

# The Sierra Pelonaagram

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



November 2023

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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.



Pictured:

Ruth, Heidi, Julie, Bill, Linda, Dianne, Valarie, Tina, Bryan

Missing:

Martin—because it's Martin and it's desert--and there's rocks!

### Claim Cleanup

On November 11, several members of the club met at our claim for a much-needed cleanup. We got a big bag of trash—mostly clothes dumped on the site—several smaller bags of junk including glass shards, and got rid of some old lumber and the old rusted-out burn barrel. It was a gorgeous day with plenty of time to gather some of the travertine. Martin found a beautiful chunk of rose quartz from the leaverite pile. After packing up, Martin led us to a hillside area where he'd found some botryoidal rock a few years ago. We didn't find much except for a tarantula looking for love, but some nice pieces were found. All in all, it was a beautiful fall day in the desert.



### SPRC Members

Just a reminder that during our December Holiday Pot Luck, we will be having elections for the following year. If you would like to become a board member, or the chairperson for one of the very important jobs in the club, then would be the time to raise your hand. New blood is always welcome because it keeps us thriving as a club with fresh new ideas.

Also, since dues are due in January, late as of the board meeting in February and dropped as a member by the board meeting in March, this is a great time to pay your dues. Ed can receive them at that time or via Venmo and Zelle.

### Old City Quarry Field Trip

On October 28, 2023 the Sierra Pelona Rock Club went to Riverside for a field trip to the Old City Quarry. The weather was sunny and warm. There are 3 areas to dig, but the majority of us stayed where the garnets are found.

Although there is a very nice park close by, the group decided to eat our bagged lunches at the dig site. Those attending were Shawn G., Lise M., Dianne H., Ed L., Julie T, and Dianne W.

Beautiful rocks and gem stones were found. With a great time had by us all.



### 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**

**P.O. Box 221256**

**Newhall, Ca. 91322**

Or e-mail: [hwebber50@gmail.com](mailto:hwebber50@gmail.com)



### Happy Fall Fellow Rock Club Members!

The weather has changed. It provided at least one day of perfect Fall weather at Gilchrist Farms for our annual fundraiser. There were lots of families and we saw many little ones in their costumes for Halloween. Sunday, not too much. The Santa Ana's whipped up and just about blew us off the farm. We closed up early due to the winds and poor attendance.

In any event, the club took in a total of \$295.00. There were a lot of "spins" and one of the food vendors spent \$27 on obsidian and petrified wood.

Those who went on the club field trip enjoyed picking up some incredible specimens. We heard all about it from Shawn on Sunday!

Members working the booth included me, Heidi and Bill, Ron R, Ron L, Martin and Valarie, Ed, Jack, Suzie, Maureen. The club thanks all of those who volunteered on Saturday and Sunday. And thanks to our club members who came out to support and purchase from the club.

Since the last meeting, I have secured the use of a room at Our Lady of Perpetual Help on Lyons Avenue in Newhall. We will begin using the room in January, 2024. At last, we can have refreshments again and bring back our families with children. More to come soon.

Wishing you all a wonderful Thanksgiving spent with friends and loved ones, and enjoying your favorite foods that day.

Question: can one overdose on Turkey and pumpkin pie?

See you soon,

Linda Jenkins - President

#### Welcome New Members!

We'd like to welcome our newest members to the club.

Brad Catmull,  
Janet Catmull  
Shawn Geirahn  
and Elff.



November  
Elff

Frank Humelbaugh  
Jack Jenkins

December  
Dianne Hellrigel

#### Sierra Pelona Rock Club

General Meeting  
COC University Center  
October 17, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:08pm. President Linda Jenkins was delayed, so Julie Tinoco as VP started the meeting. There were 11 members and 4 guests in attendance. Tina White was ill, so Heidi Webber took the minutes, and there was no presentation.

Julie introduced the guests: J. Elff, Brad and Janet Catmull and Shawn Gierahn. Welcome!

Ed Learn gave his treasurer's report.

Julie will email a calendar for the remainder of the year to members. The calendar is as follows:

October 28 and 29—Gilchrist Farms, our only fundraiser. Volunteers needed, contact Heidi Webber. Need tumble

October 28—Field Trip to a new spot in Riverside

November 11—Claim Cleanup is the field trip for November. Some Collecting. Potluck Lunch

November 18—Workshop for members at Bill and Heidi's home. Details to follow.

November 7—Board Meeting via Zoom

November 21—Next General Meeting at COC

December 16—Holiday Party at the Sierra Inn where it was held last year. Also elections and an auction. Details to follow.

Shawn Gierahn brought beautiful samples he collected at the Riverside site where the October field trip is going to be held. He has scoped out the digging areas, passed around the samples and discussed the logistics of getting to the site since it is surrounded by a neighborhood and a park. He said this was once a mine and there are many different rocks he has collected over time. He will be our guide for this trip.

Linda Jenkins arrived about 8:20. She needed to take a vote of members present to change our meeting location. She has spoken to Our Lady of Perpetual Hope (OLPH) on Lyons Ave and they have a meeting room to rent that will more meet our needs. It is larger, we can have refreshments, there is a kitchen and restrooms nearby for us to use. She feels we can get more families involved with this setup easier than the somewhat restrictive COC. The cost is \$100 per month and she is going to try to get it lowered. The members present unanimously voted for this change. Our first meeting will be in January as we have committed to November at COC and December is the Holiday Party.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 and the silent auction and non-raffle commenced.

Respectfully Submitted

Heidi S Webber for Tina White

## SPRC Board Meeting

November 7, 2023

via Zoom

Attendees: Heidi W., Linda J., Greg N., Julie T, Ed L., & Tina W.

Guest: Dianne Hellrigel

Meeting called to order by President Linda Jenkins at 7:05 p.m.

### Room at church

- Document said 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.; Linda will contact the woman at the church that it should be 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Linda doesn't believe that will be a hard-and-fast end time.
- Ed mentioned an insurance issue; the church wants 2x the coverage. We now pay \$40/property coverage & \$275 directors & officers coverage per year. We will need to increase the property coverage.
- Greg asked about equipment; Heidi has a projector and Greg & Tina have screens if we need them. Linda, Greg, and Ed are going to go over to the church to look at the situation/equipment in the next few weeks.

### Gilcrest

- Linda asking how much she owes Ed for purchases of hers on Sunday
- Heidi has already sent the proceeds to Ed via Zelle

### SPRC Donation

- There was a unanimous vote of the Board to donate \$150 on behalf of the Club to a mental health organization in honor of Ed's son.
- The Board asked that Ed please share that information as other members wish to donate individually.
- Heidi shared that the Nature Center is now doing "plant a tree" memorials

### New Members

- Elff, Shawn Gierahn, and Brad & Janet Catmull have applied for membership and
- Ed moved they be admitted, Julie seconded - unanimously approved.

### Dues

- Linda asked about raising annual dues by \$5/year to cover increased costs of meeting room to \$30 for adults
- Ed asked how many active members we have, and Heidi replied that there are 50.
- Tina asked who would be paying for the food as was a major justification for the increased meeting room costs; most all didn't realize that we used to pay for it and assumed that it would be voluntary.
- It will be voluntary in the future; Linda will send out a sign-up list for food out in December for the January meeting.
- Linda called for a \$5/year increase in dues & Greg seconded it; all but I voted in favor.

### Holiday Party

- Saturday 12/16 at the Sierra Inn 11:00 – 3:00
- Ron will coordinate the food & sign-up list
- Auction (clean & functioning, no clothing)

### Elections

- Will take place at Holiday Party
- Ed will accept nomination for Treasurer (he'll be out of the country on 12/16)

### Field Trips & Other Events

- To our site for a cleanup on Saturday 11/11
- Meeting at Mammoth Lane at 7:30 a.m.; BYO Lunch
- Members to bring gloved & other appropriate equipment; Dianne doesn't believe we need screens & suggests that Nitrile gloves work better than gardening gloves
- Workshop on 11/18 at the Webber's
- December trip to Stone Femme in Montrose w/b announced in the next weeks

### CFMS

- Greg received an email there will be an orientation for new Directors on 11/11; he will further look into it.

### Possible Event with Community Hiking Club

- Dianne introduced the idea of a joint field/camping trip
- Past event was about 50:50 each Club
- Afton Canyon Campground suggested; well-appointed (verandas, tables, vault toilets) \$6/night; water unlikely
- Collecting possibilities on the N side of Hwy. 15 as well as up-canyon
- Potluck/Party 1 night?
- March or April (Spring) will likely be best; 2–3-day weekend
- High clearance/4WD likely necessary for anything other than camp
- Julie will work with Dianne to make this happen

### Miscellaneous

- Julie brought up a future (unofficial, early 2024) trip back out to Hauser Geode Beds area; Dianne, Heidi, & Greg contributed to the discussion.
- Julie also mentioned Quartzite to purchase material for our fund-raising activities
- Greg has a stack of maps of collecting sites, Ruth H. has seen it and may have some input/comments. Ron says we have a lot of old hand-drawn maps in past newsletters.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

## What is Sedimentary Rock?

March 11, 2019

Sedimentary rocks are types of rock that are formed by the deposition and subsequent cementation of mineral or organic particles on the floor of oceans or other bodies of water at the Earth's surface. Sedimentation is the collective name for processes that cause these particles to settle in place. The particles that form a sedimentary rock are called sediment, and may be composed of geological detritus (minerals) or biological detritus (organic matter). Before being deposited, the geological detritus was formed by weathering and erosion from the source area, and then transported to the place of deposition by water, wind, ice, mass movement or glaciers, which are called agents of denudation. Biological detritus was formed by bodies and parts (mainly shells) of dead aquatic organisms, as well as their fecal mass, suspended in water and slowly piling up on the floor of water bodies (marine snow). Sedimentation may also occur as dissolved minerals precipitate from water solution.

The sedimentary rock cover of the continents of the Earth's crust is extensive (73% of the Earth's current land surface), but the total contribution of sedimentary rocks is estimated to be only 8% of the total volume of the crust. Sedimentary rocks are only a thin veneer over a crust consisting mainly of igneous and metamorphic rocks. Sedimentary rocks are deposited in layers as strata, forming a structure called bedding. The study of sedimentary rocks and rock strata provides information about the subsurface that is useful for civil engineering, for example in the construction of roads, houses, tunnels, canals or other structures. Sedimentary rocks are also important sources of natural resources like coal, fossil fuels, drinking water or ores.

The study of the sequence of sedimentary rock strata is the main source for an understanding of the Earth's history, including palaeogeography, paleoclimatology and the history of life. The scientific discipline that studies the properties and origin of sedimentary rocks is called sedimentology. Sedimentology is part of both geology and physical geography and overlaps partly with other disciplines in the Earth sciences, such as pedology, geomorphology, geochemistry and structural geology. Sedimentary rocks have also been found on Mars.

### Sedimentary Cycle

The sedimentary cycle is the second largest cycle in mineral and rock formation. Sedimentary rocks are formed by erosion, transport in rivers, ice etc. and involve the decay and disintegration of a preexisting rock mass. Usually there are no new minerals formed, only found.

When these particles eventually settle, they form alluvial gravels, sands or clays. When they are either cemented or compressed, then they form sedimentary rocks such a conglomerations, sandstones and limestones.

Chemical action in the environment leads to some material dissolving in water. Eventually the water may evaporate and deposits of borax and other salt "evaporates" may form this way.

Plant and animal remains are commonly incorporated among the rock fragments and these may be preserved as fossils.

Many gemstones are found in "alluvial deposits". These deposits have their origin in the destruction of the original rocks and the resulting materials by rivers, floods and glacial movement. During this movement the heavier minerals tend to remain relatively close to the source, whilst lighter minerals are carried further away.

The heavier and harder materials do not wear as much as the lighter ones and tend to retain more of their crystal shape. Stones such as sapphire and topaz do not show as much abrasion as softer minerals like quartz.

However, due to the continuous grinding and tumbling over a period of time, a large number of gem minerals are found as rounded "water-worn" pebbles. The gem gravels in Sri Lanka contain a wide variety of such minerals.

Because of their supreme hardness and density many diamonds survive the sedimentary processes and are frequently found in alluvial deposits.

#### Minerals found in sedimentary rocks:

- Beryl
- Opal
- Quartz
- Turquoise
- Malachite
- Azurite
- Chrysoprase
- Chrysocolla



Read more : <https://www.geologypage.com/2019/03/what-are-the-minerals-and-gems-that-found-in-the-sedimentary-rocks.html#ixzz-8JRNPuOY>

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