Hamilton

Betsy Swallow

August

Don Cogan

Goldie Crockett

Ashton Crockett

Officers:

President – Bill Webber

Vice-President – Julie Tinoco

Secretary: Heidi Webber

Treasurer – Shana Brunes-Ruiz

Federation Director (CFMS/AFMS) --Ron Rackliffe

Chairpersons:

Claim--Linda Jenkins

Rock Table--Dianne Wholleben, Akiko Strathmann

Equipment--Bill Webber

Field Trips – Julie Tinoco

Historian -Open

Hospitality – Ron Rackliffe

Membership – Heidi Webber

Website-- Larry Holt

Pelonagram Publisher, Editor – Heidi Webber

Programs –Tina White

Publicity –Open

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:

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

Good afternoon everyone,

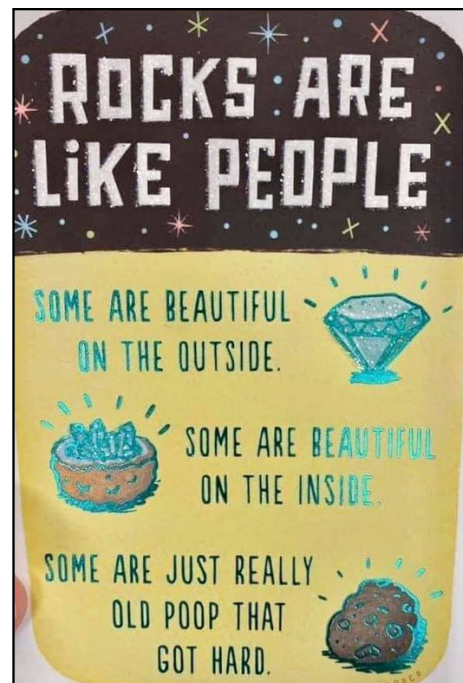
Summer is here, and with a vengeance! I hope you all are staying cool. At least we don't live in the Pacific Northwest, where the temps have been outrageous, even for here.

Tina White informed us that we no longer have use of the clubhouse at Greenbriar Estates. This edict came from new management and the fact that the clubhouse had a beautiful renovation. We are sad to have to leave our meeting place of around 20 years and are thankful for the time we had there.

And now we need to find new digs. If anyone has any ideas, please look into it and report to one of the Board. We have until September, and even then, we could probably bring our camp chairs and meet in a park for a couple months. Until then, we will be exploring various avenues.

Bill Webber

President, SPRC



SPRC Board Meeting

June 1, 2021

Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm. In attendance were Julie Tinoco, Bill and Heidi Webber and Ron Rackliffe.

Shana emailed us the Treasurer's Report. Julie motioned to accept it as given, Bill seconded and the motion passed.

Minutes: Julie motioned to accept as written/Heidi seconded/passed.

Workshop at Bill and Heidi's home on June 12. 10-?

Picnic: June 26 at Meadows Park. Ron emailed Heidi a flyer used in past years so she could adjust the date and send out to membership. We will have our usual potluck, Bingo with prizes and an auction. The auction will be anything--rock related or "stuff" as long as they are clean and function.

Julie said that 10 members were in attendance at the Cambria Moonstone field trip. Lots of fun and maybe go back in September.

We agreed to continue our board meetings via Zoom.

We discussed the feedback given from the Question Heidi emailed membership in May. There were several good ideas, including continuing field trips in the summer and trying to explore new collecting spots. We need to talk to Tina regarding access to the park for non-members so we can use Therese Colvin's suggestions for advertising our club to greater extent. (Ultimately this can't happen at this time because we no longer have use of the clubhouse as we found out from Tina White who had received notice after the meeting.)

Julie motioned we adjourn/Heidi/passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Heidi S Webber
Secretary, SPRC

The next couple of pages are all about happenings since we started opening up after the pandemic. We didn't want to waste any time! The Pelonagram is a little behind schedule because I wanted to cover these events, the Picnic being the most recent. Enjoy—I know we all did!

SPRC Picnic

The annual SPRC Picnic was held on June 26. It was predicted to be quite hot, with temps ranging from 99-103 depending on the weather service you used. As it turned out, I don't think we hit 99, had a lovely cool breeze the entire time with deep shade plus 2 EZ-ups to help.

There were around 18 people in attendance, loads of delicious food (Ron brought his sno-cone machine too!), a table full of great items for the auction, which was run by Ron Rackliffe and Greg Mazourek, and Bingo.

Judging by the laughter, hugs and conversations, everyone had a wonderful time. It was so good to be able to start seeing people in person again after so long.



SPRC Workshop

We had a great workshop on June 12 with lots of attendees and many members learning to use the machines and polishers. The weather was perfect. I prepared a pretty good lunch in my opinion and everyone seemed to agree as there weren't many leftovers! Some of the kids hit the pool after lunch. It was so nice to see so many of our friends in person after so long. There was lots of crafting, chatting and laughter. How can you go wrong with that! It was wonderful.





Cambria Field Trip

On an overcast Saturday, May 22, 2021, Dianne Wohlleben, Ed Learn, Dianne Hellrigel, Mary Bates, Don and Cheryl Cogan, Betsy Swallow, Peggy Stamboulion, and Julie Tinoco, met up at the park in Cambria, California. It turned out to be a beautiful day for the Sierra Pelona Rock Clubs first field trip in over a year.

From the park we headed to a favorite spot at the riverbed. Once there we spread out and went our separate ways to investigate and stake out the best rocks. It was great to be able to run over to one of the group and share the excitement of finding that perfect rock. Then it was time to climb back up to the road with our rocks. Everyone seemed happy to be out collecting again.

Back at the park a few of us had a mini picnic while talking about how wonderful our early morning finds were. Once lunch was over, we went down to the beach in search of moonstones, sea glass and other rock varieties. Some of us found a shell or two as well.

The weather turned out fantastic. There was ice cream on the way out of town. The scenery was beautiful as usual and the camaraderie of collecting with the Sierra Pelona Rock Club again made "the new normal" feel a lot like old times.

I hope to see everyone at the next field trip (at the beach in Goleta) on August 7, 2021

Julie





What is Granite and How is it Formed?

Granite is an igneous rock made up of primarily quartz, feldspar, micas, amphiboles, and a mixture of additional trace minerals. These minerals and their variation in abundance and alteration give granite the numerous colors and textures we see in granite countertops. Formally, granite is a plutonic rock that is composed of between 10 to 50% quartz (typically semi-transparent white) and 65 to 90% total feldspar (typically a pinkish or white hue).

Granite is an intrusive igneous rock, which means it was formed in place during the cooling of molten rock. Generally, the slower the molten rock cooled, the larger its mineral crystals with K-Feldspar megacrysts forming in special circumstances greater than 5cm. During formation of granite, it is buried below kilometers of rock and sediment necessary to produce enough heat to melt rock.

Of course, the granite we see today is near surface, and thus at some point was uplifted, causing overlying sediment to be shed via erosion. This transition from high pressure and temperature to atmospheric temperature and pressure can cause the granite to slightly expand and crack. This, in addition to seasonal variations in temperature can leave you with a weakened and less desirable granite to use for countertops.

Mineralogy

Granite is classified according to the QAPF diagram for coarse grained plutonic rocks and is named according to the percentage of quartz, alkali feldspar (orthoclase, sanidine, or microcline) and plagioclase feldspar on the A-Q-P half of the diagram.

True granite (according to modern petrologic convention) contains both plagioclase and alkali feldspars. When a granitoid is devoid or nearly devoid of plagioclase, the rock is referred to as alkali feldspar granite. When a granitoid contains less than 10% orthoclase, it is called tonalite; pyroxene and amphibole are common in tonalite.

Formation

A granite containing both muscovite and biotite micas is called a binary or two-mica granite. Two-mica granites are typically high in potassium and low in plagioclase, and are usually S-type granites or A-type granites.

Granite has a felsic composition and is more common in recent geologic time in contrast to Earth's ultramafic ancient igneous history. Felsic rocks are less dense than mafic and ultramafic rocks, and thus they tend to escape subduction, whereas basaltic or gabbroic rocks tend to sink into the mantle beneath the granitic rocks of the continental cratons. Therefore, granitic rocks form the basement of all land continents.

Geochemical Origins

Granitoids have crystallized from magmas that have compositions at or near a eutectic point (or a temperature minimum on a cotectic curve). Magmas will evolve to the eutectic because of igneous differentiation, or because they represent low degrees of partial melting. Fractional crystallization serves to reduce a melt in iron, magnesium, titanium, calcium and sodium, and enrich the melt in potassium and silicon – alkali feldspar (rich in potassium) and quartz (SiO₂), are two of the defining constituents of granite.

Reference: Geology.com