

their stomp dances. They belong to them. But since the Shawnees and the Creeks were together, they would get together and dance together. In the daytime the Shawnees would dance and in the night the Creeks would stomp dance. The Creeks and Seminoles are all the same tribe. They speak the same language. Dad said they was all Creeks. When they thought they would have to go to war, one band cut out and went to Florida. They're still there. "Seminoles" is Creek for "coward."

DQ We have our Bread Dance in April. Squirrel season opens May 15. We're allowed to shoot the squirrels we need for our ceremonies. Some white folks around here got to kicking. They went to the State Capitol. A State Game Ranger came out and talked to Dad. When the trees are full-leaved out in the spring is the time we have our dance. In the fall we have it when the leaves turn golden brown. We use squirrels today, but we used to use deer. Now they're almost gone. Dad told this State Game Ranger he would have the dance later--when squirrel season opened--if necessary. But he got permission to kill the squirrels before the season opened. Have to get a permit from the Fish and Game Department in Oklahoma City. I do that yet. We usually hunt the squirrels on Indian property. But sometimes we might ask some white neighbors if it's o.k. to hunt on their land. But mainly we hunt on Indian land.

DQ I don't think that's right that the corn was always planted after the Bread Dance. We always planted corn early--Indian corn--roasting ear corn. My Dad always said when the trees go to budding out, it's time to plant corn. Not these elm trees--they bud out four or five times during the spring. These oaks--blackjacks and red oaks. Then we'd wait ten days and plant more. In ten more days we'd plant some more. Then we'd have roasting ears all summer. Some of the corn was blue, and some was kind of glassy looking--shiny like plastic, and then there was white corn. There's a purpose for every corn. Some