Credits and Copyright

The lessons and audio here are produced by Wyandot tribal member Richard Zane Smith for the use of our Wyandot(te) people in our quest towards Wyandotte Language revitalization.

Linguist Dr. Craig Kopris created the Barbeau font and painstakingly copied all the handwritten words from all the Marius Barbeau text from a rough dictionary, the Traditional Narratives and various other sources in notes gathered from his work among our Oklahoma Wyandotte people in 1911-1912. Craig has been very helpful as an almost a day by day advisory linguist.

Linguist Dr. Bruce Pearson has also been helping towards revitalization by his work in his own translation of the Traditional Narratives and his own Dictionary and Handbook. Bruce Pearson has been coming to Wyandotte Oklahoma for several years teaching and has personally devised a unique form of writing “wandat” towards these goals.

Thanks To Dan Harvey for creating and offering the ACORNS language program free of charge and for great technical assistance to a computer illiterate like me.

Mistakes happen in this kind of work. Barbeau himself recorded what he heard and though he was able to read it back to Wyandot informants to re-edit text, his knowledge of Iroquoian morphology was limited and often words are run together and divided in the wrong places. Some are just outright error. The text work here often records these errors and need careful work from linguists along with tribal members to edit and to make reliable conclusions.

In order to be as accurate as possible and because we have no fluent speakers alive, the work represented here is in the text form of the original Barbeau sources. Pronunciation in the audio is “coached” from Barbeau’s own phonetic chart included here for a guide to his letters and diacritics.

This work is considered Wyandotte cultural property and must not be exploited for profit. It is considered under Wyandotte Nation copyright. If one wish to make copy, permission should be granted by the Wyandotte Nation of Oklahoma Language Committee. If one wants to copy from the word lists, seek permission from Craig Kopris and please credit Craig Kopris for designing the font and reducing Barbeau’s handwritten material to its printed form.

Hopefully these are just the beginnings.

Richard Zane Smith
2008