

# REPORT OF GREAT COUNCIL

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14TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE, SEP. 18TH - 20TH OF 2015

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## PRESIDING OFFICES - GREAT COUNCIL PEHLI

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- **Cabinet:** Nehm Tiwehkthihmpt (Elected Principle/Medicine Chief) Jonathan "Wellamotkin" Landis, Talking Feather of Conference. Joan "Kuhkseh" Schrader as Ehlehksihm to the EPMC.
- **Ecclesiastes:** Tehk Tiwehkthihmpt (Presiding High Priest of the Order of Lehb) Phillip "Cloudpiler" Landis, presiding over Ceremony. Tiwehkthihmpt Nathanael "Tsi-Nahtahn" Landis as Kohhaht of Council.
- **Host:** Chayahnsaysay Ehlehk (Principle/Stone Carrier) Phil Berg of Arnica Chapter. Joan "Kuhkseh" Schrader and Rosa Berg as Ehlehksihm to the Principle/Stone Carrier.

## HONORS

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Special gratitude is extended to the ministers of Arnica Chapter for timely preparation and cleanup prior to and following Great Council, as well as to Bob and Joan Schrader for providing trash and recycling receptacles. Special thanks also to the mothers of Arnica Chapter who provided fresh and nutritious food for the Wahtsaht Dance sufficient to feed the entire assembly. Special thanks to the Tehk Tiwehkthihmpt and his family for their continued development and maintenance of the Ceremonial Grounds throughout the year. Special thanks are offered to those Nemenhah Ministers who contributed to the Great Council Fund, hosted by the University of Nemenhah, from which we were able to enjoy plenty of clean drinking water as well as portable toilet fixtures and lighting for the evenings. Additional thanks are extended to Chief Ignacio "Hoopwatcher" Garcia, Tiwehkthihmpt of the Itsipi Society, for his services as Facilitator of Itsipi Ceremony and Drum Song. Further gratitude is extended to the Tehk Tiwehkthihmpt for his seminar regarding Kohhaht Ministry and for leading the Assembly in the Sacred Ancestor (Spirit) Dance Saturday evening. Special thanks also to Joan "Kuhkseh" Schrader, Yuhnipi Ehlehk of Arnica Chapter, for her seminars regarding Ethics and Accountability, Lymphatic Pump Stimulation (according to the tenets of Ehlahts Kowaht Payihts), and Wyaykihn. Further thanks are offered for the generous services of Joyce Rheel of Four Rivers Chapter and Carla Bass and Novella Webster of Pehgnlisihts Chapter as Clerks of Council and Keepers of the Minutes (under the direction of the Ehlehksihm of the Nehm Tiwehkthihmpt).

## GENERAL STATE OF THE ASSEMBLY

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The Ceremonial Grounds were well prepared prior to the assembly of the Delegates, who each effectively raised the bar on civility and courtesy in every respect. Indeed, each Delegate and their attendants may be raised as a credit to their Chapter and carry back with them a high commendation from the Office of the Nehm Tiwehkthihmpt for such honorable devotion to Nemenhah Ethics. The assembly this year was small, numbering approximately thirty adults and twenty children from three families. Once again, the Ceremonial Grounds were left cleaner than when the event began.

## PROCEEDINGS

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Great Council began on Friday, the 18th of September, with the Opening of the Medicine Bundle by the Tehk Tiwehkthihmpt prior to the assembly of the Administrative Chiefs in a private council session. Following the conclusion of the Administrative Council session, delegates and guests assembled for a seminar presented by the Nehm Tiwehkthihmpt on Scope and Definitions of Ministry. The assembly was then led in Drum Circle by Tiwehkthihmpt Ignacio "Hoopwatcher" Garcia into the evening.

Business Session began early Saturday morning. Proxies were issued for the following Chapters, which were unable to send a Delegate:

- Kings Mountain Chapter of North Carolina
- Shepherds House Chapter of Tennessee

All Delegations were acknowledged for the following Chapters:

- Arnica Chapter of Missouri
- Penglisihts Chapter of Missouri
- Condor/Eagle Chapter of Ohio
- Four Rivers Chapter of Illinois

It is with sadness that this office does report the administrative dissolution of the Youth Medicine Chapter of Ohio, in accordance with the wishes of the late Chapter's congregation. All Nemenhah Members who previously enjoyed membership in the late Chapter's assembly are now members of Condor/Eagle Chapter of Ohio under the stewardship of Tiwehkthihmpt Ignacio "Hoopwatcher" Garcia, who is the Principle/Stone Carrier of that Chapter. Members wishing to make contact with their new Chapter are advised to do so at the following: [chapterservices@nemenhah.org](mailto:chapterservices@nemenhah.org).

Sunday morning brought the assembly together for the Wahtsaht Dance, led by the Tehk Tiwehkthihmpt, which was then followed by a special Drum Circle for the children led by Drum Song Ignacio "Hoopwatcher" Garcia. Every child enjoyed playing to the Chief's sacred drum beats and many had made their own drums, or had created drums from serving dishes, tubs and buckets. The blessing and consecration of the site for a new Temple Garden was conducted by the Tehk Tiwehkthihmpt and Tiwehkthihmpt Nathanael "Tsi-Natahn" Landis, who were attended by Tiwehkthihmpt Brian Wilkes, which was followed by the Kneeling Dance: a true Nemenhah Tradition.

## BUSINESS SESSION REPORT

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The Nehm Tiwehkthihmpt offered an administrative report on the Cabinet operations, projects and developments, reminding the assembly to review standing policy regarding Voting Status Administration as found online at [www.nemenhah.org](http://www.nemenhah.org).

The Nehm Tiwehkthihmpt moved to ratify the Constitution, and also the Code of Ethical Conduct, of the Nemenhah People for one year. Motion carried by unanimous consensus.

The Nehm Tiwehkthihmpt moved to ratify the Cabinet Administration, namely the Office of the Nehm Tiwehkthihmpt, Cabinet Chiefs, Assistant Chiefs, Chayahnsaysay Ehlehksihm (Principle/Stone Carriers), Ehlehksihm and Ministers of the Secular Governance as currently constituted. Motion carried by unanimous consensus.

The Nehm Tiwehkthihmpt moved to ratify the Ecclesiastical Administration, namely the Native American Church of Nemenhah as the primary religious institution of the Nemenhah People, the Office of the Tehk Tiwehkthihmpt, as well as Tiwehkthihmpt, Tiwehkt, and Tiwehk Offices, and Ehlehksihm, of the Ecclesiastical Governance as currently constituted. Motion carried by unanimous consensus.

The Nehm Tiwehkthihmpt reported the release of the Chief of Cultural and Ethical Concerns, Guldal "Sees Far Woman" Caba, from the Cabinet by her own request. The Nehm Tiwehkthihmpt honored her for her devoted care, co-authorship and custodianship of the Nemenhah Code of Ethical Conduct since its inception during the Great Council of 2010, and asked for a Sustaining Vote of thanks from the Delegates. The Delegates voted with unanimous thanks, and applause for her years of selfless service and contributions to the Five-Fold Mission and the Sahaptan Healing Way. The Nehm Tiwehkthihmpt informed the Delegates that the functions and duties of the Department of Cultural and Ethical Concerns have been retained by the Office of the EPMC until such time as a new Chief is appointed to that Office.

The Nehm Tiwehkthihmpt reported that no proposals to amend the Nemenhah Constitution had been presented to his Office this year.

No new business was presented to the floor at this time and Great Council was adjourned for one year by the Nehm Tiwehkthihmpt.

## REMARKS

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Credit for continued education in the Sahaptan Healing Way has been provided by the University of Nemenhah for all those who attended Great Council. Special instructions on how to complete the necessary report to receive the offered credit award was provided in the event handouts produced and distributed by Joan Schrader during the event. Contact the University of Nemenhah at [info@uninem.org](mailto:info@uninem.org) for more information.

For many of those who were able to attend, the events of Great Council provided a much needed rest from the development and adjustment of new policy we've continuously experienced for the past three years. Nearly all those in attendance attested to the remarkably peaceful spirit that pervaded every activity, seminar and ceremony. Those attending the seminars were attentive and respectful and the speakers were also respectful and carried the spirit of Nemenhah Religion. It is with great pleasure that this Office does report the continuation of the Nemenhah ITO for yet another Great Council Cycle.

  
Jonathan M. Jacobs  
Nehm Tiwehkthihmpt  
Nemenhah ITO

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WE WALK IN A SACRED, WE TALK IN A SACRED MANNER;  
WE ARE ALL RELATIONS - WE ARE NEMENHAH!

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