

# Native Pride



January 2018

## PowWow 2018

Preparations are underway for our 20th Annual PowWow. PowWow this year will fall on our new annual schedule of the 4th weekend in April, the 28th and 29th. The flyers have been designed and are ready to be distributed as we get closer to April. We will begin getting the flyer and information about the PowWow to the various websites that require this information early with the rest going out 2 weeks before the PowWow. This year we are honored to have two special guests attend: John T. Wayne and Cabot Barden.

John T. Wayne is the grandson of actor the "Duke" John Wayne and is the author of numerous books on the Civil War and Old West. His books focus on the orphans created by the Civil War.

Cabot Barden is a native of Sylacauga, AL and is a musician/singer/songwriter and author. He was recently featured in The Advertiser Gleam as the guest speaker for the Sons of Confederate Veterans of Marshall County. He spoke about Cherokees who fought on the side of the Confederacy.

Our first PowWow committee meeting was January 13, 2018. Below is a listing of all the positions filled:

Head Lady: Makole Chamblee

Head Man: Nick Davis

Assistant/Junior Head Lady:

Assistant/Junior Head Man:

AD: Bob Upton

Bob will be teaching up to 2 individuals so if you are interested in learning this position be sure to let us know.

MC: Lucas Bridges is making arrangements with his work if he is unable to get off we will need recommendations for MC.



Donna Bridges will be running the gate.

Jessica and Jessica have agreed to serve in the necklace making booth.

Joe Collins will be demonstrating flint-knapping. We would

like to have an additional flint-knapper if you know of someone please let us know. This will allow Joe to have some time to learn the MC position.

George Denmark will be demonstrating archery.

We pray Rowland Matthews will be able to set up his tipi and tomahawk throwing but he has personal matters that may require his absence this year. If he is unable to attend David Lankford will do the tomahawk throw.

Mara Burke will be running the drinks booth.

Kasey Chamblee will be over the PowWow princess competition.

We are working on getting the Boy Scouts to help again this year.

Gregory Franks and his daughters have agreed to help with garbage, photos and assisting with getting the meals served.

There is a lot of work to do to get ready. All volunteers are welcome and appreciated. If you are a high school student and plan on applying for a scholarship from the AIAC in 2019 you need to be sure to come and volunteer at this PowWow. You will need to go to the UCAN Booth and sign in.

Flyers will be ready to be handed out mid April. Watch our Facebook page for updates and schedules. -Judy

# United Cherokee 20th Annual Festival & American Indian PowWow

Location: 3550 Creek Path Road, Guntersville, Alabama, 35976  
Directions: From US Hwy 431 in Guntersville (at the Wyndham) take AL Hwy 79 South 1.4 miles to Cherokee Elem. School, Turn right on Willow Beach Rd., Turn Left on Creek Path Road to Pow Wow.

Contact: (256) 582-2333, ucanonline@bellsouth.net

Posting of the Colors: American Indian Warrior and Veteran's Alliance  
Drums: Thunderheart Singers, Red Road Singers  
Drums Welcome

Demonstrations:

George Denmark - Archery

Joe Collins - Flint Knapping

Pow Wow Princess Contest: Tiny Tot, Little Miss, Junior, Senior  
-\$10.00 Entry Fee

Guest Appearances: John T. Wayne and Cabot Barden



John T. Wayne: grandson of actor the 'Duke', John Wayne. John T. is the author of numerous books on the Civil War and Old West. His books focus on the orphans created by the Civil War.

Cabot Barden: native of Sylacauga, AL is a musician/singer/songwriter and author. Recently featured in The Advertiser Glean as the guest speaker for the Sons of Confederate Veterans of Marshall County. He spoke about Cherokees who fought on the side of the Confederacy.



Come and enjoy the sounds of our ancestors!

Calendar of Events

Drumming, Dancing, Singing, Demonstrators, Craft Vendors, Story Tellers  
Flute Playing, Archery, Flint Knapping, Children's Activities

Saturday, April 28th

Gates Open 9:00 AM 'til 5:00 PM – PUBLIC WELCOME  
Grand Entry - Noon, Bon Fire and Entertainment at Dark:30PM

Sunday, April 29th

Gates Open 10:00 AM til 5:00 PM – PUBLIC WELCOME  
Grand Entry - 12:00 Noon

NO ALCOHOL, DRUGS, POLITICS OR OPEN CARRY

Grounds Security & EMT Service will be provided.  
Concessions Available, Handicap Facilities

*"The tall mountains and the valley floors, this is our church.  
We worship there so our Indian way of life can exist."*



**American Indian Warrior  
and Veteran's Alliance**

**Subsidiary of United Cherokee AniYunWiYa Nation**

The American Indian Warrior and Veteran's Alliance has a Commander: Art Wade. Tom Burke is serving as the Operations Officer, assisting Art in getting this Alliance set up. They are both doing an amazing job. At our last Fellowship Gathering Art Wade and Tom Burke were sworn into office. Art Wade has announced that they are taking names of anyone wanting to sign up to participate in this Alliance. The Veteran's need to have DD214s. The Warrior's are not required to have DD214s but must be 16 or older. Anyone interested in participating must get in touch with Art Wade or Tom Burke. Please send your requests in by email at: ucanonline@bellsouth.net or you can call the tribal office at 256 582-2333 and speak with Tom Burke. There is a lot of work to be done, but Art and Tom feel they will have this ready in time for our PowWow in April.

Support  
United Cherokee  
Aniyunwiya Nation.

When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com),  
Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

amazonsmile

Thanks to everyone shopping with Amazon and signing in using [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and selecting United Cherokee AniYunWiYa Nation as the charity to be donated to UCAN has received \$36.00 in donations. Any donations we receive through this program are deposited into

our land fund savings account.

## What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support.

## How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

## Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations?

Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages. Recurring Subscribe-and-Save purchases and subscription renewals are not currently eligible.

## Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

## How do I select a charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) will result in a donation.

## Trail of Tears T-shirt Inventory

These T-shirts are being sold for \$6.00 each. The funds from the sale of these t-shirts will be divided with half going into our land savings fund and the other half being donated back to the Trail of Tears Association.



2014

### White

18 – Small  
16 – Medium  
7 – Large  
75 – XL

### Red

23 – Small  
20 – Medium  
1 – Large

### Blue

14 – Small  
13 – Medium  
35 – Large  
15 – XL

### Tan

1 – XL  
1 – XXL



2015

### White

10 – Small  
2 – Medium  
19 – Large  
48 – XL

42 – XXL  
24 – XXXL

### Black

13 – Small  
12 – Medium  
5 – XL  
48 – XXL

### Red

3 – Small  
50 – Large  
69 – XXL  
6 – XXXL



2016

### White

6 – Small  
4 – Medium  
10 – Large  
1 – XL  
2 – XXL  
5 – XXXL  
4 – XXXXL

### Black

7 – Small  
2 – Medium  
2 – XL  
2 – XXXL



May the stars carry your sadness away,  
May the flowers fill your heart with beauty,  
May hope forever wipe away your tears, and,  
above all, may silence make you strong.  
Native American Proverb

## LIHEAP/Community Action Grant 2018

### (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program)

We have been blessed with another grant award for 2018. Although the work and requirements to continue receiving this grant has changed each year we are blessed to have it available for our local citizens. For the second year in a row our funding was not cut but we are still on limited funding as far as weatherization is concerned. If you need assistance with a heating or cooling bill, are enrolled citizens of United Cherokee AniYun-WiYa Nation and live in Blount, Calhoun, Cleburne, Cherokee, Colbert, Cullman, DeKalb, Etowah, Fayette, Franklin, Jackson, Jefferson, Lamar, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Morgan, St. Clair, Walker and Winston Counties in Alabama you can apply for this assistance. Eligibility is based on your household income. There is a chart on the application that covers the income limits. If you would like to apply for assistance either call the office at 256 582 2333 or email [ucanonline@bellsouth.net](mailto:ucanonline@bellsouth.net) or [dixonzoo@aol.com](mailto:dixonzoo@aol.com) for an application. Because of the limited funding we will not know until late July if we will have funding available for weatherization assistance. If you would like to inquire about availability of weatherization please contact us by phone, email or write to: UCAN / PO Box 754 / Guntersville, AL 35976 around mid July. If funding is available it will be on a first come first serve basis, but priority will be given to homes with elderly, young children or household members with health issues. We ask if you have used the weatherization before you allow us to give first consideration to those who have not had any assistance through the weatherization funds. We request that you **call prior** to sending in your utility bill to verify that there are funds available so we can mail you a current application. Follow the instructions on the application when applying. If you are on a disconnect **Do NOT** wait until the night before or the day of the disconnect and contact us and expect that we will be able to prevent this from taking place. We have to have time to contact the Utility company and request an extension. Most of the time they are willing to work with us and give an extension but that is not guaranteed and there may be steps they request in order to grant this extension, so please allow us time to make the arrangements. One of the main requirements to be eligible is that the utility bill **Must** be in your name or your spouse living with you. If you do not submit all the necessary paperwork you will not be eligible for assistance. The application lists all paperwork required to be submitted with the **Original Bill**. Any attempts of fraud will result in becoming **Permanently Ineligible** for assistance from our grant program. We will not jeopardize this assistance so desperately needed by so many families. There are **NO** exceptions to the policy.

Principal Chief Judy Dixon

## Cultural Arts Team

Thanks to the efforts of Roger White and his team: Bob Upton, Abigail Davidson, Nick Davis, Dewayne Long, Josh Henson, David Lankford and Joey Clayton, our Cultural Arts demonstrations are going strong again and our calendar continues to fill up quickly. These demonstrations are very important to keep the public and our communities reminded that we are still here. When the tornadoes hit our building in 2011 we had a great deal of our demo items damaged. The wear and tear from being handled by those attending the demonstrations has also added to the damage to our items. We are trying to acquire more items to add to our demonstration displays and are asking that if you have anything that you believe would be enjoyed by others please consider donating them to our Cultural Arts Demonstration Team. We keep these items packed up and ready to roll out when we get a request. Although our team receives donations to cover their travel expense they do not get paid for their time and do travel great distances to continue reaching out to our community and the surrounding communities. We provide cultural arts demonstrations to schools, libraries, day cares, nursing homes and businesses. If you have a donation or wish to schedule a demonstration you can either call 256 582 2333 or email us at [ucanonline@bellsouth.net](mailto:ucanonline@bellsouth.net).

Thank You, Judy



### Cultural Arts Demos

By Art Wade

As I am sure most of you know, the tribe does Cultural Arts Demonstrations at schools, retirement homes, and any place that request us to come out and do a demo. Our team was requested to do a demo at the Collinsville Elementary School in late November. Roger White, our team leader, Bob Upton, and myself were in attendance.

We set up in the cafeteria and the children came in. We introduced ourselves and told the children what we were going to be doing. We asked the children to sit down and listen to a short talk. Roger got up and began talking to the kids about bullies and that they should tell a teacher if they were being bullied. I then told the kids the story of the two wolves that are inside each of us. I also explained that the two wolves are always fighting. One of the wolves is mean and angry. The other is nice, gentle and friendly. The one that wins is the one you feed.

It was brought home to me how much our stories actually mean to the kids when Roger got a call from one of the kids' mothers. One of the boys that was in the talk told her that because of what we had said in that class, he was going to tell his teacher the next day that he was being bullied.

It makes what we do have a lot more meaning and did my heart good.





# Huntsville St. Patrick's Day



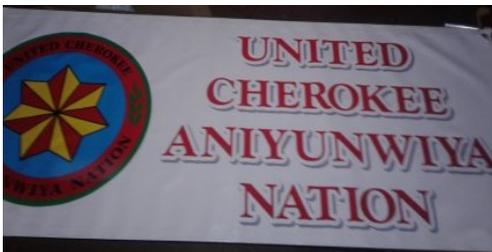
The Feather Monument in County Cork, Ireland is a tribute to the Native Americans that understood the conditions in Ireland in 1847 when more than one million Irish starved to death after being forced off their land. The Choctaw Nation and other Native Americans that had been forced to relocate only a short time prior collected \$751 and sent it to Irish relief efforts...more than any other nation contributed.



Because of the kinship between the Irish people and the American Indians, United Cherokee AniYunWiYa Nation received an invitation to participate in 2017's Huntsville Saint Patrick's Day Parade. A new

friendship was formed and a new tradition started. We have been invited to participate in 2018.

The parade will be March 17, 2018. Lowrey Hesse has offered his truck, Dewayne Long has volunteered his trailer, Donna Bridges has offered to provide an additional vehicle and trailer for those who wish to be in the parade but are unable to walk the distance and Thunderheart Singers has agreed to drum. Since we have plenty of time to prepare we can start working on getting decorations gathered up to jazz up the trailers and vehicles. We have had new signs made for the trailers.



Last year we placed a rush order and the signs came out a bit whonky. We had asked that anyone representing the

tribe in the parade last year be in their regalia, but there are some of our citizens who do not have regalia and want to be a part of this parade, so for 2018 you do not have to be in regalia to participate. If you plan to attend please let us know and we will add you to our list. If you have decorations you would like to donate please bring them by the tribal office anytime between now and March 15, 2018.

Thank You! - Judy Dixon



Luther Mitchell, Lendel Jordan, Matthew, Steven Hopkins, Kenneth Dixon, Chris, Patricia Seeley, Donna Bridges, Kasey Chamblee, Gene Gold, Sammy Martin, Wanda Rogers, James Wright, Sam Wisner, Mary Gold Talley, Leon Williamson, Dan Wisner, Mary Jo Honea, Janet Martin, Sue Morrison, Reesa Gentle, Ernie Oden, Buddy Stone, the Bridges family, Bob Upton and his sister, Gaylene Shipp, Tim Purdy, Danny Perry and Ammarie.

We do a daily prayer on our Facebook page. If you know of someone you would like added to our daily prayers please send us an email or if you are on Facebook send us a request to be added to our page and then you can either comment with the name you are requesting prayers for or you

## UCAN

United Cherokee AniYunWiYa Nation

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### UCAN Website

[www.ucantribe.com](http://www.ucantribe.com)

We are now working on adding to this with an "In Memory of" section as well as a Business Ad section. If you have a picture and/or memory you would like to share to our "In Memory of" area please email them to us so we can get these started. If you are a citizen of our tribe and own or operate a business and would like to be included in our Business section please email us with the information or if you have a business card you can either email us with a copy of your business card or mail it to: UCAN / PO Box 754 / Guntersville, AL 35976.

Unfortunately AIR (American Indian Resources) has been dissolved. There were some issues we were unaware of when this company was initially set up. We pray to have a new company started in a few months, AIR (American Indian Retailers) but are making sure we have all the information necessary before starting a new venture. The herbs we have available are listed on the UCAN website and a new website address has already been reserved once the company is up and going. Keep watch on our website and Facebook page for news of the new business opening.

## Cherokee Language

We are making an effort to learn our language. There are some who were never introduced to our ancestral language so learning it is quite a struggle. In our efforts to learn we are picking a word (or simple saying) to practice and making it a part of our morning/daily prayers on Facebook. This could be expanded onto our website if there are enough interested.

We have stumbled into learning the 7 Teachings in Cherokee. The word for January is:

Courage - a li ga li yv hi (pronounced: ah lee gah lee yuh hee)

If you have a word you would like us to practice send those suggestions to:

ucanonline@bellsouth.net or

dixonzoo@aol.com or

comment on our Facebook page.



## Communication Fees

Due January of each year / \$40.00 per household

The reminder goes out in January and although we pray one day to no longer have to rely on the generosity of our tribal citizens, for now it is the only way we are able to do a great number of things, especially communicate. Grants and the money we receive from PowWow provide the majority of our funding, but unfortunately it does not provide enough to cover all of our expenses. We have also taken on the goal of trying to raise enough money to be able to purchase land. This will open up new opportunities and possible grants to help fund the building of an office (if needed) and have acreage that will allow us to provide a community garden, herb walks and our PowWow on Our land, not leased.

We currently have over \$9,000.00 saved in our land trust fund account and have events being scheduled to help add to this in the near future (ie. Yard Sales). We have a donation bucket on a table in the office and ask everyone attending our Fellowship Gatherings to help by adding a little something each time they attend. Even if all you have is pocket change it all helps to get us closer to our goal. Our Council believes that if we can at least save up \$10,000 we can start “shopping” for some land. If in one years time we can raise over \$9,000.00 without really putting out much effort, just imagine what we can do if we really try.

Out of the over 1,154 households we sent reminders to, less than 200 sent in their communication fees in 2017. Our tribe continues to grow in size, now we need to grow in participation. It will take everyone working together, but we can accomplish great things. Our Cultural Arts Demonstration Team needs additional items for the demonstrations they provide and to be able to replace some gently loved pieces as well. Please consider how much more we could do if we have the funding to aid us in our efforts. We could offer more programs and services. Our museum would no longer be a dream but a reality. We rely on you to help us achieve our goals. Even those in our tribal family who live miles away and may never walk through the tribal office doors or attend a Fellowship can take pride in knowing you helped your tribal family accomplish great things. 2018 is gonna be our year to Shine! Send your fees in to: UCAN / PO Box 754 / Guntersville, AL 35976



**February 11th** - Fellowship Gathering - Covered Dish  
- Shake Out Your Regalia

**March 11th** - Fellowship Gathering - Covered Dish

**April 8th** - Fellowship Gathering - Covered Dish

**April 28th - 29th** - PowWow

**May** - No Fellowship Gathering - PowWow hangover recovery month!

**June 10th** - Fellowship Gathering - Covered Dish

**July 8th** - Fellowship Gathering - Covered Dish

**September 9th** - Fellowship Gathering - Covered Dish

**September 21st - 23rd** - Waterloo- Trail of Tears Commemoration

## United Cherokee AniYunWiYa Nation

### Contact Information

#### Tribal Council:

#### Principal Chief

Judy Dixon  
dixonzoo@aol.com or  
ucanonline@bellsouth.net

#### Vice Chief

Lowrey Hesse  
tlkstone1@aol.com

#### Secretary

Mara Burke

#### Treasurer

Donna Bridges

#### Council

Glen Hale, George Denmark, Sherman Dobson

#### Elders:

Butch Richardson - Head Elder

Doris Trevino

Donnia Monroe

Betty Burton

Roger White

Don Phillips

Art Wade

If you need to contact any of the Council or Elders please send an email request to either [ucanonline@bellsouth.net](mailto:ucanonline@bellsouth.net) or [dixonzoo@aol.com](mailto:dixonzoo@aol.com) and we will make sure they receive your request

### The Creator talked to the elders of all the races.

"Have you taught your children how to talk to me? Have you taught your people how to pray?"

The elder of the White race stood and said, "Yes, God. I've taught them the traditions taught by our churches. I tell them to bow their heads and humbly and quietly ask you for what they want."

The Native American elder stood up and said, "I too have taught my people to pray according to the traditions taught by our ancestors. I tell them to go to a mountain alone, just your pipe and fast there. Send up smoke and talk to Creator."

The elder of the Black race said, "I too have taught my people the traditions of our ancestors. I tell them to beat a drum and put all their emotions into it when they pray."

Creator then asked the wind, river and fire, "Why didn't you teach them?"

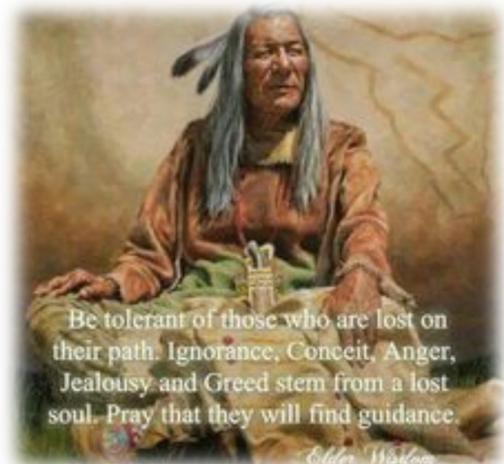
The wind, fire and river all said, "We've done our best, but they won't pay attention."

Creator then called the elders of all the races back.

Then He told them, "Just as the wind, fire, and river changes so does time and your people. It is good for them to know how their ancestors prayed, but they live now. They need to know how to pray now. They don't need to have to pray just like their ancestors."

I got this story from Elder Steve Edge.

-Ernie Oden



## The Native American “God”

By Ernie Oden

To some people in mainstream America; our Native American views of God and religion seem to be mystical or evil. Many of these people are really good people who just don't understand or have been misinformed. I do not claim to be an expert on every tribes' customs or religion, but here are some general beliefs.

We believe in one Supreme Being, Creator, God. We believe He is over all.

We believe there are other spirits some good some bad but none are equal to Creator God. We do not worship them as Creator God.

We feel good spirits were put here by Creator to help us. We honor and respect them, but we not treat them like they are Creator God.

Our views are much like the Christian view. God may have an angel to help you, but you don't think the angel itself is God.

Where Christians believe angels are a heavenly being that might take human form; our Native American teachings is that spirits may take an animal or human form.

A wise chief of the Crows, Chief Thomas Yellow Tail is credited with comparing religions and God to a wagon wheel. He compared the religions to different spokes and the hub to God. He said all spokes are different, but they all lead to the same hub. He said no two spokes are exactly alike, but they are all necessary for a wheel to work right. According to that our Native American view is just one spoke.

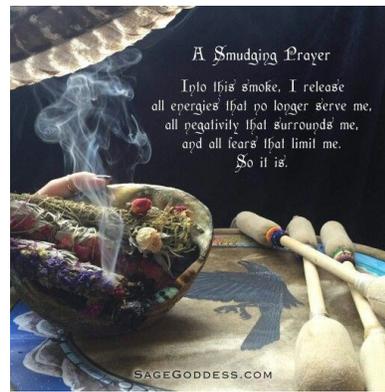
In Gospel of the Red Man a chief says, “We Indians are worshipping the same God that you are-only in a different way. When the Great Spirit, God made the world, He gave Indians one way to worship Him and He gave the Whiteman another way, because we are different people and our lives are different.” (Gospel of the Redman by Ernest Thompson Seton pp.8)

Our ways of worship are different. Sometimes people are afraid of things they do not understand or are not used to. People who are used to sitting quietly and respectfully in church and listening to pianos and organs may be frightened when they hear our loud drums, rattles, whoops and eagle cries. Just as many churches use pianos and organs; we use drums and rattles. We believe there is healing in the drum. Actually there have been scientific studies that show that listening to the drum tends to make the body heal. Mickey Hart drummer of the “Grateful Dead” participated in that study.

Just as some Christians call for the elders of their church to pray when they are sick; many Native Americans call for the drum to pray. Once a tribal Elder Steve Edge called the drum and asked them to pray for his mother. The doctors said she would not make it through the night. The drum had prayer at practice that night. Steven's mother lived about two more years.

Some people are uncomfortable with dancing, but remember the Bible mentions dancing, After God parted the Red Sea the Children of Israel danced. Also when the ark of the covenant was brought back; David danced.

Another custom we have that is unfamiliar to people is smudging.



A Smudging Prayer  
Into this smoke, I release  
all energies that no longer serve me,  
all negativity that surrounds me,  
and all fears that limit me.  
So it is.

Smudging is normally done with either white sage (*Salvia Apiana*) or gray sage (*Artemisia Tridentata*). We refer to smudging as purifying because we believe it helps remove negative energy. I normally tell people unfamiliar with smudging “Sage represents purity to us. By covering myself with this sage smoke I am saying I will try to cover myself with pure words, thoughts and deeds during this ceremony.” If you explain it this

way very few people will find fault with smudging whereas if you use the term purifying some of these people would not understand.

A few Native Americans burn sage or tobacco when they pray. This is called sending up smoke. If anyone ever questions you doing this remind them that Revelations spoke about the smoke of incense going up with the prayers of the saints.

Many Native Americans feel that the Creator speaks to us through animals, birds or nature. This belief may seem strange to you at first. Remember God used a dove to let Noah know the flood was over. God used a donkey to give Baalam a message.

Many of us Native Americans have totem animals which we feel help or protect us. If you question animals helping or protecting people; remember a couple of examples from the Bible. Ravens fed Elijah. A bear protected Elisha from mean children. Even though we believe in totem animals we do not worship them as Creator God.

Here are some names that different tribes have for God:

Cherokee - U ne la nv hi - translates: Creator or Apportioner

Chicasaw - Aba Binil - translates: One who sits Above

Inki Abu - translates: Father Above

Creek - Hesaketvmese - translates: Master of Breath

Ojibwa, Algonquin, Ottawa, Pottawatomi, Menominee, Kickapoo, Suak-Fox, Shawnee, Cree all use Gichi Manitou (various spellings) translates: Great Spirit, He was High God Creator

Abenaki, Penobscot - Gichi Niwoskw - translates: For Creator God, Great Spirit

Cheyene - Maheo - translates: Creator God, Divine Spirit

Lakota Sioux - Wakan Tanka - translates: Great Mystery when they pray they address Him as Tunkashila (Grandfather)

Omaha-Wakonda, Pawnee-Tirawa, Kiowa-Daw-kee, Apache-Usen

Notice the above are names for God not an animal.

In conclusion as Red Jacket told missionary Cram in 1805 (Gospel of the Red Man pp.83)

“Brother, we do not wish to destroy your religion, or take it from you, we want only to enjoy our own.”