



Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Tribal Community

651-452-4141 www.mendotadakota.com www.facebook.com/mendotadakota

P.O. Box 50835, 1310 Sibley Memorial Hwy, Mendota, MN.
55150 MMDC is a Tribal 501C3 Organization

VOTING MEMBERSHIP AND MEETINGS:

FYI: We do not have voting membership meetings in December.

Our Constitution requires that we have a minimum of 10 members attending to conduct any business so we hope to see you there!

Responsibilities for monthly Tribal Council meetings include:

- Attend meetings.
- Create agendas & take minutes.
- Type up those minutes and submit them to the Tribal Council for review and approval.

Responsibilities for Monthly Voting Membership meetings include:

- Attend meetings.
- Create agendas & take minutes.
- Type up those minutes and submit them to the Voting Membership for review and approval.
- Submit minutes to the Newsletter Editor for inclusion in the monthly newsletter.

Fall : 2015



Message from Sharon:



MMDTC's 16th Wacipi was a huge success! Pidamaya!!

Thank you so much to all of our wacipi committee, volunteers, dancers, drummers, security, vendors, and everyone else that made this wacipi our most successful yet!

Our mission has always been to preserve the dakota culture, and it is because of all of you that we can make that possible.

A special thank you to Cherokee Park United Church for our wonderful feast on Sunday and to St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church for their donation from what they made at the wacipi as a vendor and for all the donations that we received for the wacipi.

On behalf of the entire tribal council and our members, *PIDAMAYA!!!!*

We're working on many exciting things, one of which is a possible fundraiser that may be developed in our name by the grandson of former Vice President of the United States and Minnesota State Senator; Walter Mondale. This is money that could be used to help us develop a community center.

As many of you may remember, we were involved in gaming for a time. We have not been involved in gaming for many years now, in fact, as of April 2016 it will have been 10 years. We still owe ourselves \$18,000 from our previous gaming and we're considering the possibilities of gaming again, bingo, pull tabs and similar, to recover our losses and generate revenue for our tribe. We will be discussing it at upcoming meetings.

Our Tribal council is meeting with Sandra Krebsbach, the Mayor of Mendota Heights to discuss acquiring land in Pilot Knob, Mn.

You are always welcome and encouraged to come to the meetings to learn more about what our tribe is doing and accomplishing and to voice your opinion.

Sharon Lennartson Tribal Chairwoman.

REMEMBER YOUR 2015 CONTRIBUTIONS:

All members of the tribe, even honorary members are required to pay contributions.

We wish to express our gratitude to all the tribal and honorary members who pay their contributions on time or who use the automatic payment system.

These contributions are important for keeping our tribal office running. They pay for things like cultural events, education, powwows, legal services, office supplies and more!

Would you like to pay your dues automatically? Visit www.mendotadakota.com/monthly

Prefer to use the ACH automatic payment system? You can do so here: www.mendotadakota.com/ach

Need to get caught up with back payments? www.mendotadakota.com/payment

CHRISTMAS TOY DONATIONS:

Each year we have a toy drive and last years was a real success with many bags of toys delivered to local families with children. Thank you again to everyone who donated!



This year we need your help! You can donate toys at our Christmas Party or at the office. If you would like to donate your time, please contact Sharon at the office.

NEXT MEETINGS:

The next voting membership meeting will be held October 27th from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at the Dupuis House.

PLEASE NOTE:

We will be taking photographs for the new tribal ID. Only current and active members will be able to get an ID.



FYI:

There are no meetings in December, just the Christmas Party mentioned in this newsletter.

NEW MEMBERS:

Enrollment has been **closed** since February and will remain so until further notice.

We welcome the following new *descendant* members:

We welcome the following new *honorary* members:

Did You Know: "Lacrosse"

Lacrosse is one of the oldest team sports in North America. There is evidence of it being played as early as the 17th century. It is directly descended from games played by many Native American communities.



Dakota Sioux Indians Playing Lacrosse

PROFITS & LOSSES, FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

The following represents the finances of the tribe for the following accounts as of **10/17/2015 5pm**

Business:	\$3899.15
Wacipi:	\$1640.82
Scholarship:	\$1463.71
Land:	\$3500.42
Fed Recognition:	\$2078.23

Wacipi expenses and income.

Wacipi expenses:	\$16,046.00
Wacipi income:	\$23,748.00

PROFITS & LOSSES, FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

The office does not need to file the 990 forms as we made less than 50k this year. Remember, the profit & loss balance sheet and reconciliation of all checking accounts are always at our meeting for everyone to see



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Dupuis House:

Some of our functions, classes, events and meetings are held at the Dupuis House. For your information; the address is **1357 Sibley Memorial Hwy, Mendota Heights, MN 55120** www.tiny.cc/dupuis-map.

Donations, Federal Recognition and Grants:

We've been working very hard examining hundreds of documents in an attempt to boost the tribes visibility in the community, develop ties with agencies and groups to assist us in gaining federal recognition, working with fundraising ventures and locating grants both private and governmental.

Federal Recognition meetings:

We are having Federal Recognition meetings every Tuesday at the Dupuis House.

Land Patents in Minnesota and the Laws Relating to Indian Affairs:

Anyone who is interested in learning more, please contact Perry Altendorfer altendorferperry@gmail.com or Carl Leith native0069@yahoo.com

Dupuis House Negotiations:

We were involved in negotiations with the Dupuis House to use a portion of it as our tribal office. The negotiation have failed and we must have a new office before Nov 30th 2015. Currently, our plan is to move into the new office space across the street from the Dupuis House sometime between November 15th and November 30th.

Important Message and legal disclosure for Inactive Members:

Members who have inactive status were sent letters to their last known address. Along with sending a letter, An announcement has been made in our newsletter, to our facebook page and to our website alerting them and describing their options. Inactive members have 30 days to respond or their membership will be removed. If you are inactive or think you may be, please contact the office ASAP.

Phone: 651- 452-4141 Email: mendotadakota@gmail.com

2015 Christmas Party!

Dec 5th, 2015 we will be having a Potluck Christmas Party at the Dupuis House. Please bring food to share. The party is from 1pm to 4pm. We will be collecting toys for donation to local families.

DID YOU KNOW: "HORSEING AROUND"

To toughen their young warriors and help them develop riding skills the Sioux sometimes played a game called "throw them off their horses" where they would attempt to wrestle each other off their mounts.



THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING:

- Sharon Lennartson for working so hard on the wacipi, grants, federal recognition and too many other things to even mention!
- Joseph Lennartson for helping us acquire a \$10k grant for 2016 Wacipi! Thank you for working so hard on grants.
- Everyone who helped with the Wacipi, we couldn't have done it without you.
- Pamela Fagan and Gary Shull for buying and donating the popcorn machine. They donated 3 boxes of popcorn and supplies. Also, Pamela made ribbon shirts, ribbon dresses, shawls, blankets, jam. Pamela worked very hard to help make the wacipi a success
- Joy Navarre, Perry Altendorfer, Lon Navarre, Carl Leith, John LeClair, and Marlene Dixon for your help with federal Recognition

DID YOU KNOW: "TATANKA"

One of the most important aspects of the Sioux Indian life was the Tatanka.

Tatanka is Lakota for "bull buffalo". Many ceremonies and daily life revolved around sacred reverence for the Tatanka.

Many things could be made from Tatanka. Some tribes had over 100 uses for the various parts of the Tatanka. They used all of the bison, not just its meat for food. They used the skin and fur for blankets and cloths. They tanned the hides to make the coverings for their teepees. Bones were used as tools. The bison hair was used to make ropes and the tendons could be used for sewing thread and bow strings. One large family teepee could need up to 18 buffalo hides! To make the teepee, the hides were soaked in the brains of the animal as a lubricant to make the fibers of the hide pliable after they dried. This is known as "brain-tanning." Since there was no thread, native people sewed with "sinew," or long fibers from muscles located close to the spine, which were shredded into long, thin strips. Experts believe at one times the plains had between 30 and 60 million buffalo!



BYLAWS:

The complete document titled: "Bylaws of the Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Tribal Community of the State of Minnesota" can be downloaded from here <http://mendotadakota.com/mn/bylaws>

STAY CONNECTED:

Make sure to like us at www.facebook.com/MendotaDakota to be the first to hear about upcoming events and news!

Your opinion matters, so while you're at it, please feel free to leave us a www.facebook.com/MendotaDakota/reviews

DAKOTA LANGUAGE / CULTURE CLASSES:

Language and Culture classes are currently not running and will start again sometime in January of 2016.

Please check our website or facebook page for updates.

Normally Cultural Class is every last Wednesday of the month.

Normally Language class is always the first three Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:30

These classes are *not running* right now but *normally* are held at the Dupuis House.



"To preserve, protect, and promote the Dakota culture for future generations."

TRIBAL CONTACTS:

Chairwoman:	Sharon Lennartson	(612) 913-1903
Vice Chair:	Chris Antiel	(612) 817-2538
Treasurer:	Marlene Dixon	(651) 734-3290
Secretary:	Marlene Dixon	(651) 734-3290
Historian:	Perry Altendorfer	(612) 327-0100
Cultural:	Jim Anderson	(612) 328-7837

You can view a complete list of contacts by visiting:
www.mendotadakota.com/mn/contact

CONTACT THE EDITOR:

Please let us know of any errors you may see in the newsletter. Send all updates and corrections to us and if necessary we will revise the current newsletter or correct the error in the next edition.

Do you have an idea for a story?

Would you like to find or write articles for the MMDC website, facebook page or newsletter?

Are you an artist/cartoonist, storyteller, activist or photographer?

Do you have something you would like to contribute for possible inclusion to our newsletters? A funny anecdote or joke? Stories, news or history, art, a link to your music, videos or photo gallery?

Have you seen something interesting on the web you think should be included?

Please send us an email.
newsleter@mendotadakota.com



ADVERTISE IN OUR NEWSLETTER & ON WEB:

Just think, if your advertisement was here, other people would be reading it! All submissions will be reviewed before accepting. We reserve the right to choose not to accept your advertisement for inclusion. We are also accepting advertisements for our facebook page and website. We can even create graphics for you and write up the information for a low price!

All proceeds go to help our tribe. We are a tribal 501C3 organization.

Contact us right away for pricing and possible inclusion in the next newsletter. newsletter@mendotadakota.com

ADVERTISE HERE

ABOUT US AND MISSION STATEMENT:

The Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Tribal community is a non-profit 501C3 organization dedicated to preserving the Dakota heritage.

In 2002, the MMDC membership participated in a comprehensive strategic planning session that resulted in the development of seven (7) long range goals striving to:

- Promote and support the preservation of the Dakota culture, including protecting sites of cultural significance to the Dakota people.
- Promote a better understanding between the Native American community and the general public.
- Teach community members others the Dakota language.
- Develop self-sufficiency through in-house business.
- Obtain federal recognition.
- Maintain a tribal office in Mendota.
- Acquire a land base.



GO GREEN AND HELP US SAVE!

The newsletter is an important tool to keep members up to date on the happenings of the tribe including events, education, finances, notices, etc.

Each time we publish the newsletter it costs the tribe in ink, paper & postage not to mention the time involved to stuff and ship envelopes.

You can help us reduce our costs by sending us a message at newsletter@mendotadakota.com and let us know that you read it online. Thank You!

View current and past newsletters at www.mendotadakota.com/newsletter

