



# SAND CREEK MASSACRE:

NATIONAL  
MUSEUM  
OF THE  
AMERICAN  
INDIAN

## 150 Year Remembrance Symposium and Film Debut

National Museum of the American Indian  
Rasmuson Theater  
4<sup>th</sup> Street and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C.

**October 9, 2014**  
8:30 am – 5:00 pm



Live webcast at: <http://nmai.si.edu/multimedia/webcasts/>

Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site: [www.nps.gov/SAND](http://www.nps.gov/SAND)

## **SAND CREEK MASSACRE: 150 Year Remembrance Symposium and Film Debut**

Jointly sponsored by the National Park Service and the National Museum of the American Indian, this one day symposium commemorates the sesquicentennial of the Sand Creek Massacre—a tragedy that occurred on November 29, 1864. On November 7, 2000, the United States Congress authorized the establishment of the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site so that the impacts of this pivotal episode in America’s history may be understood and never forgotten. Now, 150 years later, with the massacre site preserved in perpetuity and a healing process beginning, it is essential to honor those killed at Sand Creek, pay respects to their descendants, and assist in fulfilling Congress’s mandate to help prevent such an atrocity from ever occurring again. The goal of the symposium is to contribute to an understanding of the causes and consequences of the massacre, the Cheyenne and Arapaho people who carry the legacy of Sand Creek with them today, and the role of memorialization in the healing process.

The symposium consists of three panels of Sand Creek Massacre scholars, including Cheyenne and Arapaho descendants. As a highlight of the symposium, the NPS will also debut a film titled *The Sand Creek Massacre and the Civil War*. The significant role of the Civil War in the conditions leading to the massacre has been under-recognized in both Civil War and Sand Creek Massacre related literature, yet the massacre site has been identified by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission as the only Civil War battlefield site in Colorado.

### **8:30 am – 8:45 am**

- **Traditional Opening**
- **Welcome – José Barreiro, Assistant Director for Research, National Museum of the American Indian**
- **Opening Remarks and Symposium Facilitators**
  - Alexa Roberts, Superintendent, Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site**
  - Karen Wilde, Tribal Liaison, Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site**

### **8:45 am – 10:15 am**

#### **Causes and Consequences of the Sand Creek Massacre**

This panel explores historical perspectives on the complex circumstances leading up to the unprovoked attack on November 29, 1864, and the equally complex consequences that irreversibly shaped the nation.

The Causes of the Sand Creek Massacre with Particular Emphasis on the Roles of Governor John Evans and Colonel John M. Chivington

*Gary L. Roberts, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor of History, Abraham Baldwin College, Tifton, GA*

The *Tsistsistas* and *Hinónóéí* Road to Sand Creek

*Henrietta Mann, Ph.D., President of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal College*

Written in Blood: The Soule-Cramer Massacre Letters

*David Halaas, Ph.D., Consultant to the Northern Cheyenne Tribe*

Sand Creek Massacre: Myths and Misconceptions

*Jeff Campbell, Park Ranger and Researcher, Sand Creek Massacre National Historical Site*

### **10:30 am – 12:00 pm**

#### **The Generations Since: Multigenerational Impacts**

The effects of the massacre endure today through immense multigenerational impacts on tribal traditions, society, identity, and livelihood. Panelists will share perspectives on these impacts based on personal experiences or knowledge of Sand Creek Massacre descendants.

As the Tall Tree Grows...a Cheyenne Legacy from Sand Creek

*Craig Moore, Park Ranger and Researcher, Sand Creek Massacre National Historical Site*

The Continuing Trauma of the Sand Creek Massacre: Its Aftermath, Both Negative and Positive  
*Richard E. Littlebear, Ed.D., President, Chief Dull Knife College*

*Karen Littlecoyote, Southern Cheyenne Descendant and Representative to the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site (Title not available as of printing)*

Specific Actions Taken by Various Groups and Government to Foster a Better Understanding of the Multigenerational Impacts of the Sand Creek Massacre  
*Tom Meier, History Consultant to Northern Arapaho Tribe*

An Oral History of the "Sand Creek Massacre" Painting which is Depicted on an Elk Hide by the Late Eugene Ridgley, Sr.  
*Gail Ridgley, Northern Arapaho Tribal Descendant and Representative to the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site*

**1:15 pm – 2:45 pm**

**Memorialization and Healing**

To commemorate, educate and "assist in minimizing the chances of similar incidents in the future," panelists will discuss efforts and accomplishments in memorializing the massacre. This panel includes the process of establishing the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, and the annual Cheyenne and Arapaho Spiritual Healing Run between the massacre site and Denver, and the repatriation of victim's remains to proper interment at the massacre site.

Sand Creek through My Great Grandmother's Memories  
*Norma Gourneau, Northern Cheyenne, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Superintendent -Wind River Agency, Fort Washakie, Wyoming*

The Memorialization of Sand Creek  
*The Honorable Ben Nighthorse Campbell, U.S. Senator-retired, Northern Cheyenne*

Remembering Sand Creek at the Sesquicentennial  
*Ari Kelman, Ph.D., McCabe Greer Professor of History, Penn State University*

How the Sand Creek Massacre Affected Our Lives and How it Made us a Stronger and More Loving and Caring Tribe  
*Henry Lee Little Bird, Sr., Southern Arapaho NAGPRA Representative*

**3:00 pm – 4:30 pm** (52 min plus Q&A)

**Film: Sand Creek Massacre and the Civil War**

At first glance, the Civil War and the Sand Creek Massacre seem to have nothing in common, except that they took place simultaneously. Yet in an era of Manifest Destiny, Westward Expansion and the Gold Rush, these two chapters of American history are inexorably linked. First person accounts by eyewitnesses to the massacre, along with perspectives by Sand Creek Massacre descendants and historians create a vivid picture illustrating how these seemingly disparate events are interwoven in horrible tragedy. Yet glimmers of healing and hope endure. Postmodern Company extends its heartfelt gratitude to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, the historians, and the National Park Service for the opportunity to collaborate with them on this film.

*Postmodern Film Production*  
*David Emrich, Owner; Paul Feldman, Producer*

**4:30 pm**

**Conclusion and closing remarks**

**Otis Halfmoon, American Indian Services Specialist, National Park Service, Washington, DC**

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## **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES**

### **José Barreiro**

José Barreiro serves as the National Museum of the American Indian's assistant director for research and director of the Office for Latin America. A scholar of American Indian policy and the contemporary Native experience, Barreiro is a pioneering figure in Native American journalism and publishing. He helped establish the American Indian Program at Cornell University, serving as associate director and editor-in-chief of Akwe:kon Press and the journal *Native Americas* throughout the 1980s and '90s. In 2000, he joined the staff of *Indian Country Today* as senior editor. He continues to serve as a member of the editorial board of *Kacike: The Journal of Caribbean Amerindian History and Anthropology*. The author of numerous books and articles, Barreiro received his Ph.D. in American Studies from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

### **Campbell, Ben Nighthorse**

Ben Nighthorse Campbell is a member of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, where he sits on the Council of 44 Chiefs. Campbell served in the Colorado Legislature from 1983-87. He went on to serve in the United States House of Representatives from 1987 to 1993, and the United States Senate from 1993 to 2005. Senator Campbell was the first and only American Indian to chair the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.

### **Campbell, Jeff C.**

For fourteen years, Jeff Campbell has been searching for primary source information about the massacre to find eye-witnesses and locate evidence to more accurately establish the actions of 29 & 30 November and 1 December, 1864. Primary among his goals has been to establish the scope of the crime scene and allow the topography to become one of the primary witnesses. A career in criminal investigations and prosecutions, "Gave me the tools of a contemporary historian to make practical analyses of the event." He says that his training as an historian and geologist gave him the foundation that enhanced his investigative and scientific approach to Sand Creek. "The use of particular words and phrases over the last 150 years has changed the complexion of the massacre devolving into a history based on repeated propaganda and misconceptions."

### **Gourneau, Norma**

Norma is a member of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, Lame Deer, Montana, and former Vice President of the Tribe. She is a member of the Northern Cheyenne Sand Creek Massacre Descendants organization and the Sand Creek Massacre Site Project Committee.

### **Halaas, David Fridtjof**

Dr. Halaas retired from Pittsburgh's Senator John Heinz History Center (in Association with the Smithsonian Institution), and holds a Ph.D. in history from the University of Colorado. Former historian/curator at the Library of Congress and Colorado State Historian, he is author of over sixty articles, and has written six books, including *Halfbreed: The Remarkable True Story of George Bent*; and *Cheyenne Dog Soldiers: A Ledgerbook History of Coups and Combat*. Currently consultant to the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, Dr. Halaas has testified on the 1864 Sand Creek Massacre before committees of the United States Senate. In 1998, he was invited to the White House Oval Office to witness President Bill Clinton sign the landmark legislation leading to the creation of the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site.

### **Halfmoon, W. Otis**

A Nez Perce Tribal member and recognized tribal historian, Otis Halfmoon was born and raised on the Nez Perce Indian Reservation at Lapwai, Idaho. Otis is a graduate of Washington State University with a B.S in History and later served in the U.S. Army where he received an honorable discharge. He has worked for the National Park Service for over 25 years serving in both national parks and Regional Offices. Mr. Halfmoon has also been a consultant on numerous publications and documentaries on various topics to include Nez Perce Tribal History and the Lewis & Clark's Corp of Discovery. Throughout his career, Mr. Halfmoon has been a strong advocate for Tribes telling their own history. He is also a Northern style Traditional Dancer and practices his tribal beliefs and culture. He now resides near Espanola, New Mexico, with his wife, Virginia.

### **Kelman, Ari**

Ari Kelman is the McCabe Greer Professor of History at Penn State University. He is the author of *A Misplaced Massacre: Struggling Over the Memory of Sand Creek*, recipient of the Avery Craven, Bancroft, and Tom Watson Brown prizes, and *A River and Its City: The Nature of Landscape in New Orleans*, which won the Abbott Lowell Cummings Prize. Kelman's essays have appeared in *Slate*, *The Nation*, *The Times Literary Supplement*, *The Journal of American History*, and many others. He has contributed to a variety of public history projects, including outreach endeavors aimed at K-12

educators and documentary films for PBS's American Experience series. Kelman has received numerous grants and fellowships, most notably from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Huntington Library, and several teaching prizes. He is now working on two books, *Battle Lines: A Graphic History of the Civil War* and *For Liberty and Empire: How the Civil War Bled into the Indian Wars*.

#### **Littlebear, Richard E.**

Dr. Richard (Dick) E. Littlebear was born on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation in Montana and grew up in Busby, Montana. He holds degrees from Bethel College in Kansas and Montana State University and received his doctorate degree in education from Boston University in 1994. He is President and Interim Dean of Cultural Affairs at Chief Dull Knife College located in the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. Dr. Littlebear actively promotes bilingualism, advocating for bilingual education on a local, state, national and international level. He encourages the continued oral, written and reading usage of the Cheyenne language specifically, and of all indigenous languages generally. He considers learning to read and write the Cheyenne language—his first language—as his greatest academic achievement.

#### **Little Bird, Henry Lee, Sr.**

Henry grew up in Oklahoma with his mother, step-father, and two sisters and two brothers. He attended Chilocco Indian School. In his early twenties, he started taking part in traditional ceremonies in Wyoming with the Northern Arapaho Tribe. This is where he sun danced and carries on his traditional ways. He has spent most of his time working for the Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribe's economic development program. He is one of the Southern Arapaho NAGPRA representatives and representative to the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site.

#### **Little Coyote, Karen**

Bio not available at time of printing.

#### **Mann, Henrietta**

Dr. Mann holds a Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of New Mexico. Professor *Emerita* of Native American Studies, Montana State University (MSU) and also Special Assistant to the President of MSU, she is on leave helping to create the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal College. She has contributed to documentaries *In the White Man's Image, Paha Sapa: Struggle for the Black Hills, How the West Was Lost, and The West*. She spoke on Sand Creek at the 2014 United Methodist Church Rocky Mountain Conference, wrote the Sand Creek entry for the *Encyclopedia of the Great Plains*, and is the author of *Cheyenne and Arapaho Education: 1871-1982*. In 1991, *Rolling Stone* magazine named her to its Honor Roll of 10 top professors nation-wide.

#### **Meier, Tom**

Tom has photographed the Sand Creek Massacre site in 1978, and subsequently concentrated his studies on the history of the Arapaho Tribe in Colorado. In 1985, he met Eugene J. Ridgely, Sr., a Northern Arapaho leader, and began to work with the Ridgely family and other tribal leaders on various projects in Colorado. Since 1993, these projects focused increasingly on the Sand Creek Massacre. In 1999, Meier began to photograph the Sand Creek Massacre Spiritual Healing Runs in which Northern Arapaho runners participated, and in 1996, 2001, 2002, and 2009, worked with tribal leaders in coordinating the Northern Arapaho "Coming Home" commemorations in Boulder. Meier is a retired President and Director of the Boulder Historical Society and Museum, and a Charter Member of NMAI.

#### **Moore, Craig**

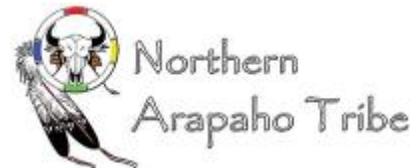
Craig was born and raised in Rocky Ford, CO. He is a graduate of Otero Junior College, La Junta, CO and CSU-Pueblo (Southern Colorado State University), Pueblo, Colorado. Craig has worked for the National Park Service for over 35 years, at Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, Washita Battlefield National Historic Site and the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site. He planned and helped organize a Bent family reunion in 1987, with over 300 descendants in attendance. Craig has given numerous programs on Southern Cheyenne history and genealogy. He resides in Pueblo, Colorado with wife Linda, a Registered Nurse. He has two grown sons David in Firestone, Colorado, and Sam in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

#### **Ridgely, Gail**

Mr. Gail Ridgely is a member of the Northern Arapaho Tribe and received his MA degree from the University of South Dakota. His experiences include: school administration, tribal college president, immersion school director and tribal domestic violence facilitator. Mr. Ridgely is a U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Wyoming State Advisory Committee Member and he received a Cultural Freedom Award. He was recognized for Respected Achievement and Service to Native Education from the National Indian Education Association. The Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site Study Act was signed in 1998 and through a Memorandum of Understanding, the National Park Service and tribes work together on Government-to-Government relations in the implementation of P.L. 105-243. Mr. Ridgely is a Northern Arapaho Sand Creek Massacre Representative and Descendant.

**Roberts, Gary L.**

Dr. Roberts, Emeritus Professor of History, Abraham Baldwin College, Tifton, Georgia, has published on a variety of topics related to frontier violence. Books include *Death Comes for the Chief Justice: The Slough-Rynerson Quarrel and Political Violence in New Mexico* (1990) and *Doc Holliday: The Life and Legend* (2006). He began research on the Sand Creek Massacre as an undergraduate in 1963. Sand Creek was the subject of his doctoral dissertation completed in 1984 at the University of Oklahoma. He has lectured widely on the subject of Sand Creek, co-authored with David F. Halaas the article, *Written in Blood: The Soule-Cramer Sand Creek Massacre Letters*, published in *Colorado Heritage* (Winter 2001), contributed the chapter on Sand Creek to Robert K. Sutton and Jon A. Latschar's *American Indians and the Civil War: Official National Park Service Handbook* (2013), and has consulted with the National Park Service, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe of Oklahoma, the Northern Arapaho Tribe of Wyoming, the Northern Cheyenne Tribe of Montana, and the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Methodist Church concerning Sand Creek.



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