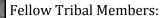


## **State of the Tribe** Chief William Fisher

July 2013



First, let me thank you for entrusting me with the Office of Chief. I will continue to keep your best interests at heart, and do my best to live up to your expectations and address your concerns.

We, the newly elected Business Committee, have been in office now a little over 6 weeks. We are working diligently to get up to speed regarding the Tribal enter-

prises and most importantly, the overall financial status of the Tribe. I can tell you from my perspective, there is much work to do.

I would like to give you a quick run-down of some of the highlights and changes that have transpired this past month:

- \* Rick Smith resigned as General Manager of Grand Lake Casino. Dusty Logan (previously Assistant GM) has been named Interim General Manager. Casino Management is carefully reviewing the budget and reducing unprofitable expenses. The review is ongoing.
- \* Richard Wood is still serving as Tribal Gaming Commissioner and Sid Whitecrow has been hired as Deputy Gaming Commissioner.
- \* Rob Garwood resigned as Manager of Grand Lakeside a.k.a. Royal Bay. Terry Fowler is serving as the manager for the time being, with Business Committee oversight. Terry is also the Boat Captain and mechanical engineer.
- \* Business Committee voted to close SkyDancer Furniture Store. The store had never shown a profit and there was no prospect of a profit. The monthly loss (paid out of Tribal Operations) ran between \$14,000 \$20,000 for more than 12 consecutive months and employed no Tribal Members.
- \* 2nd Chief Whitetree is gathering information on the Tribe's buffalo herd to better care for them and meet their needs.
- \* Tobacco Company laid off 6 employees. The lay-off was executed by Tobacco Management according to seniority of employees. The Company continues to have serious losses despite recent reductions in expenses and costs.
- \* Business Committee voted to advertise for a Chief Financial Officer. We felt it necessary as Tribal Operations audits are running 6 months behind and we have no current financials to work from.
- \* Business Committee voted to abolish the Tribal Economic Development Department. We could see no solid financial contribution to the Tribe and therefore could not justify this expense.

I believe the Tribe's very existence should be to take care of our members and ensure the perpetuation of our heritage and the Longhouse ways. Of course, when we as a people are not financially stable, we cannot fully realize these goals. I do not think I am overstating the situation when

I say the financial status of the Tribe is dire right now. Every week we struggle to pay the Tribe's bills and make payroll. Essentially, we have no cash reserves to pull from. When we took office, they were all depleted. I assure you though, the entire Business Committee is working together to get us on solid financial ground.

The Business Committee has just recently received the information requested on Grand Lake Lodge. We will be reviewing what we have been provided to make informed, thoughtful decisions. We hope this enterprise may become profitable at some point in the near future.

In looking at the various budgets and companies, the "outflow" of funds outnumbers the "inflow" of dollars the Tribe is taking. With the changes made thus far by the Business Committee, we have cut expenses overall (includes Tribal Ops and enterprises) by more than \$500,000 per year. We should start to see the benefit to Tribal Operations within the next few months.

We are carefully reviewing our main source of revenue, Grand Lake Casino. I hope to address that in more detail next time.

On another note, the Business Committee is working with the Bureau of Indian Affairs on proposed Constitutional Amendments. This process is done by referendum vote conducted by the BIA. The Tribal Constitution was first adopted in 1937 and I believe the last Amendments done were in the late 1980's. Since that time, the number of Tribal Members enrolled has grown tremendously. Hopefully, in the next newsletter, the proposed amendments will be ready for publication and we can share the exact changes we feel are necessary at this time.

In preparation for these referendum votes, we ask all voting age Tribal Members to please check with the Enrollment Department and ensure the Tribe has your correct mailing address on file. Please remember, the address information given to the Claims Committee is confidential and is not shared with the Office of Enrollment. I believe the entire Business Committee feels it is vital that we have as many members vote on these proposed Constitutional Amendments as possible.

I am aware many of you have inquired as to what are the Tribe's intentions with regard to the Grand Lakeside (Royal Bay). From what I have been told, the trust application is still pending and in fact, at the end stage of actually being put into trust. The placement of the property into trust will not allow gaming to take place at that location. To this point, the Grand Lakeside business has been unprofitable to the Tribe. The Business Committee is currently reviewing the Purchase Agreement and has made no decisions as to the future of this Tribal enterprise.

I realize this is a lot of information to digest. Keeping you informed goes along with what I believe – making our Tribe run with transparency in our government, being accountable for our actions, becoming more efficient in our work and ultimately becoming more profitable in our endeavors. This will lead to more services provided to our people and a better way of life for us all.

Again, thank you. Until next time...

Respectfully,

William L Fisher., Chief

William Z. Lisher

#### Seneca-Cayuga Business Committee

Main Number 918-787-5452

**CHIEF** 

William Fisher (918) 787-5452 x300

SECOND CHIEF

Terry Whitetree (918) 787-5452 x301

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Thomas Weidman (918) 787-5452 x302

FIRST COUNCIL PERSON

Sallie White (918) 787-5452 x305

SECOND COUNCIL PERSON

Patricia Armstrong (918) 787-5452 x303

THIRD COUNCIL PERSON

Calvin Cassady (918) 787-5452 x304

FOURTH COUNCIL PERSON

Katie Birdsong (918) 787-5452 x306 Cell (918) 541-5233

# Former tribal housing exec pleads guilty in fraud case

A former executive director of the Seneca-Cayuga Housing Authority pleaded guilty to a federal felony charge of embezzling tribal funds over a two-year period.

Lana M. Line, 45, stated in her plea agreement that from Nov. 2008 through Nov. 2010 she falsified Housing Authority records and issued checks that were "allegedly for repair work done on homes when in fact that work was not done. I cashed those checks and kept the money for me and my family."

Line stipulated in her plea agreement that the Seneca- Cayuga Housing Authority is owed \$26,781 in restitution as a result.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Shannon Cozzoni said the fraudulent activity was detected as a result on an audit after Line left the job in Grove voluntarily. A federal grand jury in Tulsa issued an indictment against on May 8.

U.S. District Judge James Payne is scheduled to sentence Line, who is free on bond, on Sept. 23.

She could face as much as five years in prison, although Assistant Federal Public Defender William Widell said sentencing guidelines likely will call for four to 10 months, with probation featuring home detention a possibility.

DAVID HARPER, Tulsa World Staff Writer http://www.tulsaworld.com/article.aspx/Local State briefs/20130620

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TRIBAL ELECTED OFFICIALS 2012-2013 - Seated: Lisa Spano, Jerry Crow and Sallie Leaf. Middle row: Patricia Armstrong, Thomas Weidman, William Fisher, Calvin Cassady, Sallie White and Lenora Sparks. Back row: Katie Birdsong, Carmelita Ward, Raymond Rodgers, Terry Whitetree and Gary Crow.

Wayne Smith 4/25/1925 - 7/06/2013 Tribal Parent Esther & Rufus Smith

Robert Snow 3/09/1930 -1/26/2013 Tribal Parent Winona Elizabeth Snow

Rosanna Lord 3/23/1940 - 1/14/2013 Tribal Parent Amanda Greenback



Minnie Niblack 7/5/1950 - 4/22/2013 Tribal Parent Irene Fortney

Michael Jones 8/18/1957 - 4/04/2013 Tribal Parent Mary Sue Jones

James Postoak 8/5/1973 - 4/23/2013 Tribal Parent Phyllis Postoak

### Chief's Honor Roll "A" (4.0) on the 4.0 GPA Scale

Christine Dennis Kayla Fritchey Emily Hardy Jack Hart Sarah Laughlin Melissa Rogers Tiffany Snow Jamie Sproul

### 2nd Chief' Honor Roll "B" (3.0) on the 4.0 GPA Scale

Jordan A'Neal Janna Bessie Paul Black Nicole Blodgett Gina Brasuell Megan Brown **Andrew Chambers** Jamie Crow **April Curnutte** Elijah Dames **Kathryn Davis Emily Dickson** Kristen Envart Pamela Ezzell **Anthony Foust Dalton Frazier Robin Goodiron** Andrew Gourd **Dillon Gourd** Julie Harper Jordan Hartfelder

**Zachary Herman Colton Holmes Troy Howeton Sydnee Johnston** Jonathan Kaehler **Heather Lawson Channing Little** Jennifer Logan **Ashley Luther** Luther, Madeline **Jeffery Meeks Sydney Moore** Samuel Olson **Seth Olson** Kellye Parker **Tyler Payton Abby Petrulis Brittney Phillips Chris Preston Matthew Rankin** Ian Robertson

Michaela Spicer
Misty Stiger
Rhonda Taylor
Dwayne Tayrien
Gregory Tippit
Alicia Tyner
Jordynn Vanpelt
Arla Velasquez
Deeyll Wadsworth
Mitchell Weisinger
Cheyenne Whitetree
Treay Williams
Laci Woods
Amanda Woolsey
John Young

High School
Graduates of
Spring 2013
send
School graduated
from
Town, Parents
name for next
newsletter
to
newsletter@sctribe.com

Information and photos for newsletter
Send to
newsletter@sctribe.com or

Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma Newsletter 23701 S. 655 Road Grove, OK 74344

## SENECA-CAYUGA TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA



**GENERAL ELECTION - JUNE 1, 2013** 

CHIEF	COMMUNITY BUILDING	ABSENTEE	ABSENTEE HAND TALLY	TOTALS	%	
LEROY HOWARD	197	61	6	264	42.44%	
STEPHEN BUNCH	22	5	2	29	4.66%	
WILLIAM L. FISHER	212	113	4	329	52.89%	
FIRST BUSINESS COMMITTEE MEMBER	COMMUNITY BUILDING	ABSENTEE	ABSENTEE HAND TALLY	TOTALS	%	
SALLIE WHITE	259	114	4	377	60.90%	
IOHN LEROY WABAUNSEE	171	63	8	242	39.10%	
THIRD BUSINESS COMMITTEE MEMBER	COMMUNITY BUILDING	ABSENTEE HAND TALLY		TOTALS	%	
RICHARD D. ENYART	219	67	8	294	47.96%	
CALVIN CASSADY, IV	210	105	4	319	52.04%	
FIRST GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER	COMMUNITY BUILDING	ABSENTEE	ABSENTEE HAND TALLY	TOTALS	%	
SHERRIE JOHNSON	229	61	7	297	48.29%	
CARMALITA HOGSHOOTER-WARD	199	114	5	318	51.71%	
THIRD GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER	COMMUNITY BUILDING	ABSENTEE	ABSENTEE HAND TALLY	TOTALS	%	
RAYMOND L. RODGERS	210	113	4	327	53.08%	
CARRIE MOTT	220	61	8	289	46.92%	
FIFTH GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER	COMMUNITY BUILDING	ABSENTEE	ABSENTEE HAND TALLY	TOTALS	%	
DIANA BAKER	226	61	7	294	47.73%	
GARY CROW	205		5	322	52.27%	

We, the undersigned Election Officials of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma do hereby certify the above to be a true and accurate abstract of the number of votes cast for the General Election held on June 1, 2013.

er certify that this election was held in accordance with the Election Ordinance and Constitution of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma.

ELECTION BOARD MEMBERS



**GRAND LAKE CASINO LODGE Green Corn Special Tribal Members Only** \$49.95 per night during Green Corn

Must notify when booking and Present Seneca-Cayuga Tribal ID card

(918)786-4406

Roberta Smith swearing in the elected office holders into office. (left to right) Sallie White, Carmalita Hogshooter-Ward, Raymond L. Rodgers, William L. Fisher, Calvin Cassady, IV, Gary Crow.

## Youth Fellowship Fund Application

#### Seneca-Cayuga Tribal Claims Committee

P.O. Box 4517 Grove, Oklaho Date:		School Co	at/Clothing	Applica	tion	Tele: (918)786-5576 Fax: (918)786-9245 *DO NOT Mail if Faxing Application			
Student Name	e:			Roll #:					
Mailing Addre				hone #					
_	w Address								
Name and Address of School									
	City		State			Zip			
	City		State			20			
I am the parent or legal guardian and have the right to sign this form. All information provided on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. If asked by an authorized official, I agree to provide proof of the information I have provided on this form. I agree to notify the Seneca-Cayuga Claims Committee of any Changes in the above Information.  *Parent or Legal Guardian Please Print and Sign  Date									
						plete application packages will be less copies of the following documents			
1. 5	Student Tribal Membership	Card.							
<ol><li>Proof of Legal Guardianship if signed by a Legal Guardian.</li></ol>									
	Parents Tribal Membership Card.     Proof of school Enrollment.								
Applications accepted until March 1st.									
Statement of Understanding									
I have read and stated requiren		uga Claims Committee	Guidelines fo	r the Yo	uth Felloship Fund p	rogram and agree to comply with all			
*Parent or Legal Guardian Signature				Date					
	***************************************	*********FOR CLAIN	IS COMMITT	TEE USE	ONLY				
	Date:				Denied				
,	ear of Funding:	Enrolled:							
ı	Remitted To:								
(	Check #:	Approval: SL	CD	LS_	swo				

## Green Corn Camp Day August 4, 2013

Camp Day Picnic Aug. 4, 2013 11:00 to 1:00



1959 Green Corn photo 's courtesy of Ottawa County Historical Society www.dobsonmuseum.com

Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma 23701 S. 655 Road Grove, OK 74344

## **Native American Celebration**

Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013

11350 HWY 59 North Grove, OK 74344 (South End of Sailboat Bridge) (918) 786-4272 www.grandlakeside.biz FREE TO THE PUBLIC!! EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!



1pm - 4pm: NATIVE AMERICAN SINGERS AND DANCERS; FEATURING HAUDENOSAUNEE IROQUOIS "SMOKE DANCERS" COMING FROM THE SIX NATIONS INDIAN RESERVE IN ONTARIO, CANADA. SPECIAL GUEST: 2013 MISS INDIAN OKLAHOMA, ROBYNN RULO. 10am - 6pm: NATIVE AMERICAN ART MARKET (Vendors welcome!! \$20 set up fee.) 10am - 6pm: FRY BREAD, INDIAN TACO'S, AND OTHER NATIVE FOODS 10am - 6pm: CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

10am - 12pm: SPECIAL \$10 GRAND BELLE RIVER BOAT CRUISE (RESERVE YOUR CRUISE NOW!! Call or email shutchison@grandlakeside.biz)

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS...

GRAND LAKE CASINO & SENECA-CAYUGA TRIBE