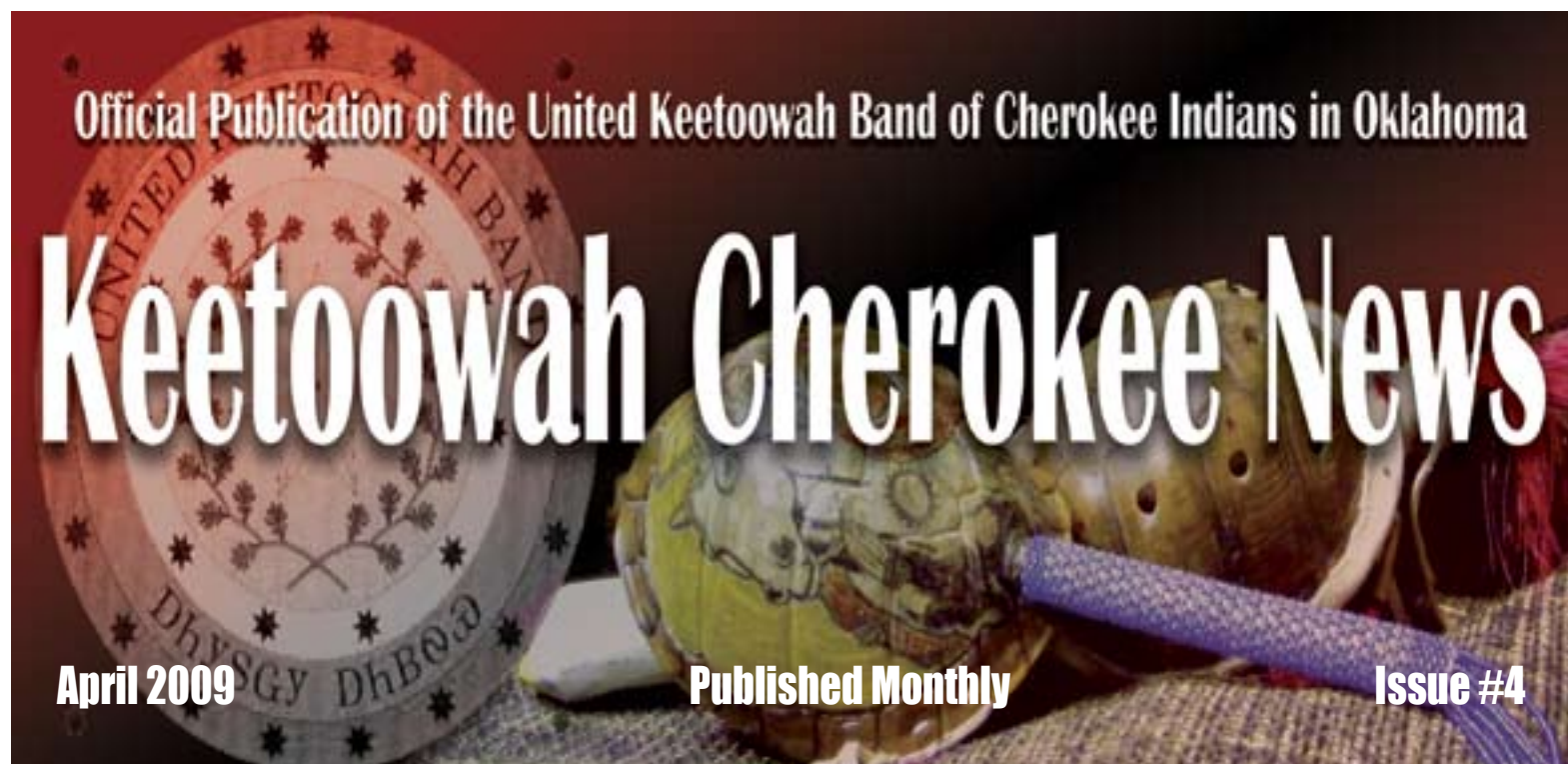


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Keetoowah Cherokee is the Official Language of the UKB

The Oklahoma House recently passed an official English bill asking voters to make English the official language of Oklahoma. The bill has been sent to the Senate where it now waits for passage. Rep. Randy Terrill, R-Moore, author of the bill, stated that it would prevent the state from having to provide taxpayer-funded services in a language other than English. This bill includes a lengthy list of exceptions of which one involves the American Indian tribal languages.

The official English bill would send a proposed constitutional amendment to Oklahoma voters allowing English the official language of state government. Of course private individuals and business would still be allowed to speak the language they chose.

This only reinforces the importance of the Keetoowah Cherokee language. It is vital that the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma retain their Keetoowah Cherokee language. Not only as a way of identifying their tribe, but as a right to speak their native language. Today over 60 percent of UKB tribal members speak their Cherokee language fluently within the nine districts of the Keetoowah Cherokees. A feat that very few tribes can boast and the UKB tribal administration and council are very proud to proclaim.

One important program that has inspired many Keetoowah Cherokee youth to become involved in learning their native language is the Children's Cherokee language class taught by Keetoowah Tribal member and speaker Peggy Girty.

The class is geared toward pre-k to 4th grade youth who became interested in learning their language after attending adult language classes with their parents. There are a total of 13 students that attend the language class. Some children who attend the class come from homes where their families speak the Keetoowah Cherokee language and some who do not. The class is taught at a beginning level where all students learn numbers, colors, animals and some commands in the Cherokee language. "At this time we don't have any students that speak



PEGGY GIRTY, Cherokee Language Instructor for the Gore Public Schools and Children's Cherokee Language Class in Vian, teaches the UKB Spring Break Culture camp participants how to pronounce numbers, animals and colors in the Cherokee language.

the language fluently, but they understand the language," stated Girty.

Mrs. Girty is a six-year Cherokee instructor for the Gore Public School System. She teaches children from the sixth to the twelfth grade. During her teaching years she noticed that many of the younger children are picking up the Cherokee language easier than the older students so she decided to focus on the younger students. "I have taught Adult Cherokee Language classes in Vian for two years, but there are so many Adult Language classes being taught in that area. There are no language classes geared toward the younger children, so I thought I would start a Children's Cherokee language class," added Girty.

The classes are held at the UKB Illinois District Sub-Office in Vian. Girty just recently finished one class and will soon start another class for the spring. She also has the aide of a couple of

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younger adults who have attended the Adult Cherokee language classes, to help her with the younger students.

"I'm thankful that these children are willing to take the time to actually learn their language. I'm hoping they continue to learn their native language and by the time they become adults they will teach their children the language and keep it going from there," said Girty

Chief Assures Members There are No Plans to Lower Blood Quantum

Recently there have been concerns by some United Keetoowah Band tribal members that the Administration and tribal council of the UKB are making moves to lower the blood quantum for the tribe. This is absolutely false, there are no intentions of lowering the blood quantum within the tribe. The Administration or the tribal council has never entertained the idea of even discussing this issue in their monthly or committee meetings.

A statement was made during a recent Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma community meeting in Marble City regarding blood quantum. By an unidentified, but misinformed source the statement was made, We (Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma) are the only tribe that doesn't have a blood quantum, and that the United Keetoowah Band will soon follow by lowering their blood quantum.

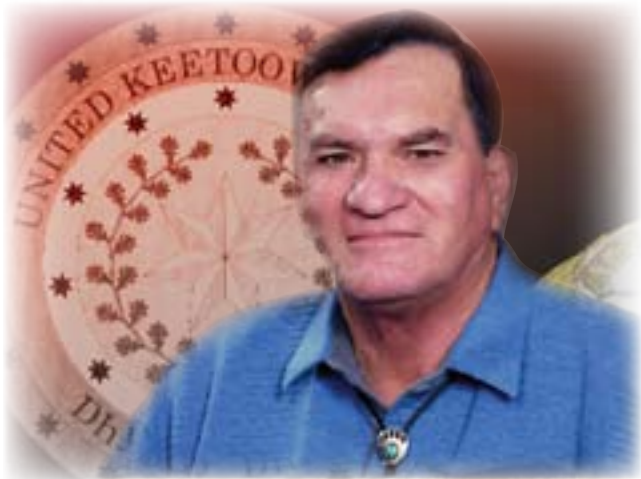
"Lowering the blood quantum has never been discussed by this Administration or council during our four year terms and there are no plans in the future to do so. UKB by-laws can only be changed by a vote of the people. This is a false rumor that is circulating around the communities and the Keetoowah Cherokee people have nothing to fear," stated Chief Wickliffe.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Second Chief visits UKB



MUSCOGEE (CREEK) Nation Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, far right, along with Pastor David Dunson, made a recent visit to the United Keetoowah Band Administration office to visit Chief Wickliffe. Second Chief Berryhill was given a tour of the Keetoowah grounds and facilities while on his visit. Pictured are, left to right, Pastor David Dunson; UKB Chief George Wickliffe, UKB Assistant Chief Charles Locust, and Creek Second Chief Alfred Berryhill.

Check out our website at:
www.ukb-nsn.gov



A Letter to the UKB People From Chief George Wickliffe

the entire Cherokee Nation emigrated west. Those Cherokees who moved were called the "Western Cherokees: or "Old Settlers."

By 1828, dissatisfied with their lands on the Arkansas and White Rivers , partly due to encroachment by white settlers, the Western Cherokees entered into a treaty with the United States to move onto lands further west. The Treaty granted the Western Cherokees seven million acres of land running along the Arkansas , Canadian and Grand Rivers . This land grant includes a portion of present-day Northeastern Oklahoma and the Arkansas Riverbed lands, which are at issue in proposed settlement to the pending claims case. The Western Cherokees were also given a perpetual outlet West, as far as the sovereignty of the United States extended.

Those Cherokees who declined to leave the eastern homelands for the new lands in the West were called the Eastern Cherokees. The southeastern states, unhappy that these Eastern Cherokees remained, passed various harassing and vexatious legislation to encourage the Indians to leave. Violent incidents were frequent between the Eastern Cherokees and the white people, especially in Georgia . The southeastern states placed pressure on the federal government to remove these remaining Indians and extinguish Indian title to the lands within those states.

The Eastern Cherokees are Forced onto Western Cherokee Lands

To resolve the concerns of the southeastern states, the United States entered into the Treaty of New Echota with the Cherokee remaining in the east on December 29, 1835. This treaty required the Eastern Cherokees to cede all Cherokee lands east of the Mississippi River and provided for the removal of those Eastern Cherokee Indians from that area. These Eastern Cherokees would be removed to the land then held by the Western Cherokees.

Both the "Western Cherokee" and "Eastern Cherokees" objected to the treaty, stating that the signers had not been authorized representatives of the groups. Regardless of the protests, however, the Eastern Cherokees were removed on the lands of the Western Cherokees.

The Western Cherokee sent a delegation to

negotiate a provision in the Treaty of New Echota which reads, "Whereas the western Cherokees have appointed a delegation to visit the eastern Cherokees to assure them of the friendly disposition of their people and their desire that the nation should again be united as one people and to urge upon them the expediency of accepting the overtures of the Government; and that, on their removal they may be assured of a hearty welcome and an equal participation with them in all the benefits and privileges of the Cherokee country west and the undersigned two of said delegation being the only delegates in the eastern nation from the west at the signing and sealing of the treaty lately concluded at New Echota between their eastern brethren and the United States; and having fully understood the provisions of the same they agree to it in behalf of the western Cherokees. But it is expressly understood that nothing in this treaty shall affect any claims of the western Cherokees on the United States ."

After this influx, the Eastern Cherokees significantly outnumbered the Western Cherokees. Tensions escalated between the two groups. The Eastern Cherokee newcomers wanted their form of government to replace the government already put in place by the Western Cherokees, who, objected to such displacement of their own powers.

In an effort to lessen the tensions amongst the two communities now within one Cherokee land base, the representatives allegedly representing the Western and Eastern Cherokees met in a convention in July of 1838. At the convention, the groups entered into an "Act of Union" between the Eastern and Western Cherokees. The validity of the Act of Union was not recognized by the Western Cherokee government because they had not been adequately represented at the convention. They further believed that those representatives signing the Act of Union on behalf of the Western Cherokees did so without authority. Many of the Western Cherokees refused to attend the convention because they knew they were outnumbered by the Eastern Cherokees. The Eastern Cherokees, by force of number, were able to control the Cherokee Nation government.

But even with the 'act of union,' tensions between the Cherokee groups survived, and "between the years 1838 to 1846, the Cherokee country was the scene of intestine[sic] disorders of the gravest character, destroying the rights and liberties of certain of the Cherokees, and endangering the peace of the frontier."

In 1846, the United States entered into a treaty with the Cherokee Nation as a whole, recognizing that "serious difficulties have, for a considerable time past, existed between the different portions of the people constituting and recognized as the Cherokee Nation of Indians..." The 1846 Treaty reaffirmed that the differing factions of the Cherokee Nation were one body politic and made the Eastern and Western Cherokees, together, party to the terms of the contested 1835 Treaty.

A Formal Keetoowah Society is Created

Many of the Western Cherokees saw the approaching Civil War as inevitable, and perceived it as a threat to traditional Cherokee culture. They also acknowledged that the Cherokee Nation was still divided into two main factions, with their faction being in the minority. This group of traditional Cherokees gathered "in the dark of the night and the in the woods" to form an organization for self-protection, cultural preservation and to honor their relations with the United States . This organization adopted a constitution in 1859, calling itself the

continued on page 8

Brief History of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians

The Historic Cherokee Indians

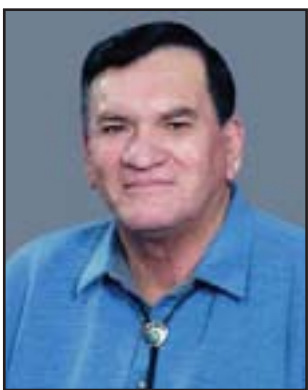
The Cherokee Indians originally lived in the southeastern portion of the United States on lands forming present day Georgia , Alabama , Tennessee , Kentucky , Virginia , West Virginia , North Carolina and South Carolina . While Treaties were first entered into between the United States and the Cherokee Nation in the late 1700's, establishing boundaries of the Cherokee Nation and affirming loyalties of the Tribe to the United States , the Cherokees did not have a centralized government and the people lived in towns located throughout the Cherokee territory.

History of the Western Cherokees

In 1808, a delegation of Cherokees from the upper and lower towns of the Cherokee Nation went to Washington , D.C. to inform the President of the United States that not all Cherokee people wanted to pursue what was deemed a "civilized" life. The delegation requested that the President divide the upper towns, whose people wanted to participate in agriculture and establish a regular government, from the lower towns whose people wanted to continue the hunter way of life. Further, the people of the lower towns desired to remove across the Mississippi River onto vacant lands within the United States so that they might continue the traditional Cherokee life.

On January 9, 1809, the President of the United States allowed the lower towns to send an exploring party to find suitable lands on the Arkansas and White Rivers . In 1817, the United States ceded such lands to the Western Cherokees in exchange for a portion of the Cherokee lands they had occupied and were entitled to the East. One third of

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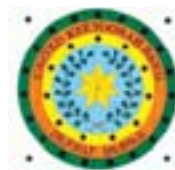


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George G. Wickliffe **Charles D. Locust**
Chief **Assistant Chief**

Liz Littledave
Secretary



Ella Mae Cooksey Worley
Treasurer

District Representatives

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Jerry Hansen
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UKB April '09 Calendar of Council, District and Special Meetings

- April 4** UKB Regular Council Meeting, 10 a.m.
Tahlequah Community Services Building
- April 9** Sequoyah District Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
Old Gaming Office in Sallisaw
- April 9** Illinois District Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Vian UKB Satellite Office
- April 10** Tahlequah District Meeting, 6 p.m.
Keener Baptist Church
- April 17** Tahlequah District Meeting, 6 p.m.
UKB Elder Center
- April 21** Delaware District Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Jay Community Building

UKB May '09 Calendar of Council, District and Special Meetings

- May 2** UKB Regular Council Meeting, 10 a.m.
Tahlequah Community Services Building
- May 14** Sequoyah District Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
Old Gaming Office in Sallisaw
- May 14** Illinois District Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Vian UKB Satellite Office
- May 15** Tahlequah District Meeting, 6 p.m.
Keener Baptist Church
- May 22** Tahlequah District Meeting, 6 p.m.
UKB Elder Center

*no other meeting dates available at press time

Summer Jobs Available at UKB through AmeriCorps Vista Summer Program

Several summer jobs will be available with the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma funded through the AmeriCorps*VISTA Summer Associate Program.

The VISTA program allows for existing project sponsors such as the UKB to supplement their anti-poverty activities with an infusion of "hands-on volunteers" during the summer months. Summer Associates can perform direct service activities. The Summer Associate program is an opportunity to enhance an existing project's approved Project Plan. Summer Associate programs last a minimum of 8 weeks (56 days) and a maximum of 10 weeks (70 days). Associate programs begin no earlier than May 1 and end no later than August 31.

AmeriCorps*VISTA Summer Associate service is a short-term service opportunity; it is not long term employment. Jobs are available to young adults and college students who are tribal members 18 years of age and above. Summer Associates receive \$200.00 a week paid from the NSAIE grant. As a Summer Associate, you are eligible to receive: A \$1,000 Segal AmeriCorps Education Award or \$200 monetary award. Summer Associates do not receive childcare support, relocation allowances, health benefits, or life insurance. Due to the short-term nature of this opportunity, there is no paid annual or sick leave. For more information, contact Georgia Dick at (918) 456-8698.

Elder Abuse: Do You Know the Signs and Symptoms?

UKB Family Services Native Voices Tribal Victims Assistance Program Advocates Lois Fuller and Sue Gaytan presented a short film at the Jim Proctor Elder Community Center on February 18, about Native Elder Abuse. Topics presented included preventing elder abuse and neglect by listening, intervening and educating. The film addressed what you can do as a caregiver or as a friend or family member to prevent elder abuse. The film addressed how you can protect yourself against elder abuse and recognize signs and symptoms of elder abuse.

What are the warning signs and symptoms? They may be physical, emotional, sexual, neglect by caregivers or self-neglect, financial exploitation, healthcare fraud and abuse, children abusing the elder's medication, and risk factors for elder and caregivers. Resources of available services were handed out. Seventy elders attended and five received door prizes for being the first to answer questions right. Everyone enjoyed the presentation.



A FILM presentation presented by the UKB Tribal Violence Assistance and Indian Child Welfare department on Native Elder Abuse was shown recently to the Cherokee elders at the Jim Proctor Elder Community Center. Pictured are the door prize winners along with the TVA/ICW staff, standing right to left, Ann Grossarth, Carol Presley, Sue Gaytan, staff; and Lois Fuller, staff. Seated left to right, Alice James and Joann Blackfox, not pictured is Jim Worthman.

ATTENTION VETERANS

The United Keetoowah Band tribal council and administration recently passed a resolution allowing the tribe to move forward in establishing a Veteran's Personnel Office within the UKB. Veterans and their families will have the opportunity to submit military related claims and benefits, to the UKB Veterans Personnel Office to be sent for processing to the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs.

If you are interested in becoming a veteran's representative in your district, you may contact Norman "Hominy" Littledave, Veteran's Personnel Office Supervisor, at the United Keetoowah Band Administration Office by calling 918-431-1818 to make an appointment.

THE 1ST ANNUAL "HONOR OF THE VETERANS" POWWOW

"COME ENJOY THE DAY TO HONOR ALL
VETERANS AND ACTIVE DUTY SOLDIERS"

SATURDAY, MAY 16TH
2:00PM—8:00PM

ALL GOURD DANCE

UNITED KEETOOWAH BAND
CELEBRATION POWWOW GROUNDS
TAKE HWY 62, TURN ON WEST WILLIS ROAD
TO U.K.B. TRIBAL COMPLEX

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
WESLEY PROCTOR @ (918)-316-5440

NOTICE

UKB Tribal members should make it a point to change registration for Indian Tribe at the IHS hospitals and clinics to the full title of United Keetoowah Band of Cherokees to be registered properly.



UKB Culture C



UNITED KEETOOWAH Band Treasurer, Ella Mae Cooksey Worley, seated, helps prepare the noon meal for the camp participants during the Spring Break Camp. Also pictured with Worley is Culture Camp Coordinator, Cindy Hair, Keetoowah Cultural Events Coordinator.

When students think of spring break, they think of sleeping in late, watching TV, and thinking about getting up early and attending a spring break camp where students can learn about Cherokee stories. The United Keetoowah Band provided such a venue for local and area students.

Approximately 90 area students attended the Keetoowah Cherokee Spring Break Culture Camp which was coordinated by Cindy Hair, Cultural Events Coordinator for the tribe. Ninety students and young participants not only learned about the history, language and culture of the Keetoowah Cherokee tribe. "The camp was great! The students had lots of fun, they didn't want the camp to end, they had marbles and horseshoes. They also had lessons in learning their culture, history and language." Public School. "When the students answered roll call every morning, they had to answer questions about the tribe."

The UKB History, Language and Culture department has been hosting the annual Spring Break Culture Camp, a successful camp held at the Keetoowah Grounds. With the help of many volunteer participants, made this year's camp successful.

"It was great to have the Creek Nation come down to participate with this year's camp. We want to acknowledge Cindy (Hair) and Charles Locust.

LETTER FROM JR. MISS CHEROKEE

Osiyo,

First of all, I hope everyone had a nice and warm spring break.

Second, I was scheduled to do a clay bead workshop at the UKB Spring Break Culture Camp and I would like to apologize for not being able to attend. My grandfather has been in the hospital with serious health issues and I felt that I was needed there with family out of love and respect for him.

I look forward to attending the annual UKB Easter Egg Hunt Extravaganza at the UKB Celebration Grounds on April 4, 2009. I hope to see everyone there with smiling faces, ready to hunt some Easter eggs.

Again, I apologize for not attending the Spring Break Culture Camp. I just wish everyone had a great and fun time.

Wado!

Kristy Feather Daugherty

2008-2009 Junior Miss Keetoowah



A YOUNG camp participant shows off his finished project to one of the camp volunteers and fellow camp participant.



MENTORING EMERGING Leaders Destiny, "MELD", volunteer Gaye Cochran helps one of the young camp participant as she registers for the UKB Spring Break Culture Camp at the Wellness Center.



PICTURED ARE the staff of the United Keetoowah Band Language, History and Culture department, MELD participants and community volunteers who made this year's Spring Break Culture Camp a success. "The children didn't want the camp to end," stated Cindy Hair, seated, Camp Coordinator.

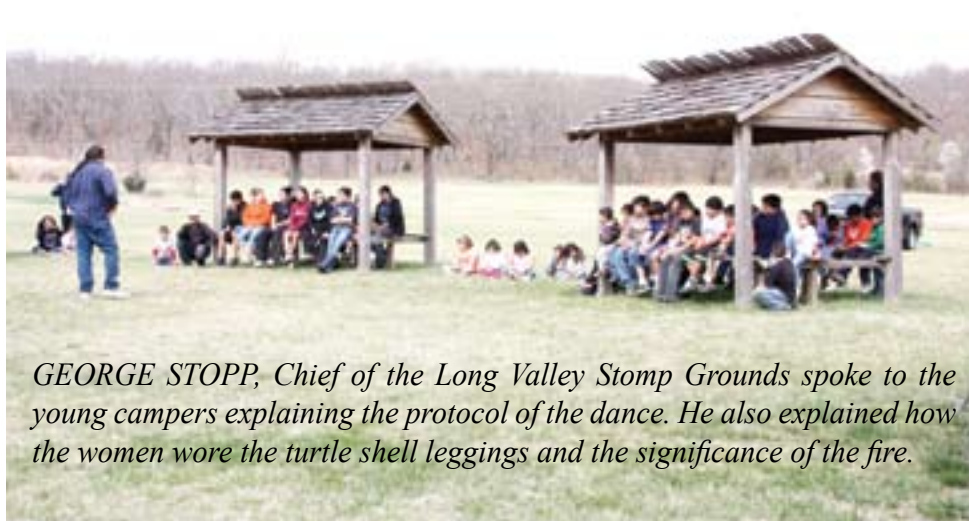
Camp Memories

g television, playing videos, being with friends and no homework! What they don't meet new friends, enjoy outdoor activities, learn crafts and listen to old traditional surrounding students to enjoy during their spring break recently.

reak Camp hosted by the UKB Language, History and Culture department. The camp students ranging from Kindergarten to eighth grade registered for the spring camp. The Keetoowah Cherokee tribe, they also had the opportunity to learn about the Keetoowah to end." said Hair. The students participated in traditional games such as stickball, and their language, taught by Peggy Girty, Cherokee Language instructor for the Gore answer in Cherokee, "Ah-hv-nee" (here), the students would answer," added Hair.

annual Spring Break Camp for the past four years. This year has been one of the more including the help of the "Mentoring Emerging Leadership Development" MELD

ar's culture camp. The Chief and I would also like to thank volunteers for all the hard for all her hard work and success for coordinating this event," said Assistant Chief



GEORGE STOPP, Chief of the Long Valley Stomp Grounds spoke to the young campers explaining the protocol of the dance. He also explained how the women wore the turtle shell leggings and the significance of the fire.



CAMP PARTICIPANTS enjoyed making baskets during the UKB Culture Spring Break Camp. Cindy Hair instructed the students on how to weave baskets with the help of the MELD and other volunteers who took their time to come and help with this year's camp.



STUDENTS ENJOY the game of stickball during the Spring Break Culture Camp at the UKB Celebrations grounds. They were introduced to various Keetoowah Cherokee traditional games during the week long culture camp hosted by the Keetoowah tribe.

THANK YOU NOTE FROM UKB CULTURAL CAMP '09

First of all I would like to say THANK YOU to the volunteers for your help with the UKB Cultural Camp (March 16th thru March 20). Here are the list of names: Choogie Kingfisher, Frankie Hair, Wes Proctor, Brenton England, Justin Killer, Travis Wolfe, Brenda Gonzales, and many more.

I would also like to say thank you to our Keetoowah Cherokee Language Instructor, Peggy Girty. She taught words and phrases everyday. Thank you to our Assistant Chief Charlie Locust for coming out and telling the students about the meaning of the spiritual fire that was going every day and night We would also like to thank the Lighthouse Police for keeping the fire going at night.

And thanks to Brandi Ross (UKB Natural Resources) for doing their project.

Thank you, Teresa Webber for coordinating the Stickball Game. I know the students really enjoyed playing. I would like to say thank you to Preston Walema for letting us use the horseshoes and the stakes. Mary Ballou had been sick during the week that she was to do Cornhusk Dolls. Carrie Grayson and Shawna Drywater volunteered to teach the students how to make Cornhusk Dolls. And Sammy Still demonstrated how to make a blowgun dart. A big thank you goes to them from me. We would also like to thank our sponsors: Mrs. Smith Pies, Little Debbie's Cakes, and Reasor's.

And on the last day of the camp, we had Sequoyah Guess do storytelling before lunch. We had quite a crowd. The staff and some of the parents were there to listen to his stories. Thank you, Sequoyah for the stories.

Friday, was a big day for us. We scheduled a special lunch for the students and everyone. I would like to thank everyone that was there to help out. Woody Hair from Kenwood cooked the hog meat and beans for us. Carrie Grayson and Shawna Drywater volunteered to make the fry bread. I would like to say thank you to a very special person, our UKB Tribal Treasurer Ella Mae Cooksey Worley helped out with the peeling the potatoes and cooking them. It was an honor to have her with us during the Cultural Camp '09

And in the afternoon, we had Stomp Dance Exhibition which was presented by George Stopp from Long Valley Ceremonial Ground. He also started the fire for us on Monday morning at the grounds. He also told the students the meaning of the fire. Thank you, George. Thank you Delaware District Rep. Jerry Hansen for coming out to be with us. Again it was an Honor for you to be there.

The total enrollment we had during the week was 93. They were enrolled even if they came for 1, 2, 3, 4 days or all week. Some of them were there all week. I know the students enjoyed the camp, because they were asking if we were going to be doing this again on Monday.

Choogie Kingfisher and I (Cindy Hair) and staff, volunteers and everyone we say a big thank you for your help. Parents and grandparents thank you for bringing the kids to our UKB Cultural Camp '09.

Thank you again,
Cindy Hair, UKB Culture Coordinator



UKB CULTURE Camp staff member, Choogie Kingfisher, leads the young camp participants onto the Keetoowah stomp ground for a dance around the Keetoowah fire.

Today's Trail of Tears: The Signs & Symptoms of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, Part 2

Last issue, we examined a case where a young woman, Sara, found herself pregnant after a fun loving fling with a young man. Her child was diagnosed as having Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, and she and her son Sam, faced a lifetime of misery. We learned that Fetal Alcohol and Drug Syndromes are totally preventable, yet Native Americans are 33 times more likely to suffer from it than white babies. Finally we heard a call to action from treatment and prevention advocate Shirlene Ade, Creek National Council Representative, Tukvptce District, who said, "It is time that we all do what is necessary to help ourselves, those we love, and those we know to get the help they need."

You may be wondering whether a child you know may have FAS, Steven Dowshen, MD, states that the signs and symptoms of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome are:

- low birth weight
- small head circumference
- failure to thrive
- developmental delay
- organ dysfunction
- facial abnormalities, including smaller eye openings, flattened cheekbones, and indistinct philtrum (an underdeveloped groove between the nose and the upper lip)
- epilepsy
- poor coordination/fine motor skills
- poor socialization skills, such as difficulty building and maintaining friendships and relating to groups
- lack of imagination or curiosity
- learning difficulties, including poor memory, inability to understand abstract concepts such as time and money, poor language comprehension, poor problem-solving skills
- poor understanding of sequential instructions
- behavioral problems, including hyperactivity, inability to concentrate, social withdrawal, stubbornness, impulsiveness, and anxiety

Children with Fetal Alcohol Effects display the same symptoms, but to a lesser degree. A child may have any mixture of these symptoms to varying degrees depending upon:

- When the mother drank or used drugs during the development of the fetus. Abuse during earlier development produces greater physical as well as mental abnormalities.
- How much the mother drank or used drugs during the development of the fetus.

• How long the mother drank or used drugs during the development of the fetus.

Cheryl A. Schroeder, Ed.D., Creative Consultants, Inc., states,

Forty-four percent of women who drink heavily during pregnancy will have a child with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. Of the other 56%, many will have Fetal Alcohol Effects ... including less severe learning and behavioral difficulties. A few will be apparently normal. A combination of factors determines whether the exposed child will be afflicted with FAS or FAE. First of all is the genetic makeup of the mother and the fetus. It has been demonstrated that many members of certain populations have similar genetic compositions. Research has suggested, for example, that some individuals of Native American descent do not make enough of an enzyme necessary in the breakdown of alcohol in the liver or some are lacking that enzyme all together. Therefore, these individuals would be at genetic risk of passing this trait onto the fetus.

When exposed to even slight amounts of alcohol such fetuses could be affected, even for short periods of time.

Sara's son, Sam, started kindergarten and immediately started having behavior problems. Sara had noticed some lack of impulse control and what appeared to be a disregard for her instruction and redirection. He just seemed to do whatever popped into his head regardless of what she said or did. She would get quite stern, even spank or threaten him. Still, he almost seemed to defy her.

In the classroom, his behavior worsened. There was too much going on. Everywhere he looked something distracted his attention, the bulletin board, the decorations, the other children, all too much to take in and pay attention to a teacher. Often these children are misdiagnosed as Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) when they get into a classroom environment. But more often they are just viewed as oppositional or defiant.

Often children would rather appear "bad" than "dumb", Shelton says, so they accept the erroneous stigmatization of being bad. They might find their acceptance among other "bad" kids or in gangs. This stigma is often generalized to a broad spectrum of Native American children due to the greater prevalence of FAE and FAS among them as compared to other ethnic groups (see Burd studies below).

According to studies conducted for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), incidences of FAS per 10,000 total births for different ethnic groups were as follows: Asians 0.3, Hispanics 0.8, whites 0.9, blacks 6.0, and Native Americans 29.9. [CHAVEZ, G.F.; Cordero, J.F.; & Becerra, J.E. Leading major congenital malformations among minority groups in the United States, 1981-1986. Journal of the American Medical Association 261(2):205-209, 1989.] These statistics indicate that FAS is 33 times more likely to occur in a Native American baby than a Caucasian baby, 99.6 times more for Asians, 37 times more than Hispanics, and 5 times more than Blacks. The combined conclusion of ten studies of FAS concludes:

The prevalence of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome in the Indian and Native population of the United States and Canada was consistently high across the ten studies...

Burd, L. & Moffatt, M.E. Epidemiology of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome in American Indians, Alaskan Natives, and Canadian Aboriginal Peoples: A Review of the Literature. Public Health Reports 1994, 109, 688-93.

Dan Cross, Keetoowah Cherokee Treatment Services, Tulsa, observes,

The differences in the prevalence of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome between ethnic groups is not because Native Americans are more likely to get FAS or FDS. It is because they are more likely to drink or use drugs while pregnant. While FA/DS can result with even the slightest use during pregnancy, far too many young women have addictions to drugs or alcohol that cause them to make very poor choices. With treatment, this is totally preventable."

The following are Native American treatment centers in or near the United Keetoowah Band service area:

- Keetoowah Cherokee Treatment Services – 2727 E Admiral Pl, Tulsa, I-244 at Delaware, 918-835-3017
- Claremore Indian Hospital (IHS) – 101 S Moore, Claremore - (918) 342-6200
- Indian Health Care Resource Center - 550 S. Peoria Avenue, Tulsa 918-588-1900

In the next issue we will examine the impact that Fetal Alcohol/Drug Syndrome makes upon tribal nations.

OBITUARIES

John Snell



John Snell, 73 of Rose, Oklahoma passed away at Muskogee Regional Hospital on Monday, March 16, 2009. He was born June 13, 1935 in Chewey, Oklahoma to Looney and Sally (Youngpuppy) Snell. He lived in and around this area for most of his life. He was married to Mary Snell who preceded him in death. He worked in the farming industry as a farm hand. In his spare time, he enjoyed being with his family and fishing, hunting and his family says in his younger days he was a pretty good horseshoe pitcher. He was a member of the Elm Prairie Baptist Church in Leach, Oklahoma. He will be missed by everyone that shared his life.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, an infant son, three brothers, two sisters and two grandchildren. Survivors include two sons, Johnny Snell and wife Frances of Tahlequah, Oklahoma and Brandon Snell and wife Marlon of Billings, Montana. He is also survived by one daughter, Sandra Case and husband David Nixon of Jay, Oklahoma. He leaves his siblings to mourn his passing and they are Joe Snell and wife Lucille of Chewey, Oklahoma and Annie Bird of Jay, Oklahoma. His legacy will live on with his two grandchildren. Services for Mr. Snell were held Friday, March 20 at the Illinois Baptist Church, and burial followed in the Thompson Cemetery in Chewey.

Sunali Mae Bowen

Sunali Mae Bowen, was born at 12:53 a.m. Saturday, January 10, 2009 at the Willow Creek Women's Hospital in Johnson, Arkansas. Weighing in at 5 pounds and measuring 19 inches long. Sunali was born 32 days early. Her parents are Walisi Frankie Ann (Robinson) Bowen and Jason Omer Bowen of Tontitown, Arkansas and her maternal grandparents are Dr. Ricky A. Robinson and Fannie (Feathers) Robinson of Flint Ridge, Oklahoma. She also being taken care of by her big brother, Braxton Noksi Omer Bowen.



United Keetoowah Title VI Nutrition Menu April 2009

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UKB Regular February Council Meeting Minutes

UKB Regular Monthly Council Meeting At the Jim Proctor Elder Care Center February 07, 2009 12:00 p.m. – 3:23 p.m.

I. Call to order by Chief George Wickliffe

II. Invocation: Liz Littledave

III. Roll Call: 11 + Chief answered Roll Call. Quorum declared. (Hansen absent)

IV. Chief's Address (12:14 PM-12:40 PM)

- Stimulus package in Washington passed
- Stimulus package = \$780 Billion. It is understood there is much money in the package for Native Americans. UKB is working on our request for a part of that money. For a long time, our Washington Lobbyists have been telling us to be "ready" with our projects when this money came available. There will be a presentation today and Council will be asked to take action as to what the United Keetoowah Band will be asking for and we will go after as much money as we can.

- There are many activities happening in Washington.

- Washington does now know who the Keetoowahs are.

- One of our lawyers (Michael Rossetti) was at one time an employee of the B.I.A. so he is very familiar with the system and applies his knowledge to our needs.

- The Arkansas Riverbed Project continues in negotiations even though CNO originally got the case dismissed but now the case is open.

- Washington continues to learn more about the UKB, such as; the nine Keetoowah Districts is the same as all or part of the fourteen counties of the Old Cherokee Nation boundaries.

- A Resolution will be proposed today to change our Constitution where it lacks power, such as nine districts vs. fourteen counties because at the time of nine districts there was no Oklahoma, therefore; there were no counties

- 1906 under an agreement with the State of Oklahoma, Cherokee Nation agreed to be and was terminated. The United Keetoowah Band was asked to present a representative for Cherokee Indian People. "Boudinot" was given this authority; this was before UKB became federally recognized. This process salvaged the Keetoowah people.

- The Keetoowah Cherokee were here before the Trail of Tears.

- The UKB had 7 million acres of land when other Cherokees arrived from the East coast.

There will be a review of the Keetoowah's By-Law and Corporate Charter because there are some weaknesses. When the Keetoowahs came to this area, the Constitution was still being written on the 1839 Constitution. In the 1839 Constitution there were nine districts named but now there are counties named in Oklahoma. This needs to be clarified for a better understanding in Washington. This type of need will be brought to the Council today.

The UKB is growing and has opportunity to be bigger but we must bring our constitution up-to-date.

Our elders knew UKB Constitution would need to be changed because of changes in the time.

If the UKB continues to move as rapidly as we have, some things in the constitution must be changed.

Every constitutional change will be by a vote of the people.

If you don't want to keep moving forward then vote against constitutional change, that is your choice. Vote for the people. If today a resolution for constitutional change is passed, there will then be an election.

The UKB Corporate Charter must also be changed. A change would allow us to put our own land in trust. There is a tribe who has already made the change in their Corporate Charter and have already put their own land in trust.

Remember to return your voter list notebooks to the UKB Election Board. Any person listed will be protected because we must practice confidentiality.

The Franklin Privilege could be allowed for mail-outs in order to protect the

rights of our people. A Franklin Privilege would only be practiced by Resolution.

Some people say, "I don't want any changes in our constitution." A constitution is subject to change. This type of document is written based on a specific period of time but changes are required sometimes.

CNO always listed the fourteen counties but now they are trying to list the nine districts and the fourteen counties.

The constitution will be studied. There will not be changes if change is not needed. Change will only be done by a vote of the people.

V. Approval of the minutes for the month of January 2009

1. MOTION by Eddie Sacks to approve the Council minutes of January 2009; SECONDED by Barbara Girty; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Hansen absent).

VI. Presentations -

1. Tim GoodVoice: Stimulus Projects

UKB attorneys recommendations on strategies on stimulus package plan
MOTION by Woodrow Proctor to authorize a joint letter from council and the chief's office to Congressman Dan Boren and Senator Inhoff to redouble their efforts in support of the tribe's critical request for funding of infrastructure needs.; SECONDED by Barry Dotson; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Hansen absent).

2. MOTION by Eddie Sacks to authorize a joint letter from the council and chief's office to the Governor's office and State Transportation Director for details of distribution of "Economic Recovery Funds" received by the state and notice of waiver for bids advertising time frames; SECONDED by Charles Locust; VOTE: 11 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Hansen absent).

3. Betty Holcomb: Requested names and addresses of the elderly in order to allow opportunity to visit homes of the elderly in the Tahlequah District.

4. Ella Mae Worley: reported all is going well in Budget and Finance; she was glad and excited to be working with all members of Council. The Budget and Finance Committee is a very good group of people. The Accounting Department staff are good positive people. Council will always be aware of the tribe's financial status. Currently with the economy as it is, we are doing pretty well. She said she is glad to be a Council member.

5. Betty Holcomb: inquired of plans for unused Christmas Gift Cards of 2008

LENGTHY DISCUSSION

(Hansen arrived at 1:14 PM)

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to authorize 75% of the balance of 2008 Christmas Gift Cards be presented to Human Services for issuance to ice storm victims and 25% of the balance of these Christmas Gift Cards be presented to Family Services; SECONDED by Cliff Wofford; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

6. Joyce Fourkiller: Tax Commission voted to take \$6,000 of their surplus funds to go to ice storm victims in Adair and Cherokee Counties. She asked the Council and Administration for input on what specifically to spend the money on. Red Cross has stopped their services as of last Friday. (See attached supplement: "Tax Commission")

DISCUSSION (cont'd):

Tax Commission will go back and check with their policy about spending surplus funds. Then process will move accordingly.

MOTION by Woodrow Proctor to establish a UKB Disaster Relief Fund; SECONDED by Eddie Sacks; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions (Hansen arrived at 1:14 PM).

NOTE: Chief Wickliffe said procedures of Council meetings allows for non-Agenda Items to be discussed and acted on by Council during a scheduled Council Meeting.

VII. Reports to Council

1. Charles Locust: referred to a document contained in council's packet regarding an act in reference to the Gaming Board. This act doesn't change anything. It is

a document which protects our gaming, etc. Preparing such a document is the recommendation of our attorneys. There is not need for action today but need to have knowledge of information contained in the document. This will be brought back to council later.

2. Enrollment Report: Liz Littledave

Committee reviewed 18 new memberships.

7 requests for Tribal Relinquishment were received and reviewed. All requests are documented by signed relinquishment forms.

FYI: 755 Elder Assistance Checks were issued for a total of \$155,000.

The 2008 Christmas Gift Cards have been reconciled at 244 cards for a balance of \$9,760.00 which as been turned over to the Accounting Department.

The Enrollment Committee met with the UKB Election Board on February 03, 2009 for review and discussion on projected modification of current Election Ordinance.

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to approve/accept 18 new members into tribal membership; SECONDED by Joyce Fourkiller-Hawk; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to acknowledge and honor the relinquishment of 7 UKB members from UKB Membership Rolls; SECONDED by Joyce Fourkiller-Hawk; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

VIII. Public Forum

1. John Hair: spoke on positive practice of council. He said he was proud of UKB Council. He appreciated the council for the good work being done. He announced the Youth & Elder Social is scheduled at 1:00 on February 14th at the Wellness Center, grades 9-12. Everyone is welcome and he encouraged support of this planned event.

2. Dorothy Ice: there could be opportunity for the elders after contact with Bryan Shade, Human Services Director, to just go and pick up needed supplies, boards and things to include sewer line needs.

Chief: this would be establishing credit.

Littledave: this is what already happens; contact is made with Human Services and Human Services contacts the vendor.

Ms. Ice: I'm asking for credit where the individual could pay a given amount per month.

Proctor: currently a credit line for individuals is not possible but maybe at a time in the future such can be done.

3. Betty Mouse:

Spoke of bad economy and casino income concerns

Questioned how removing the Secretary of the Interior from UKB Constitution would help the Keetoowah

Rumor of lowering UKB blood quantum for Keetoowah membership

IX. Unfinished Business - NONE

X. New Business

1. Council discussion to cote to approve/disapprove a proposal for Constitutional Amendment to delete the Secretary of the Interior from further UKB Constitutional Amendments.

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to authorize the filing with the Secretary of the Interior a request pursuant to 25 C.F.R., Part 81 for a Constitutional Amendment Election to be voted on by the members/citizens of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma for the purpose of Amending Article XII of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma's Constitution to allow for the future amendment of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in

Oklahoma's Constitution and By-Laws in a manner consistent with its sovereign status; SECONDED by Jerry Hansen; (See attached supplement: "Resolution RE: Remove Secretary of Interior") VOTE: 8 Yes, 3 No (Girty, Dotson, Holcomb), 1 Abstentions (Wofford).

2. Council discussion to vote to approve/disapprove to establish an office for UKB Veterans.

There are many UKB Veterans who could benefit from having such an office.

Information must and can be provided to veterans

Need a centralized office for veterans

Cost involved will be checked into

There are other veteran organizations willing to help

Information will be forth coming from the Muskogee Veterans Office

There could be one veteran from each of the 9 Districts who would be a contact person for gathering information and bring data to the central office

The Veteran Office would be open to all veterans

A permanent monument would be erected on the 76 acres

MOTION by Charles Locust to approve the establishment of an office for veterans based on contingency of administrative office and/or Chief giving approval on expenses incurred; SECONDED by Woodrow Proctor; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

3. Council discussion to vote to approve/disapprove the establishment of the Keetoowah Health Service within the office of the Chief.

Chief Wickliffe: stated since Keetoowah Health Service is already established, he suggested Health Service be placed under the office of Federal Programs.

MOTION by Eddie Sacks to approve the establishment of the Keetoowah Health Service under the supervision of Federal Programs; SECONDED by Barry Dotson; VOTE: 12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions

COMMENTS:

Chief stated it would be best that he not be involved in this health service process

Health Services will probably eventually be placed with a committee

Chief: Reorganization of Committees will be done in the March Council Meeting

AG Bellmard: Need to look at current committee members appointment dates. Reorganize to include by-laws for committees

XI. Announcements

Chief Wickliffe: reminded the decision for Keetoowahs to have land in Trust could happen just any time now. Our lawyers have worked hard. We are only waiting for a document to be signed.

Previously we talked about how we can make our own decisions on the way we take land in trust. We will be taking a vote by the people to bypass the Secretary of the Interior. This is something tribes are doing. If this elimination of the Secretary is passed by a vote of the people, we will not have to go to Janette Hannah/B.I.A. about anything.

Jerry Hansen: asked if an announcement on the information about a Secretarial Election and what it would mean to the Keetoowah People would be in the newspaper, then maybe people would come out to District Meetings.

XII. Benediction: Jerry Hansen

XIII. Adjourn:

MOTION by Eddie Sacks; SECONDED by Charles Smoke; Approved by affirmation. Time - 3:23 PM

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Tribal Members,

This is Joyce Hawk from the Goingsnake District. I would like to first of all apologize for not having my Kansas meeting last month. Due to weather and my daughter's medical appointment, I had to cancel.

I am planning out a monthly calendar to update any activities, meetings, camps, etc, just an informative update. Spring is here and the weather is warming, so Charles Smoke and I are planning a joint meeting to be held outdoors. Further notice will be given at the time we schedule a date.

I would like to send a congratulations to all the graduates and birthdays.

Thank you,
Joyce

Kenwood 7th and 8th Grade Girls Division III State Champ Runnerup

The Kenwood 7th and 8th Grade Girls finished the season with a winning record of twenty wins and five losses. The ball team, made up of eleven girls who showed what they were made of, has finished the season as the runnerup for the 7th and 8th grade girls Division III Championship.

Coach Littlefield said, "These girls have worked hard and were very dedicated. They handled the ball well, passed the ball well and accomplished more than any other girls group in Kenwood History. The community is so proud."

"They came out second in the ORES Division, which is made up of 38 school teams. They are a special group – a great group overall, they got along well together. The whole team contributed to the success. "I also want to recognize the starting team; Danelle Budds, Chelsea Proctor, Tristan Sanders, Merissa Tsosie, and Mariah Gardner.

"We would like to thank the UKB and Chief George Wickliffe for all their support," said Coach Littlefield.



Front row (L-R): Kyla Sanders, Nerissa Tsosie, Chelsea Proctor (All-Tournament Team), Tristan Sanders (All-Tournament Team), Danelle Budds, Mariah Gardner.

Back Row (L-R): Head Coach Kenny Littlefield, Wendy Swake, Sarah Proctor, Estella Proctor, Sierra Proctor, April Blackfox, Daysheanna Nofire, Assistant Coach Kenny Guthrie

LAYING OF THE WREATH CEREMONY



JOIN US IN
HONORING VETERANS
SAT., MAY 30
UKB COMPLEX,
TAHLEQUAH

A Letter to the UKB People

continued from page 2

"Keetoowah Society."

In 1860, the Keetoowah Society met several times to develop laws under their constitution to govern its members. "Only full blood Cherokees uneducated and no mixed blood friends" were allowed membership in the Keetoowah Society.

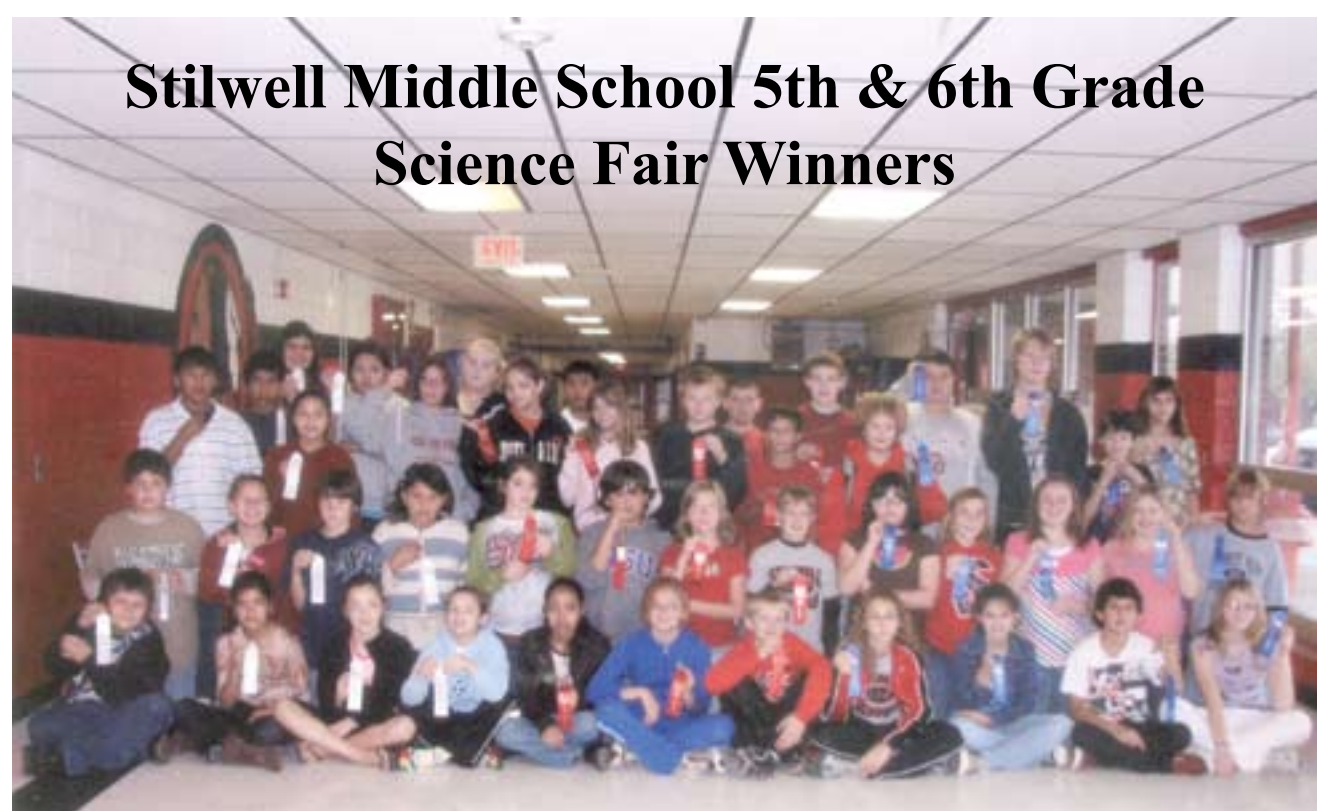
In the beginning, the Keetoowah Society occupied a prominent role in Cherokee politics, but this power diminished as the number of mixed-bloods and intermarried citizens overwhelmed the Cherokee Nation population.

Federal Attempts to Dissolve the Cherokee Nation

In preparation for Oklahoma statehood, Congress passed the Indian Appropriation Act in 1839, authorizing the Dawes Commission to negotiate allotments with the Five Civilized Tribes. The Keetoowah opposed allotment, passing a resolution asserting that the lands of the Cherokees were common property. While the Keetoowah later reluctantly agreed to be enrolled in the Dawes Commission roll, they did so under protest.

In 1900, the Dawes Commission negotiated an agreement with the Cherokee people regarding the allotment of tribal lands and the dissolution of the tribal government. The agreement also stated that the "tribal government of the Cherokee Nation shall not continue longer than March fourth, nineteen hundred and six, subject to such future legislation as Congress may deem proper." The agreement was ratified by Congress on March 1, 1901, but rejected in a subsequent election of the Cherokee people on April 29, 1901. Members of the Keetoowah Society either voted against the agreement or abstained from voting. The Cherokee National Council, however, adopted a memorial to Congress on December 18, 1901 requesting that the Cherokee lands be allotted. In 1902, Congress passed a law that required the allotment of Cherokee lands and terminated the tribal government as of March 4, 1906. This Act was ratified by the citizens of the Cherokee Nation, and is commonly described as the Cherokee Agreement.

With the termination of the Cherokee tribal government approaching, the Keetoowah found it necessary to officially organize under the federal laws of the United States. By this time, there was a



STUDENTS AND Teachers at the Stilwell Middle School sent their appreciation to United Keetoowah Band Chief George Wickliffe for his participation at the 2008 Science Fair. Chief Wickliffe helped judge the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade science projects. "Thank you for judging our Science Fair. Our students are fortunate to have a good role model like you to look up to. We appreciate your participation," said Teresa Jones, Stilwell Middle School Science Department Chair. Pictured left are the 2008 5th and 6th grade Science Fair winners. Right photo is the 7th and 8th grade Science Fair winners.



federal court located in Tahlequah due to the Curtis Act. The "Keetoowah Society" was granted its federal charter September 20, 1905 as a 'body politic' that could take the place of the dismantled Cherokee government and "provide a means for the protection of the rights and interest of the Cherokee people in their lands and funds..."

By the Act of 1906, Congress permitted the Cherokee government to continue "until otherwise provided by law," but only with limited powers. The Principal Chief, to be appointed by the President of the United States, was required to execute documents upon notice by the Secretary of the Interior. If the Principal Chief did not sign within the required time, the Secretary was authorized to sign such documents. Additionally, the Office of Indian Affairs determined that the Act of 1906, while allowing the current tribal officers to continue in their office, did not "contemplate[d]... that any further elections should be held in the various nations of the Five Civilized Tribes." In effect, the Cherokee Nation was to be placed under the management of the President of the United States, acting through the Principal Chief.

The Act of 1906 also stated that any unallotted lands would be held by the United States in trust for the "use and benefit of the Indians respectively comprising each of said tribes, and their heirs as the same shall appear on the rolls as finally concluded..." The Arkansas Riverbed lands, which were ceded to the Cherokees in the 1828 Treaty, were not allotted to individual Indians so fell within the provisions of the 1906 Act.

In 1907, Oklahoma became a state. The Act that authorized Oklahoma Statehood also preserved the authority that the United States had had prior to the passage of the Act over the Indians, their lands and property. Upon statehood, Oklahoma began exercising control over the Arkansas Riverbed lands.

W.C. Rogers was Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation from 1903 until his death in 1917, deemed to be the last Principal Chief elected under the 1839 Cherokee constitution. The Commissioner to the Five Tribes reported, in 1914, that "the tribal form of government of the Cherokee tribe was practically abolished at the close of the fiscal year June 30, 1914, all officers having tendered their resignations to be effective as of that date.

After Principal Chief Rogers' death in 1917, the President of the United States, pursuant to the Act of 1906, "appointed from time to time as necessary arose certain members of the Cherokee Nation

to the office of Principal Chief of said nation, the appointments in each case being for certain temporary periods." Over the next 19 years, there would be six Principal Chiefs appointed by the President. The Presidential appointed Chiefs usually held office for only one day, with only one Principal Chief holding office for as long as 17 days.

On April 25, 1944, D'Arcy McNickle found that the Keetoowah Society was more than a "secret society." He stated, "It has been a formally organized body at least since 1858, with representative districts, and for many years it had a common leadership." McNickle found that the Keetoowahs, through all their actions, "exercise[d] independent political action, even to the point of initiating hostile proceedings." McNickle noted that the Keetoowah name and the people originated from the historic Cherokee town of Kituhwa, in the eastern homelands, prior to western migration. McNickle stressed that Keetoowah denoted a tribal town "...historically...on a par with the Creek towns in that it was originally an independent unit of government."

The Interior Department became a proponent of federal recognition for the Keetoowahs, and on March 24, 1945, Acting Secretary of Interior, Abe Fortas, wrote a letter to Henry M. Jackson, Chairman of the Committee on Indian Affairs, in support of the bill to recognize the Keetoowahs under the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act.

On August 10, 1946, Congress passed the bill to recognize the UKB as a band of Indians residing in Oklahoma within the meaning of section 3 of the Act of June 26, 1936. The Tribe created its base membership roll in 1949, for certification by the Secretary of the Interior. The Tribe's constitution and by-laws were finalized and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on May 8, 1950 then ratified by its members on October 3, 1950. Today in order to be enrolled in the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma, individual Cherokee Indians must be at least one-quarter Cherokee Indian Blood and be a descendant of an individual on the (certified) 1949 roll or the final rolls of the Cherokee Nation, which were closed in 1907. Ninety-eight percent of the currently enrolled members presently live within the nine districts that constitute the Historic Cherokee Nation Reservation. Nearly one half of the members still speak the traditional Cherokee Language, some using English only as a second language.

George Wickliffe