Chairman’s Message

The Tübatulabals of Kern Valley is experiencing changes with growing opportunities that will provide more exposure and development of a public organizational footprint.

One such effort is at the Lake Isabella Dam with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the Dam Modification Project. As an outcome of mitigation measures, the USACOE has agreed in concept to create a panoramic wall that will depict the Kern River Valley with Tübatulabal (Pahka’anil) language place names. Furthermore, they have also projected to complete the “sitting wall” at French Gulch Marina, in accordance with our (Tübatulabal) specifications. Additionally, there are two other minor mitigation measures they have agreed to complete, namely, a buffer zone at the Old Kernville Rd., campground site to protect nearby cultural resources and includes the tribe’s input on plant selections at a proposed planting site on the South Fork of the Kern River.

These efforts and others are intended to establish our Tribe as the true and aboriginal tribe of this valley and the surrounding mountains and desert area. Remember, our traditional cultural lands, transverse from Mt. Whitney (kaa la ka up), down the North Fork Kern River (Paal ege wan ap) on the west side and the South Fork Kern River (Ku tci bish wan ap pa lap) on the east side, down the Kern River down-river towards Bakersfield (pa la pa tal ap). Beyond recognizing our traditional land use areas, the important issue is that we are still here creating our “footprint” in contemporary times.
The Tribe is currently working with First Nations Development Institute on a small grant for public outreach in the Kern River Valley Community regarding the Covid 19 Pandemic Resurgence. Be sure to get vaccinated and follow all precautionary measures to protect yourself and others.

- Stop Covid 19 = sah mii nat!
- (wash hands) = maai tat!
- Wear a mask = ma ci bi’üh!
- Move over = wim cüh!

The tribe will be participating at the Rhythms at the River events at Kernville Park, during the month of August (Fridays 6pm to 8pm) by providing Covid 19 information and handouts. We have also collaborated with the Kern Valley Health Faire on September 17, 930am to noon at 6412 Laurel Ave., Mount Mesa, CA.
Enrollment Committee Message:
Enrollment Specialist Tina Guerrero

In our effort to ready our Enrollment Files for Office of Federal Acknowledgement (OFA) approval, we must be diligent in returning the completed required paperwork, as we can make deadlines. If you have received a packet from our Enrollment Specialist, please return as soon as possible. If you have not received an Enrollment Packet or have a question or concern about the Enrollment process, please contact:

Tina Guerrero = tguerrero@tubatulabal.org or 760-925-2092

In Addition, for our Tribal Members to be better informed, please make sure we have your contact information, this includes your mailing address, email, and phone number. We appreciate and thank you for your cooperation.

The Clean Air Mobility:

This grant, managed through the Kern Council of Government has reached out to the tribe to assist them with a Need’s Assessment on Clean Air transportation issues for the Kern River Valley.

“Kern Council of Governments is responsible for developing and updating various transportation plans and allocating the federal and state funds to implement them. The CMO Voucher Pilot Program is a statewide initiative that provides funding for zero-emission shared mobility options to under-resourced communities in California. To help assess the mobility needs in your community is eligible for a shared transportation program, fill out our Needs Assessment. ✔️ https://bit.ly/3ld7COJ Throughout the survey, we are giving away twenty $50 Visa gift cards. To enter, you must include a valid email address and complete the survey by July 31, 2021. The results of this survey will help Kern COG with planning sustainable communities as part of our 2022 Regional Transportation

Alaawich (Our language)
The following are words in the Pahka’anil language, from a booklet created by a tribal member, Lucy Arvidson and Anne Galloway, edited by Coral Bergman, 1976. The booklet was published by Malki Museum Press, Banning CA.

- ta punt = cottontail rabbit
- chik kiit = bird
- pe sht = mosquito
- kloo bal = fox
- u nal = bear
- tsu’it = jack rabbit
- tsu mül = mouse
Grant Work; Opportunities to Participate with our grant:

♦ The project needs volunteers to scan and transcribe documents, perform archival research and work with project staff as needed.

♦ We need funds to help meet our grant in-kind obligations. Individuals willing to coordinate fundraising activities and or donations are welcome. Go to our website, www.tubatulabal.org and press the Donate Button. We need pledges for monthly contributions of $20.00 per month.

♦ We are looking for tribal members and others willing to participate in Oral History Interviews and/or Focus Groups veterans, on the following subjects: cultural activities, allotments, family stories, tribal government, etc.

♦ We are looking for tribal members or others willing to let us take images of items in their personal collections, including photos of family and tribal events, familial and tribal documents, recordings, and objects.

♦ Elders willing to participate in the Elders Committee and contribute to oral histories and offer guidance on tribal history to the project. Check with Loretta Sandoval and Samantha Riding-Red Horse who are steering the Elders Committee.

Please contact Project Director Loretta Sandoval to assist or participate: lsandoval@tubatulabal.org

Please remember that work undertaken for this project is CONFIDENTIAL.

Final Message: Be sure to keep informed through our tribal website at:

www.tubatulabal.org and press the DONATE button in our new SECURE website.

Adau giim sha dulu = (I’ll see you later)

Robert Gomez
Chairman