Tribal Operations Manager Report

Hello Delaware Tribal Members, family, and friends. It is officially summertime and I hope you are managing the change from spring-like temperatures to our next 60–90 days of hot weather. So, please don’t overdo in the afternoon heat. It certainly seems this past year that our weather has been strange, going from mild in the winter to hotter in the summer. Certainly, we can say just, “give it a minute to change.” You know I am quoting Will Rogers’s famous line. That comment may make you think I am referring only to Oklahoma, but that is not where all of our people, the Delaware Tribe of Indians, reside. As mentioned in my April article, we provided scholarships to tribal members from coast to coast. With that in mind, we do provide some services outside of our Oklahoma service area.

Our Enrollment Department is continually researching and actively enrolling new tribal members. Elder Nutrition is welcoming new eligible Native Americans, so come enjoy a lunch with us if you are traveling through Bartlesville this summer. Our environmental department, in addition to its normal operations, has made our pond one of the most attractive in the city. In fact, fishing permits became available to Tribal members July 1. Permits are required and can be obtained from our enrollment department located in the Wellness Center. This will give you an opportunity to visit our workout facility and enjoy exercising in the comfort of air conditioning. We have added two new treadmills which replaced two unrepairable machines and has eliminated waiting time.

I guess what I am getting at is, come visit us! Our Housing and Cultural Resources Departments are located in the building next to our Wellness Center. You can visit Anita in our Library and Gift Shop to research our archives and see some of the artifacts we have on display in order to learn more about our tribe’s history and heritage. We have a fantastic story to tell regarding our origins and the homelands we occupied before settling in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Did you know that Jake Bartles married a Delaware woman and raised their family here? Oh, by the way, let me mention that Jim Rementer, our Language Preservation Director, is near completion on upgrading his Talking Dictionary. From what I have seen, it is very user friendly.

So, thank you all for your continued involvement with our Delaware Tribe. We are a family, not a club, bound together by our ancestors and moved forward by our children and their interest in our tribe. Learn a new story or a new word or phrase to share with them. They are our future. The website is www.delawaretribe.org. Hope to see you this summer.

Enjoy your Summer!

Sincerely,
Allan R. Barnes
Tribal Operations Manager
Delaware Tribe of Indians
(918) 337-6590
abarnes@delawaretribe.org

53rd Annual Powwow, May 26-28, 2017

Top left, Princess Audrey Gay; top right, Head Lady Dancer Nicole Ponkilla; bottom left, Head Man Dancer Simon Washee; bottom right, the Redland Singers.

More photos, pages 8-9.

Please note: The wrong photo of Ms. Ponkilla appears in some printed copies of the newspaper. The correct photo is printed here. We sincerely apologize for the error.
Busy times are here! Since my last writing, I attended RES 2017 along with Benita Shea and Jimmie Johnson. We learned quite a lot during the breakout sessions and came away with a new perspective on hydroponics. There is now a process called aeroponics that appears to be much more feasible than hydroponics. Our Delaware Enterprise Development Commission (DEDC) is looking into this and will hopefully be able to gain insight into the process and revenue possibilities.

I also attended the grand opening of the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia in April. Chief received an invitation for him or a designate to attend since the Delaware people were part of the American Revolution. Unfortunately this date fell at the same time Senator James Lankford was coming to visit the tribe. Chief felt that he should stay and host the Senator, and since I had already met with Senator Lankford in February, it was determined that I would go and represent the tribe. The ceremony was extremely well planned and attended. Former Vice President Joe Biden was the keynote speaker. This is an extremely impressive facility and any of you ever find yourself in Philadelphia you should certainly take time to visit this fine museum.

Our plans are proceeding for the remodel of the old child care portion of our building. This will certainly make better use of our space and give us a standalone cultural center in the future. We are excited to be able to repurpose this space which will in turn give needed space to Human Resources and Accounting.

The Delaware Powwow went off without a hitch and no storms or wind. It was another great gathering, and I know everyone attending came away blessed. My thanks go out to the powwow committee for all the time and effort they put in to make this such a great event. There was certainly some fine singing and dancing out there.

I hope you will join me as I continue to pray for our tribe. We are working much more cohesively now than ever before under this administration. Do we always agree? Absolutely not (we shouldn’t). Do we support votes taken? Absolutely. We still have the same old, same old stuff going on with members wanting to condemn this administration and ANYTHING we do. I pray you can see past the half-truths and out and out lies because this Council is working hard FOR you, the Delaware people. We are doing our best with the resources we have and I feel things are falling into place for us. We are still pursuing getting the land in Caney in trust. Once that is accomplished, there will be a big difference in what we can accomplish.

Have you seen the new Delaware tags? I know some members are not happy with the tag, but for now it is what we have. Everyone needs to understand that we work under the MOA with the Cherokee Nation. The new tags have to adhere to the compact the Cherokee Nation has with the State of Oklahoma. At some point we may be able to sell our own tribal tags, but for now I like what I have on my car. The Cherokee Nation worked hard to keep the tag as “Delaware” as it could be while still staying within the limits of their state compact. I certainly appreciate their efforts.

Until October, I wish you all health and prosperity. Also, don’t forget to watch the live streams every third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 pm on the tribe’s Facebook page. We voted to go to once a month meetings instead of the two we have been having. June 20 will be the first meeting following that resolution.

Wanishi
Bonnie Jo Griffith
(918) 331-3805
bgriffith@delawaretribe.org

From the Desk of Assistant Chief Bonnie Jo Griffith

From the Desk of Nathan Young IV

I think of the tough decisions that our ancestors faced when working on issues confronting our tribe today. Our ancestors persevered so that we can enjoy our community, culture and government today, we must always keep their struggle in mind. They faced tough choices and did their best to ensure the future for our tribe. I am thankful for their actions and wish to honor their work by doing what is best for the future of our tribe today. For me this means working diligently to make sure that our government and our tribal businesses follow conventional, accepted, common sense practices such as separating business from politics. Protecting our investments from the volatility of politics is both good business and good government. These “best practices” are well established and have been used by financially successful tribes for decades to ensure consistency and stability for tribal businesses.

First and foremost this is done by establishing a board of independent commissioners or directors that is charged with objectively overseeing our companies, freeing our businesses of unneeded governmental interference. We have seen the results of business and politics being intertwined in our tribal businesses. In our very recent history we have a number of failed tribal businesses to look at as examples. All of these failed businesses have one thing in common; they had no independent board of directors and so were deeply intertwining business and politics. Leading in great part, in my opinion, to their failure.

Today, the Delaware Tribe of Indians has the Delaware Enterprise Development Commission (DEDC) as our independent board charged with overseeing our tribal businesses. The DEDC is composed of dedicated, highly qualified, and experienced Delaware tribal members who volunteer their time and expertise to help make sure our tribal businesses thrive and endure. I know that they take their role on the DEDC very seriously, lending their much needed professional skills to the tribe. There is much work to be done and I have full confidence in their abilities.

Ultimately the tribal council is still responsible for all tribal business, as I believe we should be. However, we should not impede on the day to day operations of our businesses as conflicts of interest arise quickly. I look forward to a day that our membership enjoy the benefits of and take pride in our tribal businesses. As we continue to establish and implement these common sense ideas I hope to see our businesses flourish and profit, one day soon providing for and supplementing tribal services.

By working diligently on our economic development policies as well our governmental practices we might also be able to leave to our next generations the pride of seeing Delaware people running established and successful tribal businesses. Businesses that work for the benefit of all tribal members.

Nathan Young IV
Tribal Council Member
Delaware Tribe of Indians
nyoung@delawaretribe.org

Culture Preservation Committee Seeks New Members

The Culture Preservation committee is looking for new members to join our committee. If you have ideas and would like to keep our culture alive, we want you!

We meet the first Monday of each month at 5:30 pm in the Community Center in Forsyth Hall. You may contact chair Homer Scott at 918-332-8020, or Anita Mathis at 918-337-6595.
Kansas and Idaho Delaware
Charles Randall

On October 19, 1829, Principal Chief William Anderson and eleven others signed a treaty with the government to cancel their rights to the lands they were then occupying on the James Fork in Missouri, and in return were allocated land lying at the junction of the Kansas and Missouri rivers in Kansas, extending up the Kansas River to the Kansas line and up the Missouri River to Camp Leavenworth, the first military post in the territory. The total area allocated was approximately 924,160 acres. A strip 10 miles wide and about 210 miles from the Missouri line was also reserved for Delaware as an outlet or passageway to the buffalo hunting territory, approximately 1,318,000 acres. The total was thus well over 2,000,000 acres.

According to the terms of the treaty, the United States pledged “the faith of the government to guarantee to the said Delaware Nation forever, the quiet and peaceable possession and undisturbed enjoyment of the same against the claims and assaults of all and every other people whatsoever.” Chief Anderson died in 1831, believing that the Delaware had a home in which the splintered groups could be reunited and live in peace.

As time went on, the Delaware began to experience harassment from the white squatters and to have their livestock stolen with little or no help from the government. The coming of the railroads was the final blow to the Delaware people. The most practical freight route in Kansas Territory was directly across the reserved lands, but the railroad companies had to get rid of the Indians who stood in their way. It is interesting that many of the government officials owned interest in the railroads. On July 4, 1866, the Delaware signed a treaty to sell their reservation and move to new homes in the Indian Territory.

The goal has long been to reunite the Delaware people. The Kansas Delaware and the Idaho Delaware have expressed a desire to become members of the Delaware Tribe of Indians. Without an amendment to our Constitution, this is not possible. I believe it would be to the advantage of all parties for this to become a reality. Both the Kansas and Idaho Delaware are blood relatives, they simply chose a different path than the one followed with our ancestors who came to the Indian Territory. The Kansas Delaware stayed in Kansas and the Idaho Delaware came to Oklahoma, but moved on West before the Dawes Roll. Most of our current Tribe are now scattered to all parts of the globe.

There are conditions that I believe would have to be met for this to happen. When we received a final settlement for our Kansas property, we voted to reserve 10% to a Trust Fund for the preservation of our culture and Tribe. This entitled our descendants to participate in the benefits of the Trust Fund. The Kansas and Idaho Delaware received this settlement as well and I believe they would need to invest in the Trust Fund to become members of the Tribe.

My recommendation would be (a) that we revise the requirements for membership from the original 11,000 base enrollees to those who were on the roll to receive the final Kansas settlement, (b) that the Trust Fund be prorated on a per capita basis as of the end of the last accounting year, and (c) that those who qualified for the settlement be required to invest the per capita amount in the Trust Fund to become members. For those descendants born after the settlement, their descent would be traced back to their first ancestor on the settlement roll, and if that ancestor had not paid to the Trust Fund, they would be required to pay for his/her benefit before qualifying to be a member. All other requirements would remain the same as today.

These are my ideas and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Council or others. I would like to see these relatives become active members of the Tribe and would solicit your comments, feelings and suggestions.

Charles Randall
Tribal Council Secretary
crenell@delawaretribe.org

Delaware Water Gap Native Youth Camp 2017
Cece Biggoose

A group of six Delaware youth ambassadors, three boys and three girls, will attend the Third Annual Delaware Water Gap Native Youth camp near Bushkill, Pennsylvania, July 15th through July 28th. The group joins groups from Delaware Nation of Anadarko and the Stockbridge-Munsee of Wisconsin for a total of 15 youth, if all slots are filled.

The groups will arrive and meet at the Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC) on July 16. PEEC provides housing and meals for the groups. This year the youth have been assigned to the Yurt Village. They will stay in yurts furnished with bunk beds and bed linens, a fancy permanent-style tent. The village is close to the forest, with men’s and women’s bathroom/shower facilities close by. The youth are advised not to bring food into the yurts due to occasional visiting black bear and/or raccoon. Breakfast is served daily at 7 am at the PEEC dining hall. Their staff furnishes breakfast, sack lunches, and evening meals.

The camp begins with orientation and introductions of the PEEC staff, National Park staff, chaperones, and youth; a “get to know you” day. It involves a confidence and team building course in canoeing. Later on in the day will be a hike up Cliff Park Trail for a private cedar ceremony for the youth and chaperones. (Note: activities on any day of the two-week camp are subject to slight changes if needed.)

The second day activities include a bus tour of the Park and NPS headquarters. The final stop will be “Grey Towers” with a tour of the Gifford Pinchot Mansion and an ice cream social sponsored by the Forestry staff, and possibly a picnic on the lawn.

The first stretch of a canoe trip down the Delaware River is on Wednesday, with a stop at Minisink Island. That includes a chance to swim or wade. While cooling off the youth will listen to an outdoor educational class on the historical importance of Minisink Island. The National Park Service volunteers will explain their involvement protecting the sacred area.

A Coach Bus trip is planned for Thursday to tour the NJ State Museum and lab. A vast collection of Lenape artifacts from the Delaware River Valley are kept in a climate controlled setting. The tour will continue to the Abbott Farm Historical Landmark.

Friday is another day of canoeing, horseback, or bike riding. The youth will arrive at the base of Tower 7 to learn about the artifacts unearthed when the electric towers were built. (This youth camp vision became a reality with discussions and planning between the Lenape Nations, Culture Preservation, the NPS, Electric Company, and others involved.)

A trip to New York City is scheduled on Saturday so that we can see some very important historical areas of our Lenape ancestors. It will be a full day ending at Oceanside, the origin of the quahog shells used for wampum. The groups may be able to camp overnight at a NPS park area in New York and return on Sunday. The Park Service is coordinating the overnight camping.

Sunday is wash day, free day, and an overnight camping trip at the Water Gap if the NY camping does not clear.

Week two involves a trip to visit a turtle mound protected area for turtles in the area of Tower 7. Youth will learn the importance of wildlife protection.

West Point is scheduled for Tuesday visiting with Native American cadets along with a tour of the museum and viewing of a wampum belt. Wednesday the youth visit an ancient rock shelter. Instructors at a nearby Peters Valley School of Craft will demonstrate the process of pottery making and natural plant processing for weaving. A hike up and along the Appalachian Trail will wind down that day.

Thursday, the final camp day, is Career Day held at the Smithfield Beach, along with our presentation about the camp to the NPS staff. This day will end with our ceremonial fire and cedar ceremony. Friday everyone says their farewells, the youth clean their areas, pack up and head to the airport for home.
Graduation Announcement

Rebecca Jackson completed her Bachelor’s of Science in Elementary Education with a concentration in English Language Learner from Oral Roberts University, summa cum laude on May 6, 2017. She is recognized in Who’s Who of Among Students in American Universities & Colleges 2017 and received President’s Honor Roll for 4.0 Graduates for all four years.

Rebecca has also completed courses in the College of Business and several Master courses in School Administration. After spending a year at Living Word Bible school in Uppsala, Sweden, Rebecca was awarded a Whole Person Scholarship from Oral Roberts University. She was one of ten recipients of this honor. She also received scholarship support from Cherokee Education Scholarship and the Delaware Tribe Higher Education fund. Her leadership at Oral Roberts included Chaplain Program for three years, ending with Head Chaplain; Mission Team Leader to Romania and India South; and was Vice President of the Student Education Association.

Rebecca is a Delaware Tribal member. She is the daughter of Dalen and Sherry Jackson; granddaughter of Robert R. Jackson; great granddaughter of Edward B. Jackson; and a descendant of Chief Colonel Jackson. Best wishes to Rebecca in her future endeavors!!

Dalen and Sherry Jackson
918-331-6744 ■

Birth Announcement!

Former tribal employees John and Rachael Moore announce the birth of a baby boy, William Alexander Moore, born April 19, 2017. William is the great-grandson of former Delaware Chief Paula Pechonick. ■

Spring Scholarships Awarded

Full-Time: 41 Approved
Total: $16,400
Part-Time: 6 Approved
Total: $1,200
Scholarship Total: $17,600

Full Time

12/27 Erin Coulter
1/5 Rebecca Jackson
1/10 Peyton Adams
1/11 Erica Page Randall
1/16 John Franke
1/16 Logan Armstrong
1/16 Meredith Franke
1/17 Allison Brundage
2/6 Wyatt sanders
1/19 Alex Felton
1/19 Seth Nitz
1/20 Wade Kriebel
1/23 Justin Brown
1/23 Hannah Humphrey
1/23 Cassandra Garcia
1/23 Conner W. Chambers
1/23 Sidney Rae Ketchum
1/25 Emily Messimore
1/25 Jacob Teague
1/26 Erianne D Adams
1/26 Holly Randall

1/26 Alix Danielle Rice
1/30 Kameron Lee Alderman
2/1 Amber Mae Wilburn
2/6 Madison A thompson
2/6 Morgan Elizabeth Atkins
1/9 Dianne Tsoodle-Nelson
1/23 Alexandra Perry
1/27 Maylee Lofen
1/27 Lauren Eustis
2/1 Madison Adams
2/10 Catherine Monck
2/11 Paige Ready
2/11 James Monck
2/11 Xavier Foster
2/16 Haley Cowan
2/16 Emelese Gaddy
2/23 Annica Balentine
2/28 Case Guinn
3/1 Austin Gorski
3/1 Candace Guy-Gatan

Part Time

1/10 Diana Fiddler
1/23 Karly Eaton
1/23 Randy Davis
2/8 Derrick C. Scott
2/10 Donald E. Scott
2/27 Rhiannon Morrison

University of Indiana Honors Tribal Leaders During First Nations Ambassador Council

L to R: Dr. Nicky Belle, Director, Indiana University FNECC; Dr. Kelli Mosteller, Director & THPO, Citizen Band Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center; Chief Glenna Wallace, Chief, Eastern Shawnee; Dr. Nicky Michael; Chief Ben Barnes, 2nd Chief, Shawnee Tribe; James Wimbush, Vice President, Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs and Dean, The University Graduate School.
Tribes Return Home, Sign Historic Agreement

At the close of a three-day collaborative meeting at Grey Towers National Historic Site, the Delaware Tribe of Indians and Delaware Nation executed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Forest Service Eastern Region for the reburying of ancestral human remains on national forest lands throughout the Eastern Region.

The Delaware Tribe and Delaware Nation are two federally-recognized Indian Tribes now headquartered in Oklahoma whose ancestral homelands are in New York, New Jersey, and Eastern Pennsylvania. Prior to this agreement, the tribes wanted to rebury human remains repatriated from museums, but they did not have a secure place to establish a new burial ground. With this document, it now establishes the ability to do this on national Forest Service land in the Eastern Region.

“We know of thousands of ancestral remains held by museums and other institutions that need to be put to rest. But prior to this, we didn’t have a place to do so, and we couldn’t move forward with reburials,” said Chet Brooks, Chief of the Delaware Tribe of Indians. “This agreement has removed that obstacle, and I look forward to working with the Forest Service to establish burial grounds as close as possible to where the ancestors were originally interred.”

“It’s time to bring our ancestors home,” said Kerry Holton, President of the Delaware Nation. “We appreciate the Forest Service providing us with a home to rebury our ancestors.”

The Miami Tribe of Oklahoma signed a similar memorandum of understanding with the Forest Service in 2016. “This agreement has given the Miami Tribe a place to rebury our ancestors close to where they lived and died,” said Diane Hunter, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma.

These agreements represent further steps in strengthening the relationship between the Forest Service and federally-recognized tribes: “In recent years, the number of self-identified Indian groups and individuals has increased in our region. Federal agencies like the Forest Service recognize this concern and are proud to affirm that we only work with federally-recognized tribal nations,” said Bill Dauer, Director of Grey Towers.

“Groups making unsubstantiated tribal claims undermine the sovereignty and misrepresent our history and culture, which is damaging to both the public and tribal nations,” said Holton. States do not have the legal standing to recognize Indian tribes. This authority is reserved to the Federal Government under the Commerce Clause of the United States Constitution. Federal recognition is the United States’ acknowledgement of tribal sovereignty and subsequent government to government relationship with tribal nations based on past treaties, administrative process, or acts of congress with such tribal nations. There are no federally-recognized tribes currently headquartered in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. However, they may soon have a presence in the region again. According to John Donahue, Superintendent of Delaware Water Gap (DEWA), “The Delaware Water Gap is waiting with open arms to work with the federally-recognized Delaware tribes to establish a cultural center within the park boundary.”

In addition to the two Delaware tribes, also present at this historic gathering were representatives of the Shawnee Tribe, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe, Stockbridge-Munsee Community, and the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma. The sole purpose of the meeting at Grey Towers was to allow the opportunity to address the issues faced by these federally-recognized tribes that have been removed from their original homelands in the Eastern region.

News from Cultural Resources

(Archives, Archival Research, Library, Artifacts, and Gift Shop)

Anita Mathis

Have Tribal Members, Friends, and Family

I do believe the rain is over and summer is upon us. Our winter here was calm and our spring has been very wet, wonder what summer will have in store for us.

Everything in the Cultural Resources Department is going very well. We are still adding photos and documents to the archives daily and adding new items to the gift shop. Please check our website, especially the online gift shop. We are adding new items to the inventory, hopefully something for everyone... If you have any requests or ideas for something you would like to have in the gift shop, you may contact Anita Mathis at 918-337-6595 or amathis@delawaretribe.org.

As always, stop by and check out all that is new and offered in the Cultural Resources, Library, Archives, & Gift Shop. There are books in the Library for your reading and research, with new books being added all the time. We gladly accept donations. There are also two computers to do research and see what has been added to our database.

Please bring in your pictures and documents or anything that pertains to the Delaware Tribe of Indians to be copied and added to our archives and or the museum, to preserve and share with our future generations. Photos or letters can be scanned and returned to you, we can even give you digital copies for your own use.

Wanishi
Anita Mathis
Director, Cultural Resources Office, 918-337-6595
amathis@delawaretribe.org
Veterans Committee Report

Kenny Brown, Chairman

On April 4, I took the drawings that the Veterans Committee approved for a Delaware Tribe of Indians Veterans’ Memorial before the Tribal Council for their input and approval. I presented our vision and described where we would like it to be located. The council voted unanimously to support it. A motion was made to set aside a 70 x 70 foot area north of the pond on our tribal campus for the memorial. It passed unanimously. A motion was made to match our veterans committee’s $5,000 start fund and it also passed unanimously. The Veterans Committee thanks the Tribal Council for supporting veterans and helping the veterans’ memorial to become a reality.

We have received donations from tribal members already and we plan on seeking donations from other entities and grants. If anyone asks, donations can be made to Delaware Tribe/Veterans Committee (in your check’s memo area add Veterans’ Memorial Fund).

Congratulations

Congratulations to the Delaware Powwow Committee on a fantastic powwow. It was a beautiful weekend. No rain, what a blessing!

Thanks again to the committee for allowing the veterans to have our auction. Thanks, also, to the MCs, Brad Killscrow and Neil Lawhead, for promoting it from the speaker stand. The Veterans Committee made a few dollars short of $1,000 toward the Delaware Veterans’ Memorial fund. The veterans say, “Wanishi!” to everyone who participated in our auction.

During the auction a lot of laughs were had and some “heated” bickering ensued, all said it was a lot of fun. We thank again everyone who donated items to our auction.

The color guard has a new member! Roger Stewart, co-chairman of the Veterans Committee, suited out for his first time during Saturday night’s Grand Entry. Welcome to the Unit, Roger!

Mark Your Calendar

August 11-13: IICOT Pow-Wow, color guard is on duty Saturday Aug 12, at the Mabee Center

September 16: T.U. Native Student Assoc. Pow-wow, Lenape Gourd Society is host gourd clan and Lenape Color Guard is on duty.

Veteran’s Committee Meeting Dates:

July 25, August 22, and September 26 (meetings are on the fourth Tuesday at 1800 hrs.)

All veterans are welcome to attend our meetings, tribal membership is not a requirement to join. Guests interested in veteran events are also welcome.

Order of the Day

Get involved in a veterans organization. Not a vet? Get involved in a veteran support organization.

Delaware Tags Are Available Now!!

Delaware Tribal members in Oklahoma who have Cherokee tags on their cars are now able to get tags that have our Delaware seal on them. If you are eligible to get a Cherokee tag and are a Delaware tribal member you are eligible for the Delaware tag. These are basically akin to vanity plates that people have from the state.

There is a form that has to be filled out with the information from your Cherokee tag then mailed to the Cherokee Nation Tag Agency in Tahlequah along with $6.50. The forms are available at our tribal headquarters or through the Cherokee Nation website.

Our thanks go out to the Cherokee Nation for their work on getting this tag with our seal while staying within the boundaries of their compact with the State of Oklahoma.

Pictured right, Tribal Councilor Nathan Young IV, Tribal Secretary Charles Randall, Assistant Chief Bonnie Jo Griffith, Chief Chet Brooks, Cherokee Nation Secretary of State Chuck Hoskin, Jr. and Karen Ketcher, Cherokee Nation Director, Self-Governance, shown with one of our new tags.

Fishing Permits Available

Starting this month all Tribal Members can now fish on the pond on Tribal Campus. You can come to the Enrollment Department to sign a waiver of liability and pick up your permit to fish on the pond, giving you the opportunity to see the renovated office. To be eligible to get the free permit you must first have an Oklahoma or Cherokee Nation Fishing License.

This fishing permit is only available here at the Delaware Tribe of Indians Campus on Tuxedo Boulevard in Bartlesville Oklahoma. The permits will not be usable anywhere other than here on Tribal Campus. It will not be a fishing license to fish anywhere in the country as some may hope.

If you are unfamiliar with the Oklahoma Wildlife, please take the time to look up the different type of turtles and snakes because they are found around the pond and in the field frequently.

Chris Miller
Enrollment Director
918-337-6583
cmiller@delawaretribe.org
Department of Family & Children Services

Curtis Zunigha

The Department of Family & Children Services includes Child Support Services and the Indian Child Welfare Program. Curtis Zunigha serves as department director. Both offices are located in the Caney, Kansas administrative services building – 601 High Street, Caney, KS 67333. Telephone number: 620-879-2189.

Child Support Services

Are you or someone in your family having difficulty collecting child support payments? We have a program with dedicated professionals that can help.

The Office of Child Support Services is funded by a grant from the US Dept of Health & Human Services/Administration for Children & Families/Office of Child Support Enforcement. The program assists applicants to obtain tribal court orders for child support payments. Our goal is to ensure both parents provide continuous financial support for their children. We promote functional co-parenting relationships to increase stable and self-sufficient families. We can locate non-custodial parents, establish paternity, transfer cases from other courts, modify and enforce court orders, and collect & disburse payments. Grandparents caring for children in the home may also be eligible to obtain child support.

The benefit of using our office is that paternity establishment ensures accurate tribal enrollment and inheritance rights. Tribal court jurisdiction allows more authority and flexibility in how cases are handled. And we use native cultural sensitivity in administering every case. We can refer applicants to other offices and agencies to meet the need for other social services. Our office does not provide any legal services to applicants. Child Support Services can manage cases ordered in state courts or referred by state agencies.

The office staff is Curtis Zunigha (Delaware) – Director (czunigha@delawaretribe.org) and Arleata Snell (Assiniboine) – Case Manager (asnell@delawaretribe.org).

The Delaware Tribe has entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the State of Oklahoma and the State of Kansas. The agreement promises cooperative relations in administering child support services on behalf of any families that our respective programs may serve.

Contact the Office of Child Support Services to obtain an application or download one from the tribal website: http://delawaretribe.org/wp-content/uploads/CSS-Application.pdf

Indian Child Welfare

Do you know of a situation where Indian children are experiencing neglect or abuse in the home, by any family member, other resident or occupant?

The ICW program provides assistance to children who are being displaced from their home, are experiencing abuse and neglect in the home, or are being deprived of essential living conditions. The goal is to keep families together and in a safe & stable home. In the case of children needing to be placed into foster homes or adoption, the goal is to keep siblings together and placed in Indian homes. Program funds can provide limited assistance in crisis situations. This program is NOT intended to provide poverty assistance grants; however there are circumstances in which severe poverty could lead to the potential neglect of children. Program services also include establishing eligibility for enrollment in tribal membership. All applicants will need to undergo an intake assessment.

ICW is funded by both federal and state grants. We work closely with tribal and state authorities to protect our Indian children. All information is strictly confidential according to federal laws.

For more information or to obtain ICW services, please call (620) 879-2189, ext 6 or email anewcomb@delawaretribe.org.

To Contact Us

Bartlesville Tribal Offices:
5100 Tuxedo Blvd
Bartlesville, OK 74006
918-337-6590

Office Hours:
8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. M-F

Chelsea Housing Office:
6 Northview Dr.
Chelsea, OK
918-789-2525

Caney Office:
601 High Street, Caney, KS 67333
620-879-2189

Tribal Web Site:
www.delawaretribe.org

General Email:
tribe@delawaretribe.org

Photos from the Tribal Archives

Can you identify the people in the photo on the right? If so, please contact Anita Mathis at amathis@delawaretribe.org.
From the 53rd Annual Delaware Powwow

All photos courtesy of "Weird Wayne."
May 26–28, 2017
Community Services and Education

Education Committee Assistance/Programs

Take advantage of these programs; they are here for you! If you have any questions, please contact the Tribal Office at 918-337-6590.

The Education Assistance programs provide financial aid to tribal members of all ages from Pre-School to college, and also Adult Vocational Technology training. Programs available to our members are listed below.

Programs

Academic Achievement Award: This $100 award is available on a one-time basis to registered Delaware Tribal members who have graduated in the current fiscal/academic school year from high school, college, or Vo-Tech with a current 3.5 GPA (grade point average).

Athletic Assistance: This program is for registered Delaware Tribe of Indians students who need some type of assistance for students involved in school-sponsored athletic programs (such as baseball, football, basketball, track, cheerleader, etc.), for items required, but not provided by the school (such as shoes, baseball mitts, mouth pieces, etc.) Students may be reimbursed up to $50 per application per fiscal year. Applications are approved on a case-by-case basis. Awards are based on the availability of funds.

Drivers Education Assistance: Can be used to help defray costs of driver’s education classes through an accredited training facility. This program has a maximum of $75 per applicant per fiscal year. The assistance will be made based on funding availability.

Education Assistance: This program is for students ages 6th thru 12th grade who are registered members of the Delaware Tribe of Indians who need some type of assistance while enrolled in school, such as graduation expenses, ACT exams, summer school, band, choir, etc. This program has a maximum payment of $50.00 per applicant per fiscal year.

School Supply Assistance: Helps registered members of the Delaware Tribe of Indians with the cost of purchasing the needed school supplies for children in grades Pre-K through 5th grade. School Supply Assistance applications may be submitted from November 15 to January 31 or until funds are exhausted. Application deadline is January 31 of every year. Assistance is available up to $40 per child with receipt of purchase. Please submit separate receipts for each application. Acceptable receipts shall only include the school supplies purchased (no groceries or household items).

Fall复印件 Scholarship: Delaware Tribal members attending college are eligible to apply. Currently, full-time students may apply for $400 per semester for up to eight semesters, and part-time students may apply for $200 per semester up to 16 semesters. Students do not have to be consecutive. Applicants must submit all required documentation, including official transcripts and enrollment verification from the college or university. Students must maintain a 2.7 GPA (grade point average) in the last semester attended (high school, college, etc.) Students must reapply at the end of each semester. Award is made directly to student to ensure that it does not interfere with their financial aid package from the institution. Scholarships will not be awarded for the summer semester. Scholarships are subject to funding availability.

Fall scholarship applications will be accepted from June 1 through January 31, spring from January 1 through February 28.

You can download the applications directly from our website www.delawaretribe.org. Just go to the Services/Programs tab, and then scroll down to Educational Assistance.

Community Services Programs

If you have questions, please contact the Tribal Office at 918-337-6590.

Burial Program: Burial assistance for Delaware tribal members. The family may apply for up to $500. The funds may be applied to expenses that are most beneficial to the family (i.e., funeral services, meals, wake, grave marker etc.). Documentation must be provided, including death certificate.

Dental Assistance: Assistance for dental services up to $250. Services may include tooth repair, dental fillings, dentures or emergency services. Routine dental exams or cleaning are not covered. Payment for services will be made to the vendor.

Elder Optical Assistance: Assistance for optical services to elders age 60 and over. Funds may be used for services, including glasses, physician’s visits or related costs up to $200 annually. Payment for services will be made to the vendor.

Elder Prescription Medication Assistance: Prescription medication assistance to Delaware elders age 60 and over for pharmacy and related costs. Elders may receive assistance not to exceed $900 per calendar year. Elders may apply more than once per calendar year until $900 is reached. Funds may be disbursed to vendors on a monthly basis not to exceed $75 per month for long-term recurring medication. Elders must include a statement from the pharmacy showing the continuing service. This addresses Elders who have an ongoing monthly pharmacy bill and must renew application annually.

Emergency and Emergency Travel Assistance: Emergency assistance to Delaware tribal members. Funds are to be used for emergency situations. Assistance includes, but is not limited to, groceries or related assistance, or health transportation costs. Applicants must utilize all other community resources prior to application. Funds are allocated up to $200 and will be disbursed as determined by the Community Service Committee on a case-by-case basis.

Medical and Hospital Equipment Assistance: Assistance to pay medical bills, including but not limited to medical equipment (purchase or rental), home health care, pharmacy, etc. not to exceed $200. Payment for services will be made to the vendor.

Rental Assistance: Assistance in emergency situations on a one-month, one-time, one-year basis. Amount of assistance that can be approved is limited up to $200. Approval of application must be obtained prior to payment. The Tribal member’s name must be on the rental/lease contract. Payment will be made to the landlord.

Student Optical Assistance: Assistance to students enrolled in grades K-12, college/universities, and vocational technology schools. Funds can be designated to pay for glasses, contacts, physician visits or related costs. Each request may not exceed $200. Approval of application must be obtained prior to payment for services. One request per calendar year, not to exceed $200. Payment for services will be made to the vendor.

You can download the applications directly from our website at www.dela waretribe.org. Just go to the Services/Programs tab, and then scroll down to Community Services.

PLEASE NOTE: The Community Services Committee has adopted income guidelines for all assistance programs with the exception of Burial Assistance.
$5,000 Delaware Tribe of Indians Scholarships Offered

The Delaware Tribe of Indians has budgeted for two $5,000 scholarships to be awarded for the Fall Semester 2017. These scholarships will be given to two qualifying members of the Delaware Tribe of Indians. Applications will be processed and chosen by the Education Committee of the Delaware Tribe of Indians Trust Board. There are also smaller scholarships given by the Trust Board but this is actually from the Tribe. Eligible members may apply and be awarded scholarships from both the Tribe and the Trust Board. Applicants may apply for this $5,000 funding to attend a two year college, a four year college, post grad work, or a skilled trade school. Only two will be awarded, and applicants and awardees may re-apply for Spring 2018. This Council has worked hard to make this available to all interested tribal members. Please complete the application and return it by the due date. The application can be found online at: http://delawaretribe.org/scholarships/

Donations for Education
Scholarships Gratefully Accepted

We invite tribal members and others to contribute to a special fund for educational scholarships. Donors are recognized in five levels:

- Brass Level: up to $100
- Silver Level: $100-500
- Gold Level: $500-1,000
- Wampum Level: $1,000-5,000
- Wampum Belt Level: above $5,000

Send donations to
Delaware Tribe of Indians
Trust Board, Education Committee
5100 Tuxedo Blvd
Bartlesville, OK 74006-2746

Lenape Recipes
Submitted by Leslie Fall-Leaf

**CORN AND PUMPKIN**

Pumpkin; 1 can (size 2 1/2 or 29 oz)
Whole Kernel Corn; 1 can (size 303 or 17 oz)
Sugar; about 3/4 cup

Pour the liquid off the canned corn. Mix the three items together. Be sure to use whole pack pumpkin and not pumpkin pie mix. Adjust the amount of Sugar to taste. Boil slowly for about 5 minutes, and serve. This is an old Lenape recipe using modern ingredients. For an old-time taste, sweeten to taste with maple syrup instead of sugar.

**BLACKBERRY DUMPLINGS**

1 quart Water
1 cup Sugar
1/2 gallon Blackberries

2 cups Flour
1/4 cup Sugar
1/4 cup Shortening

Combine the Water, Berries, and the cup of Sugar in a large pot. Cook it until Berries are done, and if needed, add more water to the juice to thin it.

Mix the ingredients in the second column until a bit thicker than biscuit dough. On a floured board roll out four circles each being about 12 inches in diameter and 1/4 inch thick. Cut these into 3/4 inch wide strips, and cut the strips into 3 inch long pieces.

When the Juice is boiling, add the dumplings, one at a time. Boil slowly for about 15 minutes.

**XASKWIMI KSHITAY (CORN SOUP)** by Elgia Bryan

2 lbs. dried corn
5 lbs. beef or pork
8 cups water or more

DIRECTIONS: Trim fat off meat and cut in cubes. Combine all ingredients in a large pot. Simmer until meat and corn are done. **Note:** If you are not familiar with the Dried Corn you can look online for Cope’s Dried Sweet Corn
Obituaries

Lillie Ayelene DeLuca

Died December 9, 2016

Lillie Ayelene Waggoner DeLuca was born January 4, 1925 in Copan, OK. Her mother was Berta Wilson Waggoner, the daughter of Lillie Wilson Davis.

She is survived by her husband of 43 years, Michael, and daughters Georgia, Vickie, Diane, and Janice.

Lillie Ayelene worked as a bookkeeper and office manager for many years in Pennsylvania. She and Michael lived in Scottdale, PA for 26 years. Lillie Ayelene coped and persevered with dementia since January 2012, but she died a peaceful death at home on Dec 16, 2016. Services were held on Dec. 20, 2016 at the Graft-Jacquillard Funeral Home in Scottdale, PA. May she RIP.

If one of your relatives or close friends has passed, please send us an obituary. We will run it in the next Delaware Indian News. Obituaries can be sent to din@delwaretribe.org or to the Tribal Offices.

Please also pass along any birth or death announcements to the Enrollment Office at fall-leaf@delawaretribe.org. Remember that the Community Services Committee has a burial assistance program if you need help.

Mary Ruth (Adair) Hanna

Died December 9, 2016

Mary Ruth (Adair) Hanna of Princeton, Texas, 89 years young lost her battle with kidney failure December 9th, 2016. She was born to Eldridge and Fern (Ketchum) Adair, who preceded her in death. She married Bill Hanna, who preceded her in death in 1992; they had 5 children. She was a Delaware/Cherokee Indian.

Burial was in Chelsea Cemetery in Chelsea, Oklahoma.

Survivors include son-in-law Billy Williams of Melissa, Texas; and three daughters, Betty Hartwig of Princeton, Texas; Marilyn Wilson and husband Dwayne of Pecan Gap, Texas; Kathy Taylor of Princeton, Texas.

She was also survived by grandchildren Michelle Caple and husband Chris of Blue Ridge, Texas; Angie Tait and husband John of Anna, Texas; Ralph White Jr. and wife Crystal of Big Cabin, Oklahoma; Billy White of Big Cabin, Oklahoma; Buster Wilson and wife Jennifer of Lowery Crossing, Texas; Cindy Huddleston of Cooper, Texas; Will Wilson and wife Amanda of Cooper, Texas; Ricky Cotton of Princeton, Texas; Danny Taylor of McKinney, Texas; Bill Taylor of Sherman, Texas; and numerous great grandchildren. She was also survived by one brother, Bill Adair and wife Rosa of Chelsea, Oklahoma; sisters-in-law Colleen Adair of Chelsea, Oklahoma and Joyce Adair of Coffeyville, Kansas.

Preceding her in death were great grandparents John and Harriet Ketchum; her parents; one son, Gary Leon Hanna; one daughter, Patty Williams; sister Lois and husband Harold Joseph; and two brothers, Ellis (Cotton) Adair and Kenneth (Whimp) Adair.

Russell Bruce Ellis

April 4, 1942–March 23, 2017

Russell Bruce Ellis, age 74, of Shawnee and proud member of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe passed away Thursday, March 23, 2017 in Shawnee.

He was born April 4, 1942 in Shawnee to Charles and Alice Joyce (Wilson) Ellis.

Russell was raised northeast of Shawnee in the Johnson Community where he has been a lifelong resident.

He attended Johnson, Earlsboro, and Shawnee schools, graduating from Shawnee High School in 1960. Russell attended Tulsa University and St. Gregory’s and earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Oklahoma Baptist University. He then went to graduate school at Oklahoma State University and earned his Master’s Degree in Business Administration.

On November 28, 1978, Russell married Linda (Harjo) White in Shawnee. He was an accountant for Kerr McGee and served as the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Secretary and Treasurer. Russell owned and operated his own business, Ellis Consulting.

He is a Baseball Hall of Fame Athlete with Shawnee High School and is also in the Oklahoma Baptist University Basketball Hall of Fame.

Russell greatly enjoyed gardening, music, golf, and spending time with his family.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Aileen Ellis; and 2 brothers, Gary Ray Ellis and Charles Waldo Ellis.

Russell is survived by his wife, Linda of the home; daughters, Christy and Tim Sams of Tecumseh, Denea and Ronnie Burgess of Seminole, Shannon and Donnie Smith of Tecumseh, Holly Ellis of Shawnee, and Andrea Ellis-Harrison and husband Jerome Harrison; sons, Kevin Ellis of Shawnee, Phillip Ellis and wife, Pamela of Pawnee; 14 grandchildren; 1 special grandson, Joseph George; 9 great grandchildren; sisters and brother-in-law, Carol Haney and Donna and Joe Jones all of Shawnee; and many other family and friends.

Service was at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, March 25, 2017 at St. Benedict Catholic Church in Shawnee with Father Nerio of St. Benedict’s Catholic Church officiating under the direction of Cooper Funeral Home of Tecumseh.

Ralph Wayne White

November 28, 1981–June 12, 2017


He was born in Claremore, OK on November 28, 1981 to Phyllis and Ralph White. He graduated from Bartlesville High School in 2000.

Earlier in his life, Ralph was an accomplished baseball pitcher known for his intimidating 90 mph fastball. He loved OU football, fishing, and being with his family and friends.

Ralph is survived by his mother and stepfather, Phyllis and Homer Collins of Dewey; his brother Jody Ray White, also of Dewey; his maternal grandmother, Carol Stevens of Bartlesville; and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father Ralph Wayne White, Sr.; his sister Jeanie LeAnn White; his paternal grandparents, Mary Delores Secondine White and Walter Edward White; his maternal grandfather, Lester Stevens; and other aunts and uncles.

Open viewing was held at Stumpff Funeral Home Thursday June 15. A memorial service took place at the First Baptist Church of Dewey at 10:00 a.m. on Friday. Ralph was laid to rest in a private family interment ceremony, at a later date, in the Delaware Indian Cemetery in Dewey.

Friends who wish, may sign the online guestbook and leave condolences at www.stumpff.org.

Published in Examiner-Enterprise from June 15 to July 14, 2017.
Lenape Language Project Report for DIN July 2017

What's New

The DEL grants from the National Science Foundation enable us to continue making improvements to the Lenape Talking Dictionary. In June we received an email telling us that we had been awarded another two-year grant. We have been busy with meetings, telephone conferences, answering questions, etc. In our request for funding we stated the need for making additional improvements to better document the Lenape language. Users of the website have asked for more of the traditional Lenape stories with sound files. There are a number of recordings of stories made over the years that will be added. In some cases the recordings are not as clear as they could be and will require professional work to improve the sound quality. Linguist Ives Goddard has also given permission to add more of the stories that he recorded to the Lenape Talking Dictionary. Additional sound files of individual words are being added.

Independent of the grant we are rewriting the LTD database/website. Some of the reasons for needing to do that were: 1. The computer language used to build the database was an older computer language and does not function well in more modern computers. 2. The program used to play the sound files did not work with tablets or cell phones. 3. As time goes on and there are more changes in the computer world we anticipate additional malfunctions in our database if not updated now. Here is a sample of what the look up page will look like (see right):

Project History

In 1997 we received a one-year Language Planning Grant from the Administration for Native Americans (ANA). We extended that grant to two years and a questionnaire was sent out to all of the families enrolled with the Delaware tribe. It contained two pages of questions asking what would be of most interest to the people. Following those suggestions and consulting with linguists and computer programmers was when we first conceived of the possibility of having an online dictionary with sound files. In 2002 the Lenape Language Preservation Project received a grant from the National Science Foundation to produce a dictionary database of Lenape. Much of the funding went to digitizing and preserving our existing audiotapes made in past years with native speakers of Lenape. The Dictionary was officially online in February 2006. The Lenape Talking Dictionary was possibly the first online dictionary of a Native American language that featured sound files. All of the funding for the project came from grants written by director Jim Rementer. No tribal funds were used for the project until this year when funds were approved to rewrite the language database/website.

The Lenape Talking Dictionary contains thousands of Lenape or Delaware Indian words most of which contain sound files. It also has photographs, sample sentences, a section on grammar, basic lessons and stories. Under the previous grant words from lists created in the 1600s were added. There are very extensive lists from the 1700s mostly the work of the Moravian missionaries such as dictionaries, hymnals, Biblical translations and word lists. Some of these have already been added. Words from the recently published Delaware Indian Language of 1824, edited by project director Rementer and which is specific to this dialect of Southern Unami and which is like a 300-page grammar of the Lenape, are also being added to the dictionary.

The Lenape Talking Dictionary has been and will continue to be available online at no cost to anyone interested in many aspects of The Lenape or Delaware Indian people. There have been frequent requests for translations of Lenape place names. A number of the old place names were reviewed and recorded with Lenape speakers and some have been added to the Lenape Talking Dictionary. Funding will help guarantee the future availability and utility of these valuable resources – access to not only a dictionary of the Lenape language, but one where native speakers can be heard speaking the language. Since the death of the last fluent native speaker in 2002, the website is the only link connecting Lenape people to their ancestral language. The Talking Dictionary is a work in progress, and we appreciate your comments about the Lenape Talking Dictionary. We will continue adding to the Grammar and Lessons sections so you can learn how to construct sentences in Lenape.

Jim Rementer
jimrem@aol.com

Search Results of “Bird” English to Lenape

English: bird  |  Lenape: chuckent.  ❖

Other Possible Word Results

English Lenape
bird chuckent.  ❖

Sentence Results

English: Have a bird, Lenape: Chuckent.

Story Results

English: CT  |  Lenape: Chuckent.

Special K: Red Sox closer Craig Kimbrel is compiling one of the greatest seasons ever

And did you know he is a member of the Delaware Tribe of Indians? See the full story from Sports Illustrated online at: https://www.si.com/mlb/2017/06/19/craig-kimbrel-boston-red-sox-closer

Special Thanks to Lenape Indian News for permission to reproduce this article.

Jim Rementer
The Secret Of The Eyes

Of all the secrets I would know, There’s none I’d prize so high, As that which could be told to me By friend’s or stranger’s eye; But could they tell me, if they would, The reason how and why, There is an understanding shown In glances of the eye?

Have we in other spheres or times Lived, loved, and then grown cold, And through the eyes do recognize Acquaintance of the soul? While though as strangers now we meet, We knew each other well, And recognize that instantly But when we can not tell.

Some strangers whom I meet at times Have eyes that seem to say, “I’ve known you always, even though We’ve only met today.” While others whom I’ve always known, And bound by friendship’s ties, Do seem to ask me who I am, When I look in their eyes.

And then we find some other eyes Repulsive to our view, While they are strangers to us, though, We feel we know them, too; While though as strangers to us, though, Repulsive to our view, And then we find some other eyes When it shall yet be free.

And we’ve known through all our lives, Their eyes so questioning are. Are they then seeking for a soul, Now is some distant star? And questioning all that come along, That soul, where can it be? Or waiting, sighing for the time When we can not hide from certain souls They can not, will not, tell, But can not hide from certain souls That share it just as well.

What can the reason be? Have they wronged us in times gone by And do this wrong we see? And can you tell me the reason why Some eyes responsive are To some, while others in them see That loved each other in this life Or at some other time, And will the meeting of them be Their happiness sublime?

And when from bondage of this life, At last it soars away, Will this attraction draw it on To where those spirits play, That loved each other in this life Or at some other time, And will the meeting of them be Their happiness sublime?

Can you tell me the reason why Some eyes responsive are To some, while others in them see That loved each other in this life Or at some other time, And will the meeting of them be Their happiness sublime?

—By Richard C. Adams, ca. 1900 Delaware Tribal member and attorney

Exalting Oration

Forget not this where’er you travel, Forget not this whate’er your danger, Your heart may well be strong within you. For you are of the Lenape; For better still of all the greetings Brought you by the good Manitou, Said the spirit who is greatest, “These are my people, the Lenape.”

Tho’ you meet with daily trials And your burdens seem most heavy, Great temptations may ensnare you, You may fail to do your duty. But do children walk from child-birth? Do not strong men even stumble? Let no failure leave you doubting, For you are of the Lenape.

If you see a tribesman falter, Even tho’ he’s much discouraged And he seems to be unworthy Of the help of even humans, Turn not from him, don’t forsake him, For the Spirit who is greatest Looks upon us with compassion, And has said this in his greeting, “These are my people, the Lenape.”

Go and cheer your fallen comrade, Tell him none can here be perfect; If each life reflected to us, All their errors and omissions, His may yet be far the brighter, For he has hidden from us nothing, And he yet may reach the station Where we are to be made perfect, In advance of those who shun him, If he only will remember That he’s of the Leni Lenape.

When we think much of the future, Of the mysteries that surround us, Of the earth on which we’re living, Of ourselves as we are born, Of ourselves as we are dying, Then we must be truly happy That the spirit who ordained this, Has remembered us with greetings, “These are my people, the Lenape.”

Let your spirit then be cheerful And your efforts do not slacken, To perform your daily duty; Hearken to your guardian spirit, As impressions it will give you, You will know when it is speaking, For vibrations come unto you, From the greatest of the spirits, Who has sent us this greeting, “These are my people, the Lenape.”

—By Richard C. Adams

The Views of Life Hereafter

The Indian’s faith hath taught him That beyond this life on earth, A paradise is waiting For those who prove their worth; There a happy hunting ground Abounds with fish and game, And only those can enter That do his faith proclaim.

The Moslem has a Heaven Where maidens wait with glee, From every clime and zone, With flowers and caresses To deck him eternally, Does picture out their Heaven To perform us for the strife; And in this blissful Heaven Are harems set apart For each one of the faithful With maidens true in heart.

The white man has a Heaven For those who heed the laws, So each and every nation, All who deny his cause; From every clime and zone, But to make Heav’n enticing, Does picture out their Heaven Driven by a force unknown, With visions of their own; Explored by immortal spirits But all expect those pleasures To prepare us for the strife; Their hearts do most desire, Where space is without limit, And the less they are deserving Upon how much we profit Of the earth on which we’re living, Their rewards will be the higher. By the lessons at this end?

But I myself feel doubtful As to what there may be, Are we, then, here receiving, Where God’s judgment may decree, While in this mortal life, Where God’s judgment may decree, A kindergarten lesson As our values there shall be? To prepare us for the strife; And in the scale of justice Where chances will be boundless, That is held by Him above, And pleasures all depend, Will there be virtue equal To true brotherhood and love?

And when we cross the river And when we cross the river, Where God’s judgment may decree, That shall we fill such places As our values there shall be? That is held by Him above, As to what there may be, Will there be virtue equal To true brotherhood and love?

—By Richard C. Adams
61-19 Letter from Delawares, 1861

The Grand Council of the Nations of Indian Assembled on the North Fork of the Canadian River

Grandchildren, One week ago we received the tobacco sent to the Delawares by their Grandchildren, the Cherokees, which we have smoked after the custom of our fathers and send delegates to represent us in the Grand Council.

Grandchildren, We would be glad to take part in the council with you in person, but are getting old don't feel ourselves able to travel so far, but we send our young men and counselors to speak for us.

Grandchildren, That there may be no misunderstanding we think it best to send you a short talk on paper which we have written and we advise you because we have the love of our grandchildren near our hearts.

Grandchildren, we are very sorry that our white brothers in the states have gone to war with each other. We are sorry for it.

Grandchildren, we advise the Indians to take no part in this war between our white brothers of the north and south, but to stay at home and attend to their own business, and let our white brothers settle their quarrels between themselves.

Grandchildren, we are desirous that nothing be done in your council that might offend our grandfather the President of the United States. We believe him to be our friend. He is our protector and to him we must look for protection and support.

Grandchildren, we advise also the Indians also to take no part in the war between our white brothers, and hope that the old men might advise their young men any warriors to stay at home and not take sides with either party.

Grandchildren, we would be glad to see peace made between our white brothers of the states. We hope they might make peace and live as brothers ought to in peace and friendship.

Grandchildren, we hope that the council might be harmonious and that you might all return to your homes with kind and brotherly feelings for each other, and that all our grandchildren may and will hereafter live in peace and friendship with each other.

Delaware Council House June 2nd, 1861
his mark
John Connor X Head Chief
his mark
Sarcoxie X Chief
his mark
Ne Con He Cond X Chief

We ask our grandchildren in council assembled to answer our letter in writing on the subjects we have written about.

Delegates: Black Beaver - John Sarcoxie - George Washington - Tongienoxie - Dick Brown

—Submitted by Jim Rementer

WAR DANCE IS GIVEN BY INDIANS

The Dewey Globe
9 September 1921

SHAWNEES AND DELAWARES PERFORM OLD RITES IN FULL REGALIA

The Delawares and the Shawnees dug up the hatchet this week and went on the war path at Tom Halfmoon’s place north of Dewey. The war path, however, extended no farther than Tom’s grove of scrub oaks and the circle of beaten earth around the log fire which was lighted for the stomp dance.

Chief Little Jim of the Shawnees leading his band of dancers and aided by Tom Halfmoon and a number of other Delaware began the war dance 4 p.m., after a special barbecue feed. Some of the other Shawnee chiefs were Spy Buck, of Sperry, Oklahoma, and Jim Wire of Shawnee. In all more than 100 Indians were present but only the war dancers were in full regalia or the war path.

The small scrub oak grove surrounding the Halfmoon home and the “stomping grounds” was crowded with the automobiles of the hundreds of spectators.

The Shawnees arrived in Bartlesville early Monday morning in preparation for the two day dance. The dances were staged exclusively by the Delawares and Shawnees. The war dance began Tuesday at 4 o’clock and continued until 8 o’clock at night, a short time after the close of the war dance the stomp dance began, the latter continuing until the wee hours of the morning.

[Additional note: The cost of a subscription in 1921 to the Dewey Globe was $2.00 per year.]

—Submitted by Jim Rementer

Check Out the Tribal Web Site

Have you visited our Tribe’s web site recently? Additional material that we were unable to include in the DIN can often be found there.

Go to:

www.delawaretribe.org

DIN Subscription Form

Don’t miss any of the latest news about the Delaware Tribe of Indians. Order the Delaware Indian News, the Tribe’s official publication. Enrolled tribal members with current addresses on file receive the Delaware Indian News free. For non-tribal members or others, the annual subscription is only $20 per year (four issues).

Name: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________

City: ______________ State: __________ Zip: __________

Send completed form, with a check of money order made out to “Delaware Tribe of Indians,” to:

Delaware Indian News, 5100 Tuxedo Blvd, Bartlesville, OK 74006
The Delaware Indian News is the official publication of the Delaware Tribe of Indians. It is published quarterly by the Delaware Tribe of Indians and is mailed free to members. Subscriptions to non-tribal members are available at $20 per year. To order a subscription, contact 918-337-6590 or din@delawaretribe.org.

We invite contributions, but reserve the right to limit printing based upon available space. The deadline for articles, letters, ads and calendar of events is September 10, 2017 for the October 2017 issue. Submissions may be mailed, faxed or hand delivered to the tribal office or emailed to din@delawaretribe.org. Paid advertisements are available; for rates, please contact the editor.

Editorials, guest columns, and reader’s letters reflect the opinion of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the DIN, its staff, or the tribal government. They must be signed by the author and include the author’s address. The DIN does not guarantee publication upon submission of comments.

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The mission of the DIN is to serve, empower and inform the Lenape people, while adhering to the policy of unbiased reporting in an ethical and professional manner.

Editorial Board:
Gregory Brown, Joe Brown, Leslie Fall-Leaf

Technical Editor: Gregory Brown (gbrown@delawaretribe.org)