

# SHAWNEE COUNTY ALLIED TRIBES

JANUARY – FEBRUARY, 2012

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## BEST WISHES FOR THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON

Those of us who are the officers of Shawnee County Allied Tribes would like to extend our best wishes at this time of year to all of our members and friends. We hope that all of us have a very Merry Christmas and a good beginning for the new year ahead. We would also like to express our appreciation to all of those persons who have been supportive of our Shawnee Lake Pow-Wow and all of our other activities during the past year.

Hildred Vilander, Roger Lewis, Mike Ballard & Don Anderson

## S.C.A.T. TO HOST ANNUAL DINNER DANCE IN FEBRUARY

Shawnee County Allied Tribes will be hosting their 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Appreciation Dinner Dance on Saturday, February 25, 2012 at the Topeka Zoo Shelter House. It is designed for us to express our appreciation to the Creator for the gift of life and to give thanks to all of those who have been involved and helped with SCAT activities during the past year.

It will begin with a session of Gourd Dancing from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. This will be followed by a chili dinner and desserts that will be from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Following the food there will be another period of Gourd Dancing at 5:00 p.m. Then, during the evening, there will be a Grand Entry at 6:00 p.m. followed by Social Dancing that will last until 9:00 p.m.

The Head Staff includes the following:

- Head Gourd Dancer – Tim Robinson
- Head Man Dancer – Lee Two Hatchett
- Head Lady Dancer – Liz Two Hatchett
- Master of Ceremonies – Jason Smith
- Arena Director – Shannon Leroy
- Host Southern Drum – Horse Shoe Lake
- Host Northern Drum – Swift Kill
- Color Guard – TBA

This dinner dance is open to the public and everyone is welcome. The admission is free and no alcohol or drugs are permitted. For further information, contact Chris Wagner at (785)969-6663 or [WAGNER1969@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:WAGNER1969@HOTMAIL.COM).

## RENEWAL OF THE FLAME GATHERING TO BE HELD IN JANUARY

The annual observance of “Renewal of the Flame” will be held on Saturday, January 7, at the Topeka Zoo Shelter Building beginning at 6:00 p.m. This is a Native American celebration that marks the beginning of a new year with all of its hopes and expectations. It will include a covered-dish carry-in dinner, traditional ceremonies, games, and singing & dancing. The event is free and all interested persons are invited. Christian and Christine Kramer will be the hosts.

## S.C.A.T. ACTIVITIES

Shawnee County Allied Tribes meets on the second Monday evening of each month at the Highland Park United Methodist Church (29<sup>th</sup> & S.E. Michigan). The board meets at 6:30 p.m., with a general meeting following at 7:30 p.m. Both meetings are open to interested persons. In January we will be meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup>, and in February we will be meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

Persons who are interested in becoming a part of the S.C.A.T. organization and participating in its activities are invited to become members. Our annual membership dues are \$15 for a family and \$10 for an individual. The dues are on a yearly basis from January to December.

S.C.A.T. maintains a scholarship fund in memory of Rev. Jim McKinney who was very instrumental in the development of our organization and who was very much interested in the education of Native youth. The fund is used to help Native students in the pursuit of their educational goals. The committee that oversees the fund is currently accepting applications from people who qualify. The committee is made up of Agnes McKinney, Bobbie Anderson and Mike Ballard.

S.C.A.T. is committed to preserving and continuing Native American culture and traditions in the midst of a changing and challenging world. Persons who are interested in being a part of our activities and programs are invited to become members.

## STANDING BEAR ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Standing Bear Intertribal Brotherhood meets each week on Wednesday evening at the Highland Park United Methodist Church (29<sup>th</sup> & S.E. Michigan) at 7:00 p.m. Each meeting begins with a brief time of business and calendaring and then the rest of the time is spent in drumming and singing and doing various crafts. In January the group will be singing at the “Renewal of the Flame” on Jan. 7 at the Zoo Shelter Building. Any interested persons are invited to attend Standing Bear’s meetings and activities.

## AWI AKTA MEETINGS

The Awi Akta District of the Northern Cherokee Nation of the Old Louisiana Territory meets on the second Sunday afternoon of each month. On Jan. 8 the meeting will be at the First United Methodist Church in Holton at 1:00 p.m. On Feb. 12 the meeting will be at the Crestview United Methodist Church in Topeka at 1:00 p.m. The meetings begin with a carry-in pot-luck meal followed by a business session and a culture presentation. Interested persons are invited to attend.

## MONTHLY TACO SALES AT SULLIVAN CHAPEL

The Sullivan Chapel Indian Methodist Church is located at 1937 N.E. Madison in North Topeka. It has an Indian Taco Sale on the first Friday of each month lasting from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. This means that the tacos will be for sale on Jan. 6 and Feb. 3, and may be eaten on site or purchased for carry-out.

## CHRISTMAS WREATH DONATED BY S.C.A.T.

As in past years, S.C.A.T. decorated and submitted a wreath to the annual Festival of Trees event in December. The theme of the wreath was "Jingle Bells" and represented the traditional jingle dresses that Native American women wear in their dances. This year the wreath brought an amount of \$125. All of the proceeds of the event go to the Sheltered Living Program.

## MANNY KING FEATURED IN LOCAL MAGAZINE

Manny King is well known locally for his involvement at Haskell Indian Nations University and his participation in area powwows. It is fitting therefore that he be featured on the cover of the current edition of the Kansas Magazine (Winter 2011, Volume 67, Issue 4).

On the inside of the magazine he is included among a number of persons who represent the variety of cultural communities in Kansas. It describes his role as Haskell's registrar since 1985 and his interaction with the students there. He is committed to the university and sees it as a community that embraces diversity and is a good place to live. "My main goal is to bring enjoyment and an appreciation of Indian cultures to people from all walks of life", he says.

It is our good fortune to have Manny as a spokesman for the local Native American community and an advocate for Native traditions. We wish him the very best in the years ahead.

## PRESIDENT OBAMA MEETS WITH NATIVE LEADERS

President Barack Obama met for the third time with Native American tribal leaders on Dec. 2, signing an executive order on tribal colleges and assuring them “you have a president that’s got your back.” Obama has won plaudits among Native Americans by breaking through a logjam of inaction on tribal issues and for giving a voice to their issues with the annual gatherings in Washington.

Obama reminded the leaders from the 565 federally recognized Native American tribes and representing Alaska Natives that he had promised “a true government-to-government relationship” that recognizes “our sometimes painful history and respects Native American heritage. “I believe that one day we’re going to be able to look back on these years and say that was the turning point ...the moment when we stopped repeating the mistakes of the past and started building a better future.”

Bill John Baker, principal chief of the country’s largest Indian tribe, the Cherokee Nation in Oklahoma, said before the conference that American Indians have been both “well-served” and “hurt” by other administrations, but Obama has “backed up his words with actions that have made a positive impact on the lives of Native people.”

Jacqueline Johnson Pata, executive director of the National Congress of American Indians and an Alaska Native, said Native’s peoples’ enthusiasm for Obama goes deeper. Obama has embraced tribal sovereignty preserved in the Constitution, court decisions and treaty agreements and made that the foundation for his administration’s dealings with tribes, Pata said.

## SIGNIFICANT DATES IN HISTORY

- Jan. 9, 1789 – Treaty with the Wyandot, Delaware, Ottawa, Potawatomi, and Sauk recognizes Native Americans as “nations”.
- Jan. 14, 1983 – Passage of Indian Tribal Tax Status Act confirms that tribes possess many federal tax advantages enjoyed by states.
- Jan. 23, 1923 – Ira Hamilton Hayes (Pima) is born.
- Jan. 24, 1955 – Ira Hamilton Hayes dies of exposure, one of 6 marines who raised the flag on Mt. Suribachi on Iwo Jima in World War II.
- Feb. 2, 1892 – George Bushotter (Teton Sioux) dies at 28 years old. He was the first Lakota to write an account of the people in their own language.
- Feb. 9, 1994 – European parliaments resolve to provide protection for indigenous people and their right to protect the planet and all its inhabitants.
- Feb. 13, 1641 – Iroquois Confederacy begins war against Canada.
- Feb. 14, 1986 – Smithsonian Museum of Natural History agrees to return skeletal remains for reburial when a clear biological or cultural link can be established.
- Feb. 16, 1974 – Russell Means and Dennis Banks, co-founders of AIM, are brought to trial for occupation at Wounded Knee

AN AMERICAN INDIAN'S VERSION OF THE TWENTY-THIRD PSALM  
(submitted by Agnes McKinney)

The great Father above is a Shepherd Chief. I am his and with him, I want not. He throws out to me a rope, and the name of the rope is love, and he draws me to where the grass is green and the water is not dangerous.

Sometimes my heart is very weak, and falls down, but he lifts it up again and draws me into a good road.

Sometime, it may be very soon, it may be longer, it may be a long, long time, he will draw me into a place between mountains. It is dark there, but I'll draw back not. I'll be afraid not, for it is there between the mountains that the Shepherd Chief will meet me, and the hunger I have felt in my heart all through this life will be satisfied.

Sometimes he makes the love rope into a whip, but afterwards he gives me a staff to lean on. He spreads a table before me with all kinds of food. He puts his hands upon my head, and all the "tired" is gone. My cup he fills, till it runs over.

What I tell you is true. I lie not. The roads that are "away ahead" will stay with me through this life, and afterward I will go to live in the "Big Tepee" and sit down with the Shepherd Chief forever.

S.C.A.T. NEWSLETTER

Our S.C.A.T. newsletter is published bi-monthly. We welcome any suggestions or comments about news items that you would like to see included. Hildred Vilander, Agnes McKinney, and Don Anderson are the editors and would be happy to hear from you.