



LIAISON



Quarterly Newsletter
OKLAHOMA INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION

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January Edition

INTERTRIBAL COUNCILS PROVIDE UNITY AND STRENGTH FOR OKLAHOMA'S TRIBAL NATIONS

Oklahoma is home to 39 tribal governments, of which 37 are federally recognized. Issues have brought tribal governments together to discuss and strategize topics that might impact tribal nations for decades. Because state-tribal relations in Oklahoma is an ongoing process of discussion and negotiation, groups of tribal leaders have formed powerful alliances that have resulted in intertribal councils. It is through these alliances that Oklahoma's tribal leaders and their nations have unified strength to address common-thread issues relative to tribal sovereignty.

NORTHWEST OKLAHOMA: THE COUNCIL OF CONFEDERATED CHILOCCO TRIBES (CCCT)

Northwest Oklahoma is home to five sovereign Indian Nations that form the "Council of Confederated Chilocco Tribes" or the CCCT. Chilocco is a section of land in north central Oklahoma that stretches from north of Newkirk, Okla., to the Kansas border. The original home of the Chilocco Indian Boarding School, the lands surrounding the actual school were awarded to the five local tribes which include Chairman/CEO Guy Munroe of the **Kaw Nation**; Chairman John Shotton of the **Otoe-Missouria Tribe**; President George E. Howell of the **Pawnee Nation**; Chairman Douglas Rhodd of the **Ponca Nation**; and President Don Patterson of the **Tonkawa**

Tribe subsequent to the school's closing in 1980.

These tribal nations formed an intertribal council born out of the Chilocco land issue and because they were neighbors in fairly close proximity to one another. The Confederated Chilocco Tribes Council consists of tribal governments that have jurisdiction in anywhere from one to three counties in northwest Oklahoma and serve a total population of nearly 10,000 enrolled tribal members.

The current leadership of the Council of Confederated Chilocco Tribes is the Speaker of the Council, Chairman John Shotton of the Otoe-Missouria Tribe.

THE INTERTRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

As printed on the Council's Web site, it was "Formed as a result of various meetings held in 1949 between various leaders and representatives of the Five Civilized Tribes, the Constitution of the Inter-Tribal Council clearly stated the objectives as follows:

... to secure to ourselves and our descendants the rights and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws of the United States of America, and the State of Oklahoma; to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian race; to preserve Indian cultural values; to enhance and promote general educational opportunity among members of the Five Civilized Tribes; to seek equitable adjustments of tribal affairs; to secure and to preserve rights under Indian Treaties with the United States; and other-wise to promote the common welfare of the American Indians".

SEE "UNITY & STRENGTH" continued on page 5

BARBARA A. WARNER
Executive Director

CAROL F. JONES
Projects Coordinator

ANGELA ATAUVICH
Administrative
Assistant

GLORIA R. JOBE
Administrative
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OIAC Chairman
CHIEF BILL FOLLIS
Modoc Tribe

OIAC Vice-Chairman
DAN C. JONES
Ponca Nation

CHAIRMAN
JOHN A. BARRETT
Citizen Potawatomi
Nation

Former Governor
KEN BLANCHARD
Absentee Shawnee
Tribe

**MARY FLUTE-
COOKSEY**
Cherokee Nation

PRINCIPAL CHIEF
A.D. ELLIS
Muscogee (Creek)
Nation

Former Chief
CHARLES ENYART
Eastern Shawnee Tribe

ASSISTANT CHIEF
CHARLES LOCUST
United Keetoowah Band
of Cherokees

WANDA STONE
Kaw Nation

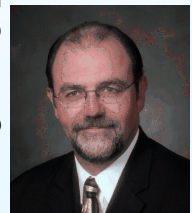
The Board Report...

from the OIAC Board Meeting November 20, 2008

- Lemuel Bardeguez, Community Arts Program Director and Ex Officio designee, Oklahoma Arts Council, gave a presentation over the arts and its influence in Oklahoma. Bardeguez outlined the scopes of the grants they offer along with which grants are available to tribes. For more information, visit their Web site at www.state.ok.us/~arts/.

- Kyle Arthur, Director of Planning, Oklahoma Water Resources Board presented the tentative Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan to the Board of Commissioners. The Water Resources Board is looking at water resources management and needs in Oklahoma over the next 50 years. The plan to "utilize public input and expert analysis to establish and implement Oklahoma's priority water initiatives." They hope to implement this plan in 2011.

- The new Oklahoma Department of Transportation's Ex Officio designee has been selected. Welcome aboard Jay Adams!



Jay Adams,
ODOT Director of
Tribal Coordination

- Publications made from the OIAC are currently under way, including the *Tribal Leadership Poster*, the *Oklahoma Indian Nations Pocket Pictorial Directory* and the *Oklahoma Indian Nations Information Handbook*.



(L to R) Judy Wilson, Barbara Warner, Wilson Seawright, and Tim TallChief pose with Barbara's State Service Award

- Special honors went to Executive Director Barbara Warner at the Native American Heritage Day. Ms. Warner (Ponca) was the recipient of this year's State Service Award. The award is given to a person who promotes tribal culture and fosters a relationship between the state and tribes. **CONGRATULATIONS BARBARA!**

- OIAC Chairman Chief Bill Follis was also honored by his tribe, the town of Miami, Okla., and the State of Oklahoma. September 25, 2008, was named Chief Bill G. Follis day by Governor Brad Henry. **CONGRATULATIONS CHIEF FOLLIS!**

- The next meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2009, at the Chickasaw Nation's Riverwind Casino, Norman, OK. This meeting is open to the public.

For Board meeting or other information about the Commission, see the OIAC Web site at www.oiac.ok.gov.

(Continued from page 1: "UNITY & STRENGTH")

The Council's membership represents a combined tribal membership of nearly 600,000 citizens and tribal jurisdictions ranging from a total of 14 counties to one county, all of which are located in eastern Oklahoma.

Chief A.D. Ellis, **Muscogee (Creek) Nation**, currently presides over the Council whose membership also includes Chief Greg Pyle of the **Choctaw Nation**; Governor Bill Anoatubby of the **Chickasaw Nation**; Principal Chief Chad Smith of the **Cherokee Nation**; and Chief E. Kelly Haney of the **Seminole Nation**.

SOUTHWEST OKLAHOMA: SEVEN TRIBES INTERTRIBAL COUNCIL

The seven tribal nations located in southwestern Oklahoma formed the "**Seven Tribes Intertribal Council**," which is in the process of reorganizing their bylaws to better serve the needs of their combined tribal nations.

The seven tribes of southwestern Oklahoma have a tribal jurisdiction ranging from one to eight counties and provide services for a total enrollment population of nearly 35,000 citizens.

Included in the Seven Tribes Council is Chairman Alonzo Chalepah, **Apache Tribe**; Chairman LaRue Parker, **Caddo Nation**; Chairman Wallace Coffey, **Comanche Nation**; President Kerry Holton, **Delaware Nation**; Chairman Donald Tofpi, **Kiowa Tribe**; and President Leslie Standing, **Wichita & Affiliated Tribes**.

NORTHEASTERN: INTERTRIBAL COUNCIL OF NORTHEAST OKLAHOMA

The Intertribal Council of Northeast Oklahoma is comprised of the leadership of the eight tribes that reside in Ottawa County and located primarily in and around Miami, Okla.:

Chief Glenna J. Wallace of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe;
Chief Tom Gamble of the Miami Nation;
Chief Bill Follis of the Modoc Tribe;
Chief John Ballard of the Ottawa Tribe;
Chief John P. Froman of the Peoria Tribe of Indians;
Chairman John Berrey of the Quapaw Tribe;
Chief LeRoy Howard of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe; and
Chairman Ron Sparkman of the Shawnee Tribe.

The **Wyandotte Nation**, located further south and east of Miami, Okla., and under the leadership of **Chief Leaford Bearskin** also maintains a close relationship with the Council.

The tribal nations of Ottawa County provide services to nearly 25,000 American Indian citizens and have consistently partnered with local governments to form stronger relationships within their communities.

The Intertribal Council meets the third Wednesday of every month. The presiding officer for the Council is currently Chairman Ron Sparkman.

They say there's strength in unity and Oklahoma's tribal governments know this to be true. Of the four intertribal councils discussed, a total of 26, or 72 percent, of Oklahoma's 37 tribal nations are represented. These Councils also represent a total enrolled membership of approximately 700,000 tribal citizens.

*Mark
your Calendar!*

JANUARY 19, 2009
MARTIN LUTHER KING
STATE HOLIDAY
(OFFICES CLOSED)

FEBRUARY 2, 2009
52ND LEGISLATURE
BEGINS

FEBRUARY 2, 2009
INVITATION-ONLY
OIAC LEGISLATIVE
RECEPTION
Coles Garden - OKC
4:30 - 7:30 PM

FEBRUARY 16, 2009
PRESIDENT'S DAY
HOLIDAY
(OFFICES CLOSED)

FEBRUARY 19, 2009
LEGISLATIVE DEADLINE
FOR COMMITTEES

MARCH 19, 2009
OIAC REGULARLY
SCHEDULED
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MTG. &
ANNUAL PLANNING
MEETING
10 a.m. - Riverwind Casino
Norman, OK

Hosted by Chickasaw Nation
Gaming Commission

Indian Affairs Commission Prepares to Sponsor . . .

Opening Day

LEGISLATIVE

RECEPTION

Cole's Garden - February 2,

HOSTS
HOSTS

**The Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission
will sponsor its . . .**

6th ANNUAL OPENING DAY
LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION
February 2, 2009
COLE'S GARDEN

CHOCTAW NATION

CHICKASAW NATION

Thanks to our Contributing Hosts: Choctaw Nation; Chickasaw Nation; Northeast Intertribal Council; Muscogee (Creek) Nation; and Redstone Investments.

It promises to be a delightful event with more than 300 guests invited including: State and Tribal elected officials; Legislators from the House and Senate; Oklahoma Supreme Court Justices; Oklahoma members of the US Congress; federal groups; state Native American groups; and friends of the Commission.

This event provides an opportunity for Native Americans and non-Native people to "...gather together to talk about issues, or just to meet for a friendly handshake and great conversation."

Thanks to the Board of Commissioners for their sponsorship of this beautiful event!

**NORTHEAST
INTERTRIBAL COUNCIL:**

EASTERN SHAWNEE TRIBE

MIAMI NATION

MODOC TRIBE

OTTAWA TRIBE

PEORIA TRIBE

QUAPAW TRIBE

SENECA-CAYUGA TRIBE

SHAWNEE TRIBE

WYANDOTTE NATION

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

REDSTONE INVESTMENTS, INC.

PRIVATE EVENT - INVITATION ONLY

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Delaware Tamanend Foundation Receives \$75,000 Grant From the Suquamish Tribe of Washington State For Education and Economic Development Studies



Pictures are from the reception hosted by the Delaware Nation to welcome the Suquamish Tribe of Washington state to Oklahoma, as a part of their strategic "historical" partnership. (SEE LIAISON, July Edition, 2008) Below is a follow-up story of that event.

Contributed by HAROLD PRUNER, CEO, Delaware Foundation

After the Suquamish Tribal leaders visited the Delaware Nation (DN) reservation in Anadarko last June to meet our Leaders and see our Tribal operations, Kerry Holton, President of the DN, and Harold Pruner, CEO of the Delaware Tribal Foundation, paid the Suquamish a return visit in November at their invitation.

The purpose was to finalize a working agreement between our two Tribes in the economic development area and further the joint efforts that were previously established between the two respective Tribal Foundations.

We met with the Suquamish Tribal Council and their Foundation Board. We were given a tour of their Reservation on Bainbridge Island just west of Seattle, Wash., by Tribal Chairman Leonard Forsman and Michael Felts, CEO of their Tribal Foundation. Seattle is named after a former Suquamish Chief. We also met with the heads of their business enterprises and were introduced to the Mayor of Seattle and other Leaders of NW Indian Tribes and area Foundation Representatives.

These meetings lead to a joint venture working arrangement where each Tribe will help the other to pursue Grants for our Foundations and development of possible joint venture projects in areas not now available to each. The two Tribes will also coordinate their lobbying efforts in Washington, D.C., with the new Congress and Obama Administration.

The agreement to form this synergistic union was initiated by a \$75,000 grant from the Suquamish Tribe to Delaware Tamanend Foundation for education and economic development studies.

The Suquamish Leaders invited the Delawares to participate in their historic event in August, known as the Canoe Journey, which is a part of their \$20,000,000 Cultural Resurgence Project. We in turn invited them to attend our 2009 History and Culture Conference planned for October in conjunction with the Oklahoma Historical Society and the NMAI.

U.S. Department of the Interior's Indian Loan Guaranty, Insurance and Interest Subsidy Program says, "We're still guaranteeing loans in these tough economic times."

The Guaranteed loan program was established by the Indian Financing Act of 1974 to stimulate and increase American Indian entrepreneurship and employment through establishment, acquisition or expansion of Indian-owned or Alaska Native owned economic enterprises. The borrower must be: 1) a member of a federally recognized tribe, or 2) an Indian-owned business entity, or joint venture that is 51 percent or more owned by eligible Indians, or 3) a tribe or tribal enterprise.

**CALL FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS
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BULLETIN BOARD

Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**REGULARLY SCHEDULED
BOARD MEETING-10:00 a.m.**

ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING
Immediately Following the
Regular Meeting

MARCH 19, 2009

Hosted by the
Chickasaw Nation Gaming Commission
Riverwind Casino
Governor's Meeting Room

I-35 & Highway 9
Norman, OK

2008-09 LEGISLATIVE DEADLINES First Session - 52nd Legislature

DECEMBER 12:	Bill Request Deadline
JANUARY 6:	Session convenes at 12 p.m.
JANUARY 15:	Bill Introduction Deadline
FEBRUARY 2:	Session Begins
FEBRUARY 19:	Senate Bills in Senate Committees Deadline*
MARCH 12:	3rd Reading, House of Origin Deadline
APRIL 3:	House Bills in Senate Committees Deadline*
APRIL 23:	3rd Reading in Opposite House Deadline
MAY 29	Sine Die Adjournment by 5 p.m.

*Anticipated Committee Deadlines - Will be set
upon Session Convening