



January 2018 Motherlode Monitor Newsletter

2018 Membership Renewal

It's time to renew your membership or join the Sierrans for 2018. Individual/Family Membership and Corporate Membership forms can be found at www.sierrans.org. Checks and memberships forms can be sent by mail to the address below or submitted in person at our membership meetings. Forms can also be submitted by email and payment made through our website via PayPal.

Individual membership annual dues are as follows:

Regular membership - \$35 per year
Senior membership - \$25 per year
Junior/Student membership - \$10 per year
Family membership - \$50 per year

Corporate membership annual dues are as follows:

Bronze - \$250 per year
Silver - \$500 per year
Gold - \$1,000 per year
Platinum - \$5,000 per year

We look forward to having you as a member in 2018!

Upcoming Events

Board of Directors Meeting, Thursday February 8th, 2018, 10 a.m. 431 Crown Point Circle, Suite 150, Grass Valley.

The purpose of this meeting is for the Board to review the organization's progress in 2017, determine our goals and objectives for 2018, and discuss any organizational changes we may want to make as we continue to grow. Any parties

interested in being an officer or director or stepping down as an officer or director in 2018 should contact David Watkinson at dwatkinson@sierrans.org. Any vacancies needed to be filled will be announced at our February membership meeting and elections will be scheduled for our March membership meeting.

Membership Meeting, Thursday February 8th, 2018, 12:00 noon, 431 Crown Point Circle, Suite 150, Grass Valley. Steven Klein, Vice President and Senior Engineering Manager, Geotechnical and Tunneling for WSP USA, will speak about California's High-Speed Rail – Design Considerations for Tunnel Sections.

Construction of the California High-Speed Rail system will require extensive tunneling through mountain ranges in Northern and Southern California. Alignments under consideration would require over 50 miles of tunnels that range in length from several thousand feet to over 10 miles with cover over 2,000 feet in locations. Challenging geologic, hydro-geologic and seismic conditions are anticipated along potential tunnel routes, such as unconsolidated alluvium, weak sedimentary rocks, and strong granitic rocks; tectonically sheared and deformed rock masses; high groundwater pressures and in situ stresses; active earthquake faults; and construction within environmentally sensitive areas. This presentation will discuss the design and construction challenges associated with the tunnels state wide and the approach being adopted to address these changes.

Stephen Klein, P.E., G.E. is Vice President and Senior Engineering Manager, Geotechnical and Tunneling for WSP USA's (formerly WSP / Parsons Brinkerhoff) tunneling practice in California. Klein, based in the San Francisco, has over 35 years of experience in the planning, design and construction

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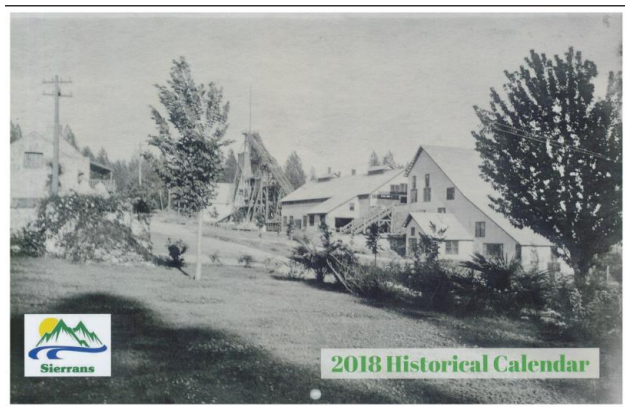
of tunnel projects throughout California and the U.S. He has led the design of tunnel projects with construction values ranging from \$100 million to more than \$5 billion including tunnels for water supply, wastewater, hydroelectric power, highways and mass transit.

Before joining WSP, Klein was California regional manager for an international engineering firm, responsible for managing offices in San Francisco, Pasadena, San Diego and Walnut Creek. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, American Society for Testing and Materials, American Water Works Association, and North American Society for Trenchless Technology. He is a registered professional engineer in California and four other states.

Note that the Board and Membership Meetings have been scheduled on the first Thursday of the month rather than the first Wednesday to accommodate the availability of our speaker.

Sierrans' 2018 Calendar Now Available

The Sierrans' 2018 Calendar is available. It comes in a 8.5-inch x 5.5-inch format. Prices are \$10 for members and \$12 for non-members. Pick up your calendar at one of our meetings or contact us by email or phone if you want to order any.



**2018 Sierrans Calendar Cover Page
Empire Mine**

Note that we are set up to wholesale the calendars to any businesses that want to resell them through your business. Contact David Watkinson at dwatkinson@sierrans.org if your business has an interest.

Sierrans Proposal for Project Management of the Combie Reservoir Sediment and Mercury Removal Project for NID

In December, at the request of the Nevada Irrigation District ("NID"), the Sierrans submitted a proposal for Project Management of the Combie Reservoir Sediment and Mercury Removal Project (the "Project"). Unfortunately, the Sierrans were unsuccessful in obtaining the work, which will be awarded to Holdrege and Kull, subject to NID Board approval.

The Sierrans wishes to thank NID for the opportunity to submit a proposal as a non-profit. It gave NID the opportunity to learn about our organization and the skills and abilities our members. While we were not successful with this particular proposal, we look forward to building a relationship with NID and potentially working together on other opportunities in the future.

US Supreme Court Declines to Hear Rinehart Case

The U.S. Supreme Court has refused to hear the Rinehart case (Rinehart v. California). This case involves Brandon Rinehart, a California gold miner, who was cited in 2012 for suction dredging without a permit on his own mining claim.

In 2009, the State of California invoked a two year moratorium on suction dredge mining. This moratorium was subsequently extended several times and remains in effect today, pending the State writing and implementing new regulations to regulate suction dredge mining. This moratorium created a conflict between the federal right to mine under the Mining Law of 1872 and state law which gives states the right to regulate mining and ensure the environment is protected. Rinehart argued that the moratorium was a de facto ban on dredge mine and a taking of his rights.

Contact Us

Contact us at motherlodemonitor@sierrans.org or by mail at the address in the footer of Page 1 of this newsletter.