



The Official Cherokee Nation Satellite Community of Los Angeles

Announcements

Tsa-La-Gi LA

2015 Cherokee Nation Election

This June, Councilor Coates will be terming out as our At-Large Tribal Councilor and YOU will be voting on who will be replacing her.

This year's At-Large candidates are: Linda Leaf-Bolin, Trey Brown, Pamela Fox, Wanda Hatfield, Shane Jett, Tommy Jones, Darell Matlock, Benjamin McKee, Deborah Reed, and Betsy Swimmer.

Don't forget to register to vote and request your absentee ballot!
(registration/absentee request form included in newsletter)

March 31: Voter registration closes.

May 8: Absentee request closes at 5 p.m.

Call for Board Member Volunteers

Tsa-La-Gi LA is looking to fill two seats on our board.

If you would be interested in serving on the board for the Program Coordinator or Meeting Coordinator position please contact us at
Irwin.TsaLaGiLA@gmail.com

Tsa-La-Gi LA



Cherokee Los Angeles

Upcoming Events

Tsa-La-Gi LA Meeting

May 9

July 11

Sept. 12

Nov. 14

Meeting times and locations
TBA.

March/April Native Meetings

Fifth Annual Pow Wow
Honoring the Indigenous
Peoples of the Americas

April 18: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

April 19: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Dominguez Hills Sculpture

Mission Statement Of Tsa-La-Gi LA

Promote and nurture the historical values for Cherokee citizens living outside the Cherokee Nation boundaries.

To learn and retain Cherokee language, history and culture for future generations.

To be knowledgeable and assist the tribal nation in the issues facing modern Cherokee citizens.

To disseminate information on issues and to act as liaison for the Cherokee Nation.

Find us Online

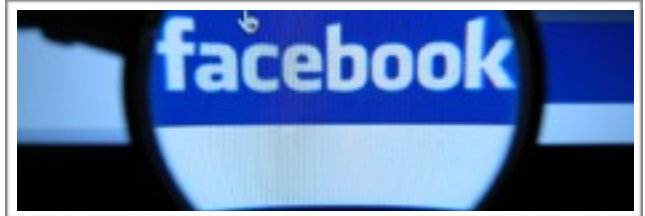
Tsa-La-Gi LA Website

www.cherokeelosangeles.org



Tsa-La-Gi LA: Cherokee Los Angeles

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/126121634262069>



At-Large Community

Are you ready for a CCO Conference UPGRADE?

Aug. 28-29, 2015

**Conference of
Community Leaders**

hosted in the Tahlequah area

We've changed the dates so our Satellite
representatives could be hosted
throughout the
Cherokee National Holiday!

Osdv, right!



GWXO D8P
CHEROKEE NATION®
Community & Cultural Outreach



This prehistoric triskel and scallop design was
frequently found in eastern Tennessee.

Not only do we provide travel and accommodations for our
conference, but you will also have the opportunity to
attend nearly the entire Cherokee Holiday Event schedule!
Travel, room, per diem, activities included! And you'll even
get a free day to do whatever you want!

CCO will sponsor one representative from each Cherokee
satellite organization. CCO will mail the nomination
packets by March 1.

Specific information and scheduling will be available soon.

A Message From Tammy Miller Cherokee Community and Cultural Outreach

It is that time again! The Cherokee Nation Community and Cultural Outreach Program is hosting the Conference of Cherokee Community Leaders on August 28, & August 29, 2015, leading into the Cultural Enrichment week August 30, through September 5, 2015, and then going home on September 6, 2015.

We are bringing together the leaders of all Cherokee communities, including leaders from the 14-county tribal jurisdictional area, as well as the satellite communities across the United States. We are so excited this year for the opportunity to have our conference the weekend before the Cherokee Nation Holiday and then provide you the experience of attending the Cherokee Nation Holiday events, including: the Holiday Parade, the State of the Nation address, the Pow-wow, and many other events. You will even be able to experience a Stomp Dance at one of the few area ceremonial grounds, which is not only a rare opportunity but an honor to be invited.

Your help is needed, however. Your organization will need to nominate one representative. Please consider all information when selecting a representative. This person should be very involved and a decision maker in the organization, capable of walking/standing for long periods of time, and willing to travel to Oklahoma

for a several days, and, the nominee is required to be a registered Cherokee citizen. CCO will provide travel, meals, and lodging for the conference dates as well as the cultural enrichment week.

Your representative will attend the annual Community and Cultural Outreach conference. This conference consists of capacity building and cultural sessions.

Due to the overwhelming positive comments after last year's conference, this year's conference will again be in Tahlequah, OK, at Northeastern State University. Your representative will be staying at the Heart of the Hills campus. We will bring your representative in on Thursday August 27, 2015 through September 6, 2015. We will host a meet-and-greet at Heart of the Hills campus at 6:30 pm, on August 27, 2015. We will send details of the days of Cultural Enrichment and the conference agenda soon.

Funding is contingent on a completed application received no later than **May 1, 2015**. After we receive the application and the packet back we will generate a contract which will require a signature from one of your board members.

We look forward to this year's conference as well as the days of the cultural enrichment. If you have individuals interested in self-paying and attended these events, that is allowable, however we still need those individuals to complete the same documentation as the nominee, but they will need to write SELF PAY at the top of the page.

They will be required to contact the Heart of the Hills for their room and board payment, prior to arrival. All self-pays must also contact me, Tammy Miller, and I will mail them their own packet to complete and will give them a detailed explanation.

There is no cost to attend the CCO conference and all meals during conference are provided by CCO. But we must have an accurate count of people that will be attending that is why we need the self-payees to complete the forms.

The cost for the self-payees at the Heart of the Hills is \$60.00 per night for a single and \$85.00 per night for a double. These are just like hotel rooms; they also have cabins that accommodate a larger group if you are interested however the cabins are higher on the cost. The meals while at the Heart of the hills will be a total of \$25.00 per day which includes Breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Keep in mind that it is 9 miles to Tahlequah from the Camp so you may want to utilize the camp for your meals during the cultural enrichment days.

We will be *going to water*, daily, as well as access to Barenfork creek, so appropriate clothing should be brought. The river, or "Long Man," was always believed to be sacred, and the practice of going to water for purification and other ceremonies was at one time very common.

Today the river or any other body of moving water, such as a creek, is considered a sacred site and going to water is still a respected practice by some Cherokees. (Cherokee.org) Wado!



Tsa-La-Gi LA Community Member: Brandon Caruso

A Message From Board Member Kimberly Locke

Tsa La Gi L.A. Council Member Brandon Caruso has recently relocated to Tulsa, Oklahoma, to take a position with Today Lending. Brandon has been an active member of the Tsa La Gi L.A. satellite community for several years.

He has provided ongoing support through regular production of our newsletter, "Talking Leaves"; creation of a new Cherokee Los Angeles website, www.cherokeelosangeles.org; frequent updates on the Tsa La Gi L.A. Facebook page, and the consistent dissemination of information from the Nation to our members.

We wish Brandon well on his new venture with Today Lending as he strives to inform our citizens, and those of other federally recognized tribes, of the real estate opportunities available through the Section 184 home loan program. He has pledged his continuing support of our satellite community as a long-distance member. Thank you Brandon for all of your support and your commitment to Tsa La Gi L.A.

Today Lending is a financial services company that assists Cherokee citizens (and other tribal members) living within the tribal jurisdiction and at large throughout the United States with using the Section 184 home loan program. As long as an individual is a registered member of a federally recognized tribe, they are eligible for services through the Section 184 program.

What is an at-large citizen? After what was considered to be the second great removal of the Cherokees during the dust bowl era, Cherokee families were dispersed all over the country in search for jobs and a promising future. Some of the more popular destinations included San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Chicago where not only Cherokees but thousands of Americans competed for the few jobs that were available in the 1930s.

Today, the Cherokee Nation consists of more than 300,000 citizens living all over the world. Of these 300,000, only one -third of Cherokees live within the tribe's jurisdiction, leaving most citizens without the tribe's housing assistance program. These Cherokees are the AT-Large community. For those living within the Cherokee Nation, housing assistance is extremely limited with only a few homes built each year and a tremendous waiting list that continues to grow every month.

With the help of the Section 184 program, Today Lending provides Native Americans, like those of the Cherokee Nation, the tools to obtain their own home without waiting in lines while immediately securing competitive interest rates with no minimum credit score or income restriction.

What can the Section 184 program do for your family? Not only can you use the program to purchase a new home, Today Lending can assist tribal members with using the Section 184 program to build a new home, refinance an existing home, or even purchase a one-to-four unit residential property.

Where can I build a home? Today Lending provides services to tribal citizens who live in Oklahoma, Kansas, Florida, Colorado, Washington, Oregon, California, and New Mexico. The Section 184 program may work in other states, but it is recommended you first check your state's eligibility at the link below.

http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=DOC_8762.pdf

Contact either Brandon Caruso or Chris Davenport at Today Lending to find out more details on the Section 184 program at 918-582-7283

Additional information is available at:

www.todaylending.com

2015 Seed Bank Offering

This year's Seed Bank offerings from the Cherokee Nation Heirloom Garden and Native Plant Site are now available. The bank's genetic stock has been replenished and there is a large inventory of excess seeds available to Cherokee Nation citizens. Some varieties are being offered for the first time this year. These plants represent centuries of Cherokee culture/agriculture and provide Cherokee citizens an opportunity to continue the traditions of our ancestors and elders as well as educate our youth.

It is important to preserve the rare genetics of the above heirloom crops and plants so if you request seeds, please be mindful of planting directions. There is a limited supply of these rare seeds and not every request will be granted. For additional information, including instructions on how to submit your request, send an email to seedbank@cherokee.org. Individuals must include a copy of his or her Cherokee Nation tribal citizenship card, proof of age, and their address when requesting seeds.

Native plants include:

Wild Senna
Buttonbush
White Indigo
Rattlesnake Master
Sunchoke

For more information, contact Pat Gwin at 918-453-5704.



Heirloom crops available include:

Corn

Cherokee Flour—a large corn
Colored (multi-colored)
White
Yellow
Cherokee White Eagle—a dent corn

Beans

Cherokee Long Greasy
Trail of Tears (a small jet black bean)
Turkey Gizzard (Black or Brown)

Squash

Georgia Candy Roaster
Gourds
Basket
Dipper
Jewel
Buffalo Gourds

Beads

Trail of Tears Beads
Indian Corn Beads

Tobacco

Native Tobacco (for ceremonial purposes only, not smoking tobacco, and for those 18 years of age or older)



Introduction to Cherokee Society and Government

an online offering through
UCLA Extension

April 7 through June 16, 2015

Julia Coates (Cherokee), PhD, instructor*

This course explores the fundamental aspects of Cherokee geographic, social, and cultural experience, and examines their unique basic values and worldview. As an introduction to Cherokee history, identity, community development, and tribal government, it acquaints participants with the most exciting contemporary Cherokee scholars and respected traditionalists, as well as non-Cherokee scholars who write about the Cherokees. Topics covered include consideration of present-day Cherokee existence as more than a "heritage" and an examination of the ways in which citizenship in a tribal government and participation in a tribal society are currently realized by citizens residing both within the Cherokee Nation boundaries and those beyond that jurisdiction.

The course is open to both students enrolled at any institution and community members. It is open to Cherokees and non-Cherokees.

Registration is \$605 before March 7. Registration after March 7 is \$665. Registration is open through April 10.

To register, go to <https://www.uclaextension.edu/pages/Course.aspx?reg=255337W>

Presented through UCLA Extension and supported by the Tribal Learning Community Educational Exchange (TLCEE) of the Native Law and Policy Institute (NLPI) of UCLA Law School in conjunction with the Cherokee PINS Project: Education for Sovereignty

**Julia Coates is a professor of American Indian Studies and serves on the Tribal Council of the Cherokee Nation, the largest Indian tribe in the country. She has 25 years of experience working in Indian affairs at the community, tribal, and national levels, as well as with non-profits and NGOs.*

A Message From Julia Coates

At-Large Tribal Councilor

Only a few weeks are left to register to vote in the 2015 Cherokee Nation General Election for Chief, Deputy Chief, and about half of the Tribal Council seats. If you have not already registered to vote, please do so now using the attached form and recommendations. The deadline to register is March 31, 2015.

All At Large voters MUST vote by absentee ballot or in person at the Election Services office on the designated days prior to the election date. At Large voters MAY NOT vote in person at a precinct, nor may they drop off their absentee ballot at a precinct. An absentee ballot request must be made for each election, so even if you voted absentee in previous elections you must request an absentee ballot for this one as well. The absentee ballot request form and recommendations are also attached. The deadline for absentee ballot requests in May 8, 2015.

For those who need to register AND request an absentee ballot, you may submit both forms at the same time.

BEWARE OF VOTER SUPPRESSION TACTICS

Those who voted in 2011 will remember the flood of calls from campaigns wanting to provide you with an absentee ballot. In itself, there's nothing wrong with this. Campaigns have an interest in getting voters registered, so they are usually pretty diligent about getting the request to you and turning it in to the Election Services office when they get it back from you.

Except...

If the campaign polls you about who you're supporting in the context of offering to provide you with an absentee ballot request, then it may be engaging in voter suppression tactics. Here's how it works --

The caller states that they're calling on behalf of a candidate or campaign. They give you a nice report of all the great things the candidate has done. They tell you they'd like to send you an absentee ballot request. And then they ask you if so-and-so can count on your support.

And right there is where we need to be wary. If you state that you support a different candidate, they say they will still send you the absentee ballot request which will have the address of their campaign office on it as the place where you should return it. But they will also note that you are NOT a supporter, and when the request comes into their campaign office, it will be "disappeared." You think you have requested an absentee ballot, but the request has never been passed on to the Election Services office. You will not receive a ballot and you won't know why. We had significant issues with this in the 2011 and 2013 elections.

So be very careful, as these calls are being made already. If a campaign wants to send you an absentee ballot request and they don't ask who you're supporting, it's okay. But if the question is asked about giving your support in the context of a call about an absentee ballot request, then that may be an attempt to sink your vote, if it's for another candidate.

Julia

Cherokee Nation Voter Registration Form
Return to: Cherokee Nation Election Services

Post Office Box 1188
Tahlequah, OK 74465-1188

(918) 458-5899 * 1-800-353-2895 * Fax: 918-458-6101 * e-mail: election-commission@cherokee.org



Must be 18 years of age prior to the date of the election to register to vote. If you do not receive a Notice form in 2 weeks, please contact the Election Commission.

New Application ☐ Change of Affiliation (District or Precinct) ☐ Change of Name or Address ☐ Other ☐

■ You must have Tribal Citizenship (Blue Card)

Name
(Please print) First Middle Last

Phone No. Date of Birth Social Security No. (Optional) Sex ☐ Male ☐ Female Maiden

County of Residence Mailing Address: Street, Box, Route Number, Road City State Zip

REQUIRED Home Address: Street, Box, Route Number, Road City State Zip

Driving Directions
For Rural Routes

Blue Tribal Citizenship Card /Registry # Citizenship Date (Date Approved) Your name as it appears on the Blue Card

Your Signature Date
Witnesses, if Mark used 1. 2.

ATTENTION NON-RESIDENT VOTERS (CITIZENS NOT LIVING WITHIN THE TRADITIONAL BOUNDARY OF THE CHEROKEE NATION)

CHECK HERE ☐ FOR AT-LARGE VOTING

RESIDENT VOTERS MUST MARK ONE PRECINCT

District No. 1 (Cherokee/Wagoner Co)
Cherokee West
Precincts:
A. ☐ Tahlequah
B. ☐ Hulbert
C. ☐ Okay

District No. 5 (Muskogee/Sequoyah Co)
Three Rivers
Precincts:
A. ☐ Sallisaw
B. ☐ Vian
C. ☐ Gore

District No. 8 (Adair Co)
Adair East
Precincts:
A. ☐ Stilwell
B. ☐ Westville
C. ☐ Bell

District No. 12
(Nowata/Tulsa/Washington/Rogers Co)
Washington
Precincts:
A. ☐ Nowata
B. ☐ Bartlesville
C. ☐ Skiatook

District No. 2 (Cherokee Co)
Cherokee North
Precincts:
A. ☐ Tahlequah
B. ☐ Lowrey
C. ☐ Briggs

District No. 6 (Sequoyah Co)
Sequoyah East
Precincts:
A. ☐ Sallisaw
B. ☐ Belfonte
C. ☐ Marble City
D. ☐ Muldrow

District No. 9 (Delaware/Mayes Co)
Delaware South
Precincts:
A. ☐ Jay
B. ☐ Kansas
C. ☐ Kenwood
D. ☐ Salina

District No. 13 (Tulsa/Rogers Co)
Tulsa
Precincts:
A. ☐ Tulsa
B. ☐ Catoosa
C. ☐ Collinsville

District No. 3 (Cherokee Co)
Cherokee South
Precincts:
A. ☐ Tahlequah
B. ☐ Keys

District No. 7 (Adair Co)
Adair West
Precincts:
A. ☐ Stilwell
B. ☐ Westville
C. ☐ Cave Springs
D. ☐ Chewey

District No. 10 (Delaware/Mayes/Ottawa Co)
Delaware/Ottawa North
Precincts:
A. ☐ Salina
B. ☐ Jay
C. ☐ Grove
D. ☐ Afton
E. ☐ Spavinaw
F. ☐ Pryor

District No. 14 (Rogers/Tulsa Co)
Rogers
Precincts:
A. ☐ Claremore
B. ☐ Chelsea
C. ☐ Oologah

District No. 4 (Muskogee/McIntosh Co)
Three Rivers
Precincts:
A. ☐ Fort Gibson
B. ☐ Warner
C. ☐ Muskogee

District No. 11 (Craig/Mayes/Nowata Co)
Craig/Nowata
Precincts:
A. ☐ South Coffeyville
B. ☐ Vinita
C. ☐ Welch

District No. 15 (Mayes/Rogers Co)
Mayes South
Precincts:
A. ☐ Claremore
B. ☐ Salina
C. ☐ Locust Grove
D. ☐ Pryor

***New applicants age 25 & older who reside outside the Boundaries must register at-large**

***New applicants under the age of 25 who reside outside the Boundaries may select to register at-large or in a district of your choice**

OFFICE USE ONLY

A copy of your original form will be returned if it is not filled out properly. Call 1-800-353-2895 if there is a question.

Received

Verified

2nd Received

Data Entry



2015 GENERAL ELECTION
ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST
ATTENTION: CHEROKEE NATION ELECTION COMMISSION
PO BOX 1188, TAHLEQUAH, OKLAHOMA, 74465-1188

I am requesting an Absentee Ballot for the 2015 General Election

YOU SHALL FILL IN ALL INFORMATION WITH AN * FOR YOUR APPLICATION TO BE ACCEPTED

BLUE TRIBAL CITIZENSHIP CARD/ REGISTRY # _____

*NAME (TYPE OR PRINT): _____

*HOME ADDRESS: _____

*CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

*MAILING ADDRESS: _____

*CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ *DATE OF BIRTH: _____

*SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

I REQUEST THAT MY BALLOT BE MAILED TO:

*ADDRESS: _____

*CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

**FOR RECEIPT CONFIRMATION AND ABSENTEE INFORMATION CALL THE CHEROKEE
NATION ELECTION COMMISSION 1-800-353-2895 OR 918-458-5899**

EMAIL: ELECTION-COMMISSION@CHEROKEE.ORG

FAX: 918-458-6101

PO BOX 1188 TAHLEQUAH, OK 74465-1188

FIRST DAY TO ACCEPT ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUESTS: February 02, 2015

ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUESTS MUST BE IN OFFICE BY: May 08, 2015

**FORMS CAN BE RETURNED BY: MAIL, FAX, E-MAIL IF SCANNED, AND HAND DELIVERED
TO THE ELECTION COMMISSION OFFICE.**

Tsa-La-Gi LA

A Cherokee Nation 501(c)3 Satellite Community of Los Angeles



Contact Information



2014-2015 Council Members



501(C)3 Non-Profit

www.cherokeelosangeles.org

**Please also visit the
Tsa-La-Gi LA Facebook Page**

Emma Snuggs - Secretary

Irwin Whistler - Treasurer

Kimberly Locke - Media Coordinator

Jason Reed - Membership Coordinator

Ed Young - Treasurer

**Tsa-La-Gi LA is a 501(c)3 Satellite
Community in Los Angeles of the
Cherokee Nation Community
Association (CNCA) of Tahlequah,
Oklahoma**

History, General Meetings, Membership & Outreach

History: Tsa-La-Gi LA was formed in 2007 as a non-profit organization of Los Angeles County. In June 2011 we were officially chartered under the 501c3 association CNCA (Cherokee Nation Community Association) and currently serve as an official satellite community organization of the Cherokee Nation. We are guided by our two Cherokee Nation Counselors-At-Large, Julia Coates and Jack Baker, whom provide information and expertise to our growing organization.

Open General Meetings: General meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of odd numbered months. Other meetings are scheduled to host special presentations sponsored by the Cherokee Nation including the Annual Picnic hosted by community leaders with officials from the Cherokee Nation in attendance.

Membership: If you have not already done so, please remember to send in your membership dues. All our council positions are volunteers; however we depend upon membership fees to meet various administrative and organizational expenses. We extend a warm THANK YOU to all who are current and THANK IN ADVANCE those forthcoming membership patrons!! Membership to Tsa-La-Gi LA is open to everyone. Membership dues are \$25/year for an individual and \$35/year for a household. Request a membership package by calling Emma Snuggs at (916) 512-9501 or email at emmasnuggs@yahoo.com. Address your check to "Tsa-la-gi LA". Return your membership forms and dues in person at our general meeting.

Outreach: The Tsa-La-Gi LA council supports local initiatives in Los Angeles County that promote awareness and support of a variety of initiatives for Cherokee Nation citizens. If you would like to suggest candidates for recognition, we look forward to hearing from you. If you want to send suggestions, updates, or news of interest affecting the Los Angeles community of Cherokee Nation Satellite members, please address your communication by email to the attention of Brandon Caruso at BrandonACaruso@gmail.com

WADO for your support! We are an official 501c3 organization. Any donations will be gratefully accepted.

Disclaimer: Membership dues are not for tribal membership.