

Summary of Facebook postings by Berkeley Karuk group, November 15-21, 2015

Ayukîi koovúra! November is about the body, continuing what we did in September. This week is about arms!

### November 15

*átraax* (arm) is also used in the expression in the dictionary for a wrist watch:

*kusnáh'anamahach atráax unhíkahiti* • wristwatch

*kusnáh* = kusráh = sun

-*'anamahach* = little

atráax = arm

*u-* = it

*(i)nhíka* = to tie something on

-*(a)hi* = be

-*tih* = on going

So a wristwatch is "little sun that is tied onto the arm"

#### Comments:

This phrase shows many wonderful things about Karuk grammar. First: the *r* sound in *kúsráh* (sun/moon) changes to *n* in *kusnáh'anamahach* because *anamahach* contains the diminutive *-ich* (= little) and *-ich* changes all preceding *r*'s to *n*'s. It also shows how to make a passive sentence in Karuk. A passive sentence is one where the person doing the action is not mentioned or otherwise downplayed. So "The keys were found" is the passive version of "Someone found the keys". In Karuk the suffix *-ahi* makes passive-like sentences: so *unhíkatih* means "Someone is tying it on" and *unhíkahitih* means "it is tied on".

### November 16

Shan Davis upiip:

*tíik* • hand, finger

## November 17

Lucille upiip:

*mítiik pakxúuyvi*. • Wash your hands.

*mi-* = your

*tiik* = hand

*pakxuuyv(a)* = to wash one's hands

*-i* = command marker

### Comments:

Here we see that Karuk has a special verb for washing hands: *pakxúuyva*. There is no person marker at the beginning of the verb. Normally there would be an *i-* for "you", but when asking a person to do something the verb appears in its command form with a command marker *-i* at the end and no person marker at the beginning.

## November 18:

Shan Davis upiip:

*tik'ípan* • end of finger

*tiik* = finger

*ipan* = end

### Comments:

Here we see that *tiik* can also mean finger, as well as hand. This is similar to *fithih* meaning both foot and toe. We also see the good old compound vowel-shortening rule at play: *tiik* has a long vowel *ii* but when it compounds with *ipan* (end) the vowel shortens to *i*. If you listen to *tíik* and *tik'ípan* one after the other the difference is very clear

## November 19

From the dictionary:

*achíptiik* • middle finger

*áachip* = middle

*tiik* = finger

### Comments:

two changes happen to *áachip* (middle) when put together with *tiik* (finger): the long vowel *aa* shortens to *a* and the accent ´ on *á* moves to *í*. Both are due to general rules of Karuk compounding (putting two words together to form a new word): vowel shortening and accent shift. Vowel shortening applies to any long vowel in the first part of the compound, so here *áachip* goes to *áchip* when compounded. Accent shift places the accent in the vowel before the last long vowel of the complex word: in *achiptiik* the last long vowel is *ii* in *tiik*, so the accent goes on the *í* before that: *achíptiik*. Note that the long vowel in *tiik* doesn't shorten because *tiik* is the last part of the compound.

## November 20

From the dictionary:

*yáastiik* • right hand

*yáastikam kúuk tanivíkma*. I always weave to the right (i.e. clockwise).

*yáastiik* = right hand

*-kam* = side

*kúuk* = towards

*ta-* = has done or be in a state

*ni-* = I

*víik* = weave

*-ma* = to or towards

**November 21**

Shan Davis káru Bud Johnson kunpiip:

*ishvirik* • elbow