

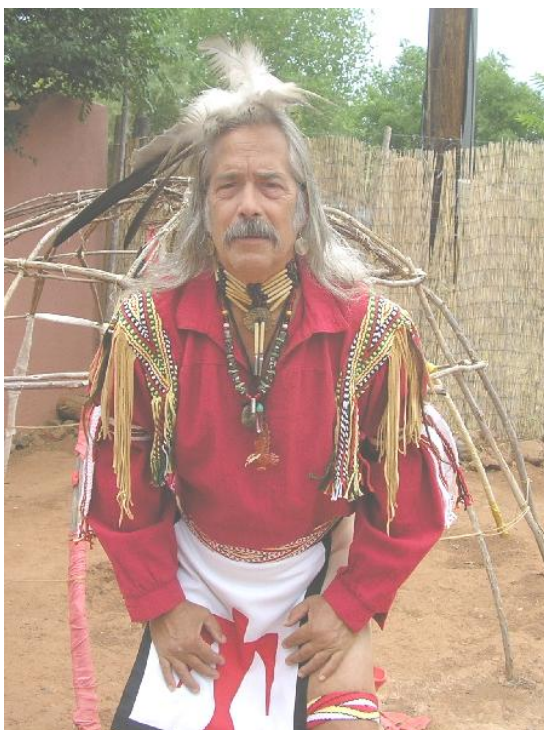
NEW BAND IN FORMATION IN ARIZONA

There is a new band of the Southeastern Cherokee Council in formation in Sedona, Arizona. The Medicine Keepers Band, under the leadership of Ayanvli Rick has already begun doing ceremony including the process of adoption and giving of names.



Ayanvli Rick, Chief of Medicine Keeper Band.

Members of the Medicine Keepers band recently celebrated the Atahuna or "Friends Made" ceremony which included an adoption ceremony.



Joseph GreyWolf Rick



Joshua FireHorse , age 7, is son of Chief Ayanvli and Joseph GreyWolf.



Medicine Keepers Band Veteran is Vice Chief Alan FireKeeper Hicks

Sedona, Arizona, is in the heart of the Southeastern Native culture. Yet, those of Cherokee heritage are scattered all over "Turtle Island", and can be found preserving their culture and spirituality as they rub shoulders with the Navajo, the Hopi, and other south-eastern cultures. Members of the upcoming Medicine Keeper Band recognize the uniqueness and beauty of Cherokee culture which was cradled in the mountains of the Southern Appalachia from ancient times.



Another view of the youngest member of Medicine Keeper Band: Joshua FireHorse Rick.