



SMOKE SIGNALS

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

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July 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

Yolanda S. Williams

PRINCIPAL CHIEF'S MESSAGE: Hensci, Seminoles

On June 19, and 20 our 10th annual celebration was held in Brackettville, TX at the Saint John Missionary Outreach. Thanks to Clarence Ward the administrator at Saint John Missionary Outreach for allowing use of the facilities. We want to extend our thanks to all who were able to attend the activities. On June 19 we had a general Tribal Council meeting. The state of the tribe was presented to attendees, and the installation of our newest Tribal Council member – Yolanda S. Williams, receiving the oath of office. On June 20th, we met for lunch at 12 PM. Following lunch 3 to 6 PM a Loteria was held where participants enjoyed the many prizes awarded to the winners in the Loteria. The Loteria is a popular event with several regular participants looking forward to the next activity.

Yolanda S. Williams – receiving the “Oath of Office” from Principal Chief, Lee Young.



The Tribal Council enacted a request of tribal members to make an annual donation to the tribe. The funds are to be used for general tribal expenses and costs associated with events. The suggested amount of annual donation is \$20. In this newsletter there is a LINK which may be used go to a special page we have developed to enable members to easily make their donations. To use the LINK – place your cursor on DONATE or the URL LINK, Press CTRL + Click to go to the donation page. If anyone has any problems or desires to utilize another manner to make your donation – contact our office. We will attempt to accommodate all requests.

Tribal Council

Tribal Council will meet on August 8, 2026 at 11:00 AM via Zoom. The Zoom meeting instructions will be provided in advance of the meeting. We will be discussing plans for Seminole Days 2026 – September 18,19. All tribal members are welcome to attend Tribal Council meetings.

**TO MAKE A DONATION – SCAN BARCODE, OR
CTRL+CLICK ON DONATE**

Scan the Barcode to make a donate



Control + Click on DONATE to go to the Donation Form

DONATE

<https://donate.stripe.com/oowdR237rgt1gfCbf56kg00>

INDIAN SCOUTS ENLISTMENT RECORDS – FORT CLARK, TEXAS

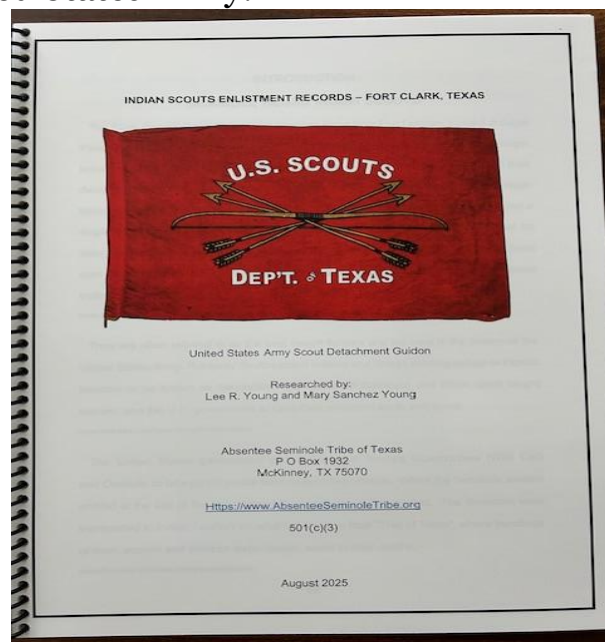
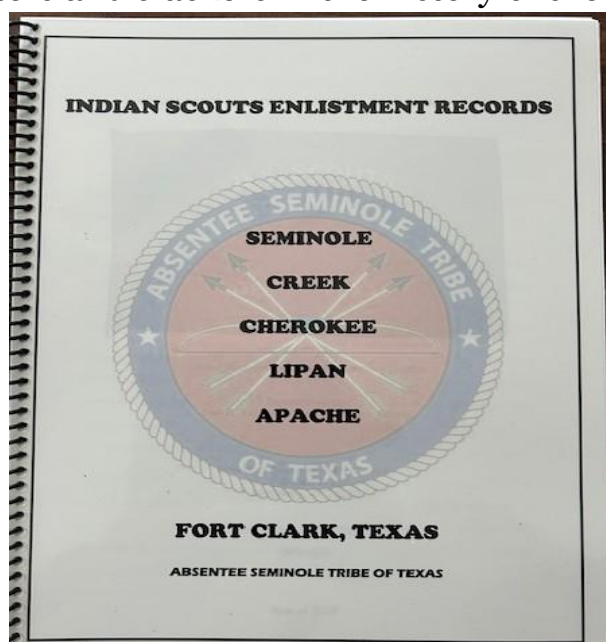
The booklet “**Indian Scouts Enlistment Records – Fort Clark, Texas**”. The booklet consists of 78 pages with information on each of the Indian Scouts who served at Fort Clark, Texas 1870 to 1914, it has approximately 39 photographs, full color where possible. The printing cost of the booklet has been 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.



July Birthdays

Toni Ann Young - July 7
Lesley W. Cunningham - July 10
Shayla M. Williams - July 12
Ryan A. Dittmer - July 12
Vernon Hicks - July 16
Mary Nellie Payne – July 17
Brandon D. Stocker - July 21

Khendrick E. Turner - July 22
Dora B. Lara – July 29
Shane R. Williams – July 30
Joy Marie Hernandez – July 29



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/>

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Website: <https://AbsenteeSeminoleTribe.org>