

# T'epot'aha'l

The People of the Salinan Tribe

Photo courtesy of Mary Ann Pierce

Vol. 14 No. 1

January, 2014

## Winter Solstice

The weather this year for the winter solstice was cool and clear with no wind. Don Pierce Jr. lead a group of tribal members to the top which included Crystal Pierce, Rita Tavernetti and her son Joshua and daughter Brook. As always there was good food and great company as we honored those who came before us by sharing our traditions, stories and songs.



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### 2013 Tribal Election Results

Your Tribal Council for 2014 will remain the same with all incumbents being voted back in.

241 letters went out announcing that we are now excepting letters of intent to run for the five council seats and two elder seats. They were mailed out to baseroll members who were 30 years of age or older on or before 11-21-13. Out of the 241 eligible tribal members to run for a council seat only seven nominations came in and all seven were from existing council seat members running to keep their seats.

317 Ballots 42 of which included elder ballots, were mailed out to all baseroll members who would be 18 years of age or older on or before 11-21-13. Only three ballots were returned with no forwarding address. Out of the 314 Ballots mailed out 92 were returned. Out of the 42 elder ballots mailed out 21 were returned.

All seven council members running to keep their seats were reelected with all receiving 80% of the votes from the ballots returned.

Here is your Tribal Council for 2014: Contemporary Lead, Gary Pierce. Traditional Lead, John Burch. Elder Council Seats, Yvonne Ayala and John Piatti. Council Seats, Dayna Sciocchetti, Mary Rodgers, Fredrick Segobia, George Burch, Yvonne Davis, Pam Flood, Rick Laguna, Sharon Thomas, Bruce Flood and Susan Latta.

Patti Dunton, Tribal Administrator

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We have new Phone and Fax Numbers please note the new numbers, **Phone: 805-464-2650 Fax: 805-464-2651**

### Notice!!!

We will be mailing our newsletters electronically for those who have email addresses registered with the tribal office. Please notify the tribal office if you don't want your newsletter emailed. For those who do not have a computer or email address you will receive the newsletters through the postal service as usual. This will help keep our tribal expenses down.

**[www.salinantribe.com](http://www.salinantribe.com)**

## *A Point of Thanksgiving*

The location I am writing this piece from is the Morango Casino & Conference Center in Palm Springs, California. Alaska sent me to hear the latest words on what native educators feel is important for Native Youth to ready them for our changing world tomorrow. I sit reflecting on new thoughts I hear coming from others in Native land. I send prayers of thanks knowing decision I make forward will now include new understanding I gain from spiritual and educational encounters over these past 5 days. I had just returned from visiting home over Thanksgiving before I hopped this plane, allowing one week, again to be back in Salinan heartland, making a total of 15 days I learned new native insights.

My brother, Edward and I couldn't get off the plane quick enough back into our 65-70 degree weather, Santa Ana winds and rolling hills; leaving behind Alaska's minus temperatures to drive through Salinan heartland, over Ferguson Road to our coastline, re-connecting with the land, smells and sights we love.

Our first stop was to Pleyto Cemetery, paying respect to relatives, watching Deer, Turkey, Quail, snipping off some Mistel toe, scanning the area for a large pinecone to take to my grandson upon my return to Alaska land where only miniature size ones grow. As we left that place of peace, as most times when we visit, there were three deer sitting up on the hillside, watching down on the graves.

On our travels, we visited San Antonio Mission to view the Native Grave Restoration project. We came to pay our respect not only to our Ancestors but to the people within our tribe who feel this is an important restoration project. I was struck first by the sheer size of the project. Second, as I walked the area, I reflected on the varying opinions about the support (or lack of support) for the project.

I choose to view the project in comparison to the Pleyto Cemetery visit, seeing the people who took part in both restorations as coming from a place of 'good heart'. Pleyto Cemetery now has a fence around its parameters keeping deer and other animals we used to love seeing close to the grave from mingling close to the restful place. I really never liked that fence, it made the place feel less welcoming to me and I used to rationalize how our Ancestors liked animal visits. Then I remembered older history; a time when some of those now resting in their current location were originally buried in land now under the waters of San Antonio Lake. I could not help feeling I, again, was being educated on native spirituality.

What is the difference between a 'modern' cemetery and the efforts of 'good hearted' people to protect and preserve that sacred location, made sacred in my heart because it holds my Ancestors, verses efforts of others with 'good heart' who now work to protect and preserve an older 'historically sacred' location? Both locations may not have been the first choice of both sets of Ancestors; however, both final resting places have been disturbed by society changes through history?

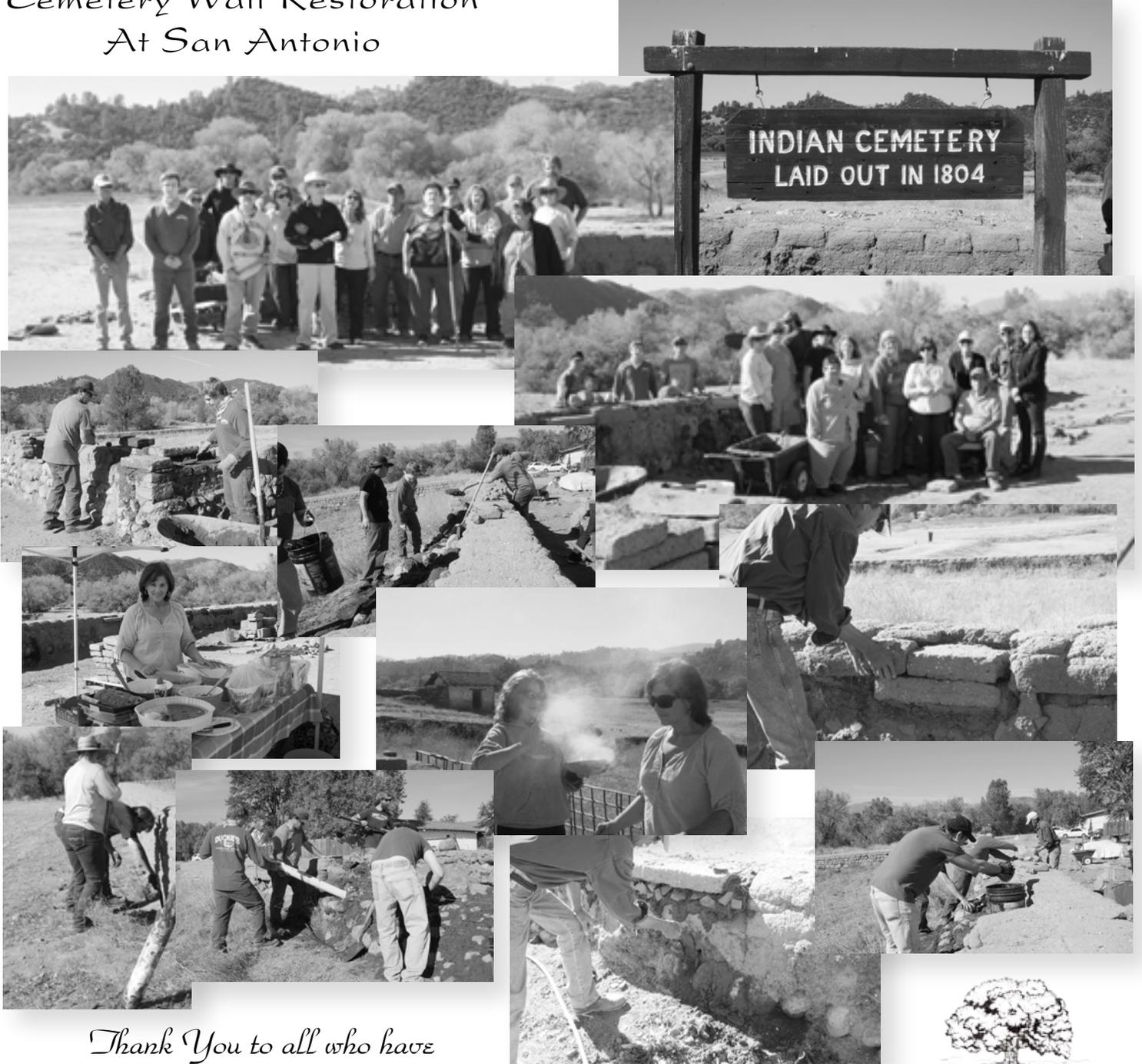
Adaline Padilla, a Chumash Wise Woman I had the pleasure of working with in the 1990's to repatriate a large number of Ancestral remains that were found, turned in and stored many years in SLO County's Corners Office gave me an answer I call upon many time to answer the above question. Upon my questioning each step of the process to ensure I was making my decisions in a native spiritual correct manner, she said, "Bonnie, as you grow in understanding so does your education, what you learn changes and affects the decisions you make. Life is a journey of education and lessons. As you travel it do so with your best intent, and what you do with a good heart, will not be wrong for that time."

I give thanks again to Bruce Flood and our people 'with good heart' working to preserve & protect Salinan people.

*Happy Holidays from North Camp*

# Cemetery Wall Restoration At San Antonio

Photographs Courtesy of Mary Ann Pierce



*Thank You to all who have  
helped with the Restoration Project*



**Big thanks** to Susan Wood (Nowakowski). She donated a copy of an interview with Salinan Elder Pedro Encinales from 1910. She happened to come across it at the Phoebe Hearst Museum while doing her own research on Ethnographers and their work in California.

## **San Miguel Mission Museum Exhibit**

The Mission is redoing the Museum. They have asked us to help with the Salinan Exhibit. We need help with building 1/4 of a Tule hut which will sit against the wall in one corner of the room. If you would like to help with gathering the materials or with building of the hut leave a message at the tribal office 805-464-2650 or email at [info@salinantribe.com](mailto:info@salinantribe.com).

**January general meeting will be Sunday the 12th at Mission San Miguel. We will be meeting in a new room so ask in the gift shop where we will be.**

## Education

Please join us on Saturday, April 5th, 2014 for a day of learning about Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. This day will be set aside for students, families, and elders to come and tour our campus, meet with faculty, staff, and current students. We would like to host you for lunch and offer information sessions on admissions, financial aid, and student projects and activities.

In addition, we will have sessions on the status of American Indian education, finding a cultural home at Cal Poly, and addressing concerns and needs for your students, families, and community.

We hope to see you at this inaugural event on April 5th! Please feel free to contact us with questions. We will send a formal invitation to you after the first of the year.

Sincerely,

Annie Holmes and Staci Shoals  
Office of University Diversity and Inclusivity

Dr. Jenell Navarro and Dr. Kate Martin  
American Indian and Indigenous Faculty Staff Association  
Department of Ethnic Studies

Linda Billey and Linda Murray  
Central Coast Elders Council



Our non-profit group; Salinan Heritage Preservation Association is part of the Salinan Tribe. This is a public non-profit. Inquiries regarding financial reports are granted by submitting your request in writing to council lead, Gary Pierce.

**We have added a new page to the Tribal Web Site for stories from tribal members. We hope this inspires you to send us stories of your family so we can place them on the site. <http://www.salinantribe.com>**

## Tribal updates

### Obamacare Information

Two links that make it clear that we as tribal member that qualify for tribal health care are exempt from the Obamacare. The second link states that those who wish to take the exemption will have to file for it in early 2014. Important information for tribal members before you sign up for and pay for something you can't afford, don't want, or possibly need. check the sites out

Listed as #4 on Forbes Mag website on exemptions - <http://www.forbes.com/sites/mikepatterson/2013/10/28/obamacare--penalties-and-exemptions/>

This is from the Alaskan Native Health Consortium explains how to apply for the exemption <http://anthctoday.org/aca/#exemption>

### Tribal Office Hours

**The office will only be open one day a week. So be patient when leaving a message or email. We will get back to you as soon as possible. Or if it is an emergency you can always call a council member.**

Check out the Salinan website for job opportunities at: [www.salinantribe.com](http://www.salinantribe.com) On The Upcoming Events Page.

## Tribal Members

### From the editor: We Need Information for the Monthly Newsletter!

We only put in the newsletter what we receive, If information needs to be announced you need to get it to us. If anyone has important or interesting information that you want to share with the tribe Please Write, E-mail the office, or contact Ken at 559-392-1950 with any articles by the 15th of the month for the upcoming Newsletter. All photographs must be original scanned and sent to [pgi@sti.net](mailto:pgi@sti.net) we will not use copy machine pictures. Check us out at: [pgigraphics.com](http://pgigraphics.com)

### Business Meeting Protocol

Tribal business meetings start at 6:30 pm The first 10 minutes are reserved for open comment from tribal members or can be used by council members for input on a personal matter that they may want to bring before the council. To reserve this time you must call the Tribal office by Monday before the next business meeting. If the matter needs further attention it will be put on the agenda for the following week or when time allows.

## Tribal Sponsors



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WWW.PGIGRAPHICS.COM KEN & MARY ANN PIERCE  
PGI@STI.NET 559.392.1950

**Tribal Hats**  
**Colors :**  
**Forest Green and Black**  
The hats are in the Tribal Office,  
for those who want to purchase them.  
If you are interested contact the  
Tribal Office at: 805-464-2650

### How do you get an ad on the Salinan Tribal Sponsor Page?

It's easy. Send your card or ad along with a donation of \$40.00 to the Salinan Tribal Office. Your ad will be placed in our quarterly newsletter for one year . If you wish to send a donation check for \$90.00. your ad will be placed in the quarterly newsletter and on the web site for one year.

**[www.salinantribe.com](http://www.salinantribe.com)**

*We have new T-Shirts \$15.00 ea. For colors and sizes call 805-464-2650 or Email: [info@salinantribe.com](mailto:info@salinantribe.com)*



*We will also have T-Shirts at all general meetings for purchase.*

*Thank you for your support, all purchases help with Tribal needs and events.*

**GET YOUR  
BUMPER STICKER !**

**\$5<sup>00</sup> EA.**

Salinan Tribe  
7070 Morro Rd.#A  
Atascadero, CA 93422  
Address Service Requested (507.4.2)

Presorted  
Standard  
US Postage Paid  
Atascadero, CA  
Permit No. 37

**REMEMBER TO PRAY TO kensha:nel (CREATOR) TO keeheak (PROTECT) ALL lu wa' (MEN) AND lets'e (WOMAN) SERVING IN THE WAR. AND BRING THEM Ta'ma (HOME) SAFE.**

## Vision of the Salinan Tribe

We, as the Salinan Tribe, follow the way of our ancestors as we walk the path of our heritage toward becoming complete individuals. We exercise our rights as a sovereign entity. We continue to reawaken our culture. Each and every tribal member has an equal voice.

We, as the Salinan Tribe, commit to honoring the rights of each and every tribal member to practice our spiritual, individual, or religious beliefs. We remember and honor our ancestors, elders, and children now and for all generations to come.

We as the Salinan Tribe, continue to gather as a tribal family.



Tribal Office 7070 Morro Road, #A Atascadero, CA 93422  
 Phone: 805-464-2650 Fax: 805-464-2651 Email: info@salinantribe.com

# January 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 <b>Tribal Business meeting 6:30pm</b>	2 Happy Birthday Elder Martiniana Roger	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 *General Meeting at Mission San Miguel	13	14	15 <b>Tribal Business meeting 6:30pm</b>	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Happy Birthday Elder Donald Pierce Happy Birthday Elder Allen Duckworth	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
Tribal business meetings are the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month						

**\* General Meeting at Mission San Miguel**

**We will be meeting in a new room so ask in the gift shop where we will be.**

**2014 Events at Mission San Antonio**

**Sunday January 26th 2014 10-3pm "Cutting of the Roses and Spaghetti Dinner"**

**Saturday April 5, 2014 11-3pm "Mission Days"**

**Sunday June 8th, 2014 11-4pm "Feast of St. Anthony"**



Traditional Lead:

**John Burch**

(805) 235.2730

info@salinantribe.com

Contemporary Lead:

**Gary Pierce**

(805) 466.6458

tinker119@tcsn.net

Elder Council:

**Yvonne Ayala**

(831) 385-6600

**John Piatti Sr.**

(559) 473-8292

**Yvonne Davis**

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**Pam Flood**

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**George Burch**

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**Susan Latta**

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**Mary Rodgers**

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**Bruce Flood**

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(805) 903-3089 (cell)

**Rick Laguna**

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**Fredrick Segobia**

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