



Dancing Seneca Youth Council

The Seneca Nation of Indians Education Program is a bi-cultural program with emphasis placed on both scholastic improvement and instruction in traditional Seneca arts and crafts. Scholastic improvement through tutoring is done in the Salamanca Central School District, the Gowanda School District and the Silver Creek Central School District for children at the Jr.-Sr. High School level. Seneca language and dancing classes are conducted at the Haley and Steamburg Community Buildings on the Allegany Reservation. On the Cattaraugus Reserve, classes are conducted at the Saylor Community Building. Also included in the Seneca Cultural aspects of the program are wood carving, traditional food preparation and costume making.



Mural, "snowsnake," traditional Indian sport.  
Wall mural executive wing, Haley Building

The Haley and Saylor Buildings both have wall murals which depict scenes of Seneca life. The Seneca are noted for their art work. Many have entered into commercial and free lance work.

The Official Seneca Nation Seal, designed by a member of the tribe, shows the three reservations and the eight animals that represent the clans of the traditional Senecas. The traditional Senecas follow the religious code of Handsome Lake, Seneca prophet of the late 1700's.



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Education Foundation  
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**HIGHBANKS CAMPGROUND**

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# SENECA NATION OF INDIANS



**NEW YORK STATE**



President Robert C. Hoag



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A Welcome from Mr. Robert C. Hoag  
President of the Seneca Nation of Indians

As President of the Seneca Nation of Indians I extend a warm personal welcome on behalf of my administration, our tribal councillors and the members of the tribe. We hope that this brochure will serve to introduce us to you.

The Seneca Nation of Indians is involved in many programs for the economic betterment and general welfare of the tribe. Our development projects employ both Indians and non-Indians. We are providing for improved medical care for those living on the reservations. Our culture is being preserved through the instruction of our children by tribal elders in the Seneca language and our traditional arts and crafts. It is our objective to keep our young people in touch with their heritage, and to make them aware and proud of our ancestry.

We have begun recreational development of our scenic lands and hope you accept our invitation to visit us.

*Robert C. Hoag*  
Robert C. Hoag  
President

The Seneca Nation of Indians is a member tribe of the Iroquois Confederacy. The Confederacy is made up of six Indian nations: Seneca, Cayuga, Onondaga, Oneida, Mohawk and Tuscarora.

The Seneca Nation is located in the Western part of New York State on land set aside by the Treaty of Canandaigua of 1794. The Senecas once owned all of Western New York and held land in the State of Pennsylvania.

The Seneca Nation is comprised of three tracts of land. The Cattaraugus Reservation of 20,168 acres is located near Gowanda, New York. It takes its name from nearby Cattaraugus Creek. The Allegany Reserve, originally 30,469 acres, is located near Salamanca, New York, along the banks of the Allegany River. Due to flooding problems in the down river Pennsylvania area, land was taken in 1964 by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers for the Kinzua Dam Project. This left the Allegany Reservation with approximately 20,469 acres which includes the City of Salamanca. The Oil Spring Reserve, located near Cuba, New York, is approximately one square mile in area and is not inhabited by any members of the tribe.

The current population is 5,175 members on the tribal roll. Of this number, 854 reside on the Allegany Reserve, 1,926 on the Cattaraugus Reserve and the remainder is scattered throughout the United States.

The elected Seneca Nation Executive Officers (President, Treasurer, Clerk) and Tribal Councillors (eight from each inhabited reservation) are involved in many tribe motivated programs to fulfill tribal needs. The President and Councillors are administrating programs focused on health and economic development to benefit the members of the tribe. Among these are health clinics established on Allegany and Cattaraugus Reservations and economic development for both areas including recreational and industrial projects. Also being stressed is renewed instruction of the young people in the Seneca language and traditional crafts. The Nation is concerned that because of the influence of modern culture, many arts and crafts are being lost.



Ground Breaking — High Banks Campground,  
President Robert C. Hoag, Treasurer Calvin Lay  
and developers

The Seneca Nation of Indians, with the encouragement and assistance of the Bureau of Indian Affairs of the U. S. Department of the Interior and the Economic Development Administration in the United States Department of Commerce, has entered into recreational development to share with the public the scenic beauty of the area. Included in Nation projects are: Camp sites, bowling lanes, swimming pools and tennis courts. In the near future, work is to be started on a fast-food restaurant, a cinema, either indoor or outdoor and a trading post souvenir shop. Nation lands are adjacent to the Allegany State Park and the Kinzua Dam and Reservoir. Both areas are open to camping, boating, fishing, swimming and hunting.



Elder, Nellie Jack, conducting Seneca language class