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**2020 Census – Be Counted Brothertown!**

It is extremely important that you're counted! Census data helps to guide federal investments in programs like SNAP, Head Start, and IHS. It also plays a role in legislative redistricting. Below are some tips to help you be counted Brothertown!



**Householder Question:**

Whoever is listed as Person 1, or the first person on the census form, becomes the designated "householder"; if you want all Native "householders" counted as such, make sure they are on that list.

**Completing the Race Question:**

If you check American Indian or Alaska Native on the race question, you'll be counted in the category in the analyses of census data. If you check a second race, you may be counted in either the American Indian or Combination category.

**List Brothertown!**

When you identify as American Indian on the census form, you can write Brothertown Indian Nation as your enrolled or principle tribe. You may list up to six entries on the form, but the first should be the one you're enrolled in.

***Please share this information with other family to ensure that Brothertown members are fully counted and represented in 2020!***

**New Cradle Roll in 2020**

Starting Jan 1, a \$35 processing fee will be implemented for enrollment of all children to help cover administrative costs. Thank you! For questions, call Linda Shady at (920) 929-9964.

**Sign Up to Stream!**

Enrolled members can stream General Membership Meetings in 2020. The March and August meetings will be available via ZOOM. To sign up, email [sethelsen@gmail.com](mailto:sethelsen@gmail.com).

## Update from the Chairman



If you were able to attend Homecoming this year you would have seen Dick Welch in his last appearance. Even though he was in a wheelchair he perked up once the drum started and he wanted to dance. I took him around the circle and the drummers played an honor song and of course it went on and on so Dick could say hello to all of his well wishers. Before he left he was able to drum and was greeted by his long time friends who cheered his efforts. Sadly he walked on not much longer. Rest well my friend, until we meet again.

As another year comes to a close, I would like to thank all our volunteers and those people who have made monetary and in kind donations to the tribe. Without you, the Tribe would have a hard time existing.

This year, Council has been busy attending and participating in local events, powwows, water walks, intertribal workgroups, ensuring the Tribe is represented. We are still looking at purchasing a building, how it can be attained, and what

the future financials could look like. For now we are continuing to rent our present location. With regard to Restoration we continue to meet with lawyers and develop our strategy. There should be more to report on this in the coming year.

Again I want to invite members to come to the Council meetings, times and dates are published. After the meetings, if no other function is planned for, we have a luncheon, learn a craft, sew ribbon shirts, drumming, talk and most important we socialize with each other. Please come to the meeting or just the crafts or both. We are always in need of volunteers for bingo, office, Brothertown's pow wow, picnic, homecoming and various fundraisers. We need veterans and someone to speak to groups/schools. If you have a talent you think we could use please let us know.

Robert Fowler  
Chairman

## Volunteers Needed for 2020 Events, Bingo!

Your help is needed! Whether it's an hour here or there, or a weekly commitment, you can help the Brothertown Indian Nation! All of our events rely on the generosity of members, families, and community members. This includes bingo, powwows, crafts, and more. Help is also needed to organize the summer picnic and other events. If you're interested in helping, please contact Seth Elsen at [sethelsen@gmail.com](mailto:sethelsen@gmail.com). You can also call the office at (920) 929-9964. Thank you!

## Donations Needed to Help Cover Mailing Costs

If you are one of the many members who receives the newsletter via email, the Tribe thanks you for helping reduce printing and mailing costs. If you receive the newsletter in via USPS, please consider a nominal donation. Costs associated with printing and mailing the quarterly newsletter add up. Donations can be sent to the Tribe at:

**PO Box 2206  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935.**

# Remembering Those Who've Walked On

## Brothertown Elder Dick Welch (1930-2019)

Dick Welch, Brothertown elder, walked on on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019. He was born July 1, 1930 in Fond du Lac, the son of Arley and Lena Perron Welch. On September 2, 1950 he married Jean H. Thompson at St. Louis parsonage and she preceded him in death on March 27, 2006. Richard worked for the United States Postal service, retiring in 1989. He was a member of Covenant United Methodist Church, Eagles Club and Fond du Lac Softball Hall of Fame. He volunteered for many causes, including the St. Agnes Hospital.

In addition to being an elder and active tribal member, he was also a storyteller and educator for the tribe. At 2019's Homecoming celebration, Dick was awarded the Samson Occom Award of Honor for his unparalleled service to the Tribe, and his unwavering commitment to the preservation of heritage, history, and the Brothertown people.

Dick is survived by his daughters Sandra and Shelli, as well as his many grandchildren, great grand children, nieces, nephews, and brother, Arlan.



*Dick Welch being honored by Chairman Fowler (L) and councilwoman Kraitz (R).*

## Chairman Rick Hill, Oneida Nation (1953-2019)

Rick Hill, an Oneida leader, passed away on December 12, 2019. Rick served the Oneida Nation as a councilman, Vice-Chairman, and twice as its Chairman. Hill was a lifelong advocate for Indian Country, leading the National Indian Gaming Association and working to promote economic development throughout Indian Country. Throughout his time as an Oneida leader, he was a great friend and ally to the Brothertown Indian Nation. He is survived by his wife, Donisa, his children Richard, Sage, and Dakota, as well as his grand children, siblings, nieces, and nephews.



*Former Chair Rick Hill.*

## Pamela Ezold Gibson (1949-2019)

Pamela Ezold Gibosn, the daughter of former Chairwoman June Ezold, walked on on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Loving wife of James Gibson. Dear mother of Timothy (Ambor) Gibson of San Diego, California, Suzanne Gibson of Troy, Michigan and David (Amanda) Gibson of West Bloomfield Township, Michigan. Caring grandmother of Dahlia, Dexter, Ruby and Owen. Beloved sister of Carl P. Ezold. She will be missed by many nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.



*Pamela Ezold Gibson.*

# Peacemakers Update

By Renee Gralewicz

Happy December. Pretty soon not only will the month change as Grandmother moves across the sky, but they year will change too. It will be 2020 soon, a nice balanced number. Just think, our age will change as well as the seasons change. These are inevitable changes, one we should all accept with grace and joy.

Some inevitable changes bring us joy and others sorrow, though we must adjust our lives to both. Some of our lives change with sadness for those who have walked on to their next journey. Some changes bring great joy to the heart as new unions and new lives join our families.

Changes in our work place and organizations though inevitable are often cause anxiety as they affect our livelihoods and professional relationships. These changes bring unknown factors and consequences which we must work through and adjust. Hopefully those adjustments were not or will not be as damaging as imagined.

This brings me to changes the Peacemakers are working on. We, through the encouragement of many of our citizens, nudged Council toward adopting more inclusive measures toward their monthly Tribal Council Meetings. We also changed the way we Peacemakers meet. Peacemakers habitually met at least four times a year. Two of those meetings coincided with the Picnic and Homecoming. Given the technological changes over the years, we can meet frequently without having to travel across Turtle Island. We currently meet monthly, the second Friday of the month. Our meetings start at 9pm Eastern Time (8pm Central, 7pm Mountain, and 6pm Pacific). If you care to join us via Zoom, please contact us at [peacemakers@brothertownindians.org](mailto:peacemakers@brothertownindians.org). Please contact us early enough to we can to verify your tribal status.

Our other change regards our AMENDED PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES. We reviewed the guidelines and have some changes we propose. We also would like to have your input to the procedural guidelines as well. We will post the proposed changes in three places: the BIN official website, and two Facebook pages:

- <https://www.facebook.com/BrothertownIndianNation>

- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/103892253531>

You can leave comments regarding the guidelines on the Facebook pages or email your suggestions to us directly or send them to our postbox address.

Brothertown Peacemakers  
P.O. Box 4217  
Cave Creek, AZ 85327

The changes we proposed all revolve around how you can contact us. Nothing major. Nonetheless, we need your input. We need how better to serve you and our Nation. You will have until March 30, 2020 to comment. After that we Peacemakers will discuss all the comments and hopefully post the new guidelines in June 2020.

## 2020 Calendar of Events

Date	Event
3/21	General Membership Meeting (10:00 A.M.)
4/4	4 <sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Powwow (Noon)
4/5	Unity in Community (Noon - 4:00 P.M.) Oshkosh
4/18	Tribal Council Meeting (10:00 A.M.)
4/25	Minnesota Meeting (10:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.) Fort Ripley Community Center, Fort Ripley
4/26	Crow Wing Lake Water Walk + Feast Meal (10:00 A.M.)
5/16	Eeyamquittoowauconnuck Walk Across America (9:30 A.M.)
5/16	Tribal Council Meeting (10:00 A.M.) and Elections
6/18	Lake Winnebago Water Walk (7:00 A.M. – Columbia Park, Pipe)
6/20	Tribal Council Meeting (10:00 A.M.)
6/20	Brothertown Nation Incorporated, Annual Board Meeting (11:00 A.M.)
6/27	Shape note Singing at Union Cemetery (9:00 A.M.)
7/14-19	Community BINGO at the Fond du Lac County Fair
7/18	Tribal Council Meeting (10:30 A.M.)
7/18	Children's Activities (10:30 A.M.)
7/18	Picnic (11:30 A.M.)
8/15	General Council Meeting (10:00 A.M.)
9/19	Tribal Council Meeting (10:00 A.M.)
10/17	Homecoming (9:00 A.M.)
10/18	Tribal Council Meeting (10:00 A.M.)
11/21	Tribal Council Meeting (10:00 A.M.)
12/12	Tribal Council Meeting (10:00 A.M.) Holiday Potluck

# Homecoming 2019 – A Big Success!

Thank you to all who made it back to Fond du Lac for Homecoming 2019! Check out these photos, submitted by Tim Vanderhoef. See you in 2020!



*The Boyd Radcliffe Family.*



*Genevieve Vanderhoef enjoys some coloring.*



*Karen Hartman and her grandson, Zack, present a blanket to Dick Welch.*



*Dick Welch takes a lap around the drum as he is honored at Homecoming.*

*\*If you'd like to share your photos or experiences, please email [sethelsen@gmail.com](mailto:sethelsen@gmail.com).\**

***Next deadline – 5/1/20***

# Tribe Officially Celebrates Eeyawquittoowauconnuck Day!

By Megan Fulopp

At their meeting on October 20, 2019, the Brothertown Indian Nation Council passed a resolution to celebrate Eeyawquittoowauconnuck/Brothertown Day annually on November 7th. The institution of this national holiday not only helps to ensure the remembrance of important events in Brothertown's past but is a defining moment for the Tribe's future.

November 7, 1785 is the date that the Reverend Samson Occom (Mohegan/Brothertown) recorded in his journal as being the day that the Indians who had emigrated from the 7 towns "formed into a body politick". Occom tells us that the name that was chosen for the town was "Brotherton, in Indian, Eeyawquittoowauconnuck (<https://collections.dartmouth.edu/occom/html/diplomatic/785554-diplomatic.html>)."

Declaring a holiday in remembrance of our roots and in celebration of Our Nation, is a wonderful expression of sovereignty that Tribal members can rejoice and take part in no matter where they live. Even on this year's short notice, people in Georgia celebrated with Eeyawquittoowauconnuck Day greeting cards, in Wisconsin with Three Sisters Chili, in Massachusetts by remembering our ancestors and the places they frequented. In Montana a mother and daughter made and wore ribbon skirts while a man in Alabama celebrated with a sweat lodge.

While in many ways the creation and passing of the Eeyawquittoowauconnuck/Brothertown Day resolution may resemble any other order of business it is, in fact, far from ordinary. The declaration of a national holiday is something only a sovereign nation can declare. The

Brothertown Indian Nation Council has the right, and in fact the duty, to protect our Tribal sovereignty and to guide our people in the ways that they believe will best serve Our Nation.

Some people mistakenly believe that sovereignty is something bestowed on a tribe when it is officially recognized by the US government. While Federal Recognition and Federal Restoration (as with Brothertown's situation) each mean the US government concedes to have a nation-to-nation relationship with a tribe and it would make that tribe eligible to repatriate items, actively participate in natural resource discussions, and have help protecting ancestral graves, neither Recognition nor Restoration, confer sovereignty. National Sovereignty is already ours by virtue of the fact that we are a unique Native American Nation. Our ancestors lived communally and under their own form of self-governance. This was the case in the parent tribes we descend from, when our ancestors formed Brotherton on Oneida lands in New York and remained the case when we migrated to Wisconsin. Our sovereignty is not dependent on anything exterior; it is dependent only on us. Our laws, defined by our Nation's legislative branch (Council members), overseen by our executive branch (Chair and Vice Chair) and interpreted by our Nation's judicial branch (Peacemakers), are dependent only on us. Our holidays as well are dependent only on us. Council has exercised its sovereignty rights in giving citizens this wonderful gift of an annual holiday for our Nation. Mark your calendars for November 7th, 2020 and plan to celebrate your heritage and ancestors with your Tribal family on Eeyawquittoowauconnuck/Brothertown Day.

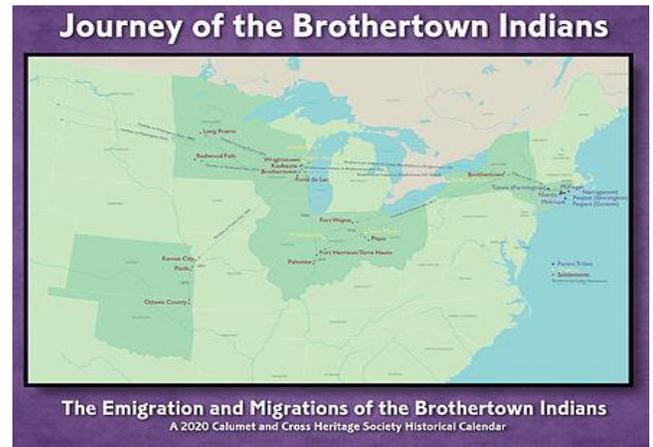
## Tribe Supports MMIWG Legislation

At the Tribal Council's November meeting, Brothertown Peacemaker Renee Gralewicz brought forward a request to support Wisconsin State Senate Bill 493 and Assembly Bill 548, an act relating to: creating a task force on missing and murdered tribal women and girls and making an appropriation. The Council unanimously resolved to support the "Missing and Murdered Tribal Women and Girls" task force legislation, and specifically requested that the task force allow open hearings.

**Please let your representatives know you support efforts to address this issue.**

# Journey of the Brothertown Indians Calendar Now Available

The 2020 calendar, "Journey of the Brothertown Indians" is now available for purchase. This calendar covers the emigration and migrations of the Brothertown Indians from the original settlement in New York to the east side of Wisconsin's Lake Winnebago and beyond. Lots of great photos, data, and a timeline are presented including several seldom-seen images. Calendars are available on eBay and Amazon using the search term "Brothertown Calendar". 100% of proceeds go to support the work of Calumet and Cross Heritage Society, a 501(c)(3) whose mission is to gather and share Brothertown Indian history and heritage.



## Submit Your Brothertown Stories for New Publication

By Megan Fulopp

Dear Brothertown friends and family,

I am looking for Brothertown-related stories, thoughts, photos, and memories for an upcoming publication whose working title is "The Collected Stories of the Eeyawquittoowauconnuck or Brothertown Indians". Stories are a fundamental part of who we are. More than just an ageless form of entertainment, stories teach us how to interpret and navigate the world around us. They teach us what is important to know and help us to define ourselves. Similarly, a nation's stories help to define that nation's unique perspectives and history through the highlighting of important cultural beliefs, traditions, historical events and/or citizens. The telling of its stories helps to ensure the continued success, longevity, and cohesiveness of a nation. Stories needn't be long or even necessarily entertaining to accomplish this objective; all they need to do is exemplify something unique pertaining to that nation.

Just as important as the telling of its stories is that a nation tell its own stories. As much as I love reading about Brothertown by outside authors, we are uniquely qualified to tell our own stories from a Brothertown perspective. Let's share with others Brothertown's unique history, culture, and citizens and preserve our stories, thoughts, and memories for our great grandchildren's great grandchildren.

EVERY Brothertown descendant is invited to contribute. Maybe you'd like to share something about a particular Brothertown ancestor, event, object, or place? Maybe you'd like to talk about your involvement in Tribal activities or your thoughts on Brothertown today or your hopes for it tomorrow? If you're Brothertown, you have a story, thought, or memory that you can share.

Stories can be in any form: hard copy or digital, written, photos, drawings, carvings, crafts or whatever you feel is important to share. Whether you would like to tell your story verbally or visually, I would love to hear it. Some stories may be shared on my blog([brothertowncitizen@aol.com](mailto:brothertowncitizen@aol.com)), and/or the Tribal newsletter and it is anticipated that all stories and photos collected will be printed in book format with all profits going towards a Brothertown scholarship(s). Stories can be any length—from 1 sentence or photo to hundreds. If you'd like to share a brief memory (such as getting together with Brothertown relatives at Grandma's house) but don't think that makes for enough of a story, think again! ALL memories, thoughts, and stories are welcome.

If you're just not the sort who likes to write, feel free to leave me a phone number and I'd be happy to call you back and take notes and then write something up and run it past you for your approval. Please ask your Brothertown relatives to share their stories as well. Together, we can create a valuable keepsake of important personal and historical stories, photos, thoughts, and memories about and by the Brothertown Indians. Please help.

To submit your story, ask questions, or leave a phone number please visit [brothertowncitizen.com](http://brothertowncitizen.com) or email me at [brothertowncitizen@aol.com](mailto:brothertowncitizen@aol.com).

Thanks,  
Megan



Brothertown Nation Incorporated  
311 Winnebago Drive  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935-2541  
*Return Mail to:*  
PO Box 2206  
Fond du Lac, WI 54936-2206



The mission of the Brothertown Tribe is to continue a stable and dynamic government which will promote and maintain the spiritual, physical, intellectual, social, and economic well being of our citizens; to restore and preserve our unique historical, cultural, and traditional beliefs; to preserve and protect our sovereignty in order to achieve self-determination and self-sufficiency; to promote a positive image of integrity, honesty, respect and fairness when pursuing cultural, economic and social initiatives; to promote peace and harmony for the fulfillment of our vision as community where all people can prosper and grow in mind, body and spirit.

The Brothertown Tribe recognizes and accepts the relationships which must be forged between all who will be affected by our sovereignty. It is in faith we undertake these tasks and it shall be with a spirit of cooperation and friendship that we reach the goals which we have set

