

PAWNEE NATION COMMUNICATIONS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pawnee Business Council Members Honored at the Native American Marine Corps Veterans 237th Birthday Celebration



Photo Caption: The Pawnee Business Council is the supreme governing body of the Pawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

Business Council members include: (Left to Right Front Row) Linda Jestes, Secretary; Marshall Gover, President; Charles "Buddy" Lone Chief, Vice-President; Roy "Weeks" Taylor, Treasurer. (Left to Right Back Row) James Fields, Council Seat 3; Karla Knife Chief, Council Seat 2; Carol Nuttle, Council Seat 4 and Richard Tilden, Council Seat 1.

Photo by Toni Hill.

Pawnee, Okla. 11/5/2012 - The Native American Marine Corps Veterans Birthday Celebration honors two Pawnee Nation Business Council (PBC) members, Richard Tilden, who served in Vietnam, and Roy Taylor for his efforts in Korea.

The ceremony will take place on Nov. 10, 2012 in the Woogie Watchetaker Hall at the Comanche Nation Complex located in Lawton, Okla.

Tilden, who holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Haskell Indian Nations University, served as a Tank Commander for the U.S. Marine Corps during his three tours of duty in Vietnam. Upon receiving an honorable discharge, Tilden worked for Hilti Industries for more than 18 years prior to his employment as a Counselor/Investigator GS/5 for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Tilden's passion for Native affairs continues through his involvement with various public service venues. A member of the Pawnee Tribe, this former soldier holds the office of council seat 1 for the PBC, vice-president for the Native American Rights Fund Local 278 and chairman of the Trail of Hope.

"I use my experiences in business and working with the Federal Government as a background to make competent, unbiased and well-researched decisions that will have the betterment of not only the Pawnee Nation, but Native Americans in mind," Tilden said.

Taylor, a member of the Skidi Band/Pawnee Nation, served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean War until his honorable discharge in 1954. A product of both the Pawnee Indian School formerly located in Pawnee, Okla. and Haskell Institute located in Lawrence, Kan., Taylor has utilized his experience and education in finance to benefit many organizations.

Taylor serves as the treasurer for the PBC. Previous positions held include contracting officer for the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs in Andarko and comptroller for both the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokees located in Tahlequah, Okla. and the Alabama Quassartie Tribe located in Wetumka, Okla.

Native American Marine Corps Veterans 237th Birthday Celebration activities open with a Flag Ceremony at noon followed by lunch provided by the Comanche Tribe. The U.S. Marine Corps Ceremony will commence following the meal with Gourd Dances following throughout the day.

“We are proud of all of our service men and women,” said PBC President Marshall Gover. “The Pawnees have served since the Pawnee Scouts to the present time and have shown their loyalty to the United States for many years.”

For more information, contact the Pawnee Nation Communications Office at (918) 762-3621 Ext. 25.

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Media Contact: Toni Hill
Communications Manager
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
Phone: 918.762.3621 ext. 25
Cell: 918.399.1344
Fax: 918.762.6446
