



# T'epot'aha'l

The People of the Salinan Tribe

Vol. 23 No 12

December, 2023

## December 21st, Winter Solstice, Morro Rock (Lesamo), Morro Bay

We will be Celebrating Winter Solstice, Salinans honor the shortest day of the year at Lesa'mo' with a ceremonial blessing fire to bless the climbers. Josh Cody will be our guide for the climb.

The day will be filled with friends, family and fun, with a Drummer, and a Potluck. The festivities culminate in a ceremony, where we will gather near the base of Lesa'mo' to bless the Salinans who will ascend that day

Bring a potluck dish to share, a chair and lots of energy for the festivities.

We will have a gathering on Thursday December 21st. Gate opens at 11am. If you have any questions call the Tribal office at 464-2650 or email at [info@salinatribe.com](mailto:info@salinatribe.com)



### *Morro Bay Club of West Coast Board Riders*

12-3-23

It was a lovely morning in Morro Bay this morning, Bruce Flood, Josh Cody, and Robert Piatti welcomed the Pro Surf event in the name of our Salinan Tribe at the Rock, at the invitation of Chad Jackson.



Morro Bay Club of West Coast Board Riders welcomed teams from Monterey, Santa Cruz, Ventura and Santa Barbara to the pro surf event. Bright clear morning with good waves. The event runs all week.



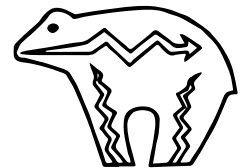
## Tribal Gathering

Our Gathering on November 11th went well, several members attended. We had a fun time with cultural projects. General information was shared as attendee's observed our booths. Our group was separated due to the park restrictions on using the BBQ pit. Our cooks used the San Luis Obispo Sportsman Association BBQ pits to cook, once the cooks returned, we enjoyed a great meal.



We have a new T-Shirt design and it will be available at the general meetings it will also be on the website soon for viewing.

The following sizes are available,  
Women's – Sm, Med, Lg  
Men's – Sm, Med Lg, xLg, xxLg, xxxLg  
We also have hooded sweatshirts

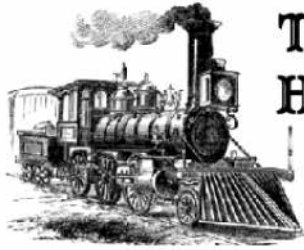


## PLEASE GET INVOLVED

We would hope to see more involvement from our members. We have events coming up, if you would like to be involved and volunteer for specific Events, please contact the Tribal Office at 805-464-2650.

If you would like your newsletter emailed please contact the Tribal office with a current and valid email address, or send to [editor@salinatribe.com](mailto:editor@salinatribe.com)

We are making some changes, newsletters sent usps will be black and white, emailed will be in color.



# TEMPLETON HISTORICAL MUSEUM SOCIETY



Photo By Dee Dee Perry

On a day filled with rain and stories, seven members of the Salinan Tribe of Monterey & San Luis Obispo Counties populated a booth at the recent Templeton Historical Society Museum's Founders' Day event on Nov. 18. The museum is full of displays of Templeton's earliest civic activities, and was an upbeat celebration with presentations, food, and music. Rather than making a presentation, tribal members led by elder Ed Pierce showcased native techniques on crafting bows, arrows and arrowheads; and answered individual questions from curious individuals about our people, our homelands, and how just a few ancestors of our tribe survived the challenges of genocidal colonization by European cultures.

"It's important we let people today know that we have always been here, and remain so," said council member Robert Piatti. "As a tribe, we are continuing to strengthen our community with a vision focused on a future where our actions are in alignment with what we choose to be the best paths for all people. By sharing historic accounts, we try to honor both the multitude of ancestors who suffered, and those few who survived the genocide of our culture; a culture that was developed and existed for thousands of years prior to the rapid and cataclysmic change. We are still here."

The tale of generational trauma inflicted on indigenous communities by religious and governmental entities is becoming more widely known and acknowledged. Yet as the civic communities of the Central Coast, such as Templeton, were established and built while our native population was decimated and driven to remote locations to survive, other scant few indigenous people were assimilated into the systems that brought the tragedy. First the missions, and then the cattle ranches upon "land grants", and then eventually within the communities that we know today, our ancestors survived within. So where a community celebrates its founding by marking the arrival of the first train in 1886, we see it as another moment in a long and mostly painful history of rapid change. "By participating and acknowledging the journey our tribe has traveled to get where we are today, hopefully it assists us to find a way forward to a better and prosperous existence", Piatti said. Over and over, members of the public and museum personnel shared their appreciation for our tribes' participation and shared tales, and invited us back to the event next year.

Submitted By Robert Piatti

## **Hidden History**

### **NATIVE AMERICAN TRACKERS**

- There are many stories of a documented cover-up regarding the US army recruiting skilled Native American for the Vietnam war.
- They sought for men with outstanding, almost supernatural, tracking abilities & those capable of moving stealthily through tough terrain.
- Before being approached, these carefully selected men were extensively documented as experts in tracking & survival.
- After joining the Army & getting their military haircuts, they lost their powers & failed to perform in the field.
- When questioned about their failure to perform as expected, the recruits replied that when they received their required military haircuts, they could no longer sense the enemy, they could no longer access a 'sixth sense', their intuition no longer was reliable & they couldn't 'read' subtle signs as well or access subtle extrasensory information.

November 1-3, 2023

## NATIVE AMERICAN HONOR FLIGHT

# Departing today: First Honor Flight in California for Native American veterans

BY STEVEN MAYER  
smayer@bakersfield.com

Bakersfield resident Sal Sanchez Hernandez carried an M60 machine gun for the U.S. Army in 1977.

On Tuesday, Hernandez carried a traditional Native American medicine bag around his neck and wore a cap with the words "Native Veteran."

Early this morning, Hernandez, now 66, will be among more than 35 military veterans scheduled to fly out of Bakersfield on Honor Flight Kern County's 48th flight to the nation's capital.

Only this time is different: All of

the vets aboard the flight will be Native Americans, descendants of those peoples who hunted, fished, raised children, lived and died on these lands for thousands of years before the arrival of Europeans.

"I thought, 'It would be a dream come true if I could get to go,'" Hernandez said of Honor Flight Kern County, a nonprofit organization that has flown more than 2,000 vets to see the nation's memorials.

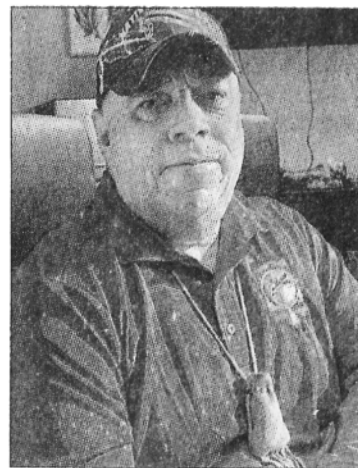
But he never thought he would be in line for such an honor.

"But here, we get an opportunity to go on the first Native

American veterans Honor Flight in California," he said. "I thought it is an honor to go."

The trip has been in the works for more than two years, but the COVID-19 pandemic and other issues caused delays in the plans.

Yet today, the first Honor Flight Kern County organized specifically for Native American veterans leaves and is scheduled to return at 10 p.m. Friday.



Bakersfield resident Sal Sanchez Hernandez was training with an M60 machine gun when the photo at left was taken at Fort Lewis, Wash., in 1977. The U.S. Army veteran, now 66, leaves on Honor Flight Kern County's flight No. 48 early this morning. The dozens of veterans on the flight are all Native Americans. Hernandez is part of the Salinian tribe.



# December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Tribal Business meeting 6:30pm	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 *Winter Solstice 11am - sunset	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
Tribal business meeting is the 2nd Wednesday of each month						

**THERE ARE NO DRUGS OR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ALLOWED AT ANY TRIBAL EVENT.**

## \*Winter Solstice

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 If you have any questions call the Tribal office at 464-2650 or email at info@salinatribe.com

**PLEASE USE INFO@SALINANTRIBE.COM TO EMAIL THE OFFICE**

**THE BIRTHDAYS FOR TRIBAL ELDERS WILL BE BACK SOON.**

## → TRIBAL COUNCIL ←

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# T'epot'aha'l The People of the Salinan Tribe

REMEMBER TO PRAY TO kensha:nel (CREATOR) TO keeheak (PROTECT) ALL lu wa' (MEN) AND lets'e (WOMAN) WHO ARE SERVING OUR COUNTRY. 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.



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