Meetings:

**General Meeting:** Thursday, Feb. 9th; at the Wanda Kirk Library, 3611 Rosamond Blvd., Rosamond, CA, at 5 pm.

**Board Meeting:** Thursday, Feb. 23; at the Sladek Ranch, 5 pm.

February General Meeting:
Some people dig up history by looking at old photographs, combing through original documents or interviewing people who have lived through particular events. Others find out about the past by “digging in the dirt” - technically - “the study of human activity through the recovery and analysis of material culture”. **Our quest in February will be Mark Campbell** from the AV Archaeological Society. Come learn how archaeologists help us learn about our past.

On October 19, 2016 a few members of the KAHS made a visit to the Tropico Gold Mine and Mill to document an important part of the history of Rosamond. We went through the assay office, the main drift, the mill, the company store, and visited the Glory Hole where the Tropico Time Tunnel is located.

above: employees of Burton Brothers Tropico Mine, Dec. 23, 1940 (see the donkey?);
upper right: an “isometric drawing” of Tropico Hill;
middle right: Tropico sign at entrance to main drift (shown far right); near right: an ore cart - used for ore and carrying workers, two at a time, up and down the mine shaft at the shift change;
middle left: old door knob;
left: furnace for assay work and we finished with a visit with Cliff Burton, son of one of the original Burton Brothers.
The Kern Antelope Historical Society greatly appreciates its business members. We hope you will support them and say thanks when you see them.

John Marnell, pictured here with KAHS President Gretchen Winfrey, was our guest speaker at the January meeting. His enthusiasm for the subject of Llano del Rio was inspiring. It was great to learn of the settlement, how it developed, how extensive it was, and what brought about it’s demise. John explained how, after hearing Milt Stark, his interest was sparked and he has done a lot of research, talked to people who knew about the commune and personally investigated the remains and hiked around the property. His talk has sparked an interest in our group to go visit for ourselves and a field trip is under discussion.

Anyone plan to be around in 2866? Well, that’s when the Tropico Time Tunnel is to be opened. above: the plaque at the sealed entrance (shown at right); left: the framework of the original stamp mills, replaced with ball mills by the Burtons.
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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.

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