

**THE SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBE
OFFICE OF THE VICE CHAIRMAN
PRESENTS**

June/July 2007 Volume 1, Issue 4

THE COMMUNITY STRONGHOLD NEWSLETTER



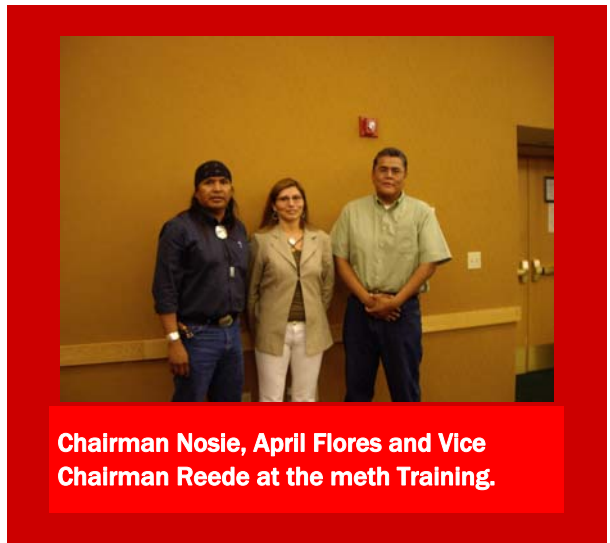
Did you know?

- According to the 2000 Census, American Indians and Alaskan Natives made up slightly less than one percent of the total U.S. population.
- Congress created the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) in 1849.

A MESSAGE FROM VICE CHAIRMAN REEDE

This month the San Carlos Detention Center hosted a training session on the topic of meth. The session was designed to offer our local service providers with ideas and experiences relating to meth use. The day's agenda included a presentation by Ms. April Toineeta Flores, Indian Health Service employee and volunteer coordinator for the Meth Free Crow Coalition. April is also a recovering meth addict.

During Ms. Flores's presentation she made many keen observations. She shared her fears of starting an anti-meth movement in her community without any money. However, she quickly realized that if Indian people wait for the government to give us more money, then we will be waiting a long time. She started her local community efforts without government funding but by rallying her community behind her vision of a meth free community.



Chairman Nosie, April Flores and Vice Chairman Reede at the meth Training.

April Toinetta Flores is an example of how one person can make a change in a community. Here in San Carlos we have many unrecognized heroes that walk among us everyday. Daily, I hear the stories of individuals that have started food banks or volunteer as coaches for youth sports events. We have a community member that is currently working to bring a national advocacy group against drunk driving to our reservation. All of these stories deserve to be told. With that in mind, I am proud to announce the creation of the Vice Chairman's Vision Award. The purpose of this award is to recognize an individual who has dedicated time, talent and energy in service to the residents of the San Carlos Apache Reservation. You can read more about this award on page 7. As always, I thank you for continuing to read and support this newsletter.

Sincerely,

David Reede

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Elevation Through Representation

By Beverly Russell

Breakfast with Vice Chairman Reede

In an effort to unite and empower the community, Vice Chairman Reede launched "Breakfast with the Vice Chairman." This event was designed to create an informal forum to connect with the community and share information about the efforts of the Tribe.

In May, Chairman Nosie and Vice Chairman Reede joined forces to host a joint "Breakfast with the Leadership" event. Together they welcomed nearly 70 community members to hear about the activities and the initiatives of the Executive offices. This gathering was also an opportunity for members of the community to share their views on the state of the reservation.

At this gathering, community members took the opportunity to discuss important issues relating to law enforcement, summer youth activities, and drug (meth) use prevention. There was also a cry for better services for the elders. One of the most prominent issues presented at the breakfast was the need for reform of the Tribal Committees.



Chairman Nosie and Vice Chairman Reede welcome community members to the breakfast.



Community members line up to enjoy a continental breakfast before the program begins.

In response to the issues raised at the breakfast. The Office of the Vice Chairman has taken the following actions. Regarding summer youth activities, the Office of the Vice Chairman joined forces with the Boys and Girls Club to create a summer youth calendar detailing the events available to all youth during summer break. Vice Chairman Reede also acted upon the community's request for better meth prevention strategies and treatment by convening a working group composed of the San Carlos Police Department, the Wellness Center, Tribal Court, Social Services and the Indian Health Service to address the coordination of services relating to the meth epidemic. The goal is to establish a guide or comprehensive policy to address meth in San Carlos. Finally, in response to the community's concerns regarding Tribal Committees, Mr. Reede has formulated a resolution for consideration by the Tribal Council that addresses the reform of the Tribal Committees.

Breakfast with the Vice Chairman will be offered every other month as a consistent method of keeping the public informed. The next breakfast will take place in the month of September.

Elevation Through Representation

By Vice Chairman Reede

Proposed Resolution on Tribal Committee Reform

As you may recall, my office held district listening sessions in February of this year. These sessions provided opportunities for the Office of the Vice Chairman to listen to the comments and opinions of the community. Each gathering was conducted as an open meeting where the public was invited to offer feedback on the goals and initiatives of the Office of the Vice Chairman. In these forums, I heard concerns relating to law enforcement, youth activities, and drug prevention. There was also a cry for better services for the elders. However one of the most prominent issues presented at the listening sessions was the need for reform of the Tribal Committees.

In response to the public's demand for accountability by the Tribal Committees, I have prepared a draft resolution addressing Tribal Committee reform for consideration by the Tribal Council. I plan to introduce this Resolution at the next regular Council meeting scheduled for August 7. The draft resolution language is as follows:

**SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBE
SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBAL RESERVATION
SAN CARLOS, ARIZONA
DRAFT RESOLUTION**

- WHEREAS,** *The San Carlos Apache Tribe is a federally recognized Indian Tribe organized Pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984); and,*
- WHEREAS,** *The San Carlos Apache Tribal Council has exercised the constitutional authority, as granted in the San Carlos Apache Tribal Constitution (Art. 5, Sec. 1 (o)), to appoint subordinate committees.*
- WHEREAS,** *The San Carlos Apache Tribal Council currently administers committees that are not regulated through official standardized policies that outline tenure and duties as stated in the constitution.*
- WHEREAS,** *The public comments obtained during the Vice Chairman's Taking Action Community Listening Sessions have revealed that a number of citizens of the tribe recognize the importance of these authorizing committees and would like assurance that each committee is regulated by fair and sound policies.*
- WHEREAS,** *The San Carlos Apache Tribal Council wishes to conduct committee business in a transparent, fair, and professional manner that encourages community participation and community generated solutions.*

BE IT RESOLVED that the San Carlos Apache Tribal Council shall develop standardized regulatory policies for each of the active Council Committees for consideration at the next Council Meeting. These proposed regulations should include the following elements: purpose, membership qualifications and selection, tenure, duties, public notice requirements and authority.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council recognizes the relevance of conducting committee business in accordance with the Tribal Constitution. Therefore, all committee business will be presented for consideration to the full Council until the standardized regulatory policies are enacted.

If you would like to offer more comments regarding this draft Resolution, please feel free to contact my staff or call the Community Comment Line at 475-3000 to share your thoughts.

Sharing Our Direction

Tribal Water Rights Program submitted by Natalie Stevens

"The funds are in a separate account from the Tribe's general fund account and may be used for community or economic developments for the Tribe."

The Water Rights Program would like to inform the San Carlos Apache Tribal Members of the activities regarding the San Carlos Apache Tribe Water Rights Settlement Funds. The settlement was in accordance to the Water Rights Settlement Act and the funds are expended in accordance to Public Law 102-575, 25 CFR Part 183, and Subpart B. The funds are in a separate account from the Tribe's general fund account and may be used for community or economic developments for the Tribe. The funds may also be used for water use development projects and to defray the cost to the Tribe of CAP operating, replacement charges and maintenance expenses. The funds are audited annually and an annual report must be submitted to the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The San Carlos Apache Tribal Council approves the community or economic projects. In addition, the proposed project must have approval from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. There are three (3) sources of funds: principal (trust) for economic development projects, trust and lease income interest for community or economic development, and local interest earned from the local bank for community or economic development projects. The projects are incorporated from the Tribe's overall plans. The expenditures are according to the approved plans and budgets on file. Per capita payments are not allowed under the Water Rights Settlement Act. The long-term economic development projects are in the form of a loan.

In 2006 Water Rights Settlement Funds interest income totaled to about \$2,832,814.00. The interest income is an estimated amount the Tribe utilizes for various projects. In 2006 the Tribe has funded the following community and economic development projects:

Law Enforcement Department 2007 – Operational costs for the Law Enforcement Department.

Tribal Farms – NRCS matching grant irrigation repairs.

FEMA Facility Repairs – Matching Grant repairs needed for 2006 storm.

FEMA – HMGP For repairs from 2006 storm.

ICDBG Matching grant for Homes 12 homes rehab/repair.

Incubator Business/Old Bashas' Building Renovation remodel for incubator project.

Bylas Homes Storm Damage – 44 homes repair from storm damage.

The projects that are still on-going are: the Peridot Gas Station/Restaurant/Store, Peridot Water Tank, and Housing Rehabilitation-ICDBG Matching Grant Funds; Drought Relief Project, Tribal Livestock Restocking, and Peridot Administration Building; Peridot Rodeo Grounds, O.A.C. construction (matching grant), and Housing Construction; Gilson Wash Sand and Gravel, and Seven Mile Community Funds. The local interest is funding educational scholarships through the education department. Completed projects in 2006 were the Bylas Baseball Field Project (matching grant), Peridot Water Tanks, Peridot Water Main, Seven Mile Water Tanks, and Law Enforcement 2006.

The intent of the community and economic projects listed is to benefit the Tribe as a whole. The economic developments will benefit the Tribe economically by utilizing the various natural resources on the reservation.

The Water Rights Program currently reports to the Tribal Council on a monthly basis. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Natalie Stevens, Project Administrator at (928) 475-4820.

Knowledge is Power

Frequently Asked Questions



Q: Why do people have to fill out applications to receive General Assistance (GA) from the Office of the Vice Chairman?

A: After much contemplation, the Vice Chairman stepped forward and respectfully requested the support of the community as he worked toward creating a formal process for the distribution of General Assistance from his office. The intent of this project is to implement a fair process by which any constituent can and qualify for General Assistance based upon their true documented need as verified by their income. The application process also helped to ensure that all applicants/recipients are enrolled tribal members. Another purpose of the General Assistance application process was to encourage GA recipients to give back to the community while ensuring that each applicant makes an effort to plan for their future to avoid any further financial distress. All of these elements are designed to prevent abuse of the GA system.

The Vice Chairman's decision to begin a formal GA process was not meant to insult or offend any members of the community. The intent was to be fiscally responsible with GA dollars by creating a process that can be documented and beneficial to all parties. Mr. Reede's awareness of the need to balance compassion and understanding with responsibility and professionalism was the basis of this effort. It was his full intention to help move San Carlos towards becoming a community in which all able-bodied members can provide for themselves and their families with honor and dignity. At the same time, the Office of the Vice Chairman would like to offer temporary assistance to those community members who cannot provide for themselves and their families.

Q: Why did the GA notification process take so long?

A: The Office of the Vice Chairman began to accept applications utilizing this new system in the first week of July. Within the first week of accepting applications the office received nearly 500 applications. The verification process required that the office staff worked round the clock to help review and verify information for all applicants. This process was extremely time consuming. The Office of the Vice Chairman appreciates the patience and graciousness displayed by the community during the GA verification process.

Q: My application was not approved for funding, what are the reasons one may not have been approved?

A: If you were assisted by the Vice Chairman or another member of the Council within the past 6 months, you may not have been eligible during this process. In fairness, Mr. Reede's priority was to fund those who had not received funding recently. A second reason for denial was income level. If you are employed with stable income, you may not have been qualified for this process, as its purpose was to meet basic emergency needs only. Finally, applications for emergency/general assistance were considered by application date. Depending on the date your application was turned in, the funds allocated for this process may have already been exhausted, and therefore your application may not have been funded.

Community Voices

Submitted by the Apache Champions Boxing Club



Kevin Chapman prepares for competition.

We, the members of the Apache Champion Boxing Club would like to share our success with the community. Our club was founded in the fall of 2006. Currently we have a membership of 15 boxers with 5 that are registered members of USA Boxing, the national governing organization for Olympic style amateur boxing. In the first week of July, after twelve weeks



Top: Michael Dillon receives instructions from his coach in between rounds. Below, Christy Redfeather takes second in her division.

of grueling training, our club ventured to Tulsa Oklahoma to participate in our first competition. The boxers that participated were Michael Dillon Jr., Kevin Chapman and Christy Redfeather. The competition was the National Native American Boxing Championships. Our team brought home several medals. Kevin Chapman placed first in his weight class while Michael Dillon placed third in his division. Christy Redfeather also brought home a second place honor in her weight class.

It is the consensus of the club members that boxing has given each of us much needed direction. Several of us have improved our clarity and health through this disciplined program. We would like to take this opportunity to encourage the community to come and visit our club and consider joining our program as a competitor for a work out or self defense. For questions regarding our club, contact Coach DJ Lott at 475-2798 ext. 1511.



Planning Ahead

Vice Chairman Reede's August 2007 Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
July 31	Vice Chairman's Community Forum	5:30 pm	Tribal Council Hall
Aug. 2	Assistant Attorney General Regina B. Schofield visit to SCAT Reservation		
Aug. 7	Regular Tribal Council Meeting	9:00 am	Tribal Council Hall
Aug. 14	SCUSD Board Meeting	5:30 pm	San Carlos
Aug. 27-29	Trial Strategic Planning Meeting	8:00 am	Phoenix, AZ

Dates are subject to change. For updates to Mr. Reede's schedule, please visit www.scatvicechairmanreede.com.

Inspiring Change

by David Reede & Staff

My staff and I are pleased to present Inspiring Change, a section of the newsletter that will provide you with information regarding the policies, ongoing, and upcoming projects and initiatives of the Office of the Vice Chairman. If you have any comments and/or would like to participate in any of these activities please feel free to contact us at 475-2361.

Vice Chairman's Vision Award

In recognition of our community's need to rise above the negatives that plague San Carlos and embrace the positive, my Office has established the Vice Chairman's Vision Award. The purpose of this award is to recognize an individual who has dedicated time, talent and energy in service to the residents of the San Carlos Apache Reservation. To identify exceptional award candidates, a nomination application will be made available. This award will be given in the month of November. The Vice Chairman's Office will take nominations based on the following criteria.

Criteria for nomination:

- ◆ Any tribal member who is 18 years of age or older and living or working in the San Carlos area is eligible.
- ◆ Service to be recognized should have been of benefit to the community or to society in general.
- ◆ Service to be recognized should have been performed over and above the normal duties of one's salaried or paid position.
- ◆ Service need not have been confined to a single year but should be recent enough to have current significance.
- ◆ Tribal Council members and staff of the Administration are not eligible for this award

To nominate an individual you may pick up a nomination application in the Office of the Vice Chairman beginning **August 10**. Applications will also be available at online at www.scavicechairmanreede.com. The award recipient will receive a plaque, recognition for their service in the local media, in addition to a small financial award to be used to further their work in the community.

Future Projects

In future issues of the Community Stronghold, you can look forward to more information on the following Office of the Vice Chairman projects:

- *Vice Chairman's Council on the Arts
- *Vice Chairman's Language Preservation Project
- *Vice Chairman's Leadership Academy
- *Vice Chairman's Community Empowerment Project
- *Meth/Substance Abuse Service Coordination Planning Project
- *Community Fund



**San Carlos Apache Tribe
Office of the Vice Chairman
P.O. Box 0
San Carlos, AZ 85550**



**Have a question or concern?
Call the community comment line.**

475-3000

WWW.SCATVICECHAIRMANREEDE.COM

Changing Government

Changing Lives