

Summary of Facebook postings by Berkeley Karuk group, March 1-7, 2015

March 1 (Line)

amtáparas • silver lupine

This plant word is made up of three pieces:

ámtaap = dust

-*ar* = have or be something

-*as* = plural

So the literal meaning is "dusty ones".

March 2 (Line)

apxantiich'athithxuntápan • walnut

This word is built up out of two big pieces:

apxantiich = white man (a shorter form of *apxantínihich*)

athithxuntápan = hazelnut

so a "walnut" is a "white man's hazelnut", while *athithxuntápan* itself has two parts:

áthiith = hazel stick

xuntápan = acorn

so a "hazelnut" is a "hazel acorn".

Comments

Notice that the long vowel in *áthiith* shortens when it's the first part of a compound word *athithxuntápan*.

March 3 (Line)

Shan Davis upiip:

akvítip • alder tree (Red Alder or White Alder)

Shan Davis recorded a lot of words for plants, animals, kinship, clothing and many other parts of life.

Comments

akvítip can be broken down into *akvít* and *-ip*. *-ip* means something like "tree" or "bush" and is found in words like *asáp-iip* (black cottonwood tree), *fáth-ip* (manzanita bush) and *axyús-ip* (grey pine).

March 4 (Line)

Shan Davis upiip:

champínishich • yerba buena

Comments

This is a diminutive, with the diminutive *-ich*, based on two roots:

thaam = meadow

pírish = grass

"little meadow grass": The *-ich* suffix turns the "th" in *thaam* to "ch", and the "r" in *pírish* to "n", and because "meadow-grass" is a compound the long vowel in *thaam* is shortened: *champínishich*.

March 5 (Line)

Shan Davis upiip:

panyúrar • beargrass

March 6 (Line)

Shan Davis upiip:

xunyêep • tanoak

Comments

This excellent word is made up of two pieces: *xúnyav* "tan oak acorn" and *-iip* "tree or bush". So it literally means "acorn tree".

March 7 (Line)

Alvis (Bud) Johnson upiip:

áchkuun • swamp robin