

Tree of Peace

an Oneida story

retold by Charlie Doxtater

The story of the Tree of Peace is true and happened in the early 1800's. The Tree of Peace helped unite one of the most powerful leagues ever, The Iroquois League of Nations. The Iroquois League was made up of six tribes: the Cayuga, the Mohawk, the Oneida, the Onondaga, the Seneca, and the Tuscarora.

The tribes of the Iroquois League at one time were fighting with one another. There were fierce battles, but the people grew tired of the fighting. So they agreed to bury their weapons under a giant white pine tree. They believed that the weapons would be carried away by the underground waters. So they sent the weapons off through the path of the roots. The weapons went in all four directions. After that, the tribes no longer fought. Instead, they formed the Iroquois League.

Today the Iroquois people have peace with one another and together the tribes form a powerful nation.