



Antelope Horn

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

Meetings:

Regular Meetings:

- 2nd Thursday of the month
(except July & August)
- 5:30 pm - at the Wanda Kirk Library, 3611 Rosamond Blvd., Rosamond, CA.

Board Meetings:

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

Looking Ahead:

October: Ann Yost - the History of Rosamond Elementary

November: to be announced

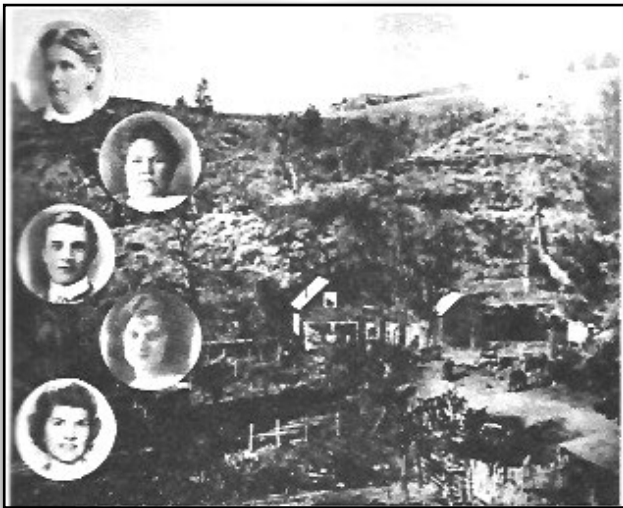
60th

Anniversary of the
Kern Antelope Historical Society
1959-2019

October Meeting - History of Rosamond Elementary School

Come out **Thursday, October 10th at 5:30 pm**, to hear **Ann Yost** who spent many years with Southern Kern Unified School District at Rosamond Elementary, working in the office and taking care of all the kids as well as running the office. If you attended RES or had kids there, you will love to hear the history of this school. I imagine there will be some great stories.

The following article, taken directly from the KAHS book, Antelope Valley PIONEERS, includes the story of Alice Greenleaf Burton who attended the old Willow Springs School which was built by Ezra Hamilton, then went to the new Rosamond Grammar School, and then graduated from Antelope Valley Union High School.



The Dearborn Ranch in the West Tehachapi Range of Mountains in winter of 1880. Five generations have lived in Antelope Valley starting top with Ann Elizabeth Lemon Covington Dearborn. Daughter Anne E. Covington Greenleaf Guerin. Grandson Arthur L. Greenleaf. Great Granddaughter Alice Elizabeth Greenleaf Burton and Great-great granddaughter Dorene Burton Settle.

Covington - Dearborn - Greenleaf - Burton Article

Elizabeth Covington Dearborn and her second husband Elias came to the Antelope Valley to settle in 1869. With them came her infant son John Covington, who became the family chronicler. From his memoirs, published by the Kern Antelope Historical Society in "Here Roamed The Antelope," we learn of the hardships the first settlers encountered in the Antelope Valley. His parents Ann Elizabeth Lemon and William Berril Covington were among the first settlers in Salt Lake City. Eventually Ann Elizabeth decided she would seek a new life for herself and her children. While her husband was on a business trip, she arranged with a freighter to take her to "Ragtown," Nevada where John was born in 1867. Soon after that, they left for California and on their way, passed through Antelope Valley to Los Angeles. In business there briefly, she met and married Elias Dearborn and they moved to Antelope Valley in 1869. They first stopped near the town of Rosamond and spent some time on the edge of the Rosamond Dry Lake, developing a spring, later called Indian Springs. From there they headed for the Mojave area, staying west of the present town.



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Dearborn had a dream that his father showed him Twin Lakes and told him to go there. (Twin Lakes was later known as White Oak Lodge in the Tehachapi Mountains.) John Covington lived most of his life in that area until in the 1940's he was forced by poor health to move to Altadena. John had met Alice O'Donnell, who was homesteading in the area, and they were married in 1926.

John's sister Mary was married to John Searles, discoverer of Borax at Searles Lake. (Trona) Searles' partner, E. M. Skillings married her sister Nancy. One of John's remembrances of the valley area was of the vast herds of antelope that roamed the area. He also recalled that when the railroad came through in 1876, he went to watch the first train come up and over the famed Tehachapi Loop.

Another sister of John's had married Charles Greenleaf, of Nevada. They had a son Arthur L. born in 1880 at Pioche, Nevada. He became a miner, exploring the west. On one of his ventures he met Virgie Ward of Texas and they were married in Congress, Arizona Territory in 1902. Soon after, having relatives (his grandmother Dearborn) in the Antelope Valley, they moved to the Rosamond - Willow Springs area to homestead and do some mining. A baby girl Alice Elizabeth (Greenleaf, ed.'s note) was born in 1904. There were no doctors in the Willow Springs area, so Virgie headed for Bakersfield to her mother-in-law, Ann Covington-Greenleaf-Guerrin, who had moved there and re-married after her husband's death. Thereby Alice was born in the home of her grandmother. In 1914 a son Arthur G. W. was born.

Alice E. started school at Willow Springs and when that school became part of the Southern Kern School District, she graduated from the Rosamond Grammar School. As a young lady, she had the passenger train flagged at the Rosamond depot and rode to Lancaster to attend Antelope Valley Union High School. She stayed in the girls dormitory while going to high school and graduated in 1922 after being active in the high school social life and making many friends.

In the meanwhile Virgie Greenleaf owned and operated a combination ice cream parlor, light lunch counter, store and service station in Rosamond. (The building, incidentally, is now again (1983), an ice cream parlor.) Arthur, Sr. kept busy in gold mining locally and all over the west. On the north side of Burton's Tropic Hill is the Greenleaf Tunnel named for him. Alice E. married H. Clifford Burton soon after graduation from A.V.U.H.S. (August 1922). She helped her husband with his many mining projects during the years. To this couple were born two children, Dorene (December 1823) and Clifford G. (January 1925).

While raising the two children Alice became active in the local school functions. She helped organize and was the first president of the Rosamond P.T.A. She also helped organize and became active in Camp Fire Girls and served as a Cub Scout den mother.

Due to Alice's poor health, she and the children moved to Lido Isle at Newport Beach for 2 years, during which time H. Clifford commuted from their Tropic Mine home. In 1938 they returned to live in Lancaster where Dorene and Cliff went to A.V.J.U.H.S. And they were closer to H.C.B.'s business. Alice resumed some of her activities and during World War II served as a Grey Lady Volunteer at Muroc Air Base, now Edwards A.F.B. She became active in the Lancaster Woman's Club and later after Dorene's marriage, as members of the Garden Section, they helped set up the first flower show at the Antelope Valley Fair.

The two Burton children were an important part of Alice and H. Clifford's life. After attending Rosamond Grammar School for 7 grades, the children graduated from Newport Beach Grammar School in 1937. Dorene went one year to A.V.J.U.H.S. and then went to Westlake School for girls (a boarding school) in Holmby Hills where she graduated in 1941. After Westlake she entered Mills College in Oakland and received a B.A. in 1945. Clifford graduated from Antelope Valley then attended a year at Pomona College, transferring to University of California at



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Berkeley, which at that time had a better mining engineering department. Taking off for a stint in the U.S. Navy, Cliff returned to University of Cal. to earn his engineering degree in 1946. After graduation he returned to Antelope Valley and in 1949 married Alice Harper, who had been teaching in Lancaster. After his father's death in 1949, Cliff took over as president of the Burton Bros., Inc., Tropico Mine and worked in this position until the mine closed in 1956. Wanting to stay in mining he and his family left the Valley. They have two children: John Clifford, a Stanford graduate in engineering and Wendy, now attending Stanford.

Dorene, after her marriage to Glen A. Settle in 1948, helped at the mine until it closed. In 1958 she and Glen opened the Tropico Mine and Goldcamp Museum for tours. She also became very active in Valley organizations and projects. She also belongs to the Southern California Floral Designers. The Settle's keep very busy, even though semi-retired, with historic projects, world travels and civic affairs. They live in their Tropico Hill home built by Alice E. and H. Clifford Burton.



Above: Alice E. Greenleaf Burton attended the one-room schoolhouse, built by Ezra Hamilton, about 1909 or 1910 although she is not identified in either of these pictures.

*Willow Springs School students with their teacher, Miss Ruth Baugh, far right (c. 1910/11). The young girl, center, front row is Myrtle Gerblick Patterson. The girl behind her is Harriet Hamilton, the granddaughter of Ezra Hamilton. Clarence Gerblick is standing in the doorway. Courtesy of Glen Settle. Gurba, Norma H. *Legendary Locals of the Antelope Valley, California. Legendary Locals, 2013.**

Hammond, Jon. "Pen in Hand: Willow Springs School: a Desert Relic Slowly Crumbles Back to the Earth." Tehachapi News, 11 Nov. 2018, http://www.tehachapinews.com/lifestyle/pen-in-hand-willow-springs-school-a-desert-relic-slowly/article_06fa848a-e638-11e8-b8d6-ab6eae3e420.html.

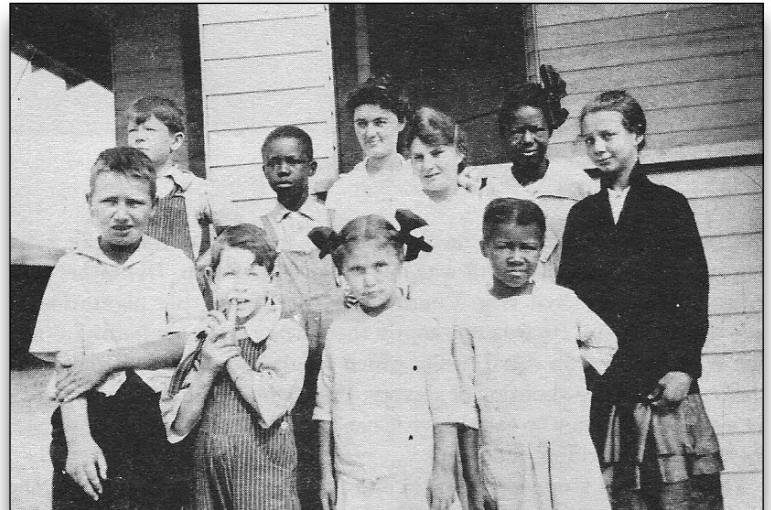




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“In 1908, Charles (Graves) built a one-room schoolhouse with an added room for the teacher’s living quarters. He hired a teacher and paid her wages for one year. The school house was located on the corner of Rosamond Boulevard and 35th Street (on his property). It is reported that Kern County built a school house on the site of the present Rosamond Elementary School in 1910 . . . In order to keep the school going Charles and Cordia sent James to school although he wasn’t school age.” (From *Antelope Valley PIONEERS*)

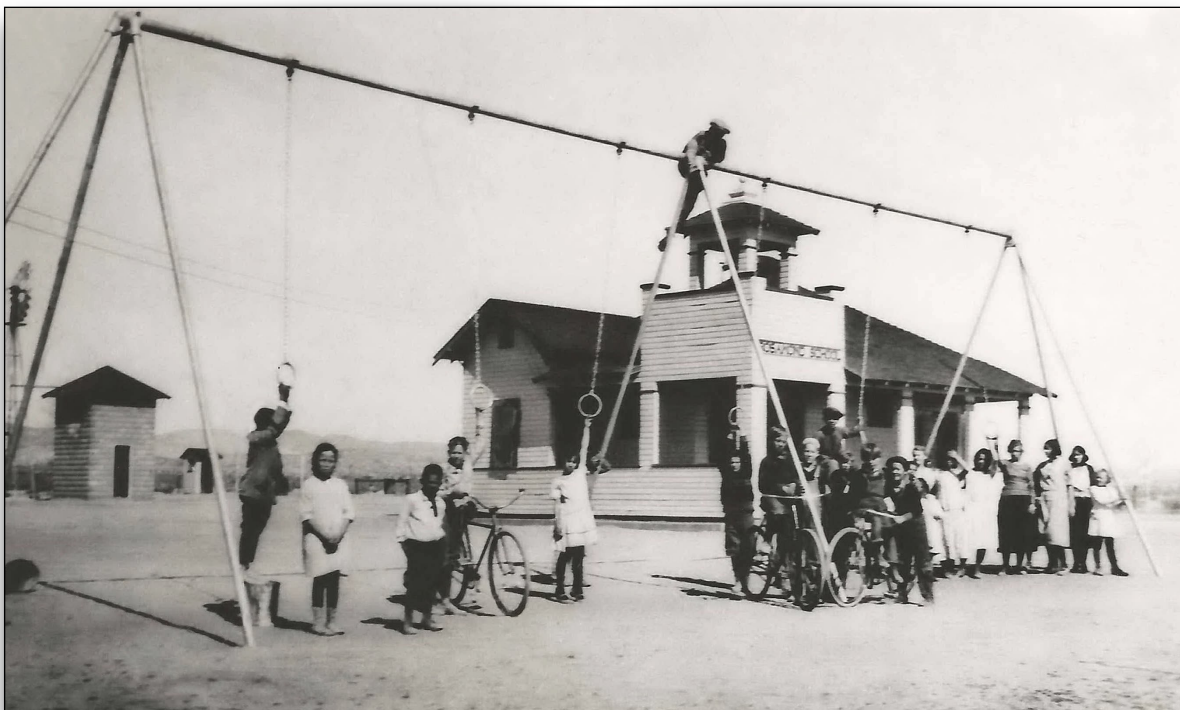
Alice Greenleaf Burton is the girl third from the right, in the back row. Once the Southern Kern School District opened Rosamond Elementary (Grammar?) School in 1910, the Willow Springs school was closed and Alice continued here. (It doesn’t sound like she attended Graves’s school.) Later, in the thirties, Alice helped start a Parent Teacher Association at the school and served as its first president.



Above: “Rosamond Grammar School in 1916-1917. **Front row:** left is Carroll Webb. Right is Katherine Graves.

Back row, left to right, second is James Graves, then teacher, Mrs. Hawkes, Alice Greenleaf, Elizabeth Graves and Helen Converse.”

Settle, Glen A., and Dorene B. Settle. *Antelope Valley PIONEERS*. Kern-Antelope Historical Society, 1991.

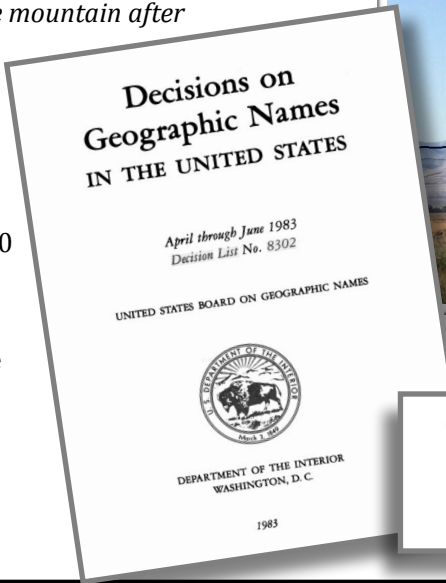


“Children on Playground Outside Rosamond Elementary School, Rosamond, California.” Calisphere: Antelope Valley Rural Museum Collection, LA County Library, 8 Aug. 2014, <https://calisphere.org/item/f62b684a2fb12fccaafda6a85a9b4267/>.



As a side note - John Covington, Alice Greenleaf Burton's great uncle is who this peak near the western end of the valley is named after. You can read more about how the KAHS was able to officially name the mountain after

this early valley resident in Gold-Fever - 40 Years Digging Antelope Valley History.



A picture of Covington Peak, taken from Avenue A, near 170th St. West, using Peak Finder.

Covington Mountain: mountain, elevation 2,401 m (7,877 ft.), in the Tehachapi Mountains 12.9 km (8 mi.) SSW of Tehachapi; named for John D. Covington (1867-1949), who settled in the Antelope Valley area in 1869 and homesteaded and mined in the Tehachapi Mountains; Kern Co., Calif.; sec. 28, T 11 N, R 15 W, Mount Diablo Mer.; 35°00'53" N, 118°28'25" W.



Our September potluck was a big success. Lots of delicious food, followed by a great time of hearing our president, Gretchen, tell her 'story' of how her folks came to California and then how she ended up in Rosamond, coming here to teach, and throughout it all was the family value of the importance of education! We also got to celebrate Gretchen's 80th birthday! Thank you Gretchen for all you do for the KAHS!!! Also a HUGE thank you to Chavonne and crew for hosting us, once again, at the Ranch!

New Members for 2019 - So happy to have you join us. Welcome to KAHS:

Eric Barkalow
Timothy Blakely
Brenda Brandts
Lisa Checkley
Don Dyas

Jerry & Barbara Harris
Allen & Kathleen Hooper
Donna Morris
Pankaj Patel
Gil Pauley

Velva "Jean" Saathoff
Tom & Char Taylor
David Walblom
Matt Williams



If you are not a member of the historical society, we hope you will consider joining. You can make a check, payable to Kern Antelope Historical Society and mail it, along with this coupon to the address below.

KERN ANTELOPE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Mail to: Kern Antelope Historical Society
PO Box 125
Rosamond, CA 93560

MEMBERSHIP TYPE

	Type	Dues
Date _____	Student & Military	\$5
Name _____	Individual	\$15
Address _____	Couple	\$20
City, ST, Zip _____	Family	\$30
Phone Number _____	Business	\$35
E-mail _____		

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*

2019-2020 Executive Board

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Vice President: Delores Julian ddjulirosa@yahoo.com
Secretary: Janet Winters poppiesrme@gmail.com
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Directors At-Large:

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

General Meetings:

5:30 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
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Since 1959