## Yurok Election

### North District
- **Raymond McQuillen** (incumbent)
- **Jack Mattz**

### Requa District
- **David Gensaw Sr.** (incumbent)
- **Ron Bates**
- **Frank L. McCovey**
- **Dave Severns**
- **Juanita Williams**

### Weitchpec District
- **Sid Nix** (incumbent)
- **Alice Chenault**

[Visit www.yuroktribe.org](http://www.yuroktribe.org) for more information.

## Candidate Statements
Election Schedule

OCTOBER 12, 2011
PRIMARY ELECTION

OCTOBER 21
LAST DAY TO RECEIVE ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST BY MAIL FOR RUN OFF (14 DAYS) ONLY IF YOU DID NOT REQUEST AN ABSENTEE FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION

OCTOBER 21
MAILING OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR RUN OFF (19 DAYS)

NOVEMBER 2
LAST DAY TO PICK UP ABSENTEE BALLOT IN OFFICE FOR RUN OFF (5 DAYS)

NOVEMBER 9, 2011
RUNOFF ELECTION

POLLING PLACES

North District
Yurok TANF Office
207 Price Mall/Front Street
Crescent City, CA

Requa District
Yurok Tribal Office
190 Klamath Blvd
Klamath, CA

Weitchpec District
Libby Nix Community Center
Yurok Tribal Office
Hwy 96/169
Weitchpec, CA
Aiy-yu-kwee’, as your Council Member for the North District I am proud to represent you at Council. I want to get everyone up to date on some of the activities of the Tribe. The Tribe has many services for on and off-reservation Members and I want to ensure that all Tribal Members are able to access services. One area that I know we need to focus more on is elder services. At the Annual Meeting I heard many elders state this. I want you to know that I am taking your request seriously. I have raised the issue at the Council table and I expect to see a plan brought forth that puts elders first. As the housing liaison I have seen elders get prioritized. With the completion of four elder homes and more on the way in other areas, I see what can be done when a director makes it a priority.

As a Tribe we are very strong in advocating for rights and highly successful at seeking grant funding. What we lack though is consistent revenue from our existing businesses. I have been a strong advocate at the table to turn around our businesses from just breaking even to making a profit. The Tribe can’t continue to operate with no discretionary income to operate and expand its programs. Increasing elder and other tribal services that aren’t grant funded can only happen if we increase our revenue.

As your Council Member I have also advocated for a strategic plan that identifies our priorities today and in the future. Council Members also advocate for this, but it is yet to happen. It is often said that how do you know where you’re going without a plan. That is what I seen since I’ve been on Council, good ideas but no plan to make these ideas happen.

The Tribal strategic plan will require that all Tribal departments to work together for the greater good of the Tribal Members. The lack of coordination between departments is a large obstacle for the Tribe. It hinders overall progress and the administration of services to the Members. We cannot continue to have the departments in the Tribal Organization working independent of the overall Mission of the Tribe –

The mission of the Yurok Tribe is to exercise the aboriginal and sovereign rights of the Yurok People to continue forever our Tribal traditions of self-governance, cultural and spiritual preservation, stewardship of Yurok lands, waters and other natural endowments, balanced social and economic development, peace and reciprocity, and respect for the dignity and individual rights of all persons living within the jurisdiction of the Yurok Tribe, while honoring our Creator, our ancestors and our descendants.

I have voted no on proposed business ventures because I believe they aren’t sound business ventures. I believe it
is a bad business practice to use all the discretionary tribal funds to build a single project. We need to operate within our financial “means.” I think we need to diversify our business activities and to manage these businesses, “like a business,” to maximize the profits. As your Council Member I do not want to cut employment in one area while providing employment with lower wages in another. We need a business plan to maximize our business profits while creating more jobs.

I look forward to discussing these and other issues with you and would be honored to serve as your representative for the next 3 years.

Wok-hlew’

Raymond McQuillen

Aiy-yu-kwee’:

My name is Jack Mattz; my grandmother was Geneva Mattz (Brooks) from the village of Rek-woi and my grandfather was Emery Mattz. I am running for Yurok Tribal Council as North District representative and I would appreciate your vote so I can work for you – the people.

We all know that jobs – real jobs that can provide for a family – are hard to come by and harder to keep in this economy. Likewise, funding cuts in education, social services and other critical government programs are making it harder to survive on even the basics. The incumbent has voted against critical initiatives to provide much needed economic development for the area.

He has voted against the casino; against the hotel and restaurant; and against the fish processing plant. Elected officials are put in office by us – the people – to represent our wishes, dreams and desires. I think you would agree that these initiatives affect all of us and that you would have welcomed an opportunity to tell your representative how these votes should have been made.

As your North District representative, I will work to ensure that job creation is front and center of the Tribal Council’s and Tribal government’s agenda. We need opportunities for tribal members - on and off the reservation - that provide decent wages that you can raise a family on and that provide experience and opportunities to grow careers not just jobs. I will work with you to explore your ideas for business creation and will work to help any tribal member have access to the resources and opportunities they need to start and grow their own business. I believe that the tribal government has not been specific enough about job creation. As your representative I will push for a ten year economic and job creation plan that details how we will create a more prosperous future for tribal members and against which we can hold the Council and government accountable.

I also continue to believe that the new jobs and opportunities in the 21st century require a higher education - AND constant learning and improving even as adults. As your representative I will push Council to develop, with tribal members, a plan that outlines what an educated tribal member in the 21st century and beyond looks like - with measurable goals - and more importantly a plan that outlines exactly the steps that we will take as a Tribe to get there and how to measure our success when we achieve our goals. I will demand better outcomes from our vocational education programs and work to ensure that all tribal members - regardless of income or location - receive superior educational support - whether tutoring, college mentoring or access to resources - for themselves and their families.

As your representative I will not work alone in a vacuum. I will remember that
you, the people, have voted to place me in Council as your representative. I will commit to an open door policy where you can visit with me, hash out your concerns and, more importantly, work with me to develop your plans for me to take to Council. Not every plan is viable and not every plan is guaranteed to work, but I believe that as your representative you deserve a person with an open ear who will work with you and your ideas rather than dismissing them. It’s far more powerful for our whole district and the Tribe for each of you to think creatively about the solutions to the problems that most affect you - not the issues that Council thinks affect you. As your representative I will ensure that your ideas have dignity and a place to be heard.

With me as your representative I can guarantee that I will focus on job creation and economic opportunities; on better access to higher education and improvement for all tribal members; and an open door policy where I will directly and honestly with you to make sure your ideas and solutions have a voice at Council.

More importantly, I can guarantee that I will run as your representative and that major decisions that affect all of us will be put before you so that we can all discuss the issues and give me clear directions about how I should vote. I hope that you will consider me, Jack Mattz, to be your next representative for North District.

My home villages are Requa and Morek on the Klamath River. I teach workshops on traditional Yurok subjects like weaving eel baskets, traditional salmon cooking, fishing, net making, eel hooks and smokehouse tending. My latest endeavor is carving Yurok redwood dugout canoes as an apprentice to a master canoe builder.

I graduated with a degree in Native American Studies and Natural Resources from Humboldt State University, where I guest-lectured in many classes about Native American culture, resources and traditions, and taught students how to smoke salmon in the traditional way. I cook salmon for Native American events at colleges, high schools, elementary schools and community events throughout northern California.

Since you elected me as Requa District Tribal Council member, I have represented the Tribe in many places, such as the Departments of Interior and Justice in Washington, D.C. and in negotiations to buy back Yurok land and expand reservation boundaries; the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement, and the California Marine Life Protection Act.

All my life I have been an activist, as part of the 1970s Klamath Salmon Wars for fishing rights, or speaking for community rights, or for student rights at Humboldt State University and elementary schools in Del Norte County. I co-founded the first Native American Motivation Day at Del Norte’s College of the Redwoods. I will continue to be a leader, teacher and a student of Yurok cultural practices and an advocate for tribal sovereignty and Requa District. I would appreciate your vote on October 6, 2011.

My home villages are Requa and Morek on the Klamath River. I teach workshops on traditional Yurok subjects like weaving eel baskets, traditional salmon cooking, fishing, net making, eel hooks and smokehouse tending. My latest endeavor is carving Yurok redwood dugout canoes as an apprentice to a master canoe builder.

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Hi my name is Ron Bates Sr. and I am running for Council in the Requa District. My parents are Bruce Roger and Florine Fern (Charles) Bates, grandparents Earl and Violet Bates and Robert and Ada (Harry) Charles great grandfather Harry Waukell.

I have been working within the tribe in the Fisheries, Social Services and Tribal Courts Departments and YIHA. I am currently working in the Tribal Courts Department as a Case Manager.

In the Tribal Courts program we have been working towards restorative justice for the tribal citizens. Restorative justice is repairing a balance in lives and communities with all stakeholders involved. We have been working with the people to get their lives together and in some cases back together. This program is new to the Yurok Tribe that is very busy to learn the process of what can be done and what type of boundaries must be followed. It has been both challenging and rewarding to be able to assist so many people that had never known they could get any assistance. I have received the education that better qualifies me to assist others in this department and I am continuing my education to give the assistance needed.

I am an open minded person who speaks up on all issues to voice my opinion as well as to better understand the situation. I believe all people have a voice and it should be heard.

I believe that I can be the difference that makes a difference in the Yurok Tribe. So come out and vote for me Ron Bates Sr. Wok-hlaw.

To The Yurok Nation

We have lived here about 10,000 yrs. We knew this River & Land and how to live with respect for each other & the Land & River.

The Tribal Council forgot us. And that we own this Reservation & River and some of us still know the old traditions.

Did you know the Constitution says You have a Fundamental Rights Vote? Council can’t pass a Law or ordinance concerning any Fundamental Right without a Referendum vote of the tribe 18-20 yrs no vote we own the tribe everything period

Why do we put up with this? We have Dept Heads that are jerks to the employees.

You should check out the water deal the Council is making without your vote

Fisheries ignore your Indian Civil Rights Acts in the Constitution

Everything Fundamental has to be voted on by us.

Again I say this is our Reservation take Back! Vote, get it Back By Voting!
I apologize for not running wholeheartedly in the last elections but when I weighed having fish camp or advocating for my people the choice was difficult. I now know that I am ready to advocate for you as a council member and I am now asking for your vote and support.

I know that tribal government should and can be more membership friendly. We should have advocates advocating for us when dealing with the bureaucracy of the tribe. Your council members should be your greatest advocate, listens to your concerns, and act on your behalf. This should be a full time job not spent traveling, as there is enough to do right here at home.

I am tired of surveys and hearings of all our responsibilities to our elders and youth. Is time to live up to those responsibilities while our elders are still here and while our youth still needs our guidance. The constitution speaks of our responsibility to perpetuate our culture, yet the tribe has done little to teach something so essential to our existence.

Membership must be involved in the decisions made on their behalf by council. The council’s decision to sell carbon credits is for one hundred years and the membership should have had an opportunity to give input. The long-term commitment will affect future generations and these decisions are a memberships as a whole not by the few.

We have millions of dollars for loans for a sticker patch in Weitchpec and Capell that we bought from Green Diamond. The council told the membership that timber revenues would pay for this land. There was a timber market but it is now at an all time low, which means we have no timber revenue but we do have a huge debt. It seems to me that Green Diamond is waving a carrot in front of us that is not obtainable. Do you think that when Green Diamond is logging in Capell and Weitchpec that they tell themselves to leave some trees for the Yuroks? Do you think Green Diamond is going to let us make some money too?

What ever happened to the environmentalist who pay for the Yurok Parks? This is the plan I thought we agreed upon and now we are 8.5 million dollars in debt with another 11.5 million for the casino. It is the hopes that the casino will generate enough revenue to make the payments for the next twenty-five years. As things changed, council could have held membership meetings were the members were involved to make a decision to proceed with the park plan. We are all able to make intelligent decisions and choices, if the council would have just asked and keep us involved.
Soon the tribal cannery will be opening and it will require fifteen thousand fish to operate effectively. This is most of our quota of fish for the season. If a fourteen ounce can of salmon goes for two dollars wholesale, just add the cost of processing, cold storage, and trucking to realize that it does not leave much for the fishermen. It is time to organize a fisheries association to represent our interest so we can choose to whom we sell our fish to and dictate the price. The tribe should not force us to sell our fish for less than fair market value.

Our government has become a carbon copy of the United States government that has controlled our people for more than two hundred years. Our current government doesn’t remotely look like the old traditional farm of Yurok government. I thought we were a sovereign nation, a government in the image of the Yurok way of life.

Yeah, I wish I could promise you all kinds of wealth, the return of all our lands but of course, that would be a lie since I try to be a man of my words. I can only promise you that I will listen to you and act on your behalf. I will be a full time council member with my constituency in my heart at all times. Give me the opportunity to work for you using all of our knowledge together, guiding me through all the decisions and votes on your behalf. I believe that those with influence in their village should use that influence for the good of all in their village and not for themselves or their families. Let me represent you with that thought in mind.

My name is Juanita Williams, a candidate for Requa council member. My mother, Malinda Jackson Miller, was born at McDonald’s Ranch and resided at Requa for many years before her move to Crescent City. I was born and raised in Crescent City and my full-blooded Yurok mother’s teachings gave me a heart for my people at an early age. I have interacted with the people in this area all of my life. I’ve been married twice and both were Yurok men. My four children reside on or close by the reservation and are closely knitted into this community as are most of my fourteen grandchildren. I began my work career in the seventies by working for the Northern Indian California Education Project which sensitized school officials to Native Americans by placing native based materials in several northern California school districts. I coordinated the ICWA Program for Blue Lake Rancheria hosting a training program on ICWA regulations for many tribes. I drafted a State/Tribal ICWA agreement and tribal regulations for licensing foster homes. While working for the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Klamath, I also worked with the Court of Indian Offenses and Tribal police. I set up and trained interested community members on test taking for positions with the US Postal Service. Two of the trainees, both Yurok, received postal positions in Del Norte County. As a supervisory legal secretary for the California Indian Legal Services, I learned about basic Indian law and procedures. Working for Professional California Indians, Inc. taught me about Indian business. During the time I worked for the Consortium of Coastal Indian Rancherias, Trinidad Rancheria, Resighini Rancheria, and Yurok Tribe. I learned how tribes operated. In the earlier years of the Yurok Tribe, I worked in the enrollment, education, and social services departments. I was involved in the Poh-lik-lah movement to form a tribe before the government set up the Yurok Transition Team. As a Program Analyst II for the Chickasaw Nation Industries, I learned about purchasing and processing fractioned
native land. I am attending College of the Redwoods with a 3.635 grade point average and almost have my AA degree. I have always enjoyed new adventures and challenges. I gained wisdom, knowledge and understanding through the workplace, education and life experience. To the best of my knowledge, I have been consistent in my values, beliefs, and principles, and would consider it an honor to be able to serve the people in this area. I will be the people’s voice and not my own.

I believe in the commercial fishery and the protection of the resource. Due to increasing numbers of fisherman in recent years, the resource has to be monitored closely. The people in this area have counted on the harvesting of food resources for their own livelihood and that should never be taken away or endangered.

I believe people have the right to live in their community safely. Addiction causes an imbalance of body, mind and spirit and has become our main enemy. Substances are used to cope with stress. Will peace, prosperity, and unity be passed on to the generations or the confusion and pain of addiction. Like your families, addiction has caused harm and pain both directly and indirectly to my family. Most of our people do not intentionally hurt one another, but they become captive to drugs and alcohol. I know what it is to be addicted and I also know what it’s like to be free. Addictions interfere with our ability to maintain family life and work to achieve prosperity. Funding sources must be used to strengthen families, communities, education, housing, and job training. Assisting people to acquire these things is a kind of reality therapy. People sitting around in groups talking about their powerlessness and making amends for their lives is not productive. Our people need to be empowered so they can make the changes. With the Tribe’s programs and cooperation we can beat the addictions together. It should not be made hard to receive services that are paid for by the federal government. I believe in fairness and equality for every Yurok tribal member. Though, I do believe that priority for addiction rehabilitation should be given to those who truly desire help. Forced, court appointed rehabilitation does not work as well as it does for those who desire to change from the heart. I am 100 percent for anything that improves the lives of the Yurok people.

Please cast your vote for me.
Once again, I am asking the Weitchpec community for support in the upcoming election. Some of the goals that have been important to me have been met. However, there are still more goals that I need to complete and I will continue to work on these.

A big part of my job as your Council Member is to be a strong advocate for the Weitchpec District. As community members, you know that you can count on me to speak up for your concerns. I will either do what I can to help you, or know whom to go to for help. There is no issue that I will not take up on your behalf, as you are aware.

The people of the Weitchpec District deserve a Council member that has been proven to be a strong advocate for our district. Your Council member also needs to be a person of vision, as well as having a strong determination in order to work for the whole Yurok Tribe.

I have a record that is documented. In 1996, I voted for the Cook-Koppala land purchase that increased our land base by some 6000 acres. In 2009 I supported the Gerber-Gleason land purchase, which was 3000 acres. I supported the Green Diamond land acquisition, which was 23,000 acres in 2011. I will continue to support land acquisition as long as it is fiscally responsible for the tribe.

For the upper reservation, I have continued to see the importance of infrastructure. I have promoted a cell tower, at Pearson’s Store that hopefully will be up and running by the end of 2011. This is the first phase of our cell tower project. It will give us reception for some 5 or 6 miles from Pearson’s Store. Phase two, should be completed by the end of 2012, and this will extend cell coverage to the rest of the Yurok reservation.

I have also supported internet broad band service that will be available to the whole reservation by the end of 2011. This will not only benefit us immediately, but it is an investment in the coming generations.

I have supported our having a Road Department. Now we have one. This year, they will be adding 3 more miles of paved road to Bald Hills. So far, our Roads Department has completed 6 miles of chip seal and 7 miles of pavement on Bald Hills. They will continue to work on our local roads as they have been doing.

The ongoing P G and E project is almost completed. Lake Prairie is almost finished, and there are only 2 more homes left in the Weitchpec district that needs to get electricity. I will continue to work on electricity needs.
Law enforcement is a major concern, and my goal is for them to have living arrangements in our area. Working with Yurok Indian Housing Authority will make that possible.

Some of the goals for my next term are a bigger health clinic with more hours, Head Start in the Weitchpec area, child-care in our area, and a gymnasium at the Weitchpec School. Last, but not least, we need a computer center and more space for tribal employees that work in our area. These projects are important for the upper reservation, and I will be working with other Council Members to achieve these goals.

One of the high points has been the supporting of our 60-room motel with a small casino, and a restaurant in Klamath. This project should be completed by the end of September, 2012.

As for the tribe as a whole, we still need to create jobs and business. We still need to look at our resources and see how we can use them to benefit the whole tribe. We still need to provide job training, as well as formal education. We also need to address social issues such as unemployment, alcohol, and drug abuse.

I have enjoyed being an advocate for those of you in our community. By re-electing me, I will continue to be an advocate for you. With your support, I will work on your issues, as well as to continue to work on the ongoing ones. I will bring to the Yurok Council continuity and valuable experience. I will appreciate your support in the upcoming election. Please remember, “If it isn’t broke, don’t try to fix it.”

Wok-hlaw’

Respectfully,

Sid Nix

Auy-quee

I am Alice Chenault. I was born in Hupa, CA, at the old hospital. I was raised in Weitchpec all of my life. I have raise three children on the Yurok Reservation and am now raising my two grandchildren here. I have been involved with the local schools in our area for the past thirty year. I have helped my community with any needs that may arise.

I graduated from Hoopa High, I have taken several courses at College of the Redwoods. I have attended many workshops and trainings for Yurok Tribe Early Education Program.

I have worked for the Yurok Tribe for fifteen years as a bus driver for the Yurok Head Start, seven years as a Family Service Coordinator and a few months as an Early Head Start Home Base Teacher. I have been a part of the administrative staff for Yurok Head Start for seven years. I know the Yurok Tribes policies and procedures. I feel that this makes me qualified to run for Yurok Tribe Council Representative.

My vision is to turn the Weitchpec Fire Station into a youth and elder center and use transportation to transport the youth and elders to the New Yurok Center.

I am receptive to interest and needs of the Yurok Tribal Members and would advocate for the concern within the community.

Sincerely,

Alice Chenault
Two referendums taken off ballot

The Yurok Tribal Council removed two referendums from the General Election ballot in order to address important procedural concerns.

The Tribal Council will be holding public meetings to discuss with the tribal membership the possible pros and cons of the two constitutional amendments before they go back on the ballot.

The intent of the first referendum, “Blood Degree Criteria,” was to change to the Blood Degree Criteria and the Criteria for qualifying to enroll as a tribal member.

The referendum would make it so that applicants who want to enroll as a Yurok Tribal Member would have to possess at least 1/16 Yurok blood and 1/8 total Indian blood to be eligible. In other words, the proposed standard for enrollment would make applicants have to be 1/16 or more Yurok and 1/16 or more of another Native American tribe. Applicants would no longer have to be a full or half sibling of an allottee or have parents who are enrolled with the Yurok Tribe. There are many Yurok people who have much more than 1/16 Yurok blood, but are ineligible to enroll because of the way the rule is currently written.

The Constitution currently states that to be eligible for membership, applicants must have a biological parent who is an enrolled member of the Yurok Tribe and possess at least 1/8 degree Indian blood, or be a full or half sibling of an allottee of land on the Yurok Reservation with the same qualifying ancestry and lineal descendants of such persons and be of at least 1/8 Indian Blood. The percentage of how much Yurok blood an applicant has to have is not defined.

The second referendum, “Orick/South District Boundary Change,” was drafted to change the Orick/South Districts boundary line from the Little River to the Mad River. This would have moved the South Districts northern boundary line to the south side of the Mad River. The Orick District southern boundary would be the north side of the Mad River, which would include McKinleyville, Blue Lake and Korbel within the Orick District.