



San Diego Cherokee Community Newsletter

Issue 39

February 1, 2013

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We planned our yearly meeting schedule... and formed four Special Interest Groups.

January 20th SDC Community Meeting

We held a meeting on January 20, 2013 and planned our yearly meeting schedule. Some of our planned meetings will be a trip to Will Rogers's house in Malibu, Spring Picnic at Lake Murray, Picnic with the Nation officials in October and many others.

We had 22 people in attendance. They formed four Special Interest Groups - language, cooking, genealogy, and clothing.

It was decided to have the next meeting as a SIG meeting to formalize each group.

The Council appreciated all those members who participated and help us plan our 2013 calendar.

February 10th SDC Community Meeting -- SIGs

We will have a meeting on February 10th at Centro Cultural de la Raza for the Special Interest Groups only. The meeting will be from 1-4 pm.

Each group will decide its purpose, when and where they will meet. Other groups can also be formed.

The Youth council will be also meeting at the same time. Please contact Kathryn Bussey at sabussey@mac.com.

The Council recently received an email from Roy Hamilton, the fry bread cook at the last picnic, and expressed his interest in helping out the a-large communities. His interests include family research, history and humanities along with cooking frybread. This could be a source for our connection to the Nation for each SIG.

Come and join in making 2013 a very exciting year.

If you wish to have more information about this event or any other information, please contact us at info@sandiegocherokeecommunity.com.

Special Interest Groups Corner

At our meeting on January 20th, we formed 4 groups;



A group of people with similar interests in a particular cultural topic...

Cooking

Mona Oge
Janette Jack
Lisa Ronning
Kathryn Bussey
Sue Ann Bussey
Shayna Holmes
Shirleen McCormick
Skye Holmes

Genealogy

Janette Jack
Etta Miller
Natali Galt
Dennis Galt

Clothing

Natali Galt
Shirleen McCormick

Language

Patrick Bea
George Lynch
Janette Jack
Natali Galt
Lisa Ronning
Michael Moore
Sarah Moore
Shayna Holmes
Shirleen McCormick
Skye Holmes

SIG FAQs

What is a SIG?

It's a group of people with similar interests in a particular cultural topic like language and meets more often than the regular meetings.

When does a SIG meet?

Each SIG is different and it depends on what the group decides - preferably at least twice a month.

Where does a SIG meet?

*Each SIG can meet anywhere they want. With the Language SIG, many of the meetings will be online and in-person. The facility at the Centro Cultural de la Raza is reserved each month for meetings. Also a SIG can meet before the regular meetings at 12:30 pm. (See **Upcoming Meetings** for schedule.)*

What help will we get from the Nation?

Hopefully, we will be able to connect to other citizens who are knowledgeable about each SIG topic and perhaps, Skype with them.

Are these SIGS included in my membership fee?

Yes. As with any hobby there might be additional costs for each group.

Community News and Announcements

SDCC Committee Members and Duties for 2012-2013

Phillip Powers -- Council Leader, Meeting Facilitator & Community Outreach

Phil Konstantin -- Meeting Facilitator & SDCC Spokesperson

Joe Radeker -- Treasurer

Mona Oge -- Membership Coordinator

George Lynch -- Record-keeper

Patrick Bea -- Webmaster and Newsletter Editor

Etta Miller -- Telephone Membership Outreach

Pamela Hightower -- TBA

Mike Ledger -- Alt - TBA

All council members can be reached at info@sandiegocherokeecommunity.com.

This is a section for anyone who likes to share something about your family such as births, engagements, graduation, etc. All announcements must be sent in before the last day of each month. I will try to put out this Newsletter monthly. Send your information to sdcc_newsletter@sandiegocherokeecommunity.com

Other Local Cherokee Communities

Cherokee Community of the Inland Empire (CCIE)

General Meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of every month. Monthly General Meetings are held at:

Sherman Indian High School
Bennett Hall
9010 Magnolia Ave.
Riverside, CA. 92503



For more information, check the website at: www.cherokeecommunityie.org

Orange County Cherokees

For more information, contact Ed Carey at ecarey@socal.rr.com.

At-Large Representatives

Julie Coates (2015):

<http://juliacoates.com/index.html>
P.O. Box 1968, Tahlequah, Ok 74465
Email julia-coates@cherokee.org
Phone: 918-772-0288

Jack D. Baker (2013)

1102 Marlboro Lane
Oklahoma City, Ok 73116
(H) 405-840-1377 or (C) 918-457-9382
jack-baker@cherokee.org



Jack Baker speaking at one of our meetings.

Other Council Members can be located [here](#).

The Summer Abroad Program -- Part 3

By Lisa Ronning

The morning of July 7th came early and after breakfast it was off to Julia's history class. For the first session we learned the legal basis of Cherokee sovereignty and had a discussion concerning whether the Cherokee nation was a government or social services agency and what implications each had for Cherokees. We talked about identity and how there were 3 types, racial, ethnic, and legal-political. It was interesting to think deeper upon the implications of outside forces upon our people's identity and how the Cherokee people adapted to survive. We also learned about the historical basis with Freeman descendants and the arguments on both sides of the issue. It was interesting to hear the thoughts of the other students on these matters because it made us all take a look at the issue from different perspectives.

We broke for lunch and we made our way to the university cafeteria for a quick bite to eat. The food that is provided for students at NSU is varied, fresh and plentiful. It was just what the doctor ordered to keep the brain active with energy for learning. It was a beautiful day with the sun shining and although lunch was great everyone was excited to get back to class and learn about the history of the Cherokee constitutions.

Julia Coates has an exceptional knowledge of the history of our people and is well versed in the many legal ramifications and struggles that we have faced as a tribe throughout the history of America.

In the 3rd session of the day there was a guest speaker, Diane Hammons, the former Attorney General of the Cherokee Nation. She showed us a PowerPoint presentation on the Cherokee Constitutions. We also discussed the Constitutional Crisis of 1997-99 and followed it up with an exercise on how we might have changed the constitution if we were able to. It was a wonderful first full day in the scholarship program and after the class we rushed off to prepare and leave for a special night of dancing at the Echota Grounds.

We all jumped into the NSU bus and we were speeding off to the sacred stomping grounds with Julia at the wheel. The Echota Stomp Grounds is a beautiful place where several families (invited) have shelters where they come and prepare for the Green Corn Dance. It was a glorious night with prayers/songs of thanksgiving for the bountiful corn harvest. There is much preparation to do in the previous week and both the men and women have various things they must do. It was a special treat to be invited onto the Echota stomp grounds. There was food for all as we sat watching the final preparations before the actual ceremony took place. Unfortunately, I was still recovering from my (left) foot surgery and my foot was swollen due to the increased activities so I was unable to dance. But it was so beautiful to watch and to listen to the men sing and the women "shell-shakers" keep the beat.

The evening went deep into the night as the fire was stoked high and the dancers danced. It was after midnight when we finally started to head back to the University and all of us had a wonderful experience to treasure always. It was with sleepy eyes that we said goodnight and made our way back to our dorm apartments. What a glorious beginning to our wonderful experience in Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

Classmates



Tyler Hudson



Kinsey Shade
"Tanae"



Eric J. Marshall
"Dalala"



Virginia Hall

Cherokee Youth Section

Announcements:

There is a Youth Council initiative being led by Kathryn Bussey. She is asking anyone that is interested to fill out a survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/6FYL7HI> to see what people are interested in doing. There is a big backing from Tahlequah for this.

Native Dancing

Anyone who is interested can attend the workshops. These workshops do not only include dance instruction, but also include the making of traditional clothes to be worn at the powwows.

Soaring Eagles

POWWOW WORKSHOPS (6-830 pm in Auditorium)
2013
February 6, 13, 27 March 6, 13, 27
April 10, 24 May 1, 8, 22, 29
June 5*

*(Last day at Ballard. SE meets at community parks from June to August.)

Ballard Parent Center
2375 Congress Street
San Diego, CA 92110

For more information on dancing and activities:

http://www.scair.org/soaring_eagles/

All ages are Welcome to join.



Soaring Eagles dancing the Shawl Dance.

Urban Tribal Sports

For more information contact:

Inter Tribal Sports, Inc.
41892 Enterprise Circle South, Ste. B
Temecula, CA 92590
Tel. (951) 719-3444
Fax: (951) 719-3466
www.intertribalsports.org

Also on **Facebook**

San Diego American Indian Youth Center

Teen Day 13 and up – Every Friday 2-6pm

Call the center for more information and other activities.

2560 First Avenue, Suite 103
San Diego, CA 92103
(619)531-1938
sdaihyc619@gmail.com

www.sdaihyc.blogspot.com

This is a new section of our newsletter to have our Cherokee youth to share their activities, thoughts, pictures, etc. about being Cherokee and culture.

If you wish to share, please submit your material to sdcc_newsletter@sandiegocherokeecommunity.com.



Upcoming Events

- February 10, 2013 -- SIG Meetings**
- March 10, 2013 -- Intro to Will Rogers**
- April 13, 2013 -- Trip to Will Rogers's House**
- May 19, 2013 -- Lake Murray Picnic**
- June 9, 2013 – History Day**
- July 14, 2013 – SIG Meetings**
- August 11, 2013 – SIG Meetings**
- September 8, 2013 -- SIG Meetings**
- October 27, 2013 -- Annual Picnic with CN Citizens and Officials**
- November 10, 2013 -- SIG Meetings**
- December 8, 2013 -- Year End Get Together**

All meetings will be held at Centro Cultural de la in Balboa Park unless otherwise stated.

Click [here](#) for a map.

All events are subject to change. Please check our web site www.sandiegocherokeecommunity.com

or

Write to us at info@sandiegocherokeecommunity.com.

Historical Events

Feb. 1 1834 -- The State of Georgia had begun the process of seizing Cherokee property.

Feb 1, 1839 – Chief John Ross and 328 Cherokees arrived in Indian Territory. Quatie Martin Ross, Chief Ross' wife died on the trail.

Feb. 5, 1948 -- An act (62 Stat. 17) was passed by Congress to "empower the Secretary to grant rights-of-way for various purposes across lands of individual Indians or Indian tribes, communities, bands, or nations."

Feb 18, 1837 – General Ellis Wood had been assigned the task of preventing the Cherokees from revolting after the passage of the New Echota Treaty on December 29, 1835.

February 20, 1863 – Cherokee Chief John Ross was arrested by the Union forces and taken to Washington, D.C.

Feb 21, 1828 – Elias Boudinot (Black Waite), as editor, established the *Cherokee Phoenix* in New Echota.

February 23, 1839 – About 900 Cherokees arrived in Indian Territory under the leadership of Rev. Jesse Bushy-head. They had 38 deaths.

February 27, 1973 – The siege of Wounded Knee began.

February 2013

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

March 2013

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

April 2013

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

SDCC Event
Historical Event
Trail of Tears Event

Cherokee Culture Notes

Music and the Cherokees

By Bonnie Ramsey

Instruments

The music of the Native Americans is as vast and diverse as those who create it. Each tribe has its own musical approach and style that has been passed down from generation to generation. It is the center of Native American culture and is used in religious rituals, for healing, accompanying work and games as well as social gatherings. Most Native Americans feel that music and song is not a human invention but rather something that is given to the by spirits to facilitate interaction between the heavens and earth.

Lyrics are filled with symbolisms and singers sometimes use made up sounds to create the stories and rhythmic poetry. Vocals and chanting are very common in traditional Native American music. Flutes, drums and rattles are the most common instruments found throughout the tribes. Perhaps the most important element of their music is the voice.

Most Important Element of Music

Vocals are the backbone of Native American music culture. Unusual rhythms and sometimes off-key style of singing is used. No harmony is ever incorporated although many people may sometimes sing at once. Other times the vocals will be solo. The Native American vocals are passionate and are used to invoke spirits, ask for rain or healing and are used to heal the sick. In most cases the men and women of the tribes sing separately and have their own dances. The women normally dance in place while the men dance in a circle.

Researchers feel that Native American music is one of the most complicated forms of music performed. The tensing and releasing of the vocals combined with the various drum beats makes it a very intricate form of art. Every region of the country where Native Americans settled produced varying forms of music. The music is always unique to its group due to the many different tribes.

Cherokee Style

Cherokee music, like many other Cherokee art forms, has always been an integral part of special ceremonies as well as in daily life. Cherokee instruments from the past have included panpipes, flutes, whistles, drums and rattles. Archeologists have found various Cherokee musical instruments that are estimated at one thousand years old. Flutes, made of river cane or the leg bone of a deer, were played to accompany processions of chiefs, to greet visitors and to encourage success in stickball games. Whistles, made from leg bones of birds, were sometimes blown by warriors to produce their war call, often a male wild turkey gobble.

Percussion instruments (drums and rattles) primarily accompanied dancing. The water drum was most commonly used by the Cherokee and neighboring tribes. It could be tuned and was made from a section of hollowed log partially filled with water and covered by tightly drawn hide. Many rattles were made from gourds and contained beans, corn kernels or pebbles. The gourds were attached to wooden handles and decorated with feathers or rattlesnake rattles. Other rattles were made from turtle shells, attached to a leather strip and worn by women during dancing. They were tied just below the knee and produced a rhythmic accompaniment with the drumming and singing as the women danced. These women were called shell shakers.

Cherokee Men and Music

Cherokee men sang to lead dances in various traditional ceremonies. Their songs were frequently made up of short sections comprised of phrases sung four or seven times, the sacred numbers of the Cherokee. During dances, the songs may begin or end with a shout or whoop. Some dance songs followed a call-and-response pattern with one person leading the song and dance and the rest of the group answering in short musical phrases. Other traditional uses for music included the singing of prayer formulas.



Flutes



Drums



Rattles



Language

The Nation offers a variety of levels from beginner to advanced, and you can choose to participate in live or recorded sessions. CN classes will start April 2013. For instructions to register for these free online classes go to <http://www.cherokee.org/AboutTheNation/Culture/Language/31863/Information.aspx>.

A local group was forming at our last meetings on learning Cherokee. If you want to join the group, contact me at lla_i_ga@yahoo.com.

Local Cherokee Library

The Nation has sent us some books about the Cherokee people and culture to start our own library. If anyone wishes to donate, take care of, or check out a book, please contact us at info@sandiegocherokeecommunity.com. Some of the books are now available online. Please check back from time to time for others such as the *Cherokee Nation History Class book*

Below is a list of what is currently available:

TITLE	AUTHOR	ONLINE	COPIES
Cherokee Nation History Class	Compiled by Chadwick "Corntassel" Smith <i>NOTE: Only partial of the course is available at present. Check back for additional sections added.</i>	HERE	2
Building One Fire <i>Art + World View in Cherokee Life</i>	Chadwick "Corntassel" Smith, <i>et al</i>		1
See Say Write with CD	Compiled by Victor Vance	Book CD	1*
Cherokee History and Culture Though Art	Wade Blevins		1
Exploring Your Cherokee Ancestry	Thomas Mooney		1
Outline of Cherokee Grammar	William Pulte & Durbin Feeling	HERE	1
Cherokee Consortium Word List	<i>Unknown</i>	HERE	1
Cherokee Immersion Curricula & Language Learning Materials On CD	<i>Unknown</i>		1
This Day In North American Indian History	Phil Konstantin		1
How to Make Cherokee Clothing	Donald Sizemore		1
Trail of Tears – The Rise and Fall of the Cherokee Nation	John Ehle		1
The Native Americans -- An Illustrated History	David Hurst Thomas, <i>et al</i>		1
Historic Fort Gibson	Fort Gibson Historic Preservation		1
Handy Tips to Your Genealogical Research in Southern Records	<i>Unknown</i>		1

Syllabary Chart		HERE	1
Various Color Charts including Solar system, States, Continents, and various stories in Cherokee		CHARTS STORIES	1
Comfort & Joy -- Cherokee Christmas Songbook		HERE	1
Additional Reading List		HERE	1
Cherokee Nation's Apps and Docs	Application for Citizenship (Blue Card) Dawes Freedman Roll # App. Certified Degree of Indian Blood App. CA Birth Certificate (State Issued) Death Affidavit Replacement Card Voter Registration	HERE HERE HERE HERE HERE HERE	
	*soon be available online		

Misc. Notes

Youth Employment

- Employment Services for American Indian and Native Hawaiians
- 15-19 yrs. old at date of application
 - 2.0 GPA requires
 - Placements are limited – First come, first serve basis.

For more information:
Indian Human Resource Center
www.indianhrcenter.org
(619)281-5964
4265 Fairmont Ave., Ste. 140
San Diego, CA 92105

IHRC is also available for Adult employment.

Education

For those who are interested in Native Studies, please go to this website for [A Guide to Native American Studies Programs in the United States and Canada](#) by Robert M. Nelson, Editor.

Wado,
Patrick Bea, Newsletter Editor

Membership Registration for 2013

If you have not joined the Community for 2013, please fill out the application below and mail your check for \$10 for Individuals or \$15 for multiple family members living at the same address to SDCC, 1098 Canyon Creek Place, Escondido, CA 92025. The Membership Year is from May 1 through April 30th. Your dues payment now will carry you through April 30th, 2013.

San Diego Cherokee Community (SDCC)

Membership Form

Date: _____

NAME: _____

First

Middle Initial

Last

If you are renewing and your contact information has not changed, check here and mail us the form with your check. Fill in the rest of the form only where changes have occurred.

MAILING ADDRESS; _____

Street Address & Apt. # or Post Office Box #

City

State

Zip

TELEPHONE #: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Do you want to be listed in a SDCC membership directory? Yes _____ No _____

Do you wish to share your information with the Cherokee Nation? Yes _____ No _____

How do you prefer to receive the SDCC newsletter? E-Mail _____ Postal Mail _____

Names of other household members over 18 at the same address to be added to the SDCC Roster of Members:

CHEROKEE AFFILIATION (Check One):

Cherokee Nation _____

Registration # _____

United Keetoowah Band _____

Registration # _____

Eastern Band of Cherokee _____

Registration # _____

Cherokee Descent, Unregistered _____

Other (Explain) _____

Topics you would recommend for future SDCC Community Meetings? _____