



Negake Family Reunion Newsletter

Boozhoo Family -

The Annual Negake Family Reunion was held at Pioneer Park on August 28. Although attendance was lower than in previous years, those who attended had a great time and enjoyed visiting with each other. Of course there was lots of good food, although we did miss the fry bread! Bill Stone said the blessing in Ottawa before the meal.

The auction was done a little differently this year with a raffle instead. People bought tickets and put their tickets in the box for the prize they wanted to win. Sandy Lewis, Bob Panille, and Bill Stone went home the big winners.

The kids enjoyed WATER BALLOONS and hanging at the beach!!!

Kathy Eves gave a report of how much was budgeted for each of the 5 categories. The lodge has remained the same price for the past few years—\$80 for the day. The food budget runs about \$150. The gift budget takes most of the budget.

In talking with different family members over the past several months I heard several ideas about how things might run smoother and put less stress on a single person — after all, this is a FAMILY reunion, more family could be involved in planning and helping make it happen. It's a lot of work to put this together. Be sure to thank our family members who have dedicated their time and energy to making the reunion happen each year, especially Gail Strong (Stone), Sharon Blevins (Stone) and Kathy Eves (Cooper). Anyone who would like to get involved, please contact me at the e-mail to the right and I can try to connect you with others who are interested in helping too.

Some ideas that came up were: 1) have each family bring something—a basket for the auction/raffle, something for the giveaway, or a paper product (cups, plates, etc.) this would cut down on expenses in the gift category or paper category and these can be easily saved from year to year; 2) come early to help set up/stay late to help clean up; 3) start a newsletter; 4) start a family website—some people have expressed a concern about putting too much info on Facebook due to potential identity theft (by connecting the dots—seeing who all your family members are); 5) move the reunion to another location; 6) send out invites by e-mail rather than mail to save on postage and have people spread the word to their families. 6) teach traditional crafts. (If I missed anything anyone told me, please let me know.)

Helpful Information

To update your contact information or to be added to the regular mail or e-mail list please contact Lisa Wyzlic at LisasNegakeStuff@hotmail.com or 703-400-8095.

Kareen Lewis has a family page on her Facebook page. You can find it by going to Facebook.com and searching for her.

Scott Wyzlic has a website for Negake family members and Grand River tribal citizens. See www.grboi.com

Eligibility criteria for the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver has been changed as of July 1. Students from non-recognized tribes are no longer eligible.

Grand River is currently #7 on the Ready list for federal recognition. Contact your congressmen to ask for their support.

The GRBOI office has recently been closed. GRBOI citizens can contact the counsel by writing to the post office box listed on your tribal card.



For next year I will be taking over the contact aspect of the reunion from Kathy. I brought my computer to the reunion and the people who attended updated their contact information with me. Contact information for those who are willing to share it is attached. Please be respectful of how much and what you forward to the family list. Please only hit "reply all" when it actually applies to everyone. (Sorry, my personal pet peeve.) If you wish for your contact information to remain private, please indicate so when you contact me. I do need updated contact information for as many people as possible, but will only forward it if you give me permission to.

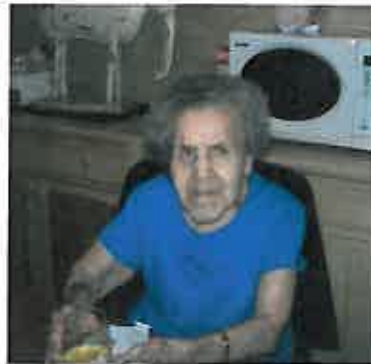
The 2011 reunion will be moved back to the middle of July. I will be booking the lodge at the beginning of January and will let you know the date well ahead of time. I will do an updated newsletter mid-winter and then again as the reunion gets closer. At that time I'll share what I know and reminders for the people who regularly bring things—like the fans and coffee pot Darlene and Mary bring. A big thanks to Sid Stone for letting us use his microphone & amp. It was a huge help and made it much easier for everyone to hear. If you have anything you want announced to the family, please let me know and I can post that too.

Please help by spreading the word to family members early and have them contact me with their updated information. If we can e-mail most of the invites and reminders we will only have to mail invites to those who truly do not have access to the internet. It would also help if you could print the newsletter/invite and pass them out to those who might somehow get missed.

FYI's—Kathy Eves has been coordinating the reunion for the past few years and has done a great job but she is really hard to contact and has limited time during the day due to her work schedule. Kareen Lewis has a family page on her Facebook page and Scott Wyzlic has a Grand River/Negake Family website www.grboi.com. Scott's website is an information site only and is not officially affiliated with the tribe. Kareen and Scott are both really knowledgeable about "stuff". I can be a point of contact and pass info on to Kathy or if you don't have someone's contact info.

As I indicated at the reunion, Grand River is 7th on the "Ready" list for federal acknowledgement. Assistant Director (Indian Affairs) EchoHawk has indicated they will start review of the top 7 tribes in 2011. Shinnecock Tribe of New York just got recognized in June and all appeals have been resolved and they are now officially a federally recognized tribe. This, in theory should make GRBOI 6th on the list—not that it works that way in reality, but we'll see. The Piro/Manso/Tiwa, whom the organization I work for has been working with for 20 years on their federal recognition are in "Active Consideration" and should have a determination sometime in the spring.

By now, you probably have heard a lot of buzz about the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver, which, up until July has been open to All Native American students. As of July 1 this was changed to all federally recognized students and students from the Lumbee (non-recognized) tribe. I'm not going to get into the why's and how's etc., etc.. You can see Scott's website for more information.



*Julie (Stone) Weeder
November 2010.*

Family News

Sandy Lewis's son **Andre Neebnagezhick** is starring in the movie *Rain*. You can see a clip on myspace.com by typing in Rain under videos. You can see the clip with Andre in it by "friending" Doug Schultz or Kareen Lewis on Facebook. Release date to be determined.

Julie Weeder's (Stone) grandson **Aaron Rush** (Cindy & Howard Rush) is in the band *Gone By Sunset*. They play locally in the Sterling Heights/Pontiac area. They just completed their 2nd CD which has 5 original songs on it. Pretty good for a bunch of high school guys! You can hear them on YouTube.

Jeff Pego (Paul's son) and **Malinda Reese** were married on November 5. Congratulations Jeff, Malinda & Peanut!!!

We have several family members dealing with serious illness. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers — especially keep Bob Stone whose wife Mary passed on recently in your thoughts in prayers.

Honor Our Elders— The eldest of our elders is Julie (Stone) Weeder. Julie is the daughter of Neal & Mary (Negake) Stone. Julie married Ross Weeder and has 3 daughters—Nancy (Joel Dedenbach), Kathy (deceased) & Cindy (Howard Rush) and 3 grandchildren—Eva, Carl & Aaron. Julie lived in Clawson, MI most of her married life and currently lives in Sterling Heights, MI. Julie will celebrate her 95th birthday next May.

If you are a student or if you have students who will be attending college soon, it is to your benefit to get involved in this issue. Elections just took place a couple weeks ago and there are new folks in Lansing. They may or may not know anything about Michigan Indians, any of the treaties that have been signed, or the tuition waiver. This is not just an issue about the waiver. This is not just an issue about Grand River folks. This is a sovereignty issue. Cobmoosa signed those treaties to have us, his descendants have a better life. The initial talk was to end the waiver all together and some of the higher ups feel the waiver's time is limited for ALL Native students. This is our chance to educate those who are coming into power and to get them on our side. If they take this away, who knows what's next.

In regards to education, I work for the Association on American Indian Affairs (AAIA) www.indian-affairs.org. It's an 88 year old service and advocacy organization that works nationally (legislatively) as well as at a grass roots level. This is the organization that laid the foundation for and wrote significant parts of the Indian Child Welfare Act and the NAGPRA, which all tribes benefit from. We are currently working on the eagle feather issue.

AAIA also has a scholarship program and has 6 scholarships for students from federally recognized tribes and 1 scholarship for students from non-recognized tribes as well as a very small emergency aid fund. AAIA is a non-profit so the number of scholarships awarded is dependent upon donor contributions. In the past, only 4 scholarships have been awarded per year to students from non-recognized tribes (grad & undergrad). Having said that, the number of applicants for these scholarships is significantly fewer. For students from recognized tribes, we have grad and undergrad scholarships available. For 2011-2012 we'll probably award around 55 scholarships. See our website at the end of February for updated information and for the acceptance period. I encourage all students to apply whether your tuition is paid for or not.

Thanks in advance for your help in getting the word out to the rest of the family. Please have people contact me with updated contact information and please feel free to give me feedback on whether a newsletter like this is helpful and/or what other information you would like included. *Disclaimer—opinions are mine only & not meant to speak for the family or other individuals.*

Baa maa pii -
Lisa Wyzlic

Important Info

LRBOI

www.lrboi-nsn.gov/contact.html

LRBOI/Kenny Pheasant's Language Program

www.anishinaabemowin

GRBOI

P.O. Box 2937
Grand Rapids, MI 49501
-2937

Saginaw Chippewa

www.sagchip.org

Sag Chip Language Dept.

www.sagchip.org/language/index.asp

Grand River Band of Ottawa Indians Information Network (Scott Wyzlic's Website)

www.grboi.com

Association on American Indian Affairs

www.indian-affairs.org



2010 Negake Family Reunion Pictures

