



# NACNA President's Report

## Month of December 2021

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### President's Update:

Season's Greetings from my family to yours. Take nothing for granted and be thankful that you have such great family and friends to spend this joyous season with. Sending you wishes for a delightful Christmas. Wishing you and your family health, happiness, peace, and prosperity this Christmas and in the coming New Year.

Condolences to the families that have lost loved ones. May the good spirit bless and comfort you all with encouragement, love, healing, and happiness. We all know relatives will be missed but as we look around, we have children, grandchildren, family, friends and relatives to keep us going. We all know the Creator has a plan for us but until then keep the prayers and faith going. One day, we will see our relatives singing, dancing, and rejoicing in everlasting life.

NACNA is making some good humble efforts in the way of advocacy as we meet the silent challenges the NAC membership faces. We want to thank all those who attended the South Dakota informational update. We feel that we accomplished our intentions. We started off the month with the first of many regional meetings where we will be giving updates to the NACNA membership. The NACNA South Dakota Update was held in Rapid City, SD at the Best Western Ramkota Inn on December 9, 2021. The Update included these subjects:

- Purpose of Awareness Campaign – President Jon Brady, NACNA
- NACNA Advocacy Agenda Update – Ryan Wilson, Legislative Committee Chair
- American Indian Religious Freedom Act (Proposed Amendments)
- US Department of Interior Peyote Habitat Initiative
- Senate Committee on Indian Affairs/House Natural Resource Committee Updates

This informational meeting was to give the membership an update and to get support for future plans and endeavors of the Native American Church. This was an effort from my position as the NACNA President. This meeting was to inform--not cause conflict—and bring awareness and communication which is good for any successful organization. NACNA has delegates for each Affiliated Church and good relatives to share the good news. We all know everyone has social media and relatives are informed in that way of upcoming events. A lot has changed. It seems since the older relatives have gone on some relatives nowadays want to be asked.

I would like to encourage you all to take the time read all the testimonies, President Reports, NACNA Facebook page so you are all in tune of what is happening for NACNA.

NACNA has been around for many decades. Today, in 2021, whoever thought that our holy medicine would be jeopardized even more when the manmade energy tries to come around and hinder the laws that we are governed by. We all know the medicine will take care of itself, but we have to stop the efforts to commercialize decriminalize it. It is sad some native relatives are supporting these efforts. Aren't we all supposed to be protecting and taking care of our precious medicine? NACNA has always been the voice for NAC relatives for many years through prayers, resolutions, minutes, by-laws, standard operating procedures, and efforts to back the organization.

This holy medicine is an everything medicine. We all know the non-native has labeled it a drug. Today we must face that challenge. We must be UNITED! It will give us the strength and power to meet and defeat this challenge. In 2021, NACNA stepped up to the plate and is bringing awareness to the endeavors of NACNA. We will continue the fight into 2022 and beyond. There was never a need to start another organization with the same goals and plans. It seems like NACNA got hi-jacked these past few years from all the Data, PRP, Plans, land, ideas, projects, and efforts. It is sad our way of life and NACNA was put on the back burner with that political manmade energy. We have got to remember how the HOLY MEDICINE came to be and our good southern plains brothers and sisters sharing the fireplaces with the families and relatives to carry on our NAC way of life.

NACNA is working on some efforts for the peyote habitant conservation. The time is now relatives. We need to make sure the peyote gardens are watched and cared for. So thankful we have a legislative and research team plus all the others that been helping NACNA. I encourage everyone to keep the prayers going for the protection of the holy medicine and the ceremonial ways of life. The ways are not for sale. We as NAC members need to be strong and be mindful of what the older relatives expressed around the fireplace. Like my Uncle Wilson Aronilth would say, "We need to wake up!" We all come from awesome families. Let's continue the prayers and exercise the good teachings."

NACNA had a few zoom meetings with tribal leadership getting them involved with our NAC members. Through the consulting efforts, we can be even stronger. There is a lot to do. We have faith and will power to fulfill our duties and responsibilities.

Again, I would like to encourage you all to please send me your Chapter NAC Logos. We are preparing for the 2022 NACNA Convention. We want all the affiliated chapters to have visual representation with their logos.

The Mid-Year Meeting in Texas is scheduled for February 10-13, 2022. Preparations for the meeting are in the works. We plan to have another work session too.

In closing, wishing all the birthday celebrities a very happy, healthy blessed day and may you all have a safe and Merry Christmas and very Happy New Year in 2022!

Happy Holidays and see you all around the fireplace soon. God's blessings be upon you all!

  
Jon Brady, President

