



# SMOKE SIGNALS

-- THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ABSENTEE SEMINOLE TRIBE OF TEXAS --

Volume: 91

[absenteeseminoletribe.org](http://absenteeseminoletribe.org)

December 2025

## TRIBAL COUNCIL

Principal Chief: Lee R. Young

Asst. Chief: Richard L. Watson

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

Clarence G. Ward, Treasurer

Ebonie S. Mobley, Secretary

Mary S. Young

Marsha Jo Butler

**PRINCIPAL CHIEF'S MESSAGE:** Hensci, Seminoles Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to the New Year as we continue our journey and challenges of developing and education of our remarkable heritage. Our first meeting of 2026 will be a Tribal Council meeting via Zoom on January 24, 2026 11:00 AM CST. All members are welcome to attend.

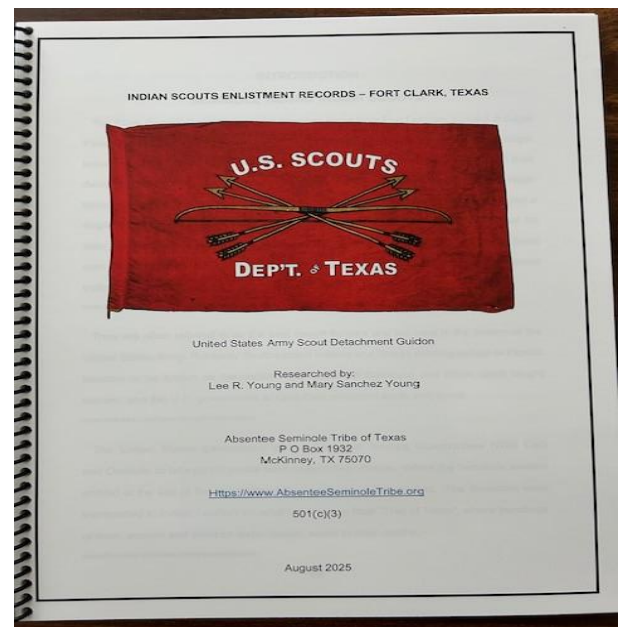
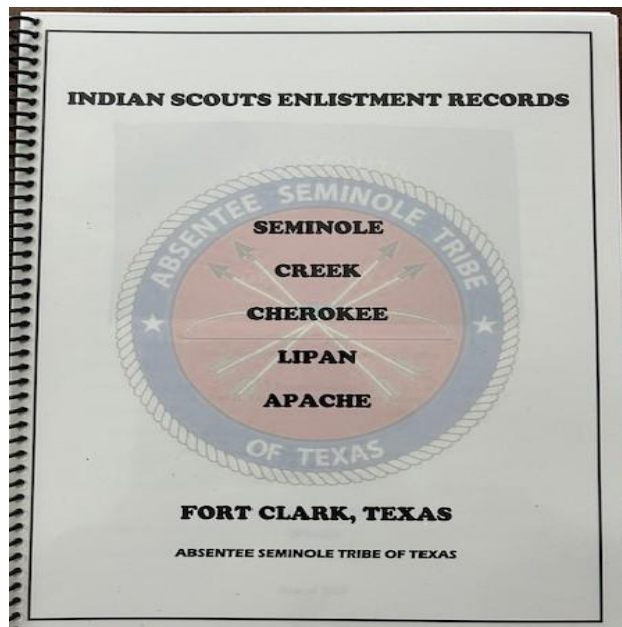
**Tribal Council vacancy** – a vacancy exists on the Tribal Council – an enrolled member 18 years of age or older who has interest in serving on the Tribal Council is asked to contact any Tribal Council member to indicate your interest or for additional information on serving on the Tribal Council. Service on the Tribal Council is an excellent opportunity to provide suggestions and ideas for our development as a nation. New ideas for programs, events, and fundraising are vital for our development and growth.

A booklet **“Indian Scouts Enlistment Records – Fort Clark, Texas”**. The booklet consisting of 78 pages with information on each of the Indian Scouts who served at Fort Clark, Texas 1870 to 1914, has approximately 39 photographs, full color where possible. The printing cost of the booklet has been donated by Chief Young, the proceeds from sale of the booklet will go to the ASTT. **The booklet is now available for purchase online cost \$25.00, shipping US USPS included. To order a booklet (excellent Christmas gift) for learning more of our heritage – follow the link outlined below to place an order.**

<https://absenteeseminoletribe.org/enlistment-records/>

The Seminole Negro Indian Scouts were a detachment which served the U S Army from 1870 to 1914. The detachment consisted of Seminole, Creek, Cherokee, Lipan and Apache Indians. These remarkable men served the U.S. Army for 42 years. During their service not a single scout was killed as a result of combat action. The Medal of Honor, an honor for valor, was subsequently awarded to four of the Seminole Negro Indian Scouts.

These men of mixed black and Seminole/Indian ancestry, dressed, acted and possessed remarkable tracking, and fighting skills. They are often referred to as the best desert fighters and trackers in the history of the United States Army.



## December Birthdays

Cheryl Rene Hilson – Dec 4  
Michael E. Watson - Dec 4  
Peyton Madison Stokes – Dec 7  
Victoria M. Benson – Dec 10  
Jazz C. Garza - Dec 10  
Charlotte W. Everett - Dec 12  
Natavia La'Teona Blanks - Dec 13  
Yolanda S. Williams – Dec 16  
Jace A. Upton – Dec 19

Louis B. Watson – Dec 22  
Ebony G. Blanks – Dec 21  
Toni B. Stoker – Dec 22  
Laila J. Brinkley – Dec 23  
Kristen M. Aguilera – Dec 26  
Anthony L Watson – Dec 26  
Meia S. Meza – Dec 28  
Jeremy Roshon Factor – Dec 31

Spouse

Neil R. Jordan Jr – Dec 22



**TRIBAL IDENTIFICATION CARDS:** Tribal Identification Cards are available for \$25, valid for 4 years. The Tribal Identification Cards, are an official means to identify tribal members. Tribal Identification Cards do not replace any official government issued identification, they provide a means for members to proudly display their tribal enrollment.



### **TRIBAL IDENTIFICATION CARD RENEWAL**

Tribal Identification Cards are beginning to expire – we will mail expiration notices. Everyone encouraged to check the expiration date on their Tribal Identification Cards. Renewal only requires submission of payment of \$25, payable to Absentee Seminole Tribe of Texas.

### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

If you change residence, get a new telephone number, new email address, or any other changes in contact information. Forward your new information to our office.

### **FACEBOOK**

<https://www.facebook.com/AbsenteeSeminoleTribeTexas/>

**Absentee Seminole Tribe of Texas  
P. O. Box 1932  
McKinney, TX 75070-8162**

**E-Mail - [info@AbsenteeSeminoleTribe.org](mailto:info@AbsenteeSeminoleTribe.org)**

**Website: <https://AbsenteeSeminoleTribe.org>**