

Greetings to all tribal members,

I hope this newsletter finds all tribal members, family and friends doing well and in good health. With spring upon us it is time to come together for our ceremonies. We recently held our Sundance and had a terrific turnout. I wanted to take a moment to thank the pot hangers and their helpers, speakers, singers and dancers for all the hard work.

Below is a short description of responsibilities a couple of the boys have. The Sundance begins in the morning and dancing continues till almost dusk. Before the dance begins 2 young men are selected to lead the dances through the day. One of the boys carries the Sun. For this dance the honor went to Stormy Fuller. The Sun carrier cares for and dances with the Sun the whole day beginning in the east end of the grounds and ending in the west just as the sun does in its path around the earth. He also carries the offerings which people have given, during the final blessing after the speakers have prayed for them. The other boy does the whooping throughout the day. He is responsible for starting and stopping the singers on every song. For this dance the honor went to Tsu quan dah roo (Lance Barton). Both of these require hard work but should be viewed as an honor to the boys and their families.

That evening we had a very good dance as well. We danced the seed dance, bean dance as well as stomp dancing and social dancing. We had a young man (Alex Easley) lead his first stomp dance that night and he did a very good job. Congratulations for getting out there and doing your best. We also had some visitors come and help us from the Polecat grounds. It was their first time at our grounds and I hope we made them feel welcome so they will come again.

Upcoming ceremonies will be the Strawberry dance in May, Blackberry dance on July 7 (first full moon) and of course Green Corn the first full week in August which would put camp day as August 2nd.

Seneca-Cayuga words for this month:

Sun – sa qwa tay tan nee

Father – hah nee

Salt – czee kay tah

Moon – tis soot

Mother – ak knoo hah

Pepper - quis siat

Nya Weh

Toot no son dee

Ceremonial Chief

Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma

On a side note I would like to let everyone with camp sites at the ceremonial grounds that we will have a camp clean up and repair day on June 20th and 21st. It would be a good time to fix up the camps in preparation for Green Corn. There are a lot of camps that need roof repairs and I encourage you to take the time to get the repairs done.

