

# The Wyandot Word

Summer 2022



## Notes From the Chief



Kweh, kweh, Citizens of the Wyandot of Anderdon Nation. I hope this finds you in a good way!!! It has already been a remarkably busy year and it is only going to get busier as the days go by.

As most of you already know, the ANA Grant Committee consisting of myself, Susan Szachta, Danielle Lowler, Lisa Letourneau-Freiberg, and Linda Filipek successfully submitted a SEDS Grant to the Administration for Native Americans that, if awarded, will allow us to hire a staff to pursue the documents and history needed to work toward our Federal Recognition. While all that work is going on, we will be able to begin virtual and in person classes on Wyandot Language, History, Culture, and Crafts. These classes will be available to our citizens at no cost and should enhance our knowledge and create a more positive perspective among all of us on what it means to be Wyandot. We will let you know as soon as a decision is made by the ANA group. In the meantime we will work together to grow as a nation and as a people dedicated to the goals of serving our families and bolstering our well-being and pride in being the Wyandot of Anderdon Nation. We will continue to work together to grow as a Nation. We achieve much when we all pitch in. Remember that "many the hands make light the work." That sentence is as true today as when it was first uttered.

With Green Corn approaching on August 7<sup>th</sup> this year we will be able to gather on Grosse Ile at Centennial Farms for a wonderful time of gathering and getting reacquainted since we have been apart for so long due to Covid-19. "Many the Hands" will be needed on Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup> to set up tents, tables, chairs etc. Please save those dates and plan to attend so that we can spend time with each other again.

Let me ask all of you a question....What does "Being a Wyandot of Anderdon Citizen" mean to you personally? A little soul searching is not a terrible thing to give some time to doing. We come from a proud people who survived being torn from homes and families on more than one occasion. Some of us fled south and west but most of our ancestors went to Canada, just across the river to safety and old acquaintances. Some of us were able to stay "hiding in plain sight" because many had a fair complexion. Where did your individual family "hide"? Do you know your history? We should all endeavor to be able to trace our background back Seven Generations. I know that this sounds like a daunting task but I have learned much on this Journey. I come from a family whose history is rich. A house dug across the frozen Detroit River and placed on Grosse Ile where it still exists today. A cradle for many Roll babies which now resides in a museum. I have a rich history indeed. And so do all of you. Talk with your family elders NOW, while they are still with us and able to relate some of the things that they know. Elders, write down your stories so that they are not lost. In every Old tale there is at least a kernel of truth and much more than any of us realize. You are the next history of the Wyandot of Anderdon people.

## Your Tribal Council

Grand Chief — Roll Family

Ted Roll [GrandChief@wyandots.org](mailto:GrandChief@wyandots.org)

Second Chief — Warrow Family

Michael Odette [SecondChief@wyandots.org](mailto:SecondChief@wyandots.org)

Treasurer — Roll Family

Susan Szachta [Treasurer@wyandots.org](mailto:Treasurer@wyandots.org)

Secretary— Gronda Family

Danielle Lowler [Secretary@wyandots.org](mailto:Secretary@wyandots.org)

Citizenship — Pidgeon Family

Linda Filipek [LFilipek@wyandots.org](mailto:LFilipek@wyandots.org)

Pidgeon Family

Ashley Dalida [ADalida@wyandots.org](mailto:ADalida@wyandots.org)

Splitlog Family

Kris Marrs [KMarrs@wyandots.org](mailto:KMarrs@wyandots.org)

Gronda Family

Bob Gronda [bgronda@wyandots.org](mailto:bgronda@wyandots.org)

TU Warrow Family

Jeff Warrow [iwarrow@wyandots.org](mailto:iwarrow@wyandots.org)

Morrison Family

Amy Ortlieb [AOrtlieb@wyandots.org](mailto:AOrtlieb@wyandots.org)

If you have questions or are just looking for information please feel free to contact your Family Representative at any time. We are here to work for you and the good of the Tribe. Each family can have two (2) reps on the Council and the White Family has no representative at all at this time. Also, the Morrison Family has only one as does the Splitlogs, and both Warrow Clans. Consider Becoming a steward for your family and your tribe. We Meet monthly and since Covid-19 meetings have been virtual instead of in person so distance is no issue.

## Legend of the Full Sturgeon Moon

A reprint of an August 14, 2019 article by Tristan Picotte

Native Americans have marked cycles of the moon to signify certain times of the year. In August, we welcome the Sturgeon Moon —also known as the Green Corn Moon, (occurring on August 11 this year) marks the time for noted ease in catching fish in the Great Lakes area. Ironically, this often occurs in the sign of Pisces, which is often symbolized by two fish. (This year it occurs in Leo).

The legend of the moon varies across tribes; however, something all tribes seem to have in common is the use of a lunar calendar to record notable events throughout the year — and each moon signified something different for each tribe that named it.

One of the Lakota names for the moon is 'Hanhepi Win' (meaning Night Woman). And according to the Legend, (Nunda' is the Cherokee name for both the sun and the moon. Some say the sun and moon are related as brother and sister; others say they are lovers forced to chase each other back and forth across the sky, while some still say they are simply balls thrown into the sky after a great game.

Traditional full-moon names can also signify the harvest time of various crops for indigenous people in America and around the world. August, for example, is seen as the time to harvest barley, corn, fruit and other grains.

The significance of a moon can also vary widely depending on geography and season, which may be confusing for those who did not name the moons and may even have contributed to the introduction of standardized timekeeping, such as the Gregorian calendar. Still, much of the history for these cultures around the world are marked based on the names of the moons by which they lived.

Wyandot word for Moon is /andišra'sun/moon  
[yan-dee-shrah-ah]

read. Louise was a warm and welcoming homemaker and their home on Macomb Rd, Grosse Ile was a gathering

## Memories of My Family: The Warrows

By Kit Brown

### Introduction

The memoir that follows was written by Wyandot member Kit Brown in 2022. It started out as a personal email and has been edited for presentation in the newsletter.

A short introduction will be provided so that our readers will understand a bit more about the people in this memoir and the history of Kit's family. Much of the introductory information is excerpted from the book written by Gert Free in 1998, "Chief Solomon Warrow: Wyandot Indian of Anderdon Ontario and His Descendants".

Kit (Katherine) Brown is the daughter of Gladys Warrow and Walton (Mac) McCluer. She currently lives in Oakland Township, Michigan, and is married to John Brown. Their children are Melissa Kapolka, Matthew Brown, and Stephen Brown. Kit and John have seven grandchildren: Elizabeth, Laura, Joshua, Isabella, Nicholas, Gabriella, and Christian. Kit practiced neonatal nursing at Beaumont Hospital and is now retired. She has been a long-time supporter of the Wyandots of Anderdon and is a good historian, as you will see.

Kit's mother, Gladys Warrow, was the daughter of Theodore (Ted) Uriel Warrow and Mary Louise (Louise) Funston. In her memoir, Kit refers to Ted and Louise as Grandma and Grandpa. Ted Warrow was born in Anderdon, Ontario on June 27, 1882. He attended the Anderdon school that was established for the Wyandots. He came to Grosse Ile when he was 16 years old. He worked on the Great Lakes, earning his mate's papers. He also worked on ships on the Livingstone Canal, the Detroit River, the Erie Canal, and on the Mississippi River. He returned to Grosse Ile and worked as a house painter there until his death in 1944. In 1905, Ted married Mary Louise Funston at St John the Baptist Church in Anderdon, Ontario. Louise was born on Grosse Ile on Sept 10, 1884 and lived there most of her life. She attended school thru the 8<sup>th</sup> grade and loved to

place for family almost every Sunday afternoon. In her later years, Louise moved to Trenton to live with her daughter Margaret Warrow. Ted and Louise had seven children—Oscar (Ockie) was the oldest child and a boy. Joseph died as a young child. Grace, Elsie (Else), Gladys (Glad) and Margaret (Maggie) are the four sisters mentioned in Kit's memoir, a smart, funny, lively bunch of sisters that made an impression on everyone in the family. Sadly, Maurice (Morrie) took his own life in young adulthood.



Kit as a young girl.

### Kit Brown's memoir

We lived next door to Grandma and Grandpa Warrow (Ted and Louise) on Grosse Ile and had a shared driveway. Grandma had a well in the side yard of the house, and a garage with a two seated privy in it which was used mostly in the summertime. The privy was convenient when the family had been out working in the large vegetable garden or orchards in the fields beyond the house. At some point, I remember, they added an indoor toilet and sink in a tiny space that I believe was created on the back porch. They extended the water line

to the sink in the kitchen, so that water could be heated for bathing. Upstairs, there were three bedrooms: one for Grandma and Grandpa Warrow, one



for the four girls. The girls had two beds in their room. There was no bathroom for many years. If they did not want to walk out to the privy, they used what my mother called "the slop jar", a round ceramic container with a hinged lid which was kept under the bed. I remember Maggie saying how much she loved it when they installed indoor plumbing for the toilet and sink in the 1940's. Before that, baths were done every Saturday in the big metal tubs that were used to wash clothes. That way, the family was clean and ready for Sunday Mass.

Grandma Warrow's house was heated with a huge coal stove which sat in the living room near the stairs to the second floor. The second floor was not usually cold because the open stairway allowed the heat to rise from the stove. It also helped that family members slept two to a double bed. The coal for the stove was hauled in by the men. The women of the family did the cleaning, the cooking, and the laundry. As a child, I can remember wash days on Mondays. Mom (Gladys) and Grandma (Louise) would go out to the shed on the side of the garage and haul out a heavy wooden folding frame that held two galvanized wash tubs. They would heat the wash water on the stove in the kitchen. They had a

wringer roller machine and, after washing the clothes, they would take the dripping clothes out of the rinse water and feed each garment between two big rollers, cranking the roller press by hand. After that, the garment would drop into a basket and be transported to the clothesline in the side yard. They used wooden clothespins to attach the sheets and clothing to the line to dry. Once dry, they would take down the dry sheets, fold them, and then change all the beds on Saturday, so that, after your weekly bath, you would crawl into a bed smelling like the fresh air that the sheets had dried in. In the winter, they set up the washing in the kitchen, but they still hung the sheets outside on the line. I can still see them taking the frozen sheets down off the line, stiff as a board. They would shake the ice coating off the sheets and fold them. The rest of the laundry was hung in the kitchen, and some went upstairs to be pinned on lines in the bedrooms. Aunt Elsie would come over to do her laundry with us. She told me that her arm had been badly injured at one time when it was caught in the ringer rolls.

I think of how they struggled just to get the basics in life done, and I am glad that I didn't live like that as a child! They were exhausted with hard physical labor and did not have many conveniences. Food was certainly an issue, with most of what they ate being raised in their own gardens. Both my dad (Mac) and Grandpa kept pigs, and my Great Aunt Stella (Estella Warrow Gronda) who lived two houses away, kept chickens. As a child, I used to go into my bedroom and close the door and windows when it was slaughtering time. I did not want to hear the pigs or chickens during slaughter. I was always upset by this. My brother would watch with great interest.

Grandma and Mom canned everything, even some meats, and the men made sausages with the meat leftovers. In the fall, any leftover vegetables and green tomatoes were ground up and made into a relish. The green tomato relish was brined in a big crock that was left on the screened porch to freeze. I was sometimes asked to put my coat on and take a big bowl with me so I could scoop out some slushy cold relish for dinner. It was yummy! My Mom talked about dinners during the Great Depression, when the dining table held green tomato relish and a thick warm mixture of potatoes, onions and milk which she called potato souse. There was always a loaf or two of bread, butter, and maybe canned beets, green beans, or corn. At that time, they

had meat only on Sundays. Dessert was home-canned apples, pears, cherries, etc. There were often two pies so everyone could have large pieces. And, if there was any pie left over, they ate it for breakfast! After dinner, the women headed to the kitchen to clean up while the men sat in the living room to smoke and talk. Back in the kitchen, there was always an argument over who would wash, who would dry, and who would put the dishes away. After the work and the school homework was done, everyone would gather around the radio for entertainment. The girls would be mending, knitting, or sewing and the boys would work on small repair projects. When the young people got older, courting couples would go for a walk or visit friends in the neighborhood. Grandpa Warrow encouraged Uncle Ockie to bring his male friends home to meet his sisters, so they would have husbands. Ockie did just that: He met my dad in Florida while they were both working for the WPA, a Roosevelt plan to give men jobs during the depression. He brought Mac home and he married my

mom, Gladys. Ockie also brought Harold Trombley (Uncle Shorty) home and he married my Aunt Elsie. My Aunt Gracie married Warren Manning and I do not know if he was local or someone she met at teacher's college. My Aunt Maggie never married.

Each summer, we would all go to the gathering that the Wyandots now call the Green Corn Feast. We just called it the clan reunion in those days. All of the cousins would be there and we would play games like stickball and baseball. Everyone brought a special dish to put on the long tables in the shade of the house or under tarps in the big field beside the house. I think Aunt Maggie said at one time that we had 200 first and second cousins. There were a lot of devout Catholics in our midst. And lots of beer drinkers! Family members would get into heated arguments over a baseball dispute. It was fun watching the games and voicing our opinions as to who was the best player.

A big family was part of daily life for us. We knew our cousins well and played together a lot as kids. Family members were always around, with several of our cousins living in the same neighborhood. Cousins like the Grondas lived next door. Also living nearby were Grandma's brothers, Sinney, Johnny and Fred.

Grandpa's sister Stella lived next to the Ted Grondas.

The Broh family lived up by our school. The Trombley

and Manning cousins lived close by in Trenton. Uncle Ockie and his family lived in Wyandotte. On Sundays, our families got together for dinner at Grandma's house. Pot lucks were common, and, during the Second World War, families would pool their ration stamps for meat so that Grandma could have a nice roast to share. Sugar stamps were shared so someone could make a cake or pie. We kids played kick the can, and when it was getting dark, it was really hard to see those hidden around the yard. We never broke any windows playing Alley-Alley Over. We also had foot races and played stick ball or field hockey.

This is a vivid memory worth sharing. One hot summer day, we came running to Grandma's porch when called to dinner, only to find the screen door locked. We kids were all crowded on the porch, calling loudly for someone to let us in, when, suddenly, all those stomping feet aroused a nest of Yellowjackets to fury. They swarmed around us like bees to honey and were

stinging us thoroughly. When one of the adults came to the door, he refused to open it, for fear of letting the bees into the house. So, there we were, kids running for dear life, swatting frantically at the bee cloud, and most of us in tears. Our horrified, but unyielding, parents gathered on the screened front porch, calling out frantic directions on where to run to get away from the bees. My brother and I were lucky we lived next door and had not been in that crowd on the porch, so we dove into our own house and shut the doors. My dad later congratulated us on our quick thinking! He had come home for something and was there to help us barricade the doors! He was laughing so hard; he almost started a fire when his cigarette fell out of his mouth. My brother was a kid with a weird sense of humor. He was happy because one of those cousins running around wildly outside had pushed him off the porch so that he could be first in to dinner.

We had good times as children. We played games, picked fruit and veggies, climbed trees, and made treehouses. My grandfather could always find paper and colored pencils so we could draw and color, and he taught us silly songs and poems. We had no transportation to school which meant we walked miles every day. The exercise kept us strong and healthy. Religion was a serious matter, and the whole family was Roman Catholic. Our Sunday mornings were spent learning our catechism, prayers, and songs. I don't

remember ever feeling bored or lonely. When the boys got together, they would start fights if they were bored. We girls often played "house", as we called it, dressing our dolls, and pretending we were grownups or famous people. All our imagination was shared and we would use a box of old clothes that Grandma kept for us to pretend with. Sadly, this never included any traditional Wyandot customs or teachings. Everyone wanted to be just regular folks, I guess.

Submitted by Katherine Brown with assistance by Mary Collier May 2022

## Euchre Tournament S

**Who :** Tribe — Family Members

**When:** Saturday evening, August 6, 2022

**Time:** TBD (est 6:00pm)

**Where:** Grosse Ile Centennial Farm

**Why:** It is traditional, it is what we do, and unbelievably fun!

**Format:** Prizes Awarded, small entry fee, Partners  
Change every game

## Winners 2019 Tournament

1<sup>st</sup> Reigning Champion: Eric Noble (Gronda) 45 pts.

2<sup>nd</sup>: Tied: Tom Warrow — Bob Gronda, 44 pts.

3<sup>rd</sup>: Faith Gronda, 42 pts.

4<sup>th</sup>: Josh Garcia, 41 pts. (Oklahoma Wyandotte)

2019 Overview: the 2019 tournament was just unbelievably fun! It was like I remember it years ago - with the hooting and hollering as someone gets euchred trying to squeeze by with a skinny hand. Our great uncles, aunts, and parents who played with so much passion were proud that night! Many played well, some even brilliantly, but in the end one stood tallest...Eric Noble!

*Bob Gronda*



Johnny Kukowski, Linda Filipek, Chief Ted Roll, Sharon Pidgeon, John Kukowski, seated former Second Chief Clyde Pidgeon

## A Day of Fun and Teaching

On May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022, a few citizens of the Wyandot of Anderdon Nation traveled to the River Raisin National Battlefield Park Education Center in Monroe, MI to display and teach visitors about native culture by filling a classroom with artifacts that were not just for viewing but for touching and feeling, by the more than 300 visitors who came to call on that day.

Visitors asked many questions and listened intently for every and all explanations. Even the little ones got into the mood of the day by trying on the headdress of Grand Chief Ted Roll.



# Honoring, Healing, & Remembering

By Linda Filipek

On Monday, June 6, 2022, Grand Chief Ted Roll, Treasurer, Susan Szachta, and Council Representative, Linda Filipek attended the day of prayer and remembrance for the lives lost at the Mt Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School. More than 225 young lives were taken from their families and loved ones during the time that the school was in operation.

The day began with a sunrise ceremony at the cemetery. Many rose early to attend and to place tobacco on the one grave that is still identifiable. Most are old and the carvings have faded into history. There are no markers for the majority of our children. Water was shared and poured out and strawberries were shared. Drummers played traditional songs and prayers were sent to the Creator in the name of the lost.

The program moved to the actual school where there was a light breakfast followed by a grand entry with a pipe ceremony and flag song. During the day there were ceremonies and speeches from Deb Haaland, the U.S. Secretary of the Interior, the first Native Woman to hold that post. Several pipe carriers took time to explain their relationship to their pipes and how they obtained their pipe stones. These were lessons that most of us had never heard and were happy to learn, such as: You cannot just buy a pipe and say you are a pipe carrier, you have to be chosen and then given or search out the pipe stone to create your personal pipe.

Tours of the outer portion of the building were given with explanations so everyone in attendance knew how each building was used. Unfortunately, repairing and maintaining these historic structures is really quite costly and a portion of the days' activities, including a silent auction and a 50/50 raffle were fundraisers in an effort to accumulate some of the necessary funds.

There was a celebratory Round Dance with all of us wearing a name of a child lost to their future within the walls of the "School". A school where children were taught wood working, machine repair, farming, child care and housekeeping but never taught how to read and write or do arithmetic.



As you can see, the state of the buildings is deplorable. It will take a great deal to repair any portion of them.



# Wyandot of Anderdon Nation

## Green Corn Feast

Sunday August 7, 2019. 12pm ~ 6pm

Centennial Farms, 25797 3rd St., Grosse Ile, MI 48138

### *Schedule of Events*

12:00 pm Opening Ceremony

12:30 pm Children's Crafts

1:00 ~ 3:00 pm Lunch is served, All Day Kids' Games

4:30 pm Raffle & Closing Ceremony

Please arrive by noon to sign in & participate in the Opening Ceremony!

Meals will be served the same as in the past, including Buffalo Burgers.

Desserts to share are always welcome!

Advance Tickets: Adults \$15.00 ~ Children (6-14) \$10.00

Tickets @ Door: Adults \$20.00 ~ Children (6-14) \$15.00

Children 5 and Under Free

A table will be set up for registration,  
payment of annual dues and lunch.

Dues still \$20.00 per adult.

Raffle tickets for October's raffle will be available at \$10.00 per ticket.

Family and group photos will be taken.

Do wear or bring your Regalia.

Be sure to bring a chair for sitting outside.

Wyandot of Anderdon merchandise will be available for purchase.

**NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ALLOWED**

Please RSVP to [Treasurer@wyandots.org](mailto:Treasurer@wyandots.org) or to [communications@wyandots.org](mailto:communications@wyandots.org). for lunch payments to be made in advance. Please help us prepare for your fun day.

# Wyandot of Anderdon Nation kqmahskwema'a & Other Activities

RSVP for any and all events to  
Katie Thomas by July 30th @ [communications@wyandots.org](mailto:communications@wyandots.org)

## *Schedule of Events*

### **Women's Circle**

Saturday Aug 6th 1pm ~ 5pm

All Wendat Confederacy Girls & Women Welcome

Please bring a dish to share if able.

### **Euchre Tournament**

Saturday Aug 6th 6pm ~ ??

All Members & player ability are Welcome

Entry fee & Cash prizes

**2019 Winners:** 1st - Eric Noble;  
2nd (tied) - Tom Warrow & Bob Gronda;  
3rd - Faith Gronda; 4th - Josh Garcia

**NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ALLOWED**

### **kqmahskwema'a**

Sunday Aug 7th *tentatively* 10am ~ 12pm

All members & family welcome for naming ceremony

Hello! I am a member of the Wyandot of Anderdon Nation. I am the Splitlog Family Chief. My small business gives referrals to essential services and in turn it helps with some residual income for my family. If you can help me with a favor and please check out some of the services below and if you are interested in any, please go to the website link for information or feel free to call me with questions. 313-575-0164. Some of the services are below. Others can be viewed at the link at the bottom then click on "Services". Thank you!



Affordable Health Coverage. Save up to 50% over traditional insurance. 90% payout. Low deductibles. Plans start at \$65 for individuals and \$330 for families. Seniors 65 and older plans start at \$100 and have 100% payout once your low deductible met. It's a great supplement to Medicare. **[Tinyurl.com/ACN-IHS](https://Tinyurl.com/ACN-IHS)**



Antivirus, VPN, Dark Web Scanner, encrypted password and document vault, tracking blocker, ad blocker, camera and microphone advisor, Dark web scanner, and a host of other identify theft prevention and recovery features all in one bundle. Monthly, quarterly, and yearly packages. **[Tinyurl.com/ACN-IDS](https://Tinyurl.com/ACN-IDS)**



**[KM111.acnibo.com/us-en/homepage](https://KM111.acnibo.com/us-en/homepage)**

## **Notes from your Treasurer,**

Sue Szachta

Just a reminder – Yearly fees are \$20.00 for citizens 18 years and older. They are due in August. Your fees help to operate and sustain your tribe. Some things your fees are used for are printing and mailing of newsletters, flyers, special announcements, and invoices, trailer loan and insurance, general liability insurance, taxes, yearly fees to the state, Green Corn Feast activities, elder dinners, and gifts, and so much more.

We have several ways to make payments: check, money order, Venmo, PayPal, or the donate button on the website that uses PayPal. If you pay by PayPal, please include, for each \$20.00 payment, \$.75 for the processing fee. If you would like a payment method letter, please email me at [Treasurer@wyandots.org](mailto:Treasurer@wyandots.org).

Please when you receive your invoice in the upcoming weeks, I'm asking you to take 5 minutes and review it and if you have any questions, please email me. Take time to send in or pay your fees online. I know some citizens have forgot or just haven't had time to send in their fees and the amount may have just gotten away from you over the years. Just know we are here to talk with you. If you need help, cannot make a payment, or would like to set up a payment plan, please contact me or your family representative.

Ske:noh!

## **Fundraising Report**

by Sue Szachta

Our May raffle went great, we sold 732 tickets, (still hoping to get all 1000 sold, next time). Thanks to everyone who took the time to help and sell tickets and to all who purchased tickets. Our next raffle will be in October. Look for tickets at Green Corn Feast to purchase or to take some to sell to your family and friends.

Remember to choose Wyandot of Anderdon as your Charity when making purchases on Amazon Smile.

We are looking for fundraising ideas if you have some new ideas please contact myself at:

[Treasurer@wyandots.org](mailto:Treasurer@wyandots.org).

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