

**Transcription of the Speech Given by William “Dub” Warrior at the Seminole Celebration Weekend
BRACKETTVILLE, TEXAS, SEPTEMBER 17, 2006**

The entire program was taped on an audio cassette and transcribed by Billie Jean Ward Frierson, who has graciously allowed the Historical Society to share it.

Dear Seminole Warrior Family:

With deepest sympathy: “We never lose the ones we love, for, even though they are gone, within our hearts of those who care – their memory lingers on.”

William “Dub” Warrior and my dad Willie “Nuncus” Ward Jr. were great grandsons of two brothers John Ward and Carolina Warrior. Ethyl Warrior loved my brother and I since we were born, and Veronica and Tony were loved not only by my mom Mary Wilson Ward but by my grandmother Nancy Thompson Wilson Williams from the time she was born. You see my parents grew up in Brackettville together. Dub was the best man when Mom and Dad were married. They attended Carver school together, worked at the Roswell Hotel - rode horses together, worked on ranches in Brackettville and Ozona Texas for a time after the Korean War was over.

I would like to share Uncle Dubs words at this time:

“WILLIAM WARRIOR: Good to see everyone. I am William Warrior, President at the present time of the Seminole Indian Scout Association here at Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas. I want to welcome each, and every one that is present here today. I mean it from my heart. I am so glad to see each one of you, and when I say this: I say it from the bottom of my heart, that you came to be with us and to make this a success. We have people from everywhere; like brother Sterling said, he wishes this to be the best September program that we have ever had. And to this point I hope the others will even be better, so with your help we can do this. I know, coming from other places and stuff, this is a small town, but our forefathers were here, and I am so glad you came back, and you thought enough of them to come and give praise to them and to seek your history. And there is a lot of history right here. And I want you to be as proud of your heritage as I am.

We have a real legacy here and its beginning to spread all over the world. It is not just here in Brackettville, Del Rio, San Antonio, El Dorado, Sonora, Big Lake, Springs, Kerrville. We have people there like we do all over the world. When I say over the world, I mean it literally. Why we have people in the four corners of the world. We have so many, in Afghanistan, Iraq. I mean they are descendants of the people from here.

I am glad to announce that we have something this year to show that we are on our way forward. And with your continued help, if we show enough progress that you can bring your kids back and show them where their heritage is and make them proud, and let them know that we are the only, the only Maroons in the United States. We have other places, but we are the only Maroons. You know what a Maroon is? It is a black that fought against tyranny and slavery and started their own community in independence. So, we are the only real group from here, Brackettville and Mexico. So, I hope to next time get me a Mexican flag from Mexico and fly it with our Seminole and American Flag because without them we would not be here in Texas today. Give it another big hand. We are different and do not forget that.

We are black and we are proud that we are Black, but we need to let the people know that we have another heritage. And we are proud to be Mexican descendants, Seminole, Creek, Indian descendants, and African descendants. We have Anglos with in us and we have, we are a rainbow of people. Look at the group here you see all different colors. But we all are one and let us live as one. Love each other. Love is the greatest gift that God gave to us. And we pray for each other that we will grow stronger and. Let me tell you something, I believe if you have love in your heart for God you cannot hate anybody. And that is the main thing! That is the first law of the Lord: I think is love because love conquers everything.

This is why: I love Brackettville! I love the people here and I love the ones that are afar, and I hate no one. And I just hope that he will continue to restore love and love and love on me to where I will have enough to share with everybody. I ask him to make my heart like a hotel and I will have room for everybody. So, the first thing I say is love. When we love those people down there, we had people come here because they found out how much we love our people. You teach your kids to be proud. Always teach your children to be proud. But you give them something to be proud of. We have trouble with the history, teaching it to our kids because until they get their grandchildren, in their 40's, Dr. Hancock can tell you, you can teach history to kids, but they don't pay any attention to it. But when they get 40 and their children start asking them well who this was and who was that. Then they start looking and say well you know I got to check on this. And I have spent quite a bit of time. But I am not going to say anymore. And it is a lot to say but I just want to let you to know that we worked hard at trying to prepare this for you so that you will be proud of us. And we try and we're going to do better next time, I hope. And I thank you for being here!

Now, we are going to have services at Seminole Cemetery 11 o'clock tomorrow and we want each one of you to go out there and then you can see the graves. We hope to mark the Scout's graves by then with flags, so you know who they are. And this dedication is not, before you go out there, some people will say well I do not have a flag on my husband's grave or this grave. We intend to put it just on the Scouts. So, when you see a flag you can go straight to that grave and know it is a Scouts' grave. This is what my plan is. I thank you for coming, and we have a few more speakers and we do not have much time. We do not want to hold you up. Immediately after this they are going to sell barbeque plates and when you get time, we'll have someone to open up this building. We have a few pictures in there and you can walk around in there and look. Just kind of walk around leisurely. We are going to introduce a couple of three speakers to you and Johnny Jordan will take over. Thank you for listening to me."

It is very difficult to bear the loss of someone so dear to you, and though there is so little now that one can say or do, may you find comfort in the thought your loss is shared today, by those who care about you more than words could ever say. Family we love you so much. Just a few photos to cherish



President Augusta Pines, Beverly Ward former President, William Warrior served as president for 26 years ...



Mrs. Ethyl Warrior and William Dub Warrior