

# PrairieLand RC & D

With A Vision For The Future



Photo Caption: From top left clockwise: Grand Entry, Jim Horn, Teepees, elder dancer, Vance Appling, "snowball" dance with audience members

Category: Recreation/Tourism

Project: Regional Intertribal Pow Wow

During the spring of 2010, PrairieLand RC&D assisted the Village of Meadow Grove and local landowner Terry James, to plan and present a new cultural event. Approximately 200 people from several states and from as far away as Brazil and Australia attended the Feather & Dance Celebration held on Saturday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, near Meadow Grove. The event provided some of the history, legend, songs and dances of the Native American tribes of northeast Nebraska to the participants of all ages.

Paul Hosford of Albion discussed interactions he has shared with the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska and with Pawnee tribal members as a result of the old Indian camp sites located on his Boone County property. Paul shared some artifacts to help tell his stories and

demonstrate how the Native Americans lived. James Horn of Plainview was dressed in beaded buckskins, moccasins and a full headdress, and carried a bow and arrows to showcase many of the items he has crafted himself with pride and devotion to his culture. James fascinated listeners as he related some personal stories and explained the heritage and traditions of his Native American tribe.

Nebraska Humanities Council speaker Jerome Kills Small told of the way people from his Lakota Sioux culture live their lives. His presentation was made possible by the Northeast Nebraska RC&D in cooperation with the NHC Speakers Bureau. Vance Appling, a Ponca tribal member, showed how he brain-tans hides and provided information on the many uses that native people had for the bison. Several Tribal members, two drum groups and several singers offered traditional songs and dancing during the afternoon to portray Native American tradition and history. Terry James, property owner, hosted an Old Time Country Music Concert after the celebration.

Promotional funding for the event was provided in part by a grant from the Nebraska Department of Travel and Tourism. Project partners were the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, PrairieLand RC&D, Northeast Nebraska RC&D, Meadow Grove Booster Club, Terry James, Antelope County Resource Center, Highway 14 Association, US Indian School in Genoa, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Total value of the project was nearly \$35,000 which included over 520 hours of volunteer time from the Village of Meadow Grove.