



# Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Community News

APRIL/MAY 2006

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*We are a  
non-profit  
organization  
dedicated to  
preserving  
our Dakota  
heritage.*

## Inside This Issue

[From the Chairman](#)

[Dakota Culture  
Classes](#)

[Electronic Newsletter](#)

[Voting Membership  
Meeting Minutes](#)

[Gaming Corner](#)

[Positions Available!](#)

[Tribal Contacts](#)

## Voting Membership Meeting Sunday, April 30 at 2:00 PM

### Note date & time

Sunday, April 30 is the date for our next monthly membership meeting. We have a lot going on in the community recently, we would really like to see members come to our meetings and give us input! We would like to give a huge thank you to all the members that are coming back! We are a community and need to work together. Most of our members know about the financial difficulties that we are dealing with right now, and many people are coming through with help either by donating money or helping with phone calls and things like that. We still need your help. Please come to our meeting with your ideas and suggestions! We will begin at 2:00. Please bring a dish to share, we will have a feast after the meeting.

### Dues We Now Have Direct Payment!

If you are not current on your dues, please try to get that balance paid so we can rectify your account. If you are not paying dues, we will take you off our mailing list until your account is up to date. If you got an invoice that is incorrect, please contact Renée Johnson, our treasurer, to get things cleared up. Direct payment saves time and checks, payments are made on time, saves postage, easy to sign up for. A simple form is enclosed if you opt to do this. We had many people interested in this, please sign up if you are able.

### Newsletters

I will be getting help on the newsletters in the near future. Diane and Linda from the Mendota Dakota Ospa group offered to help me out. I am not experienced with the programs we have and it will be wonderful to have someone with experience help me out, so look for good changes in the next month or two. Thank you for the offer ladies. I am sending the newsletter from my home email at this time and that address is [cowgal@direcway.com](mailto:cowgal@direcway.com).

### Benefit concert

This newsletter was out too late to advertise, but Mitch Walking Elk and Red Pony both helped our community out by holding a benefit concert for us! The concert took place Saturday, April 8 and we had an awesome turnout. The community

members and friends of the community donated time, money, supplies, food and help to make the evening go smoothly. Special thanks to Sharon Lennartson, Linda Rost, Diane Elliot and Mike Scott for all their efforts to put this together! It was a wonderful night and we saw a lot of support from people to keep MMDC going. Mitch has also offered to help us by doing concerts at our community center periodically with us getting half the proceeds and the other half to him. Sounds like a good idea. We would like input on this from our members. The benefit brought in \$3500.00. That's enough to keep us going another month. During the concert a friend of the community who owns a prosperous coffee shop in St. Paul offered to donate coffee and maybe equipment to us to get a "real" coffee shop up and running here in our community center. We would need a sink to make this happen, but there is a lot of traffic that drives by here every day. It could be a prime location, it just might be worth it to see about getting a sink installed out in the store. We have many people come by looking for a cup of gourmet coffee.

**Saturday April 1<sup>st</sup>**

Darlene White Eagle came and spoke with women about traditions and the inipi/sweat/wipe-down ceremony. It was a wonderful learning experience and she is such a sweet and knowledgable woman. Her talk was video taped and if anyone is interested, the office will get a copy in the next couple weeks and it can be checked out, or if you want a copy to keep, talk to Tiffany Eggenberg at 952-226-4084. We had a nice feast afterwards and social time. We have a lot of great women in our community and would like to see more of you at these events. We are in the process of getting a calendar together to be sent with the newsletter. I am hoping to add it into Mays newsletter. Please call the office once in a while also, to see if there are any upcoming events. Sometimes these things are spur of the moment and it is hard to get the message out there. We will schedule another date with Darlene in the near future and will post the details. Pidami-gwitch!

**From the Chairman**

**Hau Mitakuyepi:**

Thank you to all the friends and the four community members who attended the movie nights in March. It has been decided to discontinue movie night due to lack of membership involvement.

Please mark your calendars for our 7<sup>th</sup> annual Welcome Home Powwow held August 12-13, 2006. Our Powwow takes place at St. Peters Catholic Church in Mendota Heights. Mitch Walking Elk is the Emcee, Windy Down Wind will be our arena director, Head Dancers are Wally Ripplinger and Bev Scott, Host Drum is Kangi Cikala, and co-host drum is Thunder Nation. Cost will be a \$5.00 button donation at the gate. If you can help organize, set up, clean up, etc, we need you. The first powwow committee meeting will be around the end of May. If you can be on the committee, or help out in any way, please call the MMDC office and let us know.

Pidami-gwich! . Kangi Cistana (Michael Scott)      DAKOTA OHINNI UN  
(ALWAYS BE DAKOTA)

**Help Your Community!**

**Volunteers needed!!**

We are still looking for volunteers to come down and help with anything. Sharon has been in the office on a daily basis and has way too much for one person to do. If anyone can donate time to help out in the office whether it be answering the telephone, cleaning, sitting out in the store in case people come in, Sharon would welcome you. She needs to take a day off every once in a while. She needs time for her family and home as well as a break from all the commotion at the office. If you can help out at all, please call the office and let her know. If a few people could each come in even for an afternoon a month, Sharon could get a well deserved break once in awhile.

**Federal Recognition committee**

Anyone interested in forming a group to research what needs to be done to get on our way to recognition please call Brian Eggenberg at 612-386-6276 and if we get a few people together we can set up a date or dates to get together. His schedule is fairly open and flexible.

**Another Mitch Walking Elk Benefit**

April 24, 2006 at the St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church : 4537 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave So. Minneapolis, MN. Proceeds benefit St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church. For more info please contact the church at 612-823-8205.

**Voting Membership Meeting**



**MARCH 28, 2006 MINUTES**

A copy of the minutes is available in the office for your viewing pleasure at any time.

**Positions Available Now!**

**Positions Available!**

**Scholarship Committee:** Members will determine guidelines, including the application and disbursement process. Meeting times and dates are flexible. Contact Vickie Scott at 763-422-4865.

**Craft Classes:** Share your crafting skills with those who want to learn! Contact the

office at 651-452-4141 to schedule. If you decide to teach a class, you will be compensated for sharing your time and skills. Joan Minske is still coming in on Tuesdays to bead with anyone that wants to come and work on a project, or to learn some beading techniques. All ages welcome, beginners to advanced. Even if you already know how to bead, it would be a fun evening out to work on a project and socialize a little bit. New ideas are welcome!

**Secretary:** The position for secretary has been filled by Victoria Scott pending an election.

**Membership Committee** Beverly Scott and Ann Lauer are the membership committee at present time. They would love some help. Meeting times and dates are flexible, whatever works best for everyone. Please contact the office if you can help.!

**Thank you to our volunteers!!** We appreciate all the help our volunteers do for us! Thank you Thank you Thank you!

<p><i>Dakota Culture Classes</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Learn About the Dakota Culture</b> <i>by Jim Anderson</i></p> <p>Mark your calendars for the last Wednesday each month. Jim Anderson, our Historian, will share his knowledge about our Dakota heritage and ceremonies. His talks have been very popular</p> <p><i>Pidamiya ye do</i></p>
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<p><b>Friends of the Friendlies</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Mendota Dakota Ośpaye</b> <i>by Linda Rost and Diane Elliot</i></p> <p>We are establishing a Society in conjunction with the Tribe to assist in the efforts to preserve the culture. If you are interested in becoming a member of our Society and helping us build our community, please contact us.</p> <p><b>Here is the email address:</b> <a href="mailto:hecetu1@yahoo.com">hecetu1@yahoo.com</a> Linda Rost 612-825-1079 (leave a message) or Diane Elliott at 651-457-0312.</p>
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**Charitable Gaming Minutes March 28, 2006 Meeting**

Called to order by Michael Scott, Tribal Chairman. Kiki Marsh presented the February 2006 report. It was approved. Minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved. Allowable Expenses (actual & estimated) were presented and approved. Lawful Purpose Expenditures were discussed and approved. It was recommended by membership and voted for by membership to close our last gaming site.

**Agenda for next Gaming Meeting**

Call to order  
Present monthly report  
Allowable expenditures

Lawful purpose expenditures  
Open Forum  
Adjourn

[Back to top](#)

**Thank you** so much to our good friend Bear for all the help and support he gives our community. He is in the MMDC office several times a week answering phones, cleaning, etc., he helps us with a lot of traditional things that we are just learning about. He has taught so many of us so much. Next year we hope to see more members out at Porkys Sugar Bush in Maple Plain. Bear has worked at and run it for several years. It is a great experience to be part of!

A special **thank you** to everyone that went to court to support Jim Anderson, SuSu Jeffrie and Chris Mato Numpa in their federal case. It was nice that people took time out to show their support! The case is now going to a jury trial. When the court date arrives, we would like to have as many supporters as we can get to join them.

**Thank you** also to Sharon for all the endless hours of time she spends working in the office. She is at the MMDC office almost daily answering phones, greeting guests, making calls, etc. She has really poured her heart into the community and she gets a big thank you for all she does.

Kiki Marsh also deserves a big **thank you** for all her hard work in gambling this past year. Thank you for taking that on and getting things straightened out! We all appreciate it!

**Powwow Vendors**

If you are interested in vending at the powwow, we have a form in the office you can fill out to reserve your spot.

**Thank you Dave**

Dave Olin, our very kind landlord, has reduced our rent payment by \$500.00. He has been very flexible with our community during our financial struggles and he deserves a big thank you for being so kind and supportive to our community..

**OMD**

A huge thank you to our friend Bruce White for all the help he has given and is giving us with OMD. We appreciate everything he does for us! Thank you also to the OMD committee for all the hard work they have been doing for us. I saw first hand some of what they were dealing with (so much paperwork and organizing!) I don't know how or where they found the time, but it is so appreciated!! Our paperwork has been presented to their lawyers and we are waiting to hear back on that. There was a continuance put on the list of final names for the lawsuit because so many names were sent in. I will put an update in the newsletter when I get one. Thanks again OMD!

Tribal Council:		Committee Chairs:	
Chairman	Michael Scott ..... 612-789-664	Constitution/ Membership	Beverly Scott ..... 763-789-66 Ann Lauer ... 651-665-0108
Vice Chairman	Curtis LeClaire .... 763-205-128	Cultural	Jim Anderson ..... 763-753-28 Michael Scott ..... 612-789-66
Secretary	Victoria Scott ..... 612-789-664	Fundraising	Jim Albrecht..... 952-472-15
Treasurer	Renée Johnson... 763-757-835	Gambling Manager	Kathleen Marsh ..... 651-452-52
Historian	Jim Anderson ..... 763-753-283	Land	Jim Albrecht ..... 952-472-15
Email	<a href="mailto:kangji42159@aol.com">kangji42159@aol.com</a>	Newsletter Editor	Tiffany Eggenberg ... 952-226-40
		Public Relations	Dick LeClaire ..... 651-687-94

**Upcoming events:**

April 23, 2006: Inipi ceremony at Dick Bancrofts place on Sunfish Lake at 7pm. There will be a feast following at Shane and Laurens house (which is just down the road from the inipi). Bring a dish to pass.

April 24, 2006: Mitch Walking Elk benefit at St. Joan of Arc Church, Mpls 6:30 pm, \$12.00 per adult \$10.00 for elders, children under 6 free. If you order 5 or more adult tickets on line at [tickets\\_aimbenefit@hotmail.com](mailto:tickets_aimbenefit@hotmail.com) they can be purchased for \$10.00 each. St Joan of Arc Catholic Church (gym) @ 4537 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave S, MPLS 612-823-8205 or go to [www.stjoan.com/generalinfo.htm](http://www.stjoan.com/generalinfo.htm). for directions. Tickets may also be purchased at Homestead Picking Parlor 6625 Penn Ave S Richfield and the Electric Fetus 2000 4<sup>th</sup> Ave S, MPLS. Other entertainers will be Red Ponie, David Rovics and Alistair Hulett. Proceeds benefit the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual International Youth and Elders Gathering and further the cultural exchange between the First Nations of the North and South.

April 26, 2006: Minneapolis Health Fair at Minneapolis American Indian Center. Free health screenings, free food (buffalo burgers, wild rice soup) Thunder Nation Drum group will perform. 11:00am-3:00 pm.

April 28, 2006: Spring Feast-Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center-2300 15<sup>th</sup> Ave. S, Minneapolis-11:30 am until food is gone, everyone welcome. Call 612-728-2000 for more information.

April 29, 2006: 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Phillips Youth Summit 10:30 am-2:30 pm Stewart Park (12<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. and E. 27<sup>th</sup> St. "Mad Dad's VJ Smith and his hotdog and music barbecue PLUS free lunch with the stars" Gran Reunion de Jovenes-Say no! to gangs and graffiti with sports media music. Featuring Quetzal Aztec Dancers (some of you know Suzanna DeLeon and her Mexica dancers), Minnesota Thunder soccer players, PCTV Video Production(circle of discipline boxing exhibition)

May 1 2006 Kick-off Indian Month march starting at Bloomington and Lake St. at 9:30-10:30 (gather at 9:00) March to Minneapolis American Indian Center on Blmgtn and Franklin feast following the march at Mpls.Indian Center Free Feast and Proclamation @ 11:00-1:00. Eagle staffs and Tribal flags, and organizational banners welcome. Parking at Walk site and MAIC. For more info call Bill Carter @ 612-673-3028.

May 7, 2006: May Day Parade: Starts at 24<sup>th</sup> St and Cedar Ave. @noon Parade goes down Bloomington Ave to Powderhorn Park. Ceremony following parade. Free

May 27, 2006: 9:00 am to 11:30 am Great River Greening @Pilot Knob in Mendota Heights. Project to replant and clean up Pilot Knob. Call MMDC for time info. Joan Fudmestad from Starbucks will provide coffee and pastries for breakfast. Lunch at MMDC office and some short presentations by the Great River Greening group. following the clean-up effort. Everyone is welcome! Native plants will be restored and the invasive weeds removed. Any questions call 651-665-9500 Tessa Pinkstaff

June 1, 2006: Ceremony to take place to remove the "No trespassing" sign and replace it with an interim (2-3)year project sign. The sign will list project partners/funders and provide brief text on the restoration work. The city of Mendota Heights and TPL are organizing this, and will have a portable stage set up for speakers. Speakers may include Rep. Rick Hansen, a Dakota County Commissioner, DNR, TPL, Al Singer, a tribal leader, and other politicians. They will invite newspaper, television, and others. TPL is purchasing all food and beverages: Dakota fry bread being a main component.

Every Sunday AA meetings @ 6:00pm(there will be no meeting May 14)

Our monthly meetings will be the last Sunday of each month at 2:00 pm with a potluck feast following.