



T'epot'aha'l

The People of the Salinan Tribe

Vol. 25 No 4

April, 2025

Federal Recognition Update

Hey everyone!

On March 5, 2025, the public comment period closed for our federal recognition petition. Nine days later on Friday March 14, 2025, the Office of Federal Acknowledgment sent us a copy of all public comments for us to review and respond to.

We were over the moon happy with the public comments and support!

The vast majority were from throughout California and were extremely supportive and there were just a few that were against our application. For those few comments that were not supportive, they were written by those who had an obvious misunderstanding of federal regulations along with numerous other mistakes. We quickly pointed out those misunderstandings and mistakes to OFA in our response.

As such, we were able to complete our full Public Comment Response Package in 48 hours (well within the 90 days allowed) and return it back to OFA the very next morning on Monday, March 17, 2025 via email.

After receiving our Public Comment Response Package and review, OFA has quickly moved us to the next step referred to as Ready for Review. In simple terms, this means we now meet the federal requirements to begin the Active Consideration phase of our petition.

There is no clear-cut date of when this next phase will happen as there is a new administration in place and many other variables at play. This includes the appointment of a new Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs that must be approved by the U. S. Senate. It is fair to say that things in Washington are a bit up in the air so we will just be patient.

As a reminder, the Active Consideration phase is a two-step Technical Assistance process simply labeled as TA1 and TA2. TA1 is focused primarily on our genealogy from our Historical Indian Tribe along with the nuts and bolts of our organization while TA2 is focused more on the narrative story of our group. OFA will not allow us to go to TA2 until they are satisfied with our responses to any concerns outlined in TA1.

Lastly, I always like to remind everyone, it is a tall order to become a federally recognized tribe in the United States. It has been over 40 years since a tribal group has been recognized from California using the process we are now in the middle of.

So, all we can do is to take this on a day-by-day basis and keep everyone informed.

Have great month!

Michael Erin Woody



Indian Cemetery Work Day

At Mission San Antonio

Special thanks to the volunteers helping protect our ancestors, Aubrey Claxton, age 13 years old. Her grandparents Marcia Betrue and Grandad, Jack Betrue. Also, Caleb Caton and three German exchange students his friends. Continue thanks to Nan Montgomery, Les Montgomery, and Jon Seagrave. Plus Ben Flood and Bruce Flood. Thanks to all helpers. Next work day is April 5th, Saturday. 9 -12 noon.

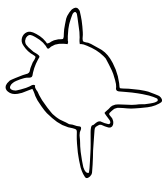
Lilly of Starbucks Indigenous Network, is going to bring coffee and tea and volunteers to the Mission workday

Contact Bruce Flood @ 805-903-3089 If you have any questions or comments contact the Tribal Office and leave a message. @ 805-464-2650

Submitted By: Bruce Flood



New repair work above.



3rd Annual SLO County Beaver Festival

Saturday, April 12, 2025

10 am – 3 pm, free admission

SLO Mission Plaza, 989 Chorro Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Rios-Caledonia Adobe Museum in San Miguel



Everyone is invited to join us on Saturday, May 17th at the Rios-Caledonia Adobe Museum in San Miguel for the presentation of the new Salinan Cultural interpretive panels installed in the Museum. The panels, produced and illustrated by artist and museum board member Steve Kalar, were produced with material contributions from our tribe.

We are planning on having an outdoor exhibitions, craft and market tables, as well as a fund-raising barbeque lunch at the site. If anyone would like to participate by exhibiting Salinan cultural crafts, or a market table, please contact council member Robert Piatti at monitoring@salinantribe.com or by TEXT at 949-677-0549. We are also looking for people to help contribute to the lunch, and please reach out to Robert as well if you are capable and willing.

The event date, time and participants will be confirmed and listed in the May newsletter just prior to the event. We hope to see you all there.

Submitted By: Robert Piatti

Educational Presentation

On February 21st Patti Dunton, on behalf of the Tribe gave an educational presentation to one of the Kindergarten classes at San Benito school in Atascadero. It was for Kaya Wiggins who is an archaeologist with Cal Trans son Killian's kindergarten class. They enjoyed learning about what archaeology was and how they study things left behind by the Salinan people. Killian and his class mates enjoyed doing their own rock art. We donated a poster about our serpent legend to the School along with a copy of Michael Woody's Salinan language coloring book. Michael also donated his coloring book to each child so they could continue to learn about the Salinan People and their language at home.

Submitted By: Patti Dunton



Continued on next page:



Salinan Words of the Month

Guide to sounds

TAA"P
"Deer"

(Sounds like TAH-UP)

ts – sound at the end of cats
tr – make a t but curl your tongue (almost sounds like a ch)
' – sound in the middle of uh-oh (glottal stop)

a	father	ay	pie
e	get	ow	mow
l	beat.	oy	toy
o	hope		
u	due		

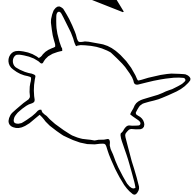
SAI'YU
"Eagle"

(Sounds like SAH-EE-YUR)

P' t' k' ts' ch'
consonants said at the same time as a glottal stop (''); they make a strong, emphasized pop!
x – guttural throaty h sound

double vowels (**aa**, **ae**) are the same sound but longer in lentgh

Quotes from Native Elders



Red Road Ethic 4

Treat the quest in your home with much consideration. Serve them the best food, give them the best bed, and treat them with respect. Honor the thoughts, wishes, and words of others. Never interrupt another or mock or mimic them. Allow each person the right to freedom of opinion. Respect that opinion. Never speak ill of others. As you travel along life's road never harm anyone, nor cause anyone to feel sad. On the contrary, if at any time you can make a person happy, do so.

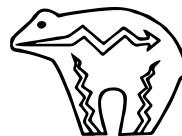
Even as you desire good treatment, so render it.



Handsome Lake,
Seneca, C. 1735 -1815

You must speak straight so that your words go as sunlight to our hearts.

Cochise,
Chiricahua Apache Tribal Leader,
1812-1874



That is not the color of your hand, but if I pierce it I shall feel pain. The blood that will follow from mine will be the same color as yours. The Great Spirit made us both.



Luther Standing Bear,
Oglala Sioux, 1868-1937



Notice!!!

This is an Election Year

This year's election letters of intent must be received no later than August 15th 2025, to be included in the September and October Newsletters!
At the Tribal Office or editor@salinatribe.com

All letters must be typed out and signed for better readability!

Notice !!!



Remember the Newsletter will be ONLINE ONLY.

Contact Kenneth Pierce at editor@salinatribe.com with your email address to receive a Newsletter online or pick one up at the Tribal Office.

For Your Information!!!

Several times a month I am notified that individuals are not getting their newsletter by email, even though they have submitted an email address. Be advised that if you do not open your newsletter for several months the program considers you inactive and will automatically stop the emails.

My program algorithm automatically lists who opens the newsletter and who does not! The only way that I can add you back in the list is to delete your email entirely and add you back in. This is a very time consuming and frustrating process. PLEASE BE SURE TO OPEN YOUR NEWSLETTER EVERY MONTH, to help alleviate this problem. Thank you for your attention and helping make this an easier process.

Please notify your families to watch for their email and open it. After three months of no activity I will assume you are not interested in receiving the newsletter and you will automatically be dropped from the list.

Submitted By your editor:
Kenneth J. Pierce



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.

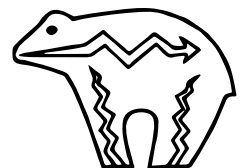
The following sizes are available,

Women's – Sm, to 3xl

sweatshirts size sm to 4xl

Men's – Sm, Med Lg, xLg, xxLg, xxxLg

We also have hooded sweatshirts



**NEW
ADDITIONS**

**In women's t-shirts we have size small to 3xl.
And we have have sweatshirts sizes small to 4xl.**

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April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5 Cemetery WorkDay at Mission San Antonio 9am-12 noon
6	7	8	9 Tribal Business meeting 6:00pm	10	11	12 3rd Annual SLO County Beaver Festival 10am - 3pm
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
Tribal business meeting is on the 2nd Wednesday of each month						

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

PLEASE USE INFO@SALINANTRIBE.COM TO EMAIL THE OFFICE

→ 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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