

Pat Dilliner: My name is Pat Dilliner, and the reason I'm taking these classes is so that I can understand the prayers, and the talks that are given at the Green Corn Feasts. And my children are Seneca-Cayuga. And I hope that from what I learn that I will be able to teach them a little bit of Seneca-Cayuga language. And the sentences that I have are-- (reads sentence in Seneca and then translates after each sentence. (Seneca) What is the matter? (Seneca) Always mad. (Seneca) It seems you ought to be a good person. (Seneca) You are old now.

(Do you know the word for corn?)

Mrs. Dilliner: Na ha (or Nay-ha).

(What is your name?)

Dale Dilliner: Dale Dilliner.

(What is your Indian name?)

Dale Dilliner: Koma say (?).

(What does it mean?)

Dale Dilliner: It means, a new boat.

(Are you taking this course for any special reason?)

Dale Dilliner: So I will know what's going on--it's--at our ceremonials. And besides it's interesting. It's something we're losing and I want to try to keep it going.

(Mrs. Diebold is going to ask you some words. Will you say them for her?)

(Mrs. Diebold is asking Mr. Dilliner Seneca words and sentences and he is repeating in Indian language for her, or giving her the Indian word for words and sentences that she asks him.)

(Mrs. Diebold's son is 11 years old and is growing up with the language. He attends these classes regularly and his mother will now ask him some questions.)

Mrs. Diebold: How old are you, Charles?

Charles Diebold: Eleven.

Mrs. Diebold: And why did you want to learn the language?

Charles Diebold: I am wanting to learn the language and songs so I can help