

This Special Homecoming is Dedicated to the Memory of Joseph J. Brooks

CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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Joseph J. Brooks: A Man of Distinction

by Cynthia L. Hun.

This edition of The Carolina Indian Voice is dedicated to Mr. Joseph J. Brooks, tribal leader who so graciously gave of his time for the betterment of his people, the Lumbee tribe. Mr. Brooks was born January 6, 1905 to Sandy and Effie Brooks. He was one of 11 children born to the marriage. He had seven brothers and four sisters: Andrew, John, Raymond, Peter, Sandy, Ed, Olin, Mary, Margie, Betty and Melingy. Mr. Joseph attended school in the Pembroke community and was a graduate of the Normal School. He was married to Sally Margaret Johnson. There were five children born to the marriage: Cynthia Patricia, Joseph Hariam, Sherman and Tony. He spent time in Detroit working during the 1920s. Brooks also had a military career serving in the US Navy. While farming in the Red Banks

community, he would become involved in tribal politics. His first effort was in the early 1930s and involved having legislation passed by the federal government to have the tribe recognized as the Cherokee Indians of Robeson County. A bill was introduced on May 9, 1932 to have the tribe recognized as Cherokee. However, the bill did not pass.

The tribe would again seek to have legislation introduced the following year. A letter writing campaign to Senator Josiah W. Bailey was launched. Brooks quickly became the spokesman for the group. This time the tribe would seek legislation to be recognized as Cheraw. Brooks would be the one to lead this effort among the tribe. He spent a considerable amount of time in DC researching the history of the tribe. Brooks would appear at a

hearing along with B.G. Graham and Senator Bailey in support of the legislation to have the tribe recognized as the Cheraw Indian tribe. However, a dispute among tribal members over the name Cheraw would surface and eventually lead to the demise of the legislation.

Brooks immediately developed a positive report with officials of the Indian Affairs office. His strong relationship with these officials, as well as the NC Congressional delegation would later prove to be a great benefit to the tribe.

It was also during this period of time that Brooks and Graham organized the Siouan Lodge. As a result of the controversy over the name Cheraw or Cherokee, a DC official recommended that the tribe organize as the Siouan Indians. The efforts of Brooks to organize tribal members in

favor of the Siouan name change, and his work in DC would be responsible for the passage of the bill from the House Committee on Indian Affairs on May 23, 1934. However, the action was meaningless because Senator Bailey had withdrawn his support and the bill died in the Senate as a result of the internal fighting over the matter.

The defeat of the Siouan bill did not bring to an end the efforts of Joseph Brooks to gain federal recognition. His efforts would soon turn to organizing the tribe under the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA) passed June 18, 1934. This legislation permitted tribes to reorganize under a federally granted charter. Soon after the passage of the legislation, Brooks began to correspond with



Joseph Brooks

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Teen Miss / Miss Lumbee Pageant set for June 30, 7 p.m. at UNC - Pembroke

Miss Teen Lumbee Contestants

Miss Lumbee Contestants



Jessica LaHope Oxendine
Parents: Calhoun Jr. and Joycie M. Oxendine



Morgan Brittany Hunt
Parents: Johnny R. and Demetrius L. Hunt



Tabatha Leshelle Hunt
Parents: James L. Hunt and Janice Locklear



Terica Brooke Lowry
Parents: Denis P. and Wanda A. Ricard



Jamee Atkins Hunt
Parents: Paul Jr. and Elizabeth C. Hunt



Clarissa Sue Locklear
Parent: Rodney and Lori A. Locklear



Asa Martina Lowry
Parents: Marlon B. and Delois L. Lowry



Bobbi Ann Sanderson
Parents: Franklin J. Sanderson and Bobbie Myers



Ronnie Lowry
Prospect Precinct
He is married to Endoria Lowry and they have two children. He is the son of Praford and Lendora Lowry. He graduated from West Robeson High School, UNCP and UNC School of Dentistry. A partner with Dr. Jeff Collins. He is a member of the Kappa Alpha Kappa Faircloth

The Miss Lumbee and Teen Miss pageant will be held June 30, at the Givens Performing Arts Center on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

This will be the first showing of the Teen Miss for competition. Nine pulchritude, intelligent young ladies will vie for the title of Teen Miss Lumbee.

Teen Miss contestants will include Terica Brooke Lowry, daughter of Denis P. & Wanda A. Ricard; Clarissa Sue Locklear, daughter of Rodney & Lori A. Locklear; Asa Martina Lowry, daughter of Marion B. & Doloris L. Lowry; Jessica LaHope Oxendine daughter of Calhoun Jr. & Joyce M. Oxendine; Morgan Brittany Hunt daughter of Johnny R. & Demetrius L. Hunt; Tabatha Leshelle Hunt, daughter of James L. Hunt & Janice Locklear; Bobbi Ann Sanderson, daughter of Franklin J. & Bobbi Myers; Amanda Dawn Faircloth, daughter of John & Rhonda Faircloth; Jamee Atkins

Hunt, daughter of Paul & Elizabeth C. Hunt.

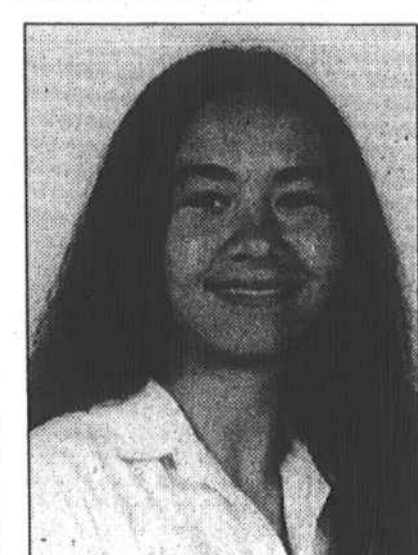
Competing for the Miss Lumbee title are Jammi Lynn Lowry, daughter of Harvey & Linda Lowry; Summer Leigh Chavis, daughter of Robert & Jane Chavis; Kari Maria Dial, daughter of William & Minnie Dial; Eryn Kelli Sanderson, daughter of Leslie Sanderson Jr. & Peggy Hunt; Rebecca Chalena Mickey, daughter of Richard & Angela Chavis-Mickey; Ja Dell Dial, daughter of Maurica & Linda Dial; Shelly Ronita Strickland, daughter of Ronald & Sandra Strickland.

The reigning Miss Lumbee 1999-2000 is Misty Henderson.

The pageant will begin at 7:00 pm. Admission is \$10.00 per person, and tickets will be on sale at the Givens Center Box Office June 19, 2000. Tickets will be sold 1 (one) hour prior to performance. You may purchase your tickets with Visa - Master Card - American Express. **Reserved Seating Only!**



Ja Dell Dial
Parents: Maurice and Linda Dial



Rebecca Chalena Mickey
Parents: Richard and Angela Chavis-Mickey



Shelly Ronita Strickland
Parents: Ronald and Sandra Strickland



Jammi Lynn Lowry
Parents: Harvey and Linda Lowry



Eryn Kelli Sanderson
Parents: Leslie Sanderson, Jr. and Peggy Hunt



Kari Maria Dial
Parents: William and Minnie Dial



Summer Leigh Chavis
Parents: Robert and Jane Chavis