



October 2016 Motherlode Monitor Newsletter

Upcoming Events

November 2, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting, 12 noon. Scheduled at 431 Crown Point Circle, Suite 150, Grass Valley.

November 3, 2016 Working Lands: A History of Agriculture in Nevada County, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Scheduled at the Gene Albaugh Community Room at the Madelyn Helling Library, 950 Helling Way, Nevada City.

This is a showing of a documentary created by Jan Blake, Executive Director of the Nevada County Resource Conservation and funded by the NCRC. It incorporates interviews with 12 farming and ranching families that can trace their roots back to the 1800's in Nevada County and aired on the Public Broadcasting Services, KVIE public television. The event is sponsored by Bear Yuba Land Trust and reservations are not required. Suggested donations are \$10.

November 10, 2016 Membership Meeting, 12 Noon – Gage McKinney – author of MacBoyle's Gold. Scheduled at 431 Crown Point Circle, Suite 150, Grass Valley, CA.

Note the time of the meeting is Thursday, November 10 at noon. The time is a change from our regularly scheduled membership meeting on the first Wednesday of the month.

Author Gage McKinney will present his new book, *MacBoyle's Gold*, about the life and times of Mining Engineer Errol MacBoyle (1880-1949). He will discuss MacBoyle's contribution to the historic Idaho-Maryland Gold Mine, Grass Valley, and Nevada County.

MacBoyle's Gold
by Gage McKinney



Although eminent geologists at the time (early 1920's) said the mines were worked out, Errol MacBoyle believed a fortune was still hidden in Grass Valley's Idaho and Maryland Mines. He and partners acquired the mines in 1926 and created the Idaho-Maryland Mines Company. On the brink of exhausting his limited assets, MacBoyle found the paying vein and subsequently employed 1,000 men in the midst of the Great Depression.

The Idaho-Maryland Mine ultimately grew to encompass five historic mines: Idaho, Maryland,

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Brunswick, Union Hill, and Eureka Mines) and became the second largest underground gold mine in California. It produced 2.4 million ounces of gold from 1862 to 1955 and reached depths of 3,280 feet below surface.

Determined to spend his money where he made it, MacBoyle funded a private relief program in the 1930's, made the Loma Rica Ranch a model for the foothills, supported conservation, established the Grass Valley airport, and founded the local hospital. McKinney argues that no individual has done more for Nevada County than this private citizen who sought no notoriety and credited his friend for his success.

Gage McKinney has written five books on the history of the foothills region, including *The 1930s: No Depression Here* and *When Miners Sang (about Grass Valley's Cornish Choir)*. Though he lives and works in Sunnyvale, five generations of his family have lived in Nevada County. Mr. McKinney will have these books available for sale and signing:

MacBoyle's Gold - \$30

When Miner's Sang - \$20

The 1930's: No Depression Here - \$30



Mr. McKinney is a former purchasing manager for Ingersoll Rand and currently manages subcontracts for Lockheed Martin.

Sierrans For Responsible Resource Charitable Fund

The Sierrans have now established an affiliated 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit corporation called the Sierrans for Responsible Resource Development Charitable Fund (Sierrans' Charitable Fund). This entity has the ability to raise funds from donations, grants, and other funding sources to accomplish projects and other charitable activities. A separate website for this organization has been set up at www.sierranscharitablefund.org. Funds raised by this entity cannot be used for lobbying or political activities.

Sierrans' Calendar

The Sierrans' for Responsible Resource Development 2017 Historical Calendar, featuring historic resource industry photos, is now available. The calendar, which will be sold for \$7 each for members and \$10 each for non-members (tax included).



The calendar will be used for fundraising for the Sierrans and Sierrans' Charitable Fund and to advertise our organizations to the public.

The calendars will also be marketed wholesale at \$7 each as a re-sale opportunity for local vendors and other non-profit groups.

If you are interested in ordering one or more calendars, contact Pat Nelson or David Watkinson at plnelsonco@gmail.com or dwatkinson@sierrans.org

Sierrans for Responsible Resource Development – Officers

David Watkinson, President	(530) 271-0679
Lyla Tracy, Vice President	(530) 470-9232
Patricia Nelson, Secretary	(415) 847-0862
Christine Daggett, Treasurer	(530) 274-8222

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respectively. They will be available for purchase at membership meetings or can be purchased through our website. The calendars will make great Christmas gifts.

Robert Shoemaker Memorial Plaque

Bob Shoemaker (1925-2016) was inducted into the National Mining Hall of Fame in Leadville CO on September 24th.

The Sierrans are working with Bob's daughter, Jean, to place a memorial plaque in the North Star Powerhouse and Pelton Wheel Museum in 2017. If you are interested in donating to this cause, please contact info@sierrans.org.

National Mining Hall of Fame Inductee Project

The National Mining Hall of Fame is located in Leadville, CO. The Sierrans, working with Gage McKinney plan to nominate potential inductees from the Sierra Nevada Mountains as a historical and cultural preservation project. Members currently include Fred Searls and Robert Shoemaker. Potential inductees would include Errol MacBoyle, William Bourn II, George Star, James Hague, Arthur Dewint Foot, Hon. Harry Enlbright Edwin Letts Oliver, Lester Allan Pelton, John and Edward Coleman, and others.

Renew Your Membership or Join

Forms can be found online at www.sierrans.org under the "Join Us" tab. If you receive our Newsletter and would like to join the Sierrans, now is the time to do it. Help us grow our organization.

Contact Us

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

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