



Antelope Horn

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

Meetings:

Regular Meetings:

- 3rd Tuesday 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: Tuesday, September 16th (3rd Tuesday)**
- ❖ **Time: 5:30 pm**
- ❖ **Where: Rosamond Public Library, Rosamond, CA**
- ❖ **Speaker: Bob Alvis - Local Train Stations of the Antelope Valley and Their Importance**

WEBSITE: www.kahs1959.org

EMAIL: info@kahs1959.org

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/KAHS1959/

September BBQ & Dutch Oven Cookout Postponed!

We are sorry to announce that, due to circumstances beyond our control, *we have had to postpone the much anticipated cookout at the September meeting. Tentative plans* are to do it at our May meeting. But we have something else ready that should be just as exciting.

First, our speaker will be Bob Alvis! Bob was born in the Antelope Valley and cares greatly about preserving the history and culture of the Antelope Valley. Maybe you have followed his posts on Facebook where he shares much about the history of the Antelope Valley. Bob travels throughout the valley for work and is always on the lookout for things of local historical interest. Some of his recent articles have



been about the Antelope Valley Fair Parade which would have been this week, movies filmed in the AV, Edwards AFB happenings, photos of Tropico Mine & Mill, the Rural Museum and many other things that bring back good memories or inform us of things we never knew.

Bob will sharing some local railroad history with us about the importance of some of the railroad stations in the area.

Secondly, we will be back to meeting at the Rosamond Library! They are a bit ahead of schedule and will open September 2. As stated on their website, "Step inside to explore new books, updated spaces, and programs designed for all ages. Thank you for your patience during this renovation." Our September meeting might be your first chance to check it out.

So make plans to join us:

- **Tuesday, September 16th**
- **We welcome Bob Alvis**
- **Speaking on the The Importance of our Local Train Stations**
- **at 5:30 - 6:45 pm**
- **at the Rosamond Library**

Many people know of the Lancaster (top) and Palmdale (directly above) depots but did you know there was a depot in Rosamond (left).



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.

Some Notable Days in September - important or just for fun.

- **Labor Day** - First Monday in September, honoring workers
- **National Read a Book Day** - September 6th; consider purchasing one of the KAHS books for sale, or one of the recently acquired copies of *Antelope Valley History* (which includes stories of a number of early Rosamond residents) from the West Antelope Valley Historical Society, available for purchase at our next meeting.
- **California Statehood Day** - September 9th, the day California was admitted to the Union as the 31st state
- **International Chocolate Day** - September 13th (a personal favorite)
- **Constitution Day** - September 17th, celebrating the adoption of the United States Constitution in 1787
- **National Cheeseburger Day** - September 18th
- **Autumn Equinox** - September 22nd - the start of Fall
- **National Pancake Day** - September 26th - apparently it started as Lumberjack Day; so set up a tall stack and enjoy some 'johnnycakes'.



Well - do you know what turns 175 years old in a few days - September 9th to be exact? That's right, the State of California. As an 8th grade US history teacher I used to start off the year with a short unit on California history. I told the kids, "Since you get the day off (which we did back then), you need to know something about the history of California and why September 9th is a holiday." It was always a fun study. So I thought it would be worthwhile for us today, even though it's no longer a state holiday. Enjoy the day and think of all those who brought California to statehood from pioneers to priests to politicians and everybody in-between.



California History Timeline

Before independence and statehood, the land of California was claimed by a number of different countries since Europeans first began exploring and settling the western hemisphere. Here are a few key dates and events. Also, what did Paul Revere, American patriot, and President Lincoln have to do with the Bear Flag Revolt?

- After Columbus first claimed America for Spain in 1492, it wasn't long before the Portuguese wanted a share of the new world and the Treaty of Tordesillas was drawn up which divided the **world** in half. Portugal got the eastern portion (basically Portugal in America) and Spain got the western part, including what is now California. By the way, Columbus was never in California, his four New World explorations were all to Central and South America.
- Still, it wasn't until 1521 when Cortés conquered the Aztecs that the Spanish actually began settling the western portion of North America.
- In 1769 the first mission was established in Alta, or Upper, California, as well as the military being sent to protect them, which would lead to the Spanish colonial period here.
- Francis Drake was the first Englishman to sail around the world and he laid claim to California for England in 1579, although they never actually settled or took control of this territory. (The *first* circumnavigation of the globe was by the Magellan and Elcano expedition in 1522.)
- From 1732 to 1867, Russia worked to establish fur trading posts in the Pacific northwest, mainly Alaska. In 1812, Russia came down the Pacific coast and established Ft. Ross in what is now northern California, as an agricultural settlement but, ultimately, it was not successful and Russia sold Ft Ross in 1841.
- In 1821, Mexico became independent from Spain and California became a territory of Mexico. The Mexican government encouraged large cattle ranchos, by offering huge land grants to wealthy Mexicans and Americans who claimed allegiance to Mexico.
- In 1833, the Mexican Secularization Act was passed whereby the missions and the church lost control of their huge land holdings with the intent that it would go to the native people but most of them never received any land.
- In 1846, after hearing that the Republic of Texas had been annexed by the United States, American settlers captured the Mexican garrison at Sonoma in northern California and declared California an independent republic, in what was called the



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.

Bear Flag Revolt because of the flag they raised (designed by William L. Todd) featuring a silhouette of a California grizzly bear. This became known as the "Bear Flag" and was later the basis for the official state flag of California.

- The California, or Bear Flag, Republic actually only existed from June 14, 1846 to July 9, 1846, but served its purpose. On July 5th, Captain John C. Frémont of the United States Army absorbed the "Bear Flaggers" into his California Battalion. And on July 9th U.S. Navy Lieutenant Joseph Revere raised the United States flag in front of the Sonoma Barracks and sent a second flag to be raised at Sutter's Fort whereby the independent California Republic was annexed to into the United States.
- Of course more fighting took place California but eventually the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was signed in February 1848, which marked the end of the Mexican–American War (which had originally started over the Texas border). By the terms of the treaty, Mexico formally ceded Alta California along with its other northern territories east through Texas to the U.S., receiving \$15,000,000 (equivalent to \$545,134,615 in 2024) in exchange.
- With the discovery of gold in 1848 and the Gold Rush taking place in 1849, California quickly needed to establish a strong government, which they did, even before final approval of the U.S. Congress.
- But finally, California was admitted to the union as the 31st state on September 9, 1850.

Some Interesting Facts About the Bear Flag

The "bear flag, designed by William L. Todd, was raised in Sonoma, California, in June 1846 on a date between the 14th and the 17th, by the men who became known as the "Bear Flaggers" . . . William L. Todd was a cousin of Mary Todd Lincoln" who "in an 1878 letter to the Los Angeles Express, states that the star was drawn using blackberry juice and in recognition of the California Lone Star Flag. The bear was designed to be a symbol of strength and unyielding resistance. According to the Sonoma State Historic Park, the construction of the flag was described as such:

"At a company meeting it was determined that we should raise a flag and that it should be a bear en passant [a heraldry term signifying that the bear is walking toward the viewer's left], with one star. One of the ladies at the garrison gave us a piece of brown domestic [unbleached, or "in the brown,"; fabric, was woven in an American factory rather than imported. jlw] and Mrs. Captain John Sears gave us some strips of red flannel about 4 inches . . . wide. The domestic was new, but the flannel was said to have been part of a petticoat worn by Mrs. Sears across the mountains. . . I took a pen, and with ink drew the outline of the bear and star upon the white cloth. Linseed oil and Venetian red were found in the garrison, and I painted the bear and star. . . Underneath the bear and star were printed with a pen the words 'California Republic' in Roman letters. In painting the words I first lined out the letters with a pen, leaving out the letter 'i' and putting 'c' where 'i' should have been, and afterwards the 'i' over the 'c'. [See photo above.] It was made with ink, and we had nothing to remove the marks.

The original Bear Flag and the republic it symbolized had a brief career, from about June 14 until July 9. On July 7, 1846, Commodore John Drake Sloat of the United States Navy's Pacific Squadron first raised the 28-star American flag at Monterey, the capital of Alta California, and claimed the territory for the United States.

Two days later, on July 9, 1846, Navy Lieutenant Joseph Warren Revere [grandson of Paul Revere] arrived in Sonoma and hauled down the Bear Flag, running up in its place the Stars and Stripes. The Bear Flag was given to young John E. Montgomery (son of Commander John B. Montgomery of USS Portsmouth), who would later write in a letter to his mother "Cuffy came down growling"—"Cuffy" being his nickname for the bear on the flag.

The Bear Flag given to young Montgomery returned with USS Portsmouth to the east coast of the U.S. in 1848, but in 1855 was returned to California. The flag was given to California's two senators, John B. Weller and William M. Gwin. This flag was donated to the Society of California Pioneers on September 8, 1855, and was preserved at the Society's Pioneer Halls in San Francisco until it was destroyed on April 18, 1906, in the fires that followed the great San Francisco earthquake. Today, a replica hangs on display in the Sonoma Barracks, or El Presidio de Sonoma. There is also a statue in the plaza at Sonoma, California, commemorating the raising of the flag, the Bear Flag Monument." (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flag_of_California)





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.

Kern Antelope Historical Society Board Members for '25-'26

After the April election of KAHS Board Members, they were installed in May with some fun road signs (provided by Chavonne) which gave hints of their actual jobs.

Standing: Mac McArdle—handles all our video needs, Janet Winters—Secretary, Char Taylor—Co-Treasurer, Gretchen Winfrey—President.

Seated: Chavonne Sladek—Director-at-Large, Judy O’Loughlin—Director-at-Large, Kelly Gonzalez—retiring Treasurer, Delores Julian—Vice President.

Unable to Attend: Lori Cruz—Co-Treasurer & Terry Landsiedel—Director-at-Large.



The Kern Antelope Historical Society was very saddened by the recent loss of two of our KAHS members.

Bill Deaver and his family were founding members and very supportive of the Kern Antelope Historical Society for many years. Bill has also been a Life Member for many years, in honor of his contributions to the association. He passed way several months ago.

Kathy Nelson was a very supportive member who passed away in May. She could always be relied on to help wherever needed, especially at special events like our Willow Springs meetings. Kathy was friendly and quick to lend a hand.



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 _____

Membership Type	Dues	Amount Paid
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.



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.

THE TIRE STORE
 1816 Rosamond Blvd.
 Rosamond, CA 93560
 (661) 256-TIRE (8473)
 Fax (661) 256-8476

PRICES ARE BORN HERE AND RAISED ELSEWHERE

DAVE BRAGG & NICK ROGHAIR
 Owners
 ESTEBAN MARAVILLAS
 Manager

www.tirestoreav.com

TV LAND REAL ESTATE

Terry V. Landsiedel
 License # 01021751

phone: 661-256-8141
 cell: 661-202-6444

PO Box 1467
 Rosamond CA 93560

Jeremy A. Woods, Ph.D.
 Associate Professor of Management
 Management & Marketing
 Faculty Director, Center for Entrepreneurship
 & Innovation (CEI)

School of Business and Public Administration
 California State University, Bakersfield
 Mail Stop: 20 BDC | BDC- A 136
 9001 Stockdale Highway
 Bakersfield, CA 93311

661.654.3961
 213.400.0829
jwoods7@csub.edu
www.csub.edu/cei

Barbones Print Shop

ONE SHOP
 MANY OPTIONS...

MARK PRESTON
 661.755.6350
mpreston.bbapparel@gmail.com

- APPAREL, HATS & ACCESSORIES
- LOGO DESIGN & BRANDING
- EZ-UP SHELTERS, FLAGS & BANNERS
- EMBROIDERY, SCREEN PRINT & SUBLIMATION
- BUSINESS CARDS, FLYERS, SIGNAGE
- DECALS, PENS, MAGNETS, BAGS & MORE

CUSTOM DESIGNS
 QUALITY PRODUCTS
 COMPETITIVE PRICES

Desert Breeze Enterprises

Don and Chavonne Sladek
 Owners/Hosts

tel. (661) 256-4409
 Rosamond, CA 93560
dbe2016@icloud.com

Contact us for help with business travel
www.airbnb.com/rooms/5571552

JOHN STICKEL

Expert AUTOMOTIVE, INC.

TAKE YOUR CAR TO THE EXPERTS

(661) 256-0405
 FAX (661) 256-2060
 2951 DIAMOND ST. ROSAMOND, CA 93560

Do it Best KARLS HARDWARE

2700 Diamond St.
 Rosamond CA, 93560
 Phone: (661) 256-3985
 Fax: (661) 256-3932

Eric Landsgaard
 President

karlbest@sbcglobal.net

melchers construction Lic. 955132

QUALITY CONSTRUCTION · REASONABLE RATES · SINCE 1984

Gene R. Melchers
 General Contractor

2654 Diamond Street · PO Box 1468 · Rosamond, CA 93560
melchersconst@sbcglobal.net

661-810-0327 · melchersconstruction.net

RAMON'S restaurant
 A taste of Mexico

GRACIAS
 THE LOPEZ FAMILY

(661) 256-4602
 1431 Rosamond Blvd Ste 9 & 10
 Rosamond CA 93560

HYDROSTOR

ADVANCED COMPRESSED AIR ENERGY STORAGE

ROBERTO'S MEXICAN FOOD

~Wednesday~
 Dinner Buffet from
 4pm - 8pm

4401 Rosamond Blvd.
 Suite 5 & 6
 Rosamond, CA 93560

661.256.2607

Rosamond Chamber of Commerce

Rosamond News
 Newspaper · Direct Mail · Web · Email · YouTube

27,000 people
 93560

Since 1986

We go to everybody here

2696 Sierra Hwy · P.O. 848 · 93560

SLADE COURT SERVICES
 Kem UDA 35 & PS 341

EVICIONS & SERVING
 Get Rid of BAD Guys/Gals

15874 SIERRA HWY
 MOJAVE, CA 93501
 661-342-0213 Michele
prplnut@aol.com
 661-824-2578 Chris

For Sale by KAHS

KAHS Books - \$11 (*\$9):

*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*

WAVHS Books - \$20 (*\$18)

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