



Marin American Indian Alliance

In Honor of all Nations
P.O. Box 150565, San Rafael, CA 94915

Summer 2019

WORDS FROM THE PAST

“Listen to the air. You can hear it, feel it, smell it, taste it. Woniya wakan – the holy air – which renews all by its breath. Woniya, woniya, wakan – spirit, life, breath, renewal – it means all that. Woniya – we sit together, don’t touch, but something is there; we feel it between us, as a presence. A good way to start thinking about nature, talk about it. Rather talk to it, talk to the rivers, to the lakes, to the winds as our relatives.”

~ John Fire Lame Deer, Mineconju-Lakota Sioux, 1972.

POW WOW NEWS

Mark your calendar for Vallejo Pow Wow which is being held this year on July 20th and 21st. MAIA’s **Sacheen Littlefeather** is Head Woman Dancer, and **Charles Koshiway** is Arena Director! We hope you can make it for dancing, eating, and fun.

The Suscol Intertribal Council’s Pow Wow, also known as the Yountville Pow Wow, will no longer be held in Yountville! Please see the details in the Events calendar listing their new date of October 5th and new Napa location.

According to the Yountville Veterans Home where the Pow Wow was held for years, per a recent State audit, the grounds will no longer be used for outside fundraising or camping. Part of the site will be used for hosting metal storage containers and portable offices for those working on the numerous infrastructure issues of the current building. The other half has new sod with irrigation (which I understand is very expensive to rent). They are also in the process of securing Federal funding for a new nursing facility. So, the buildings and ground are in great flux on this site.

SAVE THE DATE

Our Holiday Gathering for this year has been scheduled for Saturday, November 16th. Please save the date and gather your items for the auction! Everyone welcome!

THANK YOU!

A big thank you to Dr. Brad Jacobs who attended our May gathering to discuss foods, fasting, and updated news on diet. It was very informative, and we had a large group full of questions. Dr. Jacobs can be found at www.drbradjacobs.com or 415.339.2692 for an appointment.

NATIVE AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL

Celebrating its 44th annual, The American Indian Film Festival will be held in San Francisco on November 1-3, 2019 at the Brava Theater on 24th Street at York. Continue to check their website www.aifisf.com for an upcoming list of the films to be shown. For all filmmakers, the Call for Entry has an extended deadline of September 8, 2019.

FILM: *WILDER THAN WILD: Fire, Forests and the Future*

At the gathering a group of us were talking about the efficiency of our grandfathers and tribal leaders in aiding the health of the forest by using fire to remove small brush and timber. It was mentioned that the Forest Agencies were looking at this wisdom and studying its effects in an effort to curb the large, devastating forest fires that are predicted to continue in the West. Since then we have come across many articles mentioning this partnership and have also come across a highly-rated one hour documentary film: *WILDER THAN WILD: Fire, Forests and the Future* (www.wilderthanwildfilm.org/about-the-film). Screenings of this film have been popping up in our area. It includes, among others, Thomas (Tommy) Willson, Sr. of the Yurok Tribe. If you have seen it, please give us your feedback at the gathering. We will alert you if we see it showing again in our area.

NEWS FROM OUR WEBSITE MARINNDN.ORG

PODCAST: THIS LAND (CROOKED MEDIA)

The 2019 Supreme Court is about to make a decision that will determine the future of five tribes and nearly half the land in Oklahoma, and it all starts with a murder on the side of the road in 1999. Learn more at thislandpodcast.com.

NATIVE AMERICAN DEMAND IS DRIVING A BLACK MARKET FOR EAGLE FEATHERS

The Audubon Society just published a very informative article about where and how the feathers for Regalia and religious ceremonies, etc. are gathered. "Tribal aviaries provide a legal supply of Bald and Golden Eagle feathers for ceremonial use, but not enough—so poachers put wild birds in peril." Read the full story on the Audubon Society website: www.audubon.org/magazine/spring-2019/native-american-demand-driving-black-market-eagle.

GOVERNOR NEWSOM APOLOGIZES FOR CALIFORNIA'S HISTORY OF VIOLENCE AGAINST NATIVE AMERICANS

On Tuesday, June 18, 2019, Governor Gavin Newsom issued a formal apology to California's Native American communities. There are several articles from across the state that report on Governor Newsom's apology. It even made the New York Times: www.nytimes.com/2019/06/19/us/newsom-native-american-apology.html. Share your feedback on the apology at Marinndn.org.

POWER UP! BLUE LAKE RANCHERIA'S DIY SOLAR POWER GRID

This article on the Sierra Club website: www.sierraclub.org/sierra/2019-2-march-april/faces-clean-energy/california-tribes-diy-electric-grid, shows that renewable energy is possible for keeping the power on during emergencies and for saving on electric bills!

EVENTS

Enjoy the Powwows! Brush up on
Powwow etiquette at Powwow.org:<https://www.powwows.com/pow-wow-etiquette/>

July 16 – **MARIN AMERICAN INDIAN ALLIANCE – No meeting in July!**

July 20 – **39th Annual BigTime at KuleLoklo**, Pt. Reyes National Seashore. Bring a lunch and enjoy seeing demonstrations, dancing, etc., 10 am to 4 pm. Call (415) 464-5146 for more info.

July 20-21 – **Vallejo Powwow**, Service Club Park, Mare Island Way (next to the Ferry Terminal), 11AM – 8 PM Saturday and 11 AM to 7 PM Sunday. Call (916) 804-7326 for more info. (Note: MAIA's **Sacheen Littlefeather** is Head Woman Dancer, and **Charles Koshiway** is Arena Director!)

July 27-28 – **Washoe TribeWa She Shu It'Deh**, cultural events ranging from a Washoe basket competition (with local weavers from Nevada and California) to traditional dancing, music, stories, plays, basketry and clothing, plus traditional games, Tallac Historic Site, 1 Valhalla Rd. South Lake Tahoe, 9 AM-5 PM Saturday and 9 AM -4 PM Sunday. Call (775) 265-8600 or (775) 781-4853 for more info.

August 3-4 – **Sierra Mono Museum's Indian Fair Days and Powwow** (also called the **North Fork Powwow**), Minarets High School, 45077 Road 220, O'Neals. Call (559) 877-2115 for more info.

August 20 – **MARIN AMERICAN INDIAN ALLIANCE** gathering, 9 Ross Valley Dr., San Rafael, United 1st Methodist Church, downstairs community room (Potluck), 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM. Email marinindnuz@aol.com for more info.

*UPDATE August 24-25 – **Annual Suscol Intertribal Council Powwow**, Yountville Veteran's Home. **NOTE: This powwow has been rescheduled to October 5 and relocated to Napa.** You may still see the powwow incorrectly listed for August 24-25 in various publications. We'll provide detailed information in MAIA's Fall 2019 Events Calendar. Call (707) 256-3561 for more info.

August 24 – **Shingle Springs Big Time**, traditional dances and storytellers, 5281 Honpie Road Placerville. Check website <http://www.shinglespringsrancheria.com/> for more info.

August 24 – **Colfax Indian Big Time**, artisans, vendors, food, demonstrators, and traditional dancers. Call (916) 577-3558 or (916) 470-6866 for more info.

August 31-Sept 1 – **Stockton Powwow** – University of the Pacific, Wendell Phillips Center, Stadium Drive, Stockton, 11 AM to 10 PM Saturday and 11 AM to 4 PM Sunday. Call (209) 662-3131 for more info.

September 14 -15 – **Annual Acorn Festival**, Tuolumne Band of Mewuk, Tuolumne Rancheria, Mi Wu St., Tuolumne, 11 AM – 4 PM. Call (209) 928-5300 for more info.

September 14 – **Museum of the American Indian Trade Feast** with dancing, food and demonstrations, Miwok Park, 2200 Novato Blvd., Novato, 11:00 AM 5:00 PM. Call (415) 897-4064 for more info.

September 17 – **MARIN AMERICAN INDIAN ALLIANCE** gathering, 9 Ross Valley Dr., San Rafael, United 1st Methodist Church, downstairs community room (Potluck), 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM. Email marinindnuz@aol.com for more info.

Please remember to verify dates, times and location for the above events, as they can change due to weather, funding, etc.

Once the World Was Perfect

~ by Joy Harjo, 1st Native American Indian U.S. Poet Laureate, June 2019

Once the world was perfect, and we were happy in that world.
Then we took it for granted.
Discontent began a small rumble in the earthly mind.
Then Doubt pushed through with its spiked head.
And once Doubt ruptured the web,
All manner of demon thoughts
Jumped through—
We destroyed the world we had been given
For inspiration, for life—
Each stone of jealousy, each stone
Of fear, greed, envy, and hatred, put out the light.
No one was without a stone in his or her hand.
There we were,
Right back where we had started.
We were bumping into each other
In the dark.
And now we had no place to live, since we didn't know
How to live with each other.
Then one of the stumbling ones took pity on another
And shared a blanket.
A spark of kindness made a light.
The light made an opening in the darkness.
Everyone worked together to make a ladder.
A Wind Clan person climbed out first into the next world,
And then the other clans, the children of those clans, their children,
And their children, all the way through time—
To now, into this morning light to you.

From *Conflict Resolution for Holy Beings* by Joy Harjo. Copyright © 2015 by Joy Harjo.
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