



# San Diego Cherokee Community Newsletter

Issue 14

[www.sandiegocherokeecommunity.com](http://www.sandiegocherokeecommunity.com)

September, 2009

## SAN DIEGO CULTURAL PICNIC

The San Diego Cultural Picnic has been set for Sunday, October 11, 2009 at De Anza Cove on Mission Bay. The program will start at 10 a.m.

The State of the Cherokee Nation will be given by Principal Chief, Chad Smith. Deputy Principal Chief, Joe Grayson, Jr, will also be attending along with members of the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council, Julia Coats and Jack Baker.

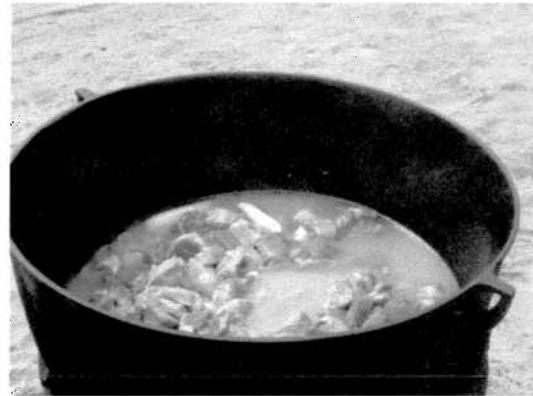
Members of the Cherokee National Youth Choir will perform several songs. The Cherokee Nation will have informational booths/tables including: registration, voting information and general information regarding Cherokee Nation programs.

Numerous activities will be going on throughout the picnic. These include stickball, marbles, and Cherokee Arts and Crafts, which include baskets, pinch pots and cornhusk dolls.

A Cherokee Hog Fry will be served for lunch consisting of fried hog, beans and

fry bread. Bring your own lawn chairs and bring the following dishes according to the first letter of your last name:

A-E	Drinks in single serve bottles or cans
F-J	Desserts
K-O	Salad
P-T	Vegetables
U-Z	Ice



(from 2007 CN Cherokee Hog Fry)

**The Cherokee Nation will be leaving the hog fry pots for future CN Hog Frys. So we are in need of individuals who want to learn how to prepare and cook the hog. If you are interested, please email us at:**

[sandiegocheroeecomunity@yahoo.com](mailto:sandiegocheroeecomunity@yahoo.com)

We are also looking for individuals who can help set up for the event and then help clean up afterwards. Contact us at the email listed above. We really need your help at this event.

We will accept donations for The Angel Tree for the Cherokee Nation in Oklahoma. Please donate to this worthy cause.

## **Next General Meeting**

We will hold a General Meeting on September 27<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1 p.m. at the Sizzler Restaurant, 3755 Murphy Canyon Road, San Diego.

Beverages & cookies will be served.

## **LA CLIPPERS NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE NIGHT**

The NBA LA Clippers have offered a special night to honor Native American Heritage Month in November. The date is Saturday, November 7 at 7:30 p.m.

The Clippers have offered various performances before the game on the plaza and on the court before the game. There will be a short program at half time. Attendees will receive t-shirts and

posters. The ticket prices will range from \$10, \$36 and \$75.

For further information please contact Anthony Morales at 626-286-1632 or Rudy Ortega at 818-837-0794.

## **Will Rogers**

Will Rogers is readily remembered as a humorist, roper, author and actor, but his Cherokee roots are sometimes overlooked.

Officials at the Will Rogers Memorial Museum, Claremore, OK, are trying to remedy that. On September 12, the museum celebrated Rogers by opening the Will Rogers Heritage Gallery. Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chad Smith and Tribal Councilor Cara Cowan Watts attended the event and lead a Cherokee town hall meeting at the museum afterwards.



*Will Rogers Memorial Museum  
Photo by Wynona Bigknife*

The Rogers-Cherokee exhibit is the second gallery to be renovated in three months. The Heritage Gallery face-lift will allow visitors to educate themselves about Rogers' Indian roots and family life. The project was directed by museum curator, Jennifer Holt, in cooperation with Mickel Yantz, curator

of the Cherokee Heritage Center in Tahlequah.

Rogers died in a plane crash in Alaska in 1935 with aviator Wiley Post.

Source: Tulsa World



*Photo by Wynona Bigknife*

## Annual Budget Passes Key CN Committee

A committee of the Council of the Cherokee Nation have passed a \$470 million annual budget. The budget, which is up for final approval, includes increases in college scholarship funding.

For the second year in a row, Councilman Bill John Baker spearheaded an effort in increase college scholarships, gaining narrow approval for boosting awards to \$2,000 per semester, from the current \$1,500 level.

Also winning approval was a nutrition initiative that will bring \$135,000 in funding for nutrition programs at food pantries, Cherokee community groups, and local “backpack” food programs for children.

The budget includes \$300,000 to fund a new “TERO” commission to strengthen

enforcement of tribal laws to increase employment for Cherokee. TERO is the Tribal Employment Rights Office.

Source: [www.kfsm.com](http://www.kfsm.com)

## Council of American Indian Organizations

Representatives of Native American organizations and individuals interested in advancing the Native American community are invited to attend the Council of American Indian Organizations of San Diego County on Friday, September 25 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Revere Center, 6735 Gifford Dr., San Diego, CA

For more information, please contact the group at 619-281-5964 ext 104.

## 2010 Census

The Census is coming up very soon and it is important to Indian County that we do all we can to maximize Indian participation.

### **Why it is important for American Indians to answer the Census:**

The Census affects the entire American Indian community, tribal governments, urban Indian communities, local and nationally, especially in terms of funding for programs serving American Indian families and children.

### **Self-Identification**

If you are American Indian and identify as Indian whether you are enrolled or not, check AMERICAN INDIAN ONLY on the race question and name

your tribe. The Census Bureau does not require documentation of Indian blood.

### **The Race Question**

If you identify as an American Indian, even if you are of mixed race, we should answer the race question as ONLY AMERICAN INDIAN. The Census form will allow you to check more than one race. However, if you check any other races, there is no guarantee that you will be counted as American Indian. Having a tribal enrollment number does not mean you are automatically counted by the Census.

### **Name Your Tribe**

Do not leave the tribe section blank. Naming your tribe will help ensure that you are counted as American Indian, and it will also help your tribe and local agencies that serve American Indians for data and funding purposes.

### **Fill out the form and return it right away**

If you do not return your form by the due date, a Census worker may come door to door to ask you questions, or obtain the information.

### **Do not leave any information blank**

Do not leave any information blank, especially Race & Hispanic Origin. If you leave a question blank, information will be answered for you and you may not be counted as an American Indian.

## **New CN Veteran's Center**

The Cherokee Nation recently broke ground on a new veteran's center to be located at the Tribal Complex in Tahlequah. All veterans and residents of

the area are invited to participate in the building of this center honoring all veterans. The center will be a place bound together by patriotism, appreciation, acknowledgement, and the sacrifice of our veterans.

The Cherokee Nation will provide the materials for the planned 7,700 square foot building, and together Cherokees and other area residents will physically build it, providing a great opportunity to give back to the veterans a small measure of what they have given to each of us.

Source: [www.Cherokee.org](http://www.Cherokee.org)

## **Watson's Anti-Cherokee Bill**

If you want to track Congresswoman Diane Watson's bill against the Cherokee Nation, go to:

<http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=h111-2761>

## **Indian Fry Bread**

During the Cultural Picnic on October 11, one of the menu items will be Fry Bread, thought you might like a recipe:

2 C Flour  
½ tsp salt  
½ C Water  
½ tsp Baking Powder  
½ C Instant Dry Milk  
2C Shortening

Mix flour, baking powder, salt, powdered milk and water. Heat shortening until flakes of flour start to bubble when dropped into oil. While

shortening is heating, pull of a palm sized mound of dough and roll it into a smooth ball, then flatten into a disk shape. Size is a matter of preference. Put dough into pan, cook until brown, turn over and cook other side until brown. You can take a brown paper bag and place a few sheets of paper towels on the bottom and drop finished fry bread into bag to let grease drain. Makes about 6 servings.

## How Cherokees Made Salt

(The Indian Pioneer Papers are the product of a project developed in 1936. The Oklahoma Historical Society teamed with the history department at the University of Oklahoma to get a Works Progress Administration (WPA) writers' project grant for an interview program. The program was headquartered in Muskogee. The writers' conducted more than 11,000 interviews and after editing and typing the work, the results were over 45,000 pages long.)

The following excerpt is from the interview of Henry Downing of Nowata:

There is a place near Salina that has salt springs, I well remember when I was a small boy, my parents and some of the neighbors would go there every year to make salt for their year's supply. They had three large kettles, four feet across the top and about 3 feet deep.

They would build up a large fire under each of these kettles and fill them up with this salt water and boil it until the water was all boiled away. Then they would take out the salt that was left in

the kettles. As near as I can remember, we got about three or four gallons at a salt cooking, and the part I played in making this salt was to keep the fires burning for there had to be just so much fire burning all the time under each kettle and it was up to us boys to keep that fire just so.

After the old people would get the kettles all filled with water, they would all gather around and smoke their pipes until the water was all boiled away and the salt ready to take out. We would get about five cooking off in a day's work. There would be as many as 25 families at a time gather to make their year's supply of salt.

Provided by Cherokee Nation Cultural Resource Center at [cultural@cherokee.org](mailto:cultural@cherokee.org)

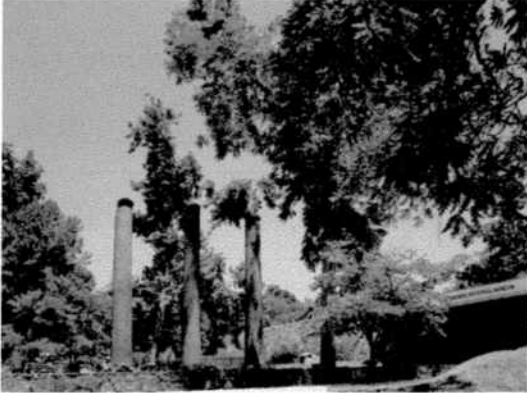
## Cherokee Thanksgiving Dinner

Venison  
Winter green onion  
Leeks  
Crawdads  
Sauteed Wisi (a type of mushroom)  
Boiled Crawdads  
Cornmeal and Crawdad Mush  
Baked Rabbit  
Squirrel Gravy  
Biscuits and Whole Wheat Bread  
Green Bean Casserole  
Mushroom Soup and Fried Onions  
Variety of Rices  
Raw Vegetable Dish  
Pear Halves, Pumpkin and Pecan Canoe

Provided by the Cherokee Nation Cultural Resource Center at [cultural@cherokee.org](mailto:cultural@cherokee.org)

# Cherokee Village Tsa La Gi

Located in Tahlequah, OK  
(Photos by Wynona Bigknife)



## THE ANGEL TREE IS LOOKING FOR DONATIONS

The San Diego Cherokee Community along with the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma are asking for your help. As we head into the holiday season, the Angel Tree receives many requests for donations and sometimes we don't have the funding to fill the requests. Currently there are many children who live in extreme low poverty conditions. Unfortunately for these children, the holiday season is filled with sadness. Let's help every child receive a gift for the holiday. That is why we are asking for your help in making this a great holiday for these Cherokee children by donating to the Angel Tree or by sponsoring an Angel. They need your help this season.

Items needed: Children and Teen items such as CD's, music, videos, books, personal hygiene items, clothes, gift cards, games, and of course money. Teens are especially in need this year. No stuff animals please.

**We are also collecting winter items such as: new or like new coats, gloves, hats, scarves and boots to give to the children. (Sizes from small to adults.)**

We will be collecting items at our Cultural Picnic on October 11, 2009 at De Ana Cove in San Diego, CA. If you need any additional information please contact Cindy at [sandiegocherokeecommunity@yahoo.com](mailto:sandiegocherokeecommunity@yahoo.com).

Thank you for your help and remember all your donations are tax deductible. Your check can be made out to the San Diego Cherokee Community. Please help us.