



P.O. Box 902
 Bakersfield, CA 93302
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 CA.

**Dec
2023**

Chalon Indian Nation Tribal Council

2023 Board of Directors

Audrey Alvarado	Chairwoman
Natalie Garcia	Vice Chair
Bridget Escalera	Secretary
Sonya Dorado	Treasurer
Esther Hernandez	Member-at-Large
Julian Behill	Sargent-at-Arms
Larry Lopez	Elders Rep

Elders' Council

Gloria Medina	Chairwoman
Irene Soto	Vice Chairwoman
Yvonne Estrada	Purser
Richard Suniga	Sergeant at Arm
Larry Lopez	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 healthcare services to Native Americans.

Upcoming Events

The Council board meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 via zoom. Contact us at chaloncouncil@gmail.com to access our meeting.

- ◆ Dec 10 Winter Solstice
- ◆ Dec 12 Chalon Council Meeting via Zoom
- ◆ Jan 9 Chalon Council Meeting
- ◆ Feb 13 Chalon Council Meeting Via Zoom
- ◆ March 12 Chalon Council Meeting via Zoom
- ◆ March 23 Equinox Ceremony in Bakersfield

Holiday Gathering and Winter Solstice December 10.

CHAIRWOMAN'S CORNER

What a beautiful and moving event at the September 23, 2023 unveiling of the new entrance sign at the Pinnacles National Park—our heartland. We had tremendous participation of our citizens and community members from the surrounding area of the Park. It was a very special event for all and we now have permanent recognition of our tribe and ancestors. *Special thanks to the Pinnacles National Park leadership team and staff*, they made the event special for all of us. To all our tribal members who attended, your presence was truly a blessing. To see photos and hear presentations hit CTRL key and [LINK](#).

Audrey R. Alvarado, Ph. D.
Chairwoman



September 23, 2023 Equinox Highlights





Maki cunyui pokon-me
Our songs amongst the trees
Maki hitsa koro okomi cite
Our feet returned to dance
Again the Chalon return to the Heartland
To sing with the trees and dance in the sand
Again, our voices are loud enough to hear
With our hearts and souls that made it here
But forget not those who have passed
Who watch over us as we sing and we dance
We bring their spirits and their prayers
Despite a world that never treated them fair
Our story is returned, and once was lost
And well hold on to this now, no matter the cost

Lawrence Salcido Jr.



2023 Chalon Scholarship Winners



Cameron Garcia is the grandson of Suzie Chow and son of Arianne Chow Garcia. He attends Fresno State and plans to graduate Fall 2024. His major study is anthropology with an emphasis in archaeology and American Indian Studies. Cameron has been an active member of the Chalon tribe and is considered one of our outstanding youth leaders. His plans are to work at Pinnacles National Park for a couple of years and then pursue his graduate degrees.



Aryssa Battle is granddaughter of Peggi Alvarez and daughter of Traci Alvarez. She is a freshman attending CSUB majoring in kinesiology. She states that outside of school she enjoys baking, cooking, hanging out with friends and family and playing soccer. She states that "I had a passion for some time now with helping others and pursuing a career as a physical therapist. This passion stems from me having to attend physical therapy after my knee surgery that I had three years ago".



Victora Garcia is a proud and active citizen of the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians. She graduated from Fresno City College and is now attending Fresno State, working on an interdisciplinary degree on American Indian Studies, Anthropology and Linguistics. Her plans are to work on the Western Mono language. She also works at the Fresno American Indian Health Project as an instructional aide. She states that "she has many goals to reach, but my focus is to speak life into our language, help other learners, create language spaces for our people..".

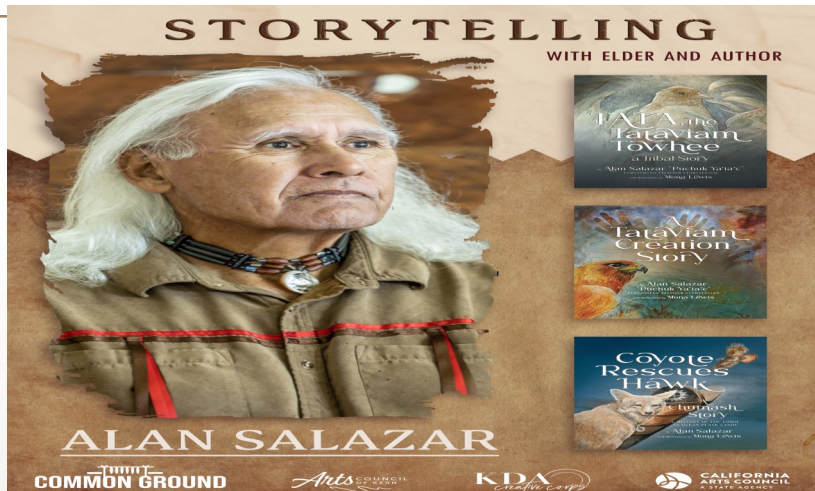
Congratulations to our Scholars!

Fry Bread Event at GONA/GOAN

With the assistance of twenty plus volunteers the Chalon Indian Council of Bakersfield made frybread for the Bakersfield American Indian Health Project's (BAIHP) GONA /GOAN event. It was held on Saturday October 7, 2023 at the headquarters of BAIHP at 501 40th Street Bakersfield.

Our volunteers helped set up, cook, assemble, distribute, and cleaned up. THANKS to all who made this a successful event.





Storytelling with Alan Salazar

November 19, 2023

November is Native American Heritage Month and the perfect opportunity to have Storytelling with Alan Salazar. Alan shared his Storytelling as an artist with the Common Ground Program. Common Ground is an Arts Council of Kern program preserving and celebrating the traditions of Native American Cultures.

Alan shared two stories with us. He spoke on the importance of storytelling, on what makes a good story, and how to tell it. Kids were inspired and encouraged to be creative in their storytelling. He commented on the similarities of our tribes and the California tribes. There were pictures and books on display. All were invited to view them. Kids were super excited to view and speak to Alan about the display.

We ended our event with a little social time with Alan. Books were available for purchase. Shared a late snack, consisting of sandwiches, hot dogs, chips, salad, fruit, coffee and hot chocolate. A huge thank you to Alan Salazar. Looking forward to next time. Thanks to Larry Lopez and Yvonne (Frenchie) Turner for offering their help. Thanks to Maria for the great pictures.

Submitted by Esther Hernandez, Member-at-Large Chalon Indian Council of Bakersfield.

Storytelling Event
November 19, 2023





Winter Gathering

The Chalon Indian Council of Bakersfield and Elder's Council invites you and family members to attend the annual Winter Gathering.

All ages welcome.

When: Sunday, December 10, 2023

Time: 1:30 pm—4:00 pm

Where: Owens Valley Career Development Center
1001 Tower Way, Suite 225
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Bring: Side dish or dessert to share. Main dish provided

Please RSVP by December 4th with head-count of adults and children. Open RSVP form by holding the CTRL key and click on this link [RSVP Form](#) In the spirit of celebrating the Winter Solstice as our ancestors did so many years ago, we invite you to bring a remembrance of family members who have passed over this past year (and other years). A photo, short write up about them or items that reflect your loved ones will be displayed and honored.

This is a private event for the Chalon Tribe.



Winter Solstice Among the Chalon People

Charles Ettner, Ph.D.

After the acorns have been gathered, other nuts and seeds have all been collected, and the fall harvest has been properly stored the days grow shorter as the Winter Solstice approaches. It is the one ceremony marked on the Chalon calendar, the most important ceremony of the year.

In some ways the ceremony has meaning for Chalon people very similar to indigenous peoples all over the world. Winter Solstice is traditionally for many societies a time of thanksgiving for the bountiful harvests and for all good that nature has provided throughout the seasons. There is much to be thankful for and many to thank including the Chalon ancestors whose teachings and knowledge guide and protect the Chalon people. In particular, the Winter Solstice ceremony is a time when all of those who have crossed over the sea to the West in the past year are remembered and honored. A sacred time when Chalon people makes great efforts to have only good thoughts and feelings in ceremony and in preparation for beginning the coming year.





Hold the Date

MARCH 2024 Equinox

The 2024 Spring Equinox ceremony will be held in the Bakersfield area. The Council hopes this will accommodate the many tribal members who would like to participate in this important ceremony, especially our elders.

On **SATURDAY MARCH 23, 2024** we will have our equinox ceremony at the Pyles Boys Camp Group Picnic area near Lake Ming.

Location: Pyles Boys Camp—Group Picnic
13375 Lake Ming Road

Date: Saturday, March 23, 2024

Time: 1:00—5:00 pm

Event details will be shared in early 2024.

We hope you can participate.

If you are interested in helping and participating in this event please contact the council at

chaloncouncil@gmail.com.

Chalon Indian Nation Tribal Enrollment Form and Tribal Enrollment Cards

Get Yours Today

TRIBAL ENROLLMENT CARDS



Official Chalon Tribal Enrollment Card
Chalon Citizen

Name: Lawrence R. Lopez
DOB: [REDACTED]
Issued: 03/26/2021

Chalon Indian Nation
PO BOX 902 Bakersfield CA 93302
chalonnation.com

Representatives for the Chalon people, providing a collective voice, establishing, promoting, practicing our Chalon cultural heritage and traditions.

Official Chalon Tribal Enrollment Card
Chalon Citizen

Name: Bridget M. Escalera
DOB: [REDACTED]
Issued: 03/26/2021

Chalon Indian Nation
PO BOX 902 Bakersfield CA 93302
chalonnation.com

Representatives for the Chalon people, providing a collective voice, establishing, promoting, practicing our Chalon cultural heritage and traditions.

Chalon Indian Nation
Traditional Wapiti Council

Most \$5 for 18-49 yrs
Free for Tribal Elders
50 yrs and up

* Must have a complete Citizenship application on file

Enrollment cards can now be made on Fridays
from 1:00pm to 5:00pm by appointment

To schedule an appointment contact
Yvonne at 661.369.6722
www.chalontribe.com