



Antelope Horn

Newsletter of the Kern-Antelope Historical Society, Inc.
Member of the Conference of California Historical Societies
PO Box 1255 Rosamond, CA 93560
June, 2022

Meetings:

Regular Meetings:

- 2nd Thursday of the month (except July, August); 5:30 pm.
- Wayside Chapel Community Church - 2584 Felsite Ave, Rosamond, CA

Board Meetings:

- 4th Thursday of the month as needed; 4 pm.; all are welcome, email for directions.

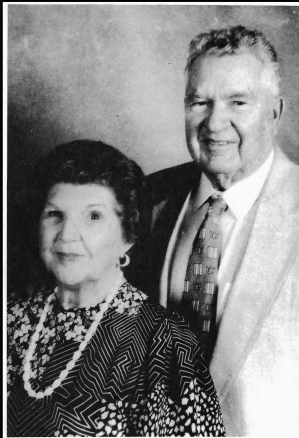
Hello to all our Kern Antelope Historical Society Members and Friends,

Join us **June 9th, at 5:30 pm**, as we meet at the **the Antelope Valley Rural Museum, located at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds**. The mission of the museum is to honor the history of the Antelope Valley with documentation, preservation, exhibition, and education. Details later in the newsletter

Thank you for your continued interest in and support of KAHS.

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

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/KAHS1959/



GLEN AND DORENE SETTLE
AUTHORS / COMPILERS

The following article comes from the Kern Antelope Historical Society publication: **Gold-Fever - 40 Years Digging Antelope Valley History by Glen Settle**. Glen's wife, Dorene, also helped in the writing and compilation of the book. Of course Glen and Dorene are on the list as charter members of the Kern Antelope Historical Society as of May, 1959. Glen became the first president of the Society and served from May of 1959 through December, 1962. Later, Dorene serve several terms as well.

Chapter 1 of Part II deals with the organization of the Kern Antelope Historical Society and the development of the Tropico Museum. The next chapter, shared here, talks about one of the important relics that was collected and, eventually, put on a portable display with wheels so it could be exhibited throughout the Antelope Valley.

Part II - Chapter 2

Museum and Garces Rock

When the Settles had completed the move of seventeen historic buildings in their gold camp they asked the Kern Antelope Historical Society if they would like to convert one of the buildings into a museum. The society was interested and "Doc" Lowry and Clarence Gerblick volunteered to get the old building ready for a museum. They picked the old Munz house from Leona Valley. John Munz originally moved this old building from where Plant 42 is now located.

When the museum was dedicated the Munz family and many pioneer families were in attendance. Members gathered relics and antiques of Antelope Valley history, which were



In the early 1960's the K.A.H.S. opened their own museum, in the old John Munz ranch house, which had been moved from Elizabeth Lake area to the Gold Camp. The Munz family attended the dedication of the museum.



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on display. The main feature of the museum was the Garces Rock, which was considered to be the Antelope Valley's "Plymouth Rock".

"Cura Garces Rock"

In the Spring of 1776 Father Francisco Garces, on an exploratory trip became the first recorded white man to travel down and across the Antelope Valley. He followed an Indian trail, accompanied and guided by several Indians, enroute to the San Joaquin Valley. On his return he is believed to have traveled north of present Mojave toward the Mojave river near present Barstow.

The K.A.H.S. possesses a bolder [sic] inscribed "CURA GARCES—ABRIL 1776" and a cross, which was found northeast of Mojave, the history of the find of the Garces rock follows.

1935: Mike Sanchez was told about the rock by an old desert prospector who had found it many years earlier.

March 1963: Miss Jane M. Offt, a teacher in Lancaster Elementary School, told Glen A. Settle, of the Kern Antelope Historical Society about the rock while he was giving a history program to her class. Miss Offt had been told about the rock by one of her pupils, whose father was Mike Sanchez.

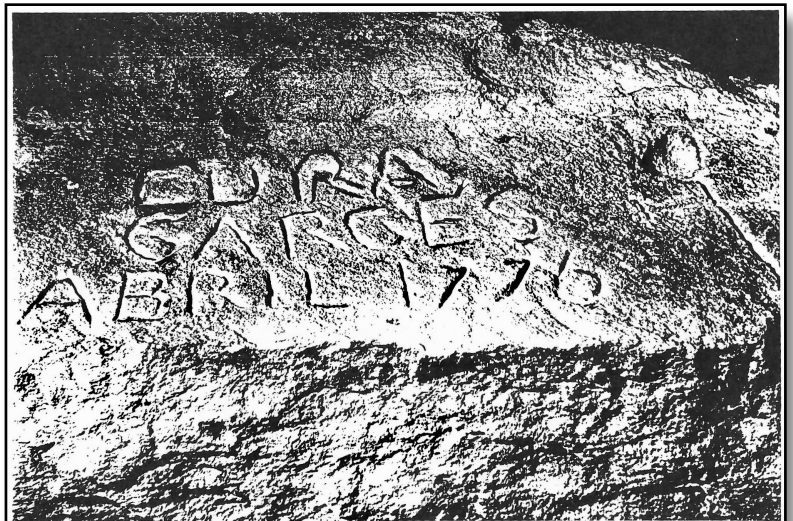
April 1965: K.A.H.S. members, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Deaver, Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Schwandt and Mr. and Mrs. Glen Settle (with a map from Miss Offt), located the rock and took photos. The K.A.H.S. was alerted, and it was decided (due to the fact that vandals had already done some damage to the rock) it should be moved to a place where it would have protection.

Arrangements for moving the rock were made with Mr. Louis Zeravica, who had an "A" frame truck and was interested in Antelope Valley history. He, along with Society members Paul Deaver, Rudy Schwandt, Glen A. Settle and Sgts, M. Butler, H. Stiely and B. Kittrell, went to the site and with great difficulty and care loaded the rock and moved it to the Kern Antelope Historical Society Museum in Tropico Gold Camp where it has since remained.

Mr. Charles LaMonk, well known Antelope Valley Indian Rock Art artist and expert, and others, have examined the rock and believe that the patina of the carving is very old and could very well date back to the time of Garces' crossing of Antelope Valley.

Later, while on a visit to Tropico, Reverend F. Noel Moholy, O.F.M., a member of the California State Historical Resources Commission, and considered an outstanding authority of early California-Spanish history, examined the rock. He stated the use of "Cura" and the "Cross" were [sic] appropriate and authentic in relation to Garces and the period.

1976: Bicentennial of the U.S. and 200th anniversary of Father Garces' journey through the Antelope Valley.



The Garces rock, found near California City, was moved to KAHS museum in the early 1960's for display. It was later moved to Eastern Kern Museum, in California City, as a loan, but it was destroyed by fire along with the museum.

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January 1976: The Kern Antelope Historical Society began to make arrangements for a more portable unit to display the rock and thus enable public appearances at various places throughout the Antelope Valley.

March 1976: Guthrie Collins and Claude Selfield, society members, prepared a display unit for the Garces Rock. Tropico Goldcamp provided wheels for the unit. Using a fork lift truck of Guthrie Collins, it was hauled to Lancaster and mounted on the traveling display unit. Rudy Schwandt and Grace Pickus arranged for display sites. Now more A.V. residents and school children will be able to see the historic artifact.

In 1980, when Tropico Gold Camp closed, the Garces rock and several items from the Kern Antelope Historical Society Museum were loaned to the Eastern California Museum in California City. Then a certain happening occurred. The museum caught fire and when the roof collapsed down upon the rock, the fire Department shot many streams of cold water into the building and the Rock just seemed to shatter and went into hundreds of pieces. The museum items on loan from K.A.H.S. were also destroyed in the fire. Some of the articles donated to the K.A.H.S. Museum were returned to the original donor. Many of the articles left were donated to the Tehachapi Museum.

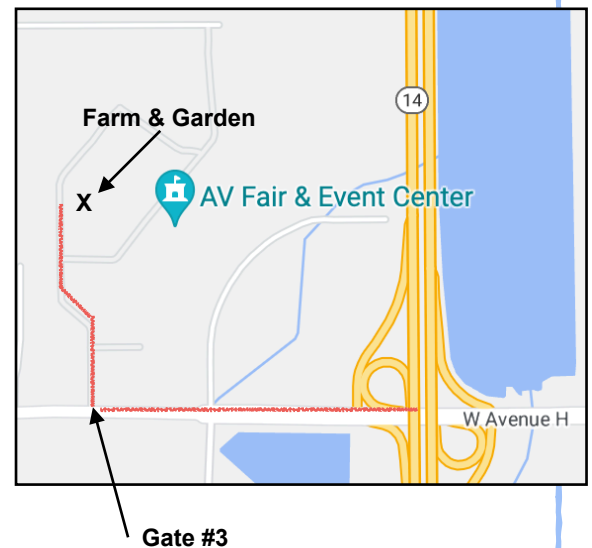
The Rest of the Story

So . . . was that the end of the story? Was there *anything*, at all, left of the Garces Rock? Well, if you've been to the Antelope Valley Rural Museum, you might know the answer. If not, you will want to join us on Thursday, June 9th to discover the answer and other interesting things!

- What: Kern Antelope Historical Society Meeting.
- When: Thursday, June 9th at 5:30 pm.
- Who: All are welcome to this free visit to the museum, bring a friend.
- Where: at the Antelope Valley Rural Museum located on the AV Fairgrounds property.

Directions:

- Turn off the **14 Freeway at Ave. H** and go past the main entrance to **Gate #3**, west of the Watch and Wager Bldg.
- **Go north, along west side of fairgrounds to the 4th building** (counting the newest building) to the the Farm and Garden building.
- Park along the drive, on the 'back' (or west) side of the building.



The Installation of new officers for the 2022-23 year took place at the May meeting. Although Chavonne was unable to attend, she left 'tokens of appreciation' for the officers and a special one for Mac for all of his videography work on the KAHS interviews.

President - Gretchen Winfrey and her sparkly 'silver' mic; Videographer - Howard McCardle and his director's clapperboard; Secretary - Janet Winters, Vice President - Delores Julian, and Treasurer - Kelly Gonzalez with their 'gold stars' for the "walk of fame".



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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 also available. *Glimpse of the Prehistory of Antelope Valley*, by Stuart Glennan, is described as "Archaeological Investigations at the Sweetser site".



Here is the link for the Kern Antelope Historical Society webpage that will take you straight to the Video section: <http://kahs1959.org/Videos/videos.html>. Check it out to see all of our available videos.



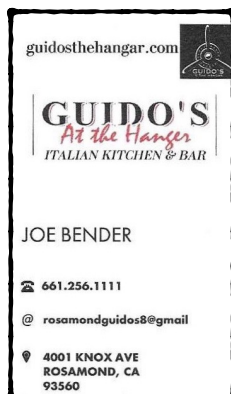
Dues Due: June starts the new year for KAHS and dues for the 2022-23 are now being received. If you pay right away, you won't have to worry about missing out on the advantages of being a KAHS member: discounts on our books and the map, receiving the newsletter, and getting the latest information about meetings, guests, etc.

Kern Antelope Historical Society - Membership Application

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

	Type of Membership:	Dues:	Amount Paid:
Name _____	Student/Military	\$5	_____
Mail Address _____	Individual	\$15	_____
City, ST, Zip _____	Couple	\$20	_____
Phone _____	Family	\$30	_____
Email _____	Business	\$35	_____
Date _____			

Note: • Club Year is June 1st through May 31st of the following year; new members, paying after February 1st, pay only half.
• Zelle: info@kahs1959.org



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*

2020-2021

Executive Board

Officers:

President: Gretchen Winfrey winfrey3314@yahoo.com
Vice President: Delores Julian ddjulirosa@yahoo.com
Secretary: Janet Winters poppiesrme@gmail.com
Treasurer: Kelly Gonzalez gonzakel@sbcglobal.net

Directors At-Large:

Terry Landsiedel
Joe Pauley
Chavonne Sladek

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

General Meetings:

Second Thursday of the Month, September through June
5:30 pm - 2584 Felsite Ave, Rosamond, CA
(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