

Subject: Thank You
From: Dave Plotner (daveplotner@hotmail.com)
To: mnienrollment@yahoo.com;
Date: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 1:15 PM

Dear Sarah,

I just wanted to write and thank you and all of the Tribal Council. My wife, Pat and I were fortunate enough to travel to Peru on our way to Michigan to visit friends in July. Until that time, I knew nothing about my family or their history.

My father was born in Peru on February 14, 1918 and was a tribal member. His mother was Pearl May Bundy, who married John W. Plotner. I have had a strong desire to learn about my heritage for a long time but have never been in Indiana to follow up on this. Pat and I came to Peru and stayed in the Honey Bear Hollow Campground where we met the campground hosts, Toni and Bob Billet. I told them why I had come to Peru and before I knew it, Toni had contacted Shirley Griffin at the Miami County Museum and explained to her why we had come to Peru and made an appointment for us to see her the next day. We spent about three hours with Shirley the next day and I ultimately received more information about my relatives including archive newspaper articles, information from their archives and ancestry background than I ever dreamed of obtaining. Shirley is still doing research for me and getting more information for me.

Pat and I then went to the office of the Miami Nation of Indians of Indiana and were fortunate enough to meet you. I explained to you that Pat and I had come to Peru to trace my heritage, as I knew nothing about my relatives or ancestors. As soon as I told you my name, you began telling me about my heritage and it was soon evident that you were a wealth of knowledge. In the next hour, we gained more information from you than I had ever hoped to learn. You then invited us back to Peru for the tribal reunion in August.

We were able to return for the reunion and the Tribal Council meeting. We were greeted by nothing but smiles, more information and new friends. We never met a stranger. After the meeting, Shane Fox took us to the tribal property and 7 Pillars where he also showed us the long house. His wealth of information was an education and was amazing. We met Chief Buchanan, Vice-Chief John Dunnagan and all of the council members present that day. The reunion the next day was amazing! We met a lot of my new "family" and experienced a day that I will never forget.

I want to thank you, the Tribal Council members and everybody else that we met during our amazing visit. Since we live in Arizona, it may be a while before we are able to return, but rest assured that we will return and look forward to making it to additional functions and a future All Nations Gathering. Thank you again for your help and friendship and thank the members of the Tribal Council for an unforgettable experience.

Your Friend and Relative,

Dave Plotner