

The Sierra Pelonagram



December 2023

... 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.

DUES ARE DUE!

If you haven't already paid your dues for 2024, the Holiday Party is a great time to do so. \$25 for all the fun and friendship you get is a bargain. You are considered past due as of January 31 with a giant \$2 penalty added. You are dropped from membership as of February 29 (This is a leap year). Your dues pay for our insurance and other operating expenses like club equipment maintenance, plus insurance and dues through the CFMS. This is why it is so important to pay asap as those bills also come due the first part of the year. You can pay in a multitude of ways: Cash, check, Venmo or Zelle.

Thanks

We all would like to thank Linda Jenkins for her role as president of the SPRC this last year. She was the major player in getting us not one, but TWO meeting rooms after being basically homeless for the last few years. She negotiated with COC for their room and was about to seal the deal with Our Lady of Perpetual Hope for a room rental on their campus when our old meeting room at Greenbriar Estates became available to us once again (Thanks go to Tina White and Ron Lawrence on this).



December

Dianne Hellrigel

January

Larry Holt

Larry Patrich

Robin Shane

Martin Schreiner

Austin Williams

Dress Warm!

As those who came to the Holiday Party last year, the clubhouse on Sierra Highway was pretty cold. I think the only heat source was the pot-bellied stove and a space heater or two. It was also pretty cold out. I don't think it will be anywhere nearly as cold this year but we suggest you dress in layers to keep warm.

Meeting Hours

In the past, we held our meetings at 7:30 with a few of us arriving at the clubhouse at 7 to set up. Unless things change, we will now start meeting at 7, so we have a full 2 hours to meet since we need to be out of the clubhouse by 9. Our understanding at this time is that the room will already be set up for us but there are still a few minutes needed for the snacks and drinks to be put out, so you can come a bit before 7 if you are the snack person(s) that month.

Also, Tina will shortly be telling us about access. She's talking to park management about leaving the gates open until 7:30 but if that doesn't work, or if there's a night when management may forget, she will be giving her number out that you call from the gate panel (I believe) and she opens the gate remotely under her code. It's a process, I know, but you will be enlightened shortly.

We Need a Storage Place

Does anyone have a bit of extra space in their garage or maybe a storage shed? Ron Rackliffe has been storing our totes full of rocks and other supplies for several years now. He is about to embark on a new adventure with his wife Karen, and won't be able to continue storing our stuff. It normally comes out about once a year for the Gilchrist Farms weekend for us to sell items. It is mostly in totes with a few boxes of rocks. Let us know. I can tell you that Bill and Heidi are full up with all the saws, polishers, tumblers, grit and other club equipment, so that's a no-go.

Officers:

President – Linda Jenkins

Vice-President – Julie Tinoco

Secretary: Tina White

Treasurer – Ed Learn

Federation Director (CFMS/AFMS) --Greg Mazourek

Chairpersons:

Claim--Linda Jenkins

Donation Rock Table--Dianne Wholleben

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--Yolanda Resnick

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 7:00 PM, on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at: College of the Canyons, 26455 Rockwell Canyon Rd in the Dianne Van Hook University Center, Room 209. (Go to their website for a map, It's in section 14)

Contact the Club or the Sierra Pelonagram Editor at:

Sierra Pelona Rock Club

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Season's Greetings!

Another wonderful and fun year with the Serra Pelona Rock Club is coming to an end. It has been a pleasure working with the Board, as well as all of you, as your President. Sadly, I will not continue for another term.

There are several of you who would make a great President for 2024. I hope you'll consider casting your name for the position.

We had a great time exploring for rocks and getting together for club events.

In January 2024 we will all look forward to meeting again at the clubhouse, and the club dues will remain the same as before.

I'm looking forward to the holiday party and seeing everyone there. Best wishes for a very happy holiday season to you and your families.

Linda Jenkins, President
Sierra Pelona Rock Club

SPRC Board Meeting

12/5/23

On Zoom

The meeting was called to at 7:06 p.m. by Vice President Julie Tinoco

Attendees: Heidi W., Ed L., Julie T., Ron R., Greg M., Tina W.

Ed ~ Treasurer's Report

- He's been ill with COVID, so no full report tonight.
- BLM has responded re: claim; still needs to be recorded; Linda will take care of it upon her return after the 10th, per Julie.

Julie ~ Holiday Party

- What is the progress on signups for food & drink?
- List reviewed & updated; some categories are still lacking.
- Heidi will send out an updated list next weekend asking for more signups.

Julie ~ Use of Greenbrier Clubhouse

- No new/additional information re: insurance, etc.
- Ed will research this in old financial records.

Julie ~ Elections

- Linda will not be running for President again, so we need to recruit candidate(s).

Heidi ~ Meeting Times in 2024

- 7:00 or 7:30? All agreed that 7:00 is good.
- Tina to verify setup (chairs, etc.) will be done for us.
- Snacks 'n such setup starting at 6:45.

Future Events:

- December 9th at 10:00 a.m. a trip the Stone Femme Studio in Montrose to see old friends and purchase nifty stuff, then have lunch at local restaurant.
- The bead store down the block will give us a 20% discount that day.

Greg ~ CFMS

- He was unable to attend the November meeting in Visalia, but there will be a Spring 2024 meeting.
- Ron shared that at the last Camp Paradise it was discussed that local club-funded scholarships for attendees would be welcome; One week costs \$500.

Ron ~ SPRC Equipment & Materials

- He will be out of the area for 6 months - 2 years starting early in 2024 so we need to find a new place so store Club equipment.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

SPRC Meeting

11/21/23 at College of the Canyons

The meeting opened at 7:15 p.m.

Welcoming of New Members

Shawn Gierahn

Elff

Janet & Brad Catmull were not in attendance, we'll try again in December and/or January

Old/Routine Business

Meeting Place:

- We're back at the Greenbrier Estates clubhouse for our meetings!
- To use this room, we must welcome (presumably interested) community residents at our meetings, which was always the case but will now be advertised to the residents. And it's a way to gain new members.
- Details including meeting dates & times, location address, and how to access the gated property will be sent out before the January 23rd meeting.

Treasurer's Report

As our Treasurer Ed Learn was unable to attend this meeting, Heidi Webber shared the Club's financial position in his stead. (Fear not, we're in the black.)

- Given that we will no longer be paying for a meeting room, Heidi suggested we return to the \$25 membership fee for 2024, which was unanimously agreed upon by all in attendance.

Workshop

- Predicted rain has (quite reasonably) caused Bill & Heidi to indefinitely postpone hosting a workshop at their home next week-end.
- Once the rains have let up, they will reschedule.

New Business

Unofficial Field Trip in December

- Julie Tinoco will be sending out information about the December trip to Stone Femme Studio in Montrose once she has verified all of the details.
- The basics are that Club members are invited to the shop owned by long-time club members where we will find "Rocks, minerals, crystals, and fossils. An eclectic merchant of natural wonders and oddities", as they say on their Facebook page.
- As if that weren't enticing enough, a discount will be offered to Club members.
- There will likely be other holiday events taking place in Montrose that day, and in the past, those interested have gone to lunch at a local Mexican restaurant.

Presentation on Garnets

- A bit late as the trip to collect garnets was earlier in the month, Tina White gave a PowerPoint presentation on these popular and varied minerals.
- Bolstered by more knowledge and enthusiasm, a few members are planning a return trip to the site visited earlier for the Saturday after Thanksgiving. All are welcome!

Drawing Winners

- The pace was frenzied, and a number of members acquired cool stuff including petrified wood, bone, tiger eye, smokey topaz with aventurine. Winners included Elff, Dianne W., Linda J., Heidi W., Julie T., Lynn A., Dianne H., and Greg M.

Silent Auction

- The auction closed at 8:35 p.m. with payment to Heidi W. in Ed L's absence.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Tina White, Secretary, SPRC

Hello SPRC Members

It's that time of year already. The Holiday Party Potluck will be held on December 16 from around 11 until we leave (come a bit earlier if you have things to set up. Someone should be there by 10). This is a members and guest only party.

Elections will be held. If you are at all interested in joining the board, please step up. It isn't hard and you will have plenty of backup. All positions open every year although at least one board member is OK with staying in the position. So if anyone is interested in playing a very important part in our club, this is the time to raise your hand.

Also, there will be a sign-up sheet for snacks and drinks for this upcoming year since we are back in the Greenbrier clubhouse and snacks seem to have been sorely missed.

Which brings to mind: we need a new Hospitality Chairperson. Ron Rackliffe has been doing a great job but will be leaving in the spring for a great new adventure with his wife Karen. He said he'd be around to help break in his replacement. It's an easy job—right Ron?—but will require you to be able to make the meetings or to get a replacement if you have to miss one, or the picnic. It's a pretty important job to keep the members fed and happy!

And for the fun part—auction time! This is a great time to clear out some of your valuable and un-needed clutter! One of our fun activities is our auction, which also puts some green into our treasury to help pay for various expenses over the year. So take a look in your cabinets and the garage. Your item needs to be clean and working. Also, no clothing. I know I've got a pretty nice pile of stuff getting a bit higher and higher to bring. Bring small bills, your checkbook or you can use Venmo or Zelle. We want to make it easy to spend your cash. Same goes for paying your dues.



The meeting point between Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, Beagle Channel, Tierra del Fuego, Chile. (Image credit: DEA/GIANI OLIVA via Getty Images)

Do the Atlantic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean Mix?

In a word, Yes. The Pacific Ocean and the Atlantic Ocean mix. However, it is not as simple as two bodies of water simply blending together. The two oceans have different densities, temperatures, and salinities, which means that their waters do not mix easily. This is especially true in the upper layers of the ocean, where the differences in density are greatest.

At the surface, the Pacific Ocean is generally warmer and less salty than the Atlantic Ocean. This is because the Pacific Ocean receives more sunlight and has a lower rate of evaporation than the Atlantic Ocean. The difference in temperature and salinity between the two oceans creates a barrier that prevents their waters from mixing easily.

However, there are some areas where the Pacific Ocean and the Atlantic Ocean do mix. One such area is the Drake Passage, which is the narrow strait that separates Antarctica from South America. The strong currents

in the Drake Passage mix the waters of the Pacific Ocean and the Atlantic Ocean, creating a body of water known as the circumpolar current.

Another area where the Pacific Ocean and the Atlantic Ocean mix is in the Gulf of Mexico. The Mississippi River carries a large amount of sediment and freshwater into the Gulf of Mexico. This freshwater is less dense than the salty water of the Gulf of Mexico, so it floats on top of it. The two layers of water do not mix easily, which is why the Gulf of Mexico has a distinctive brown color.

Here are some of the reasons why the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans mix:

- **Currents:** The Atlantic and Pacific Oceans are connected by a number of currents, including the Gulf Stream, the North Atlantic Drift, and the Antarctic Circumpolar Current. These currents transport water from one ocean to the other, which helps to mix the waters of the two oceans.
- **Tides:** The tides also help to mix the waters of the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. As the tides rise and fall, they stir up the water column, which helps to mix the surface waters with the deeper waters.
- **Winds:** The winds also play a role in mixing the waters of the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. The winds cause the surface waters to move, which helps to mix the waters from different areas together.

While the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans do mix, the mixing is not uniform throughout the oceans. The surface waters of the two oceans mix more readily than the deeper waters, due to differences in temperature, salinity, and currents. In some areas, such as the Drake Passage between South America and Antarctica, the two oceans mix more thoroughly due to the strong currents that flow through the passage. Overall, the Pacific Ocean and the Atlantic Ocean do mix, but it is not as simple as two bodies of water simply blending together. The differences in density, temperature, and salinity between the two oceans create barriers that prevent their waters from mixing easily. However, there are some areas where the two oceans do mix, such as the Drake Passage and the Gulf of Mexico.