

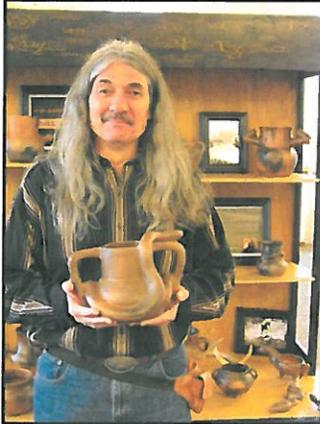
Election 2015

Candidate Biographies



Candidate	Position	Biography
Bill Harris	Chief	included
Jason Harris	Chief	included
Denise Williams	Chief	included
Jered Canty	Assistant Chief	included
Wayne George	Assistant Chief	included
Butch Sanders	Assistant Chief	included
John Williford	Assistant Chief	included
Rod Beck	Secretary/Treasurer	not included
Sue Brown-Gunderson	Secretary/Treasurer	included
Donald Rodgers	Secretary/Treasurer	included
JoAnn Bauer	Council member	not included
Sam Beck	Council member	included
Dean Canty	Council member	included
Deborah Crisco	Council member	included
Heather George	Council member	included
Teresa Rabon	Council member	not included

BILL HARRIS for CHIEF of the CATAWBA NATION



Leading the Catawba Nation is not an easy task, but I have been honored to represent you as Chief over the past 4 years. During my time in office, I have learned that in order for the tribe to be successful we must work together to create a **STRONG FOUNDATION** that will return us to a **STRONG NATION**.

I have dedicated over 20 years to the betterment of the Catawba Nation. I have served in various roles throughout that time, and I have always worked hard to do what is in the best interest of Catawba citizens. I am proud of our heritage and the rich history of our people. I share that history with many while working on behalf of the tribe at the federal and state level as well as many school and civic groups throughout the Carolinas. One thing that I hold most dear is the ability to continue the 6000-year tradition of our Catawba pottery as taught to me by my grandmother Georgia Harris. When creating pottery I not only feel connected to our past but invigorated for our future.

During my time as Chief, the dedicated tribal staff has taught me how we operate. I have learned how to work with federal contracts and grants, make priorities, and set and implement goals for the tribe. We have worked together and been able to create positive progress such as:

- Reopening Catawba Bingo in July 2014 after many years of working with the SC Department of Revenue
- Expansion of the Job Training and Development program
- Creating the Catawba Teen Center on the reservation in partnership with the Boys & Girls Club of York County
- Starting the Catawba Wellness Initiative with funding for fitness and gardening
- Expansion of our environmental, emergency management, roads, public works and transit programs

I want the opportunity to continue to serve the people of the Catawba Nation. As a great Nation, we have huge potential. Let us not limit ourselves but seek creative solutions. I have learned that in order for us to be a **STRONG NATION**, we have to build a **STRONG FOUNDATION**. That is the goal I wish to achieve over the next four years. How do we do this?

- Adopt a new constitution to better govern ourselves
- Create tribal courts and governing ordinances
- Address the injustices in the 1993 Settlement Agreement
- Focus on Economic Development
- Increase educational opportunities
- Focus on preserving our Culture

A **STRONG FOUNDATION** will lead us to create successful government programs, thriving businesses, and an awareness of the importance of our great Nation in history. Success will guide us towards creating a vision of what the tribe can achieve, but only if we work together. Help us build a **STRONG CATAWBA NATION** by voting to give me, Bill Harris, 4 more progressive years as your CHIEF.



Jason Harris For Chief

My parents were Cleadous Harris , Lou Gene Sanders. My wife Melissa and I have six children. I enjoy coaching, pottery making, family time, and serving in church.

I have 9 years' Experience as a Tribal Leader- I am Accountable, Honest and Dependable.

MY PRIORITIES

1. Get Audits that are 2 years behind current.
2. Renegotiating our Settlement Agreement.
3. Enhance relationships between our Local, State and Federal agencies.
4. Support services and facilities for our Children and Seniors.
5. Sustain Cultural interest within our community.
6. Generate profitable Economic Development immediately.

Read more on Jason www.votejasonharrisforchief.com





Vote transparency, Vote experience, Vote Denise Bryson Williams for Chief

About Me;

I have worked serving our people for nearly twenty years in many capacities; housing improvement program, construction project manager, economic development administrative assistant, real estate, tribal rights, and transportation.

Over the years I have had many opportunities to earn far greater compensation, offering additional benefits, and retirement, but choose to remain with the tribe out of loyalty to my people and praying that one day something I do can make a difference for the future our people. For me it is not about money it is about the people today and the generations of tomorrow.

I have lived on the reservation for going on twenty four years working, mingling, and learning from our people of all ages. I have been married for almost thirteen years to a wonder man, Russell Williams. I have one daughter Trisha Bigham and three beautiful grandchildren Veronica Bryson, Richard Bigham III, and Christian Barnes.

My Views;

Real transparency does not mean putting forth only what the chief or the executive committee as a whole wants the people to know;

Grant and contract budgets for all departments, programs, and tribal entities should be available to review by our people;

Budgets for non-programs; Space cost, indirect cost, and general fund should also be made available;

Audits, financial reports, yearly indirect cost rate proposal, vendor/contractor/credit card payments should never be allowed to be overdue;

When there is a lien, judgment, or suit against our tribe it affects our people not only financially but the tribe's reputation and the people deserve to know. We are not children that information needs to be withheld;

Executive committee members should be held to the same code of ethics as they expect the staff to follow;

Executive committee members need to understand the role of liaison to a department, program, or entity. Their role is to mediate, promote communication, and encourage working together for the good of our people. Liaison does not mean for them individually or collectively to micromanage, supervise, manage, or direct the department, program, or entity;

Executive committee member's votes while in session making decisions for our people as individuals and the tribe as whole should divulged to the constituents their individual votes. If as an elected official you are voting what the people elected you for based on your campaign platform why hide it?

The settlement agreement between the tribe and state have been a hindrance to obtaining self-sufficiency for our tribe. There are four areas listed within the agreement that allows amendments and I as Chief would strive to amend these. It is essential to begin somewhere in amending this document and I view these four areas as an opportunity to begin the real changes our people desire;

I trust it is time for our tribe to move from self-determination to self-governance with our Bureau of Indian Affairs funding stream. We as a people need to stop allowing others to control our ability to govern ourselves and operate as an independent instead of dependent tribal nation;

Finally it is my fervent belief that twenty years of tribal government and programs experience translates to immediately leadership no delay necessary to acquire knowledge of our government structure and program responsibilities.

PLEASE VOTE JULY 25TH THIS IS YOUR TRIBE AND YOUR GOVERNMENT

Personal mission Statement of Jered Canty

As a Catawba Native, I know you and you know my family which are Ed Canty is my Dad and my grand paw is Alonzo Canty! I humbly offer to you my service. I pledge my attributes of being dedicated, honest, sincere, professional, knowledgeable, eager to learn, hard-working, and goal-oriented. Like you, I have a vested interest in our Tribe's Past, Present, and Future. From an early age until the present, I have involved myself in Tribal affairs through cultural programs, internships, fellowships, volunteering, and employment positions. My travels have taken me across the U.S.—and even abroad, as I participated in our Tribe's foreign exchange program with Germany.

I have consistently sought out diverse experiences to continue to learn and grow. Consequently, I have studied locally at York Technical College; American University in Washington, D.C.; Harvard's Peabody Museum in Boston, Massachusetts. I hold degrees from both York Technical College and Fort Lewis College, and I am currently working to complete my graduate degree through Arizona State University. Despite my age, I have been in the work force for more than 20 years—in restaurants, retail sales, as a youth counselor, as a college resident assistant, and even at the previous Catawba Bingo. Serving as a resident advisor and youth counselor taught me the fundamentals to give support all endeavors with youth development. I am proud to have had the privilege of working and serving at The Smithsonian Institute, Veterans' Department, Indian Health Service, and Southern Ute Museum/Cultural Center. As a result, I developed and now maintain a strong network of associates from whom I continue to learn, and this truly helps round out my education.

I promise to proudly serve as role model, mentor, and leader for our Tribe by continuing to serve while furthering my education and career goals. I hope you know that I am one to give back to Native communities any way possible by singing, drumming, and dancing at pow-wows and festivals. Working for other tribes has given me tribal job experience that I can share with the Catawba Nation, thus keeping doors open for support through networking from Native American politics, museum and cultural aspects, as well as government-to-government relations with other tribes. I believe that my education, work experience, and life experiences will enable me to help ease educational and cultural barriers for our People. My service in the Economic Development Department has taught me to craft innovative ideas and implement plans for future business goals for our Tribe. By making my journey with the tribe to gain more experience, knowledge, and teachings from networking and still finishing my graduate degree, I will show you I am focused on achieving our goals—immediate and long-term. I am convinced that the way to gain more knowledge is to travel, consult, and network with other tribal businesses. I sincerely hope you find me worthy of consideration for your vote! I will not let you down!

VOTE Wayne George for Assistant Chief of The Catawba Indian Nation



My name is Wayne George and I am running for the position of Assistant Chief of the Catawba Indian Nation. I am the youngest of 10 children born to Marvin and Evelyn George. I am married to Cindy Plyler George and am blessed to be the father to 6 children and 19 grandchildren. I was born and raised on the Catawba Reservation and currently reside on John Brown Road. My family and I have been active in the Catawba Culture and Heritage representing our proud nation at countless Pow-Wows up and down the east coast. During my career I worked for the tribe for over 10 years on many projects. I am a proud Marine Corp Vietnam Veteran who was Honorably Discharged after serving in the Vietnam War.

I have enjoyed serving as Assistant Chief of the Catawba Nation the past four years. While in office I have worked closely with the transportation and public works departments. During this time we have been able to successfully negotiate with the City of Rock Hill so that the tribe can service the water and sewer lines in Green Earth. This has helped build the department and saved money for the tribal members who live there. Also, we have completed a project to loop the dead-end waterlines on the Old Reservation, which gives all those residents cleaner drinking water. Through the transportation program we have been able to reconstruct two residential roads on the Old Reservation, Cemetery Road and Wade Harris Road, which provides safer access for those that live there. I am proud to be part of these projects.

I am the liaison for the tribe's Environmental Services, Emergency Management, Natural Resources, Air and Water Quality, Homeland Security, Real Estate, Forestry and Transportation programs. I have worked with the Economic Development department on Catawba Bingo, especially helping to oversee the construction of the building to get it ready to open. I have also been involved in helping the tribe move forward on the composting project.

I would like to continue serving you for 4 more years. If elected, I will work hard to push our land-into-trust application forward with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the land in NC. This will bring much needed Economic Development to the tribe. I will focus on other opportunities to help the tribe economically. I will also continue to support our existing programs and look for new programs and services we can bring to the tribe. We have many great programs like Head Start and the Boys and Girls Club, and we want to make sure they are here for a long time. I also want to push for restructuring the settlement agreement so that it better serves the tribe in the future. The future is bright for the Catawba Indian Nation.

VOTE WAYNE GEORGE FOR ASSISTANT CHIEF !!!!!



Hi I'm Thomas Sanders ,known as Butch and I'm seeking Your vote for Assistant Chief. Having served as Executive Member 2004---2011, I feel qualifies me for this seat.

Having worked to restore (ATG) 638 GRANT and dissolve the 13 million dollar debt to BIA allowed us to function as Catawba Nations Tribal Government.

As Council member I served as liaison to our Senior Center,Cultural Preservation board, Water Dept.,and Roads Dept. also Iswa board. I hold credentials in Emergency Management (FEMA), Rural Water Certification, Environmental Hazards Certification, Grants Management and Fraud Prevention reporting to D.C. Monthly.

My objective if elected, is to help maintain compliance with all Grants,complete our audits to insure future programs and establish a safe and sound working environment for qualified Tribal employees My ambition is to insure Ethical awareness, Equality, Respect ,Honesty and guidance for those in need.

Thank You,

Thomas "Butch"Sanders



My name is John Williford and I am running for the Assistant Chief position for the Catawba Indian Nation. The old Reservation is where I call home and have lived there for 15 years now. My wife, Ann who is also Catawba and I have six children. I want our children to grow and understand more about their Catawba heritage and cherish what their future has in store. I am son to Cheryl Williford, grandson to Vivian Sanders and great-grandson to John Ideal and Arzada Sanders. Without those people in my life I would not be the man I am today and the man I want to continue to be for them and our Tribe.

The Catawba Indian Nation has provided my family and me with so much. I received an Associate's Degree from York Technical College through our Tribe's educational programs. Currently, I am employed by the Catawba Nation for 12 years. My current position is Water and Sewer Supervisor and Certified Water Distribution Operator. I have enjoyed my time with the Tribe in my current role. I'm ready to take that next step in becoming a tribal leader for our Catawba Nation.

Hello, my name is **Sue Brown-Gunderson**, seeking the position of Secretary/Treasurer. Graduate of Rock Hill High and attended York Technical College. My experience is in management, customer service, purchasing and real estate.

I began my work with Catawba Indian Nation in March of 1996. Started as Assistant to the Executive Director and currently, Client Service Manager for ISWA Development Corporation. Duties include managing the First Time Home Buyers program, Section 184 Loan program, Housing and Budgeting Counselor. I have served on boards, committees, assisted in preparing budgets and have a deep comprehensive understanding of tribal grant policies, procedures, and management.

Donald W. Rodgers

For
Secretary/Treasurer

Hello my fellow Catawba. Many of you know me as I served as Chief from 2007-2011. I am married to Christy and we have three wonderful kids, Ben, Isaac and Emily. I am running for Secretary/Treasurer for the Catawba Indian Nation in the July 2015 Election. I am seeking election because I want to put the tribe back in financial good standing with our General Council, the BIA, and all of the other grantors the tribe has. In the General Council meeting in January, we found that the tribe is behind in its audits, as well as not being given a full accounting of the monies the tribe has received. I believe that it is important to make sure we are compliant with our grants and contracts and that the General Council is informed.

I feel that I am a well-qualified candidate for this position. I know the proper reporting requirements for BIA, EPA, HUD, USDA, DOJ, and IHS as it relates to the tribe. I know the funding systems that the Federal Government uses to fund our tribe. I worked for the BIA in Nashville for almost a year in the Office of Self-Determination, I was trained in the Federal Budget and Management System (FBMS). I learned the system in a very quick manner and was asked to train others. I know the requirements for the Indirect Cost Proposal. I also worked as a Financial Educator for a credit counseling agency before I was elected Chief. My educational background is in Business Management with emphasis in accounting. I am currently enrolled in BYU-I seeking my bachelor's degree in accounting and finance.

As Chief, I worked very hard to follow the guidance in OMB Circular A-133, The Single Audit Act. We had our audits done on time each year. I also worked numerous hours seeking forgiveness of debt from BIA and IHS. The work was successful as the BIA forgave \$884,000 of debt. IHS debt was negotiated to a small percentage of what the tribe was charged with. I worked tirelessly for programs that would benefit our tribe including the Tribal Justice Grant and The Indian Reservation Roads Program.

I have served on numerous committees including; USET Board of Directors, Direct Service Tribes Advisory Council, Catawba Regional Council of Governments Board, Natural Resources Conservation Services Tribal Elder, Commission on Minority Affairs, Rock Hill No Room for Racism, and many others.

Under my tenure as Chief, I oversaw all aspects of the tribe. Many great accomplishments were had. Rivercrest Road was paved and opportunities made available for Economic Development. I negotiated with the South Carolina Department of Revenue to reduce our old Bingo debt from \$2.5 million to just \$200,000. I worked with the Rock Hill School District to ask forgiveness of their debt which led to a cease of collection. I worked with EPA to get us off the High Risk status for receiving Federal Grants.

Beyond all of these things, I love our culture. I love to sing, I love to dance, and I love to tell traditional stories. I love our people. I love my family.

I will do all in my power to get the finance of the tribe back on the right track. This is a job that I would thoroughly enjoy.

I also want to make a commitment to the staff, that you and your work will be appreciated.

I would be honored with you vote to serve as Secretary/Treasurer for the Catawba Indian Nation.

Full Bio:

I, Sam Beck, have served as a council member of the Executive Committee for the past 4 years after being elected in July 2011. In the 4 years that I have served, the Executive Committee completed several key initiatives. These include creating a job training program which has resulted in full time job placement for several tribal members with corporations in Rock Hill, establishing a Boys and Girls Club, and launching Catawba Bingo. During my 4 year term, I also personally delivered meals as part of the Senior Meal Delivery program when program resources were constrained. If elected for another 4-year term, I will continue the Executive Committee's work to invest in gaming and other economic development opportunities to provide a steady income to the Catawba Indian Nation. With a steady income we will be able to accomplish further initiatives such as developing a school on the reservation, a judicial system, and expanding the senior program.

I am the son of Samuel and Helen Beck and a Rock Hill native. I attended Rock Hill High School and received a 2-year degree from York Technical College. I am also a Vietnam Veteran, having served in the US Navy. I retired in 2000 from Celanese. I am also a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. I appreciate the opportunity to serve as a council member the past 4 years and hope I am re-elected to continue this service for another 4 years.

Timothy Dean Canty

Candidate/Committeeman - Executive Committee

Born: November 22, 1951

Parents: Heyward Canty Sr., Sara Canty

Family: Wife - Cynthia Carpenter Canty; Eight children, twelve grandchildren

Military: Retired 20 years service United States Navy; Army/Air National Guard

Education: Bachelor Science Degree/Liberal Studies: Business Management

Employment: Catawba Indian Nation 1995 – 2012. Positions: Water Resources Technician, Natural Resources Coordinator, Environmental Planner, Emergency Response Manager

Community Service: Served on Cultural Preservation, Environmental/Natural Resources, Solid Waste, Constitution, and Oversight Committees; prior Emergency Response Team member. Knowledge of our tribal history, constitution, 1993 Settlement Act; and tribal government operation, regulations, policies, procedures

Hello, my name is Deborah Harris Crisco. I am the daughter of the late Chief Floyd Raymond Harris and Master Potter Nola Harris Campbell. I was born and raised near the Catawba Reservation.

I have 9 years of Management experience, was a board member on the South Carolina Indian Development Council from 1998 -2006, H&R Block Certified Tax Preparer. I work as a volunteer Poll Manager for York County Board of Elections, the last 3 years. I have worked hard all my life and will do the same, if elected to the Executive Committee.

I will uphold our Constitution, By-Laws. I will stand strong for our rights and work for **ALL** the people. I'm proud to be Native American and of the culture of our tribe. I wish all the candidates good luck.

Contact; 803 817-7699 (P.M.)

Hello,

My name is Heather George. I am 38 years old. I am a single parent of two daughters', ages 11 and 14, named Hope and Olivia. I also have a son who is 21, named Dylan. My Catawba bloodline is Canty, which comes from my grandmother, Alberta, and my mother Lorna. I am also a George, from my grandfather, Howard George and my dad, Tommy George. I grew up on the reservation and remember the day, The Catawba Indian Nation received federal recognition. I have volunteered for many of the tribal programs within the tribe and also within the Rock Hill Community. I am very honored to have been elected by my aunt, Denise Nichols to serve as a council member candidate. I thrive and feel deep in my heart and soul, that I can personally help make a difference within our tribe with my trust worthiness, respect level for the our tribal members, and the college education that I have obtained.

If elected as a council member, I, Heather C. George, promise to uphold, all morals and values and give my all to our tribe. I promise to stand tall as King Haigler did in 1751, at Fort George. The Mohawk forced the Catawbas' to dance with their feathers pointing down in humiliation. King Haigler than sat with King Mohawk, in peace. The six nations presented King Haigler with a wampum belt, the peace was final.

It's time, we the people of Catawba Indian Nation, start coming together and bonding in unity and stop dancing with our feathers down. King Haigler, has already fought for peace and unity. Let's bring it back as a tribe.

Sincerely,

Heather C. George