



San Diego Cherokee Community Newsletter

Issue 9

www.sandiegocherokeecommunity.com

May 2008

2nd Annual Cherokee Picnic May 18

The 2nd Annual San Diego Cherokee Community potluck picnic will be held on May 18 at the De Anza Cove located on Mission Bay. The picnic will start at 1 p.m.

The location is the same place as last year. Visit San Diego Park's website – map #4 at this website:
www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/parks/missionbay/facilities.shtml

This year the picnic will be a potluck luncheon. So bring a dish to share with our Cherokee community. The menu is divided up according to the first letter of your last name.

A - F Dessert
G - L Main Entree
M - R Side dish, vegetable or salad
S - Z Bottled water or canned soda only, no large bottles.

Chief Chad Smith and Deputy Chief Joe Grayson will be attending our picnic.



Chief Chad Smith



Deputy Chief Joe Grayson

The Cherokee Nation members at-large, Julia Coats and Jack D. Baker are also planning on attending.



Julia Coats



Jack Baker with 2007 Miss Cherokee

Miss Cherokee and the senior class from the Cherokee Youth choir are scheduled to attend. The Cherokee Youth choir

will perform a few songs for our enjoyment.

Cultural specialist will be giving lessons on beading, basket weaving and corn husk dolls.



basket weaving



Last year's meeting

(All photos courtesy Phil Konstantin)

If you have an ice chest, please bring it so we may chill the drinks. Seating is very limited, so bring your lawn chairs or blankets to sit on.

Silverware and paper plates will be provided at the picnic.

Please RSVP, so that we may get an estimate on the numbers attending to:

sandiegocherokeecommunity@yahoo.com

Council Ballots Need To Be Returned By May 18

Ballots for the SDCC council have been mailed. If you have not received your ballot, please contact George Lynch at 760-489-1836 or by email at:

sandiegocherokeecommunity@yahoo.com

Ballots returned by mail must be received by Friday, May 16. The return envelopes already have postage attached.

So you don't have an excuse for not voting! If you do not wish to mail your ballot, then bring the ballot in the small envelope to the 2nd Annual SDCC potluck picnic and put in the ballot box. A sample ballot can be seen at our current website at:

www.sandiegocherokeecommunity.com

There are 7 positions to be filled. The top 4 vote getting candidates will serve a 2-year term and the remaining 3 positions will be for a 1-year term.

Candidates for SDCC council are:
(printed in order of receipt)

Wynona Bigknife

I was born and raised in Vinita, OK. My paternal grandparents are listed on the Dawes Roll. San Diego became my home about 18 years ago. I've served 4 years on the Board of Directors of the Society Club of the American Cancer Society, with 2 years as their board president. I have also served on my condo association's board for over 4 years. I went back to college at night to obtain my B.S. degree in accounting. Currently, I work as the divisional assistant controller for a large health corporation. I am also the editor and publisher of the San Diego Cherokee Community newsletter.

George Lynch

I would be happy to serve on the Council of the San Diego Cherokee Community if elected.

I have been one of the Interim Council members since the founding of the SDCC, serving as the RecordKeeper, and

contributed to various programs such as the National Holiday video, the recent language lesson, and preparations for the picnic last year with Chief Smith. I am recently retired from a long career with Hewlett-Packard so have the time and computer and management experience to contribute to future SDCC meetings and programs. I am a registered member of the Cherokee Nation and believe that there is immense value in learning and preserving the Cherokee culture and conveying it to our children. Since we are so far from Tahlequah in distance and culture, we need to put together SDCC Community Meeting programs that let our membership learn about and participate in their Cherokee heritage

Mike Ledger

O'siyo, I am Mike Ledger, running as a candidate for election in the San Diego Cherokee Community and would be proud to serve on the Council for a full term.

I am currently serving as interim treasurer and have been an active participant in the San Diego Cherokee Community since its founding last year. I am a registered Cherokee citizen of the Cherokee Nation and consider it an honor to serve the members of our organization. Being "displaced" citizens of the Cherokee Nation, most of us have lost touch with our culture, language and our heritage. I feel that the opportunity to serve on the Council is an important opportunity to help members of the San Diego Cherokee Community develop activities and programs such as language, genealogy and cultural information as well as social activities, which will serve as a bridge to reconnect us as a people living here in San Diego County. I have recently retired from AT&T

Communications where I worked as a Systems Technician serving the business community by installing, maintaining and repairing high speed data systems. I served honorably in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam war and have owned several businesses. I love history, photography, travel and if elected to the Council I bring the management skills and can devote the time necessary to help us succeed as a satellite community. Thank you for your consideration.

Phil Konstantin

I would like to serve as one of the council members of the San Diego Cherokee Community. I am an enrolled member, and registered voter, in the Cherokee Nation. During the last year, I have served on the interim council as the meeting coordinator for our organization. My efforts have also included helping to organizing the SDCC, arrange the 2007 picnic with the Chief, and designing and maintaining the SDCC website.

I have the time and the enthusiasm to help our group reach out into the community.

Jolyn DePriest – Write-In Candidate

I am submitting my information as a write in candidate for a council seat with the San Diego Cherokee Community. My grandmother was Cherokee and I would like to explore this piece of my heritage. My personal and professional history reflects my level of commitment to my community as well as dedication to social and political issues.

In the past five years (relocated from the Midwest) I have devoted my energies to supporting social issues as a board member for my home owner's association, member of the San Diego Domestic Violence Council, member of the Child Assault

Prevention Committee, volunteer for the LGBT Hillcrest Youth Center, and commissioner for the Chula Vista Human Relations Commission. I would be honored to have the opportunity to work with the San Diego Cherokee Community not only to study my heritage but also to bring our communities together and celebrate the sense of pride and inclusion that makes Chula Vista great.

Cindy Swayze

I would be happy to serve on the Council of the San Diego Cherokee Community if elected.

I have been a member since the founding of the SDCC. I am a registered member of the Cherokee Nation. I have assisted with the preparations for the picnic last year with Chief Smith. I was raised in Stilwell, OK and graduated from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, OK.

I currently work for the Escondido Humane Society in Escondido as their Development Coordinator. This position consists of fundraising and community awareness that I could bring my experience to the San Diego Cherokee Community.

I am married and have two children - age 15 and 11. I have served as President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer for our local PTA and also leader of their girl scout troop.

I would be happy to serve on the council and feel I could bring a family perspective to the table.

We must preserve our culture for our children.

Thank you for your consideration.

Next Meeting June 29

The next SDCC meeting will be June 29 at 1 p.m. at Lake Murray. This will be a potluck picnic. Bring a dish to share with our members of the San Diego Cherokee Community. Drinks will be provided.

George Lynch will teach a class on basket weaving. He will show all members how to make a Cherokee Double Wall basket or a similar basket. All basket weaving supplies will be supplied for the class.



Cherokee Double Wall basket (the 2 on the left)

Notes on the Newsletter

To save the environment, it was decided in the recent SDCC council meeting that if an individual has an email address, then that would be the mode of receiving the newsletter. If not, then the newsletter would be sent via postal mail. If however, the individual insists on receiving the newsletter via mail, then the newsletter will be sent that way.

Annual Memberships Expired April 30!!

All memberships in the SDCC expired April 30. Renew yours today! Membership renewal rates are: \$35 for all family members in the household or \$25 for single memberships.

Mail the membership form below or at find it at www.sandiegocherokeecommunity.com
Mail form and check to: SDCC, Attention: George Lynch, 1098 Canyon Creek Pl,
Escondido, CA 92025

San Diego Cherokee Community (SDCC) Membership Form

Date: _____

NAME: _____
 First Middle Initial Last

MAILING ADDRESS: _____
 Street Address & Apt. # or Post Office Box #

City	State	Zip
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TELEPHONE #: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Do you want to be listed in a SDCC membership directory? Yes _____ No _____

Names of other household members over 18 at the same address to be added to the SDCC Roster of Members:

CHEROKEE AFFILIATION (Check One):

Cherokee Nation _____ Registration # _____

United Keetoowah Bank _____ Registration # _____

Eastern Band of Cherokee _____ Registration # _____

Cherokee Descent, Unregistered _____ Other (Explain) _____