



Marin American Indian Alliance

In Honor of all Nations

P.O. Box 150565, San Rafael, CA 94915

Winter 2020

WORDS FROM THE PAST

“My friends, how desperately do we need to be loved and to love. *Love* is something you and I must have. We must have it because our spirit feeds upon it. We must have it because without it we become weak and faint. Without love our self-esteem weakens. Without it our courage fails. Without love we can no longer look out confidently at the world. We turn inward and begin to feed upon our own personalities, and little by little we destroy ourselves. With it we are creative. With it we march tirelessly. With it, and with it alone we are able to sacrifice for others.”

Chief Dan George, Coast Salish, 1899-1981

HOLIDAY GATHERING 2019

THANK YOU to all who helped with our festive gathering this year! We had great food... and have many wonderful pictures, please see some on our website (marinndn.org)! Photo copies are also available at the gatherings; please look for them at the front table with other announcements, newspapers, and news.

Thank you also to those that participated in the auction raising funds for the Marin American Indian Alliance. Blessings to all and we look forward to seeing everyone in the year 2020!

SUPPORTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

We have tried hard in the past to support our environment by using all compostable utensils, plates, cups, and napkins for our event (using eating supplies made of corn, potato, or sugar stalk). This year, with assistance from Sacheen Littlefeather who has had training in environment stewardship and proper recycling, we will ‘up the bar.’ The MAIA will no longer accept purchases or donations of eating supplies that are not compostable – most specifically we will refuse eating supplies made from plastic or Styrofoam. As Native American Indians, protectors of Mother Earth, please assist us in updating our practices!

INDIAN COUNTRY TODAY'S TOP STORIES FOR 2019

Before 2020 gets into full swing, take some time to review the important Native events and news that occurred in 2019 on *Indian Country Today* (<https://newsmaven.io/indiancountrytoday/news/indian-country-today-top-stories-for-2019-jHWcMAEZHEmq-OX7IJ6Bgw>). The most viewed article of the year was “Outrage as non-Native youth wearing #MAGA hats taunt and disrespect Native elder.”

UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS IN 2020

The Census 2020 leader from the Canal Alliance reached out to us regarding a presentation about the upcoming census. Whether you are for or against the US Census, when scheduled, please try to attend this presentation to get an update on what is happening this year.

We are also in the process of scheduling a presentation with the Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women Group to get current information on the issue and for an update on their progress. When held, a blanket collection will be taken to support their important work!

Presentations are always announced via email; and on our Marin American Indian Alliance site under Events (marinndn.org).

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR WEBSITE MARINNDN.ORG

7 INDIGENOUS PIONEERS YOU NEED TO KNOW

Thank you Popular Mechanics, <https://www.popularmechanics.com/science/g29460020/indigenous-scientists/?slide=7>, for posting this list of indigenous scientists, engineers, and inventors!

List includes:

Mary Golda Ross, Mathematician and Engineer, Cherokee Nation
Bertha Parker, Archaeologist, Seneca Nation
John Herrington, NASA Astronaut, Chickasaw Nation
Susan La Flesche Picotte, Physician, Omaha Nation
Aaron Yazzie, NASA Mechanical Engineer, Diné
Xiye Bastida, Climate Activist, Otomi-Toltec Nation in Mexico
Thomas David Petite, Inventor, Fond du Lac Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa Nation

alter-NATIVE KITCHEN

Indigenous chefs, indigenous ingredients, wonderful dishes. Native dishes are returning. Yum! See what they are cooking up in these short films on PBS! <http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/films/alter-native-kitchen/>. Show your children!

NATIVE AMERICAN ARTIST'S PRISON PAST INFLUENCES HIS ANIMAL ART

Read about Henry Frank in this Marin IJ Article: <https://www.marinij.com/2019/12/07/native-american-artists-prison-past-influences-his-animal-art/>

TRIBAL LEADERS DEMAND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

MADRID – Indigenous delegations from around the globe raised environmental justice demands and awareness during negotiations here at the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change Dec. 2-13. Read more on Native Sun News Today: <https://www.nativesunnews.today/articles/tribal-leaders-demand-environmental-justice/>.

EVENTS – WINTER 2020

January 21 - **MARIN AMERICAN INDIAN ALLIANCE** gathering, 9 Ross Valley Dr., San Rafael, United 1st Methodist Church, downstairs community room (Potluck), 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Email marinindnuz@aol.com for more info.

February 6 - **Annual Bay Area American Indian Two-Spirits Powwow**, Festival Pavilion, 2 Marina Blvd, Fort Mason Center for Arts & Culture, San Francisco. 11 AM - 6 PM. Grand Entry at Noon. See event website for more info.

February 15 - **Yuba-Sutter Winter Powwow (Marysville Powwow)**, Marysville Youth Center, 1830 B St, Marysville. 11 AM - 6 PM. Gourd Dancing at Noon and Grand Entry at 1 PM. See event website for more info.

February 18 - **MARIN AMERICAN INDIAN ALLIANCE** gathering, 9 Ross Valley Dr., San Rafael, United 1st Methodist Church, downstairs community room (Potluck), 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Email marinindnuz@aol.com for more info.

February 21 - **San Francisco Tribal and Textile Art Show**. 2 Marina Blvd, Fort Mason Center for Arts & Culture, San Francisco. Fri 2 PM - 8 PM. See event website for more info.

February 22-23 - **36th Annual American Indian Art Show** (Formerly held at Marin Civic Center). Festival Pavilion, 2 Marina Blvd, Fort Mason Center for Arts & Culture, San Francisco. Sat 11 AM – 7 PM; Sun 11 AM - 5 PM. See event website for more info.

Mar 15-17 - **43rd Annual California Conference on American Indian Education**, “Indian Education: 2020 and Beyond”. Hilton Sacramento Arden West, 2200 Harvard St, Sacramento, CA. See event website for more info.

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

Check our website (MarinIndn.org) and Facebook site (Marin American Indian Alliance) for more information.

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

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

May the year 2020 bring you health, happiness, and good will.

Coyote, Coyote, Please Tell Me
by Peter Blue Cloud, Turtle Clan, Mohawk, Editor of Alcatraz Newsletter in 1969

What is a shaman?

A shaman I don't know
anything about.
I'm a doctor, myself.
When I use medicine,
It's between me,
my patient
and the Creation.

Coyote, Coyote, please tell me
What is power?

It is said that power
is the ability to start
your chainsaw
with one pull.

Coyote, Coyote, please tell me
What is magic?

Magic is the first taste
of ripe strawberries, and
magic is a child dancing
in a summer's rain.

Coyote, Coyote, please tell me
What is Creation?

Creation is because I
went to sleep last night
with a full stomach,
and when I woke up
this morning,
everything was here.

Coyote, Coyote, please tell me
Who you belong to?

According to the latest
survey, there are certain
persons who, in poetic
or scholarly guise,
have claimed me like
a conqueror's prize.

Let me just say
once and for all
just to be done:
Coyote,
he belongs to none.