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# NUMU TEKWAPUHA NOMNEEKATU NEWSLETTER

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The Comanche Language & Cultural Preservation Committee

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*Editor: Barbara Goodin*

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## “From The President”

Soobesukū tsa tu nanahaitšī nukwū. Tuibitsinū tuho?i mian. Orū ma nakū surū u haitšī, urū matu u haitšī usū ko?i kamtsi. Haitšī naraoi mia nā. Tamaku ko?ikamkatū mā yēkwitū. Usū u haitšī nukī manakū mia, onakwū naraoin tāsū u kwanan. Surū u haitšī onakwa mian sukusū suku ma hanitū u hanin. Patua kwitan suku karū. U marū?tsi wunūkwai. Taibo tutam taibo ubukatu kimakin. Isū sukū u pē kwitapū hubosu tsinū?yai bānā. Sukū taibo pitun, suku u nāmū. Hina unū hani?yu? Usū u puniti na karū. Tāsū hina unū hani?yu. Yee! Nūmūaitū punitu suni tsinū?yai. Isū taibo punitu meeku se mawaitū taibo nūmūaitū. Surū nāmū u puniti. Yee! Kena ketsa, kena ketsa. Sura taibo hakani utū? Yee! Kena sootii kwitapukatū. Sootii kwitapukatū suku taibo nāmūai suma sootii mā hani?etū suniku u narawin.

Ron Red Elk

The kaku/pia project has four teams in three communities. Apache has two teams, with Marie Haumpy and Mable Simmons serving as master speakers; Faith Martinez serves as the master speaker in the Cyril area; and June Tahpay serves as the master speaker in the Walters area. The project was set up for each speaker to teach five apprentices in a home-like setting, much as speakers learned their first language 100 years ago. We'll keep you informed on the progress of this very important project for language preservation.

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## I.P.O.L.A HONORING GENEVA NAVARRO

Our own Geneva Navarro will be honored on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, by The Institute for the Preservation of the Original Languages of the Americas (I.P.O.L.A.), based in Sante Fe NM. This third annual event is honoring “Those Who Make A Difference.” Geneva will be honored for her efforts to preserve the Comanche language for the many Comanches who live in the Santa Fe/Albuquerque area. She will be honored along with Chief Billie, elected Chief of the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

Geneva is a retired Public Health Service Nurse and grandmother who was raised by her grandparents in the Apache area, and is presently the only fluent speaker in New Mexico.

A front page story appeared in the Albuquerque Journal on Monday, August 28, 2000 that featured a very interesting interview with Geneva. I.P.O.L.A. faxed us a copy for our records, which we appreciate.

Because the honoring event occurs on the same week-end as the Comanche Nation Fair, many

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## COMANCHE TRIBE IMPLEMENTS

### KAKUNU/PIANU LANGUAGE PROJECT

The Comanche Tribe recently implemented a Language Project funded by the Administration for Native Americans called the A.N.A. Kakunū/Pianū Language Project.

It began with a two day training session, conducted by Ronald Red Elk, project director, and two teams from the Lannan Master-Apprentice Team Project--Gloria Cable and Billie Kreger, and Carney Saupitty Sr. and Richard Codopony Jr., plus Barbara Goodin, coordinator for the Lannan Project. The training session was titled “Comanches helping Comanches to learn our language.”

Comanches from this area that wanted to attend will be unable to. But longtime friend of Geneva's, Carney Saupitty Sr., will go and is scheduled to speak on the language preservation efforts of our group. He will be accompanied by his son, Carney Jr. We know the Nəmә Toya will be there to give Geneva all the support and good wishes she deserves.

For more information on the honoring event, which will feature a dinner and auction, you may contact I.P.O.L.A. at 505-820-0311.

Our warmest congratulations to both Geneva and Chief Billie for the honor being bestowed upon them.

### COMANCHE ALPHABET SONG

(sung to the tune of "The A-B-C Song")

words by Melissa Hinkle

A ebe e ha i ka mu,

nә o pa ere sa te u.

Tuanoo, u wa yә,

Kesә nanakatә kehetә.

U tsa nansuyaketә!

Naaka! Tekwa Nәmә tekwapә!

ENGLISH SOUNDS:

Ah eb-ve e hah e hah e kah moo,

Nuh o pah er-de sah teh oo.

Tuanoo, uh wah yuh,

Kesә nanakatә kehetә.

U tsa nansuyaketә!

### SPECIAL PHONES FOR ELDERS

Thanks to Donna Paddyacker of OKC, we learned about a program that would provide special phones for our elders who are hard of hearing. We contacted the company, received applications and passed them out at one of our dictionary meetings to those who felt they could benefit from one of the phones.

To date, there have been five telephones sent to this area to help the elders hear better when they receive phone calls. The procedure is simple, and we encouraged everyone that had a need to apply. The phones range from those that have an extra loud ringer and a volume adjustment, to one with a key

board for the completely deaf person. Fortunately, none of our folks needed that model.

We are all appreciative of this service provide to our elders. For those that live alone, the telephone is their communication to the outside world, and if they can't hear the person at the other end of the line, then they are missing out on a lot. And for those of us who call them to ask them about Comanche words, it's good to have them hear you the first time, without having to raise your voice to be heard, or to have to repeat something again and again.

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### N.A.I.W.A MEETING HELD

On August 12<sup>th</sup>, the North American Indian Woman's Association (N.A.I.W.A.) Held their quarterly luncheon meeting at the home of Deloris Karty in Anadarko, OK. There were 11 members in attendance, together with a couple of their spouses, who had traveled to Anadarko to view the Indian Fair Parade and watch the afternoon program.

In addition to other business conducted at this meeting, the ladies had requested that Alyssa and Amber Karty, Deloris' twin granddaughters, sing some Comanche songs. They sang "Are You Sleeping, Brother John?," "This Is The Way We Wash Our Hands," "The Numbers Song," and "Jesus Loves Me." The twins have also learned "Amazing Grace," and the "Birthday Song." They are also learning the "Lord's Prayer" in song and in sign language.

The N.A.I.W.A. ladies appreciate the efforts of the Comanche Language organization in preserving their language and can see some of the results of the work they do in the songs sung by Alyssa and Amber. The ladies congratulated the girls and encouraged them to continue to learn more of the Comanche language.

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The following are hymns from the Comanche Hymnal:

#### Comanche Hymn #1

(to the tune of "Follow On")

(words by Namiquau - Tired-Out Man)

Nah n̄ haka tabeni n̄ uwakatu miarui  
Jesus?i pu?etu n̄ miarui.  
Okō n̄ tomoba?atu n̄ miarui.  
Uwakatu n̄ miarui n̄ tsuh.

Chorus:

N̄mi suutai, n̄mi suutai,  
Jesus?i n̄mi suutai n̄n̄n̄n̄  
Uwakatu miarui n̄ tsuh,  
Nah hakat̄, nah hakatu, n̄ miarui n̄ tsuh.

Translation:

Any day I'm going to Heaven.  
I'm going to follow Jesus' path.  
I'm going to go up there above the clouds.  
Yes, I'm ready to go to Him.

Chorus:

Love us; love us (or bless us, bless us)  
Jesus, do love us.  
Yes, I'm ready to go to Him.  
Just anywhere, just anywhere, I'm ready to go.

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### **Comanche Hymn #2**

("Take The Name Of Jesus With You")  
( words by Foster Burgess)

Ma yaa nahn̄ia Jesus ɛma?ai. ɛm̄ suana tsaa  
n̄n̄sukaa. Ma ɛr̄?a ɛma?aihku hubiya upa?atu.

Chorus:

Nahn̄ia tsaa pihnakam̄ nasupetip̄ tomopa?a. *Sing  
twice.*

Translation:

Take the name of Jesus. Your soul will feel good.  
His kindness goes along with you, praise His name.

Chorus:

His name is good, it tastes sweet. Our heavenly  
Father up above in heaven.

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**“S̄m̄ Oyet̄ Tana Nanan̄m̄n̄n̄n̄”**

*Ronald Red Elk*

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### **!! IMPORTANT NOTICE !!**

The dates for the Comanche Nation Fair has

changed since our last language newsletter in July.  
The new dates are September 15-16-17 at Camp  
Eagle, north of Cache OK, near the foothills of the  
beautiful Wichita Mountains. For more information  
contact Ms. Delphine Nelson at 580-492-3822 or  
580-492-4988.

### **CRATERVILLE PARK**

(Camp Eagle - Fort Sill's West Range)  
2 miles north of Cache OK  
September 15-16- 17, 2000

### **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

Friday: 10:00 a.m. Cedar Ceremony  
3:00 p.m. Children's & Adults Games  
6:00 p.m. Official Opening of Fair  
6:30 p.m. Gourd Dancing  
7:30 p.m. Grand Entry  
Saturday: 7:00 a.m. Spirit Walk/Fun Run  
11:00 a.m. Parade-Downtown Cache  
Noon Hot Dog Cook Out at Fair  
2:00 p.m. Comanche Brush Dance  
3:00 p.m. Gourd Dancing/Specials  
Supper Break  
6:00 p.m. Gourd Dancing  
7:00 p.m. Grand Entry  
10:30 p.m. '49 Contest  
Sunday: 11:00 a.m. Church Services  
Noon Meal will be served  
1:00 p.m. Registration for Story Telling  
1:30 p.m. Story Telling Contest

2:00 p.m. Gourd Dancing  
3:00 p.m. Team Dance Contest  
Gourd Dancing/Specials  
5:00 p.m. Supper Break  
6:00 p.m. Grand Entry  
Contests  
10:00p.m. Comanche Fair 2000 Concludes

Cradle Making,  
Tee-Pee Set Up,  
Comanche Flute,  
Beadwork Designs,  
Mini Pow-Wow,  
plus other topics of interest.

We are still in the early planning stages, but if you would like an agenda of each day's schedule, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: CLCPC - Fall Encampment, P.O. Box 3610, Lawton OK 73502. Please note: schedules will not be sent if you do not include an s.a.s.e.

Other activities planned during the Fair includes: Horse Shoe Tournament, Domino Tournament, 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament, plus dance contest categories of Tiny Tot, Special Little Girl, Junior Girls, Junior Boys, Men's Straight, Grass, Traditional, Switch Contest, Scalp Dance, Victory Dance, Women's Cloth, Buckskin, Fancy Dress, Jingle Dress and a special Golden Age Princess Contest for women who are 50 or older. (Come on, 'fess up, girls!)

The Pow-Wow will be coordinated by the Comanche Indian Veteran's Association (C.I.V.A.) and will honor all Native American Veterans with special Honorees being veteran's of the Korean Conflict.

### **MORE PHOTOS FROM FORT HALL**

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### **FALL ENCAMPMENT**

The Comanche Language & Cultural Preservation Committee will hold our Fall Encampment this year at the Museum of the Great Plains in Lawton, OK. Billie Kreger is coordinating this event and is already hard at work contacting presenters. It will be a two day event this year, held Friday and Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>.

Last year our attendance exceeded our expectations because of the interesting topics presented. This year Billie is working on the following presentations:

Comanche History,  
Hand Games,  
Regalia Presentations,  
Herbs and Remedies,  
Meat Slicing Demonstration,  
Fry Bread Demonstration,  
Old Time Stick Game,  
Old Time Ball Game,

6:30 p.m.

9<sup>th</sup> - Saturday: Dictionary Meeting, Great Plains Museum, 11:00-3:00 p.m. Covered dish meal at noon.

15<sup>th</sup>- 17<sup>th</sup> - Friday through Sunday: Comanche Nation Fair, Camp Eagle (north of Cache OK)

23<sup>rd</sup> - Saturday: Dictionary Meeting, Great Plains Museum, 11:00-3:00 p.m. Covered dish meal at noon.

### **October 2000**

5<sup>th</sup> - Thursday: Comanche Language Committee monthly business meeting, Great Plains Museum, 6:30 p.m.

14<sup>th</sup>- Saturday: Dictionary Meeting, Great Plains Museum, 11:00-3:00 p.m. Covered dish meal at noon.

28<sup>th</sup>- Saturday: Dictionary Meeting, Great Plains Museum, 11:00-3:00 p.m. Covered dish meal at noon.

### **PRODUCTS FOR SALE**

**Item #1. Royal Blue Tee-Shirts.** Language logo in full color on left chest and Num̄ Tekwapu on the left sleeve. Sizes adult small through XL \$12 plus \$3.20 s&h; sizes XXL and XXXL \$15 plus \$3.20 s&h.

**Item #2. Comanche Dictionary.** A 133 page soft bound dictionary prepared by Dr. Alice Anderton (1993) with Comanche speakers Lucille McClung and Albert Nahquaddy. \$22 plus \$3.20 s&h.

**Item #3. Bumper Stickers.** Proudly proclaims: NUMU TEKWAPU in large letters with Comanche Language Preservation on the second line. \$2 each includes s&h.

**Item #4. Authentic Handmade Comanche Dolls.\*** Beautiful 20" soft bodied dolls, dressed in traditional clothing. Both girl and boy dolls available. \$40 each plus \$3.20 s&h. (\*Special Orders Only, 6-8 weeks delivery)

**Item #5. Comanche Hymn Book.** A 5.5 x 7.5 soft cover book that contains the words to 118 Comanche hymns, listed by title with composer's name. Compiled by Elliot Canonge (1960), 64 pages. \$10 plus \$2 s&h.

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### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

#### **September 2000**

7<sup>th</sup> - Thursday: Comanche Language Committee monthly business meeting, Great Plains Museum,

**Item #6. Picture Dictionary.** A 26 page booklet that is ideal for beginning learners. Has simple words and brief sentences. \$10 plus \$2 s&h.

**Item #7. Comanche Flash Cards.** A set of 48 cards showing pictures and words in Comanche. \$5 plus \$1 s&h.

**Item #8. Tote Bags.** Navy with red trim. 16"x12"x5" with back pocket. Front has the new Comanche Language logo. Strikingly beautiful! \$15 includes s&h.

**Item #9. Ball Caps.** Men's are royal blue with red bill and Language logo on front. Ladies are solid royal blue with logo. \$10 plus \$3 s&h.

**Item #10. Collar/Hat Pins.** Language logo complete with feathers, 3/4" long. \$3 plus \$1 s&h.

**Item #11. Earrings.** Same design as collar/hat pins. \$7 pair plus \$1 s&h.

**Item #12. Buttons.** Two styles. #1: "Numu Tekwapu" and #2: "Ihka Niha, Numu Tekwapu." \$1 each plus 50 cents shipping. Specify button #.

**Item #13. Lapel Pins.** 1 inch Cloisonne pin. \$5 includes s&h.