



Antelope Horn

Newsletter of the Kern-Antelope Historical Society, Inc.
Member of the Conference of California Historical Societies
March, 2023

Meetings:

Regular Meetings:

- 2nd Thursday of the month (except July, August); 5:30 pm.
- Rosamond Public Library -
3611 Rosamond Blvd, Rosamond, CA

Board Meetings:

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

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

- ❖ What: **March Regular Meeting**
- ❖ When: **Thursday, March 9** (2nd Thursday)
- ❖ Time: **5:30 pm**
- ❖ Where: **Rosamond Library, 3611 Rosamond Blvd**, Rosamond, CA
- ❖ Guest Speaker: **Dr Bruce Love, Anthropologist**

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

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

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/KAHS1959/

Our March meeting will be back at the Rosamond Library, located at 3611 Rosamond Blvd, Rosamond, CA.

The Kern Antelope Historical Society is very honored to present renowned anthropologist Dr. Bruce Love at our March meeting. Love has presented at many events, including local events such as the Tomo-Kahni State Historic Park's 25th anniversary celebration and at a meeting of the Lake Los Angeles Park Association (LLAPA) regarding the site of a Native American village that occupied the area of Lovejoy Springs, 2,770 years ago, in the Lake Los Angeles area. Much of his work has been in the area of the Mayan people of Central America.

Bruce Love - "12,000 Years of History in the Antelope Valley"

Guest Speaker for March Meeting



Bruce Love got his Ph.D. in Anthropology from UCLA in 1986 and has been doing archaeology in California and Mesoamerica (especially the Maya area) ever since. He is author of two books on the Maya culture, and hundreds of archaeology reports in the Antelope Valley and surrounding regions. He currently lives with his wife of 51 years in Juniper Hills (in the foothills above Littlerock) and is currently the president of Friends of the Antelope Valley Indian Museum (FAVIM) and is Native American liaison for the Museum of Art and History (MOAH) in Lancaster.

His lecture with color slides will document twelve millennia of continual occupation by Native Americans right here in the AV, with archaeological evidence for each period from the end of the last Ice Age to the present day.

http://www.desertnews.com/news/article_5ca24f18-1a80-11e9-8fee-2f9823f97807.html

Dr Love is the current president of the Friends of the Antelope Valley Indian Museum (FAVIM). FAVIM assists the educational and interpretive program at the Antelope Valley Indian Museum. Through the cooperative effort of the Friends and the State Park system, the Indian Museum has been opened to the public and scheduled tour groups since 1982. FAVIM is an official cooperating association with (cont'd. p 2)



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.



California State Parks. You can follow Friends of the Antelope Valley Indian Museum on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/INDIANMUSEUMFRIENDS/>

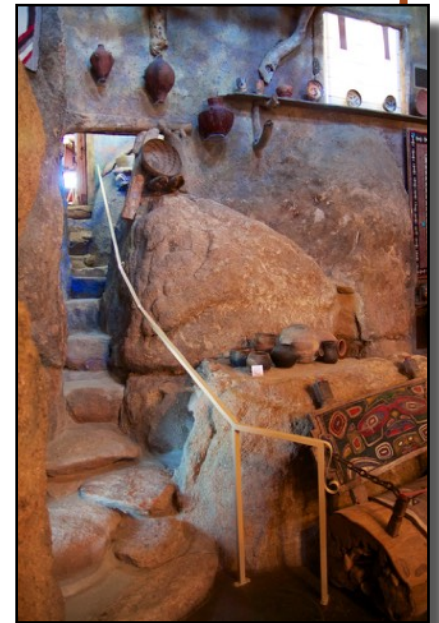
Have you been to the Antelope Valley Indian Museum? This local treasure is located about 17 miles east of Lancaster. It began as the home of a self-taught artist, Howard

Arden Edwards, in 1928. Edwards, his wife and teenage son began the home with a portion of the area devoted to his "Antelope Valley Indian Research Museum." Here he displayed his collection of pre-historic and historic Native American artifacts.

Eventually, the property was purchased by Grace Wilcox Oliver in the 1940s, who had an interest in anthropology, added her own collection to Edwards' and opened the home as a museum which she operated for the next thirty years or so. Then the state of California purchased the museum in 1979, with Grace Oliver donating all of the artifacts. The majority of the museum's collections emphasizes the Southwestern, California and Great Basin Native Americans, although it contains artifacts from a number of other geographic regions.

The museum is located in "a Tudor Revival style building, decorated inside and out with American Indian designs and motifs, incorporating large granite boulders as an integral part of the building both inside and out. You actually climb upon these rocks as you go from picturesque Kachina Hall upstairs to California Hall. This unusual upper level housed Mr. Edwards' original "Antelope Valley Indian Research Museum." (https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=632) For more information go to <http://www.avim.parks.ca.gov/>

The museum hosts an **Annual American Indian Celebration** with American Indian traditional dancing and music the third weekend of October every year. Also, in December, you can attend the **Holidays on the Homestead** event which celebrates the museum's homestead origins, including a chili cookout and country craft boutique.



Interior stairway leading to the upper California Hall, where Edwards housed his AV Indian Research Museum; note how the museum is built in to actual mountainside.



Here is the link for our latest KAHS YouTube video:

Rosamond Schools with Gretchen Winfrey

Feb. 9, 2023

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OPwNzwPCjRA>



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**“The History of Mojave” by Marion Deaver, from *Along the Rails from Lancaster to Mojave*
A KAHS book available for purchase, copyrighted - 1967.**

Mojave today is the crossroad of two major highways, with a new freeway being planned to the west of the community. Two railroads serve the town, and to the east, Kern County Airport Number 7 is the site of increasing activity, with much of the area under lease for industrial development.

This is a far cry from the pioneer days, when streets were dusty or muddy, depending on the season, a few wooden shacks formed the nucleus of the town, and saloons were the center of activity.

The building of the railroads, and of the Los Angeles Aqueduct started the growth of the town, later aided by the coming of mining nearby.

But even before all this, Indians left their marks in the desert near Mojave, when they wintered in the desert and spent the hot summers in the mountains. Later, explorers crossed the vicinity, looking for new routes, over 100 years earlier before Mojave was a reality.

In 1876, Mojave became a reality, when the Southern Pacific Railroad reached across the desert, and a rip snorter it soon became. The streets were full of chuck holes, lined by board sidewalks. After the arrival of railroad employees, who first lived in a few wooden

shacks, a few more permanent buildings were constructed. The first family to build a house and hotel was named Inestero, who arrived in the town from the Bodie Mining Camp in Mono.

The first depot was built on the site of the present one, but later the building was moved to make way for a new depot. The first freight depot was opened August 20, 1876. The first night train dispatcher and train and yard boss was Fred Simpson.

On October 13 the same year, the first post office was opened in a variety store, located on what now is Sierra Highway. The first postmaster was Robert Trewin.

In 1884 the Santa Fe Railroad arrived, but before that, the town had become first a division point, later a shipping center for Southern Pacific.

The Southern Pacific is credited with designing the original townsite of Mojave. In 1905, it was filed as a subdivision, with 80 foot streets and 25 by 150 foot lots.

Chinese helped expand the community, building a laundry, bakery, store, saloon, gambling house and cafe. A man called Hopkins built the first adobe hotel, and one Ire Johnson built the Arlington, another saloon. The town was rebuilt after a disastrous fire.

In 1884, the town became a terminus for the Twenty Mule teams, which, between 1884 and 1889, brought ore to Mojave for shipment by rail. Mojave was the site of construction of the famed mule team wagons, as J. W. S. Perry's design for them was carried out by J. A. Delameter.

Also during this period (1876), the San Bernardino Borax Company loaded and unloaded at Mojave. In 1881, another company, the Baldheaded Eagle Borax, hauled its ore to Mojave, utilizing 21 teams.

A plaque to the Twenty Mule Teams was dedicated on October 19, 1958 in front of the Kern County Building* on Sierra Highway in Mojave. The plaque reads, “Just west of this point was the Southern Pacific terminus for the Twenty Mule team borax outfits that operated between Death Valley and Mojave from 1884 to 1889. The route ran from the Harmony Borax Mining Company works, later acquired by the Pacific Coast Borax Company, to the railroad (cont'd p 4)





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loading dock in Mojave over 165 miles of mountain and desert trail. A round trip required 20 days. The ore wagons, drawn by 20 animals hauled an ore payload of 20 tons. They were designed by J. W. S. Perry and built in Mojave at a cost of \$900 each. New borax discoveries near Barstow caused the cessation of Mojave shipments.

Another story is the discovery in 1894 of gold near Mojave, which was an added impetus to the town's growth.

Construction of the Los Angeles aqueduct through the area from 1907 to 1913 brought a number of workers into town, and stores supplied the aqueduct camps with merchandise. Early residents, one of whom was Rollo Muller, an aqueduct surveyor, said that the town wasn't much at that time, but had plenty of saloons.

Coming to Mojave in 1906 from England was Mrs. Eliza "Ma" McDonald, who owned a rooming house where many of the aqueduct workers stayed. She and her husband, Daniel, added on to their rooming house to take care of the crews. She said the town was really "wide open" when the aqueduct workers hit the streets on weekends.

Earl Coleman worked for Asher and Company, a general merchandise store, during aqueduct construction. He hauled supplies to the aqueduct camps, and carried along a sack of gold, which he hid among the groceries, so he could cash checks for the workers. He said that to the one school, there were 11 saloons.

Another early resident was Tom Bruce, who worked for the Southern Pacific. He remarked that he had seen the town grow from a town of a few railroaders, that he had watched the aqueduct construction, and had watched "Model T's" being pulled from the mud of main street by teams of horses. Poker games were played for high stakes in gold. At first, railroad workers were paid in gold coin. Water was brought to town in old wooden pipes from Cameron, by the railroad. Some of the old pipe still can be found in the desert northwest of Mojave. After the eras of the railroad construction and operation, the building of the aqueduct, and the dining, the town of Mojave has developed by placing an emphasis on the tourist trade, and development of industry.

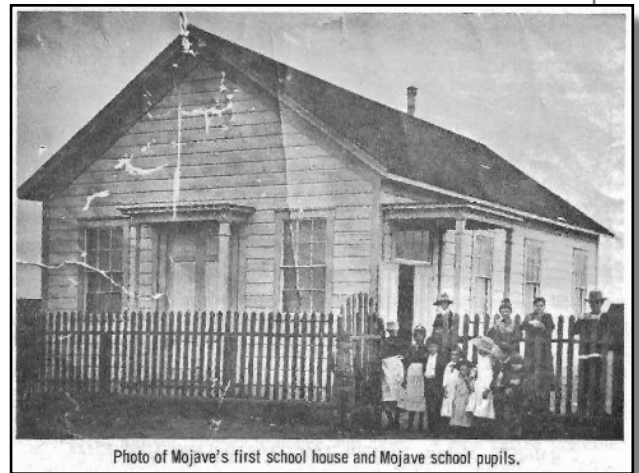
Service stations, motels and restaurants account for a good portion of the economy. In the past decade, California Portland Cement Company, United Carbon, Purdy's, Texas Aluminum and Welke's have opened for business.

Kern County Airport at the east edge of Mojave has over 600 acres leased to companies who plan industrial development.

Schools have grown from the first, single building, to a unified school district of four elementary schools, a junior and senior high school.

In nine years, Mojave will celebrate its centennial, and plans already have been discussed to mark this important event of the community in the Mojave Desert.

* - Note the plaque is directly in front of the Weinershntzel in Mojave currently; not sure of the identity or location of the "Kern County Building".



Visit the website for more information about Antelope Valley history. Copies of recent newsletters are available, as well as other information. Follow us on Facebook for reminders about meetings and other items of historical interest. You can always contact us by email. And check out the KAHS videos which are available on YouTube.

- ★ Website: www.kahs1959.org
- ★ Facebook: www.facebook.com/KAHS1959/
- ★ Email: info@kahs1959.org
- ★ KAHS YouTube Videos: <http://kahs1959.org/Videos/videos.html>






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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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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 You may now use the following cell number for Zelle payments, also: (661) 609-8757.

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*

2022-2023 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
Judy O'Loughlin
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