



Antelope Horn

Newsletter of the Kern-Antelope Historical Society, Inc.
PO Box 1255 Rosamond, CA 93560
May, 2019

Meetings:

Regular Meetings:

- 2nd Thursday of the month
(except July & August)
- 5 pm - at the Wanda Kirk Library,
3611 Rosamond Blvd.,
Rosamond, CA.

Business Meetings:

- 4th Thursday of the month as
needed. All are welcome.
- 5 pm - location to be announced

Looking Ahead:

May: KAHS 60th Anniversary
Open House; Installation of
2019-2020 Officers.

June: at Willow Springs! Mark
your calendars to visit this
historic location!

July & August: no general
meetings, *Antelope Horn not
published.*

60th Anniversary of the
Kern Antelope Historical Society
1959-2019

May Meeting - 60th Anniversary Open House & Installation of Officers

This is it - the anniversary of the founding of the Kern Antelope Historical Society! A full day of events is planned: educational displays, antique cars, 4th grade field trips (in the morning) to see the displays and interact with KAHS members, etc. For more details see the flyer/invite sent along with this newsletter.

- * **When:** Thursday, May 9th
- * **Time:** 8 am to 7 pm
❖ **Open to the public from 1:30 pm to 7 pm**
- * **Where:** Wanda Kirk Library in Rosamond
- * **KAHS books for sale, as well as commemorative KAHS 60th anniversary mugs, postcards, etc. (Cash or checks)**
- * **5 pm - election and installation of officers for the coming year, special guests announced and light refreshments will be served.**

We hope you can join us for this fun and educational time to celebrate the founding of the KAHS!

Happy Anniversary KAHS!

The Kern Antelope Historical Society will be celebrating its Sixtieth Anniversary, Thursday, May 9, 2019, with an Open House at the Wanda Kirk Library with a number of exhibits about the historic Willow Springs community, Little Britches Rodeo, Rosamond Historical Buildings, Pancho Barnes, the Feline Compound, Willow Springs Raceway, etc. Watch for more details on specific times, etc.

This article is excerpted from Gold-Fever 40 - Years Digging Antelope -Valley History, one of the KAHS's books. It tells of the founding of the society.

Part II - 40 Years Digging - Antelope Valley History by Glen Settle

Excerpts from pages 4-8:

In May 1959, the first official meeting of the Kern Antelope Historical Society was called to order by Glen Settle, acting as the first Chairman. The building also filled to capacity with many valley old-timers. The Settles had planned that the officers would be chosen from the old-timers but the old-timers had different ideas and they elected Glen Settle to be the first President, which he carried on for the first three years. *(cont'd next page)*



Please notice: if you are receiving a hardcopy (black and white copy) of this newsletter and would like to enjoy it in color, it is available at our website: www.kahs1959.org.

John Rickett and his wife, Nancy, had moved to Mojave by this time and became interested in the Antelope Valley history. John was elected Vice-President. His wife, Nancy became known as the "candy woman". The first field trip of the Kern Antelope Historical Society was to the top of Tropic Hill and Nancy, with her supply of rations, helped replenish the energy for some members so that they could reach the top.

When the Ricketts moved away, Orville Willman took over this chore. As on all field trips, Orville always comes up with extra rations to help members gain enough energy to take that last gasp step.

Florence O'Neil, who had been a secretary at Edward's Air Force Base for many years, was well qualified to act as our new secretary. Her husband, Bill, who was Rosamond's postmaster at that time, became the first treasurer. All these officers acted as directors but two additional directors were elected at that time. Emory Kidd, a pioneer Antelope Valley Cattleman, and Myrtle Gerblich Patterson. (Myrtle's husband, Forest, was also a pioneer Antelope Valley cattleman.) Myrtle had come to Antelope Valley as a young girl with her family. They settled in what is now about the center of Willow Springs Race track. Her father worked in a mine there. Myrtle, as a girl, went to the old Willow Springs grammar school and grew up in Rosamond.

Names for the Society, submitted by those present at the first meeting were: Kern Antelope Historical Society, Sol Y Viento Historical Society, Hamilton Historical Society, Tropic Historical Society, Museo de Oro Historical Society, Pick and Shovel Historical Society, Kern Antelope Historical Society and Willow Springs Historical Society

As you will probably note, many of these names are connected with mining. After all, the first meeting was at Miners Hall at the Tropic Gold Mine. The Kern Antelope Historical Society won out as the new name for the society. (This name was chosen as it covered the south east portion of Kern County as well as all of the Antelope Valley.)

Julie Winslow and Dorene Settle went to work and came up with an acceptable set of by-laws for this organization. Dorene's uncle, Eric Burton, (who was a tax attorney in Whittier,) handled our incorporation papers, and we soon became a legal corporation - recorded in Sacramento.

The Charter membership closed at the end of the first year with 85 members. Within a short time the membership had doubled. Our membership included people from Bakersfield to Hollywood. And from White Oak Lodge to Randsburg and almost every other community in the Antelope Valley was represented on our roster.

One charter member, Evelyn Young, from Hollywood, was a free lance writer and one of her assignments was to write a story on Antelope Valley pioneer Rawley Duntley for the Desert Magazine located in Palm Desert. Evelyn was fascinated with Rawley's early life as a cattleman and Mojave Desert Barbecue King. Rawley had learned from the Indians, who invited him to watch, to cook meat in an open pit. A Rawley Duntley BBQ started with a layer of charcoal on the bottom - a layer of heated rocks then the meat (wrapped in wet burlap bags) placed on top and covered with the removed soil for the night. The next day the pit would be uncovered and the meat very tender and tasty.

The Paul Deaver family from Mojave were very active in the first few years of Kern Antelope Historical Society. Marion (Deaver) was a reporter for the *Bakersfield Californian* representing the South Kern and Antelope Valley areas. Marion attended all meetings and all field trips and any other historical projects that came up would soon be read in the *Bakersfield Californian*.

It was decided the society should have a bulletin and it was put out on a ditto machine; a far cry from Leslie Harrington's modern computer. The first bulletin had an interesting story by Clarence Gerblich titled "The Antelope Valley at the Turn of the Century".

Warren Nunn, a professor at Antelope Valley College, was named the first editor of our bulletin. For the next several issues Kern Antelope Historical Society members wrote us interesting articles on Antelope Valley history or historic articles were used from other publications.

(Some paragraphs of the original article omitted due to space.)

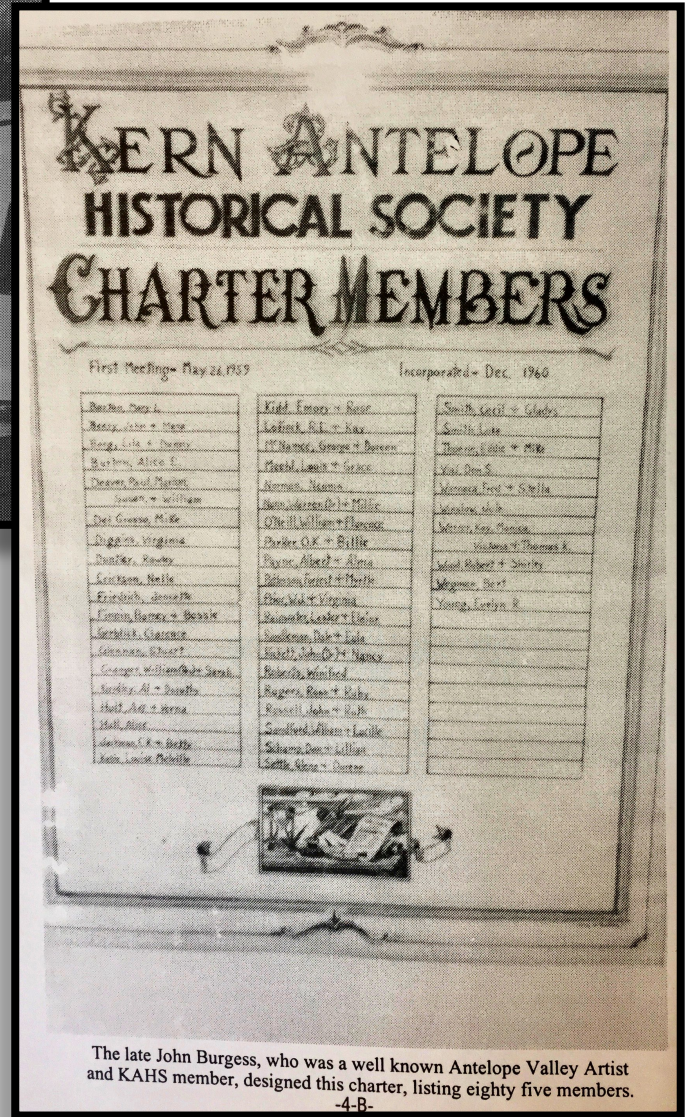


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Miners Hall back bar at Burtons Tropico Gold Camp, where many delicious refreshments were served from 1959 to 1980. **Charter members** pictured are left to right: George McNamee, Dorene B. Settle, Doreen McNamee and Glen Settle.

The original charter, done by John Burgess, of the 85 original KAHS members will be on display at the Open House and you will be able to read the names!



The late John Burgess, who was a well known Antelope Valley Artist and KAHS member, designed this charter, listing eighty five members. -4-B-

Thanks to Jedd Strange

The Kern Antelope Historical Society would like to thank Jedd, a KAHS member, for designing the 60th Anniversary Commemorative Poster which will be on sale at the Open House on May 9th. Check them out when you come!

Dues due

Just a friendly reminder...

As May is the last meeting of the year for KAHS, dues for the 2019-20 are now being taken. Get it done early so you won't have to worry about missing out on the advantages of being a KAHS member: discounts on our books and the map, receiving the newsletter, and getting the latest information about meetings, guests, etc.

Reminder: Elections of 2019-2020 Officers at the 60th Anniversary Open-House Meeting, May 9th, at 5 pm. The Nominating Committee, headed by Delores Julian, announced the slate of officers They are listed here for your consideration.

President - Gretchen Winfrey

Vice President - Delores Julian

Secretary - Janet Winters

Treasurer - Terry Landsiedel

Directors-at-Large: Joe Pauley

Chavonne Sladek

Frances Thompson



KERN ANTELOPE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Mail to: Kern Antelope Historical Society
PO Box 1255
Rosamond, CA 93560

MEMBERSHIP TYPE

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, ST, Zip _____

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E-mail _____

Type	Dues
Student & Military	\$5
Individual	\$15
Couple	\$20
Family	\$30
Business	\$35

Club Year - June 1st through May 31st

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.



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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For Sale by KAHS

Books - \$10 (*\$8) 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 (*\$3): Historic Settlers Circle Map

Online Book: *Glimpse of the Prehistory of Antelope Valley*

**Members' Discount Prices in Parentheses*

2018-2019 Executive Board

Officers:

President: Gretchen Winfrey	winfrey@qnet.com
Vice President: Delores Julian	ddjulirosa@yahoo.com
Secretary: Janet Winters	poppiesrme@gmail.com
Treasurer: Jo Kenngott	jokenngott@yahoo.com

Directors At-Large:
Dena DeCaprio
Terry Landsiedel
Chavonne Sladek

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

General Meetings:

5:00 pm-Second Thursday of the Month, September through June
At Wanda Kirk County Library
3611 Rosamond Blvd. Rosamond, CA 93560
(Exceptions: June, September & December -
Location 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



Since 1959