



## The Eel River Tribe *of Indiana*

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[www.eelrivertribeofindiana.org](http://www.eelrivertribeofindiana.org)

Dear Participants, Members and Friends

### We are once again holding our **“Sinipiongi” Canoe-A-Thon to benefit Riley Hospital for Children.**

Each year we host this fun family event where teams of two people can choose to float a 8 mile course on the Wabash River or join in the Worriers Race for cash Prizes. We ask all who enter the *Race or Float Trip* and enjoy the day also remember the children at Riley’s who may not have the chance to participate in a canoe or Kayak. However; each child can benefit from our activity.

We remind all participants and those wishing to help, every little bit helps the greater good. We will be sending each of you a limited quantity of **“Gift Card Tickets”** and a **“Sponsor Sheet.”** Each ticket is a winner and all who make a nominal donation of \$2 have the chance to receive one of the following gifts.

- 1. A \$1000.00 ON-Line shopping spree there are (5) in all hidden within the tickets.**
- 2. A Free Meal at the 2009 Sinipiongi Canoe-A-Thon** (*We will feed hundreds on August 1<sup>st</sup>*)
- 3. A Sinipiongi “Button” or T-Shirt**
- 4. The chance to choose a Give A Way Item off of our Gift Table** (*in years past this have included gifts ranging from a few dollars up to a hundred dollars or more. All donated by our Tribe and area merchants*)

The sponsorship forms are for collecting donations on behalf of your teams or group. These amounts will be donated to Riley’s with all other contributions from our Tribe, in the name of your team, family or organization. Maybe you only collect a few dollars or maybe you can collect several hundred dollars. We will recognize all efforts on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

We have recorded the number of tickets sent to you and the registered, numbered Sponsorship Form. You will be responsible for these and all collection must be turned in by the day of the event. If you should choose NOT to participate in selling these Tickets or collecting sponsorships, then we ask you to please return all items as soon as possible so others may assist us.

This event is also the recipient of the **“Presidential Volunteers Service Award”** in 2008 signed by Former President Bush and again in **2009 signed by President Obama**. When you participate in a canoe, kayak, helping on the ground crew, serving meals or collecting donations, we will record your activity which will qualify you or your organization to receive your own Presidential Volunteers Service Award for 2009 in your name, your families name or in the name of your organization. We did not only receive these prestigious awards but were also given the ability to nominate other outstanding individuals and groups as a *Certifying Organization by the Presidential Awards Council*.

Welcome to the 2009 “Sinipiongi” HELP COMES FROM THE RIVERS, Canoe-A-thon for Riley Hospital for Children and we thank you for your participation.

Respectfully

Mike “Five Trees” Floyd

The Eel River Tribe of Indiana

*PS. Attached is the latest words of encouragement from President Obama*

*And the Indiana Gaming Commissions Ruling on the “Gift Card Tickets” under the IN. IC codes*

**FROM:** President Barack Obama  
**TO:** [nativetoamerica@earthlink.net](mailto:nativetoamerica@earthlink.net)  
**DATE:** 6/22/2009 6:39:21 PM  
**SUBJECT:** Time to roll up your sleeves



Dear Friend,

Last week, I announced United We Serve – a nationwide call to service challenging you and all Americans to volunteer this summer and be part of building a new foundation for America.

And when I say “all,” I mean everyone – young and old, from every background, all across the country. We need individuals, community organizations, corporations, foundations, and our government to be part of this effort.

Today, for the official kick off of United We Serve, members of my administration have fanned out across America to participate in service events and encourage all Americans to join them.

The First Lady is rolling up her sleeves and getting to work too. But before she headed out today, she asked me to share this message with you.

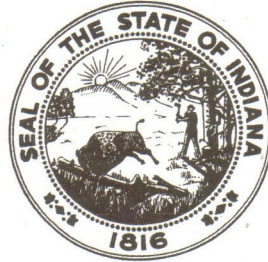
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/UnitedWeServeKickOff/>

Our nation faces some of the greatest challenges it has in generations and we know it’s going to take a lot of hard work to get us back on track.

While Michelle and I are calling on every American to participate in United We Serve, the call to service doesn’t end this fall. We need to stay involved in our towns and communities for a long time to come. After all, America’s new foundation will be built one neighborhood at a time – and that starts with you.

Thank you,  
President Barack Obama

**As a Tribe we have a philosophy slightly different then some. We do not wish to participate in any form of gambling. It is our hope and belief that we do not profit or generate any revenues, from others possible weaknesses.**



Mr. Floyd

Indiana Statute defines gambling as risking money or other property, for gain (to win a prize), contingent in whole or in part upon lot or chance.

If every single person who is involved gives a set amount of money and will receive something of value every single time, the element of chance has been removed. By removing the element of chance from your activity, you have created an event that would not be considered gambling. Therefore, the event as described in your Canoe-A-Thon Revision is not a game governed by the Commission and would not require the issuance of a license.

Diane Freeman, Director

Indiana Gaming Commission

Charity Gaming Licensing and Compliance

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