

# T'epot'aha'l

The People of the Salinan Tribe

Vol. 10 No. 1

January 2010

Charlie Pierce  
1915-2009

After cremation, a small gathering of immediate family held a tribal service for Charlie Pierce at the graveside of his wife, Gwendolyn, in Los Osos.

Born Sept. 6, 1915 to Edward Romeo Pierce and Katherine Frances McCormack Pierce in Pleyto, a small community where his father had a blacksmith shop in Monterey County. Charlie died at the Bayside Care Center in Morro Bay Dec. 6, 2009.

Charlie was a respected tribal elder in the Salinan Tribe of San Luis Obispo and Monterey counties. As a tribal member, he participated in most tribal functions, enjoying the gatherings with family at Mission San Antonio de Padua and other locations. He loved to be with his family.

During his 94 years he had many occupations; hog farming as a young boy, mining gold with his grandfather and father, abalone diving and processor of abalones with his brothers and cousins, paving roads with his brother Walter and a millwright in Darwin and various places in Nevada. Charlie began his own ore drilling business, drilling in the Owens Valley and other places in California, Colorado, Nevada and Arizona. Mining for gold on his own claims was one of his favorite things to do. He also liked fishing, hunting, crafting birdhouses and apple-head Indian dolls, gardening, and gambling.

"Charlie never met a casino he didn't like," the family said. "He will be dearly missed."

He was preceded in death by his wife, Gwendolyn Sylva Pierce; daughter, Beverly Pierce Radke; brothers, Arthur, William, Adrian, Leslie, Edward, Walter and Ernest Pierce; sisters, Bessie Pierce Martin, June Pierce Timmerman and Gertrude Pierce Montgomery Beech.

Charlie is survived by his son, Gary Pierce; daughters, Suzanne Pierce Taylor, Janice Pierce Cooper and Joan Pierce; and numerous nephews, nieces, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.



# Tribal updates

Since 2008, when the Tribal Council voted to reinstate Cultural Resource monitoring and consulting through our tribal non profit Salinan Heritage Preservation Association, we have been able to bring in much needed funds along with providing direction to outside agencies when it comes to our culture. Although construction is down, the Nacimiento Water Project, now completed, was a big job and a big responsibility for us. Along with three other small jobs in 2009 we keep pretty busy monitoring and consulting. In 2009 we brought in almost \$40,000.00 in which we paid out 55% or about \$22,000.00 to our monitors and consultants, leaving about \$18,000.00 for the tribe. It has provided us insurance for our events. It has helped us put on our monthly general meetings along with our annual gathering and other events. It has also helped keep our monthly newsletter going. By: Gary Pierce, Tribal Contemporary Lead.

The January 10th general meeting will be held in the auditorium at the Morro Bay Museum.

The Agenda;

12:00 noon Potluck

1:00 pm Old Business:

A. Winter Solstice

B. Caledonia Adobe Display

Financial Report:

A. Bank Balance

New Business:

A. Morro Bay Museum Display

More Agenda Items will be on the web at: [salinatribe.com](http://salinatribe.com)



The Salinan Tribe would like to thank Vonnie Villa for her time spent as newsletter editor! Write or email the office with any articles for the newsletter!

Ken & Mary Ann Pierce of PGI Graphics will be taking over as our newsletter editors. To better serve the Salinan Tribe with quality newsletters we have some requirements! We need all information into the tribal office no later than the 15th of each month, if not received by the 15th it will be added to the next 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: [pgigraphx.com](http://pgigraphx.com)



**Tribal Opportunity** to sell traditional and contemporary items at the San Luis County Museum. Dan Carpenter, Museum financial director is looking for tribal members interested in selling their traditional or contemporary items in the museum gift shop. The museum is willing to buy or consign your items. He is wanting to honor the Native Americans of this area. If you are interested please call Dan at 805-543-0638 ext.12 and he will set up a meeting with you and the museum's buyer. What a great opportunity to educate the public about the people of the Salinan Tribe.

## 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 updates continued

Lesamo



This year's Winter Solstice was just wet, but continued as planned. Except for one thing; no one ascended the Rock for safety reasons. We did have two profound guests show up however, as well as our Friends. As the sun set, we lit up the wishing rock of light. Many thanks to those who helped make this a warm, safe, and well fed event.

John Burch, Traditional Lead



Wishing rock of light



Members should make each meeting a Priority

I think that tribal members should not only depend on the newsletter for all their information in regards to what is happening in the Tribe. I believe that if you can attend general meetings, you should. Tribal members need to remember that the elected council is here for you. If you have any questions or concerns about something you might have heard and need clarification, you should feel comfortable about calling your council members, or the Tribal office.

By: George Burch, Council member and Elder.





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## Tribal Sponsors

*The New World Baroque Orchestra*  
*of The San Luis Obispo Early Music Consortium John Warren, Artistic Director*

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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 \$25.00 to the Salinan Tribal Office.

Your ad will then be placed here for 3 months. If you wish to place the ad for a year you may do so by sending a donation check for \$90.00. Ads are also placed on the Tribal website at **www.salinantribe.com**

*We have new T-Shirts \$15.00 ea. Call Tribal office for colors and sizes 805.460.9202*



*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.**

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# January 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
Tribal business meetings are the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			Tribal Business meeting			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
General Meeting						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
			Tribal Business meeting			Happy Birthday Elder Don Pierce
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

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## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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.

