

Cherokee Community of the Inland Empire  
P O Box 8055 Riverside, Ca. 92515-8055  
cherokeecommunityie.org  
**General Meeting Minutes**  
**1/17/09 1:40pm-4:00pm**

Location: Bennett Hall – Sherman Indian High School  
9010 Magnolia Ave.  
Riverside, Ca. 92503

Attendees: Adults - 54      Youth – 18

Wendi Wright welcomed all to the CCIE Second Anniversary General Meeting.

Wendi led the attendees in reciting “The Lord’s Prayer” in the Cherokee language.

All were encouraged to sing the Cherokee National Anthem, “Amazing Grace”, in the Cherokee language. The Cherokee words were provided on the overhead.

Wendi announced CCIE was starting a 50/50 Drawing and invited members and guests to participate.

Donation: 3 tickets for \$1.00 or 20 tickets for \$5.00. The drawing would take place towards the end of our meeting. CCIE member, Scott, had his number drawn and received half of the money.

*New Procedure* implemented this month when signing in: the **parent/guardian/person responsible** for any youth attending the CCIE meeting is required to sign in your youth on the new “Youth Sign In Sheet”. It is important we know who is responsible for your youth at the meeting should any situation arise and we need to find you as well as for their protection. We also want to know more about our youth so we may better provide for them at our meetings. Youth are not listed on our Member Roster but are considered members of our community.

The women were invited to join Lady Hawk Drum as they honored Council Member Kathie-Horn Taylor. At our elections last June, Kathie became our first elected Membership Coordinator. Kathie recently passed away after a long struggle with illness. With their shawls around them, the women joined together singing with love and prayers as Kathie was remembered for her creativity, positive attitude, strengths, convictions and dedication in helping CCIE become a chartered and recognized community of the Cherokee Nation. Our love and support go out to Kathie’s family, also members of CCIE.

History Committee Presentation: This month’s presentation was given in three interesting parts. The first was a short video, using a Storyteller, to tell about Cherokee origin; the seven groups (clans), their beginning travels, where they went and who they met, to the end of their journey and where they found their own land and settled. Eric, a youth CCIE member, read from a book by James Mooney about the history of the Cherokee Nation. Sandy, History Committee Chairperson, used resources from a book by J.L. Connelly to explain about the Keetoowah.

Wendi Wright’s topic was The Cherokee Way and the White Path. Wendi explained the Cherokee walk in 2 worlds: living in the world today and all it entails and honoring their Cherokee heritage and culture. Wendi also emphasized Cherokees as being in balance, honoring and respecting all life and all are related as brothers and sisters. Everything and everyone matters, nothing is more or less. Cherokee people recognize the gifts the Creator has given and place importance on them.

Theresa Payne announced, per our ByLaws, two newly appointed CCIE members to fulfill Council vacancies. Wendi Wright has accepted the position of Advisor vacated by Otter Smith-Martinez. Otter has provided outstanding information and resources to our CCIE Community. Her knowledge and love of the Cherokee people has been inspiring and we appreciate her many contributions. We have all benefitted from her term on the CCIE Council.

Also appointed as a new Council Member is Yvonne Horn. Yvonne has accepted the position of Membership Coordinator. We are honored to have Yvonne accept and fulfill the term her daughter, Kathie-Horn Taylor, left with her passing.

Wendi and Yvonne have participated in many CCIE Council meetings as interested and active members of our community. Their desire to make CCIE a successful Cherokee Nation Chartered community has been displayed in their supportive efforts in committees, meetings and fulfilling needed positions in our General and Special Events meetings. Welcome Wendi and Yvonne!

The new updated Council Member list is available at the Welcome Table.

Potluck: Theresa asked the blessing for our food and asked our Elders to start the Potluck line.

An additional announcement made was to remind all people attending the CCIE meeting that we are all guests of the Sherman Indian High School and therefore must follow their policies. The school prohibits drugs, alcohol and smoking on school campus. A copy of their entire policy pertaining to CCIE is available at the Welcome Table.

Following our wonderful meal, the youth continued working on their Booger Masks. All interested attendees gathered with Theresa and other knowledgeable ladies to learn how to make a shawl. Many people participated at the table either to add fringe to their shawl or learn how to make one on their own. There will be additional instruction at our next meeting.

Additional Announcements: Darlene Dukelow-Burton announced a Governance Conference was coming up and anyone interested should contact her for information.

Also scheduled in the near future is a Native American conference in the Idyllwild area. Anyone interested could contact Shauna.

Those not wanting to work on craft projects had time to continue their discussions and get to know each other better. As usual, there are many genealogy discussions going on among people. Since CN citizenship is not required to be a member of CCIE, we have many people in the process of discovering their heritage, their family lineage and some pursuing their citizenship with one of the three federally recognized Cherokee Tribe/Bands. This is usually a good time for Genealogy Circle members to continue learning and sharing with each other.

The next CCIE Special Events Meeting will be on Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 1-4pm at Sherman Indian High School, Bennett Hall.

Don't miss any information! Add CCIE to your Contacts!

Visit our Website: <http://www.cherokeecommunityie.org>

Contact us at: [ccie@cherokeecommunityie.org](mailto:ccie@cherokeecommunityie.org)