



Antelope Horn

Newsletter of the Kern-Antelope Historical Society, Inc.

PO Box 1255 Rosamond, CA 93560

September, 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:

September: KAHS fall kickoff at "The Ranch"

October: Ann Yost - the History of Rosamond Elementary

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

September Meeting - September Potluck

Once again the Sladeks are making their Ranch available for our September Potluck meeting. We hope you can join us Thursday, September 12th, at 5:00 pm, at the Sladek Ranch.

The **Kern Antelope Historical Society will have hot dogs and condiments, along with tea, lemonade and water available.**

We ask that **you bring a side dish (beans, salads, chips, etc.) or a dessert**, whatever you most enjoy with a hot dog. If you have a handy camp chair, you might prefer to **bring your own chair** too.

And - **we are excited to feature Gretchen Winfrey**, who will be 'interviewed' by Chavonne Bradley. Gretchen came to Rosamond in 1962 and has stories that span over 50 years that she will share with us. Gretchen has taught in the Rosamond school system and been involved in many organizations in the Rosamond community and in the Antelope Valley. Of course she is currently serving as the president of the Historical Society.

There will be plenty of time for you to mingle and share stories of your own. If you have pictures of Gretchen you might want to share a copy. Gretchen has autographed copies of our 60th anniversary poster that we will have for sale for \$4.00. If you would like one personalized to you, please let us know in advance by emailing us at info@kahs1959.org.

Directions to the Sladek Ranch: Coming out of Rosamond on Rosamond Blvd.:

Go west to Tropico Rd/ 55th St West (stop sign at the intersection south of the middle school.

Drive south on 55th St., a paved road.

Drive to the dirt road which angles across the desert and turn right (going southwest).

Enter the gate into the Sladek Ranch directly opposite dirt road.



Sladek Ranch - 2801 Jefferies St.



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.



Gretchen Winfrey was born in Holtville, California, a small town near El Centro, in 1939. Eventually the family moved to the Ventura area when her dad started his own welding supply business. Education was important in her family and she attended San Jose State after high school. (An early example of this family value was when the young man, who would become her father, quit high school and went to work in the fields, his future mother-in-law marched herself out in the field and told him to 'get back in school!' and he did!)

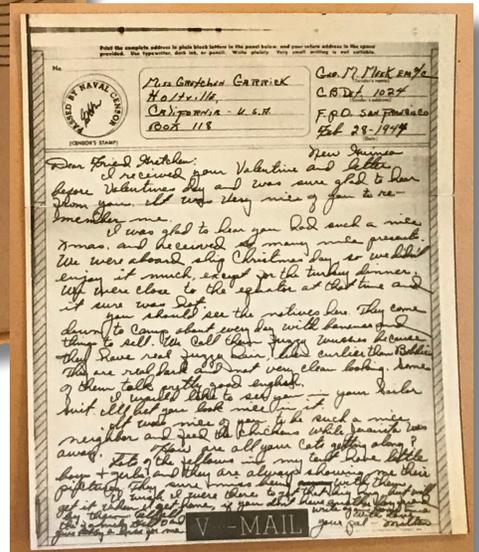
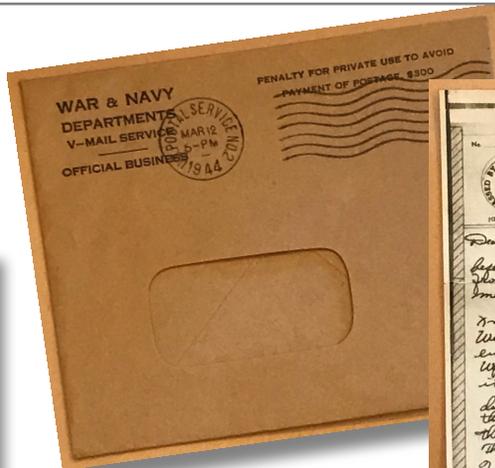
Gretchen planned to become a nurse but a summer job at a Girl Scout camp near Pollock Pines helped to change her mind. She signed up as a counselor but when a Group Leader had to be replaced, she moved up into that position. The girls were city kids from Oakland and she found that she "loved working with those kids" and changed her major from Chemistry to Education.

When her college days were done and it came time to look for a job, her first choice fell through and she had to scramble to get something else. Looking within a hundred mile radius of her home in Ventura, she found there was a job available in Rosamond! And 'the rest is history' as they say. *con't page 3*

Come out Thursday to hear more about Gretchen's high school physiology project.



Gretchen Winfrey showing her Tennessee Walker. Come out to the September Potluck to learn how this activity played a part in Gretchen's career in Rosamond.



As a young child Gretchen received several v-mails from a neighbor serving in WWI.

V-mail, short for Victory Mail, was a hybrid mail process used by the United States during the Second World War as the primary and secure method to correspond with soldiers stationed abroad.



cont'd from page 2

Gradually Gretchen got involved in a number of other activities and volunteer organizations, outside of teaching science and other classes in Rosamond. She became involved in Equestrian Trails Incorporated, an organization aimed at acquiring and preserving trails for horseback riding. She volunteers at the Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve and serves on the board as Treasurer of the Poppy Reserve Mojave Desert Interpretive Association. She has done square dancing, painting, and besides showing her Tennessee Walker, she enjoyed trail riding on horses from Lawson's stables. (Mr. Lawson was the superintendent of Southern Kern, in 1962, who hired Gretchen.) Gretchen is also Treasurer for Rosamond Hills, Inc, a housing center for seniors.

Gretchen is currently serving as President of the Kern Antelope Historical Society. She has done much to move the club forward. Her accomplishments include organizing volunteers who have begun cataloging documents and other items that belong to the Kern Antelope Historical Society and she is now actively pursuing the possibility of a museum for Rosamond. She worked with a Rosamond High School class, which made a video: *History of Rosamond*. Under her leadership, the membership of KAHS and participation at activities has greatly increased. She also helped organize and carry out the celebration of the organization's 60th anniversary with the open house celebration in May. And last year Gretchen was among those honored by the *Conference of California Historical Societies* with one of five *Individual Awards* in June of 2018, at the statewide annual meeting in Burbank.

September 12th will be a great opportunity to come out and hear from Gretchen as she tells stories of her years in Rosamond and being involved in the education of so many young people and participating in so many community activities.

Events around the Antelope Valley:

- **Historic Ridge Route Tour** - Saturday, October 12 at 10 am for \$15. For additional information regarding these upcoming activities please call the Ridge Route Communities Historical Society Museum at 661-245-7747 or email at rrchs@frazmtn.com.
- **Annual American Indian Celebration** - October 19 & 20, 11 am to 4 pm on both days. This event will feature native dancers, storytellers, museum exhibits, artists, kids activities, and fry bread and Indian tacos! Cost - \$8 for adults, kids under 12 are free. For more information call 661-946-3055. Website: <http://www.avim.parks.ca.gov/>.

Last Chance to Renew!

This is a reminder that September is your last chance to renew your membership in the Kern Antelope Historical Society without loss of benefits. The membership year goes from June through May. Get your payment in this month so that this won't be your last *Antelope Horn* and your last reminder of meetings and special events, discounts on our books, etc.

If you are a business member your business card will no longer be included in the newsletter, or displayed on the KAHS website after September.

Cut out the membership application on the next page, write your check and mail it to the Kern Antelope Historical Society - address is on the application. Or bring it to the meeting Sept. 12th to stay current.





Clip this out and bring cash, or a check, to our June 13th meeting to make sure you keep your membership up to date! Free 60th Anniversary poster for all paid members that night.

KERN ANTELOPE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

MEMBERSHIP TYPE

Table with columns: Field (Date, Name, Address, City, ST, Zip, Phone Number, E-mail), Type (Student & Military, Individual, Couple, Family, Business), and Dues (\$5, \$15, \$20, \$30, \$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.

Do it Best KARLS HARDWARE. 2700 Diamond St. Rosamond CA, 93560. Phone: (661) 256-3985. Fax: (661) 256-3932. Eric Landsgaard, President. karlsbest@sbcglobal.net

Auto Pros Smog Checks Complete Domestic & Foreign Automotive Repair Also RV's & Boats 1475 Sierra Hwy. Rosamond, CA. MARIO GUTIERREZ (661) 256-2662



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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Jose & Marisol Rebollo
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Cell: 661-917-9286

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Jamie Price Owner
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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

Officers:

President: Gretchen Winfrey winfrey@qnet.com
Vice President: Delores Julian ddjulirosa@yahoo.com
Secretary: Janet Winters poppiesrme@gmail.com
Treasurer: Terry Landsiedel visitrosamond@gmail.com

Directors At-Large:

Joe Pauley
Chavonne Sladek
Frances Thompson

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
ROSAMOND, CA 93560



Since 1959