
NUMU TEKWAPUHA NOMENEEKATU NEWSLETTER

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The Comanche Language & Cultural Preservation Committee
1375 N.E. Cline Road, Elgin OK 73538-3086

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AN APOLOGY

Let me apologize for being so late in getting the Oct-Nov-Dec issue out. In my defense I have been working to get the finished revised Dictionary to the print shop, along with others who have also been vigilant in our task. We all know time is not on our side.

“THE OLD ONES”

When I use the term “The Old Ones” I do so with reverence, respect and admiration. And I use it in reference to the elders, and others, who first came together with the purpose of preserving Taa Numu Tekwapu.

The beginning came before 1993, when a group of Comanches were holding sporadic meetings/classes in various locations. From that the Comanche Language and Cultural Preservation Committee (CLCPC) was born, thanks to the foresight and efforts of Ronald Red Elk, Martin Weryackwe Jr. and Edward Tahhahwah Jr. The name was adopted, officers were elected, by-laws were written, 501(c)3 status was granted and the State of Oklahoma incorporated the newly formed organization.

Since the beginning many fluent elder speakers have been a part of this group. I call them the Old Ones, those who came to share their knowledge, became our friends and found a place in our hearts. Each one was unique and over time blended into the CLCPC family. Many of them are no longer with

us, but they have left a legacy for all of us – The Comanche Dictionary.

As we’ve worked on the update and revision of our Dictionary, I remember those Old Ones who were there in the beginning. And I think of these last few speakers who have helped through this revision process.

All of the speakers are what have made us successful – they are the backbone of this organization. The Old Ones.

Now, those of us who started out younger are older, and we realize the urgency of getting as much work done as we can, so we can pass on to our future Na?Numunuu what we learned from the Old Ones.

The picture on the following page does not include Patricia Bread, Virgie Kassanavoid and Videll Yackeschi, but they were instrumental in the final phase of our revision process.

NEW WEB SITE

I hope you have all had the chance to check out our newly revamped web site at www.comanchelanguage.org. There are still some back issues of the Language Newsletters to go on the site.

OJIBWE LANGUAGE

There was an interesting article that appeared on Facebook regarding an Ojibwe Immersion Language Camp. Go to www.cbc.ca to read more about it. It’s interesting to see what others are doing.

HONORING OUR COMANCHE SPEAKING ELDERS



Leonard Riddles



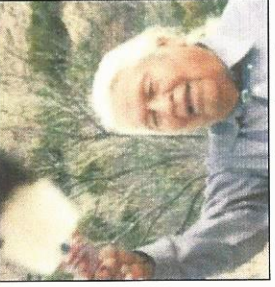
Lizzie Poemoceah



Vincent Martinez



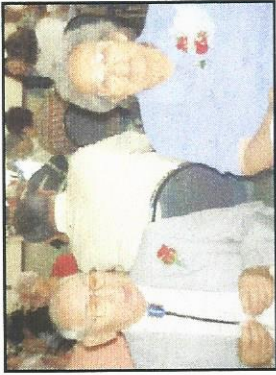
Belle Pekah



Carney Saupitty Sr.



Rita Coosewoon



Vernon & Gloria Cable



Rosalie Attocknie



Marie Parton



Theresa Saupitty



Geneva Navarro



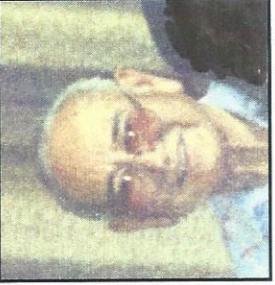
Edith Gordon



Bud Yackeschi



Lucille McClung



Edgar Monetathchi



Margaret Poahway



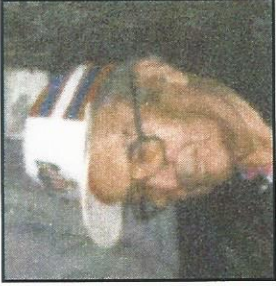
Marie Haumpy



Ray Neido



Betty Pete



Roderick "Dick" Red Elk

COMANCHE LESSON #6
 "Gathering Firewood"

Soobe?suku tsarua su?ana numunuu kahniba?i. Uruu ahpu?kuse, taa kunatsa tsu?ma?i. Surukuse pu kwuhi, tahi nomokakutu?i nu tahi konookwatu?ika meku. Situ kwukuse si?anetu mi?anu, hunu?betu. Situkwukuse hunu?betu mi?anu, si?ana tobo?ihupiitu, puhu waikinukatu puhu tso?mepuha tubakimi?a puhu waikina tpe?ku akenu. Situkuse ma kumapu, ikuhi nu ma pamutso?nikuhi punitu?i, mekuse suru yu kwitsi, ukuhu mi?anu piahuuma ukuhi tsiwainu. Si?anakuse pamutso?nikaaba paruuku haapi. Situkuse ma wakupanu. Surukuse yuupu. Situkuse tenapu, nohi tsaatukuhutu?i tanu me yukwiiyu. Puhu waikinukatu situ ma wihinu. Situkwukuse si?anetu mianu puh kahnikuhu. Situkuse ma kumapu puhu konoopuha tsayumi?inu, winu piakotoonu, sika paruuku?a puhutsakwe?yanu. Situkuse ma kwuhu sukuhu ma kotoopuka ma ku?inanu. Situkuse winu tukanu, sika puh ahpu?a pumu tubekaku?iha u ku?inutsi, tsaatukanu. Situkuse maruu ahpu, tubitsi tsaaku tamu turuetuu tuka?inuu me yukwiiyu. Pui tuku kakuse maruu turuetuu nohinuraakwainu puh tuka?iha tubitsi tsa wusukaatu. Subeetu

WORD LIST

Soobe?suku	Long ago
tsarua	it is said
su?ana	somewhere
Numunuu	Comanches
kahniba?i	had a home
uruu	their
Ahpu?kuse	Father said
taa	our
kunatsa	firewood
tsu?ma?i	used up
surukuse	that one
pu	his
kwuhi	wife
tahi	us
nomokakutu?i	will hitch up for
Nu	I
tahi	we two
konookwatu?ika	going to get firewood
meku	will
situkwukuse	these two
si?anetu	at this place
mi?anu	went
hunu?betu	towards the creek

si?ana	here
tobo?ihupiit <u>u</u>	came to a stop
p <u>u</u> h <u>u</u>	their
waikin <u>u</u> katu	into wagon
tso?mep <u>u</u> ha	gatherings
tupakimi?a	went on loading
tupe?kuak <u>u</u> nu	filled up
ma	her
kumap <u>u</u>	husband
ik <u>u</u> hi	in this
pam <u>u</u> tso?nik <u>u</u> hi	in drift
punitu?i	look
mek <u>u</u> se	saying
y <u>u</u> kwitsi	saying
uk <u>u</u> hu	there
piahuuma	big stick
tsiwain <u>u</u>	poked around
uk <u>u</u> hi	in this
pam <u>u</u> tso?nikaaba	among the drift
paruuku	raccoon
haabi	was lying
wukupan <u>u</u>	killed it
y <u>u</u> up <u>u</u>	fat one
tenap <u>u</u>	man
nohi	very
tsaat <u>u</u> kuhutu?i	about to eat good
tan <u>u</u>	we
me	said
y <u>u</u> kwii <u>u</u>	said
wihin <u>u</u>	threw
kahnik <u>u</u> hu	house
sit <u>u</u> ku <u>u</u> se	this
konoop <u>u</u> ha	firewood
tsayumi?in <u>u</u>	unloaded
winu	then
piakotoon <u>u</u>	made a big fire
sika	this
p <u>u</u> hutsakwe?yan <u>u</u>	skinned
kw <u>u</u> h <u>u</u>	wife
ku?inan <u>u</u>	roasted
tukanan <u>u</u>	ate
p <u>u</u> i	they
tukukak <u>u</u> se	when ate
mar <u>u</u>	their
nohinuraakwain <u>u</u>	ran around playing
tuka?iha	what ate
w <u>u</u> sukaat <u>u</u>	felt about
Subeetu.	That is all.

This year in addition to our usual Christmas Carols that were developed a number of years ago by some of our fluent speakers, we are presenting more modern day Christmas songs. Ura to Billie Kreger, who translated the next three songs for the children at the Comanche Day Care Center. Enjoy learning them and singing them with your children and grandchildren!

Santa Claus Is Coming To Town
translated by Billie Kreger

Niyu karu.
(Be quiet, sit down)

Motso Taibo tsa kimaru.
(The white man with a beard is coming)

U tsa supanaitu
(He really knows)

u ai naharui
(If you do bad things)

tsa naharui.
(And if you do good things)

Tsa suakutu,
(So have good thoughts)

motso Taibo tsa Kimaru.
(The white man with a beard is coming)



AWAY IN A MANGER

Soobesu kutsarua manakwe
A long time ago, far away.
Tue Jesasi kehetsa kape katu
Little Jesus didn't have a bed.
Tue Jesasi soonipu ba?atu habitu
Little Jesus laid upon the hay.
Oyetu unuu pipu kuuru
All the animals were making their way.
Tue oona tubunitu
The baby woke up
Jesasi nu I yaiku
Always watch over me.
Usuni numai.
Always stay by my side.
Usuni u kamakutu nu
Always I love you.

I saw Mommy kissing Santa Claus

translated by Billie Kreger

Santi Claus n̄ pia murain̄
(My mommy was kissing Santa Claus)

Puhi t̄r̄ka uruka
(underneath the mistletoe)

Kuhiyaarui n̄
(I was peeping)

Uri punni n̄
(I was looking at them)

Ke ur̄ n̄ punni
(they didn't see me)

N̄ ̄pui kah̄ suan̄
(I was acting like I was asleep)

Santi Claus n̄ pia murain̄
(My mom was kissing Santa Claus)

Puhi t̄r̄ka uruka
(underneath the mistletoe)

Na suait̄ n̄
(I got shame)

Uri punni n̄
(that I saw them)

Santi Claus n̄ pia murain̄
(Santa kissed my mommy)



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N̄m̄ Tekwap̄!

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