



Tribal News

Chihene Nde Nation of New Mexico

September/October 2017

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Another Successful Annual Gathering Held last Month at Akela Property

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Luna County, NM– The OCRS and Tribe held the 9th Annual Gathering on October 6-8, 2017, at the Luna County property. We had a good attendance and held a special election on proposed changes in the Tribal Constitution and By-laws. On the special ballot was a proposed amendment that would have reduced the number of Tribal Council Member from 11 to 7. The purpose was to acquire improved participation and allow all to run regardless of status. The arguments were with respect to the positions of Elders. It was argued that this amendment was not so much to eliminate Elders from serving, but that no one is given a position that may not be earned and if respected, the person regardless of status should be able to win. No one should be given a position arbitrarily and should have run for any position of leadership. The debate became

focused on the fact that this also included eliminating the Treasurer and Secretary's roles. The debate was whether or not it was necessary to submit articles of dissolution of the Chihene Nde Nation of New Mexico due to efforts for re-recognition. Our previous Vice President and prominent attorney advised that it might be necessary to dissolve the Chihene Nde Nation of NM. Chairman Manuel Paul Sanchez differed from the opinion and advised that the Legal Counsel, Francis LameBull advised the opposite and members asked how defer the matter to obtain a clear legal opinion. The membership did not approve the amendment and left the issues as status quo. It was agreed that the Chair would secure an independent legal opinion on the subject matter and report on the January 2018 meeting.

We were blessed this year

with Mescalero Crown (Gaahe') dancers. Our beloved A. Paul Ortega blessed us before his passing by spreading the word on us within Mescalero to other Diiyin (holy people). Joel Lester bestowed upon us the blessing of his crown dancers for Friday and Saturday night last month. The Lester family are direct descendants of Mangas Coloradas and Chihuahua. Their blessing was very spiritual and more importantly, they are our people. They will continue to be part of our family. We did not have a Holy Ground Ceremony this year. Jerry Gloshey and Ramon Riley had deaths in their family, which prevented them from conducting Holy Ground this year. Please pray for Jerry Gloshey and Ramon Riley and their families. They have prayed and helped us for many years and now they are in need of our prayers for solace and comfort.

OCRS Calendar of Events

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

December 2, 2017: Sponsorship of the New Mexico Land Grant Consejo Meeting– Elephant Butte Community Center, Elephant Butte, NM– 9:00 am– 3:00 pm. Membership please feel free to assist and vol-

unteer to help.

January-5-6, 2018-OCRS Meeting-Jurado Residence. Tribal Council Meeting on Saturday 6th, at the FIC DAC Meeting Center.

May Memorial Day Weekend OCRS Retreat- Cochise Stronghold, AZ

June 22-24-10th Annual Gathering-Manzano Property and Manzano Mountain State Park, NM

August 10-12th- Chiricahua National Monument- OCRS Retreat and Meeting with Tribal Council Meeting.

**Chihene Nde Nation of
New Mexico**

Editor—Pablo Martinez
2711 Winston Avenue
Las Cruces, NM 88005



Ojo Caliente Restoration Society (OCRS)

Phone: 575-312-6327
Fax: 575-527-2460
E-mail:
chihenenationofnewmexico@
yahoo.com



**Chihene Nde Nation of
New Mexico**

Nde Anshdi' Bai'klensi
I am proud to be Apache.

We are on the Web

www.chihenenationofnewmexico.org

The Ojo Caliente Restoration Society (OCRS) is a New Mexico domestic non-profit and tax exempt organization pursuant to sections 501(C)(3) of the US Revenue Code. We are the fiscal agent for the Chihene Nde Nation of New Mexico. We are descendants of Nde (Apache) people throughout Southern and Central New Mexico. Our ancestors acquired Spanish and Mexican Land Grants known as Apache-ras or Rancherias during those occupations. The Chihene Nde Nation was acknowledged and recognized by entering into the Treaty of 1855 by and between the Chihene Nde Nation and the United States which was not ratified by the Congress of the United States. Our families either fled to northern Mexico or were compelled to assimilate into the Hispano or Mexican American communities of the southwest. Many of us possess Spanish surnames and were able blend into those communities. Our ancestors did this to avoid annihilation and forced removal from our indigenous homelands.

Our goal is to gain re-recognition as a federally recognized American Indian Tribe. We are acquiring our land base and economic development plans that will benefit the public.

Many of our families also possessed homesteads and land patents during the beginning of the 20th century. We are also requesting the US Justice Department Community Relations Services to intervene on our behalf in this quest.



Letter from the Chairmen



Dear Tribal Members:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have made outstanding contributions through sweat, blood and tears to make our meetings, retreats and tribal/OCRS activities successful.

We recognize that we have challenges a head of us. Many of us hold on to full time jobs and we are all volunteers. There has been a lot of personal investments made over the last 9 years. We continue to make progress daily. We thank sister Nancy Lopez for her help and guidance and serving above the call of duty on the Land Grant Consejo.

The OCRS and Tribe will continue to work together by informing our membership on upcoming activities and to encourage more membership

outreach and participation. OCRS will publish quarterly newsletters that will provide information on all of our actions and activities.

We all can use the help of setting up and cleaning up after the event. I strongly our two properties. We need volunteers with saws, trailers and even heavy machinery to clear debris and help prepare for our annual gatherings.

We hope to recruit new members to assist in our efforts. We need to clear wood from our Manzano Property and transport it to our Akela Flats location. Please review the tribal website regularly for updates. www.chihenenationofnewmexico.org.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or wish to volunteer for any activities.

Best regards,

Manuel P. Sanchez

Manuel P. Sanchez, Chair
Chihene Nde Nation of NM

Paul "Pablo" A. Martinez

Paul "Pablo" A. Martinez
Chair-OCRS