

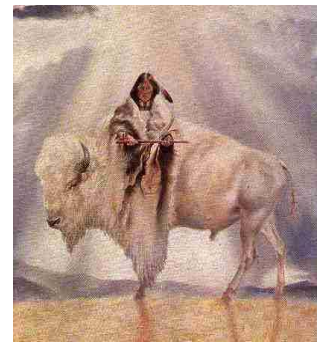
Aquidneck Island Intertribal Indian Council

(est. Oct. 14, 2007)

Newsletter

April 2020

We're still here



Council News

Due to the Corona Virus scare and precautionary measures being taken; we have had to **CANCEL** our March 28th "Native American Arts & Crafts Fair and Cultural Gathering". In 2007 this event originated as a Native Arts & Crafts Fair, and later (2012) morphed into an indoor Pow-wow. Throughout the years, it seems that many Native peoples are not hosting, nor attending local Pow-wows. The thought is, maybe, if we could have cut/pruned our event back to its origins, it just might grow back stronger. We are hoping to reschedule this event, maybe in October.

Announcements:

Earth Day/Earth Week celebrations:

April 18th event that we were to be assisting with, has been **Cancelled**.

We are still hoping things will change and we will be able to conduct our annual "Planting of the Corn" ceremony; Sat April 25th. Hopefully the Corona Virus will have subsided by then. For those who have never attended the ceremony: it is a Cherokee styled ceremony, performed in silence except for a heartbeat (drum in the background). The Council ladies offer blessed corn and their prayers to Mother for her blessings upon the Clan/Family. There is more to the ceremony, but it is best to view it firsthand. After the Corn ceremony, we also have a Pipe ceremony and a Fire/Tobacco Offering ceremony. After the ceremonies, if weather allows, the circle will be open for dancing. After that we will sit and enjoy a pot-luck early dinner. If you haven't been to this ceremony, put it on your calendar. ----->

If you know of a member, or friend, of this Council, who is sick or in the hospital, please let us know ASAP.

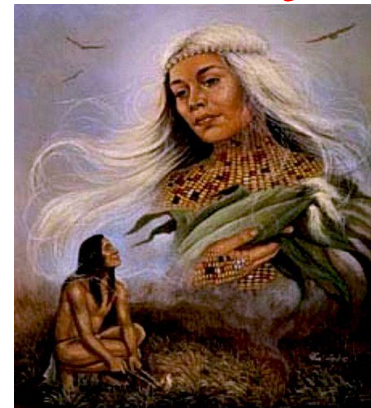
Thursday night drum practices have been **CANCELLED** until further notice.

**** April's meeting CANCELLED. Next meeting (hopefully) May 3rd**

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Message from 3 Horses.

"Planting of the Corn" ceremony



Saturday April 25

{rain date Sunday April 26}

222 Middle Rd. Portsmouth RI

12:00 PM

(Smudging and prayers at 11:00)

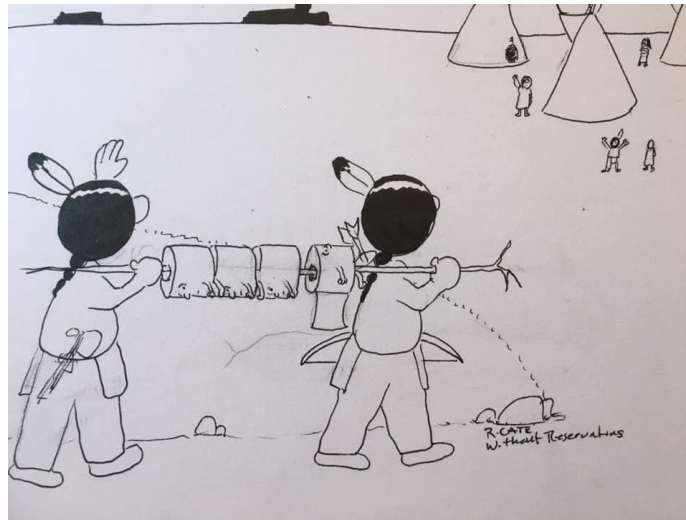
Followed by a "Pipe" ceremony,
and a "Tobacco" offering ceremony,
Drumming, singing and dancing.
Music by the Soaring Eagle Singers
{weather permitting}

Followed by a pot-luck social
{please bring something to share}

Natives: Regalia please
Non-natives: Casual dress

**** ALCOHOL & DRUG FREE EVENT ****

On the lighter side:



“Great hunt”

Spiritually Speaking

"Modern civilization has no understanding of sacred matters. Everything is backwards."

--Thomas Yellowtail, Crow

Modern civilization says, don't pray in school; don't pray at work; only go to church on Sunday. If you don't believe what I believe, you'll go to hell. Deviancy is normal. Our role models cheat, drink and run around; these are the people in the news. The news sells bad news; no one wants to hear good news. Kids are killing kids. Victims have little protection. Violence is normal. Leaders cheat and lie. Everything is backwards. We need to pray for spiritual intervention. We need to have guidance from the Creator to help us rebuild our families, our communities and ourselves. Today, I will pray for spiritual intervention from the Great Spirit.

Grandfather, we pray for Your help.

"If those bad words come, I let them come in one ear and go out the other. I never let them come out of my mouth. If a bad word comes in your ear and then comes out of your mouth, it will go someplace and hurt somebody. If I did that, that hurt would come back twice as hard on me."

--Wallace Black Elk, LAKOTA

What do we do with temptations when they come? What do we do when we hear gossip? What do we do when we hear bad things? If we hear these things and pass them on we will not only hurt the other person, but we will do harm to ourselves. We must be careful not to hurt others. Whatever we sew we will simultaneously reap for ourselves. We must be accountable for our own actions.

Great Spirit, today, let no words come from my lips that would hurt another.



Calendar of Events:

Cancelled - Sun April 5th
Aquidneck Indian Council's monthly Meeting
222 Middle Rd, Portsmouth RI
401-683-4589 1:00 - ?

Cancelled - Sat April 18th
Earth Day Celebration
Sachuest Point Wildlife Refuge
769 Sachuest Point Road
Middletown, RI 02842
(401) 619-2680 11:30 - ?

Sat April 25th
(raindate Sun 26th)
Planting of the Corn ceremony
222 Middle Rd, Portsmouth RI
401-683-4589 12:00 - ?

Sun May 3rd
Aquidneck Indian Council's monthly Meeting
222 Middle Rd, Portsmouth RI
401-683-4589 1:00 - ?

** Above is not a complete list of all events happening in our area, just a highlight of events that we are involved in. For a full list of Native happenings, check the pow-wow schedule on the Wandering Bull's website.

If any doubt, call before you head out to an event to verify location and dates/times.

This event has been cancelled

Earth Day Celebration



We are (*were*) proud to announce that we had been asked to participate in an Earth Day Celebration:

Saturday April 18th
12:00 (smudging begins at 11:30)
Sachuest Point Wildlife Refuge
769 Sachuest Point Road
Middletown, RI 02842
(401) 619-2680

There will be flute music, smudging, opening prayers, drumming, refreshments and a nature walk to help kick off a week of Earth Day events. To cap off Earth Day week will be hosting our Planting of the Corn ceremony on April 25th. All are welcome to attend.

This event is sponsored by Ms Sara Poirier/Aquidneck Island Earth Week Committee, the US Fish & Game and Wildlife and various Aquidneck Island organizations. For more info you can contact the Council, or the Refuge at above phone number.

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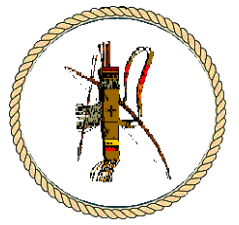
Looking for a new style or place of Worship?

The Oniset Wig Wam Spiritualist Camp

9 Crescent Place, Onset, MA.
www.OnisetWigwam.com
Contact: Rev Patti Craig
1-508-436-3105 evrotv@aol.com



Cherokee of Florida



The
AQUIDNECK ISLAND
INTERTRIBAL INDIAN COUNCIL



Invites you to attend
The “Planting of the Corn” ceremony



Saturday April 25th

{rain date Sunday April 26}

222 Middle Rd. Portsmouth RI

12:00



**** smudging & prayers start @ 11:00 ****

Followed by drumming, singing and dancing

Music by the Soaring Eagle Singers

{weather permitting}

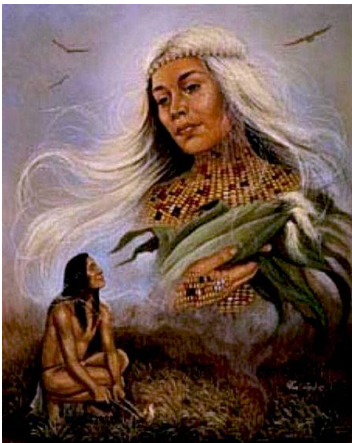
Followed by a pot-luck social

{please bring something to share}

Natives: Regalia please

Non-natives: Casual dress

**** ALCOHOL & DRUG FREE EVENT ****



For more information

401-683-4589

aquidneck_indian@verizon.net

www.aquidneckindiancouncil.org

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Native American Teaching: Native American Totems

by Bev Morningstar

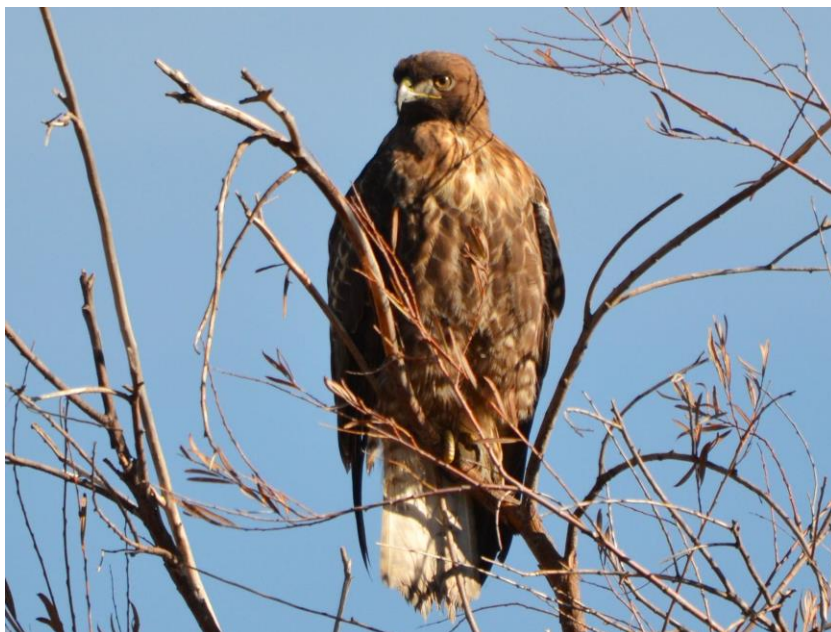


What is a Totem?

The word totem itself came from the Chippewa *Ototeman* which meant; his brother – sis kin. To all Native Tribes the totem was like a coat-of-arms.

Many picked out a special animal/bird as their totem animal. Some tribes believed that it may be an ancestor coming to them in a different form. They felt like their ancestor would come to them as a bear, fox, eagle, an owl, a raven and many others. They felt that these were spirits of loved ones coming to warn them of danger, give them messages, and came to them to protect them. They had their own beliefs and would not kill or harm a totem they felt was their personal one. As to how they found their totems it was done in various ways. One might have a vision where the totem came to reveal itself to the person; or perhaps an animal/bird was constantly appearing to that same person. Each totem when it appeared to the person represented a message which the person would have some knowledge of. Animal/bird totems all have meanings to them, they are sent by our Creator for a purpose. They may be sent because the person is seeking answers/direction on an issue in their life. They may come to remind you of the power that you have within or perhaps something about your behavior needs to change. Each animal had a different message for them as they still do for us today.

Conclusion; *Great Spirit you send us totem for a reason teach me how to recognize my animal totem and the messages they want to share with me.*



{Morningstar's totem}

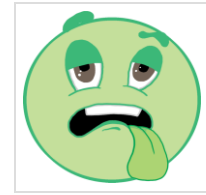
Editorial:

What is Happening

by Dreams of Wolves



What's Happening



Today I am sitting here & all I have been hearing is about all these illnesses that are going around. All we can do is pray to Creator that all these people will soon be well.

We need to think about what's happening here. Why & what is going on!

Those of us that are fortunate to be somewhat healthy should be grateful. Be thankful for what you have. Take care of your families and thank Creator for them.

Things happen in our lives that sometimes we feel we have no control over.

Maybe some people have problems in their lives. Think about what you will lose if you don't at least try to understand what is going on in your own personal lives.

I think Creator is trying to tell us something. Life is too short to waste it on our own selfish needs. Think about those that are so ill and the possibility that they may leave us.

So I ask Creator to help all of us to get our lives in order and love our families more than anything else in this world. I know that I would die for my loved one. Things can be tough, but if you love someone, you will go through anything for them.



Native Recipe

Chicken Corn Chowder



Ingredients:

2 whole chickens, split

4 sticks celery

4 carrots, cut in pieces

1 cup flour

2 tablespoons butter

½ teaspoon each: salt, cayenne pepper, sage, parsley, thyme and basil, to taste (or any other preferred spices)

4 cans cream corn

2 onions, chopped

6 potatoes, cut in pieces

1 egg

1 cup cream (or milk)

Instructions:

Put chickens, celery, onions, carrots, spices and potatoes in a large pot and cover with water. Cook over medium to high heat about 10 to 12 minutes, or until vegetables and chicken are fully cooked.

When the chicken is tender, remove from the broth. Remove skin, debone and cut into bite-size pieces. Return chunks to broth. Now add corn.

In a small bowl mix flour, cream (or milk) and egg, then add this slowly to the chowder.

Simmer another 10 minutes until thickened. Add butter, stir to melt, serve hot.

Serves 8 to 10

Next meeting:

Sunday May 3, 1:00



**** April's meeting CANCELLED ****

@ 222 Middle Rd Portsmouth

Guests Always Welcome



St. Joseph's Indian School
We serve and teach, we receive and learn.

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AIIC contact info:

3 Horses Sly Fox (Don Sly), Chairman
Dreams of Wolves (Barbara Sly), Secretary
222 Middle Rd. Portsmouth, RI 02871
401-683-4589

Email: aquidneck_indian@verizon.net

Website: www.aquidneckindiancouncil.org

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products labels. ----->

For St Joseph’s Indian School
(see *Dreams of Wolves* for a detailed list)



Inspirational:

We do not walk alone. Great Being walks beside us. Know this and be grateful.

Polingaysi, Hopi

From 3 Horses:

Spring is here. Goodbye snow (hopefully). As Ten Bear stated, “My heart is filled with joy when I see you here, as the brook fills with water when the snows melt in the spring, and I feel glad, as the ponies are when the fresh grass starts in the beginning of the year”. Throughout this winter, we have gotten together, a lot, and have gone through much. As Spring starts, I make this wish; that we can continue to grow and always work together as a family. Creator has called us together for a greater purpose. I believe that purpose is to remind people of a tattered and injustice filled past, but also to show that we, and our brothers and sisters, have prevailed. As the saying goes, “**We’re Still Here**”. Let’s continue to show people that we are still here, and show that our purpose is to educate the people and bring our heritage to the forefront that others may understand it, join with us, and enjoy it.

Creator, Tunkashila, Wakan Tanka, Great Spirit, Great One Above, God: Now that spring is here, I ask You to renew us and pour out Your blessings upon us. Lead us along the right path. Be there with us at every turn. Open our eyes that we may see You in everything. Open the eyes of those we come in contact with that they might understand. A-ho!

Happy Spring, Happy Easter, Happy Rebirth

See you along the Good Red Road. *Peace.....*

3 Horses & Dreams of Wolves



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