



# SMOKE SIGNALS

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

Volume: 95

absenteeseminoletribe.org

May 2026

## 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

The Tribal Council met via Zoom on April 11, 2026. Attending the meeting were: Lee Young, Principal Chief, Richard Watson, Assistant Chief, Clarence Ward, Treasurer, Ebonie Mobley, Secretary, Tribal Council members: Mary Young, Marsha Butler and visitor Yolanda Williams. The meeting was called to order at 11:07 AM, a prayer was administered by Clarence Ward. Chief Young read the minutes from the January 24, 2026 meeting. The minutes were accepted as read by majority vote. Chief Young read the financial report: total assets: \$1,140.25, Operating account: \$960.25, Project account \$180.00.

Membership was reported as 220. Old business discussed the council unamously decided to commence an annual donation request from all enrolled members. Reason for annual donation are for the tribe to have available funds

for events, an conducting official tribal business. An online platform has been established members can make donations from their personal electronic devices. A DONATE button is included in this newsletter. Our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary is occurring this June and council has begun to plan the event. Our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary event will be held on June 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at Saint John Missionary Outreach, Brackettville TX. There will be a "Loteria", and food sales. Details will be forth coming in the next few weeks. The Tribal Council will meet on May 30, 2026 via Zoom at 11:00 AM.

We would like to again remind all we have a new business address:

**241 MEADOWS DRIVE  
MCKINNEY, TX 75071-3971**

Control + Click on DONATE to go to the Donation Form

[DONATE](#)

<https://donate.stripe.com/0owdR237rgt1gfCbf56kg00>

## **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.

## **INDIAN SCOUTS ENLISTMENT RECORDS – FORT CLARK, TEXAS**

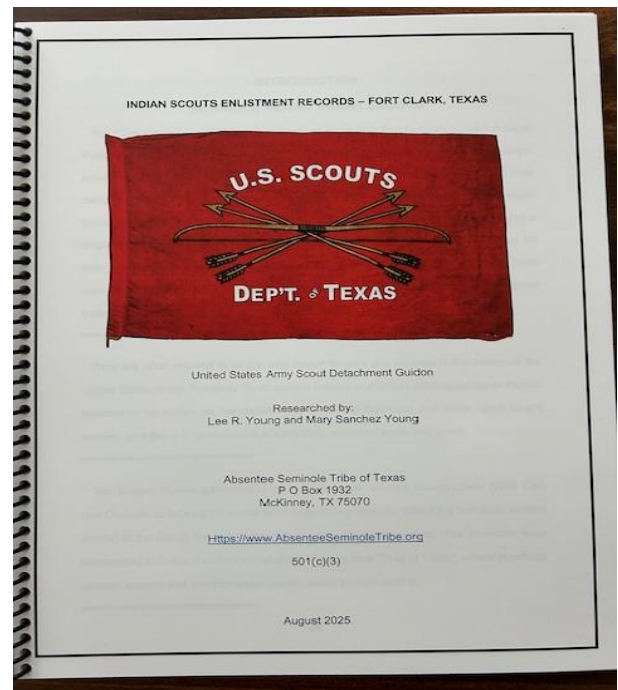
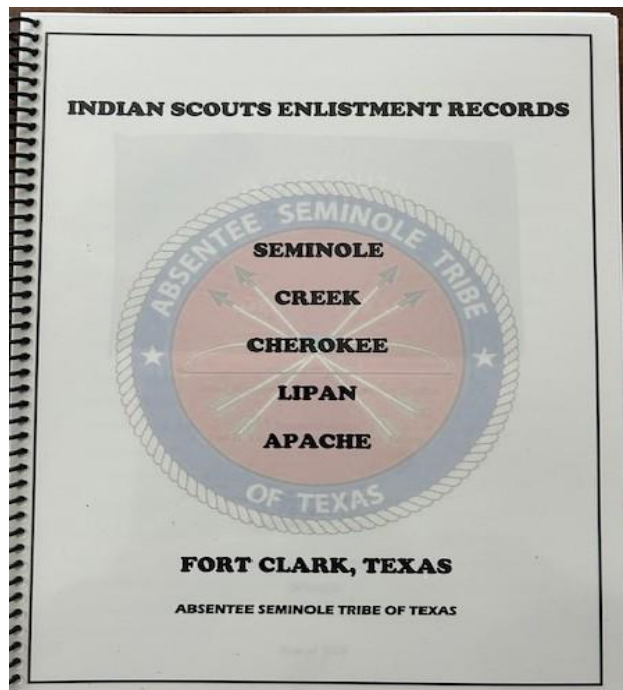
The booklet “**Indian Scouts Enlistment Records – Fort Clark, Texas**”. The booklet consists of 78 pages with information on each of the Indian Scouts who served at Fort Clark, Texas 1870 to 1914, it has approximately 39 photographs, full color where possible. The printing cost of the booklet has been donated by Chief Young, the proceeds from sale of the booklet will go to the ASTT. **The booklet is available for purchase online cost \$25.00, shipping USPS included. To order a booklet and learn more of our remarkable heritage – follow the link below to place your order, or visit our webpage: <https://absenteeseminoletribe.org>**

**The order portal is located on the RESOURCES Tab**

**<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 personnel 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.



## May Birthdays

Sherhondia A. Green – May 1  
 Jonathon Riley Factor – May 1  
 Viviana Benson - May 1  
 Douglas C. Ward - May 5  
 Steven C. Young – May 9  
 TiJanae Watson – May 10  
 Ronald Q. Blanks – May 12  
 Jonathon C. Francis – May 13  
 Ernest Benson Jr. – May 17  
 Kaylin J. Jackson – May 20

Hubert D. Williams – May 20  
 April D. Polite – May 20  
 Cubert Young III – May 22  
 Shaelyn D. Stocker – May 24  
 Quillan B. Green – May 25  
 Dorothy Louise Ward – May 26  
 Myla Rena Tabora – May 28  
 Amara Renee Coleman – May 29  
 Julia F. Naylor – May 29  
 Carl D. Young - May 31



**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  
241 Meadows Drive  
McKinney, TX 75071-3971**

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

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