

# T'epot'aha'l

The People of the Salinan Tribe

Vol. 25 No 11

November, 2025

## Tribal Gathering



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# Tribal Gathering



It was a beautiful day for the Gathering, we had several booths and the turnout was very good. We shared stories, visited each booth and had a great BBQ pot luck and raffle give away. The food was great, we would like to thank everyone who shared food and raffle items, as well as all who helped setup and cleanup. We would also like to thank Lee Ritcheson for the BBQ wood and the great cooks John McCormack, Ed Pierce, Joe Pierce and Bruce Flood for such an awesome BBQ. We would also like to thank the Tribal Council for organizing our Gathering and Starbucks for the donation of coffee.

## Maritime Museum Fun Day



It was a bright and sunny day; the Maritime Museum has updated the Salinan Display its awesome. We had fun sharing acorn bread, jams and native information. Melanie and Josh both had a great showing of artifacts and native art. The children had fun doing native crafts and creating. We would like to thank all who donated time and energy for helping to setup and cleanup for this event. We would also like to thank Raplhs, Samantha Carmean, Rudy Ostoja, and Amy Oluski for the childrens craft materials.

## Cayucos 150th Year Celebration



The owner of the water tank ask us to put the Salinan name and other pictographs to represent our tribe and heritage in the area.



We had an informational booth at the celebration to share pictures and our Salinan Heritage.

## Indian Cemetery Work Day

At Mission San Antonio

Still cold fall morning at mission San Antonio de Padua, special thank you to the Mission, Joan Steele and Frankie in the gift shop. Your friendship helps us to succeed. Two native Indians quietly worked on the wall that protects sleeping ancestors. Two native Indians agree that getting a speeding ticket by the military police for driving 70 mph in a 45mph zone is a bummer, luckily that did not happen. Thank you, ancestors.

Our next work day is Saturday, **November 15th**. 8 am. To 11 am. ( If there is a date change it will be announced).

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

Submitted By: Council Member Bruce Flood



Pay attention to speed limits especially on military base as you approach the mission.

## Winter Solstice

Winter Solstice Sunday 21st of December. Gates open at 9am, Volunteers needed to man the gate. We will be having Pot Luck lunch at noon, so bring your favorite dish to share, bring your own drinks and chairs as none will be provided. Ascenders will start the ascent to the top of Lesa'mo' at 1pm to 2pm. Thank You Tribal Chair Bruce Flood @ 805-903-3089



# Election Update

Tribal Family,

Because we didn't have enough candidates to fill all positions or to offer a run off, the Tribal Council will be appointing those who signed up to run to fill the open seats as allowed in our election ordinance.

## SECTION 105: ELECTION PROCEDURES I and J

- (i) **Insufficient Filings:** In the rare case that the Election Committee confirms that there are fewer candidates for the Tribal Council than there are seats open by the close of the nomination period, the Tribal Council reserves the right to have those candidates appointed to the council at the first meeting in January without holding an election with the remaining seats appointed after the new council is seated. There are no requirements that the Tribal Council must fill vacant seats.
- (j) **Non-Competitive Elections:** In the rare case that the Election Committee confirms that there is the same number of qualified candidates who have filed as there are open seats by the close of the nomination period, the Tribal Council reserves the right to have those candidates appointed to the council at the first meeting in January without holding an election to fill those seats.

We believe this approach is more efficient and helps save money. Thanks for your understanding, and we appreciate your support as we keep things running smoothly for our community!

The Salinan Tribal Council



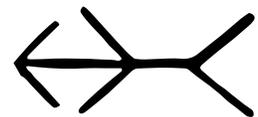
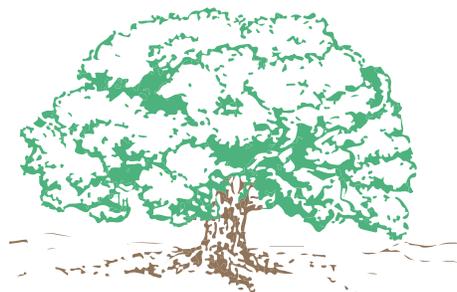
### *Why is Native Representation important today?*

Amalia Freeman, daughter of Joseph Freeman; McCormack to Agata Maria lineage, Salinan Tribe  
Junior year, High School, Alaska, US History class question-September 2025

Native representation is important today because of the main fact that the U.S.A. has written Natives/Indigenous thinking out of history lessons. Many young children don't even know about Native Leaders today; and 'our' past, because no one is teaching them.

People aren't getting taught about 'Our America,' before 'USA America' which is one-sided as if Natives never existed. If we uncover the truth, find, and learn about our Native world & leaders we can see ourselves in them; to better prepare ourselves. We can change our future generations, where one day US history will celebrate 'OUR AMERICA' as a whole.

Submitted By: Amalia Freeman



## San Antonio Valley Historical Association (SAVHA) Dinner

Saturday, November 8th 5:30 pm

Join SAVHA for an unforgettable evening celebrating the rich heritage and enduring traditions of the Salinan people, who have called California's Central Coast home for over 10,000 years.

Enjoy a gourmet dinner prepared by the Salinan Feastweavers, followed by an insightful presentation from Michael Erin Woody, offering rare historical perspectives, cultural insights, and stories of resilience and advocacy.

San Antonio Valley Community Center 65951 Lockwood San Lucas Rd, Lockwood, CA 93932  
Appetizers and Beverages at 5:30 pm Dinner at 6:00 pm with Presentation & Dessert to follow



\$35 for SAVHA Members | \$40 for Non-Members Reservations are required by October 30.

Contact Maria Weinerth – 805-472-2780 or Patricia Woodfill – 831-385-0323. Or by email SAVHA savha4@gmail.

### Book Recommendation: Bad Indians by Deborah Miranda



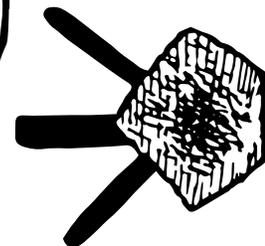
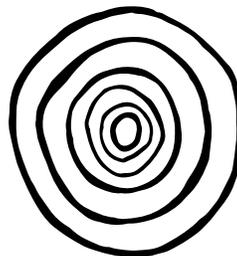
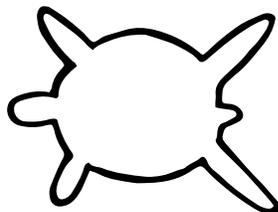
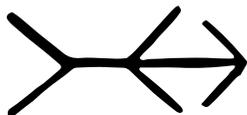
I first met Debra Miranda in Berkeley at a small book club, and hearing her speak made her book, *Bad Indians*, come alive in a way I'll never forget. This book is more than a memoir—it's a powerful weaving of poetry, oral history, and archival truth that reveals the real story of California's Native peoples. As a Salinan woman, I saw myself in her words: the quiet grief, the resilience, and the fierce love for land and family.

*Bad Indians* inspired me to attend the Breath of Life Language Camp in Berkeley and commit to the revitalization of our language. Language holds the keys to who we were, who we are, and who we can become. It carries our stories, songs, and ways of caring for the Earth. Salinan is part of that ancient legacy—a voice of love, balance, and connection with all living things.

Because of Debra's work, I now help share our language through Zoom circles, printed materials, and with our youth—keeping our ancestors' voices alive.

If you want to understand the true history of California—or what language, identity, and survival mean to Native people today—*Bad Indians* is essential reading.

Submitted By: Shaunie Briggs



# Salinan Words of the Month

## Guide to sounds

**ECHOKA' HE'K'**

"I Love You"

**KyaxLo' mom'**

"Welcome"

**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)

**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

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

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

## Quotes from Native Elders

Standards of conduct were just as rigid as the laws of any other people, but force seldom was used to enforce good conduct. Each person was his own judge. Deceitfulness was a crime. We lived according to our own standards and principles, not for what others might think of us.

Thomas Wildcat Alford  
 Shawnee

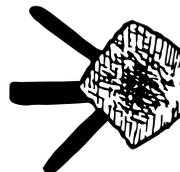
We believe that the spirit pervades all creation and that every creature possesses a soul in some degree, though not necessarily a soul conscious of itself. The tree, the waterfall, the grizzly bear, each is an embodied Force, and as such an object of reverence.

Ohiyesa (Charles Eastman),  
 Santee Sioux, 1858-1939



Be happy in order to live long.  
 Worry makes you sick.

Hopi Teaching



## Notice !!!

Remember the Newsletter will be ONLINE ONLY.

Contact Kenneth Pierce at [editor@salinatribes.com](mailto:editor@salinatribes.com) with your email address to receive a Newsletter online or pick one up at the Tribal Office.

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

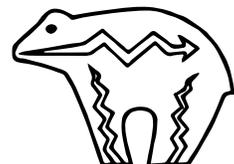
Men's – Sm, Med Lg, xLg, xxLg, xxxLg

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.**



Salinan Tribe  
8270 Morro Road  
Atascadero, CA 93422

# T'epot'aha'ul 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.



[salinatribe.com](http://salinatribe.com)



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# November 2025

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