

The Sierra Pelonagram



March 2024

... 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.



"Just a last-minute blurb from your forgetful and too busy club president... "

I know a number you attended last week's Stoddard Wells tailgate, reports are it was a great time. I hope your car wasn't too loaded with great specimens to affect your gas mileage!"

And you may want to make plans now to join the SPRC at the Santa Clarita Hiking Club in April; there is sure to be some good collecting, and it's an opportunity to make new friends.

I look forward to seeing you at our meeting on March 19th at the Greenbrier Estates clubhouse!

Tina White
SPRC President

SPRC BOARD Meeting Minutes

March 5, 2024

The Board meeting via Zoom was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by President Tina White

Note: Advance notice of the meeting to members is given by email.

Elected Officers In attendance:

Tina White, President

Julie Tinoco, Vice President

Maureen Thomas, Secretary

Ed Learn, Treasurer -ABSENT

Absent: Greg Mazourek, Federation Director CFMS/AFMS

Hospitality In Attendance: Heidi Webber & Ron Rackliffe

Treasurer's Report:

- The Club is in good shape financially and able to meet its obligations.

Old Business:

- Registration of our Claim has been filed per Ed Learn.
CFMS Officer Change Form has been printed and will be sent this Wednesday.
- Banking Account: Tina W. and Ed L. have yet to set a date to get their names on the account.
- Membership: current roster has been sent out per Heidi W.
- Sales Permit: Tina W. advised this is in process as confusing.
- Tina W. will email out an inventory of club hats/tees by next week.
- Ron Lawrence's Collection: as small rocks available for the drawing at our regular meetings Julie T. will not bring any, just paper and pen.
Julie T. will check with Martin S. and set a date for a larger rock auction.

New Business:

- Field Trips: Stoddard Wells scheduled for March 8-10;
Afton Canyon scheduled for April 11th thru the 14th
Julie T. will again send out emails to members, this time separately (see Feb. 29th email) on both of these and will ask for responses from those going.
-Julie T. will try to get us into the Pala Mine and Ocean Mine past Temecula (pay to dig sites).
- Tina W. asked Julie T. to ask for a "reply all" when sending out info on both formal/informal outings so members can keep track of who is attending.
- A suggestion was brought up to schedule a trip to see the wildflowers at Anza Borrego or? Maureen T. will check with the Theo Payne wildflower hotline for wildflower status and report back.
- Tina W. suggested the development of the Grand Cyn as the presentation for the March 19th general meeting and if members are interested, possibly a trip there later this year.
- A question was brought up as to who maintains our Facebook page and website. Larry Holt takes care of this on his server. Tina W. asked that each officer review both sites for either approval or changes.
- Ron R. believes that in the past specific bank balance info was not shared at the general meetings as it is now. Tina W. moved that this info not be shared at the general meetings and the motion passed. The board will continue to receive the financial info however. Julie T. suggested that we merely advise members of how much the club makes at the auctions and drawings each month instead.

A motion to adjourn was seconded and carried at 8:20 p.m.

Maureen Thomas, Secretary, SPRC



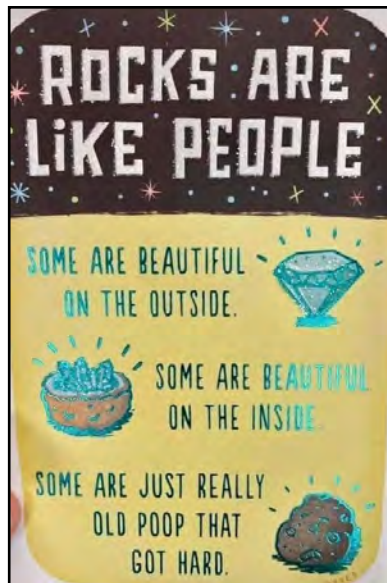
Valley of the Moon, Argentina

Valley of the Moon is a provincial protected area in the north-east of San Juan Province, north-western Argentina, limiting to the north with the Talampaya National Park, in La Rioja Province.

This aptly-named geological landscape features a valley filled with weird round boulders, and towering mushroom-like cliffs. The strange clay formation, with a great variety of hues, shapes and different layers of mineral and sediments, offers a glimpse of the Earth evolution in the Triassic Period. It is studded with geological formations left by wind erosion, remarkable standing stones and boulders that are so rounded just like massive marbles.

The valley's which was once-fertile ground is now arid and contains several plant and animal fossils that paleontologists come from all over the world to study them. The erosion over the millennia unearths the fossils and other geological formations such as a host of almost spherical concretions. The wind, unstoppable and patient, has pounded the local bedrock for an age. It is revealed, the boulders that mudstone in its original wet form, helped to form look as if giants have been playing marbles. It is worth mentioning millions of years later, different movements and collisions of the tectonic plates have revealed those valleys that were covered by thousands of meters of younger rocks.

Reference: Amazing Geology



March
 Ruth Hidalgo
 Linda Jenkins
 Jo Johnson-Dyer
 Ed Learn
 Shannon Peters
 Maureen Thomas
 Bill Webber

April
 Lynne Alexander
 Greg Mazourek
 Yolanda Resnick
 Suzie Rizzo
 Michael Shane
 Andy Schubert

Officers:

President – Tina White
 Vice-President – Julie Tinoco
 Secretary: Maureen Thomas
 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 – Heidi Webber
 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

**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: hwebber50@gmail.com
 Visit the *SPRC* website www.sierrapelona.com

SPRC Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2024

The regular meeting held at Greenbriar Mobilehome Park East was called to order at 7:20 p.m. by President Tina White

Note: Advance notice of the meeting to members is given by email.

Elected Officers In attendance:

Tina White, President
Julie Tinoco, Vice President
Maureen Thomas, Secretary
Ed Learn, Treasurer

Elected Officers Absent:

Greg Mazourek, Federation Director CFMS/AFMS

Field Trip Coordinator: Julie Tinoco

Hospitality: Heidi Webber & Ron Rackliffe
Treasurer's Report:

The Club is financially able to meet its obligations.

Old Business:

- All Club dues have been paid and a new member roster was issued.
- Tina W. is still working on obtaining a sales permit for the Club.
- Ron R. still needs a volunteer to store the Club items in his garage.
- In order to whittle down the Club hat & T-shirt inventory she can no longer store, Tina W. will send out an email to the members asking for sizes needed for those interested in buying these items.
- Ed L. and Tina W. will get to the bank this coming week to get their names on the Club's account.
- Ed L. advised that the registration of our mine claim is currently in limbo but he will get it worked out.
- Ron Lawrence's rock collection will be put up for sale after Martin S. polishes the larger pieces.

New Business:

- The Board voted in 5 new members as follows: Bob, Sharon, Aiden and Archer Peters; Jo Johnson-Dyer.
- March 2-3 is the Ventura Gem and Mineral show and Tina will send out an email about a possible collection trip to the Ventura beaches the same weekend.
- The Stoddard Wells Rockhound Tailgate show is March 8-10 where great bargains are to be found.
- Field Trip Ideas – Julie T. wants to go to Ballarat (near Death Valley) for marble.
- Tina W. has put in calls to several institutions for indoor events but has yet to hear back.
- There was a presentation done by Tina W. on Tourmalinated Quartz and Rutilated Quartz.

Drawing Winners included Ed Learn, Elff, Janelle Williams, Julie Tinoco, Lynne Alexander, Linda Jenkins, Diana Wohlleben and Trina Aeen.

The Silent Auction proceeds were paid to Ed Learn.

NOTE: Tina White advised via email that to open the gate at our meeting place (Greenbriar MH Park) press 032 at the gate keypad.

A motion to adjourn was seconded and carried at 9:00 p.m.
Maureen Thomas, Secretary, SPRC



The Sierra Pelona Rock Club Field Trip for March 9, 2024 was at the 48th Annual Rockhound Tailgate at Stoddard Wells, Victorville. It was a perfect day for rockhounding. Ed, Julie, Satomi, and Danti headed for the Green Verde Marble which was easier to access than the Tri-Colored Marble that the VVGMC sponsored and led. We brought some very nice pieces back. Others who attended the show were Martin and Valerie S., Ron L. and Ron R. Ruth H. participated in the tailgate itself.



The Ventura Gem and Mineral show, held on March 3, 2024 was a lot of fun. Attendees were Shawn G. plus 2, Yolanda R., Elf E., Don and Cheryl C., Julie T, Andy (?), Dianne H. There were shopping opportunities for all. After checking out the show, some of us went to Rincon Beach and later Ventura Beach for shell and rock collecting. After that was a late lunch. The possibilities for an oceanside restaurant experience are endless. Yolanda, Dianne H and Julie ended up at Brophy Bros. The food and company were great. Cheers to another wonderful Day.



By Daniel Sánchez Ibarra - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=72052168>

Rainbow Mountain of Peru

Mineralogical composition

According to the Cultural Landscape Office of the Decentralization of the City of Cusco, the seven colors of the mountain are due to its mineralogical composition: the pink color is due to red clay, fangolitas (mud) and arilitas (sand); the whitish colouring is due to quartzose, sandstone and marls, rich in calcium carbonate; the red is due to claystones (iron) and clays belonging to the Upper Tertiary period; the green is due to phyllites and clays rich in ferro magnesian; the earthy brown is a product of fanglomerate composed of rock with magnesium belonging to the Quaternary period; and the mustard yellow color comes from the calcareous sandstones rich in sulphurous minerals.

Mountain concession for mining

An approval process for mining began on March 30, 2015, in Lima, when the mining exploration company Minquest Perú SAC, owned by the Canadian Camino Minerals Corporation, submitted a petition to mine Red Beds to the Geological, Mining and Metallurgical Institute (Instituto Geológico Minero y Metalúrgico, INGEMMET). The petition included the territory of the districts of Cusipata and Pitumarca with an area of 400 hectares, covering the whole of the mountain, and overlapping the peasant communities of Chillihuani and Pampachiri. INGEMMET issued a warning that parts of this territory, including Vinicunca, should have been protected within the "Ausangate Regional Conservation Area". In 2009, the Regional Government of Cusco had proposed the creation of this protected area to Peru's National Service of Protected Natural Areas (Servicio Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas, SERNANP). However, SERNANP responded that the Ausangate Regional Conservation Area had never been officially created, since the proposal had not met the necessary requirements. Therefore, on March 16, 2018, with Presidential Resolution No. 042-2018-INGEMMET / PCD / PM INGEMMET, the title of metallic mining concession was granted.

On May 21, 2018, following public protests, the company informed the Regional Government of Cusco of its renunciation of the concession; however, the Regional Government indicated that it was the Ministry of Energy and Mines that must assume the administrative actions to recover possession of these lands. The National Chamber of Tourism (CANATUR) expressed its deep concern over the management of Vinicunca, one of the most important components of Peru's new appeal to tourism.

In November 2018, Peru's President Martín Vizcarra issued a decree enforcing a 12-month moratorium on all mining activity in the area. The Regional Government stated its expectation that within that time frame, the Ministry of Energy and Mines would permanently register the region as a protected conservation area.

In 2019, as a result of joint work between the Ministry of the Environment and the National Service of Natural Protected Areas (SERNANP), Ausangate was finally established as one of three new Regional Conservation Areas. Government representatives made the announcement during the COP25 event in Madrid. According to Cusco's manager for natural resources, the measure to protect the area does not guarantee that mining projects hoping to extract lithium will be banned. However, Cusco's governor, Jean Paul Benavente, said that permits for these projects should be declined in order to comply with the measure.



By Michaelbrawn - Own work Rainbow Mountain, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=96959117>

Reference: Wikipedia