

September 2004



Greetings from the Chief.

First off, I would like to welcome everyone back after a long summer off. My tribe (Cree) just had an enormous end of summer pool party blow-out over at departing chief Crazy Horse and Pocahontas' teepee. I hope I can come close to having as successful and fun a year as Brian Williams and Josie provided us with last year.

It doesn't seem like three months ago that we were all gathered at the Spring Family Campground up at Big Sycamore Canyon. The first Longhouse meeting is already upon us and all the tribes will start their regular activities.

Brian Williams, the outgoing nation chief, will be missed along with his sarcastic humor. He is deserving of a huge "Thank You" for a job well done. This will be his eighth year in the

program and I am thankful that he will be around this year to offer advice where it's necessary. His shoes will be impossible to fill, but I will try my hardest.

It is now time to think of all of your friends and neighbors who have children of the proper age and start recruiting them to the program. If we can grow the program again this year that would make it nine consecutive years of growth. This states the obvious quality of our program and Josie's ability to keep the program on track (and keep all of the Dads under control). I wish the best of luck to those members we have lost to graduation and hope the Trailblazers program is even half as fulfilling as the Guides & Princesses program.

My assistant nation chief this year will be Dave Ebersold. He was introduced at the spring family campout and will be a very capable assistant. I am looking forward to working with him.

Our first nation event is swiftly approaching. It will be skate night taking place on September 26. I'm looking forward to seeing ALL of you there. This is a family event, so Moms and non-tribal siblings are welcome.

Just a quick reminder... The purpose of the Guide/Princess program is to promote friendship and understanding between Father and Son/Daughter and the slogan is "Love for God and one another."

Sincerely,
John Taylor aka Shooting Bull
Nation Chief

NATION EVENTS

Skate Night – Northridge Skateland
Sunday, Sept. 26 5:00 – 7:00p.m.

Nation Picnic
Sunday, October 17 2:00 p.m.

Pilgrim Feast
Saturday, November 20

Granada Hills Holiday Parade
Sunday, December 5

Camp Whittle – Big Bear
January 7 to January 9

Cosmic Bowling
February

Camp Fox – Catalina
March 11 to March 13

Vasquez Rocks
April

Lancaster Jethawks Baseball
May

Spring Family Campout
June

Tribal News

SIoux NORTH TRIBE

The Sioux North tribe wishes to first and foremost thank Josie and all her helping staff for another wonderful year. Well done. We also wish to thank our Nation Chief and all the other tribal chiefs and their squaws support for planning events during the year. We had another wonderful year bonding of fathers bonding with our daughters and memories that will last a life time.

APACHE TRIBE

The Apache had a great time this last weekend up Sycamore Canyon. We spent Friday afternoon setting up camp and Friday night stuffing our faces with s'mores. Yum!!! Camping out on Friday were D.J., Harrison and Matthew. Corey and his dad joined us on Saturday to help out the Apache during the Nation Games. We all had a great time.

Although the weather was a little chilly we spent most of the afternoon at beach, playing in the water, throwing around a football, flying kites and building sand castles. All the kids and the dads from the Apache and Chinook joined efforts to build a very realistic hammer-head shark in the sand. We finished the day at the beach by burying all the kids up to their necks in the sand. Great fun!

Congratulations to the members of Apache who are graduating from the Y-Guides program: Cory, Will, Matthew and Zach. We will miss you guys but hope you will be back next year in the Trail Blazers program.

Bill Bianchi will be taking over the reigns as chief of the Apache next year. Bill has a son, D.J., who will be in his second year of the program as well as a daughter, Rebecca, who will be in the third grade and is in the Chinook tribe. Congratulations Bill!

It is hard to believe that this is our last Smoke Signal of this year. It seems like we were just at the skating rink for our first event. I want to say thank you to all the members of the Apache tribe for allowing me to be the chief this year. It has been a strange year with our tribe attendance being down a little. None the less it has been a great year and I look forward to recruiting some new members into the tribe.

I would like to finish up by sharing a conversation I had on Saturday with one of the other dads. His youngest daughter was graduating from Y-Princesses and this marked his 11th and final year in the program. His seventeen year-old daughter had also been a Y-Princess. He told me that he and his older daughter were still very close thanks in great part to the years they had spent in the program. It made me stop and think about my twelve year-old daughter and how much I treasure the years we spent together in the Y-princesses. For anyone who might be considering joining or who might be looking to get friends involved, I can tell you that you will not regret it.

Thanks and I will see you all next year.

Hungry Bear

SHAWNEE TRIBE

This has been a fantastic year. We had sooo many great activities and lots of participation and fun at all of them. Our last tribal meeting was a real treat thanks to the King's (Sitting Bull, Tiger Lilly, and Little Bell) for setting up a great time at Placerita Canyon Park. The wonderful folks there Ron, Bill, and Heidi out did themselves. First, they opened the park just for our meeting - after regular park hours. Following a scrumptious picnic feast of pizza and pasta, Ron took us for a nature hike. He took us inside the Walker house (built in the mid 1800's), we discovered the diversities of scat, and found some real gold!! Then Bill and Heidi showed us a 47 pound python, a great

horned owl, and a red tailed hawk. We had a splendid time.

The Spring family campout was the capper of the year. Thanks to all of our families for their contributions with the food and fun. Thanks to Issam for his tireless kite building effort. We were proud to see them flying high in the sky with the big ones! Special thanks to all our girls for making our Shawnee family so special. Rachel Z., Rachel K, Stephanie, Danielle, Macy, Kendall, Gabriella, Carly, Mellisa, Megan, Gwynn, Elizabeth and our 2004 graduate, Lacy!! Congratulations.

We have plans to continue our meetings this summer with a trip to the Fillmore express and a beach bash. More to come on that.

Let's look ahead for some younger girls to get interested in our Shawnee family so that we can keep our tradition going.

It has been an honor to be your chief this year. It was so easy because you are all so great!

Best of luck to my successor, Fulla Bull, I mean, Sitting Bull! We have total faith in your leadership and jokes. 2004-2005 will be another great year because WE ARE FAMILY, ALSO KNOWN AS MIGHT SHAWNEE!!

Peace,

Big Buffalo

CREE TRIBE

Well, the Cree have had a wonderful year of growth and fun. We have added Full Moon (Rob) and his daughters Shooting Star (Brooke) and Little Dipper (Peyton), Standing Bull (Sebastian) and his daughter Singing Bluebird (Gabriella), Eric and his daughter Alexa and Active Fox (Jeannot) and his daughter Chloé.

We lost three members to graduation, but hope they decide to hang around next year.

The graduates are Floating Feather (Elizabeth), Little Eagle Feather (Christina) and Shooting Star (Brooke). They will be fine additions to the Trailblazer organization.

We were well represented at Family Camp with nine families and 34 people of which 20 were tribal members. In attendance were Screaming Eagle (Tom), Song Bird (Tayla), Chief Crazy Horse (Gregg), Pocahontas (Cara), next year's chief Gummy Bear (Dan), Sun Flower (Samantha), Standing Bull (Sebastian), Singing Bluebird (Gabriella), Walking Bear (Reid), Floating Feather (Elizabeth), Eric, Alexa, Active Fox (Jeannot), Chloé, Full Moon (Rob), Shooting Star (Brooke), Little Dipper (Peyton), Shooting Bull (John), Swimming Dolphin (Jamie) and our youngest princess Dancing Fox (Brooke). We dearly missed Big Eagle Feather (Darren), Little Eagle Feather (Christina), Bald Eagle (Michael) and Indian Queen (Kali).

The Cree also helped out at camp by sponsoring the nation games. We figured out a way to make the Frisbee game much better for next year, so you guys just wait and see. At the graduation night campfire, the princesses brought down the house with their dance to the music of Frank Sinatra's New York, New York. Lastly, we had our former chief Shooting Bull installed as the nation chief for the 2004-2005 year. We can't wait for September to roll around.

ZUNI TRIBE

Farewell, Zuni

It wasn't that long ago, three years in fact, that the Zuni tribe started out as a new group. All of us met for the first time, bringing nothing but ourselves and our desire to share more quality time with our daughters, and them with us. It is so nice to say that all of the original Zuni members stayed the entire three years, and we were fortunate enough to have new members join us along the way.

But as all good things must end, the Zuni tribe will graduate and move on this year. All of the original members are graduating, and the remaining Zuni will move on to new experiences with other tribes. For us in the Zuni, it is a wonderful time to embrace the future but also a time for reflection of our past. The last three years have been such a wonderful experience for us all. Our time together has been full of fun, laughter, new friendships, and wonderful experiences.

Even though the tribe will end this year, the memories, and more important, the friendships, will continue for a long, long time.

The Zuni Tribe -

John, Heather, and Esther Chitwood
Steve and Nicole Ellena
Rick and Jamie Field
Ed and Olivia Jackiewicz
Jason and Kaylee Jones
Jeff and Maddy Lesovsky
Michael and Sarah O'Byrne
Gary and Kaitlin Parks

Farewell, Mighty, Mighty Zuni! Long live the Zuni!

Chief Standing Buck

CHINOOK TRIBE

The Chinook gathered for the final fiesta of the year at the home of Ralph and Morgan Hopp (aka Little Salmon) on Wednesday, May 26th. The meeting was extra special because we were joined by our friends in the Papoose program as Ralph's son's tribe was having their meeting the same night!! So what do you get when you mix a whole lot of Indian princesses with a whole lot of Papoose braves? A whole lot of noise! And a whole lot of fun, too, as the kids jungled-gymed to their heart's content before an impromptu soccer game broke out. A big Chinook "thank you" goes out to Ralph's squaw, Cathy, who treated the tribes to a feast of fried chicken and macaroni-and-cheese. As

we assembled in the tribal circle for the final time until next September, each of the girls took turns naming their favorite Nation event of the year. (Most popular: Camp Whittle. . . . Your Chief's favorite? Skate Night!) All in all it was a fantastic, fun-filled year for the tribe, and we are already looking forward to next year (and some *very* early reservations to Camp Fox). Have a great summer!!

Chief Singing Wind

MOHAVE TRIBE

News from Mohave...

It's been a great year for the Mohave tribe. At each meeting during the year, the Tribe explored the world of science through some form of hands on experiment. The last two experiments of the year involved making a florescent light bulb light up as a result of static electricity and learning how to jab a straw into a potato by creating a vacuum; two skills that really come in handy in the event you want to mangle a vegetable but don't have enough light to do it.

The final nation event of the year was the Sycamore Canyon camp out. Who could forget the Mohave's fabulous skit? Mohave that's who. But just you wait until next year; we're planning something larger than Up With People - see who gets that reference. Nevertheless, Sycamore Canyon, along with all the other great events of the year was fun for all.

Fortunately for Mohave, none of the boys are graduating this year and everyone is looking forward to another year of fun and adventure. Y-guides is great program and everyone knows that Mo-ha-vee is the greatest tribe of all.

RISING STARS TRIBE

Another fun year of Princess & Guide events is coming to a close. The Rising Stars charter members have had a great 2nd year and our "new members" this year have been a wonderful addition to the tribe. Unfortunately, "now its time to say goodbye . . ." to our first graduating member, Sarah "Pony" Petrak. We are going to miss you!

I would like to extend thanks to all of our dads and girls for making my position as Chief so easy. Particular thanks go out to our in-coming Chief Kevin "Raven" (or is it "Raisin") Segal for creating and coordinating our songs for both Camp Whittle & Fox, Josie for providing such wonderful overall coordination of the Ga-Sioux nation, and all of our wives for giving us Dads such precious girls!

Chief Fire Keeper