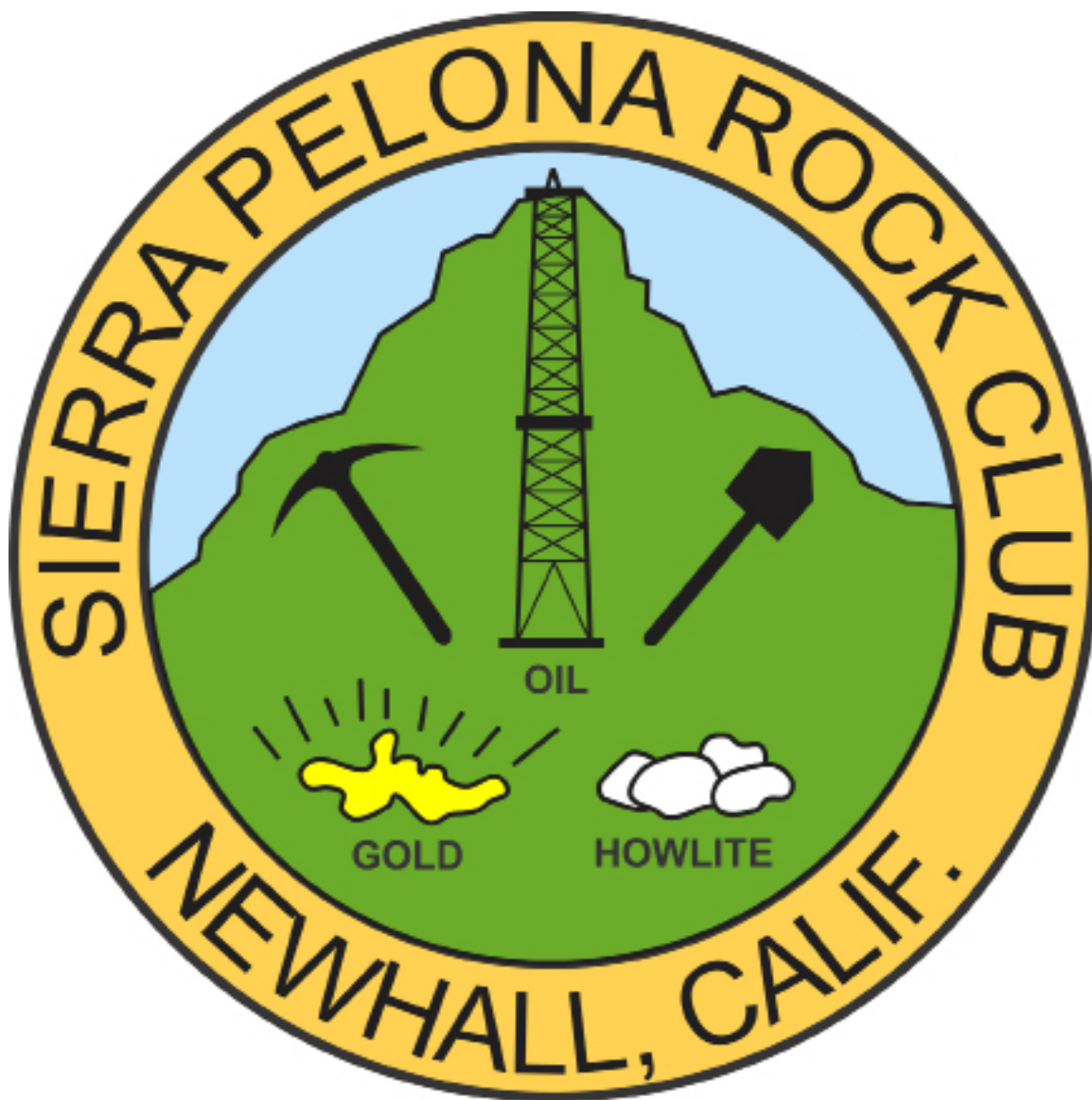


The Sierra Pelonaogram



June 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.

SPRC General Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2024

The regular meeting held at Greenbriar Mobile Home Park East was called to order at 7:11 p.m. by President Tina White followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Greg Mazourek, Federation Director CFMS/AFMS

Elected Officers Absent: None

Field Trip Coordinator: Julie Tinoco

Hospitality: Heidi Webber & Ron Rackliffe

Treasurer's Report:

- The Club is financially able to meet its obligations. Drawing and auction income is as follows: May - \$70.00 drawing + \$55.00 auction.

The April 2024 Minutes were approved and the motion passed.

Old Business:

- The May field trip was cancelled due to member illness. As summer is approaching, no field trips are planned at the present time.
- The Club's rocks stored in Ron Rackliffe's garage have been moved to a temporary storage facility thanks to Ed learn.
- Ed L. and Tina W. have been to the bank and successfully added their names to the Club's account.
- Per Ed L. apparently our travertine claim's paperwork filing has hit another snag over a discrepancy in the number of acres some reference it as 40 acres and others 20. Also, there is a question as to where on the map the claim is located. Ed L. will need to research these issues so if any club members have any information, please share with him.
- The May 11th Placerita Canyon Nature Center event was well attended with over a 1,000 visitors. No sales were allowed but our presence is there to promote the club.
- The club T-shirts and hats Tina W. has been storing will be moved to the new temporary storage facility.

New Business:

- The club's picnic will take place Sunday June 2nd at the Valencia Meadows Park. Heidi W. will be sending out a pot-luck sign up sheet via email. There will also be an auction, so bring your donated items other than clothing. Greg M. will be this year's auctioneer.
- Saturday May 25th is the workshop at the Webber home where equipment for cutting and polishing rock is located. The workshop will be from 10am to approximately 3pm and will, for \$5 apiece, include lunch. Please RSVP so there is enough food for all.
- May 24th thru the 26th is the 2024 CFMS-AFMS Seaside Gem show at the Ventura County fairgrounds. There will be exhibits, speakers, demonstrations, raffle and an auction. \$8. Admission with \$10. Parking.
- Note: there will be no club meetings June through July for the summer although informal gatherings are sometimes arranged for collecting at the beach.
- There was a very informative presentation done by Tina W. on the Geologic symbols for California. The State mineral is, of course, gold and the gemstone is Benitoite with the State rock being Serpentine.

Drawing Winners included Trina & Omid Aeen, Jo Johnson-Dyer, Greg Mazourek, Ron Rackliffe, Heidi Webber, Julie Tinoco, Yolanda Resnick, Elff, Betsy Swallow, Diane Hellrigel and Dianne Wohlleben.

The silent auction and drawing proceeds were paid to Ed Learn.

A motion to adjourn was seconded and carried at 8:50 p.m.

Maureen Thomas, Secretary, SPRC



President's Message

It's Summer Break! I hope that means some fun time - maybe even some traveling - for all of you. If you're not in a National Park, perhaps a nifty rock or two will jump into your pocket!

As you likely recall, we don't have Club meetings during the summer both because it's darn hot here in the SCV and because many of us aren't around much. But we will be scheduling an "unofficial" trip to the beach to collect at some point in the next 2-3 months, and maybe we'll see you at the Culver City show later this month.

Whatever you do, wherever you go, enjoy yourself! I look forward to seeing you in September ~ Tina

End of Season Potluck Picnic

What a lovely way to end the season. As you know, we take the summer off and meet again in September, when hopefully, it's a bit cooler. Bill and I were at our usual place in the Meadows park in Valencia by 10am. It was actually quite chilly and breezy. We got set up and waited for the rest of the members to join us. It actually stayed chilly most of the day and we were chasing the sun with our camp chairs. We had a delicious potluck lunch and then the auction started, then some bingo. We were packing up by 3pm.

Thanks to all of you who participated. See you in September.

Best Wishes on Your New Life Adventure

As was previously announced, Ron and Karen Rackliffe have moved out of area. They are going to Washington State on a two-year mission and then to their new home in Utah.

Since he joined the club in 2012, Ron has been a past president, hospitality chair, and many other things to the club over the years. He's always helpful to the new members. His droll sense of humor was always a highlight of any interaction with him.

You both will be sorely missed but we wish you all the best in your new life. Hopefully we will see you now and again and that you stay in touch.

First, I want to thank those of you who attended yesterday's Picnic for joining us; I hope you had as much fun as I did. Of course, I ate waaaay too much!

To those of you who couldn't make it, we missed you and look forward to seeing you the next time we have a Club event. We're hoping for a trip to a (rocky) beach over the summer!

For now, here is a list of the other Club's rock shows and events of which I am aware.

- June 15th Delvers Gem & Mineral Society www.delversgemclub.wordpress.com
- June 19th & 30th CulverCity Rock & Mineral Club CulverCityRocks.org
- October 12th & 13th Long Beach Mineral & Gem Society lbmineralgem.org
- October 19th Woodland Hills Rock Chippers www.rockchippers.org
- November 16th * 17th Gold Coast Gems Show www.goldcoastgemshow.com

Interested in a rock sale? The Oxnard Gem & Mineral Society will be hosting an event on June 22nd. This event is by reservation only and has a number of requirements and limitations for attendees. For information, check that Club's page at www.oxnardgem.com

If you'd rather read about rock, you can obtain in a discounted subscription to Rock & Gem magazine, you can order online at: www.rockngem.com/afms

I have a vague memory of promising someone I'd send out an email of something - which I no longer recall. Sorry, and let me know and I'll get on it.

Happy Sunshine!
Tina White, SPRC President



June

- Connie Flores-Reisbeck
- Akiko Strathmann
- Heidi Webber
- Janelle Williams
- Dianne Wohlleben

July

- Trina Aeen
- Sandra Cattell
- Dower Jai Gervais
- Arc;her Peters
- Aiden Peters
- Ron Rackliffe
- Betsy Swallow
- Jacklyn Wright

August

- Don Cogan
- Bryan Hori
- Ron Lawrence
- Doug Vito



Earth's Hidden Eighth Continent is no Longer Lost The Lost Continent of Zealandia Revealed in Detailed New Map

Zealandia, considered the Earth's eighth continent, was mostly lost to the sea. Geologists say they've now mapped the entire nearly two million square miles of the underwater land mass.

A small international team of geologists and seismologists has created a newly refined map of Zealandia using data obtained from dredged rock samples recovered from the ocean floor.

Prior research has suggested that approximately 83 million years ago, the supercontinent Gondwana was pulled apart by geological forces, resulting in the beginnings of the continents that exist today. It also resulted in the creation of another continent that is now submerged.

That continent, called Zealandia, is believed to be approximately 94% under the sea—the remaining 6% make up New Zealand and surrounding islands. Because it is submerged beneath the ocean, Zealandia is not nearly as well studied as the conventional continents, resulting in inconsistencies in its presumed form and structure.

In this new effort, the research team sought to refine existing maps of Zealandia by studying collections of rocks and sediment samples brought up from the ocean bed, most of which came from drilling sites—others came from the shores of islands in the area.

The team then studied the samples as part of a secondary study that involved analyzing seismic data for the region. They then created a more refined map of the whole 5 Mkm² Zealandia continent. Study of the rock samples showed geologic patterns in West Antarctica that hinted at the possibility of a subduction zone near the Campbell Plateau off the west coast of New Zealand.

The researchers did not find magnetic anomalies in that area, however, which argues against theories surrounding a strike-slip in the Campbell Fault. They suggest instead that the Campbell Magnetic Anomaly System resulted from stretching of Gondwana as it was being torn apart. That stretching, they further propose, eventually led to a break, which resulted in the creation of ocean floor that makes up the lower parts of the Zealandia continent.

The newly refined map shows not only the location of the magmatic arc axis of the Zealandia continent but other major geological features as well. An analysis of their chemical makeup, along with other geological clues, revealed similarities in patterns with geology in West Antarctica, suggesting a subduction of Zealandia's edge up to a quarter of a billion years ago, across what's now the Campbell Plateau off New Zealand's west coast.

Subduction is when two edges of Earth's crust push against one another forcing one edge down into Earth's mantle. Contrary to previous suggestions, magnetic anomalies found in the same region are not related to this event. This removes "the original argument for a strike-slip "Campbell Fault," Tulloch and team explain in their paper. "Zealandia and Antarctica are both substantially internally deformed." Instead, they propose, the Campbell Magnetic Anomaly System arose from extensive stretching between different parts of Gondwana that eventually snapped apart to create Zealandia's surrounding sea floors.

First the combined areas of Zealandia/West Antarctica and Antarctica/Australia cracked, allowing the Tasman Sea to rush in about 83 million years ago. Next, during the Late Cretaceous around 79 million years ago, Zealandia and West Antarctica ripped away creating the Pacific Ocean.

How Zealandia's crust managed to stretch so thin before breaking away, has long puzzled geologists. Similar thinness is also apparent in West Antarctica. Tulloch and colleagues found evidence that the stretching direction varied by up to 65 degrees between 100 to 80 million years ago. They think this may have allowed the extensive thinning of the continental crust.

Together these findings create a solid foundation for a more detailed analysis for this strange stretching of the earth.

The above story is based on Materials provided by GNS Science.

Read more here: https://www.geologyin.com/2023/09/earths-hidden-eighth-continent-is-no.html?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTA-AAR2Q1YYhvJ9LFcdunlSwqSnp7ufQ2KZSHqdJoLEtjPGt4r7YjnpjLiZkBNs_aem_ZmFrZWR1bW15MTZieXRlcw