



Antelope Horn

Newsletter of the Kern-Antelope Historical Society, Inc.
Member of the Conference of California Historical Societies
June 2025

Meetings:

Regular Meetings:

- 3rd Tuesday 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 to location.

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

- ❖ What: **Regular Meeting Cancelled for June**
- ❖ In Lieu: **Several Workdays have been scheduled to catalog papers and other items given to KAHS.**

WEBSITE: www.kahs1959.org

EMAIL: info@kahs1959.org

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/KAHS1959/



Happy Flag Day
June 14

This will be an abbreviated newsletter this month, it's mainly to remind you that there will be **no regular meeting in June**. Instead Gretchen has scheduled several work days at her "Barn", the temporary home of all things KAHS, to catalog more of the papers, pictures and other items that have been donated. This also brings up the question of a permanent home for the historical society's growing records of Rosamond history. We would sure like to find a permanent location where items could be displayed, available for research and such. If you know of any available location, be sure to let us know. **And thank you to the members who have volunteered to help in this project!** It is much appreciated.



Also, I want to give you just a bit of **information about our next meeting in September**. The Rosamond library is not scheduled to be open before our meeting and we want to have an fun kickoff meeting anyway. Watch for details in the **September newsletter about a cook-out and did someone mention dutch oven desserts (?) to be held at the Sladeks' Ranch** near 55th Street west. The program itself is yet to be determined, possibly including dutch oven cooking history. Make plans for September 16th (third Tuesday) at 5:30 pm for a tasty and interesting time at the 'Ranch'. Remember to watch for more information and any late changes due to weather, etc.



The following is excerpted from the KAHS book, In Love With Life in LANCASTER_HARD TIMES 1927-1932, by Grace Graham Pickus, as she wrote in 1983 remembering her life during the hard times of the Depression. This excerpt is especially appropriate at this time as the school year is winding down, graduations are taking place, and many kids are having to make decisions about what they will do after high school. Grace Pickus passed away in 2008, at the age of 96. Her descriptions are so interesting.

pp. 76-77

Graduations were held in the high school auditorium, which had a slanted floor, a balcony and a sizable stage with curtains and footlights. Our class was small enough so that we all could be seated on stage. For many years it was customary to have a beautiful blooming stalk of "Lord's Candle" (a type of yucca - jlw) at each side of the stage. I believe this was usually brought up from the Blum Ranch in Acton. A walk across that stage, a cup of punch at the reception in the Girl's Dorm and it was all over—twelve years of school. There was a small roll of parchment paper tied with a purple ribbon to show for it.

The summer after graduation we went swimming in the local reservoirs or drove to the beach. I worked some at the Five and Ten, substituted at the sanitarium on the salad girl's day off, and helped out at home. When school started I did not register at the Junior College as several of my classmates did. Stupidity, a warped kind of pride (if I can't go to USC, I won't go anywhere) or a simple weariness of school may all have contributed to that questionable decision. (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.

Besides, I had a boyfriend who wanted to "go steady" and didn't all girls hope and plan to get married when they got out of school? That was what girls were supposed to want. But I kept track of some of the "kids" (my classmates) and in June of 1932 the Junior College graduated five people. Marie Visser (Mojave), Marjorie Moorman (Littlerock), Winifred Huff (Lancaster), Gordon Pence (Acton), and Joyce Newton (Acton). To quote an optimistic Sandpaper reporter: "Even tho' this is a small beginning, the possibilities of the future are readily imagined."

Due to the deepening Depression in 1933 the Yucca yearbook was a thin booklet containing the activities of the high school and the junior college in a much reduced edition. The college had seven graduates and a total of thirty students. It was the smallest junior college in California, and there was some question if it would be able to continue.

The high school had 140 freshmen, 107 sophomores, 98 juniors and 94 seniors. Four of the 24 high school teachers were also teaching on the college staff. The dormitories were still being used; eight girls and twelve boys were living in the dorms during the last months of the 1933-34 school year. Girls were still wearing uniforms and hemlines, which had been "knee-hi" in 1928 and '29, were going down—just about mid-calf. They would go lower to slightly above the ankle before they went up again, halfway up the thigh in the mini-skirt of the '60's.

Membership Dues for '25-'26 Year

Thanks to so many of you who already paid your dues for the 2025-26 year of membership. Your continued support means so much to us.

Please note that the prices for the coming year have also gone up. (See membership form at bottom of page.) And when paying we would appreciate it if you would fill out a new membership form, or at least confirm that all information is current, so that you continue to receive the newsletter and that we can contact you in an emergency such as when we had to cancel a meeting recently at the last minute.



If you missed our last meeting where we went on a "Road Trip" around Rosamond with Delores Julian and Chavonne Sladek, here is the YouTube link: https://youtu.be/P-YXBQKCbJE. Pack a lunch and enjoy!



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

Name
Mail Address
City, ST, Zip
Phone
Email
Date

Table with 3 columns: Membership Type, Dues, Amount Paid. Rows include Student (\$5), Active Military (\$10), Individual (\$20), Couple (\$25), Family (\$35), Business (\$35).

- Club Year is June 1st through May 31st of the following year; new members, who pay after February 1st, pay only half. Newsletter delivered by email unless mailed version specifically requested.
• Zelle: use either the email or phone number to pay with zelle: info@kahs1959.org or use 661-609-8757.



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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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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*

2025-2026

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:

Third Tuesday 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; \$10—Active Military; \$20—Individual;
\$25—Couple; \$35—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