



The Newsletter of  
The California Indian  
Basketweavers Association



Winter 2022  
Issue Number 69



# Roots & Shoots

keep the tradition alive



## Circle V Public Access Project

In Madera County there is an exciting project coming to the Central Valley called “The Circle V Public Access Plan.” The Circle V property encompasses 20.76 acres and is located on the San Joaquin River in Madera County and is owned by the San Joaquin River Conservancy. “The Conservancy acknowledges the San Joaquin River’s importance to the region’s Indigenous community,” stated John Shelton, Executive Officer, of the San Joaquin River Conservancy. The Circle V Public Access Plan is in the development planning stage and envisions an Indigenous and Environmental Resource Center on the property. It highlights local indigenous culture, provides spaces for Indigenous tribes, groups and individuals and serves as an environmental demonstration center. Part of the property is located above the bluff and a smaller part is located along the river, which includes an old oak grove, riparian woodland, beautiful views of the river, and access to native plants including sedge and mugwort. The US Green Building Council Central California (USGBC Central California) and the Advocates for Indigenous California Language Survival (AICLS), are partners on the project with the San Joaquin

River Conservancy. Architect Arthur Dyson and Associates A was selected to develop the design, which also aims to achieve LEED certification (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design). As part of the outreach, the project partners have been working with local basket weavers by providing access to the sedge, or whiteroot along the River with scheduled visits, and holds public and volunteer opportunities monthly. Tribal stakeholders were engaged to discuss form and function of the site and access to the San Joaquin River in the first outreach phase in 2021. The Conceptual Design was developed in the first half of 2022 and presented to the community on June 4, 2022 in Madera. It is anticipated that design plans will be completed by the end of 2022. There are also plans to include natural plant landscapes with input from the local Indigenous community. As the Circle V Project continues to progress there will be community updates by online meetings and social media. To follow the project or be informed of future events visit [www.usgbccc.org](http://www.usgbccc.org) or join our Facebook group: Circle V: Intertribal Roundtable and email: [circlevproject@gmail.com](mailto:circlevproject@gmail.com) to join our email list.



## The Chairperson Report



Alice Lincoln-Cook  
Karuk Tribal Member  
Photo Credit: Shirlee Lincoln

Ayukii CIBA members,

As we come into the Fall and Winter months, please continue to use all precautions to stay healthy and safe.

In June 2022, we came together at our first in person gathering. We

celebrated as honor guests at Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria. It's a beautiful location, and the gathering was a success.

Our board of directors continues to work to follow our mission as we support basketweaving communities throughout the state of California.

We have a team of specialist working towards cultural/prescribed burns, fuels reduction and land management. We are hoping to bring forth a safe place for weavers to gather, while getting better quality materials while insuring safe areas.

I would like to thank our board of directors, our staff members, and our CIBA members.

Lastly, I would like to thank our sponsors, funders, and private donors. Who have helped us to have our annual gathering. Much appreciated!

Please reach out to me or any board members with any questions you may have.

Alice Lincoln-Cook (Karuk)  
Chairperson



## Office Report: Windell Smith



My role here is primarily to work on Accounting and Grant Management. The accounting side includes issuing and collecting funds, accounting for transactions in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practices, ensuring internal controls, budgeting, and presenting financial results to the Board of Directors and outside entities. CIBA remains financially healthy from all perspectives.

The grant management involves getting proposals submitted with input from the Board and others, preparing and submitting progress and final reports, and budgeting/invoicing related work. I'm also involved in the Cultural Fire Program that grew out of early Following the Smoke Program. This current work was originally funded by the Broadreach Fund and with a second round funded by the Watershed Center. I appreciate the relationships we are building with the people within those foundations. It's been an honor to work on the program and I'm learning a lot.

Speaking of funding: we were honored to receive substantial contributions from Humboldt Area Foundation, First Nations Development Institute and the host Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria to help fund our recent annual Gathering. Sixteen other tribes throughout the state also made generous contributions. It was great to get the weavers back together under one roof; and being able to conduct our first Watershed Center Cultural Fire workshop on Bear River's land was a big bonus.

We are extremely thankful for recent grants from Seventh Generation Fund, The California Wellness Foundation and The California Arts Council. These grants cover ongoing organizational expenses such as rent, insurance, Board Travel, and payroll ... and allows us to build capacity. It is an honor and a pleasure to support this Board and this community. Thank you!

Winter 2022 — Issue No. 69

### CIBA Staff:

Thea Traina, *Project Assistant*  
Windell Smith, *Accountant*

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428 Main Street  
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Post Office Box 1348  
Woodland, CA 95695

### CIBA Vision Statement:

The purpose of the California Indian Basketweavers Association is to preserve, promote and perpetuate California Indian weaving traditions.

### CIBA Board of Directors:

Alice Lincoln-Cook *Karuk*  
*Chairperson*

Jennifer Malone *Wukchumni*  
*Vice Chairperson*

Florraine Super *Karuk*  
*Secretary*

Diania Caudell *Luiseño*  
*Treasurer*

Diana Terrazas *Paiute*

Clint McKay *Wappo/ Pomo/ Wintun*

Cristina Gonzales *Chumash*

Amanda O'Connell *Tolowa Dee-ni' / Chetco/ Yurok/ Hupa*

Production of the California Indian Basketweavers Newsletter has been made possible by a Statewide Networking grant from the California Arts Council.

As a federally registered 501(c)3 contributions to CIBA are tax deductible.

CIBA membership is open to the general public.

Membership applications available at [ciba.org](http://ciba.org).



Newsletter Design by Tiffany Jackson  
[www.Tiffanyhopejackson.com](http://www.Tiffanyhopejackson.com)



# Nohaaxre Miyii Pokuu’ – “Weaving as One”



Written by: Abe Sanchez

2022 marks a turning point in Tongva basketry. The “starts” of the Tongva community represent the strong desire to hang on to our basketry culture. With no living Tongva basket teacher, our question was “What happened to our baskets and who were the weavers?” A difficult question to answer because of the negative impact of colonization and settlement.

In 2019, Tongva Community Members Lazaro Arvizu Jr., Craig Torres, and Megan Dorame, and Abraham Sanchez, Master basket weaver and CIBA member, began to discuss how to bring back basketry into our community. Lazaro noticed that, “during a Tongva material cultural demonstration years back, basketry was missing.” In collaboration with the 7 members of the Tongva Culture Collective, basketry workshops were developed to reintroduce baskets that sat hostage in museum collections to the Tongva community. One of the goals of the basketry workshop is to begin an exchange, a sharing (maxaa) between the Tongva community and baskets held in museum collections. Craig Torres and members of the Collective see, “the baskets as our relatives and teachers”. Although the Collective and other members of the Tongva community were excited to start the workshops, the Covid-19 pandemic paused further planning.

In 2021, Dr. David Delgado Shorter, Professor of World Arts and Cultures/Dance at the University of California, Los Angeles, applied for and was awarded a California

Community Foundation grant. As the Director of the Archive of Healing, Shorter provided funds to the Tongva Cultural Collective to focus on community health, broadly conceived in terms of health, wellness, and cultural vitality. After a series of listening sessions, the decision was made to use the funds on basket weaving. Nohaaxre Miyii Pokuu’ -”Weaving As One”- materialized at the beginning of 2022 with a goal of “Weaving Healing Back Into the Community”.

The basketry workshops include instruction from Abraham and embeds basketry in a Tongva cultural context. This context conveys Tongva core values, protocol and etiquette needed to re-institute the reciprocal relationship between the baskets, plants and the Tongva community. Workshops also include field trips to museums to look at baskets a harvesting and gathering locations.

More than 20 participants attend monthly weekend-long workshops taking place throughout Tovaangar (Tongva Ancestral lands). Each location bears cultural significance for our community and ancestors. The first workshop took place at Kuruuvungna Springs in June 2022. The workshops are designed to build capacity within the Tongva community. Each participant has agreed to attend all of the workshops and have committed to share their basketry knowledge with other members of the Tongva Community at the end of the year-long series.



# Weaving our Legacy

## Post Gathering Wrap up 2022

Written by: Diana Terrazas

Thank you to everyone who participated and attended our 31st annual Basketweavers' Gathering at the beautiful homelands of the Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria in Loleta, California. After experiencing a challenging two years of not being able to host our gathering, the event was a much needed outlet to share stories, laughter, and connect with friends. As you will see in the photos, we had a great time!

In addition to the basketweaving workshops and demonstrations, we had four-panel discussions which focused on repatriation, language and baskets, cultural burning, and pesticides awareness led by Ciba board members and colleagues. Our youth basketweaving workshops continue to be a success as an important way for knowledge sharing among youth and at their level. On Saturday, we held a cultural burning demonstration led by Torchbearer, Inc., in collaboration with the Bear River of the Rohnerville Rancheria Environmental Department, Wilverna Reese, Carolyn Smith, and Alice Lincoln-Cook.

Our annual Gathering takes so much work and heart; thank you everyone for helping us continue the 31-year tradition in California. A special thank you to the Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria for their generous hospitality and for welcoming us to their breathtaking homelands. We wish to thank the master weavers and teachers for their participation at the 2022 Gathering. Charlene Redner (Bishop Paiute Tribe), David Genshaw, Sr. (Yurok Tribe), Deborah McConnell (Hoopa/Yurok), Destiny Treglown (Wukchumni Tribe), Dixie Rodgers ( Karuk Tribe), Evelyn Malone ( Wukchumni Tribe), Gracie Dick (Paiute), Kateri Masten (Hoopa Tribe), Leo Carpenter, Jr. (Hoopa Tribe), Nieca Wright (Tolowa/Yurok), Phyllis Hunter (Mono/Navajo), Sharyn M. Jones (Mono Tribe), Sherrie Williams (Quartz Valley), Silver Galletto (Cloverdale Pomo), Susan Billy( Hopland Band of Pomo)

We look forward to seeing everyone next year!

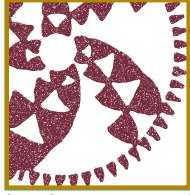


Not pictured: Clint McKay Wappo/ Pomo/ Wintun, Carrie Franco Yowlummi





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## Rekindling Culture and Fire

Rekindling Culture and Fire is CIBA's new initiative that promotes the reintroduction and increase of cultural burns to promote safe and healthy traditional gathering areas on public, tribal, and private lands in collaboration with California Indian basketweavers.

### Rekindling Culture and Fire aims to:

- ▲ Build partnerships in communities where cultural-burn projects occur
- ▲ Teach about the importance of traditional ecological knowledge to maintain basket gathering areas
- ▲ Aid basketweavers in gaining access to traditional cultural burn sites
- ▲ Help local cultural burn practitioners become advocates for California Indian basketweavers
- ▲ Share knowledge about land access, burning techniques and guidelines used for traditional burns

### Goal for Rekindling Culture and Fire

The primary goal for each event is to create a safe space for learning, networking, and capacity building about the use of fire for basketweaving gathering areas.

The activities for each event are designed to be flexible, adapting to the needs of each host community, with the first day focused on education, and the second day focused on demonstrations or hands-on activities.

### CIBA's Rekindling Culture and Fire Partner: Torchbearr

CIBA is partnering with Torchbearr, a nonprofit whose vision is to build capacity, implement, and advocate for a smarter, safer, and more economical fire future, by creating a mobile prescribed training venue and workforce. Scot Steinbring and Erica Terence bring over 45 years of experience in conservation and fire management. For more information about Torchbearr, see [www.torchbearr.org](http://www.torchbearr.org)

### Rekindling Culture and Fire Event Schedule

Dates	Location(s)
June 24-26, 2022	Loleta, CA
December 3-4, 2022	Reedley, CA and Dunlap, CA
January 14-15, 2023	Weed, CA
February 11-12, 2023	Oceanside, CA
February 25-26, 2023	Santa Rosa, CA



Please contact CIBA with any questions about Rekindling Culture and Fire and our other programs :

Email: [ciba@ciba.org](mailto:ciba@ciba.org)

[www.ciba.org](http://www.ciba.org)

Phone: 530-668-1332

[www.facebook.com/californiaindianbasketweavers](https://www.facebook.com/californiaindianbasketweavers)

This event is made possible by a subaward from the Indigenous Stewardship Network's Regional Forest and Fire Capacity program. The work upon which these presentations are based is funded through a grant awarded by the California Department of Conservation.



California  
Department of  
Conservation





## OUR VISION

CIBA's vision is to preserve, promote and perpetuate California Indian basketweaving traditions while providing a healthy physical, social, spiritual and economic environment for basketweavers.

- By promoting and providing opportunities for California Indian Basketweavers to pursue the study of traditional basketry techniques and forms, and to showcase their work.
- By establishing rapport and working with public agencies and other groups in order to provide a healthy physical, social, cultural, spiritual and economic environment for the practice of California Indian basketry.
- By increasing California Indian access to traditional cultural resources on public and tribal lands and traditional gathering sites, and encouraging the reintroduction of such resources and designation of gathering areas on such lands.
- By raising awareness and providing education for Native Americans, the public, public agencies, arts, educational and environmental groups of the artistry, practices and concerns of Native American Basketweavers.
- By promoting solidarity and broadening communication among Native American Basketweavers and with other indigenous traditional artists.
- By monitoring and discouraging pesticide use in traditional and potential gathering areas for the safety of weavers, gatherers and others in tribal communities.

### Want to become a CIBA member?

There are three categories of CIBA membership; **VOTING MEMBER**, **BASIC MEMBER**, and **CONTRIBUTING MEMBER**. Please select one category when signing up to become a member.

- **VOTING MEMBER:** Persons who are of California Indian descent and practice traditional California Indian basketry.
- **BASIC or CONTRIBUTING MEMBER:** All persons, tribes, organizations, and businesses who support CIBA's Vision.

### Once a Member:

As a member you are able to attend CIBA gatherings and as a member you are eligible to apply to become a CIBA Board Member. You will have to submit an application to put in your nomination, but once upon receipt of application, a ballot will be created and sent out to voting members. Then the election committee will then convene to count the ballots.

### There are Two Ways to Renew and to Become a Member!

1. Head on over to [www.ciba.org](http://www.ciba.org) and click on "Become a CIBA Member."

OR

2. Scan this QR Code with your phone and it will take you directly to the Membership page.



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CIBA would like to gratefully acknowledge these organizations for the support that they have given that makes our programs possible



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