

T'epot'aha'l

The People of the Salinan Tribe

Photo courtesy of Mary Ann Pierce

Vol. 12 No. 3

July, 2012

Ancestors resting in their native land once again!



Traditional Lead John Burch & Dr. June Jones at LAX with the Ancesters



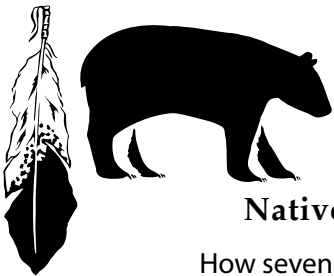
John Burch, Dr. Jones & Elder George Burch at Annual BBQ



From left to right
Rosanne Maxwell,
John Burch,
Dr. Jones & Chris Molina
at the Annual BBQ



Birmingham University Medical and Dental College



Native American skulls repatriated to California from England

How seven skulls from a California tribe got to the University of Birmingham is unclear.
But their return appears to be the first event of its kind in the state.

By Steve Chawkins, Los Angeles Times
May 20, 2012

Nobody thought much about the locked metal cabinet in the medical school at the University of Birmingham in the United Kingdom. It was another forgotten fixture in the anatomy department until a researcher last year found seven skulls with yellowing labels indicating the remains were those of Native Americans from California's Central Coast.

Earlier this month, the skulls and several bone fragments were boxed and gingerly placed aboard a jet to LAX at London's Heathrow Airport. In a quiet ceremony, they were reburied in San Luis Obispo County, more than a century after their odyssey began.

"They didn't volunteer to leave the U.S.," said John Burch, a spiritual leader of the tiny Salinan tribe. "They were kidnapped, and now they're home."

Continued on pg 2

Repatriation, the return to tribes of indigenous bones and artifacts, is not always a smooth road. A 1990 federal law, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, calls for museums and other institutions to give remains and relics back to federally recognized tribes that request them. The process, however, is cumbersome for tribes and frustrating for scientists who believe certain items should remain accessible for study.

The act and similar state laws do not apply to foreign institutions. Still, the University of Birmingham, among others, sees repatriation as "a moral choice," said June Jones, a bioethicist in the university's School of Medical and Dental Sciences. The school also is returning aboriginal bones to Australia and Maori bones to groups in New Zealand.

"This is an honor," Jones said. "It's all about respect for cultures and beliefs, even if they don't happen to be ours."

How and when the Salinan bones got to Birmingham is unknown. The only clues came from the handwritten labels: "Dug from a grave near Avila, San Luis Obispo County, California by R.W. Summers."

Summers was an Episcopal minister in San Luis Obispo from 1881 until his death in 1898. He was also an avid amateur archaeologist who assembled an extensive collection of Native American relics.

In his journals, he wrote of finding skeletons and "ornaments of stone, bone and shell ... placed in the grave by loving hands, that the departed warrior might appear well in the happy spirit-land." Some believe he also may have acquired bones from workers who were excavating for railroad tracks.

Summers' collection wound up with his friend, a British clergyman and fellow archaeology buff named Selwyn Freer. Much of it was later acquired and is still held by London's venerable British Museum. But the skulls somehow came to rest at the university in Birmingham, where Freer's family had been prominent for centuries. There is no indication they were ever studied, Jones said.

Searching for their home, Jones emailed the Santa Ynez band of Chumash Indians and the Salinans, groups whose ancestors are known to have lived in the area. Burch, the Salinan elder, responded. With the help of Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), the U.S. Embassy in London and the state's Native American Heritage Commission, Burch navigated a thicket of bureaucracy.

"Getting remains into the U.S. has been very problematic," said Dave Singleton, a program analyst with the heritage commission. "As far as we know, this is the first of its kind in California."

Singleton said the Chumash have expressed interest in asking the British Museum to repatriate the more than 200 items still there.

On May 9, Jones and her carefully packed cargo touched down at LAX. She and Chris Molina, another official of the 700-member Salinan tribe, piled into the front of a pickup truck, while Burch climbed into the crew cab with a heavily taped cardboard box the size of a small trunk. It bore a wine-glass sticker that read "Fragile."

"I was sitting in the back, with the ancestors," Burch said.

Up the coast in San Luis Obispo, anthropologist Robert Hoover was waiting at the coroner's office. A professor emeritus at Cal Poly, Hoover identified the skulls as "pretty clearly Native American." One sign was the shovel-shaped incisor teeth typical of Native Americans; another was a pattern of wear consistent with grit in the early Native American diet. The remains were "prehistoric," Hoover said. To avoid damaging the bones, no DNA or other testing has been performed.

At a ceremony in a serene, secret spot where other Native Americans are buried, Burch said a few words. There was subdued drumming. He faced a crowd of about 25 tribal members, and a few local officials looked on. The skulls were laid in the ground facing west.

"They're home," Burch said.

[illegible]

Mail Fraud

Any person who impersonates the Tribe or a Tribal official for purposes of sending letters to members of the Tribe is subject to criminal prosecution. The act of writing a letter and sending it in the name of another person (or the Tribal government) is a crime in the State of California. The punishment for this crime of impersonation is a fine of up to \$10,000, and up to one year imprisonment. California Penal Code Section 529.

If the impersonation is shown to result in monetary gain, then the person will also be subject to prosecution for federal mail fraud, which carries a punishment of a fine and imprisonment for up to five years. 18 U.S.C. Section 1342.

Mark A. Levitan, Tribal Attorney

RECIPE CORNER

Rustic Clam Chowder

This recipe is a combination of favorite clam chowders, plus tips from the cooks in our family. I triple this recipe to make a big family pot.

Ingredients:

20 oz. chopped canned clams (or half the big can from Costco)

1 cup onion (chopped fine, I like Sweet Maui Onions)

1 cup celery (chopped small)

2 cups potatoes cubed, leave peel on

1/2 cup carrots (chopped) optional

3/4 cup butter

3/4 cup all-purpose flour

1 quart half-and-half cream

2 Tablespoons red wine vinegar

1 1/2 tsp. salt

1/2 tsp. pepper (white and or black pepper)

Roasted corn cut off the cob (or quickly browned canned corn in a pan)

archives (optional)

Directions:

1. Cook bacon in large frying skillet until crispy and set aside bacon. Use the bacon grease to cook onions in.

2. Drain juice from clams and set clams aside. Pour clam juice into the frying pan over the onions, and add the celery, potatoes and carrots. Add enough clam juice to cover veggies (use water if you run out), and cook over medium heat until potatoes are tender.

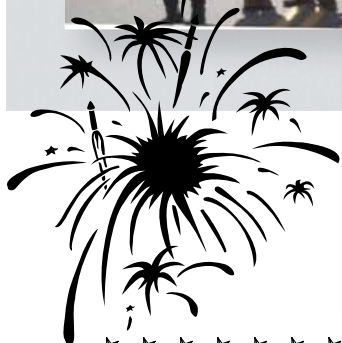
3. Meanwhile, in a large, heavy pot, melt the butter over medium heat. Whisk in flour until smooth (cake frosting consistency) and just very slightly browned. Slowly whisk in cream and stir constantly until thick and smooth. Stir in vegetables and clam juice. Add corn. Heat through, but do not boil.

4. Stir in clams just before serving. If they cook too much they may get tough. When clams are heated through, stir in vinegar, and season with salt and pepper to taste.

5. Top bowls of chowder with the crumbled bacon and chives



We need recipes, please e-mail to pqi@sti.net



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Tribal updates

Tribal Fundraising

Anyone wishing to donate any amount for tribal needs.
Please contact the Tribal office. 805.460.9202

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER BBQ AND TRAPSHOOT at SLO Gun Club



Jimmy Perry, Billy Thomas,
Warren Thomas, John Madonna



Alan Sciocchetti,
Tracy Dunton-hughes,
Joe Hughes



Dayna & Sharon food
prep for the feast



Fred Anderson
strumming a tune

This year's Tribal fundraiser and trap shoot was a big success. We had an honored guest this year; Dr. June Jones was able to join us. We can never thank her enough for helping with the return of our ancestors from England. Thanks Again June! (Read article)

The Tribe raised about \$4,500.00 this year after expenses. We gave out over 30 smoked hams to all our trap shoot winners. For the past two years we have offered bingo and it has proven to be very popular. Tribal member Oscar Joseph donated for half the cost of the gun that the Tribe raffles off and of course he made those great "poppers" Thanks Oscar! Trudy (Pierce) Sylvester made her wonderful cakes for us for dessert they were Yummy! Again this year all the Tribal Council members donated gift baskets. Thanks! To the BBQ help who did a good job feeding all our hungry guests. We would also like to THANK! All the rest of you that helped in the kitchen, with the bingo, the raffles, the trap shoot, set up and clean up, and especially all those who came out and supported this event you made it fun and successful.

By Patti Dunton, Tribal Administrator

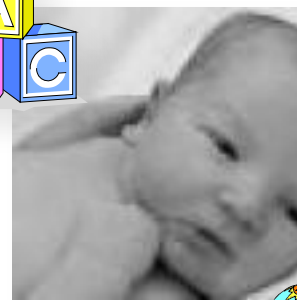


Kite Festival



From left to right is Rick Laguna Jr.,
Rick Laguna, Patti Dunton,
Ashley Laguna, Beanna Laguna,
Mark Poco, Coral Balent and Seth Davis

Picture by Yvonne Davis



Help us welcome the
Newest Tribal
Member



My son Trevor James Stewart born May 03, 2012
7 lbs. 12 ounces 17 inches long at 12:11 Pm at
UMC medical hospital
born to James Stewart & Krystale Hoffmann
Grandfather Brian Stewart



Tribal updates

Without knowing each other were attending, tribal members Naomi McCormack and Yvonne Davis ran into each other at a recent "WELCOME HOME MILITARY HEROES" at the San Luis Obispo airport on Tuesday, June 5th. They waved flags and thanked the Colonel for her service as she returned from Afghanistan. Last week 26 service men & women were welcomed as they arrived on the Central Coast for AMPSURF, a wonderful organization that helps amputees and other injured service people learn to surf as a form of therapy. If you are interested in welcoming home heroes, use the contacts below to get your name on the email, call, or text contact list or "like" their facebook page to receive alerts that way.

"No Duty Is More Urgent Than Returning Thanks"

(805)478-9018 Cheryl Tolan

(805) 441-0262 Robert Tolan

Update Hotline (805) 242-0536



E.MAIL:

Cheryl@WelcomeHomeMilitaryHeroes.org

WEBSITE:

www.WelcomeHomeMilitaryHeroes.org

FACEBOOK: Welcome Home Military Heroes

Our Mission is to WELCOME HOME all of our

LOCAL returning servicemen

& women and THANK them for their choice to

[illegible]

Tribal Office Hours

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.

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

On The Upcoming Events Page.

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

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 we will not use copy machine pictures. Check us out at: 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.

We are asking again that all tribal members make copies of the letter that is on our website www.salinantribe.com on the events page and mail them to the people we have listed with the letter. This is very important if we want the Federal government to put land in trust for us."

Tribal Sponsors

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



P.O. Box 2121
Paso Robles, CA 93447
ph: (805) 239 3022
em: info@nwbaroque.org
website www.nwbaroque.org



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Tribal Hats
Colors : Green, Royal Blue,
Black and Burgundy
The hats are in the Tribal Office,
for those who want to purchase them.
If you are interested contact the
Tribal Office at: 805.460.9202

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PGI@STI.NET 559.392.1950

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. For colors and sizes call 805.460.9202 or Email: salinantribe@aol.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 !**

\$5⁰⁰ EA.

Tribal Office 7070 Morro Road, #A Atascadero, CA 93422
 Phone: 805.460.9202 Fax: 805.460.9204 Email: salinantribe@aol.com

July 2012

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

SALINAN TRIBE GENERAL MEETINGS FOR 2012

Remember! our meetings are from noon to 3 pm beginning with a potluck lunch, unless otherwise noted.

January -George- Lockwood Sunday 8th, **February** -Susan- Lockwood Saturday 11th

March -Mary- San Miguel Sunday 11th, **April** -Rick- Morro Bay Kite Festival

May -Gary- Morro Bay Reverse Drawing Saturday 12th, **June** -John- Morro Rock Summer Solstice

July -Yvonne- Fourth of July Parade in Cayucos, **August** -Sharon- Del Mar Park in Morro Bay Sunday 12th

September -Dayna- Atascadero Lake Park Sunday 9th, **October** -Pam- Gathering Saturday 13th

November -Fred- Lockwood Saturday 10th, **December** -Bruce- Morro Rock Winter Solstice

← TRIBAL COUNCIL →

Traditional Lead:

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salinantribe@aol.com

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rlaguna@gmail.com

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(831) 385-1490

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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.

