



WINTER 2023 • VOLUME 32 ISSUE 1
SUSCOL INTERTRIBAL COUNCIL
Preserving Native American Culture for Future Generations



Staying on the Path ...Charlie Toledo

Well, we are in midst of a wild and cold winter. The good news is with lots of rain and snowfall, the renewal of all our waterways, rivers, and lakes are so needed. Stay safe. Prayers for all in harm's way.

So many elders and loved ones are joining the ancestors. We pray for their collective journey. Pomo Elder Tom Brown, Lake Country. Coast Pomo Elder, David Smith, Pomo Elder Raquelle Myers (Director National Center for Indian Justice just part of an amazingly long list), Drummer Ben Benavides, Apache, George Sommersal, Pomo elder, and Lakota elder Gayelson EagleStar. Also dynamic leader Sacheen Little Feather.

It seems many folks have been thinking and asking me about Suscol Founder Jim Big Bear King. He was such an incredible mentor and teacher to so many during the very difficult times when Native Americans were coming out of hiding and organizing locally and nationally. He always reminded us that human beings are made of water. We are made to adjust, change, and move. He often said the reason we were able to survive such horrible atrocities is our collective ability to adapt and change. He always advised us not to be afraid of change and to make the best choice we can at the moment. He emphasized focusing on the good. Reminding us of the Coyote, the trickster is always present in everything we do. Coyote makes us laugh and have fun. But never allow the trickster to be in charge. Good words and strong examples last forever. Thanks to all resilient elders and ancestors, upon whose shoulders we stand.

Suscol had a very busy summer, fall, and winter doing the workforce training bi-monthly internships. Sponsored through funds from California Coastal Conservancy thru the local Napa RCD. The Forest management plan begins this month on the hillsides from the same contract. This will be monitored and documented by professionals doing the heavy skilled work. Suscol will create teaching videos with before and after scenarios that will be available on our YouTube Channel.

As always we are grateful to the many volunteers, donors, and mentors who help further the collective goals of indigenous land stewardship and Native American Cultural preservation. Move towards the collective highest potential for youth, the unborn, and future generations.

Walk in beauty until our paths cross again. Charlie Toledo

Suscol Intertribal Council's primary mission is the preservation of Native American traditions & culture. To further this goal is the development of a Native American land project in Chiles-Pope Valley, California. "Suscol House" is a sustainable, eco-friendly, 23 acre open space. The organization is dedicated to the preservation and protection of Native American sacred sites and the human rights of all indigenous people by networking with other NGOs around the world.

Workforce Training at Suskol House sponsored by CA Coastal Conservancy



The California Coastal Conservancy funds through the local RCD was one of 5 community-based organizations in Napa Valley. The first time that federal dollars were channeled through public and private landowners. This project was to train youth and others about indigenous land practices, forest, and water management. Teams of young people worked on building gabions, clearing the forest understory, and cultural burns. This program started in February 2022 and finished in January 2023. This project will continue on a monthly, volunteer basis.





Suscol House - Workforce Training



We want to thank the California Coastal Conservatory and the RCD for sponsorship of this land project! The interns all appreciated the opportunity to learn hands-on. Contact the Suscol office for more volunteer opportunities.





Virtual Class Schedule

Meditations led by Charlie Toledo

Join us on ZOOM for meditations classes Tuesday mornings at 9am. Connect Charlie Toledo through email. suscol@susclo.net if you are interested in participating.

To sign up and for more information contact: sal@suscolcouncil.org, office@suscolcouncil.org or call (707) 256-3561

Dias del Muertos Napa City Celebration



The City of Napa Recreation Department hosted the 1st Dia del Muertos in downtown Napa in November of 2022. Juan Martinez was one of the organizers and Sal Garcia-Pinola participated in the successful event!



Native American Historical Trauma & Traditional Healing Project

We are pleased to announce that the upcoming Cohort #12 of the Historical Trauma & Traditional Healing Workshop series will begin in June 2023. We encourage you to join a Cohort and refer your friends, family, and colleagues. A healing element is included after every presentation. The workshops are open to anyone who wants to understand more about the history and tribes of this region. Via Zoom the third Wed. of every month. Pre-registration is required.



Workshop #1

Topic: "Overview of Native Americans in this region"

Workshop #2

Topic: "Pre-Colonial History of California Natives"

Workshop #3

Topic: "Colonial History of California Natives"

Workshop #4

Topic: "Post-Colonial History of California Natives"

Workshop #5

Topic: "Thrival and Tribal Resiliency"

Contact us to register for Cohort #12 ZOOM at: Suscol@suscol.net or by calling (707) 256-3561



Community Gatherings



**28th Annual Suscol Intertribal
POWOW**
Oct 1-2, 2022, Skyline
Park, Napa, Ca



**Thank you to the Head Staff,
Dancers, Singers, the Drum,
Vendors, Volunteers and to all
who attended**



**26th Annual
Art Auction, 2022**



**Thank you to all the Artists, Donors and
Bidders for an amazing turnout for our
26th Annual Art Auction**

News and Announcements



Congratulations
Monica Smith-Braun for taking the position of Treasurer ...again! The board is thrilled to have her join the board again!



Tom and Cheryl King-McMahan have been supporters of the Suscol Council for over a decade. From cooking at Pow-wows to serving on the Suscol board. We, the board, have had the privilege, honor, and joy of working with them! While we are brokenhearted that they have stepped down from the board, we wish them the best and look forward to when our paths join again.

Save the Date - Upcoming Events

ABALONE NECKLACE WORKSHOP

APRIL 16, 2023

LOCATION: NAPA, CA / ZOOM

**REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED FOR IN
PERSON CLASS**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR ZOOM LINK
CONTACT**

SAL GARCIA - PINOLA:

bigsal75@icloud.com

COST PER KIT: \$100

KITS INCLUDES:

- 4 ABALONE SHELL
- 27 INCHES OF SINEW
- BEADS/ PINE NUTS
- 4 CLAM SHELLS



Cal Poly Humboldt.
California Indian BIG TIME & Social Gathering
Saturday, April 8, 2023
10:30AM to 6:00PM
Forbes Complex - West Gym

Big Time and Social Gathering
Honoring and celebrating California Native Traditions through songs, games, resources, arts & crafts, and building community.

For more information or accommodations please contact ITEPP:
(707)826-3672 or email: hsuitepp@humboldt.edu

Artwork by: Daraxa Mattice
Tolowa
2013 & 2014 ITEPP Graduate

48th Annual UC Davis Powwow
Saturday April 8th, 2023
11 am - 8 pm
UC Davis Quad

29th Annual Powwow
"Celebrate the Harvest" Join Us!
September 30-October 1, 2023
Skyline Wilderness Park,
2201 Imola Ave. Napa,
California 94559

27th Annual Native American Art Auction- Open House
Details to Follow and Dates to be Announced



Remembering those who have passed on...



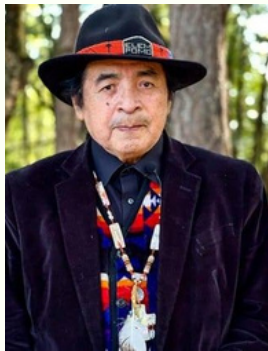
Ben Benavides
Apache Elder,
Singer, drum maker,
all-around great guy
well-loved

Tom Brown-
Lake County Pomo
Elder

David Smith
Coast Pomo Elder,
Culture bearer,
singer. Father of
many.

**George
Somersaul**
Elder- Dry Creek
Rancheria

**Sacheen Little
Feather**
Life-long Native
American activist.



Important Contacts During Challenging Times

System Navigator Frank Santos (707) 259-8160

He and his team will help people navigate through the Napa County Mental Health System to figure out the best avenue to refer folks to.

Napa County 911 ERT

Emergency Response Team - a trained therapist goes out on every call with the police.

Crisis Services: (707) 253-4711

The Crisis Stabilization Unit is open 24 hours a day.

Adult Mental Health Services / Departamento de Servicios de Salud Mental: (707) 253-4306

Options for the Medication Clinic, Adult Therapy Services, Adult Case Management Services and Older Adult Full Service Partnership Services, CONREP Services, Mental Health Court, and System Navigators.

Children's Mental Health Services / Servicios para niños: (707) 259-8167

Options for the Medication Clinic, Children's Therapy and Case Management Services, Children and Transitional Youth Full Service Partnership Services, and System Navigators.



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Newsletter Production

Rie Casale
Charlie Toledo

Photography

Charlie Toledo

Suscol Intertribal Council Board Members

Executive Director: Charlie Toledo (Towa)
Chair: Bruce Streblov (Cherokee)
Vice Chair: Makha Blu Wakpa (Itázipčho, Očhéthi Šakówin)
Treasurer: Monica Smith-Braun (Lusineao)
Secretary: Rie Casale (Ojibwe)

Suscol Intertribal Board Members at Lagec

Randy Foisy (Blackfeet)
Ricky Edy Feather-Cruz (Lakota/Pomo)

Cultural Advisory Committee

Madonna Feather-Cruz (Pomo/Lakota)
April Jackson (Upper Lake Pomo)
Coleen McCloud (Kashia Pomo)
Ronald Lincoln (Round Valley Pomo)
Leigh Jordan, California Archeology Inventory
Parry Murray, Giles W. & Elise G. Mead Foundation

Staff

Charlie Toledo: Executive Director (Towa)
Sal Garcia-Pinola: Peer Support/Property Manager (Coast Pomo)



The Suskol House

Suscol Intertribal Council is dedicated to preserving Native American culture for future generations. An integral part of that goal is the construction of the Suskol House, a place of gathering and ceremony for Native and Indigenous people based in sustainable land and water use. The Suskol House property is entirely off-grid and has low impact building development plan. The land was purchased in 1998 in Chiles-Pope Valley, north of Napa. The ultimate goal is to complete construction on the Suskol House and a large shelter for gatherings and ceremony. To complete this decades-long project, funding from the public is crucial. To become a donor, please send a check to:

Suscol Intertribal Council

P.O. Box 5386, Napa, CA 94581

Or go to our website suscolcouncil.org and hit the
DONATE button!