



# NCGLNAC Newsletter

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

Volume 11, Number 4

Fall 2011

Issue #40



## 10<sup>th</sup> Annual NCGLNAC Summer Cultural Arts Classes

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual NCGLNAC Summer Cultural Arts Classes were held at the Women's Building of the Jay County Fairgrounds July 31 through August 4. *The classes were made possible in part with support of the Indiana Arts Commission, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.*

Adult classes held included the week-long Bowmaking Class taught by Rex Marshall, and the following 2 ½ day long classes: Personal Hand Drum taught by Tony Showa, Sweet Grass Weaving taught by Tina Burns, Center Seam Moccasins taught by Paula Butcher, the Beaded Turtle Pins and Beaded and Quilled Earrings Classes taught by Katrina Mitten, Turkey Wing Feather Dance Fans taught by Lawrence Norcross, and the Great Lakes Native American Culture Class which included a Tuesday afternoon field trip to the Museum and Battlefield at Fort Recovery, Ohio, a Wednesday session on the Shawnee people taught by Sara Wagar and a Thursday session on the Miami people taught by John Dunnagan.

The classes for children ages 6 and up were also very popular. Boni Nelson taught the classes for the first three days. On Sunday, the children learned about copper, bone and shell; Monday's class learned about Native music; and Tuesday's class learned porcupine quillwork and beadwork. Monday's class treated all the summer class participants to a musical concert sung in Native tongue and played by Native instruments. Paula Butcher's classes on Wednesday and Thursday taught the children how to make clay beads; they made very nice bone and glass bead chokers; and learned about the Moundbuilders in Indiana and Ohio, including learning how to throw an atlatl.

Thanks to a grant from the Old National Bank Foundation and scholarship donations from NCGLNAC members Larry and Zoetta Carlson, Jerry and Kay Neumayr and Claude Miller, NCGLNAC was able to award 20 partial scholarships totaling \$684 for children, youth and adults to attend the summer classes. Scholarship awards ranged from \$7 for a one-day children's class to \$40 for a 2 ½ day class. The scholarships enabled 39 attendances in the one-day children's classes alone. Thank you so much for giving NCGLNAC the opportunity to share learning about the Great Lakes Native Americans to people of all ages.



## NCGLNAC Events Calendar

All Events are Held in Portland Unless  
Otherwise Noted

- October 1 & 2 – Jay Heritage Festival
- October 15 – Pennville Fall Festival
- October 22 & 23 – Annual NCGLNAC Fall Friendship Fire Celebration
- October 22 – Cultural Arts Class for Ages 8 and up - Robin McBride Scott – Paddle stamped hand coiled pottery
- October 22 – NCGLNAC Lecture by Susan Gray of Greenville, OH, chair of the 1999 Greenville Treaty Bi-Centennial Committee
- November 12 – NCGLNAC Benefit Native American Art Sale – Painted Desert Indian Arts, Tippecanoe Arts Federation, Lafayette, IN
- November 12 – Cultural Arts Class for Adults – Boni Nelson – Porcupine Quillwork project, Tippecanoe Arts Federation, Lafayette, IN
- March 24 & 25, 2012 – 11<sup>th</sup> Annual NCGLNAC Spring Classes
- March 24, 2012 – NCGLNAC Lecture
- April 21, 2012 – NCGLNAC Academic Conference – *“Eastern Woodlands Tribes in the War of 1812”*
- May 12, 2012 – One Day Cultural Arts Class
- June 9 & 10 – 9<sup>th</sup> Annual NCGLNAC Gathering of Great Lakes Nations – Tri-State Tractor Grounds
- August 6 – 10, 2012 – 12<sup>th</sup> Annual NCGLNAC Summer Classes
- October 27 & 28, 2012 – NCGLNAC Fall Friendship Fire

Doyle Blooding and Boni Nelson cooked very delicious and healthy meals for participants all week, supplemented by Wick’s Pies donated by Susie Dunham. All in all, it was a very good week. It was so nice to have so many young people take part in learning about the Great Lakes Native peoples.



### Fall Friendship Fire

October 22 and 23 marks the dates of the Annual NCGLNAC Fall Friendship Fire. Chair Linda Andrews has many activities planned for the weekend. Registration begins at 8 a.m. with opening circle following at 9 at the Women’s Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds in Portland. Weather permitting, trail work will take place all day. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Robin McBride Scott will teach a class for ages 8 and up. Class participants will learn to make paddle stamped coiled pottery from air dry clay. Cost for the class is an additional \$15 per student. Doyle Blooding will prepare our Saturday dinner which will be followed by a lecture by Susan Gray of Greenville, Ohio. Susan was on the 1999 Bi-Centennial Committee for the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Treaty of Greenville. Sunday morning at 10 a.m. Kent Horine will teach how to make cordage from native dogbane. Registration fee for the entire weekend is \$25 which includes everything except the pottery class. Full information is included on pages 6 and 7.



Tuesday Culture Class Field Trip to Fort Recovery, Ohio

Photo by Kent Horine

## Student Fan Receives Reserve Champion Award

Briannah Weers, granddaughter of Ruth Merrifield from Three Oaks, Michigan, participated in Lawrence Norcross's Turkey Feather Dance Fan Class at the Summer Classes. Upon returning home, Briannah entered her handsome fan in the Berrien County Youth Fair, Berrien Springs, Michigan, in the Indian craft division. She is a member of the Pokagon Band Potawatomi tribe of Michigan. Briannah not only received an "A" rating for her beautiful fan, but it was chosen as Reserve Champion of her division. Way to go Bree!!!!



Briannah Weers and her Reserve Champion Dance Fan  
*Photo provided by Ruth Merrifield*

## Arts Place, Inc. Resigns

Effective June 30, 2011, Arts Place, Inc. in Portland has resigned as the Region 5 Partner for the Indiana Arts Commission. For many years Arts Place had been the Regional Partner, very capably overseeing the myriad tasks and duties associated with the Indiana Arts Commission in Region 5, a twelve county area of east central Indiana. NCGLNAC will greatly miss our close association with Arts Place and Eric Rogers, Sue Burk and Heidi Bouse in the Indiana Arts Commission Arts Project Support grant program.

## Poem Give-Away

Ruth Merrifield has given permission for us to share the beautiful poem she wrote for the Give-Away at the 2011 Summer Classes.

Reunion 2011

My people, why do you come to this place?

It is certainly not for the ambience of  
A concrete floor and florescent lighting.  
Nor is it for the pleasure of sitting  
Long hours on metal folding chairs.  
Or sweltering outside in the intense  
Heat of an Indiana summer.

My people, you grey-haired grandmothers  
And grandfathers gifted with the wisdom  
Of life-long experiences having  
Walked upon the earth many years.  
Do you bring visions to be shared?

My people, you teaching elders, to whom  
The Creator has given skills for  
Creating beauty and the functional  
Artifacts for survival. It is through  
You that traditions are learned.  
Do you feel the nudging of the Great  
Spirit to continually seek that which  
Was nearly lost? To Enable this  
Gathering to become richer in knowledge?

My people, you come seeking the  
Knowledge of the grandparents and  
Teaching elders to enrich your lives;  
Do you also come to sit in an  
Atmosphere of laughter and compassion?  
You know that to sit with old friends  
And to develop new ones, to spend time  
In one another's presence is a Gift.

My people, my family,  
We come for one another.

*Written by Ruth Merrifield, August 3, 2011,  
Portland, Indiana*





Bowmaking Class with their bows – 2011 Summer Classes  
*Photo by Carol Darnell*

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual NCGLNAC Benefit Art Sale

Saturday, November 12 marks the date of the second annual NCGLNAC Benefit Art Sale at the West Meeting Room of the Tippecanoe Arts Federation, 638 North Street in Lafayette, Indiana. The hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mike and Evelyn Crouch of Painted Desert Indian Arts are again bringing their magnificent inventory of Native art, carved fetishes, jewelry, pottery (including Nativity sets) and stone beads. Through Mike and Evelyn's generosity they will again donate a percentage of every sale to NCGLNAC to be used for our program expenses throughout the year. Please plan to come early and stay late and take care of your Christmas and Birthday shopping all in one place to help NCGLNAC provide more educational opportunities.

### November 12 Arts Class

In the East Room of the Tippecanoe Arts Federation, Boni Nelson will teach a class on porcupine quillwork on November 12 from 10 to 4 p.m. Class participants will learn several different stitches for sewing porcupine quills to leather and complete a small project to take home. The registration fee of \$35 covers the instruction and all materials. The complete information is found on page 7 of this Newsletter.

## Wiping Away the Tears

As part of a large commemoration of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Tippecanoe, Purdue University, the campus Native American Educational and Cultural Center and the Tippecanoe County Historical Association will conduct the symposium "Wiping Away the Tears." on November 3 – 5. The featured key note speaker will be Native American poet, writer and advocate Susan Harjo. Historians, archaeologists, museum specialists and tribal representatives will speak on the social and historical context of the battle and current efforts to interpret this important event. For more information on the symposium, visit [www.purdue.edu/naecc/wipingawaythetears.html](http://www.purdue.edu/naecc/wipingawaythetears.html) and [www.tcha.mus.in.us](http://www.tcha.mus.in.us) for information on other events commemorating the Battle.

*From Purdue University Marketing and Media*



Turkey Feather Dance Fan Class working on their fans - 2011 Summer Classes

*Photo by Carol Darnell*

## Mariemont Serpent Mound

Using modern technology, University of Cincinnati anthropologist Ken Tankersley has identified the remnants of a 2,952 feet long serpent mound along Mariemont's Miami Bluff Drive and the Little Miami River. Mariemont is a southeast Cincinnati, Ohio community. The mound is more than twice the length of the Great Serpent Mound in Adams County, Ohio. Part of the mound is about 7 feet high which is

close to the original height of the entire earthwork. Tankersley believes the serpent mound was built by women of the Fort Ancient people as a symbolic landmark and as a way to channel water down to the former Indian village discovered in 1879 by Dr. Charles Metz and known as the Madisonville site. According to Tankersley, Metz knew the earthwork was there but had no idea of its geometry. It abuts the Madisonville site and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as the Mariemont earthwork. The serpent was a clan symbol. Snakes were associated with water and the serpent mounds were built as monuments. The Mariemont serpent mound is aligned with the setting sun most likely because of the belief that a beast called the Great Horned Serpent would eat the sun. The Shawnee regarded snakes as powerful symbols and were among the Fort Ancient people who lived in the Mariemont village.

*From news.cincinnati.com contributed by Gina Boltz*

## The Real First Thanksgiving

Long before any Europeans arrived in what they called the New World, the Native inhabitants celebrated many feasts of thanks. In December of 1620 the Mayflower with 102 Puritans aboard, landed on the shores of what is now Massachusetts. They built their colony on the ruins of the Native village of Pawtuxet which had been destroyed by the 1605 expedition of George Weymouth. When Weymouth left in 1614 he took 24 Natives as slaves, including Tisquantum, and left unspeakable diseases. The Puritans survived by stealing the food stores of neighboring Native summer villages and the corn that was growing wild in the abandoned fields near the ruined village. With the help of Tisquantum and the Wampanoag people, 56 Puritans survived that first winter and were taught how to live and make a good harvest. Governor Bradford invited only Massasoit to the feast. He brought about 90 Natives and most of the food.

### 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](mailto:claudemiller@ncglnac.com)

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

**Susie Dunham, NCGLNAC Treasurer**  
**301 South Mulberry**  
**Farmland, IN 47340**

**Claude Miller, Membership Chair**  
**810-794-4242**  
[claudemiller@ncglnac.com](mailto:claudemiller@ncglnac.com)

**2011 NCGLNAC FALL FRIENDSHIP FIRE  
OCTOBER 22 AND 23, 2011  
Women's Building, Jay County Fairgrounds  
Portland, Indiana**

Several activities and events are planned for the 2011 NCGLNAC Fall Friendship Fire Celebration, October 22 and 23. Activities will be held at the Women's Building of the Jay County Fairgrounds (Morton and Votaw Streets) and at the NCGLNAC site. Please join NCGLNAC members and friends for a relaxing weekend of learning traditional Native ways, keeping the fire, finishing previous class projects, taking a new class to learn about paddle-stamped coiled pottery, reconnecting with old friends and making new ones. Please advise Linda Andrews at 765-427-9324 if you are willing to be a fire keeper.

Highlights for the weekend include hiking and building bridges on the NCGLNAC trail, keeping the fire, Kent Horine teaching how to process dogbane into cordage on Sunday, completing unfinished projects from earlier cultural arts classes, dinner Saturday evening prepared by Doyle Blooding, roundtable discussions and community with other participants around the fire. The Saturday evening lecture is Susan Gray, discussing the first Prophetstown settlement after the Treaty of Greenville. In addition, Robin McBride Scott (Cherokee descent) will teach a class from 10 to 4 Saturday, October 22 on paddle-stamped coiled pottery for ages 8 and up at the Women's Building. An additional \$15 charge covers all class expenses.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. Saturday, October 22, followed by opening circle at 9. The pottery class begins at 10. Saturday's lunch is on your own and the Saturday evening feast will be at 6 p.m. Closing circle will be at 12 noon Sunday, followed by the NCGLNAC Board meeting all are welcome to attend. The registration fee of \$25 per person for NCGLNAC members and \$30 for non-members includes all activities and the Saturday evening meal. The pottery class is an additional \$15. Please send your registration to be received by October 17.

Camping is available at the Fairgrounds for \$15 per night (electricity) or primitive for \$10 per night. RV dump station and water fill is available. Please include the camping fee with your registration. Portland's Hoosier Inn (260-726-7113) has rooms for \$50 for one bed and \$55 for 2 beds per night plus tax. For reservations at Super 8 in Portland see [www.super8.com](http://www.super8.com). Both offer a free continental breakfast. Portland's Holiday Inn Express (260-726-6688) has rooms for \$85 per night plus tax and includes a free hot breakfast, exercise room and swimming pool. You must request the NCGLNAC group rate.

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**PLEASE MAIL COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM TO  
KAY NEUMAYR, 4950 N. 750 EAST, ATTICA, IN 47918  
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NCGLNAC, INC.  
Registrations should be received by October 17**

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)     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Pottery Class for ages 8 & up by Robin McBride Scott (\$15)     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL REGISTRATION ENCLOSED     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions? Contact Linda Andrews at 765-427-9324 or [linda.andrews@ncglnac.com](mailto:linda.andrews@ncglnac.com)**



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

**Presents**

**Paddle-Stamped Coiled Pottery Class**

**October 22, 2011 – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

**Women's Building**

**Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland, Indiana**

On October 22, during the NCGLNAC Fall Friendship Fire Celebration, Robin McBride Scott (Cherokee descent) will teach a class for ages 8 and up how to make paddle-stamped coiled pottery. Robin is well-known as an artist and for her research into pre-contact river cane basketry and mats. She has participated in the Smithsonian Carriers of Culture. Coiled pottery has been made by Native peoples of Indiana for several thousand years. It was used for the storage of seeds, food and cooking vessels. Students will learn basic coiled pottery techniques and the use of paddles for decorating the surface of a pot. The cost of this class is \$15 which includes all instruction and materials. Class size is limited to 12 participants.

*This activity is made possible in part by The Indiana Arts Commission, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.*

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**PADDLE-STAMPED COILED POTTERY CLASS**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

**Mail to Kay Neumayr, 4950 North 750 East, Attica, IN 47918**

**To Be Received by the October 17 Deadline**

**Make Checks Payable to NCGLNAC, Inc.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee enclosed (\$15 per class participant, includes all materials) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Registration Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Deadline is October 17**

**After that date, phone Kay Neumayr at 765-426-3022 for class availability**



This activity made possible, in part, with support of the Indiana Arts Commission, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency



**ART WORKS.**  
arts.gov

## 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.



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[www.ncglnac.org](http://www.ncglnac.org)*

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