
At-Large Advocate

A Look At What's Happening In Our At-Large Cherokee Communities



A Second Look

Looking back before stepping forward

A note from editor Brandon Caruso

As we close out 2014 we take a look back at what we've been able to accomplish as At-Large communities, but more importantly, as Cherokee Citizens. As a whole, we've taken huge steps to build on our relationships with not only the Cherokee Nation, but also between our growing network of At-Large communities.

The last couple years have been a huge growing experience for all of us, whether it's growing our numbers, establishing places to meet our friends each month,

or tackling the challenges that come with starting a 501C3 organization.

It's important to take a second look at not only what we've been able to accomplish, but where we plan to improve and what steps it's going to take. One thing to always keep in mind is that we, the people of the Cherokee Nation, will outlast any organization whether favorable or not. We push to become better, not because we are told to by our leadership, but because we owe it to ourselves and our children.

What will it take to ensure the Cherokee Nation continues to sustain itself and its people?

Fortunately we now live in the age of communication where even the longest of distances can be reached and added to our network. More than ever, we are seeing Cherokee leadership outside of the fourteen counties and communication is growing stronger every day.

We rely on 21st century tools with the same 19th century ideas that re-established our nation. The tools we rely on today may be Facebook, YouTube, Google, and even an americano now and then, but more importantly we rely on ourselves to show up. We come from all walks of life to show up to our group meetings, our conferences, our community picnics, and our national holidays.

So as we look back to take a second look at how far we've come, we also look forward to showing up next year and every year after that. We are the Cherokee Nation.

Sincerely,
CALL Net

CHEROKEE NATION COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

News from the Cherokee
Nation Community Association



CNCA Board Member: Jacquie Archambeau

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to write to your readership in order for all to get to know the CNCA; who we are and what we do.

The CNCA was created in 2008 as the point of connection for Cherokee Citizens who reside outside the historic boundary of the Cherokee Nation with each other and their elected officials. The CNCA is the central organization under which 22 (with 2 more organizing now) At-Large Cherokee Nation Satellite Communities chaptered and receive recognition as an official part of the Cherokee Nation.

The CNCA is a 501(c)3 Non Profit; one of two under the Cherokee Nation, the other non profit is the Cherokee Nation Foundation.

The CNCA works with the CN Community and Cultural Outreach (CCO) in assisting the At Large Communities in maintaining language, cultural traditions, civic activities and fellowship by providing programming, presentations, speakers and picnics.

On September 26th the new CNCA Board met and elected Officers to the Board.

- President: Bill Andoe
- Vice President: Dawnena Mackey
- Secretary: Jacquie Archambeau
- Board Members: Robin McLain Smith, Ron Qualls
- Ex Officio Board Members: At Large Tribal Councilors Julia Coates and Jack Baker

Besides the Board Election of Officers other business included:

CNCA is moving to complete the IRS Group Exemption Process so that all At Large Satellite Communities are properly chaptered under the CNCA umbrella. At this point we are reviewing bids from CPAs to write the letter to the IRS for this process. The CCO is covering the cost of contracting a CPA. We want to thank the many members of the Satellite Communities who sent us contact information for CPA's who specialize in the Group Exemption Process, this was very helpful. The finalization of the Group Exemption Process will lead to the chaptered communities to be able to apply for grants to support their local activities in promoting Cherokee language, culture and community.

The role of the Secretary is expanding to keep in touch with all the Satellite groups during the Group Exemption Process and beyond to ensure proper paperwork is submitted in order to keep legal status.

We are also working on a Social Media Policy to set a professional standard for the CNCA Board.

Robin McClain Smith made the announcement that Tribal Councilor Thornton was donating \$500 to the Cherokees of Orange County.

We are continuing work to support and strengthen our partnership with the At- Large Communities and Citizens.

Jacquie Archambeau
CNCA Board Secretary

Please feel free to contact us at:
board.cnca@gmail.com

CHEROKEE COMMUNITY OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA



The Cherokee Community of Central California (CCCC) is a community of Cherokees and of other people who are interested in Cherokee culture, heritage, tradition and fellowship. We are a non-political, non-profit Native American organization whose members reside outside the historic boundaries of the Cherokee Nation and Bands. We have organized on the foundation of our shared heritage and history and because of our love for the Cherokee Nation and its people.

Our purpose is to educate ourselves and others about the Cherokee culture and history. To encourage community, to make connections with other Native Americans and with

people who have an interest in Native American culture and history, and to facilitate the continuity of our traditions and our people.

Our charter was organized by Julia Coates of the Cherokee Nation. Founding members include Pam Peterson, Charles Twist, Rick Westbrook, Van VanLandingham, Dixie Flynn, Nietra Thomas and Linda Chambers. Most of these founding members are still active in the organization and have been joined by a number of new members. Together we are moving forward and growing into a larger community.

The Cherokee Community of Central California is located in Bakersfield, CA with Ridgecrest, CA as one of many satellite communities across the U.S. that exists under the Cherokee Nation Community Association in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. These communities were established to serve as a point of connection for Cherokee Nation citizens residing outside the boundaries of the Cherokee Nation in Northeastern Oklahoma with each other and their elected officials, and to foster civic and cultural connections. The association assists these communities in maintaining our language, cultural traditions, civic activities and fellowship. The communities are represented by elected 'at-large' representatives of the Cherokee Nation. Contact: Riley Rose (661) 859-4322

THE CHEROKEES OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

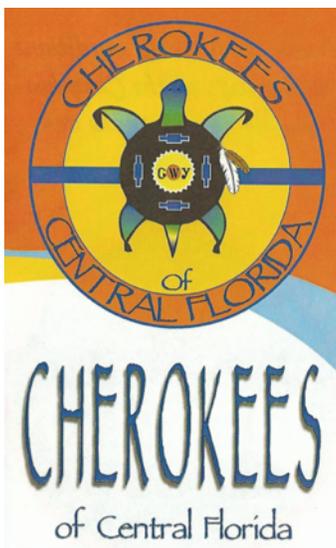
Discover the Cherokee Legacy

The Central Florida Cherokees invite you to explore the Cherokee Nation's rich history and culture.

The Cherokee people come from one fire. By sharing our collective narrative, we continue to preserve the Cherokee heritage and further educate future generations.

The Cherokees of Central Florida is a satellite community of the Cherokee Nation. Our members are predominately Cherokee Nation Citizens that live in the state of Florida.

The purpose of our organization is to disseminate accurate information regarding Cherokee people, Cherokee culture and Cherokee history. Although our primary officers and majority of our members are required to be Cherokee Nation Citizens, everyone is invited to join us.



Interactive Learning & Activities

Group activities may include:

- Basket weaving
- Traditional story telling
- Language and syllabary workshops
- Stickball
- Friendship dance
- Exhibitions
- Arts and crafts
- Cultural classes
- Genealogy
- History
- Current events

CentralFlorida@Cherokee.org

CENTRAL TEXAS CHEROKEE TOWNSHIP



Our tiny Township has had a busy time since we last reported back to the group! We seem to have settled on the Texas Music Museum as our meeting place, located just off the interstate in the heart of Austin. It's a typically Austin location, with pictures and exhibits of Austin and Texas musicians everywhere, and it's just a few blocks from the University of Texas.

For our mid-summer meeting July 19, CTCT was fortunate enough to have as a speaker Dr. Jody Sunday Kehle, a professor at the University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Kehle talked about the leadership of Ross Swimmer during his decade as Chief between 1975 and 1985. Dr. Kehle's father, Clarence Sunday, served on the Cherokee Tribal Council during the 1980s, and Dr. Kehle spent three years researching contacts she made in the Cherokee Nation through him and through her own personal experience. It was fascinating to hear about modern Cherokee history from a scholar who had direct contact with it! Dr. Kehle briefly touched on an incident called the Saline Courthouse Massacre, and we all agreed that she had to come back to tell us more about it in the future!



We found out that the San Antonio Township had asked Pam Bakke from Tahlequah to give a workshop on medicine bags, so on August 23 we were lucky enough to have her visit us after her trip to San Antonio. The combination of tiny beads, tiny pieces of leather and tiny needles gave all of us a great deal of respect for the artists who are able to create works of art using beads. I think I counted one actual bag that was created; mine is still in its baggie, waiting for me to complete it! The workshop was fun, though, and we were all able to visit and snack while working hard.

On September 21, representatives from the Nation came from Tahlequah for our annual Hog Fry! The food was delicious as always, and most of us walked away from the food tables with more than we could possibly eat. Chief Baker greeted us all at the door, and gave a little talk after we completed our meal. Julia Coates, one of our at-large councillors, visited us at our tables, as well as giving a talk in front of the group. Choogie Kingfisher led the entertainment portion of the proceedings, which included story-teller Robert Lewis, basket weaving, and stickball. We were also very happy to informally welcome Chief Smith and his wife, as well as Cara Cowan Watts, one of the other candidates for Chief. We all had a great time visiting with our Cherokee relatives, and no-one was a stranger!



For our November meeting, we are planning to promote a talk that Martha Berry, Cherokee Beadwork Artist, will be giving November 22 in conjunction with the East Austin Studio Tour. More information will be available on our Facebook and web pages as they become available.

And finally, coming up in January 2015 or so, Julia Coates will be presenting her Cherokee History course in the Central Texas area. We are looking forward to it with great anticipation!

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/121821744545503/>

Web Page: <http://www.centexcherokee.com>

Contact: Carol Stephens, carol_stephens@yahoo.com

THE CHEROKEE CITIZENS LEAGUE OF SOUTHEAST TEXAS

On Saturday, September 20, 2014, the Cherokee Nation conducted a program in cooperation with the Houston based Cherokee Citizens League of Southeast Texas, at the VFW Park and Community Center in Katy, TX, a suburb of Houston.

We were treated to traditional Cherokee storytelling, delightful flute playing, basket making instruction, great food and the opportunity for Cherokee Nation citizens to obtain official CN photo identification cards. We learned updates on the Cherokee Nation and the associated business enterprises, heard a review of Cherokee history and visited with the principal chief and CN councilors Julia Coates and Cara Cowan Watts. Former Principal Chief Chad Smith also attended.

Much to our delight, one of the stalwarts of our organization who was “there at the creation” received formal recognition as an ELDER from the Cherokee Nation. MARJORIE LOWE, who has been a principal advisor throughout our local history, is very instrumental in everything from publicity to meeting site procurement, with delicious potluck dishes in between. She can be seen here with the lovely traditional blanket presented to her at the September 20 meeting with local president Dr. Wade McAlister (right) and Principal Chief Bill John Baker. A recognition certificate and applause are nice, but we owe immense gratitude to her for the continuity and stability of our

local Cherokee Citizens League. Marj is a very accomplished genealogist who has enlightened many of us on our Cherokee ancestry.

ABOUT US:

The Mission of the Cherokee Citizens League of Southeast Texas is to assemble, clarify and distribute accurate information that will assist Cherokee Citizens in decisions regarding Cherokee Nation Elections. The goal is to build a community of at large Cherokee Citizens who can express their voting rights to enhance the quality of life for all Cherokee Nation residents and to secure a positive future for the Cherokee people.

The Cherokee Citizens League of Southeast Texas was established in June, 2006, in Houston, Texas, by Cherokee Citizens, registered with the Cherokee Nation. The original name was the Cherokee At Large Voters League. The current name was established by the membership on February 2, 2013.

Although we are based in Houston, we enjoy participation by residents of numerous southeast Texas communities, many of whom were originally from Oklahoma.

See our site:
www.cherokeeatlarge.org

Our next meeting:
 November 22 at the Clayton Library for Genealogical Research in Houston.



TSA-LA-GI LA



A heartfelt thank you is in order to the Tsa La Gi L.A. satellite board for giving me the unforgettable opportunity to represent our community at the 2014 Annual Conference of Community Leaders sponsored by the Cherokee Nation and held at the Cherokee Nation capital of Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

A thank you is also in order to the Cherokee Nation and Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Bill John Baker for offering its satellite community members the chance to fully engage with satellite members nationwide and those at the heart of the Cherokee Nation. Time spent as a group touring historical sites, eating and living together (the men in one part of the Northeastern State University dormitories and the women in another) was an enriching and memorable experience.

To know I was staying on the grounds of a university that began as the Cherokee Female Seminary in 1851 and later opened its enrollment to both male and female students was symbolic of the independent and determined spirit of the Cherokees and the value placed on education. The school was established after non-Indian American schools had failed to meet Natives' needs from educational and cultural perspectives.

Early on in the five-day conference attendees were treated to performances of assorted native dances, most of which were derived from Cherokee culture. The dance leader and singer explained that at the beginning of each dance presentation it is customary for Cherokees to give back something to the Earth such as a piece of hair or a prayer.

Helping tell the stories of the dances was Choogie Kingfisher, a full-blooded Kituwah/Natchez Cherokee and director of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee History and Culture Department.

And although photographs of the dancers were not permitted, the performers provided vivid explanations of the dances, their meanings, and of the regalia they wore. I can still hear the rhythmic beat of the turtle shakers worn on the legs of the female performers symbolizing the heartbeat of the ceremonial grounds and see the eagle feather tucked so neatly into the hat of the singer, which is customary. But it wasn't just the opportunity to interact with other satellite community members or learn about Native dances and stories that made this a rewarding experience. It was the chance to learn words and phrases in Cherokee from Ryan Mackey, a Cherokee citizen and graduate of the University of Oklahoma's Native American Studies program, and others. It was also the ability to choose from a wealth of professional, cultural, and historical workshops all designed to enhance participants' value to their satellite members that gave testimony to the Nation's commitment to its satellite communities.

We were offered tours of historical sites including the Cherokee National Supreme Court Museum, which was built in 1844, the Cherokee National Prison Museum, which was established in 1875, and the Cherokee Heritage Center, which includes Cherokee Village—a reenactment of life in a Cherokee community set in 1710.

Cherokee Village is also home to Adams Corner Rural Village, the Trail of Tears exhibit, the Cherokee National Museum, and the Cherokee Family Research Center. On the final day of the conference participants were given a choice between taking additional learning sessions or going on the community development mobile workshop to visit and tour charitable organizations in and around the Nation. This was an insightful experience and one that underscored the giving spirit of those living in the northeastern corner of Oklahoma. From a food pantry to temporary housing assistance, the community's efforts to willingly help those in need were evident.

Tammy Keeter-Miller of the Cherokee Nation Community and Cultural Outreach office served as the conference coordinator and offered her assistance to all throughout the week. Wado to Tammy and all of those who made this conference possible and for making my first visit to the Nation one I will never forget.

www.cherokeelosangeles.org

THE CHEROKEES OF CHICAGOLAND



The Cherokees of Chicagoland welcomed Principal Chief Bill John Baker, Tribal Councilors, Julia Baker and Lee Keener, Former First Lady Bobbie Smith and staff from CCO, Government Services and CN Registration department to Chicago on Saturday October 4th.

This was the first meeting for the Chicago area Cherokees and we are very happy with the over 100 people turnout. During this CN Sponsored event new photo ID's were issued, registered citizens to vote and answered questions about enrollment (there were many who were enrolling the next generation.). There was storytelling by Robert Lewis and Choogie Kingfisher, Basket Weaving with Pam Bakke.

There was a drawing for door prizes and it was fun to see the huge smiles on the children faces when they were all chosen to pick out a treasure to take home with them.

Both Principal Chief Bill John Baker and At Large Tribal Councilor Julia Coates spoke to the guests and were able to meet with many of them. Everyone loved the Hog Fry, which the likes of hadn't been seen in Chicago. It was fun to see the Hog Fryers set up in the alley between the American Indian Center and their neighboring building. The CCO staff really knows how to get it done! There was an extra challenge as Chicago had cold temperatures and had a little snow in the morning.

The event was held at the American Indian Center of Chicago (AIC), the oldest Urban Indian Community Center in the US. The AIC was

established in 1953 in response to a flood of Indian people from reservations throughout North America into 5 urban areas of which Chicago was one, due to the Indian Relocation Act of the '50s. Representatives from other tribes were our special guests for the event.

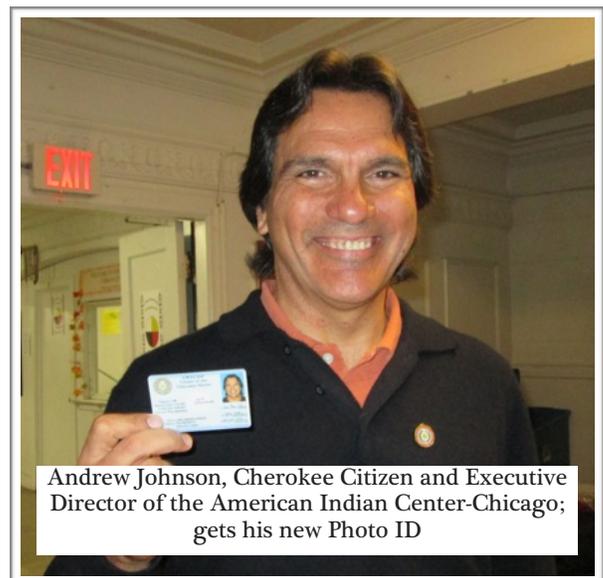
The Cherokees of Chicagoland are now forming and we look forward to having you join us for Cherokee Culture and Community.



Hog Frying Urban Style; in an alley!

For more information about the Cherokees of Chicagoland

Email: cherokeesofchicagoland@gmail.com



Andrew Johnson, Cherokee Citizen and Executive Director of the American Indian Center-Chicago; gets his new Photo ID

CHEROKEE SOCIETY OF THE GREATER BAY AREA



Our Cherokee Society of the Greater Bay Area continues to expand its cultural offerings with ongoing language classes, beading groups, lectures, and crafts projects (most recently moccasin construction). This fall we will sponsor an intensive ceramics course taught by Cherokee National Treasure, Jane Osti, where we will learn about and create our own works of art while studying ancient pottery techniques and materials. We are growing sweet grass and will cut and decorate booger masks after fall harvest of the gourds. We welcome at-large Cherokee citizens as well as anyone interested in preserving our heritage to come to our meetings and join in on the fun and camaraderie.

A note from Sue Remick, member of CSGBA and awardee of Cherokee National Community-Organization Award:

My Cherokee grandfather died when my mother was 3, taking with him the family knowledge of our Cherokee roots. I grew up knowing almost nothing about our heritage.

As an adult, I became interested in genealogy, and in particular, my Cherokee genealogy. My quest for information has taken me to Tennessee twice, to Missouri once, and to Oklahoma five times. I have spent many hours in the Cherokee Heritage Center digging through files and in countless Oklahoma cemeteries searching for clues and hoping to eventually hook up with a living Cherokee relative.

Our CSGBA group posts information about our Council on the internet. I chose to list the names of the earliest ancestors I could document from my direct ancestry line. This was about 8 years ago.

Recently I received a hand-written letter from a woman in Oklahoma stating that she had read my CSGBA personal biographical information on the internet and also traces her family roots back to the

same people I cited. In other words, we are cousins. She also sent me her email address. In our subsequent conversations, she referred me to the family historian, Elizabeth, who lives in Pryor. I was able to meet Elizabeth in June 2014, when I attended the Community Outreach Conference and then see her again in August, when our CSGBA group was given an award for its cultural work. She and I have developed a wonderful relationship, both through our common interest in genealogy, but also, I believe, because of our shared family traits. Elizabeth is 100 years old and is still sharp (probably more so than many of us!) and full of life. And, she knows the family history extremely well since she has lived through it personally. When she recounts stories, it is amazing to fathom the thought that she has lived through so many bygone eras in her life and that she has personally known the people I've been researching. She has taken me to remote areas of Oklahoma where we've discovered the graves of our "Trail of Tears" ancestors, driven on dirt roads looking for family folks still living in areas that we inhabited well over a century ago, and all the while discussing the family stories that surrounded the areas we visited. We have already had some interesting and unforgettable adventures. I am proud to have her as my relative and am utterly thankful that we have met and grown to genuinely care about one another. And I feel incredibly welcomed to be a part of our "Oklahoma" family, both through the Nation and through my family. I have been given a lifetime gift.

If we had not formed a Cherokee Nation satellite group, and had I not joined, none of this would have happened. My membership in CSGBA has taken me on a long and wonderful life journey. Thank you CSGBA!



Sue receiving the Cherokee National Community-Organization Award

CHEROKEE COMMUNITY OF THE INLAND EMPIRE



Here are a few highlights from our gathering on Saturday with our Guest speaker from the Cherokee Nation, Mr. JP Johnson. He spoke of the teachings, and values of the stickball game to the Cherokees as well as our neighboring tribes in the Southeast. Reviewing the different versions that are currently played as well as the known historical versions.



All present were able to handle the different versions of game sticks with an in-depth explanation on the variances in the manufacture and weight of the sticks. Game rules were reviewed, basically only two rules apply with most versions; the most important, not lose your temper, or you are “switched out”. Our community and guests were treated to a short video presentation with pictures and film dating from the late 1800’s to present day games. At the conclusion of JP’s talk all present were invited to the adjoining grass area to play a game of stickball. It was great fun for those playing as well as the community observers. As several players and observers exclaimed at the end of the demonstration game “when can we play again?”, “this was so much fun, I want to play at every meeting!”

Cherokee Community of the Inland Empire
 Meets the 3rd Saturday of every month
 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
 In Bennett Hall on the campus of Sherman Indian High School in Riverside, California
www.cherokeecommunityie.org

MT HOOD CHEROKEES



Mt. Hood Cherokees welcomes visitors! Please join us.

We usually meet:

2nd Saturday of each Month

10:00 am-1:00 am

Wilshire United Methodist Native American Fellowship

Mt. Hood Cherokees (MHC) meets regularly in Portland, Oregon and our members reside in Oregon and Washington. We have been busy since the last edition of the At-Large Advocate! In June, Cherokee Nation Councilors Jack Baker and Julia Coates visited and gave presentations at our meeting. Matt Morton from Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA) reported on NAYA at our July meeting. Tonia Hogner-Weavel from Cherokee Nation also presented on Traditional Cherokee Clothing. Our annual joint picnic with Willamette Tsa-La-Gi Community was held in Portland in August at NAYA. Jane Osti led us in a workshop and taught us about Cherokee Pottery in September.



Chief Baker presenting Cherokee Warrior Award to Crystal Trulove



David Crawford accepts Cherokee Warrior Award for Jim Harnage

CHEROKEES OF ORANGE COUNTY

Cherokees of Orange County CA
Invites you to join us at our 6th Annual Harvest Festival
November 08th, 11:00 AM
Native American United Methodist Church Hall
800 S. Lemon Ave * Anaheim, CA 92805

CHEROKEES OF ORANGE COUNTY, CA
*** P.O. Box 10755 * Santa Ana, CA 92711***
www.cherokeesoforangecounty.com

The Council members will be providing a traditional Cherokee meal for the festival. The cost for the event is
\$12.00 each for non-members;
C.O.C. members \$6.00; and Children 12 & under are free

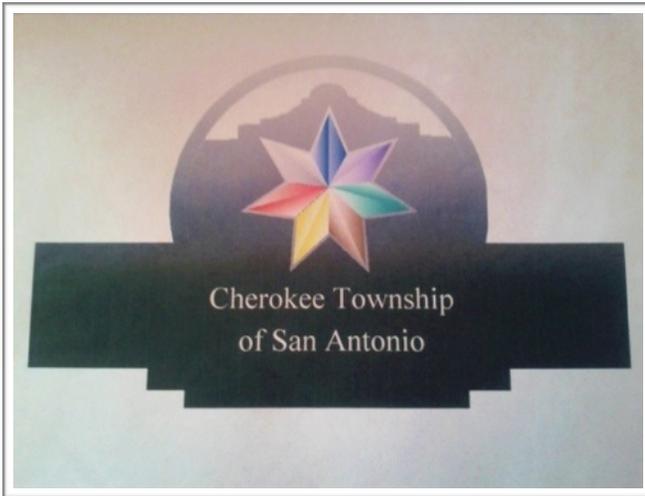
Robert Lewis, Cherokee Nation Storyteller
will be performing on our stage.



There will be an Opportunity Drawing – one (1) free ticket will be presented to you at the door...extra tickets are \$1.00 or 6 for \$5.00. We will also have a Silent Auction for donated items from our community.

This is our annual fund-raising event for our program

CHEROKEE TOWNSHIP OF SAN ANTONIO



The Cherokee Township of San Antonio is a group that enjoys getting together and getting to know each other. We are going to be busy this fall. We will make several presentations at the public libraries in San Antonio in November for Native American Heritage Month. We did this last year and had a very good response!

We were at the San Marcos Powwow on October 4th, and will be at the Ft. Sam Houston Powwow on November 15th. If you are in the area, please stop by our booth! In December we will have a Christmas get-together to wrap up the year.

Over the course of this past year, we have hosted the following cultural activities during our meetings: Jane Osti taught us how to make pottery, Pam Bakke gave a presentation and helped us learn to make medicine bags, presentation on Cherokee culture and traditions, including dance, by Dr. Jonathan Hooke.

We have had the honor of visits by our At-Large Tribal Council representatives, Dr. Julia Coates

and Jack Baker. They gave us updates regarding Cherokee Nation issues and health insurance information.

Our township sent three representatives to the Leadership Conference in May and several members were able to attend the National Holiday in Tahlequah this year! We had a very good turnout for the Annual Community Event and Hog Fry in September in San Marcos!

Our group is growing and we have welcomed several new members in recent months! If anyone is interested in learning more about our group, please visit our facebook page: "Cherokee Township San Antonio". Our meeting dates and locations for the new year will be posted there. If you are interested in receiving our local newsletter, please contact Cassandra Kasbohm at: kasbohm@yahoo.com. We are looking for people that would love to join us and become part of our Township family!



DESERT CHEROKEES OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA



TUCSON, AZ (Sept 24, 2014)—The University of Arizona Women's Plaza of Honor is one of the few places in the United States that specifically honors the accomplishments of women. Even more rare, are permanent and public monuments to the accomplishments of Native American women. The campus's 10-year-old, sculpturesque monument includes an arch specifically dedicated to recognizing the Native leaders, artists, healers, scholars, mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends who have brought honor to their communities.

On October 24, LaDonna Harris (Comanche) and the late Wilma Mankiller (Cherokee) will be honored at an induction ceremony. The public is invited to attend the program and a reception immediately following.

Ms. Harris will appear in person. Also appearing will be Charlie Soap (Cherokee), the late Ms. Mankiller's husband and community development partner of more than 30 years.

www.facebook.com/DesertCherokees



Accomplishments of Both Women Celebrated in Film

The public is invited to see two films documenting the remarkable lives and accomplishments of Harris and Mankiller on Sunday, October 26 at The Loft Cinema. There will be a subsequent panel discussion featuring distinguished guests LaDonna Harris and Charlie Soap. 1:00 – 6:00 p.m. \$10/\$8 Arizona State Museum and Loft members, UA students, tribal community members. See www.loftcinema.com for full details. The Loft Cinema is located at 3233 E. Speedway Blvd in Tucson.

ACADEMIC CORNER



Cherokee Nation Citizen: Jessica Lackey

Siyo nigada! My name is Jessica Lackey. I am an enrolled citizen of the Cherokee Nation. Like many of you I grew up away from the nation. I was born and raised in the East Bay Area in California. Even though we were 2,000 miles away from Indian Territory, my mother, Jacquie Archambeau, raised my sister and I as Cherokee women, passing on what cultural knowledge and traditions she held from her mother and grandmother. Our family made many trips throughout my childhood to Oklahoma to visit our kin, to reconnect with the land, and to celebrate the annual Cherokee National Holiday. Two thousand miles away, but I have always known who I am, *tsitsalagi!*

After graduating from high school I attended Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, KS. Haskell is an all Native American federal institute of higher education that provides tuition-free Associate and Bachelor degree programs. Opened in 1884 as an Indian boarding school, this institute who’s original intent was to suppress Native American identity, to “Kill the Indian, Save the Man”, has been reformed into a

university that not only embraces a diversity of students from Native American and Alaskan Native tribes from across the country, but also integrates their cultural beliefs and knowledges into much of their curriculum. It was at Haskell that I was able to begin relearning my native language. My undergraduate education at Haskell, although sometimes frustrating, as any Indian knows a bureaucratic system can be, was rich in experience and knowledge gained. My studies in the Indigenous and American Indian Studies program imparted on me history I had never learned in my former public schools, topics and issues affecting tribes today, and prepared me with tools and routes on how I could contribute to Indian Country in a proactive manner. Extra curricular activities, such as being involved in the Wetlands Preservation Organization (a student run club) and interning at the Haskell Cultural Center and Museum, involved me in the local communities and helped me understand the importance of educating and building ties with non-native allies. The connections I made with students, faculty and many members of the Lawrence community still hold strongly almost three years after I graduated. I do not believe I would be where I am today, studying at the University of Minnesota in the Twin Cities in a Natural Resources Management PhD program, if I hadn’t attended Haskell.

When Brandon Caruso approached me about the At-Large newsletter, I knew right away that I wanted to contribute information for students. There are tremendous opportunities for American Indian students of all levels throughout the United States: scholarships, internships, fellowships, as well as tuition free college programs. Haskell gave me a foundation of knowledge associated with many of these funding opportunities and programs and I have continued to learn about more of them every year from other sources. It is my hope that this section of the newsletter can benefit our At-Large citizens who may not be aware of the possibilities to advance their knowledge and to provide them with information covering a broad array of interest areas. I welcome input from our At-Large communities and hope that I can help you in you or your child’s endeavors. *Wado!*

ACADEMIC CORNER

The following is a small selection of information regarding scholarships, internships, fellowships, and college/university programs. Additional information on opportunities will be continually updated and posted on our Facebook group page as they come to our attention:

www.facebook.com/groups/nativeamericanstudentinformation

High School Student Opportunities/Scholarships:College Horizons-

“College Horizons is a pre-college program for Native American, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian high school students open to sophomores and juniors. Each summer, students work with college admissions officers, college counselors, essay specialists, and other educators in a six-day college admissions workshop focused on understanding the college admissions/application process.”

For more information visit:

<http://collegehorizons.publishpath.com>

Registration begins October 15th, 2014

QuestBridge-

“QuestBridge is a powerful platform bridging the nation's brightest, under-served youth and leading institutions of higher education and further opportunities. We are an aggregator of excellence. QuestBridge provides a single, internet-based meeting point which links exceptional students with colleges, scholarship providers, enrichment programs employers, and organizations seeking students who have excelled despite obstacles. By facilitating these exchanges, QuestBridge aims to increase the percentage of talented low-income students attending the nation's best universities and the ranks of national leadership itself.”

For more information visit:

<http://www.questbridge.org/index.php>

Indians Into Medicine Summer Institute: University of North Dakota-

“The INMED Summer Institute provides an opportunity for American Indian students grades 7 through 12 to enhance their knowledge in biology, chemistry, communication and study skills, health, math, and physics on a college campus setting. While the courses are not accredited, they will enrich the students' existing knowledge and prepare them for upcoming class work. Each year, 90 students from locations all over the United States are selected to attend. In addition to academic enrichment, students also participate in physical education activities and exciting field trips.”

For more information visit:

<http://www.med.und.edu/indians-into-medicine/summer-programs.cfm>

Applications must be postmarked by March 1st, 2015

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK): High School STEP-UP Summer Program-

“The High School STEP-UP provides hands-on summer research experience for high school students interested in exploring research careers in the biomedical, behavioral, clinical and social sciences. The program provides exposure to the core NIDDK mission areas of diabetes, endocrinology and metabolic diseases; digestive diseases and nutrition; kidney, urologic and hematologic diseases.”

For more information visit: <https://stepup.niddk.nih.gov/hs.aspx>

Applications and supporting documents are due February 15, 2015

Undergraduate and Graduate Student Opportunities/Scholarships:The American Indian College Fund (AICF)-

A huge resource of scholarships for American Indian and Alaskan Native undergraduate and graduate students attending either tribal or mainstream colleges and universities. The website also provides information on internships, fellowships, and jobs.

For more information visit: <http://www.collegefund.org>

Application deadlines: Full Circle scholarship applications (for students at mainstream colleges) are open from January 1st to May 31st each year. Tribal Colleges and University scholarship applications are open at the beginning of every spring and fall semester, although exact dates vary by school. Contact your financial aid office for details.

American Indian Graduate Center (AIGC)-

Similar to the American Indian College Fund, this is another great source for undergraduate and graduate students seeking scholarships, fellowships, internships, jobs, and support to attend academic conferences.

For more information visit: <http://www.aigcs.org>

Application deadlines vary.

ACADEMIC CORNER

Haskell Indian Nations University- Undergraduate Education:

“The mission of Haskell Indian Nations University, a land grant institution, is to serve members of federally recognized American Indian and Alaska Native nations as authorized by Congress and in partial fulfillment of treaty and trust obligations. With student learning as its focus, Haskell embraces the principles of sovereignty and self-determination through a culturally based holistic lifelong learning environment that promotes and upholds respect, rights, and responsibility. Today, Haskell has an average enrollment of over 1000 students each semester. Students represent federally recognized tribes from across the United States and are as culturally diverse as imaginable. Students select programs that will prepare them to enter baccalaureate programs in elementary teacher education, American Indian studies, business administration, and environmental science; to transfer to another baccalaureate degree-granting institution; or to enter directly into employment.” Haskell provides students an education tuition free.

For more information visit: <http://www.haskell.edu>

Application deadlines:

June 1 – Fall Semester

November 15 – Spring Semester

Earlier submission than noted deadlines is highly recommended.

University of Minnesota-Morris- Undergraduate Education:

“The University of Minnesota, Morris (UMM) provides a rigorous undergraduate liberal arts education, preparing its students to be global citizens who value and pursue intellectual growth, civic engagement, intercultural competence, and environmental stewardship. As a public land-grant institution, UMM is a center for education, culture, and research for the region, nation, and world. UMM is committed to outstanding teaching, dynamic learning, innovative faculty and student scholarship and creative activity, and public outreach. Our residential academic setting fosters collaboration, diversity, and a deep sense of community.” UMM offers undergraduate Native American students a tuition free education. The school has a student population of about 1,900 and provides a variety of degree programs.

For more information visit <http://www.morris.umn.edu> and <http://www.morris.umn.edu/financialaid/scholarshipswaivers/americanindiantuition/>

Deadlines vary by degree program.

Washington Internships for Native Students (WINS):

“The Washington Internships for Native Students (WINS) offers students of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian (AI/AN/NH) nations the opportunity to build leadership and advocacy skills while living, studying, and interning in Washington, DC. Developed in response to the White House Initiative on American Indians and Alaska Natives, this enriching program offers qualified students full scholarships funded by American University and sponsoring

WINS students intern with Native advocacy and government agencies across Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, Health, Economic, Social Service, Law, and Public Policy disciplines. WINS's experiential curriculum develops student's professional skills of self-determined community development and public advocacy.” Internships are held during the Fall, Spring, and Summer.

For more information visit:

http://www.american.edu/spexs/wins/index.cfm?utm_content=buffer9d23f&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_campaign=buffer

Application deadlines vary by session.

American Indian Law Center, Inc.- Pre-Law Summer Institute (PLSI):

“PLSI is an intensive two-month program which prepares American Indian and Alaska Native individuals for the rigors of law school by essentially replicating the first semester of law school. Likened to boot camp by many former participants, the PLSI concentrates its content into eight weeks of instruction, research and study, teaching students the unique methods of law school research, analysis, and writing. The success of the PLSI in providing a nationally respected pre-law orientation can be traced to its original and continuing intent — that it be based on sound legal education principles, and not function as a philosophical, political, or cultural training ground. For more than four decades, the Law Center has remained dedicated to providing valid training in the skills required for the study of law.”

For more information visit: <http://ailc-inc.org/plsi.htm>

Application deadlines:

Application Due (Part 1) - March 27, 2015

Supporting Documents Due (Part 2) - April 3, 2015

The Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian- Internships:

“The National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) Internship Program provides educational opportunities for students interested in the museum profession and related fields. Interns complete projects using the resources of the NMAI and other Smithsonian offices. Internships are an opportunity for students to learn about the museum's collections, exhibitions, programs, and methodologies, and to meet professionals in the museum field.” Internships are 10-weeks long and occur during the Fall, Spring, and Summer.

For more information visit: <http://nmai.si.edu/connect/internships/>

Application materials must be sent in by the following deadlines:

Winter/Spring term: November 20

Summer: February 6

Fall: July 12

Cherokee At-Large Leadership Network



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CALL Net Mission Statement

TO CREATE BONDS BETWEEN CHEROKEE NATION AT-LARGE CITIZENS AND STAND AS LEADERS TO DEFEND THE RIGHTS AND PROMOTE THE CONTRIBUTION OF THOSE WHO LIVE OUTSIDE THE TRIBAL JURISDICTIONAL AREA

