

CUEL ATAH

The Star People

*The latest news and updates
from the Juaneno Band of
Mission Indians -
Acjachemen Nation*



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FIRST YEAR REFLECTION

by Chairwoman Heidi Lucero

The Tribal Council has come a long way since the election on July 10, 2021. We have gained access to the office, the bank accounts, the nonprofit, the ANA grant, the van, and many others without a transition from the former Tribal Council. Everything we have, we have had to fight for, for this Tribal Nation. We are continuing to work on the revocation of the nonprofit with all three regulatory agencies (IRS, FTB, and the Attorney General of California).



The process has been lengthy and getting the documentation has been difficult and time consuming but the nonprofit executive directors are currently working diligently to submit all the proper and correct documentation to reinstate the nonprofit with the regulatory agencies. We have been reinstated with the IRS but we are only 1/3 of the way there. All of the paperwork should be in to the regulatory agencies by mid July. Please keep the JBMI NPO in your prayers as this is the business end of the tribe.

We continue to work on federal recognition but the process is slow. We are working on cleaning up the membership list and the people that were disconnected by OFA in the last petition. As a reminder if you have gotten married, divorced, etc. we will need documentation for your file. Please provide a clean copy via email to webdirector@jbmian.com or mail a copy to the office with your contact information.

We are in the process of opening up the office for events and meetings. We have opened for the basketweavers on the third Wednesday of the month from 4:00-6:00 PM. We will be holding the open meetings in the office starting Monday July 11, 2022 at 7:00 PM. We are still working on a location for the General Council Meeting but it is our hope that we will be ready for September's General Council Meeting.

The Tribal Council is proud to announce that we have filled the following directors positions; Elders Director- Cecelia Martinez, Health and Wellness Director- Jenna Fonseca, Basketweavers Director- Ellen Sue Schneider and Cultural Resources Co-Director- Chris Granado. We thank them for supporting our administration and the important work they are doing for the tribe.

We are continuing to get ID cards made within a week of there request. We had been unable to retrieve messages from the answering machine in the office because the former Tribal Council did not turn over the password, but I am happy to announce that we have a new phone and answering machine in the office and have kept on top of the messages since receiving it.

We are planning on having regular events in the office so please keep an eye on the website for upcoming events at www.JBMIAN.com. And don't forget to join us for the Tribal Reunion on August 20, 2022 at Doheny Beach.

WHITE SAGE - QÁA\$IL

by *Adelia Sandoval*

Also known as bee sage, This plant is considered sacred by most Native California Indigenous people. It is definitely considered sacred by our own people the Acjachemen Ataxxúm.

This is what I was taught by my teacher Ka'chi Lobo, many years ago.

The sage plant is to be respected and cared for. When gathering, only gather as needed- not too much. Always take an herb such as tobacco or cornmeal or even previously collected dried sage and make an offering before gathering.



In a pinch your own saliva or strand of hair will also be okay. Thank the Creator for the plant, thank the plant for its gift and also if you do know, tell the plant what its use will be, i.e. daily personal use, ceremonial purpose, gift etc.

Gather in increments of 6 stalks at a time. Women should do their best to gather in the spring before full bloom or after goes to seed and early to mid-summer but not in the fall or winter for then the sage becomes very strong when burned. It is okay for men to gather in the warm/hot months and before new growth appears.

We don't use the word "smudge". We use the word 'Sage' like a verb. "Will you sage my mother please?" Sage has the quality by use of its pungent odor and the burning of the leaves, to cleanse or purify, remove unwanted energy, or assist in healing if there is a malady. It is the main smoke used in ceremonies. Also, know that not all tribes in the USA use Sage...it may be a southern California thing. For example...a friend took some white sage bundles as gifts to a Seminole Nation in Florida and discovered they do not use it but they use BAY leaves just as we use sage. Recently, some people from the north informed us they use "artemisia" rather than white sage.

I was also taught that women should use an open vessel such as a shell-like abalone or clamshell. Fill the shell with dried leaves as needed. The shell may be moved around carefully to spread the smoke. Men should use sage that has been bundled. This bundle is made from six fresh picked stalks wrapped together by red string or yarn and then left to dry. Other colors of string may be used for different occasions. I use a small shell for personal daily use. I crush the sage into crumbs and just use a very small pinch. I have purchased small torch-like lighters that come in handy for these daily prayer times. These handy devices make it easy to light small amounts of sage or to light sage in a shell outdoors.

There are deeper teachings that I can teach you but not in written form. The Salvia or white sage plant is getting close to being endangered because people are overharvesting the plant and some are using the plant to make money by selling it. We do not condone this at all and if you ever see it being sold say something to the owner or seller. I suggest you grow your own plant in your yard. It is beautiful and in the spring the blooms bring the bees.

The California Native Plant Society made a short film called "Saging the World". Please join us at the Ecology Center on July 28th to watch this film. Our Tribal Chairwoman Heidi will be speaking and the Tushmal Singers will sing.

Chóonuun Nóneskinum,

Adelia Sandoval

July 28, 2022

Ecology
Center

32701 Alipaz.
St. San Juan
Capistrano




SAGING THE WORLD

"I ask everybody to learn about the sage...before thinking that taking a match or a lighter to it is the way to go."

-Nick Rocha, Gabriellino-Shoshone

A film by
Rose Ramirez
Deborah Small
The California Native Plant Society

Directed by
Rose Ramirez
Deborah Small
David Bryant



cnp.s.org/sagingtheworld

Photo: Kimberly Morales Johnson, Gabriellino-Tongva

VICE-CHAIRMAN'S REFLECTION

LEARNING ABOUT YOUR FAMILY'S NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY

by *Dr. Richard Rodman*

Dear Tribal Family,

I remember back in the early to mid 2000's when I was working with Chairman Anthony Rivera on federal recognition. Tribal Hall was filled with people doing research, my aunt Rose (Sister) was there with probably a dozen other people, papers were everywhere, and the work of the Tribe was getting done. I remember one time Anthony and I were working together and he pulled a 4-inch binder off the desk and told the story about one of his ancestors; everything was there in the binder, all the old church records, baptism certificates, marriage certificates, narratives that were literally hundreds of years old – it was amazing to be there! Chris Lobo was part of the Rivera administration, and that's where Chris's love for the Tribe's genealogy began. Did you know that Chris never stopped working on the Tribe's genealogy? Throughout the Teresa Romero administration, Chris continued to do genealogical research.



Not too long ago Chris called me. In our conversation, he shared his desire to train General Council members (that's you) to help with the genealogical part of the federal recognition. Chris has been working with the Tribe's genealogist, Ms. Lorraine Escobar, for many years – both are experts in this important part of our Tribe's federal recognition process, and both Lorraine and Chris are also interested in training GC members to do the work of federal recognition once again.

Many of you have heard Chris speak during our JBMI meetings; it's kind of awe-inspiring to be around someone who has such a depth of knowledge of our ancestors. Wouldn't it be an amazing experience to work with Chris and get to know about YOUR ancestors – to dig deep into YOUR family's Native-American history? So, what do you think? Do you have the desire to join some other GC members in this important mission? From my personal experience, I can tell you it was very rewarding!

Fun for the Acjachemen Kids!

by Sabrina Banda

Farm Tour for kids of all ages

Time: 9:00AM - 11:00 AM

When: Saturday 27, 2022

Address: 32701 Alipaz St, San Juan Capistrano, CA

We will tour the farm and taste the fruit of the land. Time for some FUN in the SUN. Nourish our youth and programs for our future.

Email Sabrina to reserve your spot: JBMIAN.MAL1@gmail.com



THE ECOLOGY CENTER

EBT



EBT payments at our Farm Stand will be matched through our Nourishing Neighbors program. That means that each time you use your EBT card, you will receive a **50% off** discount on your purchase.

*El pago de **EBT** se igualará a través de nuestro programa Nourishing Neighbors. Además, nosotros daremos un **descuento de 50%** a las familias que usen su EBT en el puesto de granja.*

Made possible by generous donors, including the Eisner Foundation.
Hecho posible gracias a generosos donantes, incluida la Fundación Eisner.

The neighbors at **The Ecology Center** are now accepting EBT in the Farm Stand and matching every purchase.

Additionally, every Tuesday at 1pm-4:30pm there is a pop-up farmer's market with the extra abundance from the farm.

Anyone who needs free, organic produce is welcome to stop by.

Congratulations Grads!



Jonathan Carbajal
Arlington High School

Alan J. Martinez
Kindergarten Dual Language Immersion
Triple Crown Elementary

UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 28 - Saging the World - Ecology Center
- August 20 - Acjachemen Reunion - Doheney State Beach
- August 27, 2022 - Farm Tour for kids - Ecology Center

The beverages are cold
The theme is set
We're having a reunion
You'll never forget!

Saturday August 20th
12pm - 4pm - AREA 10
Doheney State Beach Park
Parking \$15 at pay station

If your last letter begins with:
Side Dish: A - F
Drinks: G - K
Salads: L-P
Desserts: Q - Z

Call Chena at 253/394-3600 to see what else is needed.
Bring your own folding chair and an easy up if you have one for shade.

CONTACT US: webdirector@jbmian.com

Tribal Council

Heidi Lucero, Chairwoman
Dr. Richard Rodman, Vice Chairman
Georgia Edmundson, Secretary
Sabrina Banda, Member-At-Large
Shannon Wingfield, Member-At-Large



<https://www.facebook.com/jbmianofficial>

WWW.JBMIAN.COM

We aren't
a Tribe
without you!

Want to contribute to the newsletter?

- Have a Veteran to spotlight?
- Have an idea for an article?
- Have an event to share?

Email us - webdirector@jbmian.com



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