

# The Cherokee Compass

## ᑕᑎᑎ ᑎᑎᑎ ᑎᑎᑎ

### tsalagi duyukdv kanohesgi

Volume 16, Issue 12  
 Month of the Snow Moon  
 December 2016  
 ᑎᑎᑎ-ᑎᑎᑎᑎ

**C**erokee **S**outh **W**est **T**ownship  
 P. O. Box 14184  
 Albuquerque, NM 87191-4184  
 dppatri@hotmail.com  
 http://www.cherokeesouthwesttownship



#### Inside This Issue

##### Page #

1. ☞ December – “Month of the Snow Moon”
- ☞ November CSWT Town Meeting
2. ☞ Upcoming Events
- ☞ CSWT White Elephant Event
- ☞ Treasurer’s Report
- ☞ CSWT Council Corner
3. ☞ Humor
- ☞ December’s Birthdays
- ☞ The Preservation of Keres
5. ☞ The Hummingbird
- ☞ The Elves and The Shoemaker
6. ☞ Traditional Cherokee Recipes
- ☞ Buy, learn at Native Uniques
7. ☞ A Letter From The (Indian Country) Publisher
8. ☞ Juilliard Brings the ‘Heartbeat’ of Music and Math to the Navajo Reservation
9. ☞ Musing
- ☞ Annual rodeo

#### DECEMBER:

ᑎᑎᑎ-ᑎᑎᑎᑎ

#### Month of the Snow Moon

Ku-wa-di-gi-s-gi, the cedar Waxwing (literally: Mulberry Eater). Often mistaken for a female cardinal, this beautiful bird is seen most often in mulberry trees feasting on ripe berries. Their Cherokee name is most often heard as a man’s name.



This month known in English as December is ᑎᑎᑎ in Cherokee syllabary, rendered **v-s-gi-ga** in western script. It is the Cherokee Snow Moon. The Full moon is December 13<sup>th</sup>. The New moon is December 28<sup>th</sup>.

Snow Moon, Vsgiyi, The spirit being, "Snow Man", brings the cold and snow for the earth to cover the high places while the earth rests until the rebirth of the seasons in the Windy Moon Anuyi. Families traditionally were busy putting up and storing goods for the next cycle of seasons. Elders enjoyed teaching and retelling ancient stories of the people to the young. Cherokees would begin to see the ill effects of the winter. Those who

had not prepared well would suffer, but the village would care for them anyway. Those born under the Snow Moon are the warmth of their family and nation. They concern themselves with the welfare of others, constantly tending the family fire and ensuring the village supplies are used for the benefit of all.

*“Birds of the Cherokee Nation” entimeart@gmail.com. Cherokee Month to Moon interpretations by William Eubanks.*

#### November CSWT Town Meeting

The CSWT November Town Meeting and Silent Auction was a great success.

Everyone enjoyed a fine buffet, good company and great Silent Auction items. There were 6 tables of exciting items for the auction.



Is my bid the best bid?



Great Lunch, and cookies as well