

Adawe Election News

February 2011

Nomination News

A nomination meeting was held on 2/17/11 to fill 2 Grievance Committee positions and the Chief position. Nominees for Grievance Committee 1 are Kalisha Burtrum (incumbent) and Sam Looney. Grievance Committee 2 went to Aaron Epperson by Acclamation. Nominees for the position of Chief are John Ballard (incumbent) and Ethel Cook. Elections will be held on May 7, 2011 from 10 am to noon at the Ottawa/Peoria Cultural Center in Miami, OK. General Council meeting to be held after election. Lunch will be provided.

The Ottawa Tribe is looking for Pictures of Tribal Veterans. These photos will be added to our display case. Please send Photos to Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma Attn: Rhonda Hayworth P.O. Box 110 Miami, OK 74355.



ETHEL (KING) COOK

I would like to thank the Ottawa People for choosing me as a candidate for Chief and if elected I will continue to serve the Ottawa People and the Tribe to the best of my ability as I have in the past as your Second Chief.

I am the daughter of the late Claude and Sylvia King and the niece of the late Claudean (Dean) Epperson who served our Tribe faithfully for many years. I am the great-granddaughter of Joseph Badger King who was the first Ottawa Chief after the tribe moved to Indian Territory in 1869.

I worked for Western Electric/AT&T/Lucent Technologies for 25 years and feel the leadership and business skills learned from those 25 years has helped me in my duties as Second Chief to help lead our Tribe in making good business decisions for the future of the Ottawa Tribe, and its members. I will continue to do so when elected as Chief.

I have been involved in the tribe for many years before being elected to the board as Second Chief by:

- serving as Chair of the Ottawa Election Committee,
- serving as Secretary of the Ottawa Gaming Commission,

helped with Kids Christmas party, Thanksgiving Dinners, Elder Day events, or just lending a helping hand with any projects the tribe may have such as mowing grass, or helping in the office.

The wealth of knowledge and experience I have obtained while serving on the tribal government has helped me lead our Tribe.

- Since 2006 I have been instrumental in securing improvements of our sacred Pow-Wow grounds, to make the Pow-Wow a pleasant experience for all.
- Originally started the talks with Ottawa University in February of 2008 to honor the original Treaty of 1862. We now have an excellent agreement for education for all tribal members that are interested.
- The building and opening of our Community Center's Title VI meal program for our elders.
- was selected as one of the AARP Oklahoma's 2009 Elder Honorees,

Served on the ITC Board when the chief was unavailable.

As your Chief I will continue to hold myself and our Tribe to the high moral and ethical standards that our past leaders have established. I will represent ALL Tribal members and will continue the open door policy. I encourage all tribal members to voice their concerns in order to improve the lines of communication between the Chief, Business Committee and members.

I want to encourage all Tribal Members to participate in the election, if not in person then by absentee ballot.

Thank you to all,
Ethel (King) Cook

Chief John Robert Ballard



Greetings to all Tribal Members,

I hope this newsletter finds each and every one of you in good health and spirits. First and foremost, I want to say what an honor it is, to be able to serve you all, as Chief.

I came into this position with a clear and focused agenda on Education, Economic Development and Tribal Membership Services and I have to say that, I am very proud of all the progress *we*, as a tribe, have accomplished in these last three years.

My efforts for improving and developing programs for the tribe will continue, with your support. My door is always open, if any of you, have any questions, ideas or concerns about our tribe, do not hesitate to contact me at (918) 540-1536, Ottawa Tribal office, (918) 533-2015, my cell, (918) 540-3197, my home number, or through my email address, johnballard@cableone.net. I look forward to hearing from you and to continue working for you.

Thank you and God Bless,

John R. Ballard, Chief

For current or former IIM account holders, Owners of land held in trust or restricted status, or their heirs

There is a proposed Settlement in *Cobell v. Salazar*, a class action lawsuit about individual Indian land held in trust by the federal government. This notice is just a summary. For details, call the toll-free number or visit the website listed below.

The lawsuit claims that the federal government violated its duties by (a) mismanaging trust funds/assets, (b) improperly accounting for those funds, and (c) mismanaging trust land/assets. The trust funds include money collected from farming and grazing leases, timber sales, mining, and oil and gas production from land owned by American Indians/Alaska Natives.

If you are not sure if you are included in this lawsuit please call me at the Ottawa tribal office and I will give you what information I can., or by going to www.IndianTrust.com or by calling 1-800-961-6109.

Rhonda Hayworth

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

VOTE!



Drawing done by an Ottawa Tribal Member

Kalisha Burtrum



Aanii,

My name is Kalisha (Dixon) Burtrum and I am running for re-election as a member of the Ottawa Tribal Grievance Committee. I am the daughter of Kelly Dixon and the granddaughter of Ilene Dixon and the late Willard Dixon, and great granddaughter of the late Willis Dixon. I am a proud mother of three wonderful daughters Anastasia, Elizabeth, and Ilannah Burtrum.

I work as a Licensed Resource Worker at TFI Family Services in Pittsburg, KS, with a Bachelors Degree in Social Work with emphasis in Criminal Justice from Pittsburg State University. I work closely with foster parents caring for special needs children and adoptive homes wishing to add more children to their lives. While I was attending Pittsburg State I was a member of the Native American Student Association, the Social Work Club, and the Honor Society.

I have been active in my cultural community for many years. I have served as the Quapaw Inter-Tribal Guard Dancer's Princess, Eastern Shawnee Pow-wow Princess, and Quapaw Pow-wow Princess as well as Head Lady at Ottawa Pow-wow and Missouri State Pow-wow.

It has always been an honor to serve my community and provide leadership for children to follow. I began attending the Anishinabe Language and Cultural Camp when I was a child over thirteen years ago, for the last seven years I have been a presenter for the camp teaching individuals different aspects of our tribal language. It is a dream of mine to see my fellow tribal members speak their native language just as our ancestors have before us. I have witnessed my family's love for our tribe and am dedicated to helping it to the best of my ability. I would be greatly honored to be re-elected to serve on the Tribal Grievance Committee.

Chi-Miigwetch!!!

We, the Election Committee, would like to take this opportunity to remind all members of the tribe to make sure that if you plan to send for absentee ballots to please send as soon as possible. We need time to get requests and mail ballots back to you so that all voices can be heard. We must have all Absentee ballots turned into the Tribal office by 4pm Friday May 6th for them to be counted. Any ballots received after that date and time will not be valid. We, the Election Committee, will not be held responsible for ballots that are late. We are sending this newsletter out earlier to allow everyone time to vote. Anyone with concerns regarding the upcoming Election are encouraged to call the Office @ 918-540-1536. Someone from the election committee will call you back regarding your questions. We, the election committee, want to work with the tribal members to make the election process as smooth and trouble free as possible.

Sam Looney



Fellow Tribal Members,

I am Sam Looney and am asking for the opportunity to serve you on the Tribal Grievance Committee. I am 56 years old, live about 3 miles southwest of Miami, OK. And have been in this area most of my life. My Ottawa family line is Bessie (Sis) Dixon, Willis Dixon, Lottie Non-Keesis, Ezekiel and Mary NonKeesis. In The House Plumbing in Miami is my company. An amateur student of American history, my passion is Civil War reenacting. I have done this for 15 years, holding leadership roles for 10 of those years.

My formal education is not awe inspiring and I hold no degrees. Higher education is a good thing, preparing people for a better life. I endorse everyone getting all the schooling they need but I have found that higher education is not absolutely a giver of wisdom and sense of fairness. These attributes though can be possessed by observing and trying to emulate people of sound character. The person in my life responsible for teaching me most about being a good man was my grandpa, Willis Dixon. He served the Ottawa Tribe for many years as 1st Councilman and served his community as a long time member of the Masons. I saw him do this with compassion, dedication, wisdom, and humor with no thought of self. Growing older, hopefully like my grandpa, I have made myself a man of self sacrifice, empathy, and perseverance.

I believe your vote for me would be well cast. When the right thing needs to be done, I will not give up and I will be heard. When my last wife was dying of cancer, I stayed off work for months to attend to her needs until she was put to rest among much of my family in our sacred cemetery. As a younger man I made some foolish mistakes abusing alcohol and drugs. With the help of rehabilitation treatment and the love of some very caring folks, I have been free of that for many years. Amazing as it sounds, those bad years have given me a certain insight and understanding of human nature.

If elected to serve, I will be a tireless and respectful advocate for every Ottawa regardless of the circumstances where life has placed them. I will insist the names and contact information for the Grievance Committee members begin to be listed on the tribe's website and newsletter. I truly know in my heart, not any one tribal member is more deserving of consideration than another. We are all worthy of equal treatment from the people we elect and employ. After all, are we not all descended from the same great Ottawa People and more importantly, are we not all equal in the Eye of God?

If not chosen for this position, I will seek other ways to serve the Ottawa People. Always remember to be proud. You have the blood of Pontiac coursing through your bodies.

Miigwech,

Sam Looney (She-kauk)



Election Committee
Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 110
Miami, OK 74355

Dear Election Committee:

Please consider this a formal request for an absentee ballot for the General Election on May 7th, 2011 for the purpose of voting in the General Election to fill the position of Chief and 2 Grievance members.

Date

Signature

Print Name (Please Include Middle Initial & Maiden Name) Roll# Date of Birth

Print Address:

New e-mail address

Due to updating our internet service the tribe has a new e-mail address which is:
adawetribe@sbcglobal.net Phone (918)540-1536
WEB SITE Fax (918)542-3214
Ottawatribe.org



OTTAWA TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA
POST OFFICE BOX 110
MIAMI, OK 74355

ELECTION COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN:

MONA KING

MEMBERS:

KELLY CRABTREE

MIKAL WERNER

EDRA BUCKMASTER

J.C. DAWES