

The Newsletter of  
The California Indian  
Basketweavers Association



# Roots & Shoots

keep the tradition alive



## Miss Indian World: Tori McConnell

In a world that's changing by the minute – full of people, sights, sounds, ideas, information – it is easy to feel overwhelmed. In overcoming the hard times and strange new challenges we might face as the uncertain future unfolds, the first step is to know who we are. We do this by genuinely learning and knowing the basketweaving traditions that have made it possible for all of us to be alive today as California's Indigenous peoples. At the 2023 Annual CIBA Gathering I was honored to share some of my People's own techniques for making a small medicine pouch. I was amazed to see all the different materials and styles from all over. I reconnected with friends, met many new wonderful ones, and overall had a blessed time! On the last day I had the privilege of sharing a message to the youth, which I will share again here.

There is a place for us basketweavers, there is a place for our traditions and our knowledges and the way we think and behave. The world needs us. Let us continue to honor our elders by carrying on what they have worked so hard to give us: a wisdom and heritage full of love, hope, life, and healing medicine.

Thank you Alice Lincoln-Cook and CIBA for inviting me to be a part of this wonderful gathering! <3



# The Chairperson Report



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

Ayukii members of the California Indian Basketweavers Association, I hope this letter finds you in good health and good spirits. Stay safe and enjoy mother nature's wild days of snow, rain, and clouds with rays of sunshine peeking through. As you know we need all our raw weather to enhance our lands, plants, and food sources.

Spring is right around the corner, allowing us to watch things grow in our surroundings. With that being said, remember to enjoy everyday and be thankful to our creator when we wake up and put our feet on the ground.

So many new events are going on with CIBA, we have had many small collaborating gatherings throughout the state of California. Our board members are working hard to help communities rebuild or support ongoing basket weaving within their areas.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at our annual gathering. We are doing what we can to make it the best experience for members who are attending.

We currently have 7 returning board members: Diania Caudell, Jennifer Malone, Clint McKay, Cristina Gonzales, Starla Madrigal, Cody Walker,

and myself (Alice Lincoln-Cook). The new elected board members are Ericka Lopez, Chrissy Atwell, and Mary Chepo. If you have a chance to meet the board members either in person, email or social media, please reach out with any questions or comments. We are here to help and serve the members of California. We also have dedicated amazing employees; Windell Smith, and Nicholas Luna, we are lucky to have them both as we move forward with planning events and non-profit business.

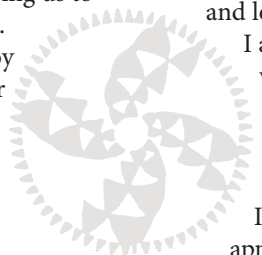
I have been able to watch CIBA, board members, and basketweavers grow. I am truly honored to be a part of this organization and look forward to all the years to come.

I am committed to making sure our weavers have a safe spot to gather, harvest and protect basket weaving materials. Traditional knowledge, and cultural ways of our life.

I look forward to your comments and appreciate your input. The reason we are able to improve is due to our members of California Indian Basketweavers Association. Please do not hesitate to call me or reach out with any questions, concerns or comments. I appreciate you have taken the time out of your day to reach out.

Yoot'va and be safe if out and about,

**Alice Lincoln-Cook** - Karuk Tribe  
Chairperson for CIBA



## Accountant: Windell Smith



My name is Windell Smith, and I have been working in the back office on CIBA's behalf since 2004. I volunteered my services for the first two years or so and it later became a paid position. I work on Accounting, Financial Reporting, Grant Acquisition and Reporting, Budgeting/Planning, Compliance and Insurance. I'm honored to be able to support the Board and CIBA's mission.



## New Program Coordinator: Manuel Nicholas Luna "Nicholas"



Nicholas is Chiricahua Apache and has been with CIBA since December 2023 as CIBA's Program Coordinator. He was first introduced to basketweaving by his teacher Jennifer Malone when he was a youth. Nicholas comes with years of experience working with youth, teaching basketweaving and traditional food workshops, and promoting health and wellness through cultural-based practices. As an active member within his tribal community, he is excited to continue supporting spaces that encourage the continuation of basketweaving, language, and intergenerational connections while at CIBA.

Winter/ Spring 2024 -  
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**CIBA Staff:**

Manuel Nicholas Luna  
(Chiricauha Apache) *Program Coordinator*

Windell Smith, *Accountant*

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**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**

Starla Madrigal (*Cahuilla/ Luiseño*)  
**Secretary**

Diania Caudell (*Luiseño*)  
**Treasurer**

Cristina Gonzales (*Chumash*)  
Clint McKay (*Wappo/ Wintun/ Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians*)

Cody Walker (*Chukchansi*)  
Ericka Lopez (*Luiseno*)

Chrissy Atwell (*Mono/Tachi/ Chukchansi*)

Mary Chepo (*North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians*)

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)



# Youth Gathering at Heron Shadow



Written by: Cody Walker

In collaboration with the Cultural Conservancy and the Sacramento Native American Health Center (SNAHC), approximately 30 youth attended the CIBA Youth Gathering at the Heron Shadow land in western Sonoma County, the ancestral lands of Coast Miwok and Southern Pomo peoples. Heron Shadow is described as a “Native place of refuge and learning for community engagement, connection to the land, growing Indigenous foods, and nourishing Indigenous and intercultural relations.” Many of the youth described the day as a wonderful experience and hope to return for more CIBA gatherings. The opening blessing and songs were given by a local Pomo song and dance leader, which was then followed up by teaching about California Indigenous

basketry knowledge and land stewardship, especially the beneficial relationship of cultural fire with California native plants used for basket weaving. The youth were provided a tour of Heron Shadow where they are “transforming this gift of land into an innovative haven that will focus on the conservation and regeneration of Indigenous agriculture, Native Sciences, and healthy lifeways.” Three different basketry classes were offered for the youth; braiding a bear grass key chain, weaving a coil basket and making a tule doll. Some feedback from the youth included “I loved the event,” learning “the tricks of basket weaving” and that “I will tell other Native kids about CIBA.” We look forward to growing the interest and participation in CIBA’s youth program.



# Learning to Weave Honors Our Elders

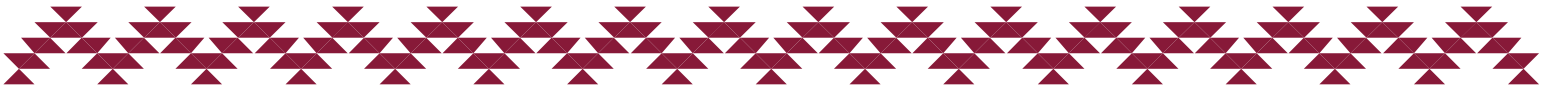
## Post Gathering Wrap up 2023

Written by: Cody Walker

The CIBA Summer Gathering of 2023 was a wonderful event hosted by Middletown Rancheria. The opening remarks and blessings were provided by Jose (Moke) Simon III, Chairman of the Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians. It was a very festive 3 days of activity. Friday brought the opening day of basket weaving classes that are available to California Native Americans to learn basket weaving styles and skills taught by teachers from throughout California. Saturday is the opening day of the basket showcase. The submittals of baskets to the showcase are for those baskets made or finished during the past year and are then put on display by a professional museum curator. Saturday is also the day open for the public to come see and learn about our basketry, and included basket weaving demonstrations that were provided by several basket weavers. Also available is the open weaving time, which can include continuation of baskets learned on Friday. Saturday also included a presentation by Miss Indian World, Tori McConnell from the Karuk tribe. Other presentations on Saturday included the subjects of pesticides and their detrimental impact on our community of basketweavers, a basketry and language cultural connection and preservation talk, and a panel discussion regarding CIBA's Rekindling Culture and Fire program.

Later in the day on Saturday the silent auction closed, and oh boy, it brought a flurry of excitement as people flocked to the tables to place their last minute bids on their favorite items they were hoping to win. Following the wonderful dinner provided by Middletown Rancheria was the raffle of prizes which also filled the air with excitement. Sunday morning brought the conclusion of the Summer Gathering, where some open weaving continued, along with good conversations and catching up with friends. The closing circle provided participants with the opportunity to give feedback, words of encouragement, blessings and songs for safe travels on the return home. We now turn our focus to the Summer Gathering of 2024 that will be hosted by the Morongo Band of Mission Indians in Banning, California.





## CIBA Youth Teacher: Lexi Valle

The CIBA event in Clearlake California was a great experience to expand my knowledge of basket making to the youth and also adults. It was fun yet a very important experience for me and for the ones who joined my class. The people were great, the food was good, and there was a ton of different native cultural things going on and a lot to learn.

Respectfully,  
Lexi  
(Mono Big Sandy)



# Dunlap Gathering September 2023

*Written by: Ray Gutteriez*

On a warm summer day, cultural bearers gathered with knowledge seekers for a day of basketweaving and community sharing. CIBA hosted a youth basketweaving gathering when local Mono and Yokuts youth taught basketweaving workshops to eager learners of all ages.

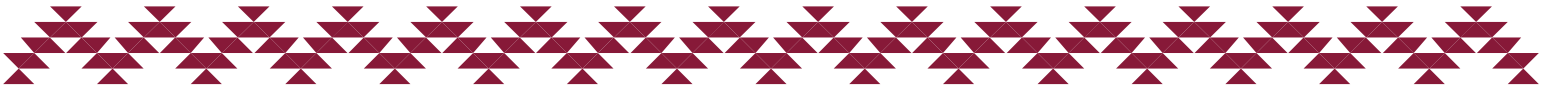
The youth basketweaving event was held at the Dunlap Community Center in Dunlap, CA situated in the Ancestral Homelands of the Wobonuch and Entimbich, who are now organized as the Dunlap Band of Mono Indians. The Dunlap Band was a great support in reserving the venue, setting up, breaking down, and serving a great lunch that included some acorn mush.

It was beautiful to see our youth teaching what they know and being supported by their elders, teachers, and community. They are the next generation in long lines of basket weavers. There were also two elders from Big Sandy Rancheria; Pearl Hutchins and Teresa Williams-Lundy who gave a presentation on the different food and basket plants that can be found in the Southern Sierra Nevada mountains. The plants included were Redbud-weavers and rolls, Elderberry-branch use, berry and Jam, Sourberry-sticks and berries, Gooseberry, blackberry, Pinenuts, Acorn, Soaproot plant and brushes as well as a fine display of Mono Cradles.

In addition to the workshops, there was a hike to check out the Cultural Burn sites from the previous Rekindling Cultural Burn event at the same location in December. The patch of sourberry bushes that were burned re-sprouted and there were approximately 250 good basket sticks waiting to be gathered.

It was a great day of learning, being in the community and encouraging the next generation of basket weavers to become teachers.





## Richard Lee Bugbee

Richard Lee Bugbee (February 6, 1948 – October 15, 2023) was a Native American of the Payómkawichum (Luiseño) people and culture keeper and ethnobotany instructor in San Diego, California.

Starting in 2005, Bugbee began his academic career as an instructor of Kumeyaay Ethnobotany and Ethnoecology at Cuyamaca College through Kumeyaay and Cuyamaca Community Colleges. Jane Dumas assisted with the course until her death in 2014. For this class, Bugbee and Dumas wrote “Kumeyaay Ethnobotany Reader,” a widely disseminated 92-page document of names, uses, and botanical characteristics of the most widely used plants. This work led Bugbee into being a consultant for published books on plant uses.

Bugbee also taught indigenous material cultures and traditional plant uses of southern California at many museums including the Oakland Museum of California and the Phoebe Hearst Museum at UC Berkeley, at botanical gardens, and on Indian reservations. He was an instructor for summer cultural programs for several Kumeyaay tribes and for Intertribal Youth/Native Like Water. His stated goal was to use indigenous knowledge to serve as a bridge that connects the wisdom of the Elders with today’s youth.

As a museum curator and educator, Bugbee was Curator of the Kumeyaay Culture Exhibit at the Southern Indian Health Council (1994–2004), the Associate Director/Curator of the San Diego American Indian Culture Center & Museum, and the Indigenous Education Specialist for the San Diego Museum of Man/Us (1989–2005).

Bugbee was a member of the Native American Council for California State Parks (1991–1995), California Indian Basketweavers’ Association (CIBA), the Land Conservancy, and the Elder’s Circle for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (2006–2008). A 2009 Alliance for California Traditional Arts (ACTA) fellowship created an opportunity for him to teach the traditional tribal sport of Waw’lish.

Being an important member of the indigenous community led to invitations to join the Board of Directors of organizations such as the Board of Indigenous Regeneration (Mata’Yuum). As a language advocate, Bugbee was chairman of the board of directors for the Advocates for Indigenous California Language Survival (AICLS) (2000–2023), where he was associate director and curator of the American Indian Culture Center and Museum in San Diego, as well as Director and Curator of the Kumeyaay Culture Center and exhibit at the Southern Indian Health Council. In 2016 he was featured in episode five, “Gathering Medicine”, of the PBS program *Tending the Wild* about native land practices in California.

Bugbee was the ethnobotanist for the Traditional Indian Health Program through Riverside-San Bernardino (Counties) Indian Health providing information on the interactions between traditional plant and pharmaceutical medicines. Most recently, Bugbee was chosen for the Elder’s Indigenous Climate Fellow (2020–2021) for the San Diego Climate Science Alliance, where he provided guidance and direction for the Climate Science Alliance Tribal Working Group.

The important lesson he shared from Elder Jane Dumas involved proper behavior when picking plants. When you pick a plant “ask for permission, tell your intent for the plant, and say a prayer for the plant.”





**SAVE THE DATE**


**33<sup>rd</sup> Annual  
Gathering 2024**

**California Indian Basketweavers' Association**



**JUNE 28-30, 2024**

**Morongo Cultural Center  
13000 Malki Road  
Banning, CA 92220**



For More Information please contact us at:  
Telephone: 530.668.1332  
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Email: [ciba@ciba.org](mailto:ciba@ciba.org)



# Raffle Donations

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**CIBA is now accepting raffle  
donation items for our  
33rd Annual Gathering 2024  
California Indian Basketweavers' Association**

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**If you would like to make a donation  
please contact:**

**Alice Lincoln-Cook (541) 294-7646**



# Volunteers Needed

**CIBA is now accepting Volunteer Applications  
for our 33rd Annual Gathering 2024.**

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**If you would like to be a Volunteer please contact:**

**Alice Lincoln-Cook (541) 294-7646**





428 Main Street, Woodland CA 95695

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



California Department of Conservation



HUMBOLDT AREA FOUNDATION