

# T'epot'aha'l

The People of the Salinan Tribe

Vol. 11 No. 3

March, 2011

The Salinan Tribe has been blessed to have several wonderful people who have given freely of their time and skills, in the ongoing effort to maintain and reawaken Salinan cultural traditions. There are many ways that we can share our gifts with the tribe and strengthen the bonds of community. I'm going to highlight some special individuals, with the hope that their stories may inspire others to step forward and contribute to the whole. With that in mind, I'd like to begin with a man who has worked with the Salinan People since the early 90's, promoting Salinan culture through mission history and music programs.

It is my honor to introduce a man who has shown extreme dedication, giving many, many hours of hard work through the years to enliven the Salinan People's culture. You may have noticed his picture in the newsletter before. His name is John Warren, and he's familiar to those of you who've worked with the missions, since he is the Curator of the museum at Mission San Miguel and Curator of the music room at San Antonio Mission. As one of the music directors at Mission San Miguel, he incorporates Salinan culture into his programs as often as possible. He wears many hats and has many titles, such as Artistic Director of the New World Baroque Orchestra, music teacher at St Rose's Primary, and of course, Friend of the Salinan People. The hat he wears continually, his beret, worn jauntily to the side, along with the twinkle in his eyes and slightly pointed chin, gives him an elfin quality. Add the fact that he seems to be everywhere at the same time, has extensive historical knowledge, is deeply involved in music, with a bright smile and enthusiastic, can-do attitude, and one almost expects magic. Attend one of his concerts, and you'll see that he delivers!



Perhaps John's enthusiasm stems from the fact that music is his passion, or maybe it comes from his conviction that it's important to share the Salinan culture with all Americans. He believes that each culture is integral to the whole, woven together; and like cloth, each part contributes to its strength and beauty. If that idea seems familiar, it's because it's a common theme amongst Native American tribes, told in many forms. It makes perfect sense that John has an affinity for native peoples, coming from an Oglala Sioux/Irish American background himself. His grandmother still spoke her native tongue and she actually worked as a music/choir director in Baptist missions in Oklahoma that ministered to Native Americans there.

John Warren was born into a family that was involved in the music or entertainment business for several generations, and has many great stories to tell. John's paternal grandparents were in vaudeville, doing traveling shows. His grandmother had a sister who married a visionary banker, who saw the potential of the early movie industry, and started a silent film studio with the vaudeville actors.

*Continued on pg 2*

## Tribal updates

They moved from New York to California to start a silent film studio called Metro Pictures, which eventually became MetroGoldwynMayer. His mother was an entertainer in vaudeville and his father was a cinematographer. They met, fell in love and married after knowing each other only three months. John smiles when he talks about his parents. "Their marriage lasted over 70 yrs." John grew up in the San Fernando Valley and after studying engineering and music in college, worked in production of the movie industry for 10 yrs. He came to the Central Coast when he was hired as a media consultant for the Orcutt schools, and later ended up working at Cuesta College doing much the same thing. John pursued his passion of studying and working with the missions, their native peoples and their music while working a day job, and still does. He's an amazing testimony to how much energy is generated by doing what you love.

How John came to know the Salinan People was a journey which originated with his passion, when he began to explore California Mission music almost 40 years ago. As a Musicologist, he found the early Mission music to be "amazingly beautiful music", and was inspired to delve into it more. He wanted to find out who played this beautiful music, and read diaries from the missions, learning about Father Duran, who had a Chumash orchestra at Santa Barbara Mission in the early 1800's. The mission diaries and records reported that the natives enjoyed the music, and whether singing or learning a new instrument, they picked it up quickly. John says he started out with the Santa Barbara Mission, having a "great interest in learning" about the Chumash and their music. Later, his work took him to San Luis Obispo, where he was Founder and Director of SLO Klezmerim, an Eastern European Folk Music Orchestra, eventually moving into more classical music and his work at the missions. He has done numerous programs in SLO, including conducting the San Luis Obispo Mission Choir, where he first had the chance to meet and work with some members of the Salinan Tribe.

John said he fell in love with the Salinan People's message and traditions, and their friendly dispositions. So when he got the opportunity to do a concert at San Antonio Mission he took it, gradually becoming more involved with that mission and with Mission San Miguel.

John contacted the Salinan Tribe, requesting they be involved in his programs from the beginning.



Mission San Miguel  
Oct-2008

John has always shown great respect for the Salinan people, honoring their ancestors whose hands had built and adorned the local missions, and who had helped the Padres to survive in this new land. At one point, Father John Gini OFM, requested that John Warren try and find the original music that was played in the missions. John took his trusted friend, Rosemary Sczbecki, to Stanford University's library, where they spent hours and hours combing historical documents and publications. The time was well spent, since John was able to retrieve the original mass music that Father Sancho composed and the Salinans performed, back in the late 1700's. This was a fantastic discovery, and the missions are using it in present-day services. Anyone who has heard the processional song, "El Cantico Del Alba" will most assuredly agree with John on its hauntingly beautiful sound.

It's because of John Warren's efforts that the Salinan Tribe has been invited to send representatives to numerous events, such as the Gene Autry Museum, which is dedicated to the study and preservation of native cultures. John has offered the tribe ample opportunities to show the public and academic world alike that the Salinan people are still a viable, functioning culture. John recalls when he first invited Adelina Alva, a Chumash elder, and Shirley Macagni from the Salinan Tribe to be honored at a benefit concert he was doing for the California Mission Studies Association meeting being held at the Santa Ines Mission. He says it was truly beautiful to see the two elders bringing gift baskets for each other, and honoring each other. This year the association held their meeting at Mission San Miguel, and John received special honors and recognition for his contribution. The Salinan Tribe was also there, with great representation of their culture, old and new, thanks to John's efforts.



# Tribal updates

**We are now taking orders for  
Tribal Hats**

**Colors are: Gray, Tan, or Black  
The hats are in the Tribal Office,  
for those who want to purchase  
them.**

If you are interested contact the  
Tribal Office at: 805.460.9202

## **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.**

## **Social Service Community News**

The Tribal council and the board of directors of our non-profit the Salinan Heritage Preservation Association have agreed that individuals, especially tribal members, needing to do community service will now be able to do community service for the tribe. This is a good way to give back to your tribe while giving back to the community. If you have any questions please call the office at 805-460-9202.

Remember low income Seniors can get free bread at the Atascadero Senior Center on Mondays starting at 10 am. Make sure to check out the Senior Center near you to see what kind of things they offer seniors. Reminder to all Tribal Veterans needing medical care to be sure to check out the VA clinic near you. There is a great clinic in San Luis Obispo and a new facility in Santa Maria that also does teeth and eyes. I know there is a Van available for those needing a ride to the Santa Maria and LA Clinics. Call the San Luis Obispo Office for more information. (805) 543-1233.

Also remember Tribal members needing help with finding a job or job training and educational training along with help with housing, food and utility bills. Try contacting Candelaria American Indian Council. They have been helping the Native American Community for 37 years. Call Lupe Palacio at (831) 751-6023.

Sincerely, Your Social Service Leads- George Burch, Yvonne Ayala and John Piatti

Reminder that all card holding members can go the Santa Ynez Clinic for in house Medical and Dental.  
The Clinic phone number is 805-688-7070.

## **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 559-322-9918 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: [pggraphics.com](http://pggraphics.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](http://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

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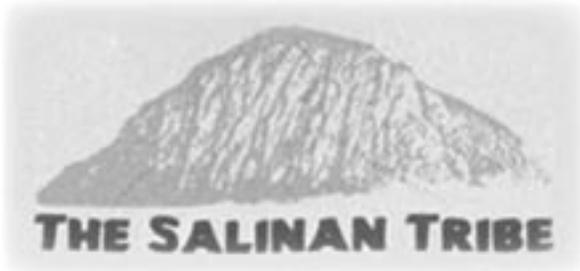
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### How do you get an ad on the Salinan Tribal Sponsor Page?

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. Colors blue, maroon, and for sizes call 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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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: 805.460.9202 Fax: 805.460.9204 Email: salinatribe@aol.com

# March 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	1 Happy Birthday Elder Joseph Bomar	2 Tribal Business meeting 6:30pm	3	4	5
6	7	8 Happy Birthday Elder Barbara Templeton	9	10	11	12
13 General Meeting at Mission San Miguel 12:00pm	14	15	16 Tribal Business meeting 6:30pm	17	18	19
20	21	22 Happy Birthday Elder Rebecca Lopez	23	24 Happy Birthday Elder Loretta Rogers	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 Happy Birthday Elder Donna Lowy	1	2

Tribal business meetings are the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month

## ← TRIBAL COUNCIL →

Traditional Lead:

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