



# Antelope Horn

Newsletter of the Kern-Antelope Historical Society, Inc.  
Member of the Conference of California Historical Societies  
February, 2026

## 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.

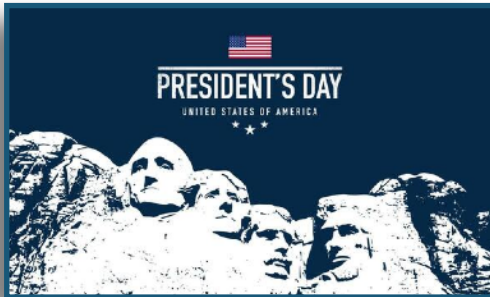
## Hello to all our Kern Antelope Historical Society Members and Friends.

- ❖ **What: Regular Meeting**
- ❖ **When: Tuesday, February 17th (3rd Tuesday)**
- ❖ **Time: 5:30 pm**
- ❖ **Where: Rosamond Public Library, Rosamond, CA**
- ❖ **Speaker: Ben Stewart - "From Tap to Toilet"**

WEBSITE: [www.kahs1959.org](http://www.kahs1959.org)

EMAIL: [info@kahs1959.org](mailto:info@kahs1959.org)

FACEBOOK: [www.facebook.com/KAHS1959/](http://www.facebook.com/KAHS1959/)



## Honoring our Founding Father - George Washington - on Presidents' Day

Presidents' Day, officially Washington's Birthday at the federal governmental level, is a holiday in the United States celebrated on the third Monday of February. It is often celebrated to honor all those who served as presidents of the United States and, since 1879, has been the federal holiday honoring Founding Father George Washington, who led the Continental Army to victory in the American Revolutionary War, presided at the Constitutional Convention of 1787, and served as the first U.S. president from 1789 to 1797.

## "From Tap to Toilet" with Ben Stewart

Interesting title - as you can probably imagine, it will have something to do with WATER. And it sounds like our speaker, Ben Stewart, is well prepared to talk about the subject. Ben possesses nearly two decades of professional experience in the Wastewater Collections and Reclaimed Water industry. Prior to accepting the position of Assistant General Manager of Rosamond Community Services District, he served for over seventeen years with the City of Lancaster Utility Services Department. In his role as a supervisor, he was responsible for overseeing fifteen field personnel charged with maintaining the city's four hundred thirty-four miles of sewer infrastructure, the entire storm drain system—including fourteen Storm Drain lift stations—and approximately fifteen miles of reclaimed water pipeline supported by two pump stations.

He has a number of certifications that show he is well qualified in the treatment of water: State of California Water Distribution Operator Grade 2, State of California Water Treatment Operator Grade 2, California Wastewater Environmental Assoc. – Collections Grade 4 and California Wastewater Environmental Assoc. – Environmental Compliance Inspector Grade 1.

But in addition to these professional qualifications, Ben was born and raised in Rosamond, his family having come to town in 1957. He is also the proud father of three sons and is married to his loving wife - Sarah. He credits his family with instilling a deep need to provide service to the community that has given him so much. And, as he said, "I wouldn't be where I am without our grandma, my mother or my family. Oh, and by the way his mother, Kelly Gonzalez, and his grandmother, Delores Julian, are members of the Kern Antelope Historical Society. Be sure to make mark your calendar for February 17th to hear Ben on "From Tap to Toilet".





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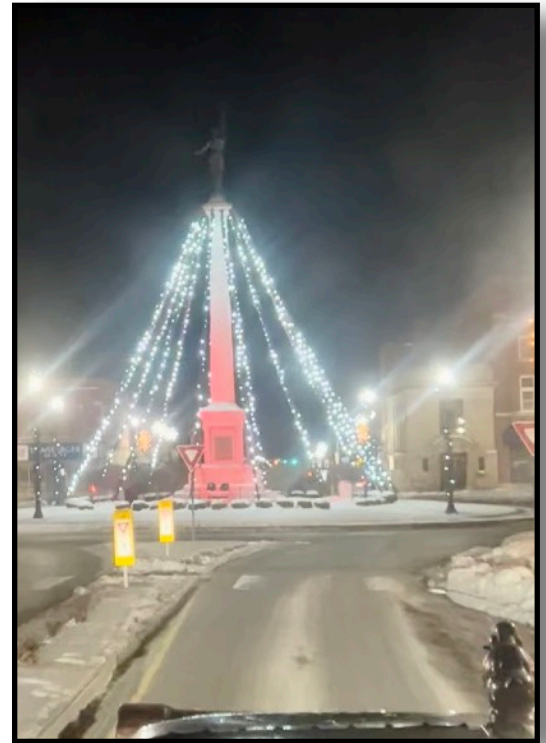
**STEBEN COUNTY SOLDIERS' MONUMENT**

Recently my nephew was hauling cattle and passed through Angola, Indiana, on a cold, wintry night in December and sent a picture to us as this location was near where my husband, Rae, was raised. Besides the snow and Christmas lights, I found the history of the monument, itself, to be interesting. If you have traveled through towns in the east, you may have noticed lots of monuments honoring Civil War heroes. But what if it was a small town which couldn't afford a personalized commissioned piece cast in bronze or sculpted stone? Well, there was a company which helped and this memorial in Angola is an example of the company's products.

**In the middle of Angola's impressive historic downtown stands Steuben County's most important piece of public art: The Soldiers' Monument.**

In 1916 the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic asked the county commissioners to build a monument to honor those who had served in the Civil War fifty years earlier. This was agreed to and the granite, four-sided column on a square base was completed the following year and a grand dedication ceremony was held in September of 1917 with parades, speeches, patriotic decorations, etc.

On the monument are bronze plaques with the names of the 1278 men of Steuben County who served, including the 280 who perished, in the war. There are also inscriptions chiseled in to the side of the monument including a quote from Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, praise of the women's courage who persevered on the home front, and other information.



*The Soldiers' Monument Angola, ID, decorated for Christmas; photo courtesy of Cory Ridgway.*



*"Peace" - at the top of the Soldiers' Monument in Angola.*

There are also five statues that decorate the monument. The largest, at the top of the column, is a classically robed female figure holding a wreath with her outstretched left hand and supporting a flag draped on an eighteen foot pole with her right hand. This statue is officially named "Peace" and watches over the community. (She is barely visible at the top in the picture above, right.) Four life-sized statues depict servicemen representing the different branches of military service. An infantryman with his rifle and pack-roll is at one corner. Another corner has the sailor who is holding an oar in one hand and shields his eyes from glare with his other hand. And an artilleryman holds his unholstered side arm in his right hand and a long pole with the cannon sponge in his left. At the fourth corner is a cavalryman wearing a Hardee hat\* and spurs with his drawn, curved-blade saber ready for whatever.



*The infantryman with his rifle and pack-roll.*



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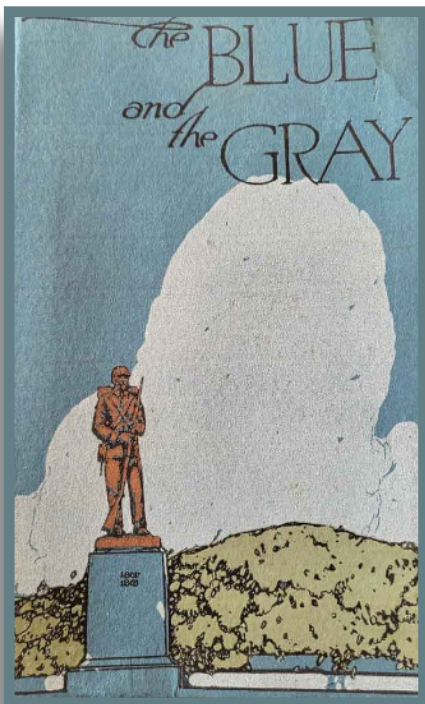
The watchful sailor with his oar.



The artillery man with his sidearm and cannon sponge.



The cavalry man with his Hardee hat\*, spurs & saber.



All five of these pieces were made of hollow stamped bronze, a new, less expensive technique at the time, and purchased from the W. H. Mullins Company of Salem, Ohio. Many small towns were able to afford these mass-produced statues to honor their war-time heroes. The company even produced a catalog in 1913 featuring their offerings. Of course it was possible to purchase a statue of a famous war hero like General Robert E. Lee or Major Joseph M. Morehead, but, by far, the most popular designs were anonymous figures in service uniforms. This forty-two page catalog was titled "The Blue and The Gray" The cover shows a Union Soldiers' Monument in Rushville, Indiana, and is the same design as the infantryman on the Steuben County Monument.

This quote from the foreword of the Mullins Catalog best describes the importance of such monuments:

*"Books of adventure and history, that record men in their deeds of heroism, may remain on their shelves, unopened to the present, younger generation, and those to come.*

*Flowers, on the mounds of the now silent heroes, wither and fade away.*

*But the permanent memorials that the living heroes erect, in commemoration of their deeds, and those of their fallen comrades, will withstand time and all elements.*

*They will stand in silence, but a visual reminder to this, and coming generations; to the throngs that pass in the activities of peace, who will remember and reverence, for all time, those who fought and fell in war."*

<https://visitsteubencounty.com/blog/steuben-county-soldiers-monument/>



\* "The Hardee hat, also known as the Model 1858 Dress Hat and sometimes nicknamed the "Jeff Davis", was the regulation dress hat for enlisted men in the Union Army during the American Civil War. The Hardee hat was also worn by Confederate soldiers." It was named after William J. Hardee, who served in the Union army from 1838-1861 when he resigned his commission and joined the Confederate Army.

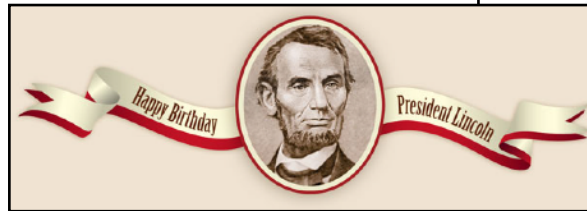


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Can you match up the actual dates for these famous, or just fun, February days:

- February 2nd
- February 9th
- February 12, 1809
- February 14th
- February 16, 2026
- February 22, 1732



**NOTE: March Meeting - NEW special reminder**  
 Due to health issues our scheduled March speaker is no longer able to come speak to us at all in March. The March meeting has been moved back to the **REGULAR, third TUESDAY, meeting night.**  
**March 17th! Watch for the February newsletter for information on the topic.**

**Barbara Schultz: Women's Role in Aviation History - Youtube Video**

We were so happy to have Barbara Schultz return and present her program on the history of women in aviation. If interested, here is the link to her program: <https://youtu.be/D-p4NHdplI>. As always, she did a super job! Thanks Barbara.

You can go to our website, or just click on the link below, to check out our other informative YouTube 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](http://www.kahs1959.org)
- ★ Facebook: [www.facebook.com/KAHS1959/](https://www.facebook.com/KAHS1959/)
- ★ Email: [info@kahs1959.org](mailto: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 \_\_\_\_\_

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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](mailto: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

### **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](http://www.kahs1959.org) **EMAIL:** [info@kahs1959.org](mailto: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**

Home Address