# C'epoc'aha'l The People of the Salinan Tribe

Photo courtesy of Mary Ann Pierce

October, 2012

# SUMMER SOLSTICE

Building of the sweat lodge

Vol. 12 No. 4

Climbers Rick Laguna, Bruce Flood, Breanna Laguna and Mary Rodgers, resting before heading for the top.







Center Patti Dunton leading the Serpent Dance, Along with Doreen Piatti to her left and Tracy Hughes to her right. This dance was in honor of the Salinan legend which took place at Lesamo (Morro Rock).



**Aztec Dancers** 

I climbed Morro Rock with Spiritual Elder John Burch and (I think) about 3 other members of the Tribe for an Equinox a couple of years ago; it was amazing! Climbing up as the Sunset was cool; coming back down in the dark was scary John told me I would never look at The Rock the same way again, and he was right: in a way, I feel like I'm still up there.

By Steve Armas

### Annual Salinan Tribal Gathering at San Antonio Mission

Saturday October 6, 2012

11 am – 4 pm

Come and gather with your tribe, all are welcome. There will be a free delicious BBQ Provided by your council. Bring a lounge chair, and please bring a raffle item for an adult or child, if you can. Activities will be; 50-50 drawing, raffle, music, crafts and games for the children, and a friendship exchange. Also there will be an update on the building of the mission wall. Pam Flood

#### Update From the 'North Camp'



Joan & Julie Pierce/ family fishing the Kenai



Cousins Ben Flood, Ernest Pierce & Joseph Freeman exploring Alaska Pipeline



Salinan Ed & Joe Pierce & Ben Flood with their ladies w/ Kenai Red Salmon



Fairbanks-WEIO (World Eskimo Indian Olympic) trip-Military Memorial at Denali Mt.



Ed Pierce with nephew Adam Freeman Bow Hunting Caribou in the Artic Circle

If your native language is lost is your culture then lost? That is the debate in, out and around 'Indian' politics lately. I would have a strong disagreement if the answer were Yes, because I think folks are not thinking broad enough when addressing all languages that pass on tribal culture & values.

This May through August our North Camp was full with family and visitors coming to taste a bit of Alaska's venue. This gave me plenty opportunities to witness first hand, all the ways our Salinan family use the native language. Yep, you are correct; most of us only know by heart a few ORAL Salinan words listed with the Hoken Language group. Look beyond the oral words and you will be strengthened in heart to see Salinan/tribal values, customs and traditions carried out daily thru non-verbal language practices. And the most gratifying for me is to witness it in action when Salinan family members who weren't raised together or have years between visits even; and then you hear, "It is spooky how much we all ACT & talk alike!"

Not only does this happen when our Salinan family meets, but like the pow wows of past day who have deep rooted traditions alive and well, meet up with Native Alaskan, many who speak only their oral language, regardless if working or playing together, you would think we were all 'Blood Brothers/Sisters'. There is much more to language going on than just words.

Think who you would pick as the best non-oral linguist you know personally; the best fisherman, the one who understands family; the cook or food expert, the seamstress, the technical tool maker; political voice and I find they always end up being a Salinan. In the past, general tribal members would call them their Chief of...hunting or fishing or tribal mother or father, gatherer, toolmaker or counsel.

I look to my brother Edward for the hunt, brother Joe for the fish, lean on the women in our family who know how to raise strong, resilient, self-reliant children; my cousins who study natural foods or fight for native rights, and with each one I watch, observe I see Salinan language played out over and over again. I thank them in my prayers; our language is strong.

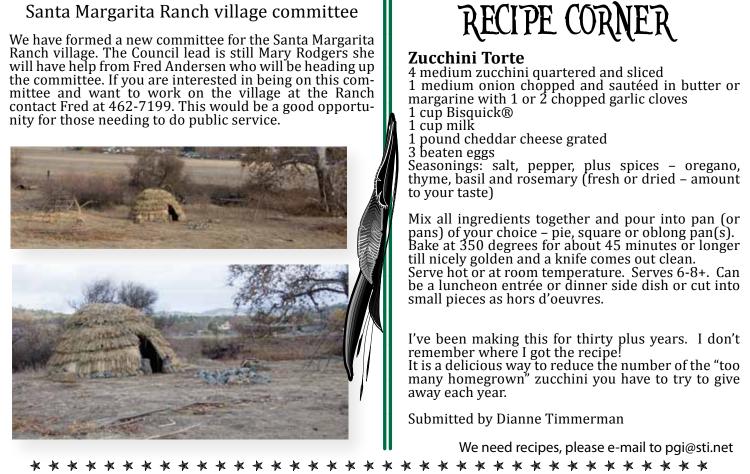
Continued from pg 2

I try hard to keep our seasons to gather, to hunt, to pray, to visit going. When we meet together, I know the fun of practicing that language and the importance of passing onto the next generations so they can learn all the parts of the Salinan language. I do not need an outsider to tell me my Salinan language is lost, I know in my heart it is going on every day. I refuse to believe someone who calls themselves experts to define weather Salinan culture is 'lost'-just because there is currently no "Expert who speaks the oral words."

Yes, I want the day to come where Salinan oral words are spoken. Until that time, I will continue to take every opportunity to continue to learn and practice all the Non-oral language of our people. I challenge each of our Salinan family members to do the same.

It is the season of the deer, gathering, preparing for winter; keep practicing your language yourself and if you have given up the hunt, be sure to find the hunting chief you feel will be able to teach your next generation so that all parts of our Salinan language stay strong.

Much love to my family, Bonnie Pierce-from North Camp



### 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

### Cribal updates





**Tribal Elder** Lorraine Barbara (Pierce) Wagner passes away

On Friday September 7, 2012 tribal elder Lorraine Wagner passed away. Lorraine was born September 10, 1925 to Leslie Pierce and Christina Holdt. She is the granddaughter of Edward Pierce and Maria Antonia Bylon. Lorraine is survived by Her brother Leslie Pierce, and sisters Jean Nash, Shirley Macagni, Patricia Sanders, Geraldine Pierce and Loretta Carter. She is also survived by son Patrick Wagner and daughter Barbara Templeton. Along with Grandson Daniel Templeton, and granddaughters Patricia and Jessica Wagner and great-grandson Kristian Wagner. We will miss you Lorraine!

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

### Wedding Bells are ringing!



Tribal Fundraising

Melanie Pierce & Lee Rictcheson will be married in Morro Bay on October 20th

Tahoma Rose Davis was born on August 16th, 2012, weighing 9 lbs., 12 oz.

She is the daughter of tribal member Lorney Davis, his wife Kaylee, and baby sister to Seth 3 yrs. old. Tahoma's grandma, Yvonne Davis, and great-grandma, Sharon Thomas, are tribal council members.

Tahoma is a Native American name meaning "snow princess".

She was named in honor of Yvonne's sister, Sharon's daughter, Tahoma Thomas, who passed away in 1983. Mount Rainier in Washington state was formerly named Tahoma by the local tribe there.

Tahoma's nickname is Tahmi, and so far she is looking and acting exactly like her daddy. Tahmi is a busy girl, she went to the beach and look at whales off the pier in Avila Beach at 8 days old, dads company BBQ and her cousins birthday party at 10 days old, and is headed camping at Bass Lake

at 2 and a half weeks old.



## Tribal updates



The Salinan Tribe would like to thank the Hind Foundation for generously funding the Cemetery Restoration Project at Mission San Antonio de Padua. The grant will fund the following: construction of 400 adobe bricks that will be used to repair and re-build the cemetery walls around the Indian Cemetery at Mission San Antonio. In addition, the grant will fund new brochures, and the development of a Salinan Docent Training program. by Brenda Flood

Our non-profit group; Salinan Heritage Preservation Association is part of the Salinan Tribe.

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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 inspirers you to send us stories of your family so we can place them on the site. http://www.salinantribe.com

# Restoration project at San Antonio Mission



\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* 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 websitefor job opportunites at:** www.salinantribe.com On The Upcoming Events Page.

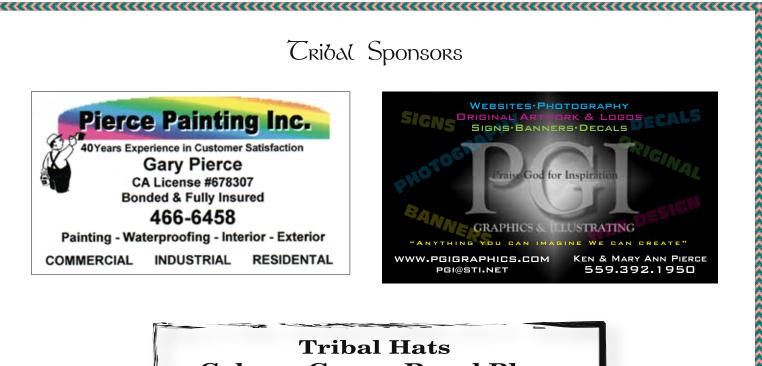
### **Tribal Members** From the editor: We Need Information for the Monthly Newsletter!

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 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."



### 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

### 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

We have new T-Shirts \$15.00 ea. For colors and sizes call 805.460.9202 or Email: salinantribe@aol.com

THE SALINAN T

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.

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GET YOUR BUMPER STICKER

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

# October 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1	2	Tribal Business meeting 6:30pm	4	5	Tribal <sup>6</sup> Gathering at Mission San Antonio
7	8	9	10	11	12 Happy Birthday Elder George Burch	13
14	15	16 Happy Birthday Elder Ricardo Armas	Tribal <sup>17</sup> Business meeting 6:30pm	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Happy Birthday Elder Cecelia Basilius	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

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

#### **SALINAN TRIBE GENERAL MEETINGS FOR 2012**

October -Pam- Gathering Saturday 6th

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



Pam Flood

(805) 540.1782

Tradicional Lead: John Burch (805) 235.2730 salinantribe@aol.com

Concemporary Lead: **Gary Pierce** (805) 466.6458 tinker119@tcsn.net

Elder Council: Yvonne Ayala (831) 385-6600

John Piatti Sr. (559) 473-8292

**George Burch** (805) 466-3061

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**Rick Laguna** (805)-610-8847 rhlaguna@gmail.com

Fredrick Segobia (831) 385-1490 salinan.fs@gmail.com 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

Ule, 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.

