



DINNER MEETING – Thursday, November 14, 2019

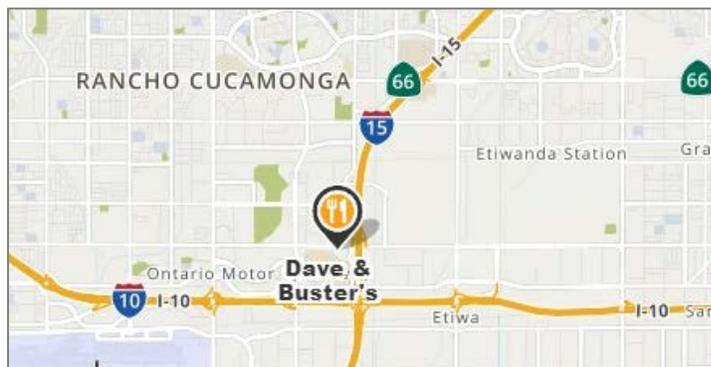
“The Bonanza King” John Mackay and the Comstock Lode

PRESENTED BY: Gregory Crouch, Author

TIME: 6:00 pm Social
7:00 pm Dinner and Presentation

LOCATION: Dave & Buster’s Conference Room
4821 Mills Circle
Ontario, CA 91764

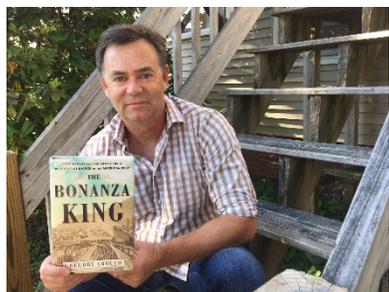
HOSTED BY: SoCal Section of SME



COST: RSVP - Professional \$35, Students \$10
At door - Professional \$40, Students \$20

RSVP: SMESoCal1850@gmail.com
by Thursday, November 7, 2019

ABSTRACT: In his presentation, author Gregory Crouch will discuss the legendary Comstock Lode and mining magnate, John Mackay, the rags-to-riches hero of his book *The Bonanza King* and one of the most celebrated men in 19th century San Francisco. A destitute Irish immigrant, Mackay rose to power and wealth in the deep, rich, and outrageously dangerous mines of the Comstock Lode beneath Virginia City, Nevada, the ultimate Old West boomtown. On the Comstock, Mackay worked his way up from nothing, battling the pernicious “Bank Ring” of San Francisco capitalists who had monopolized the lode and struck the Big Bonanza, a stupendously valuable body of gold and silver ore buried 1,500 feet below the center of the town. When John Mackay died in 1902, his personal fortune was equivalent to about \$50 billion modern dollars.



BIOGRAPHY: Gregory Crouch is an author who specializes in adventurous and historic subjects. He graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point where he studied military history, completed U.S. Army Airborne and Ranger schools, and led two infantry platoons. Greg left the Army to pursue other interests, most notably in rock and ice climbing and high-stakes international mountaineering. He developed a particular obsession with the storm-swept peaks of Patagonia and made seven expeditions to those remote mountains, where he made a number of world-class first ascents. Along the way, Greg became a writer, contributing editor, and book critic whose work has been quoted broadly.

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