

# Ashi-niswi giizisoog (Thirteen Moons)

## Waatebagaa giizis

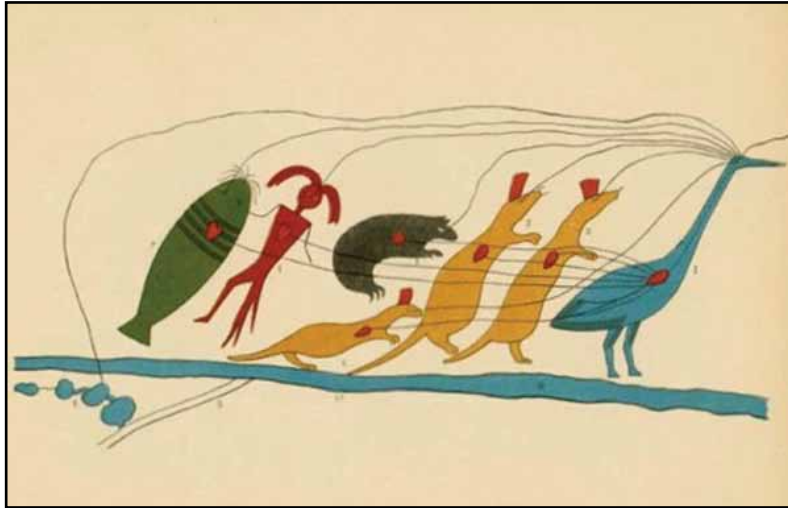
*Waatebagaa giizis is the Leaves Changing Color Moon. Other names for new September moon are Mandaamini giizis (Corn Moon) and Moozo giizis (Moose Moon)*

## Mikwendaagoziwag (Remembering)

By Wayne Dupuis Jr.

In 1849, a group of Chiefs (Ogimaag) from the Lake Superior Chippewa traveled to Washington in response to news that the United States government was intending to remove them from their homes in and around Gitchi Gami (Lake Superior) to a westward place to which they were not accustomed.

The Ogimaag and Headman (Ogitchidaag) that made this journey created a pictograph as a symbolic petition to the United States government. In essence, they were communicating to the government that they were united in mind and spirit in relations with their ecosystem. The pictograph depicted the lakes that gift to us Mahnommin and the Gitchi Gami as their homeland which was



*A pictograph illustrating the 1849 petition trip to Washington D.C. by the group of Ojibwe Chiefs.*

prophesied in our migration story. The sentiment displayed in this pictograph is manifested in the stipulations to the various treaties that retained the hunting, fishing, and gathering rights.

Certain agents of the United States were interested in moving all the Anishinabug of Lake Superior and they strategized how they could compel them to make the move. In 1850 the annuity payments to be paid

to the Lake Superior Chippewa were due to be paid in September, and the original LaPointe meeting place was changed to Sandy Lake. When the many who anticipated the payments arrived at Sandy Lake there was news that the payments would be delayed. There were a few shipments of salted pork and other provisions to hold them over until the payments arrived. These provisions turned out to be tainted and caused many cases of dysentery and other related illnesses. It is estimated at least 400 Anishinabug died as a result of these illnesses and their bodies were covered in birch bark (wigwas) and placed on the banks of the Sandy Lake and many more died enroute to their homes.

Tradition tells us to biindaa-koojige (offering) asemaa (tobacco) when we ask for the

lives of those ghee-goonh (fish), gitige (plants), and awesiinyag (animals) that sustain our lives and I hope we can also take the time for mikwendaagoziwag.

The Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) holds an annual “remembering” (mikwendaagoziwag) around the third week in July that brings ceremony and celebration to the efforts that our ancestors have made to assure our places in our prophesied homeland.

Our Resource Management division, along with GLIFWC, is also a manifestation of those efforts the ancestors made in asserting their wishes regarding our relationship with our ecosystem. These organizations help us coordinate and carry out our responsibility as stewards of our reservation lands and the ceded territories.

## Straw bale garden journal

By Shannon Judd

Summer flew by, and I can honestly say, I have spent little time maintaining my straw bale garden. With only a few weeds to pull out and watering minimal due to the wet season we had. I have had great success

with all of the squash, peppers, tomatoes, sweet potatoes, regular potatoes, endives and a few beets. Vegetables planted from seed, like carrots, peas, beans, and greens were a little more troublesome.

At first, I didn't put enough soil on top (my idea of a couple inches of

soil turned out to be more like a dusting of soil). The extreme heat and all-day sun exposure also took their toll on the cold-loving vegetables. I could have started those sooner.

Overall, I have been happy with my straw bale garden. This was a learning experience and I will

make a few changes and hopefully make it even better next year. Editor's note: Join Shannon and other Resource Management staff Sept. 20 for a panel discussion on straw bale gardening at the Fall Gitigaan workshop series.



*Shannon's straw bale garden in bloom*

### Upcoming Events:

13 Moons is hosting a Fall Soil Preparation Workshop from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Sept. 20 at Cloquet Community Center ENP Room.

*This page addresses culture, ecology, and natural resource management. Thirteen Moons is the Fond du Lac Tribal College Extension Program and is a collaboration of Fond du Lac Tribal College, Fond du Lac Resource Management, and University of Minnesota Extension.*