



JUANEÑO BAND OF MISSION INDIANS ACJACHEMEN NATION

Tribal Council

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THE JUANEÑO TRIBE AND JUANEÑO ELDERS ANNOUNCE SUPPORT FOR MISSION SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO 230 Years of Community

San Juan Capistrano, CA (April 22, 2010) – Recently Juaneño Tribal Leaders and documented descendants of Juaneño Indians gathered to honor and commemorate the Tribe’s 230 year relationship with the Mission San Juan Capistrano. Acjachemen Indians young and old gathered together at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 17 in San Juan Capistrano as they have been doing for centuries. The purpose of these Juaneño Indians gathering was to have their combined Indian voices heard in the form of an authoritative Resolution of Support for the Mission. The Tribe has 1,941 enrolled and certified Juaneño men, women, and children who have made a strong statement of continued support for the Mission and its leaders. The enrolled Juaneño Indian families have traced their lineage directly to historic Acjachemen Indian ancestors whose names are recorded in the sacramental registers at the Mission San Juan Capistrano.

The Juaneño Tribal Elders Committee include prominent community members such as Committee Director Rosalind Rodman Kosack, SJC Patriarch Thomas “Happy” Hunn, Teeter Romero, Wick Lobo, Barbara Banda, June Olivares Ramos, Jeannette Olivares McGreggor, Marian Walkingstick, Adolph Olivares, Clarence H. Lobo, Jr., and many more. The Juaneño Elders still bear the names of historic San Juan Capistrano families and bring significant heritage memory to the Juaneño Tribe based on decades of experiences at the Mission, Mission School, and Old Mission Cemetery. Other historic Juaneño families enrolled and standing with the Tribe include Rios’, Dorams, Somers’, Ricardes’, McMullens, Wandells, Valenzuelas, Lopez’, Hunns, McMinns, Yorbas, Garcias, Wattenburgs, and many more historic Juaneño families.

The heritage and memory of the Juaneño Elders is a significant resource of wisdom and tradition for the Juaneño Tribe. Juaneño Tribal Chairman Anthony Rivera, Jr., stated that, “We Acjachemen Indians honor the wisdom our Acjachemen Indian Elders and Ancestors. Their continued contributions to the existence of the Mission and their continued support of the leadership of the Mission is authoritative for all historic families in the Tribe. The Juaneño Elders have spoken!”

The Tribe and Tribal Elders will be respectfully gathering at the very place our Acjachemen ancestors once gathered to demonstrate the Tribe’s utmost support for the Mission. This will be a day of celebrating ‘Being’ Acjachemen and Juaneño Mission Indians, that 230 years after Acjachemen Indians built the Mission, are still living a breathing Acjachemen Indians and living to tell the world the tale to the next generation of the Acjachemen Nation.

The Tribe chose to support and honor the Mission and its leadership, Monsignor Aurthur Holquin and Executive Director Mechelle Lawrence-Adams with a combined and continued

Resolution of Support confirmed by the Juaneño Elders and historic families of San Juan Capistrano. A few individuals who are either not enrolled with the Tribe or who are not Indian do not represent the historic Juaneño families of the Tribe chose personal negative opinions that are not sanctioned by the combined voice of Tribal authorities, Tribal Elders, or 1,900 Juaneño Indians. The Tribe is working with the Mission San Juan Capistrano and the OC Arch Diocese to manage and preserve the Mission and the Old Mission Cemetery for many generations to come.

The Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation is the official Governing Body of the Acjachemen People. For more information on the Acjachemen Nation, please visit the website at www.juaneno.com.



*Front L-R: Brenda Gastelum, Cecelia Martinez, Fran Yorba, Mechelle Lawrence-Adams, Nathan Banda, Chris M. Lobo, Chairman Anthony Rivera.
Back L-R: Adolph Olivares, Irma Vaughn, Jenette Lopez McGregor, June Ramos, SJC Patriarch Thomas "Happy" Hunn, Teeter Tomero, Rosalind Garcia Kosack, Bobby Banda, Gina Stoffel*