



P.O. Box 902  
 Bakersfield, CA 93302  
[www.chalontribe.com](http://www.chalontribe.com)



*We are descendants of the Chalon and Esselen survivors of Mission Soledad whose traditional homelands encompass significant portions of Monterey and San Benito counties, including all of present-day Pinnacles National Park. Some of our people reside on or near our tribal homelands, while many others found refuge and subsistence in the distant regions of the city of Bakersfield, Kings county and elsewhere in California.*

**March  
 2022**

## Chalon Indian Nation Tribal Council

### 2021 Board of Directors

Arianne Garcia	Chairwoman
Vacant	Vice-Chair
Bridget Escalera	Secretary
Lawrence Lopez	Treasurer
Esther Hernandez	Sergeant-at-Arms
Audrey Alvarado	Member-at-Large
Vacant	Elders Rep.

### Elders' Council

Gloria Medina	Chairwoman
Irene Soto	Vice Chairwoman
Yvonne Estrada	Purser
Richard Zuniga	Sergeant at Arm
Vacant	Elders Rep.

**Our Mission** The mission of the Chalon Indian Council of Bakersfield is to develop tribal resources, protect and preserve Native American heritage and cultural traditions, seek Federal recognition for our descendants, assist Native Americans in pursuing higher education, assist members seeking tribal affiliation, and to promote and

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ April 11                      Chalon Tribal Council Meeting via Zoom
- ◆ April 24                      Tribal Elections and Appreciation Luncheon
- ◆ September 16-18 Solstice at Pinnacles

More information on page 3



## CHAIRWOMAN'S CORNER

Greetings and wishes for a good and healthy start for 2022. The pandemic has affected us all these last two years and limited our ability to safely gather and connect as a family with one another. Your Board Council has been meeting monthly via zoom to continue our important work to support our tribal members and keep informed of issues that impact us all. Upcoming collaborations will be: Pinnacles Condor Preserve programming for youth outreach, Mushroom research and propagation, BAIHP Indigenous Edible and Medicinal Garden, continued speaking at events to bring awareness to Native communities, and furthering our fight for tribal recognition for our people.

It has been my greatest honor to represent the Chalon Indian Nation these past few years. My time as Chalon Chair term is ending, I must say it has been a challenging task to operate our tribal relations and abroad during the most difficult time in my generation from the pandemic. However, I continued to be active in Indian Country to share of history and continued to build stronger relations with others with the help of my side-kick Cameron Garcia. It was a great time together learning, growing, and living our culture together as a mother and son team. I can't express enough how proud I am of him stepping up and sacrificing his time on behalf of the Council. I have no doubt, he will be one of the future leaders of our people in the world.

I hope you will attend our upcoming General Meeting and elections on **Sunday April 24th** at Mesa Marin Park. We will conduct our annual elections and share the work of the Council for these past two years. I strongly encourage you to attend our Fall Solstice gathering at Pinnacles National Park on **Friday September 16th through Sunday September 18th**. Our celebration will be held on Saturday September 17th. This is a time to come together as a tribe and honor our ancestors and teach our young ones the traditions and practices of our people. May the great spirit keep you and your family safe and healthy. And thank you to all of you that has blessed me with the respect of leading our nation for the time I did. I love you all and continue to pray for the Elder's we have lost along this journey.

Blessings—

Arianne Chow-Garcia

Chairwoman

# JOIN US

Please join us for these two important events. It is time to come together to connect with our tribal members. After two years of Covid restrictions we enthusiastically look forward to seeing you all in person on April 24th and please bring a side-dish or dessert to share. More information will be forthcoming about the upcoming Pinnacles Ceremony.

Chalons Indian Nation  
"Make Your Own Choice"

**APPRECIATION LUNCHEON  
& TRIBAL ELECTIONS**

When: April 24, 2022  
Where: Mesa Marin Park  
Time: 9:00am - 1:00pm  
Elections at 11:00am

**OFFICER POSITIONS AVAILABLE**  
**\* CHAIRPERSON \* TREASURER \* SECRETARY**

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## REMINDER

All citizens of Chalons Indian Council of Bakersfield are eligible to vote for their Council members. Please check with Yvonne Turner (661-369-6722) to verify if you are eligible to vote in the upcoming elections.

Better yet—submit your name or nominate someone for the Council Board. We need your participation and engagement.

## PINNACLES

## FALL EQUINOX

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 15-SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 18TH

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE FOR  
THE FALL EQUINOX CEREMONY  
AT THE PINNACLES NATIONAL  
PARK LOCATED NEAR SOLEDAD.  
CAMPSITES HAVE BEEN RESERVED  
FOR TRIBAL MEMBERS.



## Chalon Scholarship Fund

The Chalon Elders and Council have established a scholarship fund with an objective of helping members of the Chalon tribe and the San Joaquin Valley's indigenous youth achieve their academic goals through higher education.

Listed below are the guidelines, eligibility requirements and procedures for applying.

### SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES

- Scholarships are awarded for (1) one academic year and are not automatically renewable. (Note: You are encouraged to reapply for additional scholarship awards.)
- Funds are intended for academic use: (e.g. for tuition, books, and school supplies).
- The Chalon Scholarship Committee serves as the selection board.

### APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS – Applicants must:

- Be of Native American lineage/descent from a California San Joaquin Valley tribe.
- Attending Jr. College, College or vocational or trade school.
- GPA of 2.5 or better (based on a 4.0 scale) in their last year of education.
- 500-word essay on being Native American and your plans and educational goals.

### Candidate must submit the following:

- A completed scholarship application **legibly filled out and signed**.
- A 500-word personalized essay (double spaced, 12-point font, 1" margins on all sides) about being Native American and your plans and educational goals.
- Provide evidence of your California San Joaquin Valley tribal lineage/descent.
- Official enrollment from the school you are attending or a letter of acceptance from a school that you will be attending.
- Copy of your High School or most recent College transcripts. Transcripts can be issued to student or can be sent directly to the Scholarship Committee.

Important: Applications must be TYPED legibly in black ink. Incomplete or illegible applications will not be considered.

## Scholarship Deadline May 31, 2022

## May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## Previous Scholarship Recipient

“Returning back to college was one of the bravest goals I have been challenged with at my age. Not only was it intimidating, but also difficult to get my brain working again like a sponge instead of a dried up coral reef. I have realized how I took youth for granted. Knowing this now, just makes me appreciate even more the opportunity and being blessed with the ability to return to college for my second degree. Many others are not as fortunate to go back college and pursue a continued higher education than my ancestors or even parents...

I plan on getting my Masters degree before I am done in my journey. I want to be a native and female role model for my children. I love education and the possibilities for Native people moving forward by saving their historical culture. I feel I have taken a positive role in my tribe by representing the Chalon people as the current Chairwoman in a good and honorable way.

I have been blessed by growing up with the native tradition taught by my Elders throughout the years. The memories of stories being told and lessons I learned are still with me today. Respecting your elders, listening to experience and life lessons, showing respect and love to others, and being proud for who you are will always be a part of my native core fundamentals. These characteristics are priceless in the vast and fast paced world we all find ourselves in each day...

I show my adult children their heritage and the importance of remembering the sacrifices others made for us to be present today with the endless possibilities for our people. Teaching others the tradition of taking care of the past will impact the future families...

Thank you for the opportunity to serve our tribe and continue to build our foundation to recognition for the Chalon Nation..."

Sincerely,

Arianne M. Chow-Garcia

## COVID TESTS AVAILABLE

Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order 2 sets of 4 free at-home tests. If you already ordered your first set, order a second today. Need help placing an order for you at-home tests? Call 1-800-232-0233 (TTY 1-888-720-7489) or go to [www.covidtests.gov](http://www.covidtests.gov).

## Oral History Project

Chalon Indian Council of Bakersfield is partnering with Professor Joseph Florez and Christina Contreas from CSUB to conduct an oral history project. Selected elders will be asked to participate in an interview that will ask questions about their memories and recollections about our family—traditions, practices and gatherings. This information will be used to develop educational materials for our youth and others to learn more about our long history in California. We will also use the information to inform our celebrations and ensure that we are honoring the practices of the past.

## Attention Chalon Tribal Members

The Chalon Tribal Council will be issuing I.D. Cards for members who have completed an enrollment application. Cost of a pictured I.D. Card is \$5. for each member. Free for Tribal Elders. If you are interested in an enrollment application, or for more information please contact:

Yvonne Turner 661.369.6722 Text Message only OR visit our website

[Www.chalontribe.com](http://www.chalontribe.com)

## OUR HISTORICAL STORY—DO YOU HAVE DOCUMENTS?

The Chalon Council is seeking any and all documents that you or family members may have saved over the years about our work and accomplishments. We need this documentation for our federal recognition application. What do we seek? PHOTOS, old minutes, financials, newsletters, events, notices, correspondence, etc. We will scan the information and return the original documents to you. Contact Audrey Alvarado (202-669-2567) or Bridget Escalera (661-333-8903) for more information.



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CHALON INDIAN NATION  
NEWSLETTER



## Understanding the Terms “Ohlone” & “Costanoan”

(For internal use within the Chalon Indian Nation) by Charles Ettner

Both of the terms “Ohlone” and “Costanoan” refer to the same group of eight related languages of the indigenous peoples (Native Americans) whose homelands once stretched from the San Francisco Bay area to portions of the Monterey peninsula and as far south as around King City near present day highway 101.

The presentation to follow has been developed to explain 1) What are Ohlone/Costanoan languages and peoples? 2) What is the relationship of Ohlone/Costanoan languages & peoples to other language groups in California and elsewhere? 3. How did the names “Ohlone” and “Costanoan” come about, who uses which name or names, and is either name more proper or correct? Hopefully, the discussions below will clear up some of the confusion about the two terms (names) Ohlone and Costanoan.

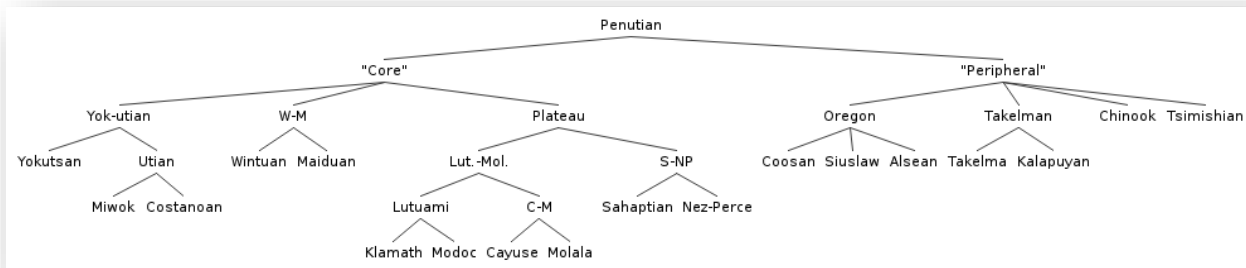
The eight related Ohlone/Costanoan languages are (from North to South):

1. Karkin (on both the north and south sides of the bay)
2. Chochenyo
3. Ramaytush
4. Tamyen
5. Awaswas
6. Mutsun
7. Rumsien
8. Chalon (the only totally inland language group).

It should be noted that there are or have been a variety of spellings for many of the above eight language groups. The approximate homelands of the Ohlone/Costanoan peoples are displayed in the map below. However, this map only generally approximates the tribal homeland areas and *should not* be viewed as an accurate representation of the homelands and linguistic boundaries.



The Ohlone/Costanoan languages are part of a large family of languages known as the Penutian Language family. The primary Penutian languages among California indigenous peoples are: Maiduan (Maidu), Miwok (Miwuk), Costanoan (Ohlone), Wintuan (Wintu), and Yokutsan (Yokuts). The entire Penutian family tree is displayed in the illustration in the following page.



Note the five California Indigenous language groups on the left side of the tree diagram.

The distribution or territory where all of the Penutian family languages are or were spoken is displayed in the map below (taken from Wikipedia: Penutian Languages).



Understanding the story or history of the terms “Ohlone” and “Costanoan” is not difficult at all. Costanoan or originally “costaños” (meaning ‘coastal peoples’) was a term first used by the invading Spanish (soldiers and missionaries) to refer to the indigenous peoples along the central coast of California. As Anglo Americans took over, they derived the term “Costanoan”, which has continued to be a generalized term of reference for the eight indigenous languages and peoples of the central California coastal region identified earlier in these discussions. A second term now known as “Ohlone” came about somewhat later and in a very different manner.

Around 1850, a newspaper article overgeneralized by introducing the indigenous people of the Bay Area as “Olhones”, an English approximation of the Ramaytush village “Oljon” (see map below). That one village name quickly became a term used and believed among Anglos to identify all eight tribal groups. The English spelling evolved from Olhon to Ohlone with a final vowel that is pronounced much like in Spanish. From that time forward, the terms Costanoan and Ohlone have been used interchangeably by the public, academia, and by Native people as well.



Presently among the eight Ohlone/Costanoan tribes, some groups have developed very strong preferences. Many of the northern tribal groups prefer Ohlone because of its indigenous origins, even though it derived from a single village name belonging to one of the eight language groups. Some of the southern tribes prefer Costanoan rather than using a term from another language group. Then again, at least one group has chosen to use both terms together in self reference. In essence, each indigenous group and/or individual makes the determination as to which manner they choose to self identify. When writing, this author uses both terms conjoined “Ohlone/Costanoan” as a compromise and in an attempt to respect the preferences of all eight language groups.