

# Honoring Our Sac and Fox Veterans Cornelius Leander “Wap-ish-ka” Wakolee

By Angela S. Wakolee



**Cornelius Leander  
“Wap-ish-ka” Wakolee**

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a letter regarding my father Cornelius Leander “Wap-ish-ka” Wakolee. He had joined the Army in March of 1943, and then separated in September of 1945 with an Honorable Discharge with a Distinguish Unit Badge, Air Medal with three (3) bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, Purple Heart and Good Conduct Medal.

His Military Occupation Specialty was Aerial Gunner 611 and Qualifications was a Carbine Sharpshooter.

I remember visiting with my Dad, many times and he would talk about what he had done in the service. He would say, “Angie, you see that bubble underneath the airplanes?” And I would reply, yes, well, he would continue on, “that’s where I sat, that was me”. And I was like cool, in my mind that was my Dad underneath the airplane, little did I know, that would be

the first thing the enemy had to shoot at.

I also remember when my Dad had returned home, meaning his sister’s (Eleanor) house in Horton, Kansas. She would help him with his bandages, his colostomy bag and just helping him with everyday life. Back then; I didn’t know, I was just happy to see my Dad. My dad also was a helicopter mechanic during Vietnam and Korean Conflict.

There was a story that was told to me, when I was old enough to know. My Dad, while returning to their base in Italy with their help of patriots after their bombers was shot down, his crewmembers and my dad had to parachute out. He threw his Indian tobacco out and said, “Alright misho, do your stuff”, meaning take care of me. He and his crew were over Yugoslavia, and the Yugoslavians had hid my dad in their haylofts. I don’t know how long he was over there but it must have been awhile, because my Grandma Grace Anderson Wakolee, had received a telegraph saying her son is Missing In Action (MIA) and presumed dead, so Grandma Grace had ceremonies for my dad, then as Grandma Grace was hanging up her linen, she saw a vehicle coming down the dirt road and pulled into her home, it was a Yellow cab. She had stopped what she was doing to see who came to visit, it was my Dad.

I am the youngest of 4 girls, and when the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation had honored one of my eldest sisters, Deanna M. Brewer, Army, Desert Storm, she had told me that my dad/stepdad was her hometown hero, that is why she joined the Army.

Angela S. Wakolee, Sac and Fox Nation of Oklahoma member.



The Sac and Fox Nation recently participated in the Prague Kolache Festival

## Native Employment Works (NEW)



## Native Employment Works Funds Available Now

The Sac and Fox Nation Human Services Department is currently taking applications for Native Employment Works. NEW is a federally funded program that helps low-income households with expenses while attending school or if underemployed. We encourage you to apply at our office in Stroud or at the Shawnee Multi-Purpose Center. Please call us at the number on the bottom of this article, if you have any questions.

To qualify for NEW, you must be an enrolled member of the Sac and Fox Nation and reside within the Sac and Fox Nation jurisdictional boundaries.

The NEW program eligibility includes teen parents, unemployed parent(s) if attending school, underemployed parent(s), and other tribal members if they have one or more Sac and Fox children.

### PLEASE BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Tribal enrollment cards for all household members
- (Birth certificates for those without a tribal enrollment card)
- Driver’s license if over 18 and not enrolled.
- Driver’s license or photo ID for applicant.
- Social Security cards for all household members.
- School enrollment verification or employment verification.
- Proof of income – including paycheck stubs, Social Security or disability benefits, unemployment compensation, pension or retirement funds, etc. for all household members 18 years of age or older.

*Other documents may be required based on your situation.*

### Sac and Fox Nation Human Services

920883 S. Hwy 99 Building A Stroud, Oklahoma 74079  
Phone: 918-968-3526 • Extensions 2010 & 2011  
Toll Free: 800-259-3970 • Fax: 918-968-0142

## Norwood Masquat, Jr., Commander of Sac and Fox Nation Veterans’ Organization

“No new DD214’s have come in. We need 214’s for our next monuments. We want to complete the four monuments for WWI, WWII, Korea and the Women’s monuments by the fall of 2014.

### Information Needed to Find a Person’s DD214

- ✓ Veteran’s Name
- ✓ Date and place of birth
- ✓ Branch of service
- ✓ Time and term of service
- ✓ Service number if available
- ✓ Social Security number, if available

With this information we can track down an individual’s DD214, enabling us to see his or her service record.

See Cathrine Walker 1-918-968-0705

## Ballot for Senior Man and Senior Woman

**Deadline to return a ballot is June 13, 2014**  
**Must be an enrolled member of the Sac and Fox Nation to vote**

Circle Only One

**SENIOR MAN**

Edgar Butler

Benjamin McClellan

**Return ballot to:**  
**Activity Committee**  
**Sac and Fox Nation**  
**920883 S. Hwy. 99 Bldg. A**  
**Stroud, OK 74079**  
or  
**Fax 918-968-4837**  
**Email newspaper@sacandfoxnation-nsn.gov**

**Voters Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ Please Print

**Voters Roll #:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Must be an enrolled member to vote

**Voters Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

## RIVERSIDE INDIAN SCHOOL REUNION

STARTING JULY 11, 2014 - ENDING JULY 13, 2014

**RIVERSIDE INDIAN SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF ANADARKO OKLAHOMA**  
**HOSTING REUNION IN ALBUQUERQUE NEW MEXICO**

The Riverside Alumni Association is inviting ALL former Riverside students and former/present staff to join them in Albuquerque New Mexico at the **Best Western Rio Grande Plus Inn**. Make reservations at 800-959-4726 or 505-843-9500 hotel is near old town Albuquerque.

The last Albuquerque Alumni Reunion in 1997 brought RIS alumni class attendees from 1936 - 1982. Alumni came from NM, AZ, PA, MT, NC, NJ, OK, WA, ID, CO, OR, KS and CA.

The 2014 reunion planning committee is in contact with Albuquerque confirming and arranging events and activities.

Reunion arrangements are nearing finalization. So if you're a former Riverside Indian School student or staff wanting to attend the reunion, contact the Riverside Alumni Association of Anadarko at **RIS Alumni Association P.O. Box 1314 Anadarko, OK 73005**. Your letter should include your name, current address, phone number, email address, years attended and graduated RIS. You can also email [risreunion2014@att.net](mailto:risreunion2014@att.net) subject line (reunion) email same information.

Those wishing to attend will receive a reunion information letter or email attachment detailing reunion hotel and events cost.

The Anadarko RIS Alumni Association was founded in 1971. After 43 years the membership continues being actively involved with the Riverside students and staff. Alumnus shows their support by attending sporting events and other Riverside activities.

If you're interested in volunteering as a reunion planning committee member in your state or area contact the RIS alumni. Provide your email for easier/faster contact with other committee members. Your support is truly appreciated.