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?Numunu 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.
COMANCHE LESSON #6  
“Gathering Firewood”

Soobe’suku tsarua su’ana nununu kahniba’i. Uruu ahpu’kuye, taa kunatsa tsu’ma’i. Surukuse pu kwuhi, tahi nomokakutu’i nu tahi konookwatuka’ika meku. Sita kwukuse si’anetu mi’anu, hunu’betu. Sita kwukuse hunu’betu mi’anu, si’anu tobo’i hipsitu, pahu waikinekatu pahu tso’mepe’ha tubakim’a pahu waikina tupe’ku akun. Sita kake mahu am, ikuh nu ma pamutso’nikuhi punitu’i, meku senu yu kwitsi, ukuku mi’anu piahuuma ukuku tsiwainu. Si’anakuse pamutso’nikaaba paruuku haapi. Sita kake ma wukupanu. Surukuse yuupu. Sita kake tenapu, nohi tsaatukuhutu’i tanu me yuweiwu. Pahu waikinekatu situ ma wihinu. Sita kwukuse si’anetu manu pahu kahnikuhi. Sita kake ma kumaru pahu konooopyha tsayumi’inu, winu piakoonu, sika paruuku’a pahu tsakwe’yanu. Sita kake ma kwuhi sukhu ma kotoopyka ma ku’inanu. Sita kake winu tukanu, sika pahu ahpu’a pahu tubekaku’i ha u ku’inutsi, tsaaatu’kunu. Sita kake maru ahpu, tubitsi tsaaatu tamu tereteet u tuka’inu me yuweiwu. Pahu tuku kakuse maru tereteet nohunuraakkaunu pahu tuka’iha tubitsi tsaa wusukaatu. Subeetu

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siʔana

here
toboiʔhupiitʉ

came to a stop
puhʉ

their
waikinʉkatʉ

into wagon
tsoʔmepʉha

gatherings
tupakimʉʔa

went on loading
tupeʔkuakʉnu

filled up
ma

her
kumapʉ

husband
ikʉhi

in this
pamʉtsʉʔnikʉhi

in drift
punitʉʔi

look
mekʉse

saying
yukwitsi

saying
ukʉhu

there
piahuuma

big stick
tsiwainʉ

poked around
ukʉhi

in this
pamʉtsʉʔnikaaba

among the drift
paruuku

raccoon
haabi

was lying
wukupanʉ

killed it
yuupʉ

fat one
tenapʉ

man
nohi

very
tsaatʉkʉhutʉʔi

about to eat good
tanʉ

we
me

said
yukwiyu

said
wihinʉ

threw
kahnikʉhu

house
situkʉse

this
konoopʉha

firewood
tsayumʉʔinʉ

unloaded
winu

then
piakotoonʉ

made a big fire
sika

this
puhʉtsakweʔyanʉ

skinned
kwʉnu

wife
kuʔinanyu

roasted
tukananyu

ate
pʉi

they
tukukʉsʉ

when ate
marʉ

their
noinuukaakwaʔinu

ran around playing
tukaʔiha

what ate
wʉsuʔaʔʉ

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. Ùra 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 katå
Little Jesus didn’t have a bed.
Tue Jesasi sooniyu ba?atu habitu
Little Jesus laid upon the hay.
Oyetu ukuw piwu kuuru
All the animals were making their way.
Tue oona tubunitu
The baby woke up
Jesasi nu l 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 ɲu pia murainu
(My mommy was kissing Santa Claus)

Puhi tʉrʉka uruka
(underneath the mistletoe)

Kuhiyarui ɲu
(I was peeping)

Uri punni ɲu
(I was looking at them)

Ke ʉrʉ ɲu punni
(they didn’t see me)

ɬʉ upui kahu suanʉ
(I was acting like I was asleep)

Santi Claus ɲu pia murainu
(My mom was kissing Santa Claus)

Puhi tʉrʉka uruka
(underneath the mistletoe)

Na suaitu ɲu
(I got shame)

Uri punni ɲu
(that I saw them)

Santi Claus ɲu pia murainu
(Santa kissed my mommy)
Oct-Nov-Dec 2016
Numu Tekwapu!

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