



ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2023 OBSN

Contents

Words from the Chairman_____	2-3
OBSN Tribal Council_____	4
About the Occaneechi Saponi_____	5
Our Tribal Community_____	6
What Did We Do in 2023?_____	7
Highlight of 2023_____	8
Thank you Volunteers_____	9
Income FY23_____	10
Contact Information_____	11



Occaneechi Saponi Reconstructed Village
Hillsborough, NC.



Tony Hayes, Tribal Chair

“When we stand together, our collective voice continues to grow stronger, and we can be assured as we join forces to successfully push for important legislation, block policies that can harm our ability to serve our tribal community and call for a seat at the table where decisions that affect us are being made”.

Dear OBSN Tribal Members, Corporate Partners, and Friends,

I am pleased to offer the OBSN 2023 Annual Report and Year in Review. Let me start by saying the most important tribal assets are our Tribal Members and Family! They are the reason we exist, and their time and effort of support are paramount to our success. We have countless hours of volunteerism that can never be accurately captured in the financial balance sheet. But without these efforts, we would not be able to do what we do. So, I would like to acknowledge the sheer importance of these hours and what they mean to our numerical bottom line, and thank you all for your passionate ongoing support!

I am pleased to announce the “State of the Tribe for 2023” is Strong! We have had the strongest financial year in OBSN history. This is partly due to State Pandemic Recovery Funds, Corporate Grants/Gifts, and Heartfelt individual support. This has allowed us to partially recover from the past two-plus years of the negative financial effects of the pandemic and the slow economy it created. As many of you know, we were not allowed public gatherings and events during the governmental-mandated shutdowns. This struck the heart of our ability to generate revenue and maintain our infrastructure and grounds.

This year's financial position has allowed us to rebuild and repair our facilities, pay our full-time and part-time employees, and support our member services and hardships. These improvements have allowed us to: - Maintain regular and extended office hours - Have more events and programs -Upgrade our Website and Webstore -Have our best-attended Annual Pow Wow post-pandemic and relocation to our current grounds -devote more time to Grants, internal operational

updates such as revise our Constitution and Tribal IDs -Plans to expand our tribal offices for more capacity for future events, training, and educational seminars. These are some of the critical changes that will result in a more realistic self-sustainability and opportunistic model for the Tribe.

The Tribe is well-positioned for measured and targeted growth. This is intended to support our corporate relationships and public-private partnerships. The OBSN is a Tribal entity registered 501 (c)3 tax-deductible non-profit with a state-designated Tribal Service Area (TSA) of Alamance, Orange, and Caswell with ancillary interests in Durham and Wake counties.

We want to thank all our state, corporate, and individual supporters for their trust and faith in our community's quest to make a positive difference for our people and partners. We could not or would not do it without you all!

For detailed corporate financial inquiries, please get in touch with the Tribal Office and ask to speak to our Tribal Administrator, Ms. Vickie Jeffries.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Hayes

“OCCANEECHI STRONG”



Aerial View Of the OBSN 2023 Powwow

OBSN Tribal Council

As we move forward, the OBSN tribal council will reimage and create a future in which we build a healthier and equitable thriving tribal community through meaningful and lasting change.



Brice Watkins, Jr. Vice Chair



Vickie Jeffries, Tribal Administrator



Beverly Payne, Tribal Council



Tammy Hayes-Hill, Tribal Council

About The Occaneechi Saponi

The Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation—OBSN for short—is a small Indian community located primarily in the old settlement of Little Texas, Pleasant Grove Township, Alamance County, North Carolina.

The OBSN community is a lineal descendant of the Saponi and related Indians who occupied the Piedmont of North Carolina and Virginia in pre-contact times, and specifically of those Saponi and related Indians who formally became tributary to Virginia under the Treaties of Middle Plantation in 1677 and 1680, and, who under the subsequent treaty of 1713 with the Colony of Virginia agreed to join as a single community. This confederation formed a settlement at Fort Christianna along the Virginia/North Carolina border in Brunswick County, Virginia. The confederation included the Saponi proper, the Occaneechi, the Eno, the Tutelo, and elements of other related communities such as the Cheraw.

These were remnants of much larger Siouan communities that had lived in North Carolina and Virginia in prehistoric times. While maintaining distinctions among themselves (sometimes exaggerated by non-Indian contemporaries and by later historians), the various elements within the Saponi confederation had a common origin. They were closely related, linguistically and culturally.

Their final treaty with Virginia included an agreement among the four signatory groups to incorporate as one tribe under “Sapony formally.” In January 1715, Virginia’s Governor Spotswood wrote a letter to the Bishop of London describing how he had “engaged the Saponie, Occoneechee, Stuckanox [Eno] and Tottero Indians (being a people speaking much the same language, and therefore confederated together, tho’ preserving their different Rules) immediately to remove to y’t place, which I have named Christ-Anna.” In June of that year, Spotswood wrote to the Commissioners of Trade in London that he had “...been for a good part of last Spring, employ’d in finishing the fortifications of Christanna, and in settling there a Body of our Tributary Indians to ye number of 300 men, women and children, who go under the general name of Saponies...”

“Healing doesn’t mean that the damage never existed. It means the damage no longer controls our lives”.

Our Tribal Community.

Our tribal community constantly inspires us, and in 2023, they grew stronger than ever, supporting the OBSN.



Our Mission

The Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation is continuously committed to the preservation, protection, and promotion of our history, culture, and traditions while providing social, economic, and educational resources, opportunities, and services that will contribute to the well-being of the tribal community.



What Did We Do In 2023?

- Successful 38th Annual Powwow
- Language Revitalization/Online Classes.
- Purchased new tribal card printing software. Valid NC IDs.
- Increased Awareness of the OBSN and its mission.
- Voice at the NCAI Conference.
- Cultural Workshops.



What Will We Do In 2024?

- 39th Annual Powwow
- Expansion of Tribal Center.
- OYA (Occaneechi Youth Ambassador Program).
- Language Revitalization/Cultural Workshops.
- Continuation of collaboration with community partners.

Strengthen the
leadership voice and
that of the tribal
community.

Enrich the well-being
of the tribal
community by offering
cultural resources.

Highlight of 2023
38th Annual Occaneechi Saponi Powwow
October 14 & 15, 2023
Dedicated to Elder John Blackfeather Jeffries



Tony Hayes, Tribal Chair

“A Powwow is a celebration of American Indian culture in which people from diverse Indigenous nations gather for dancing, singing, and honoring the traditions of their ancestors”.

People who volunteer their time and talents provide crucial support for the OBSN.



“Behind every successfully organized event there is an extraordinary volunteer team. Thank you for a job well done”.

INCOME – FY23

Grants	161,876
Donations Via PayPal	27,428
Check Donations	6,496
Website Sales	8,350
Powwow	14,608
Membership	1,740
Misc. Amazon Smile	454

*Total reflects income received just for 2023

*TOTAL INCOME for 2023	220,952
-------------------------------	----------------

EXPENSES-FY23

Administrative Salaries	125,969
3 P/T Employees	4,320
Facility Overhead Costs (Variable)	11,194
Card Printing Machine	6,269
SAMIT (It)	1,200
Insurance	1,998
Tribal Grounds Repairs	7,837
Tribal Grounds Maintenance (Mowing)	9,600
Travel Reimbursements	2,500
Misc. Supplies	4,340

TOTAL EXPENSES	175,227
-----------------------	----------------

“Thanks to the generosity of so many supporters, 2023 was an impactful year”.

Contact Information

OBSN

Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation

Mailing Address: PO Box 356 Mebane, NC 27302

Physical Address: 4902 Dailey Store Road Burlington, NC 27217

Tel 336-421-1317

www.obsn.org

email: obsntribe@gmail.com



OBSN VISION

The Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation will be a unified and self-reliant tribe.