

The Sierra Pelonaagram



September 2025

... 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.



End of Summer Potluck

This year, the board decided to try something different at the invitation of Jo and Aron Lasky. They invited the club to their home for a potluck dinner. They have a lovely large patio and set up several other seating areas for our enjoyment to a beachy theme. Jo also did tours in the house of her extensive beautiful rock collection. She also had some pretty impressive sea shells placed to enhance the beach theme.

It was a pretty hot day but there were several fans set out. It cooled off nicely in the evening and we all enjoyed being able to sit and visit wherever we wished. We were all stuffed by the bounty that was brought, from meatballs to corned beef, to bean soup and falling-off-the-bone ribs and more. And we

must not forget the salad bar with Chinese chicken salad and Mexican shrimp cocktail and a delicious Greek salad and many others. Not to sell the dessert table short with a tasty vanilla cake, chocolate mousse torte, cookies, candy and a fantastic old-fashioned banana pudding. Yeah, it was a foodie dream!

So, thank you Jo and Aron for providing a spot for a wonderful, friendship-driven day!



September

Eric Bolstad
Kim Bolstad
Janet Catmull
Cheryl Cogan
Shawn Gierahn
Peggy Stambouliau
Julie Tinoco

October

Omid Aeen
Josephine Casilang

Sierra Pelona Rock Club

Board Meeting
September 2, 2025
Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 7:09pm. In attendance were Tina White, Julie Tinoco, Ed Learn, Heidi Webber and Jo Lasky. Missing was Greg Mazourek.

Ed gave the treasurer's report. All is well, paperwork for the claim is sent to the BLM. Once he gets the acceptance by mail, he'll take the trip to Bakersfield to file. (In person filing is required).

The End of Summer Potluck at Jo and Aron Lasky's home was a big success.

Julie and Jo presented a potential list of field trips for the upcoming year. Nothing is set in stone, but the selection is both collecting and museum outings. When this is firmed up, a calendar will be sent to membership, with the caveat that it can change depending on various circumstances.

Bill and Heidi's workshop will be October 18 at their home. Details will be emailed to membership.

The SPRC's only fundraiser will be at Gilchrist Farms October 25 and 26. We will be needing help to run our booth both days. Details will be emailed soon.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Heidi Webber, Secretary SPRC

Officers:

President – Tina White
Vice-President – Julie Tinoco
Secretary: Heidi Webber
Treasurer – Ed Learn
Federation Director (CFMS/AFMS) --Greg Mazourek

Chairpersons:

Donation Rock Table--Dianne Wholleben
Equipment--Bill Webber
Field Trips – Julie Tinoco
Co-chair Field Trips--Jo Lasky
Historian -Open
Hospitality – Heidi Webber
Membership – Heidi Webber
Website-- Larry Holt
Pelonagram Publisher, Editor – Heidi Webber
Programs –Tina White
Publicity –Jo Lasky
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



Let's Rock, SPRC!

I've come to terms with the fact that summer ends after this month. Fortunately, rocks are year-round. (And remember, if they're wet - it's raining.)

It's been a while since we held a meeting (although it was great to see so many of you at the potluck hosted by the Laskys); I hope this finds you all tan, rested, and ready for meetings & field trips. Our first post-break meeting will be this next Tuesday, September 16th. We have a lot of things to talk about, field trips for the rest of 2025 and early 2026 are high on the list! We'll be taking note of those who express interest in trips that only allow for limited attendance so that we can better plan those excursions, and will of course solicit your input on all possible trips.

Enjoy a weekend in the sun or wherever you prefer to be, and I'll see you next week!

~ Tina White
SPRC President

Club Members, Please RSVP Julie Via Text: 661.313.5726 More info will be given at the meeting on September 16.



Sierra Pelona Beachcombing September Field Trip



When:

Saturday, September 20, 2025

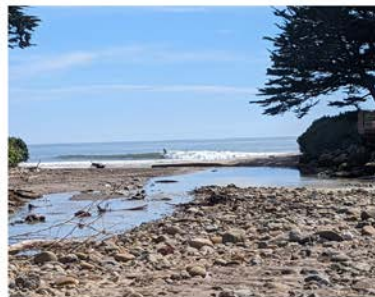
**Where: RINCON BEACH
& surrounding area**

Time: 7:00am departure SCV

RSVP: by September 18, 2025

Heidi - hwebber50@gmail.com

www.sierrapelona.com



**Want to join us but not a member?
Come to our next meeting on
September 16, 2025
(Contact Heidi)**



What is Moonstone

Moonstone is a beautiful and unique gemstone known for its mesmerizing adularescence, which gives it a distinctive milky, bluish sheen reminiscent of moonlight. Moonstone is a sodium potassium aluminum and belongs to the feldspar group.

The ancient Romans theorized that moonstone, with its unearthly shimmer, was formed from frozen moonlight. This appealing gem variety does shine with a cool lunar light but it is the mineral feldspar, quite terrestrial in origin. The shimmer, which is called schiller or adularescence, is caused by the intergrowth of two different types of feldspar, with different refractive indexes.

Moonstones come in a variety of colors. The body color can range from colorless to gray, brown, yellow, green, or pink. The clarity ranges from transparent to translucent. The best moonstone has a blue sheen, perfect clarity, and a colorless body color.

Moonstones are usually cut in a smooth-domed oval cabochon shape to maximize the effect. Sometimes they are carved to show a man-in-the-moon face.

Moonstone has a hardness of 6 to 6.5. It should not be stored in contact with your other gemstones to prevent scratching. Clean with mild dish soap; use a toothbrush to scrub behind the stone where dust can collect.

Fine moonstone is quite rare and becoming rarer. It is mined in Sri Lanka and Southern India. The rainbow variety can be found in India and Madagascar.

The moonstone is the Florida State Gemstone.

Moonstone Formation

Moonstone is composed of two feldspar species, orthoclase and albite. The two species are intermingled. Then, as the newly formed mineral cools, the intergrowth of orthoclase and albite separates into stacked, alternating layers. When light falls between these thin, flat layers, it scatters in many directions producing the phenomenon called adularescence.

Cause of Moonstone Adularescence

Blue Moonstone is a gem from the feldspar group and is composed of layers of albite – potassium rich aluminum silicate and orthoclase – sodium rich aluminum silicate. The schiller is produced because of light interference caused by the light having to weave its way through the layers with slightly different optical properties. The adularescence is caused by scattered light passing through the exsolution lamellae that act as scattering centers, creating a bluish hue/ luster.

Sometimes moonstone will have an eye as well as sheen. Another related feldspar variety is known as rainbow moonstone. In this variety of labradorite feldspar, the sheen is a variety of rainbow hues, from pink to yellow, to peach, purple, and blue. Sometimes one gem will show all these colors.

Moonstone Types and Colors

Blue Moonstone

Blue moonstone is the most prized variety of moonstone. Blue moonstone is transparent and crystal clear with a floating blue tone on the surface. It has a beautiful blue sheen that is caused by the reflection of light from thin layers of different minerals within the stone. The most desirable stones have the most intense blue color. The largest and best stones have traditionally come from Myanmar (Burma), however it has become much harder to find good stones and therefore the price has increased.

Rainbow Moonstone

Rainbow moonstone is typically white or cream in color, but it can also be found in shades of blue, green, and yellow. The play of color in rainbow moonstone is caused by the reflection of light from thin layers of different minerals within the stone. Rainbow moonstone has a milky patchy appearance which comes from the white orthoclase inclusions and layers.

Green Moonstone

Green moonstone is not as well-known as rainbow or blue moonstone as it does not have the color play, however it is still a beautiful stone. It usually has a slightly hazy or clear appearance and a pale green-yellow color.

White Moonstone

White moonstone is the most common type of moonstone. It is typically colorless to milky white in color, and it has a soft, pearly luster. White moonstone is often used in jewelry to create a simple and elegant look.

Pink Moonstone

Pink moonstone is the rarest variety of moonstone. It has a delicate pink color and a soft, pearly luster. The term pink covers colors from honey to beige to peach, ranging from translucent to opaque. The stone should have a white sheen and is often found with a cat's eye or star effect. This type of stone is often used in rows of colored beads.

In addition to its beauty, moonstone is also said to have a number of metaphysical properties. It is often associated with the feminine and the moon, and it is said to promote intuition, creativity, and emotional balance. Moonstone is also thought to be helpful for relieving stress and anxiety, and for promoting emotional healing.