



## September 2016 Motherlode Monitor Newsletter

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### ***Upcoming Events***

***October 5, 2016 Membership Meeting, 12 Noon – Steve Lofholm from Golder Associates.***  
Scheduled at 431 Crown Point Circle, Suite 150, Grass Valley, CA.

Steve Lofholm of Golder Associates will do a presentation on the passive water treatment system at Empire Mine State Historical Park (the "Park"). The system treats mine water that discharges from the historic Magenta Drain Tunnel. Subsequently, Steve will take any interested participants for a tour of the facility.

A passive treatment system (PTS) for mine influenced water (MIW) has been in operation at the Park's Magenta Drain in Grass Valley, California, since November 2011. The PTS is owned and operated by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR).

CDPR has contracted with Golder Associates Inc. (Golder) to provide operational assistance, including effluent monitoring and system optimization. The MIW discharges from the Magenta Drain portal, a historic tunnel used for dewatering during operation of the Empire Mine. The untreated MIW includes elevated concentrations of iron, arsenic, and manganese that historically discharged from the mine and flowed through an unnamed channel and through a Grass Valley's Memorial Park, ultimately discharging into South Fork Wolf Creek.

The PTS includes a vault and pumping station to lift MIW up to the PTS system, a settling pond where the majority of the iron and arsenic co-precipitate and settle to the bottom of the pond, a vegetated wetland to remove the remainder of the arsenic and iron, and a wetland with limestone to precipitate

manganese. Removal of iron, arsenic, and manganese in the wetlands occurs predominately through oxidation processes that occur under aerobic, or well-oxygenated, conditions.

The PTS flow rate averages between approximately 50 gpm in the summer to over 800 gpm during the wet season. The PTS discharge consistently meets all final effluent limits in the Waste Discharge Requirements.

This type of PTS has been operating successful at the Park since 2011 and represents a practical method for treating MIW from certain historic, existing, or new mining operations in the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

Steve Lofholm is a Professional Geologist who has worked in the environmental consulting business for the past 25 years. He received his master's degree at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology where his research focused on the geochemistry of gold and polymetallic mineral deposits. Mr. Lofholm worked for Homestake Mining in Lead, South Dakota and Anaconda Minerals in SW Montana. He also worked for approximately five years for Exxon Production Research where he focused on enhanced oil recovery. As an environmental consultant, Mr. Lofholm has worked on characterization and remediation of hundreds of contaminated sites throughout the western United States including characterization and remediation of abandoned mines in the foothills of California.

***October 5, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting.***  
Scheduled directly after the membership meeting above, 431 Crown Point Circle, Suite 150, Grass Valley.

**October 23, 2016 – Eagles Hall, 10 am to 2 pm, 1492 Bourbon Street, Stockton, CA 95204**

Uniting 'Small' Miners Meeting hosted by Delta Gold Diggers, Gold Prospectors Association of America, Western Mining Alliance and American Mining Rights Association to organize to represent mining interests before local, state and federal legislative bodies and land management agencies.

**October 29, 2016 – Miner's Convention starting at 4 p.m. at Sugar Pine Pizza, Foresthill, CA.**

<b>NOTICE OF MINERS' CONVENTION</b>	
— TO ALL —	
OWNERS, LESSEES & OPERATORS OF PATENTED & UNPATENTED MINING CLAIMS, MINERS, OR PROSPECTORS OF THE FORESTHILL DIVIDE AND SURROUNDING AREAS IN THE COUNTIES OF PLACER, EL DORADO AND NEVADA, IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, INCLUDING (BUT NOT LIMITED TO) THE FOLLOWING MINING DISTRICTS: American Hill, Applegate, Auburn, Bath, Baker Divide, Blue Cañon, Blacksmith Flat, Butcher Ranch, Capehorn, Canada Hill, Casa Loma, Cisco, Clipper Gap, Colfax, Damascus, Deadwood, Ditch Camp, Duncan Peak, Dutch Flat, Emigrant Gap, Forest Hill, Gold Run, Goggins, Greek Store, Green Valley, Hinestown, Iowa Hill, Last Chance, Michigan Bluff, Midas, New England Mills, Owl Creek, Pioneer, Ralston Divide, Shady Run, Spring Garden, Star Town, Sunny South, Tahoe, Todd Valley, Totale, Volcanoville, Weimar, Westville, Yankee Jim's, and Zaver.	
We will meet the evening of SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29th, 2016 starting at FOUR O'CLOCK P.M. at SUGAR PINE PIZZA, 24340 MAIN STREET, FORESTHILL, CALIFORNIA. (530.36.PIZZA)	
While several of our original bylaws or copies thereof and some records have been located, we have learned that many of the original official records, bylaws, and documents may have been lost or destroyed for many of our districts, therefore please BRING ANY AND ALL DISTRICT, MINE, CLAIM, PATENT, OR RELATED RECORDS YOU MAY HAVE TO THE MEETING, INCLUDING ALL MINING DOCUMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN RECORDED AT THE COUNTY.	
Contact Chris Giorgi with questions or to RSVP: 530.367.5367 or <a href="mailto:chrisgiorgi@gmail.com">chrisgiorgi@gmail.com</a>	

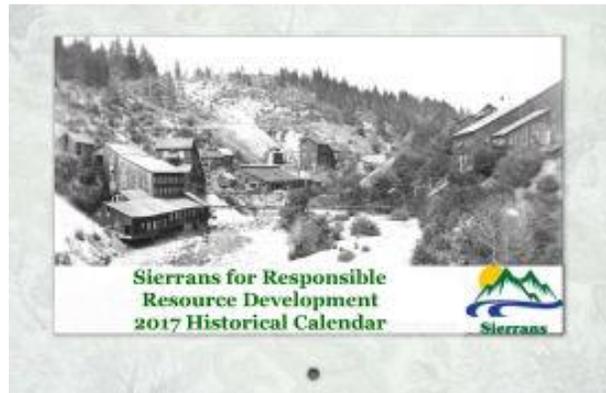
### ***Affiliated 501(c)(3) Organization Established***

The Sierrans have now established an affiliated 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit corporation called the Sierrans for Responsible Resource Development Charitable Fund. This entity has the ability to raise funds from donations, grants, and other funding sources to accomplish projects and other charitable activities that the Sierrans decide to take on in the future. Over the next few months, the Sierran's membership and Board will discuss what its goals and objectives are for 2017 and what projects might be applicable to the Charitable Fund.

### ***Sierrans' Calendar***

The Sierrans' for Responsible Resource Development 2017 Historical Calendar, featuring historic resource industry photos, has now been completed. The calendar, which will be sold for \$10 each, will be used for fundraising for the Sierrans and to advertise our organization to the public.

If you are interested in ordering one or more calendars, contact Pat Nelson or David Watkinson at [plnelsonco@gmail.com](mailto:plnelsonco@gmail.com) or [dwatkinson@sierrans.org](mailto:dwatkinson@sierrans.org) respectively. The calendars will make great Christmas gifts. We will also be looking at putting these calendars in bookstores and other locations as a resale opportunity.



### ***Robert Shoemaker Memorial Plaque***

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

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

### ***Renew Your Membership or Join***

Forms can be found online at [www.sierrans.org](http://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](mailto:info@sierrans.org) or by mail at the address in the footer of Page 1 of this newsletter.

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## **Sierrans for Responsible Resource Development – Officers**

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