

THE CHEROKEE TRIBE OF NORTHEAST ALABAMA

The Cherokee Tribe of Northeast Alabama consists of approximately 2,000 citizens.

Tribal Officers are:

Principal Chief, Robert Russell
First Vice Chief, Larry Smith
Second Vice Chief, Danny Skillman
Tribal Commissioner, Robert Russell

The Cherokee Tribe of Northeast Alabama is one of nine tribes recognized by the State of Alabama with representation on the Alabama Indian Affairs Commission.

The Tribe's governing body is made of 13 Elected officials who meet monthly and sponsor quarterly gatherings. Citizens are welcome to attend. Elections are held every four years for all tribal offices.

Our tribe has a rich and exciting history including formal documentation under Alabama law when it incorporated on December 11, 1980 with Dr. Lindy Martin serving as the first Principal Chief of the era of incorporation when the tribe was known as the Cherokees of Jackson County. Over the years, as the tribal membership grew, the name was changed to Cherokee Tribe of Northeast Alabama.

Alabama is rich in Cherokee history including some of the first written Cherokee laws being enacted in Alabama. Several of the earliest Cherokee delegations to Washington D.C. included Alabama Cherokees.

Citizens of the Tribe are descendants of the Cherokee people who lived in the Southeast of what is now the United States and moved without borders on a map or had a written language prior to first contact with Europeans. Although we have periods of time when our rolls are closed for administrative reasons, the Tribe's rolls are generally open for anyone that can document their Cherokee ancestry and who have ties to Alabama. In line with the beliefs of our ancestors, the Tribe does not currently restrict citizenship by an established blood quantum. We have created a constitution by which to govern ourselves and citizenship requirements are defined in that document.

May you walk in peace.