



Antelope Horn

Newsletter of the Kern-Antelope Historical Society, Inc.
Member of the Conference of California Historical Societies
September, 2024

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: Regular Meeting**
 - ❖ **When: Thursday, September 12 (2nd Thursday)**
 - ❖ **Time: 5:30 pm**
 - ❖ **Where: Rosamond Public Library, Rosamond, CA*****
 - ❖ **Speaker: Video of David Markiewitz On Hardrock Mining, Followed by Live Interview with Terry Burton**
- WEBSITE:** www.kahs1959.org **EMAIL:** info@kahs1959.org
FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/KAHS1959/

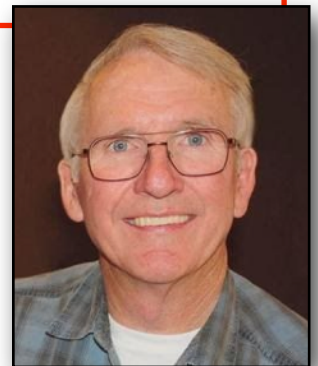
*****Please Note:** due to air conditioning concerns at the Rosamond Library, we **MAY** have to move our meeting to a temporary location (Wayside Chapel Community Church) for the September meeting. At this time we are still planning to meet at the library, but if the AC is not fixed we will relocate. As the meeting gets close, be sure to **watch your email for the latest news.** You can email to info@kahs1959.org for the latest information the week of the meeting.

David L Markiewitz, DDS

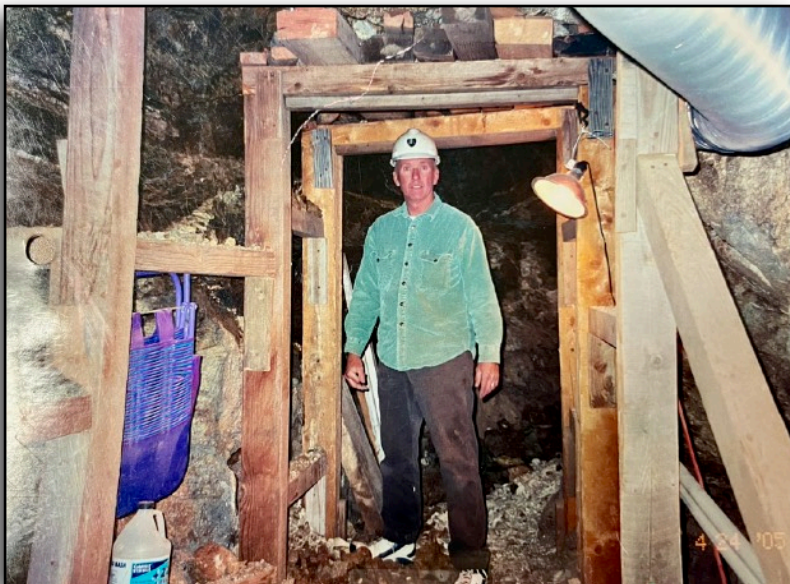
Long-time resident of Tehachapi, Dave Markiewitz, who was born in Mojave, excelled in sports, and became a dentist, had another interest besides fixing peoples' teeth and brightening their smiles. When not in the dental office, Dr. Markiewitz was an avid amateur geologist, lecturer, and underground lode miner holding and working claims in the Mojave Desert and Kelso Valley for nearly 40 years. He used his mining skills and experience to write the highly successful book, *A Fortune in the Desert* in 1985.

At the Sept. 12th meeting, we will be showing a video filmed by Dave's wife about hardrock mining in the Mojave Mining District. Seen in the film will be Markiewitz, his dad Louis Markiewitz and Terry Burton. We think you'll find this very interesting!

In Markiewitz's book, *A Fortune in the Desert*, he provided information on mining techniques so that



Dave Markiewitz



any one interested can learn how to "reap the riches still held within the earth". And Dave gave credit to the one partner he had in mining, his father who was involved in mining for forty-five years in the early to mid 1950's and who passed on his skills to his son. Markiewitz's hope was that the information presented in his book would give people, "whether novices, hobbyists or soon to be seasoned miners, the necessary know-how to become members of a very elite group - the precious metals miners." His book, published in 1985, may be available online at various websites.

- <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/150196243/david-louis-markiewitz>
- Markiewitz, David L. *A Fortune in the Desert Mountains of Wealth Can Be Yours.* Merchants Printing and Lithographing Co., Inc., 1985.



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.



Pictures are from Terry Burton's album. If you would like more information about what is going on, come out Sept 12th, bring your newsletter for reference and have your questions ready for Terry.





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More of the pictures from Terry Burton's album. Terry's dad, Cecil, is at right above, and his grandfather is in the photo above left; taken at Tropic Mill.



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The following article on mining in the Mojave area was printed in 1996 and is one of the books available from the Kern Antelope Historical Society.

MOJAVE - A Rich History of RAILS, MINES and FLIGHT, compiled by Glen A. Settle & Cathy Hansen, published in 1996 to help commemorate Mojave's 120th birthday (1876-1996).

Preface for "Mining History of Mojave Area" by Glen A. Settle: Glen Settle's Mojave mining history is from his knowledge of mining in the Mojave area. He was born in Palmdale, California in 1911. Glen has contributed many stories for past Kern-Antelope Historical Society publications and other mining journals. He was fortunate to know most of the early day miners mentioned in this history.

Pages 30-31:

Mojave Mining History

Early residents of Mojave tell of the local Indians selling trinkets to the passengers while their trains made the water and food stop in Mojave. One of these passengers was a miner by the name of W. W. Bowers. His interest was aroused when he noticed the Native Americans selling Quartz crystals. To a miner this is like waving a "red flag in front of a bull."

After buying some of these crystals and inquiring where they were found, Bowers vowed to return to Mojave, which he did, in 1894.

On March 8, 1894 Bowers made his first gold and silver strike on what was known then as "the Little Buttes," a few miles south of Mojave. It is now known as Standard Hill. Little did Bowers know that 40 years later, one of the largest gold and silver strikes in California would be made on a neighboring hill to the south known as "Soledad Mountain," and it would attract the attention of the entire mining world! Bowers and others mined this area for the next several years.

Soledad Mountain drew many miners that had success finding the precious metals. Such mines as the Elephant Eagle, Karma, Yellow Dog, Standard, Whitmore, Queen Esther, Bobtail, Echo and Gray Eagle, to name a few.

These mines attracted the attention of Jess Knight at the Elephant Eagle, (whose son Goodwin was later to become Governor of the Golden State of California) and H. Clifford Burton of the Yellow Dog, who later with his brother Cecil, became sole owners of the "historic" Tropico Mine near Rosamond.

Clifford's mining knowledge became known throughout the desert mining camps. He had grub staked many gold seeking miners and the two brothers opened their mill at Tropico to all miners needing a place to recover their precious metals.

Soon the Burton Brothers' reputation for quick payment, honest dealings and good mill recovery reached over 400 miners who shipped their valuable ore to the mill.

I can personally thank H. Clifford Burton for helping me learn what knowledge of mining I have. I never tired of hearing his stories about mining here, in Mexico and of his other interesting ventures.



The Wegman's, whose father was Percy, had much success in early mining and in later years, his son Bert. Some of the others who were successful were Bert Fischer, J. Withers, Whitmore, P. O. Paulson and Earl Blickenstaff. From the scrapbooks of the late Clifford Burton and news articles from the *Mojave Record*, the *Los Angeles Times* and the *Examiner*, we can learn much of the interesting tales of the Yellow Dog Mining Company which was located a few miles south of Mojave.

H. Clifford Burton of Yellow Dog and Tropico mining fame at wheel, in 1907, of first Auto Stage - second trip from Mojave to Lone Pine.



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47TH ANNUAL

ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE.

September 21st, 2024

Parade floats line up at Hummel Hall at 7am.

The parade will start at 10 am.

Artisan vendors, sponsors both, food, kids craft area will all be set up along Diamond Street like our Christmas parade.




Note: Last newsletter if you haven't renewed by Sept. 30!

Annual membership fees are due for the 2024-2025 year. THANKS for those who have already renewed, by the way! You can bring cash, a check, or use Zelle if you haven't already paid. See the membership form below, this page, for prices and how to 'zelle', if needed.

Click on the link below for ALL the KAHS videos!



Check out the KAHS videos which are available on YouTube. Or 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.

- ★ Website: www.kahs1959.org
- ★ Facebook: www.facebook.com/KAHS1959/
- ★ Email: info@kahs1959.org

- ★ KAHS YouTube Videos: <http://kahs1959.org/Videos/videos.html>



Kern Antelope Historical Society - Membership Application

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

	Membership Type	Dues	Amount Paid
Name _____	Student/Active 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.



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.

The Kern Antelope Historical Society greatly appreciates its business members. We hope you will support them and say thanks when you see them.

Desert Breeze Enterprises

Don and Chavonne Sladek
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Rosamond Chamber of Commerce



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For Sale by KAHS

Books - \$11 (*\$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*

2024-2025

Executive Board

Officers:

President: Gretchen Winfrey

winfrey3314@yahoo.com

Vice President: Delores Julian

ddjulirosa@yahoo.com

Secretary: Janet Winters

poppiesrme@gmail.com

Co-Treasurers: Char Taylor

Charlannegailtaylor@gmail.com

Lori Cruz

lpartoncruz@gmail.com

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 - 3611 Rosamond Blvd, Rosamond, CA

(Exceptions: June, September & December -

Location to be announced)

Memberships:

\$5 - Student & Active 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. 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