



NCGLNAC Newsletter

*National Center for Great Lakes
Native American Culture, Inc.*

Volume 9, Number 4

Fall 2009

Issue #32

Fall Friendship Fire

The 2009 NCGLNAC Fall Friendship Fire celebration was held at the Women's Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds in Portland on October 24 and 25.

Even though the cold, windy and rainy weather Saturday could have been better, Claude Miller, Kent Horine and John Willi were able to get the Friendship Fire going. John Willi volunteered to be Keeper of the Fire and stayed with it all Saturday night and Sunday until it was time to let the fire die down to ashes. Thank you for your dedication to the Friendship Fire!

Saturday morning, Susan Snow Willi taught about smudging and the sage that is used. Her teachings were Iroquois (Seneca) as she was taught. On Saturday afternoon the participants worked on several projects brought with them, some from cultural arts classes in the past. Kay Neumayr actually finished a beaded medallion started in November 2001 at classes held in Plymouth. Everyone enjoyed the quiet time of visiting with each other as they worked on their projects. Doyle Blooding prepared a delicious feast for the participants and Claude Miller cooked two scrumptious cobblers in a special charcoal-fired Dutch oven outside near the fire.

Sunday turned out to be a beautiful and much warmer day that was enjoyed by all. As usual, everyone was saddened by leaving such good friendship and friends after closing circle was held around the fire's ashes.



Children learning how to make a 'good trade'
Great Lakes Fur Trade Children's Class October 2009

Fur Trade Children's Class

NCGLNAC board member, tradition bearer and re-enactor Boni Bent Nelson taught several children about the Great Lakes Fur Trade Era at the Women's Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds October 24.

In this hands-on history class, participants learned about the fur trade and its impact on the peoples of the Great Lakes region. They looked at many different items used for trade on both sides and how it changed through the centuries. The children also recreated some of the crafts items traded and held their own trading session, learning how to make a 'good trade'.

This project was funded in part by regional partner Arts Place, Inc., Indiana Arts Commission, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

NCGLNAC 2010 Events

All Events Held in Portland

- March 27 & 28 – Spring Cultural Arts Classes – 4 adult classes, 1 children’s class – Jay County Fairgrounds
- April 17 – Academic Conference “Eastern Woodlands Treaties” - John Jay Center for Learning
- June 12 & 13 – 7th Annual Gathering of Great Lakes Nations Pow wow – Tri-State Antique Gas Engine Grounds
- July 24 – 31 – Jay County Fair – Jay County Fairgrounds
- August 2 – 6 – Summer Cultural Arts Classes for adults and children – Jay County Fairgrounds
- October 23 & 24 – Fall Friendship Fire – Jay County Fairgrounds



Making flutes from blocks of cedar – taught by Craig White
Summer 2009 Cultural Arts Classes

Photo by Linda Andrews

2009 Summer Cultural Arts Classes

The annual NCGLNAC Summer Cultural Arts Classes were held at the Women’s Building of the Jay County Fairgrounds in Portland from August 3 through 7. Classes were held both for adults over the age of 12 and children six years old and up.

Adult classes held were antler-handled flint knives by Ron Kennedy (Cree and Cherokee), introduction to beadwork by Nita Norcross (Ojibwe descent), historical trade silver and

cedar love flutes by Craig White, beaded leather pouches by Paula Butcher (Wyandot descent), personal hand drums by Tony Showa (Dine), dug-out canoe by Claude Miller, Iroquois raised beadwork by Susan Snow-Willi (Seneca), black ash baskets by Jennie Brown (Potawatomi) and gourd bowls and containers by Carolyn Rushton.

Children’s classes were basic fingerweaving and canteen gourds by Linda Andrews (Cherokee and Miami descent), nature learning and copper jewelry by Boni Nelson (Cherokee descent), turtle effigy clay pottery by Robin McBride Scott (Cherokee descent), beadwork and Native American games by Paula Butcher (Wyandot descent) and earth teachings by Georgia Adams (Mingo).

The weather was moderate for August which was appreciated by all. Considerable work was accomplished on the dug-out canoe. Doyle Blooding provided excellent meals all week and Claude Miller roasted a turkey in a paper sack over coals for Thursday dinner.

The fellowship with new and old friends and the learning of traditional skills during the week always make the summer classes one of the most enjoyable times for all.

This project was funded in part by regional partner Arts Place, Inc., Indiana Arts Commission, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.



Turning the canoe over was a joint effort by several of the men attending the 2009 summer classes

Photo by Linda Andrews



GoodSearch – GoodShop

Please help raise operating funds for NCGLNAC by using GoodSearch, powered by Yahoo, every time you search the internet and GoodShop for online shopping from over 1,300 stores. We just received a check from GoodSearch for searches and shopping through September 2009 that named National Center for Great Lakes Native American Culture, Inc. as the non-profit for which they were searching and shopping. It was for \$11.07. The check for 2010 could easily be for \$1,107 if everyone would use the GoodSearch toolbar for every internet search and use GoodShop for on-line purchases.

Each internet search generates about \$.012 for NCGLNAC. It costs nothing to use, the donation is from GoodSearch. When you use GoodShop for online purchases, the merchant donates a portion of the total purchase amount, anywhere from 1.5% to 35% or more, to National Center for Great Lakes Native American Culture, Inc. You purchase what you want and NCGLNAC receives a percentage of the purchase amount. You may save more money since many of the merchants offer coupons through GoodShop.

You may download the toolbar from <http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/> and then search the web directly from the built-in search box. When shopping online at a store's website, the GoodShop toolbar will automatically light up displaying the percentage donated and any available coupons.

There is no easier way to help NCGLNAC with our programs, classes, and other educational expenses each year. Please help!

NCGLNAC Annual Fund

Included in this Newsletter is the NCGLNAC Annual Fund appeal. We ask you to please donate any amount you can to help us meet our goal of maintaining the cultural arts classes for adults and children, conferences, gathering, school visits and other yearly programs and events.

No donation is too small (or too large!) to help with NCGLNAC programs. If 100 people could donate \$10 each that would come up to \$1,000!

Donations to NCGLNAC are at an all-time low for 2009 so *every* donation is extremely important in allowing NCGLNAC to continue and even increase its programs for 2010. Don't forget that donations may be made on line to NCGLNAC through www.guidestar.org.



Kerry Holzworth shaves a strip of black ash
Summer 2009 Cultural Arts Classes

Photo by Linda Andrews

Indiana State Museum

NCGLNAC members Linda Andrews and Pat Ruhlander traveled to Indianapolis November 13 and 14 to represent NCGLNAC at the Native American Heritage celebration and demonstration pow wow at the Indiana State Museum. This marks the third year NCGLNAC has been invited to participate.

Rusty Green and Rebecca Martin were event coordinators for the museum. At the NCGLNAC booth within the museum, Linda and Pat spoke with hundreds of children and adults about program opportunities with NCGLNAC.

Booths at the event represented Native American businesses and artists including: the Pokagon Potawatomi Nation; the American Indian Council, Bear Creek Gallery; Indiana Native American Business Association, Jennie Brown, black ash basket maker and many others.

Friday was open to educators, schools, home schooled children, and museum attendees. Saturday was added to facilitate any of the museum's weekend attendees. The event was well attended on both days.



Robbie Bowling, Linda Andrews and Rebecca Martin at the Indiana State Museum

Photo by Joni Schultz

NCGLNAC On the Move

Many NCGLNAC members have been busy, especially during November's Native American Heritage Month, visiting schools and sharing Great Lakes Native American culture.

Linda Andrews, Nancy and Janae Winningham spent two very enjoyable days teaching and demonstrating to the school children at St.

Boniface and St. Lawrence elementary schools in Lafayette. Member Joe Gutshall will be presenting an educational program to the elementary school at Fort Recovery in Ohio early in 2010.

Even though NCGLNAC has lost the arts funding for schools and other programs, we continue to visit as many schools and other venues as possible. In this way, NCGLNAC helps educate children and teachers about accurate Native American culture and helps to eliminate stereotypical outlooks acquired from television and the movies.



2010 Spring Cultural Arts Classes

The 2010 Spring Cultural Arts Classes will be held on March 27 and 28 in Portland because the normal first weekend in April is Easter weekend. The one and a half day class sessions will include 4 classes for adults 12 and over and 1 class for children ages 6 and up.

Full information will be part of the next NCGLNAC newsletter, due out at the end of January and on line at www.ncglnac.org sooner.

The spring 2010 cultural arts classes are funded in part by regional partner Arts Place, Inc., Indiana Arts Commission, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

2010 Summer Cultural Arts Classes

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the annual summer cultural arts classes to be held August 2 through 6 in Portland. Many 2 ½ day classes for adults have been planned. The week also includes a class for children each day. All meals are on site. As with all NCGLNAC

cultural arts classes, they present the very unusual opportunity to learn about Great Lakes Native American culture and a wide range of hands-on art skills at a most reasonable and affordable cost.



Professor Ray Hively of Earlham College makes a presentation about the Newark Earthworks at the 2009 Conference

2010 Academic Conference

Saturday, April 17 marks the date of the 2010 NCGLNAC Academic Conference, “Eastern Woodlands Treaties.” The event is hosted by the John Jay Center for Learning in Portland and sponsored in part by the Jay County Visitor and Tourism Bureau. The format 2010 has been shortened somewhat in that five experts will make presentations instead of 6. Lunch is on site and is included with the registration fee of \$30, \$20 for students. Full registration information will be included in the next NCGLNAC newsletter.

Next year’s conference will be entitled “Major Eastern Woodlands Battles” and the 2012 title will be “The War of 1812.”

Please plan to attend this great educational opportunity. You won’t be disappointed.

NCGLNAC 7th Annual Gathering of Great Lakes Nations

The 7th Annual Gathering of Great Lakes Nations Pow Wow will be held June 12 and 13 at the Tri-State Antique Gas Engine Grounds, 1010 Morton Street in Portland. Please join us for this celebration of the Great Lakes Native peoples’ culture with drums, singers, dancers,

vendors, foods, children’s activities, an 1840’s re-enactment camp and much more. The 2010 Gathering will again have a poster contest for Jay County School children. The Gathering Committee is working hard to make the 2010 event the best ever with more activities and things to see and do. Sponsors and advertisers are being sought to help with the enormous expenses for the event. Please let Kay Neumayr know if you can help in any way at 765-426-3022 or kay.neumayr@ncglnac.com.



Some of the 2009 Gathering poster contest winners

Photo by Kent Horine

Native American Bones Found

Stephen Nawrocki, a board-certified forensic anthropologist with the University of Indianapolis has determined that 125 bone fragments discovered in and around a disintegrating cardboard box in a basement in Albany belong to “pre-historic Native Americans.” Gary Engelbrecht has a barber shop in the building and discovered the bones about a year ago. Delaware County Corner Jim Clevenger will work with the Indiana state archaeologist and American Indian authorities to determine what should happen to the bone fragments, which included at least one man and one woman. It remains a mystery how the bones ended up in the basement of the downtown building and how long they had been there.

From an article in the Indianapolis Star and contributed by Gina Boltz



MICMAC

Oldest Continuously Occupied Site

Discoveries turned up this past summer by a team of more than 20 students from the University of Cincinnati's Ohio Valley Archaeology Field School at Shawnee Lookout, a Hamilton County Park District property in southwestern Ohio, points to the possibility that Shawnee Lookout is the oldest and largest continuously occupied hilltop settlement established by any Native American group. Dating of recent evidence shows cultural continuity at the site. The Hopewell who lived at Shawnee Lookout up to 2,000 years ago show direct links to the Shawnee people who lived at the site less than 300 years ago. According to UC Assistant Professor of Anthropology Ken Tankersley, work from the summer showed that Shawnee Lookout has evidence of earthworks that stretch over 5 miles in length with numerous villages and mounds. In addition, some of the building materials of the earthworks have been carbon-dated to about 300 years ago, indicating the Shawnee built the same kind of earthen structures that had been previously attributed to just the Hopewell. Professor Tankersley believes this begins to build the case that cultural knowledge was handed down from ancient to modern times by Native Americans living at the site.

From www.scienceblog.com and contributed by Gina Boltz

Membership Matters

Does your continued membership in NCGLNAC matter? Yes it does in many ways. Members' benefits include the NCGLNAC quarterly Newsletter, reduced registration fees for cultural arts classes, advance notice for future events, and the opportunity to learn about the Great Lakes Native Americans in very relaxed and friendly settings. The benefits to NCGLNAC for having numerous members include more input for future programs, better participation at events, financial and physical assistance for Newsletter and other mailings, and better viability for grant applications and other requests for sponsorships.

NCGLNAC Membership Registration

I wish to become a member of the National Center for Great Lakes Native American Culture, Inc. (NCGLNAC) to support the preservation and sharing of Great Lakes Native American culture through my gifts and membership activities.

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

_____ *Please send the NCGLNAC quarterly newsletter by email*

NCGLNAC Membership Year is the Membership Anniversary

Annual Membership Categories

Student (Full time to age 25)	\$15
Individual (1 adult)	\$25
Family (2 adults & children to 18 yrs.)	\$40
Grandparent (2 adults & grandchildren to 18 yrs.)	\$50

Please list all names

Otter Circle	\$100 - \$249
Beaver Circle	\$250 - \$499
Crane Circle	\$500 - \$999
Wolf Circle	\$1,000 - \$2,499

Those interested in becoming patron members of NCGLNAC at other levels by making special donations are invited to contact Membership Chair Claude Miller at claudemiller@ncglnac.com

Please make checks payable to NCGLNAC, Inc. and send completed form and dues to:

Nick Poeppelman, NCGLNAC Treasurer
12502 Maple Grove Road
Minster, OH 45865

Claude Miller, Membership Chair
810-794-4242
claudemiller@ncglnac.com

National Center for Great Lakes Native American Culture
Post Office Box 1063, Portland, IN 47371

December 2009

Dear Members and Friends:

Seasons Greetings from the National Center for Great Lakes Native American Culture! The Board of Directors is thankful for ALL of YOU, our faithful members, volunteers, and supporters – our greatest asset. We ask the Creator to bless you and your family in this holy Christmas season and to give you peace, health and prosperity in the New Year 2010.

2009 NCGLNAC program accomplishments include: Academic Conference at the John Jay Center for Learning, Spring and Summer Cultural Art Classes for youth and adults, Cultural Arts One Day Classes for youth and adults, 6th Annual Gathering of Great Lakes Nations Pow Wow, Children's Poster Contest, Fall Friendship Fire, numerous visiting artists sent to schools and educational settings, and land and hiking trail improvements. All events are open to any interested participants and fees are reasonably priced to make them affordable to all.

Plans are in progress for activities for 2010. **How can you help us even more?** Donate a gift – large or small- to help keep our activities alive and growing. Donate a gift to support our programs and our mission of preserving and educating Native American and non-Native American adults and youth in the culture, history and traditions of the Great Lakes Native Americans. Even a small amount can make a big difference in our ability to offer quality program services.

Please support NCGLNAC with your donation today. Consider making a donation to honor a special event or person in your life or as a memorial to a loved one who has passed on to the spirit world. Thank you.

Name _____ Area Code and Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____ to help support 2010 NCGLNAC programs and activities.

Mail your donation to: NCGLNAC, P O Box 1063, Portland, IN 47371. Donations can also easily be made through a secure internet site at Guidestar – www.guidestar.org.

About NCGLNAC

The National Center for Great Lakes Native American Culture, Inc. was formed as a not-for-profit 501(c)3 educational organization. The Center is composed of Native and non-Native members whose mission is to continue and preserve traditional Great Lakes Native American art, history and culture by helping pass those traditions on to Native People and by educating the general public about the importance of Great Lakes Native peoples, their art, history and culture.

The Center has no political agenda. Our focus is on education. We have seen far too many of our treasured elders and tradition bearers begin their Spirit Journey without knowing who would carry on in their place. Additionally, we know too many Native people who are displaced from their tribal land-base and separated from their traditional tribal cultures.

Over the past 16 years, the Center's tribal elders, tradition bearers and members have been presenting

at workshops, symposia, university classrooms, conferences, powwows, elementary schools, libraries and other cultural and educational events. We look forward to helping Native peoples, urban cultural centers, universities, public and private elementary and secondary schools, and the general public raise their awareness and understanding of the cultural heritage and history of Great Lakes Native peoples in an inviting, comfortable place with a friendly learning environment.

NCGLNAC now owns nearly 30 acres (generously donated by the Jay County Fair Board) of beautiful, wooded land, complete with grassland, pond and wetlands, located just north of the Jay County Fairgrounds in Portland. The first ethno-botanical hiking trail is nearing completion and was opened to the public in 2008.

If you would like to know more about NCGLNAC or receive membership information, please log on to our website at <http://www.ncglnac.org> or contact us at P.O. Box 1063, Portland, IN 47371.



*National Center for Great Lakes
Native American Culture, Inc.
P.O. Box 1063
Portland, IN 47371
www.ncglnac.org*

Funded in Part By



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED