



NCGLNAC Newsletter

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

Volume 7, Number 4

October 2007

Issue #25

Fall Friendship Fire

NCGLNAC Board member Ray Lutz from Pittsburgh, PA is again in charge of planning the events and activities at the NCGLNAC 2007 Fall Friendship Fire Celebration, November 3 and 4, 2007. Activities will be held at the Women's Building of the Jay County Fairgrounds and at the NCGLNAC site. Please join NCGLNAC members and friends for a relaxing weekend of finishing previous workshop projects, reconnecting with old friends and making new ones, walking the site and helping clear brush on the trail, keeping the fire, and discussing and planning NCGLNAC's direction for the future.

Highlights for the weekend include Professor Don Cochran of Ball State University who will talk Saturday evening at 6:30 about the pre-contact villages, mounds and other earthworks and their alignment with each other during solstices and the rising and setting of major constellations. In August Miami spiritual leader Wap-Shing blessed our land. We will celebrate the land blessing at 10 a.m. Sunday morning at the pond. Another highlight is that Doyle Blooding will again prepare the Saturday evening meal, which is included in the registration fee.

The registration fee of \$25 for NCGLNAC members and \$30 for non-members includes all activities and presentations and the Saturday evening meal. Please send your registration to be received by **October 26**. See the Fall Friendship Fire flyer on page 7 of this newsletter for complete details.

Children's Workshop

In celebration of Native American Month, NCGLNAC Board member Bonita Bent Nelson from South Bend, Indiana will teach a children's workshop: *A Day of Fun and Learning about Great Lakes Native American Art and Life*. The workshop will be Saturday, November 3 from 10 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Jay County Public Library, 315 North Ship Street in Portland. Ages are 6 and up and the cost of \$10 includes all materials. Full information is in the Children's Workshop flyer that is included as an insert in this Newsletter.



Eugene McGillis and Betty Reynolds working on her cedar box

2007 Summer Workshops

The 2007 NCGLNAC Summer Workshops were held at the Women's Building of the Jay County Fairgrounds in Portland August 6 through 10. These week-long cultural arts workshops are something that many look forward to in anticipation for the entire year.

NCGLNAC Upcoming Events

- **November 3 & 4** – NCGLNAC Fall Friendship Fire, Women’s Building, Jay County Fairgrounds in Portland.
- **November 3** – Children’s workshop at Jay County Public Library, Portland.
- **March 8** – First in 2008 Lecture Series, Jay Co. Historical Society Museum
- **April 5** – Second in 2008 Lecture Series, Jay Co. Historical Society Museum
- **April 5 & 6** – NCGLNAC Spring Cultural Arts Workshops, Women’s Building, Jay County Fairgrounds
- **April 19** – *Current Research in Great Lakes Native American Culture* NCGLNAC Academic Conference, John Jay Center for Learning, Portland
- **May 17** – Third in 2008 Lecture Series, Jay Co. Historical Society Museum
- **June 7 & 8** – 5th Annual Gathering of Great Lakes Nations Pow Wow – Tri-State Gas Engine & Tractor Grounds, Portland
- **July 28 – August 2** – Jay County Fair
- **August 4 – 9** - NCGLNAC Summer Cultural Arts Workshops
- **October 4 & 5** – Jay Heritage Festival
- **November 1 & 2** – Fall Friendship Fire

It is a great time to renew old friendships and get acquainted with new participants. It is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the Great Lakes Native Americans through classes and discussions. Where else will you have a choice to learn how to flint knap, carve antler, make a cedar box, paint your story on a deer hide, learn to make a bandolier bag, do netted beadwork, carve a wooden bowl or spoon, make and pit fire pre-contact coiled pottery, learn fingerweaving, or learn how to work with sterling silver?

The children’s classes this year were all week with a different teacher and subject each day. We hope to see more children in the future enjoy learning about Great Lakes Native Americans and their culture.

The 2007 Summer Workshops are funded in part by an arts project support grant from the Regional Partnership Initiative. These grants are made possible by Arts Place, Inc, the Indiana Arts Commission, a state agency and by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

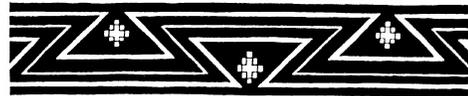


Speaking of Workshops

NCGLNAC recently sponsored two one-day workshops in Portland. Both workshops were very well attended, demonstrating the need for periodic, regular one-day workshops.

Dani Tippmann conducted a workshop on native plants and their historic food and medicinal uses at the Jay County Historical Society Museum on August 25. Carolyn Rushton conducted a lidded gourd container workshop at the Jay County Public Library on September 22.

Thank you to the Jay County Historical Society and the Jay Public Library for making their great facilities available for NCGLNAC workshops.



Jay Heritage Festival

September 29 and 30 marked the dates for this year’s Jay Heritage Festival held on the grounds of the Jay County Historical Society. The 5th Annual Festival honored the 150th birthday of Elwood Haynes who was born in Portland. A display of Haynes cars from Kokomo, Portland’s own Haynes car owned by the Barry Hudson family, and other Haynes memorabilia were featured. The event has grown steadily and this year’s event was considerably larger than last year’s with more vendors and activities to watch.

NCGLNAC again participated with demonstrations and an informational booth during the two-day event. There was considerable interest in our many activities.



Jay Heritage Festival - Photo by Kent Horine

NCGLNAC Featured in *Electric Consumer* Article

Richard Biever, Senior Editor of the *Electric Consumer*, a publication of Indiana's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, wrote "Following the Path" which appeared in the August 2007 issue. The article was about Native Americans in Indiana. It was very well-written and showed how many Native Americans in Indiana are trying to keep the cultural fires burning.

Mr. Biever interviewed several people as he researched the article: Vice Chief John Dunnagan and his daughter Erin Oliver of the Indiana Miami; the Heaton family of Blackfoot and Cherokee ancestry from Columbia City; Anthony Redfeather Nava (Pascua Yaqui) who lives in New Albany; Lori Parker, Miami descendant from Russiaville; Dark Rain Thom, a Shawnee descendant from Bloomington; and NCGLNAC board chair Kay Neumayr.



IAC Grant Awards

The Indiana Arts Commission, through its Regional Partner Arts Place, Inc. in Portland, awarded four Region 5 artists Individual Artist Project grants. NCGLNAC board member and tradition bearer Robin McBride Scott of New Castle was awarded a grant to research pre-contact river cane basket weaving, create samples of the various techniques, and produce educational and interpretive materials to accompany a river cane basketry exhibition.

NCGLNAC was also awarded an Arts Project Support grant to help fund artist honorariums, travel expenses and marketing for the 2007 Summer Cultural Arts Workshops and the 2008 Gathering of Great Lakes Nations Pow Wow. The workshops were held August 5 – 10 and the 2008 Gathering will be June 7 and 8.

On behalf of the people of Indiana, the Indiana Arts Commission advocates engagement with the arts to enrich the quality of individual and community life.



Robin McBride Scott with samples of river cane weaving
Photo by Diane Graham

2008 NCGLNAC Academic Conference

On April 19, 2008, NCGLNAC will be reviving a long tradition...an academic conference to be held at the newly-renovated John Jay Center for Learning in Portland. The title of the conference is "Current Research in Great Lakes Native American Culture."

Six presenters have accepted the invitation to present their current research. Professor Don Cochran, Director of Ball State University's Archaeological Resource Management Service will discuss regional earthworks; Beth McCord, Assistant Director of Ball State University's Archaeological Resource Management Service will discuss her research on the Delaware settlements of Central Indiana; Robin McBride Scott will present her ongoing research in early river cane basketry; Daryl Baldwin II of the Myaamia Project of Miami University will discuss the Myaamia Project, the Miami language and Miami cultural revitalization; Professor Mark Schurr, Chairman of the University of Notre Dame's Anthropology Department, will present the research and findings at the excavations of the Collier Lodge site on the Kankakee River near Kouts in Northeastern Indiana; and Christopher Koepfel, Administrator of the Cultural Resources Section of the Indiana Department of Transportation, will talk about the on-going excavations in the Indiana 56 roadbed near Salem in Southern Indiana.

The conference will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at 4 p.m. The presentations will run consecutively throughout the day with a 1 hour break for lunch.

Plan to take advantage of this opportunity to hear about cutting edge research taking place right here in Indiana on the Great Lakes Native American people.



Briannah Weers models the shawl she made in the children's class taught by Paula Butcher at the 2007 Summer Workshops

AICI Names New Director

The American Indian Center of Indiana, Inc. (AICI) board of directors has named Linda Madagame as their new Executive Director. She is a member of the Grand Traverse Band of the Ottawa and Chippewa Indians of Peshawbestown, Michigan. Madagame has worked as a professional in social services since 1985, serving people with developmental disabilities and mental illness throughout various regions in Indiana.

The American Indiana Center of Indiana, Inc. plans to promote a sense of unification among the American Indian people throughout Indiana to achieve personal, economic, social and cultural development. The office is located in the John H. Boner Community Center, 2236 East 10th Street, Indianapolis. Their phone is 800-745-5872 or you may log onto the website at www.americanindiancenter.org. Regional offices will open in late 2007 and 2008 in Gary and Fort Wayne, with more offices throughout the state planned in the future.



Indiana State Museum

The Indiana State Museum in White River State Park, Indianapolis, is planning a celebration of Native American culture on November 16 with a demonstration pow wow from 9:30 to 2. Come to the Museum and enjoy a day of learning about Native American culture, traditions, history, language and more.

The Indiana State Museum preserves, interprets and presents material evidence of Indiana's cultural and natural history in a context that encourages people to actively participate in discovering their world—as it was, as it is and as it can be.

Commission Studies Native American Issues

Not many Hoosiers, including those who are American Indians, know about the 2-year old Indiana Native American Indian Affairs Commission (NAIAC), which advises the state government on American Indian issues.

The NAICA's focus right now is to look at two specific areas of importance to the thousands of Native Americans living in Indiana: education and awareness that Native Americans still exist in Indiana and that the issues they face aren't forgotten. According to Chief Brian Buchanan of the Indiana Miami, and chair of the Commission, the entire native community has one common agreement—the lack of attention to their needs as a community. The state of Indiana means 'Land of Indians,' but Native Americans are the last ethnic group to have their own commission.

The Commission hopes to give all Native Americans in Indiana a central point of reference to voice their concerns and know they will be heard. Other issues the Commission will address are cultural retention among the tribes, preservation and excavation of historical sites, housing, health, child welfare, spiritual needs of prisoners, issues for business owners and a directory of Native American businesses.

From *Indiana Lawyer* article by Rebecca Berfanger and Indiana University News Room

Purdue Native American Center Opens

Purdue University has named Veronica Hirsch (Chiricahua Apache) as the first director of its new Native American Educational and Cultural Center. The center will provide outreach to the Native Americans in Indiana.

The Center's focus will be on tribes east of the Mississippi, but not just enrolled members of federally recognized tribes, but also state

recognized tribes and those whose tribal recognition has been terminated by the federal government.

Ms. Hirsch hopes to recruit 28 graduate students over the next 3 years into science, math, technology and engineering. Students will receive assistance through the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, which will pay \$32,100 to each of 20 master's degree students and \$38,500 to each of eight doctoral degree students.

From Journal and Courier article by Joe Larson

George Winter Artworks

George Winter documented the lives of the Miami and Pottawatomini from the 1830s to the 1870s through his artwork and notes of their way of life. The Tippecanoe County Historical Society and Purdue University have digitized some of his works.

The documents were donated by the late Evelyn Ball whose late husband was Winter's great-grandson. Included are written accounts of Native American encampments, journals and correspondence, sketches of people, and portraits of tribal members. To view the work: <http://earchives.lib.purdue.edu/cdm4/browse.php?CISROOT=/gwinter>.

From Journal and Courier article by Brian Wallheimer

“Birdstone Man” Passes

Earl C. Townsend, Jr., Seneca Pen Eshee Na Na, “Birdstone Man” passed on August 5 at the age of 92. He was considered an authority on birdstones and had one of the world's largest collections of the prehistoric artifacts. He was the author of the 750-page book, *Birdstones of the North American Indian* which was privately published in 1959. Townsend was named an honorary chief of the Black River-Swan Creek Chippewas in 1971. An attorney by profession, he practiced at the Townsend Law Firm in downtown Indianapolis. His birdstone book can be found on Amazon.com.



2007 AISA Youth Award Recipients: Wade Howell and Ian Winningham

Ian Winningham Earns Award

Wade Howell and Ian Michael Winningham were presented the *Joseph Provost Youth Award – Silver Medallion* at the 50th Anniversary American Indian Scouting Association (AISA) Seminar held July 7-11. Chickasaw Nation hosted the event at Eastern Central University in Ada, Oklahoma. Ian and Wade are the first youth who have attempted to compete for the award in 5 years and the first boy youth to earn the award in 25 years.

The *Joseph T. Provost Youth Award Silver Medallion* is presented nationally by AISA and is their highest youth honor. Youth of American Indian descent who have met the requirements for the American Indian Youth Award certificate and who attend the annual American Indian Girl Scouting/Boy Scouting Seminar are eligible for the Silver Medallion. Youth competing are asked by a panel of elders to demonstrate, describe, or explain requirements completed in earning the American Indian Youth Award certificate.

Ian Winningham was also honored at AISA by being elected Youth Program Chair for the 2008 AISA Seminar which will be held in Cherokee, NC and is sponsored by the Eastern Band of Cherokee Nation. His role as Youth Program Chair elects him to the Youth Chair position in 2009 and appoints him as a permanent member of the AISA Board of Directors. www.americanindianscouting.org.

Article contributed by Linda L. Andrews

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 _____

NCGLNAC Membership Year is the Membership Anniversary

Annual Standard Membership Categories

Student (Full time to age 23)	\$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	

Annual Patron Membership Categories

Otter Circle	\$100
Corporate	\$100

Those interested in becoming patron members of NCGLNAC at other levels by making special donations are invited to contact Membership Chair Janice Tierney at janice.tierney@ncglnac.com

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

**Janice Tierney
Membership Chair
NCGLNAC, Inc.
5361 Elmsford Drive
Flint, MI 48532
810-230-0875**

**2007 NCGLNAC FALL FRIENDSHIP FIRE
NOVEMBER 3 AND 4, 2007
Women's Building, Jay County Fairgrounds
Portland, Indiana**

NCGLNAC Board member Ray Lutz from Pittsburgh, PA is again in charge of planning the events and activities at the NCGLNAC 2007 Fall Friendship Fire Celebration, November 3 and 4, 2007. Activities will be held at the Women's Building of the Jay County Fairgrounds and at the NCGLNAC site. Please join NCGLNAC members and friends for a relaxing weekend of finishing previous workshop projects, reconnecting with old friends and making new ones, walking the site and helping clear brush on the trail, keeping the fire, and discussing and planning NCGLNAC's direction for the future.

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Registration is between 8 and 9 a.m. Saturday, November 3, followed by opening circle. Lunch on Saturday is on your own. The Saturday evening feast will be at 5 p.m. The Saturday evening presentation will be at 6:30 p.m. Sunday's land blessing celebration will be at 10 a.m. and closing circle will be at 12 noon. Saturday's events are EDST and Sunday's events are EST. A fire will be kept the entire weekend. The registration fee of \$25 for NCGLNAC members and \$30 for non-members includes all activities and presentations and the Saturday evening meal. Please send your registration to be received by **October 26**.

Camping is available at the Fairgrounds for \$15 per night (electricity only) or primitive for \$10 per night. RV dump station is available. Please include the camping fee with your registration. Portland's Hoosier Inn (260-726-7113) has reserved rooms for November 2 and 3 at \$45 for one bed and \$55 for two beds per night plus tax. Super 8 in Portland (260-726-8888) has reserved rooms for \$60 for one bed and \$65 for two beds per night plus tax. Please make your own motel reservations before **October 26** to receive the **group rate**.

**MAIL THIS COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM TO
KAY NEUMAYR, 4950 N. 750 EAST, ATTICA, IN 47918
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NCGLNAC, INC.
Registration Deadline is October 26**

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Registration Fee per Person (\$25 member/\$30 non-member) \$ _____

Camping Fee (\$15 electric or \$10 primitive per night) \$ _____

TOTAL REGISTRATION ENCLOSED \$ _____

Contact Ray Lutz at 412-751-2304 or ray.lutz@ncglnac.com or Kay Neumayr at 765-426-3022 or kay.neumayr@ncglnac.com. for additional information.

About NCGLNAC

The National Center for Great Lakes Native American Culture, Inc. was formed in May 2001 as a not-for-profit 501(c)3 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 15 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, Elderhostel 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.

The Jay County Fair Board has generously donated to NCGLNAC nearly 30 acres of beautiful, wooded land, complete with pond and wetlands, located just north of the Jay County Fairgrounds in Portland.

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.



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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