

myaamionkonci
aatotankiki myaamiaki
 meeloohkamiki



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Banner Image Credit:
Indian Paintbrush - native wildflower, photo taken spring of 2015 on the Chief T.F. Richardville allotment west of Miami, OK.
 Banner photo courtesy of the Cultural Resources Office.



kiiloonna myaamiaki

The Sovereign Miami Tribe of Oklahoma

2015 NATIONAL GATHERING WEEK EVENTS



Photo by Karen Baldwin

2015 National Gathering Week Events

By Julie Olds, Cultural Resources Officer

The annual meeting of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma General Council is the central point of our governmental year. Many cultural events and learning activities are planned in the days leading up to the meeting, thus the week has been dubbed "National Gathering Week". This year, the events begin on Wednesday, June 24, and end with the closing of our 16th Annual Miami Nation Pow Wow on Saturday night.

Events scheduled include a beading demonstration by Miami Artist Katrina Mitten of Huntington, IN. Katrina will demonstrate her master level beading skills on Wednesday, June 24th, at 3 p.m. in the Myaamia Council House, located at 2319 Newman Road, Miami, OK. This event is free and open to the public.

On Thursday, June 25th, the

Cultural Resources Office will host three cultural events funded through the National Endowment for the Arts. Opening at 9 a.m. at the Coleman Theatre Ballroom, 103 N. Main, Miami, OK, will be "kiiloonna myaamiaki eewiyawikiaki - We are Myaamia Artists", an art exhibit showcasing myaamia artisans. This exhibit will re-open on Friday morning at 8:30 and close permanently at 11:30 a.m.

On June 25 (Thursday) at 10 a.m. on stage at the Coleman Theatre, guests are invited to Learn from Oneida citizen Joanne Shenandoah, PhD and Grammy Winning Native American Singer/Songwriter, about the most important aspect of our planet and how we can heal the lifeblood of Mother Earth. Shenandoah will present a unique music workshop titled "Our Relationship to Water - The Vibra-

tion of Voice and Music", a unique musical comment on environmental concerns. "The vibration of sound, speech, music and life itself is dependent on our approach to caring for one another and the natural world. Water is of vital importance for the survival of our planet. When we have lost our connection for the earth, we also lose respect for humankind. This event is free and open to the public.

Closing the events scheduled on Thursday will be two concerts on stage at the renowned Coleman Theatre. At 7 p.m. Myaamia Artists will present "aapooši weeci-naakiyankwi: Again we sing together". Myaamia singers, musicians, poets and narrators take the stage to share a glimpse of the Miami Tribe's story of removal through the beauty of their artistic expressions.

Continued on page 3A

The 2015 meeting of the Miami Nation General Council is scheduled for Saturday, June 27th, at 9 a.m. at the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma Council House, 2319 Newman Road, in Miami, OK.

aacimwita akima: The Chief Reports By Chief Douglas Lankford, eecipoonkwia

Aya! On behalf of our Business Committee, I thank you for your support over the past year.

I am honored and humbled to serve as Chief of our great nation. I also am aware of my responsibility to not simply lead our government, but also to pass on the knowledge and values that our elders have taught us.

As native people, we're taught that in every deliberation, we must consider the impact our actions will have on the next seven generations. That means the decisions we make today should be visionary and mindful of our future. I encourage each of you to consider this tremendous responsibility as you carry out your role within our tribal nation.

"Visionary" may not be the first word most people associate with tribal government, but for the Miami Tribe and Miami Nation Enterprises, "vision" is the underlying principle of all of our programs and initiatives.

As you know, our businesses help fund our member services and scores of community programs and charities. Thanks to Joe Frazier's judicious leadership and our responsible business decisions, our nation is thriving in a prosperous season.

Be assured though, our Business Committee remains extremely conservative with our resources, despite occasional pressure to do otherwise. We've managed to distinguish our "wants" from our "needs." We recognize fiscal conservatism doesn't create flashy headlines in our tribal newspaper, but it does ensure our tribe remains viable for future generations, and hopefully increases your confidence in our leadership as well.

I would like to share with you an update of the services and programs we have established over the past few years.

In 2013, we introduced our Elder Benefit to members who are 65 and older. Each participant is issued a card that works similar to a debit card. It is preloaded with \$500 that can be applied to medical expenses such as doctor visit co-pays and prescriptions. More than 260 elders currently participate in the program, and that number continues to grow.

Last year, at annual meeting, we thanked all of our veterans in attendance and announced

that they also would be eligible to receive the medical benefit card, regardless of their age. Currently, more than fifty veterans and active duty military are enrolled in this new benefit.

We recognize the difficulty of walking in two worlds as our students pursue formal education, while also striving to remain connected to our culture. We try to lighten their load with our "Back-to-School Funds" program for members in Pre-K through high school graduation. The stipend ranges from \$35 to \$80 per semester, depending on the student's age.

This year, the Education Office will award more than 100 scholarships to our college students. We offer several merit-based scholarships with various eligibility requirements. An independent committee selects recipients following a blind review process.

Our individual identity as Myaamia people springs from cultural knowledge handed down to us from those who came before, and now we are responsible to share this knowledge with our children and grandchildren to ensure our myaamia ways live on.

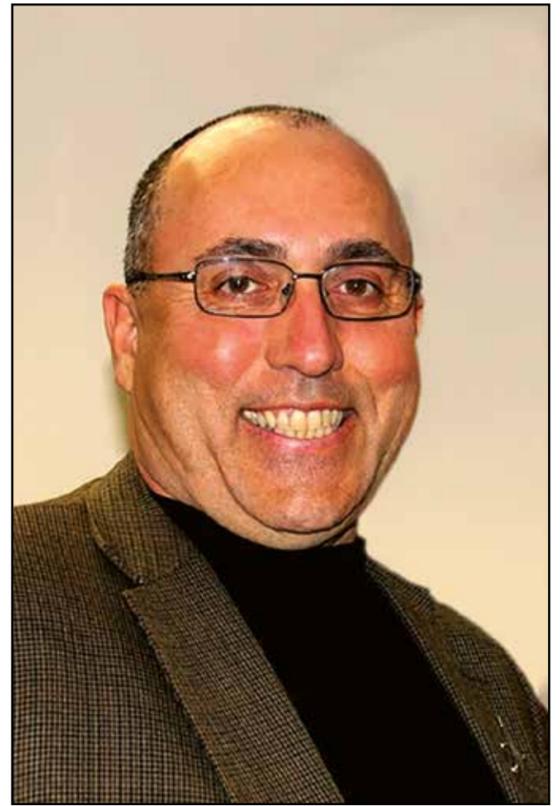
Our sense of place is a significant part of our identity as myaamia people. The creation of our new dance grounds is a commitment to the seven generations, but it also is for us today. It honors those who came before us and it gives place to those living and to those yet to be born.

Our myaamia culture is the common thread that weaves our community together no matter how dispersed. Reconnecting with our homelands is another new opportunity we've embraced during this season.

We opened our Cultural Resources Extension Office there in February and look forward to making many memories with our relatives there. Reunited, we will move toward healing and strengthening our future.

Our present-day tribal jurisdiction covers approximately 1500 miles in Ottawa County. We maintain a police presence, emergency management operations and tribal homeland security within that area.

The tribe currently owns approximately 1500 acres of land. The management, restoration and preservation of natural resources on tribal lands are vital to community health and connectiv-



Chief Douglas Lankford

ity. Producing traditional crops, naturally raised livestock and culturally appropriate land use and management practices are central activities of our Natural Resources Office.

Again, this is just a brief synopsis of the opportunities our nation is afforded. One project or service is not necessarily more significant than another, but when combined, they exemplify the strength and vitality of our nation.

I hope this demonstrates to you that as Myaamia leaders, we are deeply-rooted in our rich heritage, but also keenly aware of new horizons. We are grateful for our growth and economic development, but remain steadfast in our responsibility to the future.

I'm thankful for this opportunity to share with you some insight on where we've been and where we are today. We appreciate your contributions to our journey as we work together to develop a stable, prosperous nation.

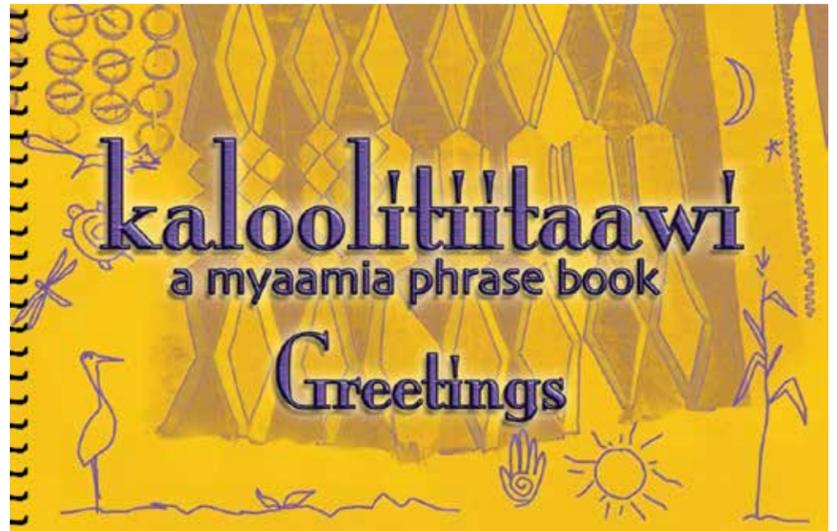
Looking For Tribal Members - Current Address Unknown

By Robin Lash, Tribal Attorney

The Miami Tribe of Oklahoma Business Committee is seeking the current address for the following enrolled Tribal members whose current address is unknown. If you know the current address for any of the following members, please contact the Enrollment Manager Tera Hatley at 918-542-1445. If you have a means to notify any of the following members, please encourage them to contact the Tribe.

Johnny Ray Pope
Judy June Robinson
Sherry Goforth
Kevin Shon McGuire
Laurie Carol Cobb
Matthew Wayne Poschen
Rudolph John Nally
Misty Dawn Coss
Tracy Lynn Coss
Larry Dean Coss
John Foster
George S. Banagis
Steven Joe Morton
Lucille L. Dain Smith
Esther Willard McHenry
Dallas George McHenry
Dannie Ray McHenry
Kaci Edmonds

Morgan Edmonds
Jason Edmonds
Jordon Edmonds
Makenzie Edmonds
Patrick King
Diana Cherise Vance Romo
Jonathan Cole
Justin Michael Derome
Sandra Lee Derome
William Edward Derome
Tracie Rane Brown
Joshua Wayne Whitehurst
Allen E. Webb
Victoria L. Melanson (King)
Wendy S. Eckerman
Nally Elizabeth
James Eldon Smith
Angela Renee Doyle



For those Tribal Members who took the Chief's Language Challenge to learn 10 new myaamia words, you must attend the annual General Council meeting on Saturday morning, June 27th. Each person who meets the challenge by speaking their 10 words to the Chief will receive a gift and be entered into a drawing for a Pendleton blanket and myaamia seenseewiinki/bowl game set.

Check out the Myaamia history blogspot at myaamiahistory.wordpress.com



2015 National Gathering Week Events Continued from page 1

Immediately following the Myaamia concert, Grammy winning Oneida Singer/Songwriter, Joanne Shenandoah, will present a concert with her daughter, Leah. All three events on June 25 are presented with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, the Myaamia Foundation, and the Miami Arts & Humanities Council of Miami, OK.

The Cultural Resources Office will sponsor the annual Traditional Sports Challenge, on Thursday, June 25th on the grounds at the historic Drake House at 3700 S. 505 Road, Miami, OK. Events in adult and youth categories begin at 10 a.m. and lunch will be provided. This event is for Tribal citizens and their spouses and children.

The Myaamia Center will host a Ribbonwork Workshop on Friday morning at 9 a.m. at the ArtWorx Building located at 28 N. Main, downtown, Miami. This event is for Tribal citizens, spouses and children. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required. See page 4B for registration form.

Our Family Day events begin at noon on Friday, June 26th, with lunch at the Myaamia Community Center, at 2307 Newman Road, Miami. Cultural education presentations begin at 1 p.m. Community Language Programs Manager, Jarrid Baldwin, presents “weehki kaloosiona: New Words”, on new myaamia words emerging from linguistic research efforts of the Myaamia Center.

Following Jarrid, Myaamia Heritage Museum & Archive Director, Meghan Dorey, will give the final presentation on the Oklahoma allotment research project, funded by the National Historic Preservation fund.

And finally, Cultural Resources Office Special Projects Researcher, John Bickers, will present “niiši weenswiyan kwi - The Myaamia Names Database”. This special project was designed to gather all myaamia names from historic records, standardize the spelling according to the modern orthography, and finally to create a searchable database of names for family researchers to be housed in the Myaamia Heritage Museum & Archive.

The 16th Annual Miami Nation Pow Wow will begin on Friday evening at the new Miami Nation Dance Grounds located behind the Nation’s Council House at 2319 Newman Road. Gourd dancing begins at 6 p.m. and Grand Entry is set for 8:30 p.m. Various contests are set for the evening and the evening will conclude with stomp dance. In the event of rain, our dance will be moved to the Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College Student Activity Center (SAC) located at 200 I St., NE. Dance times remain the same.

On Saturday morning, June 27th, breakfast will be provided at the Myaamia Community Center dining hall beginning at 7:30 a.m. The 2015 annual meeting of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma General Council will convene at 9 a.m. in the Nation’s Council House located at 2319 Newman Road, Miami, OK.

On Saturday evening, June 27th, our Pow Wow will conclude with Gourd Dancing beginning at 4 p.m. and Grand Entry at 7 p.m. Locations same as above.

**Tribal members should watch for updates to all events, due to weather or other unforeseen issues, to be posted to the Nation’s website at www.miamination.com.*



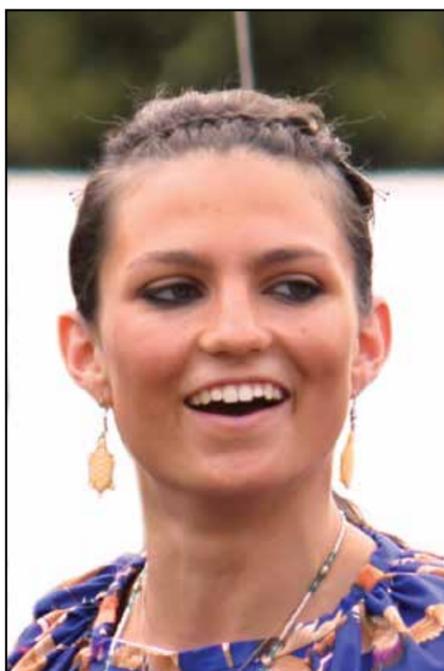
John Bickers



Jarrid Baldwin



Meghan Dorey



Haley Strass



Katrina Mitten



The exhibit, “kiiloona myaamiaki eewiyawikiaki - We are Myaamia Artists”, set for June 25th in Miami, OK, will include Myaamia dolls by Cathy Nagy Mowry (top) and beaded works, such as the bag pictured above, by Katrina Mitten. Archived photos by Andrew Strack.



Myaamia singer, Ivalah Allen, pictured (center) with Grammy winning Oneida singer-songwriter, Joanne Shenandoah (left), and daughter Leah.

The 2015 Annual General Council Meeting of the Federally Recognized Miami Tribe of Oklahoma is set for Saturday, June 27th at 9 a.m. in Miami, OK.

CRO Employees Attend Heritage Resource Technician Training

By Diane Hunter, Assistant Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Braving ticks, thorns, mud, and a final exam, Scott Willard, Assistant to Cultural Resources Officer, Aubrey Lankford, Environmental Services Manager, and Diane Hunter, Assistant Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, successfully completed the Certified Heritage Resource Technician Course.

This training, hosted by the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma in Little Axe, Oklahoma, during the week of April 13-17, 2015, provided the basic knowledge needed to assist archaeologists in doing archaeological surveys to find historic sites and artifacts.

Lexi LaRue-Harris from the Ouachita National Forest and Dr. David Journey from the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests taught the classroom instruction portion of this course with additional talks by Caddo Nation Chairman Tamara Francis-Fourkiller, Roger Coleman, Zone Archaeologist for the Ouachita National Forest, Caddo District and Ryan Spring from the Choctaw Nation.

These students learned about the role of the Heritage Resource Technician in assisting archaeologists to conduct shovel tests by digging one-foot holes and shaking the soil through a screen to see if there are any objects in the soil. In studying the ethics of archaeology, they learned about the problems of vandalism of historic sites and that when historic objects are removed from where they are found without proper documentation, their historic value is lost. The students learned about the information that needs to be recorded when taking notes at an historic site. The class covered nine laws and three Executive Orders that protect historic cultural resources.

Caddo Chairman Francis-Fourkiller talked about her experience as a Tribal Historic Preservation Officer prior to becoming chairman. Mr. Spring talked about using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for locating tribal cemeteries. Mr. Coleman gave a particularly interesting demonstration of flint knapping, the process used to create stone tools, such as field points and darts. He and Dr. Journey taught the class

how to recognize the flakes that are broken off a piece of stone in the process of flint knapping.

The class spent two days gaining field experience in digging shovel tests and recording the information about the site and what was found or not found. Students learned how to measure out a site to be able to identify the exact location where objects are found. Measuring often involves pacing out the distance rather than using a tape measure, and the class saw how each student needed a different number of paces to mark off the same distance. For example, one student might need 30 paces to go the same distance that requires 52 paces for another student. They also gained experience in drawing maps of the site, based on their measurements.

Some of the fieldwork was in an area that was not expected to contain historic objects, but much of the work was in an area known to be an historic site. The latter was more interesting because of the fun of finding objects while digging through the clay soil soaked by the previous two days of rain. Shaking clumps of clay through a ¼" screen can be heavy work that, along with hole-digging, made for sore muscles the next day.

The class was not all work. Instructors brought along an atlatl, an ancient spear-thrower, and students took turns trying their hand at it. Laughter was the result of seeing some students being happy to throw the spear a few feet, but students were in awe of a student who threw the spear so far that it was lost.

Overall, the class was extremely helpful. George Strack, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, commented, "This training is helpful for learning the terminology and practices of archaeology."

This was just the first step of Heritage Resource Technician training, and the students will gain additional training and continue their certification through further field experience.

The Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Program is funded through an annual renewing grant from the National Park Service Tribal Preservation Program.

NHPA Section 106 Training

By Diane Hunter, Assistant Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

"Working with Section 106: Protecting the Places that Matter," was a two-day training session taught by Lynne Sebastian of the SRI Foundation and sponsored by the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma Cultural Resources Office on February 24-25, 2015. Section 106 is the part of the National Historic Preservation Act that guides the work of the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and others in the tribe who work with preserving tribal heritage.

In the training, Ms. Sebastian taught attendees about the content and meaning of Section 106. Through a combination of lectures and hands-on exercises, attendees learned to apply the information provided in the training and left with an in-depth knowledge of how Section 106 informs and affects their work.

The purpose of Section 106 is to use the process of consultation to balance the needs of the Federal government to carry out construction and other projects to serve citizens of the United States with the interests in protecting historic and cultural resources that might be affected by the projects. The National Register of Historic

Places plays an important role in this process, as any place on or eligible to be on the Register is considered for how a negative effect might be avoided, minimized or mitigated.

Training attendees learned how to identify and evaluate historic properties using specific criteria. They also learned about other laws relating to historic preservation and how Section 106 fits with them.

With that background, Ms. Sebastian taught about the Section 106 process that allows tribal consultation on Federal projects on current reserved lands and historic or cultural properties. Finally, the attendees learned about how to resolve problems that arise in the process.

The Miami Tribal staff and the representatives of other tribes who attended the training are better able to use Federal law to protect their tribes' historic and cultural resources.

The Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Program is funded through an annual renewing grant from the National Park Service Tribal Preservation Program.

Indiana Section 106 Training

By Diane Hunter, Assistant Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

As a more specific follow-up to the two-day training on Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (see article above), George Strack and Diane Hunter attended a one-day training session on April 21, 2015 with the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology to learn about how Indiana handles consultation required by the Act.

The training provided information about searching the State Historic Architectural and Archaeological Research Database (SHAARD) and about other documents and materials, which provide information about historic sites

in Indiana. The database is particularly useful to George and Diane in their historic preservation work.

They also had the opportunity to meet the Division staff and talk with the State Historic Preservation Officer. This training is beneficial as the tribe works to preserve our history in our Indiana homelands.

The Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Program is funded through an annual renewing grant from the National Park Service Tribal Preservation Program.

Miami Tribe Representatives Attend 14th Annual To Bridge A Gap Conference

By George Strack, THPO

Miami Tribe of Oklahoma representatives attended the 14th Annual To Bridge a Gap Conference held at the Eastern Shawnee Tribe's Indigo Sky Hotel from March 30 to April 2, 2015 in Wyandotte, Oklahoma. The conference was co-hosted by the Eastern Shawnee Tribe and the U.S. Forest Service Ouachita and Ozark National Forests.

Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) George Strack, Assistant THPO Diane Hunter, Assistant Cultural Resources Officer Scott Willard, and Environmental Services Manager Aubrey Lankford attended the meeting along with cohorts from throughout the region and the state of Oklahoma. The meeting focused on the management of archaeological, natural and cultural resources of the Nation's Forests.

It provided a venue for tribes to develop bonds of trust and communication with managers of forest lands near their current area and aboriginal homelands. Successful partnerships, presentations of state-of-the art scientific research and sharing of traditional cultural knowledge were represented during a series of conferences breakout sessions.

The session presentations included discussions with tribal representatives on community needs relating to native plant propagation, traditional ecological knowledge, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) and Geographical Information System implementation in the management of cultural resources.

Tribal leaders and representatives from Region 9 (Northeastern US) met with Forest Service representatives to discuss issues and concerns relating to National Forests located in the Lower Great Lakes and Eastern US regions.

Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Program is funded through an annual renewing grant from the

Veteran's Benefit

The Miami Nation Veteran's Benefit was announced during the 2014 Annual General Council Meeting. It is designed to work just like the Tribe's existing elders and disability benefit debit cards. Veterans will receive a debit card, pre-loaded with \$500 to help with healthcare expenses. If you are an elder and a veteran, you will receive an additional \$250, a total of \$750 on your card.

Veterans must apply through the Tribal Enrollment Office and provide proof of honorable or medical discharge, or current service status. The application can be downloaded from the Tribal website at www.miamination.com. If you have additional questions, please contact Tera Hatley at 918-541-1324.

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pakitahaakana weešihitooyankwi - We Are Making Lacrosse Sticks

By George Strack, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Jody Gamble, and his sons Nathan and Logan, traveled to the Menominee Indian Reservation in Wisconsin this past May along with George Ironstrack, and his father, George Strack, to gain first-hand knowledge in the art of making traditional Great Lakes style wooden lacrosse sticks. The Menominee Reservation is located in the north woods of Wisconsin about 45 minutes from Green Bay and encompasses some of the most unique and beautiful forest land remaining in the state.

We were welcomed to the Reservation by Joey Awonohopay, the Director of the Menominee Language and Culture Commission. Joey's experience and knowledge in making traditional lacrosse sticks has been recognized both within his own community and throughout Great Lakes region. We arrived on Monday May 18th, and set right to work the following morning. For two straight days we whittled, sawed, sanded

and bent into shape our own traditional wooden paakitahaakana. The trip itself was the culmination of many hours of conversation throughout the last several years about making our sticks and how to incorporate this type of activity into our Eewansaapita summer youth educational experience. Tribal member Jody Gamble's inclusion in this trip was essential because, as an experienced woodworker, he has offered to assist us in development of this activity for possible inclusion in our 2016 summer camp.

Throughout the two days Joey and Jody exchanged ideas and talked about stick making techniques and available wood sources. We were joined at various times throughout the two days by Ron "Ronco" Corn, Jr., Joey's partner in crime, as he describes him. It was fun to listen Joey and Ronco speak and joke with each other in Menominee while we worked on our sticks. Joey and Ronco are two of the most proficient

speakers of their language in their community which allowed for them to share and exchange both language and culture knowledge with us.

We left the Reservation with sticks in hand, knowing that we had made some new friends who share similar concerns for their community and children. We would like to extend our gratitude to our naloomina (Menominee) relatives for sharing their knowledge and time with us so that we can bring this activity back to our community. Joey and Ronco are hopeful that they can make a trip out to Oklahoma next year so that we can continue to build on our relationship.

The Tribal Historic Preservation Officer program is funded through annual renewing grant from the National Park Service Tribal Preservation Program.



Myaamia citizens traveled north to the Menominee Reservation in Wisconsin in May 2015, to learn the art of making Great Lakes style wooden lacrosse sticks. Pictured from left to right; Jody Gamble, George Ironstrack, Nathan Gamble, Logan Gamble, instructor Joey Awonohopay, and George Strack.



Myaamia brothers, Nathan (left) and Logan Gamble, are pictured working on their lacrosse sticks during a Great Lakes style lacrosse stick workshop held on the Menominee Reservation in Wisconsin in May 2015.

hoci ceeki myaamiaki - The big lacrosse game with the Seneca-Cayuga is set for 10 a.m., Friday, June 19th, on the Myaamia field at 2319 Newman Road, Miami, OK.

kiikinaana -Our Homes

By George Ironstrack, Asst. Director of the Myamia Center

Over time, Myamia people have lived in a wide variety of dwelling types. The traditional home of the Myamia is called wiikiaami. A wiikiaami is a domed structure that could be covered in cattail reed mats or bark depending on the season (see images 1 & 2 below.)

Often these were also lined with bulrush mats, which were decorated. The layers of mats created an insulated space, which kept these dwellings warm and dry. Wiikiaami is often called a wigwam in English. Today, wiikiaami is a word that Myamia people can use for any house or dwelling.

Bigger families would extend their homes into a kinoonteewi (image 3). Each village usually had one kinoonteewi built to serve as an aacimweekaani for indoor meeting space during times of poor weather. When the weather allowed, council meetings and other large gatherings were usually held outside in a designated

place in the village (image 4).

It is believed that Myamia people would also build a summer house (image 5) with a koonsikaani (porch) for use during the hot and humid times of the year. These structures allowed for a breeze to circulate and cool the family easily, while providing cover from rain.

Beginning in the late 1700s, Myamia people began to incorporate European architecture into their villages. By the middle 1800s, every village had quite a few structures that looked like the cabins their settler neighbors were building. In addition, leaders oftentimes had brick or wood frame houses built for them. These chief's houses (image 6), served as important locations for trade, treaty negotiation, and tribal council meetings.

In the late 1800s, Myamia land ownership completed a radical transition from collective ownership to individually held and titled lands.

In this period, many families built what today are called allotment houses. These homes were located on individual parcels and not in villages. Allotment houses were built to be the self-sufficient center of an individual family's farm operation. Today the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma owns two of these family allotment houses: the Drake House and the Geboe House (images 7 & 8 below).

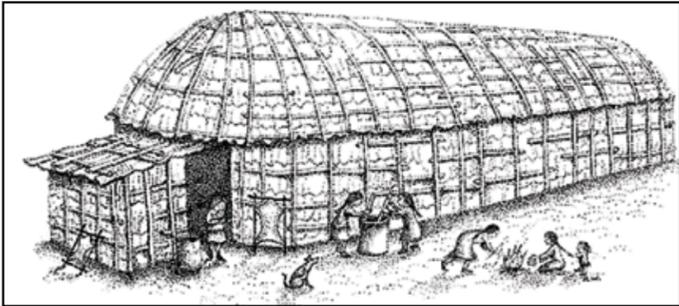
kiikinaana (our homes) have changed over time, but they remain obviously important to the lives of Myamia communities. kiikinaana are the central place where our future as a community is formed. Increasingly, kiikinaana are playing a pivotal role in the education of Myamia children in Myamiaataweenki (the Miami language) as it was generations ago in Myamia villages.



1) This Kickapoo wiikiaami is like those still built by Myamia people. The image shows the layers of cattail mats used to keep homes warm and dry.



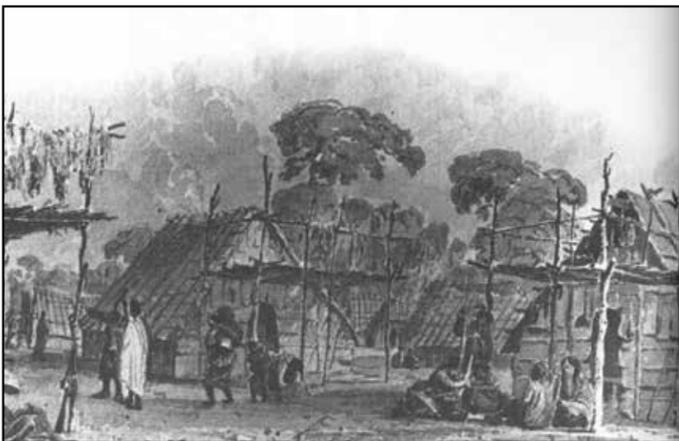
2) This wiikiaami was built by Myamia people as a part of the Eewansaapita youth program in 2011. The cattail mats were provided by Dani Tippman. The group did not have enough to cover the roof, so a canvas tarp was used instead.



3) This generic kinoonteewi image approximates what a Myamia longhouse looked like.



4) This is the current aacimweekaani of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma. Also pictured are citizens of the Miami Tribe waiting in line to register to vote at the Tribe's Annual Meeting.



5) This painting by Seth Eastman is of a summer house in Kaposia, a Dakota village in Minnesota around 1850 (image from *Native American Architecture* by Peter Nabakov and Robert Easton, 66)



7) siipihkwa awiiki (Jane Drake's House) - this allotment house was originally built around 1885. Today it is owned by the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma and used for gatherings and celebrations as well as for housing staff during educational programs.



6) akima pinšwa awiiki (Chief Richardville's House) - this National Historic Landmark and former capital of the Miami Nation sits on Blufton Road on the south side of Fort Wayne, Indiana.



8) akima kitasaakana awiiki (Chief David Geboe House) - this allotment house was built in the late 1800s and remained in the Geboe family into the 20th century. The Miami Tribe of Oklahoma renovated the home in 2014 and it now serves as a trail-head for cultural education and housing for tribal staff.



MHMA Installs New Exhibit in Piqua, OH

By Meghan Dorey, MHMA Director

Archivist Meghan Dorey recently traveled to the Johnston Farm & Indian Agency Historical Site in Piqua, Ohio, to install an exhibit about the myaamiaki after removal at their request.

The area around Piqua, Ohio has been important to Myaamia (Miami Indian) people for hundreds of years. Between 1747-1752, an extremely prominent and influential village developed just to the north of this museum. In English, this village was called Pickawillany, which was the Shawnee name for the Myaamia people. Pickawillany developed as a center point of an effort to create alliances between the Myaamia and the British. One of the benefits of this alliance was increased trade with British traders based in Pennsylvania, and during peak trading times the population of the village swelled to around 400. In 1752, the village was attacked by Ojibwe and Ottawa peoples who wanted the Myaamia to reject the British and return to an older alliance with the French. Following this attack the village diminished in influence and size and mostly disappears from the historical record.

The importance of the area around Piqua extends beyond the brief window of Pickawillany. Many trails and portages linked this area to the Myaamia heartlands in the Wabash River Valley and to traditional Myaamia hunting grounds, which ran south of Piqua to the Ohio River. These trails also linked Myaamia people to other tribes. Myaamia stories recorded in the 1820s state that it was at Piqua that the Myaamia first met the Shawnee. It was here that the Shawnee shared with the Myaamia one of their dances, which the Myaamia called šaawanokaanki. In the 1830s, the Miami-Erie Canal was carved into the riverside near Piqua and it was on this very canal that Myaamia people were forcibly removed west in the fall of 1846. But Myaamia connections to the area around Piqua continue to this day. Small groups of Myaamia people regularly visit the Johnston Farm and Indian Agency and the site of Pickawillany.

The Johnston Farm is centered around the home of John Johnston, but also includes the Miami village site of Pickawillany. John Johnston was an Indian Agent at Fort Wayne during the early 1800's, and retired to his country home near present-day Piqua in 1811. When the War of 1812 broke out, he again worked as an Indian Agent, using his own home as his base of operation. The site seeks to educate visitors about Native American, frontier, and canal history. The Miami-Eerie Canal runs past the site, and they offer rides on their active canal boat. In addition to the Johnston farmhouse and canal boat, the site also features several small out-buildings and a museum and education center.

Last year, site manager Andy Hite contacted the Myaamia Center about cooperating on an exhibit focusing on the Miami. Staff at the Myaamia Center connected Hite and Dorey, and the two worked together to bring the exhibit to fruition. The Johnston Farm staff was fully supportive of having the perspective of the Miami Nation in their exhibit space. It is intended that this exhibit from the Miami will be the first in a series of exhibits created by each of the his-

toric Ohio tribes, to be rotated on a yearly basis. "The Miami had the history with the Pickawillany village on this site. In my mind, there was no question that the Miami would be the first of these exhibits," Hite commented.

This is the first exhibit the MHMA has fully curated and installed at a non-tribal institution. "It's a good opportunity for the Nation to represent a perspective and tell a story that many Ohioans may not know," Dorey said. The exhibit is titled 'aahpici aalhsoohkiiyankwi' meaning 'continuation.' The title comes from a triptych of paintings done by Julie Olds that are part of the MHMA collection. The exhibit features four cases, with each case showing an area in which the Miami Nation continues from the time before removal to the current day. The first case shows a continuation of residence in the Ohio River Valley, Kansas and Oklahoma. The second place focuses on myaamia leadership, and a continuation of governance. Music, dancing, and games are the subject of the third case, which includes a drum, lacrosse sticks, Miami ribbonwork examples, and a dice bowl game. The last case displays examples of the revitalization of the myaamia language, shown through publications and images of education and conveyance of language. In order to expose visitors to the sound of myaamiataweenki, Dorey created a QR code or quick link that allows them to find a sound file with their smartphones.

"We appreciate the chance to share our collections and our stories with a wider audience, and even our tribal members who live nearby. We hope the exhibit will be the start of a strong relationship that will lead to more collaboration in the future," Dorey added. The exhibit will be on display at least through the end of the year. Anybody interested in visiting or learning more about Johnston Farm can visit their website at www.johnstonfarmohio.com.



MHMA objects on display at the Johnston Farm and Indian Agency in Piqua, OH. Photo by Meghan Dorey.

peenaalinta...

One who is born

Madeline Marie Maseo was born at home on Tuesday, April 14, 2015, at 1:20 a.m. She weighed 9 lbs, 7 oz. Her parents are, Tribal member Amy Ratzloff Maseo & Joshua Murray Maseo. Grandparents are Mitchell Ratzloff & Susan Fouts, and Joe & Darlene Maseo.



Madeline Marie Maseo

Layla Kate Strass was born on February 26, 2015 at 11:05 p.m. in Ft. Wayne, IN. She weighed 8 lbs, 1 oz, and measured 20.5" in length. Her proud parents are Tribal Member Ian Strass and his wife Christie.



Layla Kate Strass

Myaamiataweenki on the Web

By Jarrid Baldwin,

Community Language Program Manager

Because of our history with forced removal and land loss, Myaamia people live all over the United States (47 states) and abroad. As a result, the internet has become an increasingly useful place for teaching and using our heritage language. What follows is a brief summary of the tools that Myaamia teachers use for teaching Myaamiaataweenki as well as tools that Myaamia speakers use for communicating in our heritage language.

Myaamia Online Dictionary: a great place for beginners to learn basic phrases or words for use in everyday life. See myaamiadictionary.org and search in the box in the upper right corner.

Facebook - see the Myaamia Center's Facebook page, the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma's page and the Eewansaapita page for updates on community events and language programs. English remains the main means of communication on Facebook but more and more you'll see words and short phrases mixed into posts on these pages.

Twitter - a domain for intermediate speakers to use only Myaamiaataweenki. Follow the twitter handles: @ciinkwia @kinwalaniihsia @caahceenhsa & @aamaawia to observe or participate in these conversations.

Myaamia Community Blog - this site is used to teach Myaamiaataweenki with short posts, articles, and videos. Click Myaamia Language and Culture Blog to go there.

Memrise - a language teaching app available on the web and on iOS and Android devices. You can create an account on your computer here and join the course "myaamia language lessons" to start learning. Download the app on your phone or tablet via the App Store or Google Play.

NOTICE OF JOB OPENING:

Director of Technology and Publications Office of the Myaamia Center at Miami University.

The Myaamia Center is a tribally supported interdisciplinary research center that serves the research and development needs of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma as it pertains to language and cultural education. This position oversees the technological development of the Myaamia Center and responds to growing needs in the area of video, audio, and photographic documentation, software development, public and social media, preparing publications, and other related needs as they arise.

The Director of Technology and Publication must be versatile and possess a wide range of skills such as photography and video skills, project management, communications, public relations, and the ability to solve technological challenges as they arise. The director must also be willing and able to travel regularly and be willing to interact with the tribal community in a variety of professional and social settings.

Questions, please contact the Myaamia Center for more information.
513-529-5648

Learn Ribbonwork!

In workshops designed for all skill levels. Highly skilled instructors will lead participants through the process of creating a unique myaamia ribbonwork piece.

Miami, Oklahoma - 28 N. Main Street
Friday, June 26, 2015 - 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Fort Wayne, Indiana - Fox Island County Park
Saturday, July 18, 2015 - 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

FREE to all tribal members and spouses.
Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

REGISTER!

myaamiacenter.org/ribbonwork

Questions? Contact Andrew Strack at
strackaj@miamioh.edu or 513-529-9226



A SPECIAL PROJECT OF THE MYAAMIA CENTER
AT MIAMI UNIVERSITY WITH FUNDING FROM
THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS.



Myaamia Education Office

COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS:

To download scholarship applications offered for Miami Tribe of Oklahoma enrolled members/citizens. Go to the Tribal website at <http://www.miamination.com> under "Education".

Links to other scholarships are also listed. Late applications will not be accepted. Also, check out the Tribal Website for new scholarship opportunities that have been sent from outside sources.

Application Due Dates:

Download applications from the miamination.com website. Search scholarships.

The **SPRING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**, which includes the Myaamia Scholarship, The Casino/Economic Development Scholarship, The Crane Award, The Fresh Start Scholarship, the MBRC Continuing Education Award, the Josephine Goodboo Watson Memorial Book Scholarship and the Non-Traditional Scholarship, is **DUE in the Myaamia Education Office by April 1, each year.**

The **FALL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**, which includes the Single Semester Scholarship and the Vocational and Technical School Scholarship, is **DUE in the Myaamia Education Office by OCTOBER 1, each year.**

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED.



Miami Tribe of Oklahoma Scholarship Applications

Application Due Dates:

- Download applications from the miamination.com website. Search scholarships.
 - The **FALL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**, which includes the Single Semester Scholarship and the Vocational and Technical School Scholarship, is **DUE in the Myaamia Education Office by OCTOBER 1, each year.**
 - The **SPRING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**, which includes the Myaamia Scholarship, The Casino/Economic Development Scholarship, The Crane Award, The Fresh Start Scholarship, the MBRC Continuing Education Award, the Josephine Goodboo Watson Memorial Book Scholarship and the Non-Traditional Scholarship, is **DUE in the Myaamia Education Office by April 1, each year.**
- LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED.**



NOTICE! BACK-TO-SCHOOL FUND APPLICATIONS HAVE CHANGED!

More information is now required and the applications will need to be signed at the bottom of the page. Please note the "Due into Office" date. Late applications will not be processed.

An application is available for download on the miamination.com website and on the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma Facebook Page after the applications are mailed. Scheduled application mailings will be: Fall, around the 1st of August, and Spring, around the 1st of May.

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