



Antelope Horn

Newsletter of the
Kern-Antelope Historical Society, Inc.
PO Box 1255 Rosamond, CA 93560

January, 2018

Meetings:

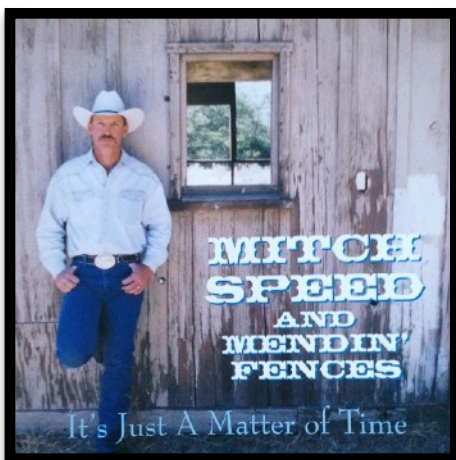
Regular Meetings: 2nd
Thursday, monthly
(except July & August).

Business Session: 5 pm, at
the Wanda Kirk Library
3611 Rosamond Blvd.,
Rosamond, CA. All are
welcome. Exceptions to
this location will be
announced in the
newsletter and at our
website.

Program: 5:30 pm, following
the business session.

Coming Up:

- February - Bill Rawlins
from the Rural Museum in
Lancaster
- March - Judge Richard
Spann from the Civilian
Air Patrol at Edwards AFB
- April - Walter Feller,
photographer for the
reprint of *Land of Little Rain*



**January Meeting: Thursday, January 11th, at 5 pm at the
Wanda Kirk Library.**

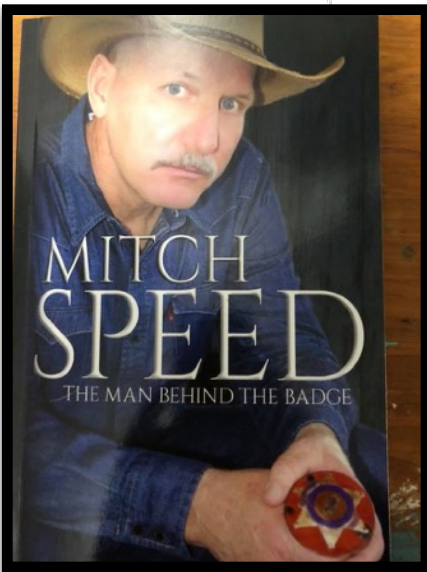
We are very fortunate to have Mitch Speed, author of *Mitch Speed: The Man Behind the Badge*, who grew up in Rosamond, to come speak to the Kern Antelope Historical Society at our January meeting. Make plans to attend this meeting and meet Mitch, say “hi”, buy a book if you like, and enjoy his *encouraging words!*

Mitch Speed - “Husband, Father, and Man of God”, also Author; Detective; Rosamond Graduate

In 1973, at the age of 7 years old, Mitch Speed moved to Rosamond with his mother and brother. Mitch’s mother was looking for a safe place to make a new start and raise her two young boys as a single mother. In 1975, Mitch suffered a near fatal brain aneurysm and two subsequent brain surgeries. With the love of his family and the support of his community, Mitch recovered from the surgeries. Mitch attended grade school at Rosamond Elementary and graduated from Rosamond High School in 1983. After high school, Mitch worked numerous jobs until he was hired as an equipment operator and landscaper at Edwards Air Force Base. In 1991, Mitch married the woman of his dreams and in 1992 they had a son. Mitch prides himself in being a husband, father and man of God. In approximately 1998, Mitch formed a popular local country music band where he was the lead singer. His band, “Mitch Speed and Mendin’ Fences,” recorded a CD and played events throughout California. In 2002, Mitch took a leap of faith as he decided to pursue another one of his dreams when he applied for the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department. Mitch successfully completed his training and graduated from the Sheriff’s academy in 2003. Mitch was assigned to Lancaster Sheriff’s Station where he is proud to serve and protect the community where he lives. In 2014, Mitch was promoted to the position of Detective. Then in May of 2016, Mitch was diagnosed with stage 4 prostate cancer. On that day, Mitch stepped away from his job and committed his life entirely to God. Mitch had one request, he asked God to use his journey to help others in whatever way God



decided. Mitch's life took on a much deeper and more powerful purpose as God opened his eyes and ears to so many things he had been missing throughout the years. At one of the most difficult times of his life, Mitch wrote a book at the request of his son. Mitch's book is titled, "Mitch Speed - The Man Behind the Badge." The book is a collection of inspiring short stories and poems that Mitch has written throughout his life. In only a few short months, this book has far exceeded Mitch's expectations, and on December 16th Mitch was honored to have his first book signing event at the Palmdale Barnes & Noble! The book signing was so successful that Mitch has been requested to do two more book signings in 2018. These book signings will be at the Valencia Barnes & Noble bookstore and The Grove Barnes & Noble bookstore.



In the past 19 months, Mitch has undergone 4 months of chemotherapy, 19 weeks of radiation treatment and numerous other treatments. He is still battling stage 4 cancer, but rather than giving into the negative aspects of cancer, Mitch has chosen to start the next chapter of his life as an author and motivational speaker. Mitch's words will inspire you and open your eyes to a different perspective on life. This book will help to build your faith through difficult times as Mitch shares his uniquely positive and insightful perspective on life.



At left - Mitch Speed playing football for Rosamond High School

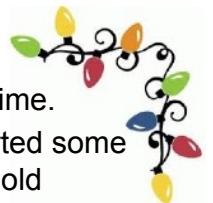
At right - Mitch's mother at one of his Mendin Fences concerts - "she was always so proud" he says and he is so appreciative of her support!



Newest Members for 2018 - Welcome to KAHS: August Nelson & Stephanie Devaney-Burns

Christmas Dinner Recap

If you weren't able to attend the Christmas Dinner at the Greenhouse Cafe you missed a fun time. After a delicious dinner, in a festively decorated dining room, President Gretchen Winfrey, started some interesting conversations with pictures she shared from past scenes in Rosamond: photos of old buildings like old post offices, the Hamilton Hotel, parade and other shots from the Rosamond Community Fair, a long-ago snow scene, an engine in front of the Mojave Depot and Harvey House, and other interesting things. We also gave some of the KAHS books as prizes in a drawing to several lucky winners. Hope you can join us next year.





The Kern Antelope Historical Society greatly appreciates its business members.
 We hope you will support them and say thanks when you see them.

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The Kern Antelope Historical Society greatly appreciates its business members. We hope you will support them and say thanks when you see them.

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RAMON'S restaurant A taste of Mexico GRACIAS THE LOPEZ FAMILY (661) 256-4602 1431 Rosamond Blvd Ste 9 & 10 Rosamond CA 93560

Website: www.kahs1959.org Email: info@kahs1959.org Please visit the website for more information about Antelope Valley history. Copies of recent newsletters are available, as well as other information. The first online KAHS book is now available. Glimpse of the Prehistory of Antelope Valley, by Stuart Glennan, is described as "Archaeological Investigations at the Sweetser site". We hope to be able to add other KAHS books in the future.



For Sale by KAHS

Books - \$10 Each:

Here Roamed the Antelope
Bears - Borax and Gold
Along the Rails from Lancaster to Mojave
The Antelopes Left and the Settle-ers Came
In Love with Life in Lancaster (Hard Times
1927-1932)
Antelope Valley Pioneers
Castles in the Valley - Shea's Castle
A Page in the History of Antelope Valley: the Arthur
Pickus Story: His Home for Seventy Five Years
Mojave, A Rich History of Rails, Mining and Flight
Gold-Fever - 40 Years Digging Antelope Valley
History
Antelope Valley News and Views During Part of the
Great Depression 1925-1935

Video DVD - \$15: Antelope Valley Yesteryears

Maps - \$4: Historic Settlers Circle Map
25% Discount to Members

2017-2018 Executive Board

Officers:

President: Gretchen Winfrey winfrey@qnet.com
Vice President: Delores Julian ddjulirosa@yahoo.com
Secretary: Janet Winters poppiesrme@gmail.com
Treasurer: Fran Thompson fthompson3828@sbcglobal.net

Directors At-Large:

George Fischer
Chavonne Sladek
Kathy Smith

WEBSITE: www.kahs1959.org **EMAIL:** info@kahs1959.org

General Meetings:

5:00 pm- Business Session, 5:30 pm - Program
Second Thursday of the Month, September through June
At Wanda Kirk County Library

3611 Rosamond Blvd. Rosamond, CA 93560

(Exceptions: June, September & December - to be announced)

Memberships:

\$5 - Student & Military; \$15 - Individual; \$20 - Husband & Wife;
\$30 - Family; \$35 - Businesses

The Kern Antelope Historical Society was established in 1959 for the purpose of learning and preserving the history of California, especially the Antelope Valley, which includes parts of Los Angeles and Kern counties. Speakers are invited to talk at our monthly meetings about aspects of our various cultures. Subjects range from Indians of the past to the Space Age. The Society offers field trips for members to significant locations in and around the valley throughout the year. Come join us to learn more about the wonders of this area we live in and also meet some new people.

KERN ANTELOPE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 1255
ROSAMOND, CA 93560

