



December 1, 2023



### Echota Cherokee Christmas Party

**When: December 2, 2023**

**Where: Tribal Grounds**

**Time: Begins at noon**

We invite all citizens and their families to attend our annual Christmas party. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish. We also ask that you bring a gift that represents your family. So if you have a dad, mother & girl child, you would bring an adult gift for a male, female and a female child gift. We ask that if you can afford it, that you bring four extra gifts if you can. All gifts should not be over \$10 dollars each. We also want to let

you know our Echota Santa (pictured to the left) will be there to greet the kids. If you cannot afford extra gifts, we ask that you come anyway. We want all our families to come and enjoy themselves. If you have any questions, please reach out to the tribe via email.



The tribe wishes to extend a large thank you during this Thanksgiving season to all our citizens who help one another and help the tribe when they can. It is important that we all work together to make our tribe the best it can be. Thank you for all you do and we hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving Day.



## Message from Chief Massey

As we come to the end of 2023 the tribe is thriving. We are in the recovery process. Moving ever forward.

Thank you to the Governing Body for stepping up and working together to move towards strengthening and helping to secure our tribal future.

Bobby Borden, Vice-Chief  
Gary D. Parnell, Deer Clan  
Martha Jane Gann, Bird Clan  
Sharon Keith, Long Hair Clan  
Eddy Bonner, Wolf Clan  
Vick Ball, Blue Clan  
William Gaskin, Paint Clan  
Lenela Glass-Godwin, Recording Clerk

We opened up our tribal rolls and have a very competent Enrollment Clerk, Bob Bailey who oversees the Enrollment Committee. The backlog of applications have been caught up and cards are being processed.

Our numbers are increasing steadily. We also have an updated tribal application, transitional application and child addition form. We have an office manager, Dr. Shawn Castleberry, and the office is open 3 days a week. He is doing a fantastic job getting the office up and running again with the help of Weeya Calif and others working behind the scenes.

Our museum and gift shop is up and going strong with the leadership of Deborah Borden and the Gift Shop/Museum Committee.

Weeya Calif has done a professional and thorough job working on our website, soon coming is the official tribal FB page and supporting her tribe by providing me with the information I have requested in efforts for me to be updated and caught up with previous tribal issues to make this transition run more smoothly.

Wayne Smith has been there to keep an eye on things on the tribal property as our maintenance tech.

Whether he is checking the water if it gets cold, helping with repairs or making sure the keys all work as they should.

Bobby Borden has been an invaluable asset to the tribe as Principal Vice Chief helping out wherever needed.

AND countless individuals showing their love of our tribe by helping out with cleaning, maintenance of our property, donations, positive words and prayers.

WE ARE ECHOTA  
Blessings to you all,  
Nancy Massey  
Principal Chief

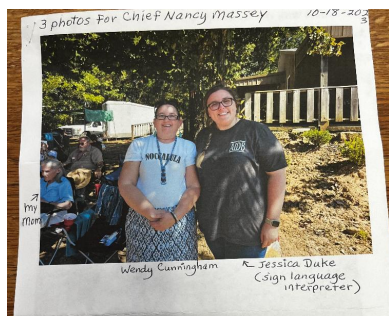


### Cherokee Language Resources:

If you would like to begin to learn our language, we have a resource page on our website.

<https://echotacherokee.org/language.html>

## Hearing Impaired Guest at The Festival



From the desk of  
**Wendy May Cunningham**  
 2527 Seville Circle  
 Medford, Oregon 97504

October 16 2023

To:  
 Principal Chief Nancy Massey,

Hello! Here is the autumn fall season greetings from southern Oregon This is Wendy. I decided to write you to share my thoughts about gratitude.

I want to let you know how much I really appreciate that you allowed me to have sign language interpreter with me at the pow wow premis on Sept. 23, Saturday.

I flew from Oregon all the way to Huntsville, AL so I can attend that event. I am Cherokee descendant. Next year, I will come back to atten the event. Thank you so much!

Sincerely,  
*Wendy M. Cunningham*  
 Wendy May Cunningham

We were very excited when Wendy contacted the tribe and asked if she could have a sign language interpreter at the festival. We of course had no issue with this and were thrilled to have Wendy visit us from Oregon. She sat and spoke with Weeya for a while because she and Weeya have known each other through FB for a few years. She was so excited to be on the tribal grounds and meeting people she recognized from FB. She spoke of joining the tribe one day when she gets her genealogy together. We wish the best for Wendy and look forward to seeing her again next year.

## FREE TUITION FOR ALL NATIVE AMERICANS

Students must **provide proof of tribal enrollment** to be eligible for free tuition.

Non-native students can enroll at our lowest tuition rate of **\$34.25** per credit hour.

**All students** enrolled at Tohono O'odham Community College will have their books and fees paid for by federal funds.

**Apply Today!**

Visit [www.tocc.edu](http://www.tocc.edu) to get started



**Have Questions?**

(520) 479-2305  
[admissions@tocc.edu](mailto:admissions@tocc.edu)

2024 Spring Semester Admissions Deadline **Friday, January 12, 2024 at 5 pm (AZ Time)**

Tohono O'odham Community College will continue to offer free tuition to all Native Americans. We will also continue to cover the cost of books and fees for all our students, which includes non-Native and non-enrolled Native American Students.

If you are interested in taking classes this 2024 spring semester, you still have time to apply for admissions and register for classes. Visit [www.tocc.edu](http://www.tocc.edu) to get started!

2024 Spring Semester Admissions Deadline: Friday, January 12, 2024 at 5 pm (AZ Local Time)

First Day of Instruction: Tuesday, January 16, 2024

Spring 2024 Registration Deadline: Friday, January 19, 2024 at 5 pm (AZ Local Time)

Have questions? Contact the Admissions Office at (520) 479- 2305 or [admissions@tocc.edu](mailto:admissions@tocc.edu).

### Do You Know How We Became A Tribe:



You can read a brief history of our state recognition on our website.

<https://echotacherokee.org/history.html>

## Do You Own A Business?

Being a citizen of our tribe, you can qualify for a small business loan and more.

For information on 8(a) Business Development Program and Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB) certification, visit the [Small Business Administration](#) website.

Also, visit the [Alabama SBA Office](#) website.

[Native American Business Directory](#)

[Businesses Disclaimer](#)

[Native American Entrepreneurs Course](#)

Then, call the [Business Development Staff](#) at (205) 290 -7101 in the SBA Regional Office in Birmingham.

Apply to become a vendor with the state: [Alabama Department of Finance-Purchasing Division](#)

[Alabama American Indian Success Story](#)

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For information concerning the Alabama Department of Transportation's [Disadvantaged Business Enterprise \(DBE\) program](#) call 1-800-247-3618 or 334-242-6534

[Minority Business Development Agency Interactive Web Portal](#)

[Alabama Small Business Development Consortium Network](#)

[South Regions Minority Business Council](#)

## Health Care for Children

Did You Know that Free Health Care Coverage May Be Available For Your Children?

The ALL Kids-Children's Health Insurance Program provides comprehensive health care coverage to children and teens under 19 whose families meet certain eligibility requirements. All Native American children and teens that are eligible for and enrolled in ALL Kids receive coverage at no cost.

Using the Blue Cross Blue Shield preferred provider network, ALL Kids provides for regular check-ups, sick child doctor visits, dental and vision care, prescription coverage, hospitalization and many more benefits.

For general information about ALL Kids, click here to visit our website where applications in English and Spanish can be downloaded and printed out. Applications can also be picked up at your local county health department. For more information about the program, answers to enrollment questions or to request an application, you may also call the ALL Kids toll-free hotline at 1-888-373-KIDS (5437).

Click links below for more information:

Information on the [ALL Kids program](#)

[Health Survey of Alabama Indians](#)

[ADPH Minority Health Quarterly Newsletter](#)

[Kid One - Home/Kids One Application](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

[Indian Health Service](#)

[The Indian Health Service Fact Sheets](#)

## Wolf Clan Meeting News:

11 November 2023

Chief Wayne Yates opened the November meeting of the Wolf Clan with prayer for our clan and tribe and a blessing for our food. Chief Yates related a prayer request for the Southern Baptist Convention-sponsored hospital in the Middle East. Following Chief Yates' prayer, lunch was served.

Chief Yates called the business meeting to order. Clan members asked that Principal Chief Nancy Massey provide updates on Tribal business. She related discussions and decisions from the October Governing Board meeting and announced that a Bylaws Revision Meeting will be held 18 November 2023 at the Tribal Grounds in Falkville. Principal Chief Massey also reported that a financial report for the September 2023 Echota Cherokee Tribe of Alabama's Festival has been requested but has not yet been delivered.

Several Wolf Clan members remarked that they want to see a financial report as well. Wolf Clan member Wayne Rasco reported that he has retired from the State of Alabama Indian Affairs Commission's Board of Directors and has appointed Wayne Yates to replace him. Principal Chief Massey noted that it will be necessary to find out if the appointment is allowed by the Commission or if there is another procedure to replace a retiring board member.

The next order of business was a discussion regarding properties within Alabama that are owned by the Tribe. Charlotte Hallmark and Wayne Rasco voiced requests for a complete listing of these properties. Principal Chief Massey said that several Tribal citizens have indicated their desire to sell a 9-acre parcel near Smith Lake. Both the property list and the decision to sell the Smith Lake property will be revisited at the next Clan meeting in January.

Ron Howard (and his wife, Elizabeth, absent this day) stated to the Clan that he has registered the

Echota Cherokee Tribe as a domain name so that no other group may use it. Ron asked about the status of the cabin on the Tribal Grounds. He also suggested that the Tribe might investigate the possibility of the State of Alabama issuing a Native American car tag.

Regarding the cabin, Principal Chief Massey said that the cabin has not been repaired due to the

estimate to complete needed repairs being at least \$30,000.

At the end of the business session, Charlotte Hallmark handed out a Thanksgiving game sheet to each Clan member. The sheet included questions such as "What are you most thankful for?" and "Did you have a nickname growing up and if so, what was it?" The Clan had fun taking turns asking questions of each other.

The Wolf Clan contributes supplies every year to the "Three Hots and a Cot" program. Photos of the Clan members with the gathered supplies were made.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for 13 January 2024.

Clan Members Present:

Wayne Yates  
Wayne and Ellen Rasco  
Stanley and Helen Trimm  
Charlotte Hallmark  
Daniel Stewart  
Nancy Massey  
Ron Howard (for Elizabeth Howard)  
Lenela Glass-Godwin  
Cindy Guthrie (visitor)

Respectfully submitted,  
Lenela Glass-Godwin, Recording Secretary, Wolf Clan



## Deer Clan Meeting Notes November 12, 2023

The meeting opened with Mr. Don leading us in the pledge and prayer. Chief Wayne told us about the Little People and their help in keeping the fires going during the Trail of Tears. A couple of our young people fixed an offering plate for the Little People and left it in the woods for them prior to us eating.

After the meal Chief Wayne welcomed a number of guests. Included were four people accompanying Ray Pennington from Tennessee. During the program he gifted the Deer Clan with a Buck Deer headdress that he had made. Mr. Harrison Stone did a fantastic job of relating to us the tale of Why the Mole does not come Above Ground.

Chief Nancy said a few words and announced plans for a sewing club in the Spring for the women to get together and make ribbon skirts. Chief Wayne announced the meeting dates and some tentative meeting programs for next year.

Meal at 12:00 Meeting at 1:00 on the following dates :  
January 14 – Anna Mullican from the Oakville Indian Mounds  
March 10 – Butch Walker presentation about Chief Doublehead  
May 5 – TBA  
July 14 – TBA  
September 8 – TBA  
November 10 – Foods of the Cherokee

Gary Parnell gave a recap of this year's powwow and announced that the festival planning committee will begin meeting in February. Gary Parnell and Chief Nancy discussed the upcoming by-laws meeting (Nov 18 th at 10:30).



They asked for citizens input on selling some property that was gifted to the tribe several years ago, but has not been used. They also briefly mentioned the investigation of Dennis Wooten.

Cheryl gave us a handout and taught us a few Cherokee words and phrases. Chief Wayne gave an update on this years sock drive:

1440 socks bought

24 pair donated

30 pair of clean used socks donated to CCC in Decatur

Everything was paid for by donations and fundraising efforts for a total over \$1144. The socks are packed in a bag with three pairs of socks and a note wishing a Merry Christmas from the Echota Cherokee Tribe. One hundred and fifty packages will go to the Tut Fann Veterans Home. Any citizens that know of a needy veteran, relative, or neighbor are encouraged to get a pack to give them. The remainder will go to The Carpenters Cabinet Food Bank. Mr. Glen from Carpenter's Cabinet was on hand to express his appreciation for the donation and tell a little about their organization. They are located in Falkville and provide boxes of food to needy families in Southern Morgan and Northern Cullman Counties. They are open on Tuesdays from 10:00 – 2:00 and welcome any donations.

Chief Wayne gave an educational presentation on Cherokee clothing through the ages. The emphasis was on their everyday clothing and how it changed with the first contact with Europeans and then again once trade was established. After the presentation a few of our citizens showed off their attire and we talked about the different time periods and meanings of their different articles of clothing.

A motion was made and passed to dismiss.



## Echota Citizens Team Up!!!

In October, Ron Warren provided a free online workshop for BISON, the Indigenous student organization at the University of Alabama. After an introduction to our flute playing traditions, Ron helped several students get started playing their new river cane flutes. The event was organized by Echota Cherokee Tribal Citizen Kaytie Colbert, who is a nursing student at 'Bama and helps run BISON.



Ron Warren & Kaytie Colbert

In November, Ron visited the Eastern Shore of Maryland as Featured Artist for an event produced by Pocomoke Nation. During his stay, he provided workshops for music students at Salisbury University, family friendly programs about the Native Flute at Delmarva Discovery Museum and a concert at MarVa Theater.



The highly rated music blog *No Dead Guys* has invited Ron to write a guest blog about his creative approach as an Indigenous musician. It will be published online in early December.

Visit Ron at his website:

[www.ronwarrenmusic.com](http://www.ronwarrenmusic.com) and at his YouTube channel.

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## Echota Citizens Sit On The Board

A new organization is being formed for State Recognized Tribal Artists. The organization is called SRTAG - State Recognized Tribal Artists Guild. It is a guild that was created by several state tribes to support all state recognized artists. Two of our citizens now sit on the board of directors to help officiate and govern the organization. We congratulate Mike Freels and Weeya Calif. They will be working diligently to ensure all state recognized artists are represented well before all federal, state entities and organizations representing Native American Artists.

Membership to the guild will be open soon. To learn more about the organization visit:

<https://www.srtag.org/>.

**Cherokee Word(s):**  
Happy Thanksgiving

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qg5aktyR-q8>

Click the blue link to hear how to say it.

DPPPOAJ T&  
ALHELISDI IGA

**Cherokee Word(s):**  
Merry Christmas

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1DYHOiBiYKE>

Click the blue link to hear how to say it.

DPPPOAJ  
UHOULHAA  
ALHELISDI  
DANISDAYOHIHV



### Assessment Reminders:

Citizens who are married where both husband and wife are citizens - \$45 for the family (includes minor children)

Citizens who are single parents with children - \$45 for the family (includes minor children)

Citizens who are 18 and older - \$45 each

We are getting questions of when is someone to pay their assessments. If you did not pay for 2023, we ask that you go ahead and pay the assessment. Then mark your calendar or set up a reminder of when you pay it next year. You can also refer to your canceled check if you paid with a check. The tribe will not be sending out reminders. Our other suggestion is to always pay it the same month every year. This way it is easier to remember.

We are also asked how much back pay do I owe? We ask that you begin paying your assessments to become active in the tribe. We are not asking that you pay all your back owed assessments. Please pass this along to anyone you know who may have this concern.

Also we are receiving emails of individuals who do not realize they should be paying an annual assessment. To be an active citizen and to have a vote in any election, you need to pay your annual assessment of \$45. You can do so by paying online or sending in a check/money order to the tribe.

Pay online here:

<https://echotacherokee.org/assessments.html>

Pay through mail:

**The Echota Cherokee Tribe of Alabama**  
P.O. Box 479  
Falkville, AL 35622



## Tribal Citizen Update

Several people have asked where the Maxwells have been. We heard from Mrs. Janice Maxwell and we thought we would share an update on what has been happening. So here is a brief recap of the accident and an update.

Mr. "Dub" Maxwell had a fall from a ladder on June 23, 2023. Since he is a disabled veteran, he uses the VA Hospital. They outsource the veterans care but the referral system is incredibly lengthy and difficult at times.

He had one surgery at the end of September and they are still testing him to determine how his next surgery will be done. He just had a small procedure done (nerve block). We will know more about how and when his next surgery will be in 2 weeks when he returns to Dr's office.

The Maxwells have been isolated at home with church members helping them because Mrs. Maxwell broke her left foot a few days before he fell! She is recovered now and doing well.

We extend our well wishes to them and look forward to when we can see them again.



## Looking for Clan News & Updates:

If you have clan business or clan information you wish to have published in the newsletter, please email the tribe with the information and we will make sure to get it out in the next newsletter. Please pay attention to the dates on the last page of the newsletter. The dates show when to submit articles and when the newsletter comes out. We look forward to more clans submitting information.



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## Office Hours & Operations

In case you didn't know, our office is now open. Dr. Shawn Castleberry is our new Office Manager. His office hours are:

MWF - 9:45 am - 12:45

However, there are some days that he will be in the office that go outside of the above stated times or there are days he cannot make it into the office. Dr. Castleberry suggests that you check the calendar of events, on the website, to see when he is in the office and to view other events on the tribal grounds. Here is a link to the calendar of events.

<https://echotacherokee.org/calendar.html>



Weeya Calif & Dr. Shawn Castleberry  
Webmaster and Office Manager

## Echota Cherokee Tribe Council House Reservation



shutterstock.com · 32766832

Because of meetings overlapping from different entities in the tribe, the Chief and Vice Chief are setting an expectation that anyone wishing to use the tribal council house for anything will need to reserve the space. The expectation is that our citizens will visit our calendar on our website to see if the date they wish to use the facilities is available. They will then be required to email the tribe to have that date reserved. The facilities cannot be used without going through this process. Those following the reservation process have priority.

To make a calendar reservation, include the following information in the email:

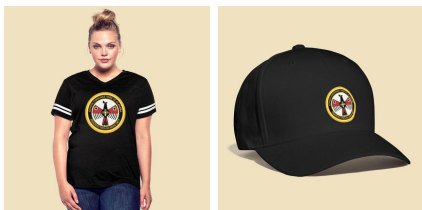
- What type of meeting
- Contact Person
- Date of meeting
- Time of meeting
- Description of what will occur at the meeting.

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## The Echota Print Shop

The tribe now has a print shop. The Governing Body has given Weeya Calif permission to create items to sell for the tribe. All profits from the sale of these items will go directly to the tribe. We have just a few designs and hope to have more in the near future. Please visit the link to see one of a kind items.

<https://echotacherokee.org/the-echota-print-shop.html>



## Celebrating One of Our Own



Sydney Jernigan, a tribal citizen, is a senior in high school this year at Pensacola High School International Baccalaureate program. She was awarded the National College Board AP Indigenous Scholar Award this year due to her high performance on AP exams. She has a 4.8 GPA and is currently applying to colleges. She hopes to attend Duke University next fall. Sydney plans to major in Biomedical Engineering and hopes to attend medical school upon completion of her bachelor's degree.

The tribe wishes Sydney the best in all her endeavors.



### Interesting Facts about the Cherokee

- New Echota was the site of the first Cherokee newspaper (the *Cherokee Phoenix*), their first Supreme Courthouse, and, most infamously, where the Treaty of New Echota was signed ceding Cherokee land to the U.S.
- After the Cherokee were removed from North Georgia during the Trail of Tears in 1838, their capital was abandoned for over 100 years.
- In 1954, a team of archeologists began excavating New Echota. They uncovered thousands of artifacts from the Cherokee era as well as relics of earlier indigenous cultures.
- As a result, the State of Georgia authorized reconstruction of New Echota, including important buildings like the Council House and Supreme Court. The New Echota Historical Park was officially opened in 1962.
- In western North Carolina, the Cherokee inhabited what were known as the Valley, Middle, and Outer Towns.
- They were located along the major rivers of the Tuckasegee, the upper Little Tennessee, and French Broad River.
- After Hernando De Soto made initial contact with the Cherokee in 1540, an expedition led by Juan Pardo in 1566 further explored Cherokee land in western North Carolina and southeastern Tennessee.
- Pardo stayed at the Joara chiefdom near Morganton, North Carolina, and explored Cherokee villages near Asheville.

# GWY

Cherokee

### Official State & Federally Recognized Tribes in Alabama

*The Poarch Creek are the only tribe with state and federal recognition.*



In 1984 The Davis - Strong Act was passed by the House and the Senate. This Bill created the Alabama Indian Affairs Commission and gave State Recognition to the seven tribes who had joined their efforts to peacefully gain some advantages for their people.! It was at this time that the phrase, "Progress Through Indian Unity" was added to our logo. (Also see [Code of Alabama](#) AIAC § 41-9-708) We now have 9 official state recognized tribes.

## Things to Remember:

### The Citizens Page

Our tribe has a private group page on Facebook that is for our citizens only. If you are interested in joining this group, you can email the webmaster, Weeya Calif. Weeya will need to verify you are a citizen of the tribe. You may be asked to provide a picture of your tribal ID as proof of citizenship. Once verified, you will be sent a link to join The Citizens Page. Please send your request to [echotawebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:echotawebmaster@gmail.com).

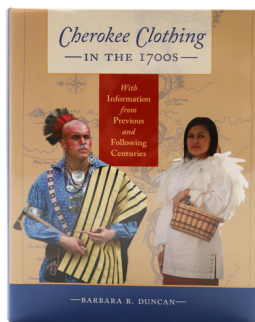
### Not Able to See the Online Newsletter?

Dear Citizens, if you know of an elder or other citizen who is unable to go online to read the newsletter or have it sent to them in email, we ask that you let your Clan Rep know so that they can print a copy and get it to those individuals or if you have a printer, please consider printing a copy and giving it to your elders or citizens who do not have technology. You might even want to call them and read the newsletter to them. We apologize for the inconvenience, but the tribe cannot, at this time, send out the newsletter via snail mail.

### Use Your Enrollment Number

Notice to all citizens. It is very important when paying your fees, sending emails, calling the office or handling any tribal business that you include your tribal enrollment number. We can still help you but you will need to eventually know your number. If you do not know your tribal enrollment number, you will be asked to apply for a new tribal ID card and pay the fee to process the card. It is important that you keep up with your card and your number. We are currently developing a database with everyone's information but this will take time.

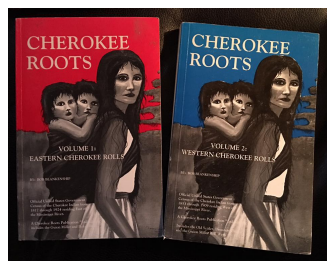
### Great Resource for Cherokee Clothing:



Cherokee Clothing in the 1700s  
Museum of the Cherokee Indian Store  
<https://museumstore.mci.org/products/cherokee-clothing-in-the-1700s>

This is a well documented resource of what the Cherokee traditionally wore before and after the 1700s. If you are looking to wear traditional Cherokee regalia, this book is a great resource and has instructions as well.

### Great Genealogy Resource Books for Cherokee Ancestry:



Website with genealogy resources:  
<https://www.weeyacalif.com/genealogy.html#/>

Cherokee Roots Books:  
<https://www.amazon.com/Cherokee-Roots-Set-Volumes-Eastern/dp/096337740X>

# Cherokee Syllabary

D a	R e	T i	Ꭰ o	Ꭱ u	i v
Ꭶ ga Ꭷ ka	Ꭹ ge	Ꭺ gi	Ꭼ go	Ꭽ gu	Ꭾ gv
Ꭿ ha	Ꮀ he	Ꮁ hi	Ꮃ ho	Ꮄ hu	Ꮅ hv
Ꮇ la	Ꮈ le	Ꮉ li	Ꮊ lo	Ꮋ lu	Ꮌ lv
Ꮎ ma	Ꮏ me	Ꮐ mi	Ꮑ mo	Ꮒ mu	
Ꮓ na Ꮔ hna Ꮕ nah	Ꮖ ne	Ꮗ ni	Ꮘ no	Ꮙ nu	Ꮚ nv
Ꮛ gwa	Ꮜ gwe	Ꮝ gwi	Ꮞ gwo	Ꮟ gwu	Ꮠ gwv
Ꮡ sa Ꮢ s	Ꮤ se	Ꮥ si	Ꮦ so	Ꮧ su	Ꮨ sv
Ꮩ da Ꮪ ta	Ꮫ de Ꮬ te	Ꮮ di Ꮯ ti	Ꮰ do	Ꮱ du	Ꮲ dv
Ꮭ dla Ꮮ tla	Ꮯ tle	Ꮰ tli	Ꮱ tlo	Ꮲ tlu	Ꮳ tlv
Ꮳ ja	Ꮴ je	Ꮵ ji	Ꮶ jo	Ꮷ ju	Ꮸ jv
Ꮹ wa	Ꮺ we	Ꮻ wi	Ꮼ wo	Ꮽ wu	Ꮾ wv
Ꮿ ya	Ᏸ ye	Ᏹ yi	Ᏺ yo	Ᏻ yu	Ᏼ yv

**ENGLISH**

**TSALAGI (CHEROKEE)**

**Phonetic Pronunciation**

Hello.

Osiyo.

Oh-see-yo.

How are you?

Dtohitsu?

Doe-hee-chew?

Good.

Ostda.

Oh-s-da.

What is your name?

Gado detsadoa?

Gah-doe day-tsa-doe-ah?

## Echota Business Page:

If you have a business card with your business information or a website address of your business that you would like to share, please sign up [here](#).

Let's shop with our citizens!!!



**Weeya Michelle Calif**

Artist, Educator & Storyteller

Website: [www.weeyacalif.com](http://www.weeyacalif.com)

Email: [weeyacalif@gmail.com](mailto:weeyacalif@gmail.com)

Native American artist who works with traditional art and digital art. She designs logos, flyers, paintings and more. She is also available to teach online classes and in person classes.

She currently works with the Oneida Nation Arts Program and the Woodland Indian Art, Inc., organizations teaching art to Native youth and adults.



**Native American  
Aztec/Cherokee Creations**

We Focus our Creations on our ancestors of the Aztec Mayans Toltecs and Cherokee. Hand Made Traditional Items. Leather bags, Necklaces, Dreamcatchers, Drums, Earrings, Medicine Bags, and much more.

Email: [awarren2006@yahoo.com](mailto:awarren2006@yahoo.com)

Website: <https://native-american-aztec-creations.business.site/>

Phone: 719-248-3131



**Ron Warren  
Native American Flute Player**

Ron offers online (Zoom) lessons in Native Flute playing, music theory and songwriting (discount for Echota Cherokee tribal members). Live Stream performances and workshops are also available. Visit the website, [www.ronwarrenmusic.com](http://www.ronwarrenmusic.com), for more information.



**"Lil Cory"**

Cory Edwards

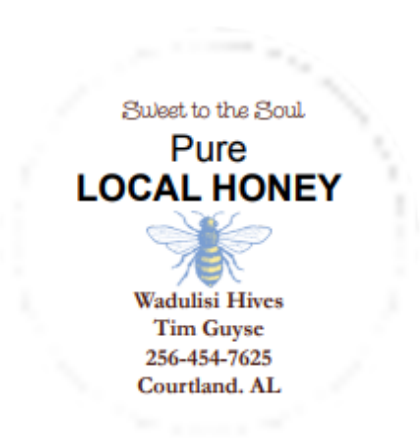
Actor | Musician | Music  
Producer

Film/TV/Voice:

Talent Manager: Alison McMahon  
[alison@vaentertainment.ca](mailto:alison@vaentertainment.ca)

Twitter: [@lilcorymuzik](https://twitter.com/lilcorymuzik)

Instagram: [@lilcorymusic](https://www.instagram.com/lilcorymusic)



**Pure raw honey from North  
Alabama.**

**The Offices of Michael D. Freels**



Tax & Immigration Consultant.  
General office work.

Phone: 479-856-5557

Email: [mdfreels@yahoo.com](mailto:mdfreels@yahoo.com)



**Southern Cherokee Jewelry Co.**

Stop by my pop up shop to share a smile and say hi. Handcrafted jewelry and craft items available as well as jewelry repair.

We offer friendly service, reasonable prices and quality workmanship.

You receive southern service with a tribal flare.

Contact: Nancy Massey  
[L2massey@yahoo.com](mailto:L2massey@yahoo.com)



**MARMAC**  
REAL ESTATE

256-566-5590  
 debra@marmac.us

**DEBRA SHERRILL**  
 REALTOR®



Renegade Creations  
 Owner: Foy Southard  
 (256) 278 - 6073  
 1819 Oakwood AVE NE  
 Huntsville, AL 35811  
 wayaoncga54@gmail.com  
 Hand Made Native  
 American Arts & Crafts

**Renegade Creations**  
 Owner: Foy Southard  
 256-278-6073  
[wayaoncga54@gmail.com](mailto:wayaoncga54@gmail.com)  
 Handmade Native  
 American Arts & Crafts

**Native Needle Shop  
 By: Candace West**

Etsy shop [@NativeNeedleShop](#)  
 Textile art, jewelry and beadwork.

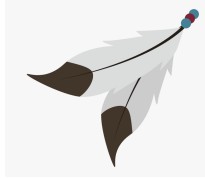


**FREEEEEE!!!!**



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**FREEEEEE!!!!**



## The Echota Cherokee Tribe of Alabama

### Head Leadership

Principal Chief	Nancy Massey
Vice Chief	Bobby Bolden
Parliamentarian	Position Open
Recording Secretary	Lenela Glass-Godwin

### Clan Chiefs

Bird Clan	Jean Chandler
Blue Clan	James Swann, Jr.
Deer Clan	Wayne Smith
Long Hair Clan	Tommy Keith
Paint Clan	Reginald Hughes
Wild Potato Clan	Position Open
Wolf Clan	Wayne Yates

### Clan Representatives

Bird Clan	Martha Gann
Blue Clan	Vick Ball
Deer Clan	Gary Parnell
Long Hair Clan	Sharon Keith
Paint Clan	William Gaskin
Wild Potato Clan	Position Open
Wolf Clan	Eddy Bonner
At - Large	Glenn Hardman



Did you know that you can now pay your fees online? Just visit our tribe's website. Click on the Citizens Only tab and choose Assessment Fees.

<https://echotacherokee.org/assessment-fees.html>



### Calendar of Events

The tribe is now posting tribal events, meetings, clean up days and more on our calendar which is on our website. If any citizen or clan has important dates they would like us to post on the website's calendar, please forward that information via email to:

[theechotacherokeetribeofal@gmail.com](mailto:theechotacherokeetribeofal@gmail.com)



### [How to Make and Wear a Cherokee Turban](#)





We are excited to share with the tribe that we will be sending out the newsletter every two months via email and posting it on the website. This will help save our tribe a lot of money. However, for our citizens who wish to receive the Smoke Signals, it will be sent out by Ms. Charlotte H. quarterly.

**Dates to remember:**

Deadlines to submit items to go into the newsletter will be the 20th of the previous month. For example, the next Newsletter will go out on February 1st. All items citizens want posted in the newsletter need to be submitted to the tribe's email by January 20th.

Deadline to Submit	Newsletter Posted
January 20th	February 1st
March 20th	April 1st
May 20th	June 1st
July 20th	August 1st
September 20th	October 1st
November 20th	December 1st

If you have items you would like included in the newsletter, please send it to:  
[theechotacherokeetribeofal@gmail.com](mailto:theechotacherokeetribeofal@gmail.com)

## Your Native American Rights As Echota Cherokee Citizens

### Worship in the Manner of Your Ancestors

The American Indian Religious Freedom Act

Public Law No. 95-341, 92 Stat. 469 (August 11, 1978)

These rights include, but are not limited to, access to sacred sites, freedom to worship through ceremonial and traditional rights and use and possession of objects considered sacred. The act required policies of all governmental agencies to eliminate interference with the free exercise of native religion.

### Market Your Arts and Crafts as "Native American or Indian Made"

"The Indian Arts and Crafts Act (Act) of 1990 (P.L. 101-644) is a truth-in-advertising law that prohibits misrepresentation in the marketing of Indian arts and crafts products within the United States. It is illegal to offer or display for sale, or sell any art or craft product in a manner that falsely suggests it is Indian produced, an Indian product, or the product of a particular Indian or Indian tribe or Indian arts and crafts organization, resident within the United States.

Under the Act, an Indian is defined as a member of any federally or officially state recognized tribe of the United States, or an individual certified as an Indian artisan by an Indian tribe." -- [U.S. Department of Interior, Indian Art & Crafts Board](#)

### The U. S. Census Bureau defines a native American as follows:

American Indian and Alaska Native. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America and who maintain tribal affiliation or community attachment.