

The Newsletter of
The California Indian
Basketweavers' Association



Spring 2025
Issue Number 72

Roots & Shoots

keep the tradition alive



Thank you Morongo!

Written by: Cody Walker

Thank you to the Morongo Band of Mission Indians for graciously hosting the CIBA Summer Gathering of 2024! The event was well attended! Bringing our communities together where we can make new connections or reconnect with distant friends and relatives to share our traditions and stories is always such a joy! The 2024 gathering included twenty-five total classes and continued to build on providing classes led by youth teachers to inspire our future generations of basketweavers. The showcase was a remarkable display of baskets submitted from up and down the state. As a reminder, all baskets made in the past year can be submitted for the showcase and are due by the end of the weaving classes on Friday. Baskets submitted to the showcase can even include those made during Friday's classes.

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The Chairperson Report



Chairperson: Starla Madrigal
Cahuilla/ Luiseño

Miiyuyam Miyaxwhe,

I am Iviatem (Cahuilla) and Payómkawichum (Luiseño) from the Pauma Band of Indians. I grew up on the Cahuilla Reservation with my family. I graduated from California State Polytechnic University Pomona with a degree in botany. My parents instilled in me a love for culture, my community, and Chem Amna'a (our Creator). I have fond memories of gathering basket weaving plants and starting my first basket. As a youth I attended CIBA and enjoyed learning basket weaving, making friends and eating wiiwish cooked in a basket. It is humbling that I can now have an impact on youth learning basket weaving as Chairwoman of CIBA.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve you all as Chairwoman. I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to the CIBA board and members. I am grateful to have this opportunity to support and empower weavers from all over California. I believe in the importance of carrying on our basket weaving traditions, especially to our youth. I am humbled to be a part of the legacy that CIBA has in our Native communities. I am excited and committed to working diligently towards CIBA's future endeavors.

I want to recognize my parents, grandparents, great grand parents and ancestors who's strength, resilience and leadership are with me. I also want to recognize the founding members of CIBA who were advocates for basket weavers and saw the importance of ensuring that basket weaving traditions were passed on. Their hard work and determination are the reason CIBA is still going strong today. I look forward to meeting all of you at our upcoming gatherings and events. Achama. Nosúun lóoviq.

Starla Madrigal
CIBA Chairwoman



Vice Chairperson: Cody Walker



Vice Chairperson:
Cody Walker
Chukchansi

Hil-le hil-le!

Hoyowush nim Cody Walker. I am honored and humbled to be selected to serve as vice-chair of CIBA.

While growing up, the cradle baskets for myself and my brother were always on a wall of wherever we lived. Those baskets—along with several others that elders had passed forward to our family, and the head of a deer that my father hunted to provide for his family—were always a reminder of where we come from. When my own children were coming along, I had the desire for each of them to be welcomed into this world with their own baby basket and continue our way of life. Although I was able to find basket weavers who would make baby baskets for my children, I realized that this skill and knowledge were rare. And with this in mind I am grateful for all those that came before me who started CIBA, supported its mission through the years and provided the opportunity to continue the basketry traditions of our people.

To this day, when I harvest a deer, gather plants or bring good cultural fire to the land, I think about the connections our ancestors had to the land and the respect we paid to each of our animal and plant relatives. It is with this perspective that I also strive to carry forward the mission of improving land access, supporting native plant habitats that enable strong and healthy basketry materials, and providing cultural and basket weaving opportunities for generations to come. Take care! Gooyewishga!

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Association

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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:

Starla Madrigal (Cahuilla/ Luiseño)

Chairperson

Cody Walker (Chukchansi)

Vice Chairperson

Ericka Lopez (Luiseño)

Secretary

Diania Caudell (Luiseño)

Treasurer

Cristina Gonzales (Chumash)

Jennifer Malone (Wukchumni)

Mary Chepo (Mono)

Annalisa Smith (Payómkawish)

Chrissy Atwell (Mono/Tachi/

Chukchansi)

Ramona Rodriguez (Gabrieliño/

Payómkawish)

Delia "Dee" Dominguez (Yowlumne

Yokuts/Ventureño Chumash/

Kitanemuk)

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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.



Newsletter Design by Tiffany Jackson
www.Tiffanyhopejackson.com



Out in the Community



La Jolla Fire Gathering



Written by: Ericka Lopez

The Flames of Wisdom event went exponentially well. There were many weavers from the surrounding areas who came to either teach, demonstrate or to participate. The warm weather made it easy to sit outside and talk about the cultural importance of fire along with how fire can help strengthen the plants and the soil. Hosted on La Jolla campground, participants had the opportunity to walk the campground to see how a controlled burn can help the plants versus how a wildfire does not always benefit the land. In addition to learning about the importance of fire, participants were able to learn more on the importance of not bringing in wood to burn as it can bring in a beetle

that harms oak trees. The environmental staff were able to speak more on the beetle along with the current studies. The event gave participants the opportunity to learn to make a basket medallion from start to finish or to process and spin rope from dogbane. Many teachers brought different materials, some already prepared the materials and others had students process the basket materials from the very beginning by preparing the yucca start and then weaving. As the day ended there was a discussion on fire, such as the properties of fire, what is considered fire weather, conditions for a wildfire and how the campground prepares for fire season.





Good Fire, Healthy Plants Strong Baskets

Post 33rd Annual Gathering Wrap Up 2024

To wrap up the first day, after Friday's dinner it was an honor to have the local bird singers and bird dancers share their cultural traditions for the evening. Saturday included weaving demonstrations and continued open weaving time. With the closing of the silent auction in the afternoon, the action and excitement really picked up with people seeking to place their last-minute bids. Later, the dinner was followed by the raffle of items to close out the final night. Sunday's closing circle provided introspect, thoughtful reviews of the gathering and moving our basketweaving traditions forward. We are looking forward to the 2025 Summer Gathering and "Weaving our Culture 'One Stitch at a Time.'"



33rd Annual Gathering Showcase Entries



CIBA Gathering 2025



34th Annual Gathering 2025 California Indian Basketweavers' Association

"Hosted on the tribal lands of the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians"

June 27 - June 29 2025



Weaving our Culture One Stitch at a Time

Soboba Sports Complex | 24340 Soboba Rd. | San Jacinto, CA 92583

Friday, June 27

**Day 1:
Voting Members
ONLY**

Saturday, June 28

**Day 2:
Open to Public**

Sunday, June 29

**Day 3:
Voting Members
ONLY**

On-site registration and membership
sign-up will be available during the event

For more information, please contact us at:
Email: Ciba@ciba.org or visit our website: Ciba.org



Volunteers Needed

CIBA is now accepting Volunteer Applications
for our 34th Annual Gathering 2025.

If you would like to be a Volunteer
please contact: ciba@ciba.org

Link: [Bit.ly/CIBA2025Volunteer](https://bit.ly/CIBA2025Volunteer)
Signup today!

Scan
Here



Raffle Donations

CIBA is now accepting raffle
donation items for our
34th Annual Gathering 2025
California Indian Basketweavers' Association

If you would like to make a donation
please contact:
ciba@ciba.org

Memorial



Beth Barbara Silvas Guanche

May 6, 1925 – November 5, 2024

Beth Barbara Guanche was born on May 6, 1925 in a house, in San Jacinto, California to Albert Joseph Silvas of Soboba and Mary Elle Lester of Fr. Peck, Montana. When Beth Barbara was around 3 or 4 years old she moved to Indian Canyon in Soboba with her family. They lived in a tent while her father Albert built his family a home. Beth Barbara graduated from Hemet High School and left the canyon for college. While she was away attending college, Beth Barbara was also a school bus driver. After finishing school Barbara returned home and married Joseph Thomas Guanche of Santa Rosa in 1946 when he returned home from WWII. Barbara and Joseph had 4 children. Mary Margaret, Joe, Arthur and Albert.

Beth Barbara worked for the Hemet Casting Company and later on in life retired from the Riverside San Bernardino Indian Health Clinic Medical Records Department. She worked at both the Morongo and Soboba Clinics. After her retirement Barbara stayed active by volunteering her time at the Hemet Library as a member of the Friends of the Library group. She was very knowledgeable in not only the local city history but also the local tribal histories as well and was happy to share that knowledge with those who cared to listen.

Beth Barbara was an active basketweaver until her passing. She attending weekly basketry classes taught by Rosemarie Salinas at the Soboba Tribal Hall in Soboba, was a member of Nex'wetem, the Southern California Basketweavers Organization which was founded by fellow IHS colleague and basketry teacher, Donna Largo and Lori Sisquoc, and attend the yearly California Indian Basketweavers' Association Gatherings throughout California. Some of her fondest memories were getting together to fundraise to go on the annual bus ride to where ever CIBA was going to be at. Barbara would be there at the Soboba Tribal Hall on fundraising Wednesdays teaching ladies how to use their sewing machines and how to can preserves. She loved to teach and craft and boy was she sassy. She made sure to tell you how she felt if needs be and wasn't afraid to speak her mind. We sure are going to miss our Beth Barbara Guanche.



Irene Roan

December 4, 1947 – July 30, 2023

Irene Roan (Chukchansi) was extremely talented in basket weaving, beading, crocheting, gathering materials to make baskets, and gathering our traditional foods. She also could prepare acorn perfectly.

Irene's basket weaving surpassed many. Irene served on the Central Valley Indian Health board for 25 years plus. She attended many trainings to better serve her community, also attending basket weavers events where she developed many friendships and made long lasting impressions on the hearts of many. Irene is dearly loved and missed by her family and friends.



Lucy Rodilez Aguilar

March 12, 1951 – February 3, 2025

Tule River tribal member from Porterville, California. She was deeply rooted in her culture and traditions, especially known for her love of basketweaving. She found joy in gathering natural materials, traveling far and wide to attend CIBA events where she shared knowledge, laughter, and friendship with many.

Her presence was magnetic she always had a story to tell, and never hesitated to speak her mind, often leaving others smiling or laughing with her straightforward wit. She carried herself with pride and humility, a true reflection of her heritage and strength. A loving community member she will be truly missed and forever remembered.



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

