

# Aquidneck Island Intertribal Indian Council

(est. Oct. 14, 2007)

## Newsletter

December 2019

*We're still here*



### Council News

On Sat 11/9 we hosted our Fall Pot-luck Lunch & Dance Social Gathering. It is always fun getting together with family & friends. It was good to see some old friends that we haven't seen in a while.

On Friday 11/15, we brought our mixed Native culture to Shining Star School, as part of Native American Awareness/Heritage Month. It is always good to be able to offer history, crafts, music, stories and culture.

This month's meeting is also our annual Christmas party, gift gathering for the children at St Joseph's, pot-luck Social gathering and Nikomo. All are welcome to attend, all we ask is that you read the info and bring some things to share. ----->

Upcoming event: On Sat 12/14 we will be hosting our Winter Pot-luck Lunch & Dance Social Gathering. This event is open to the public. All are invited to join us in a family oriented gathering. Food, fun, dance and enjoy. Info on page 4.

Our prayers go out to all of our extended family members who are sick, ill, or injured. If you know of a member, or friend, of this Council, who is sick or in the hospital, please let us know ASAP.

Open drum practices every Thurs night at 6:00. All are welcome to attend. If in doubt – call before you come.

**\*\* NOTE - Next meeting is Dec 8<sup>th</sup> (not Dec 1)**



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### Annual Council Christmas party, pot-luck social, Nikomo and gift gathering for St Joseph's Indian School

The Council meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup> will be short so that we may have a pot-luck social, a Nikomo (gift sharing) & Christmas party. It is asked that everyone bring a dish to share.

The Nikomo is a form of giving a gift to others. You bring an unwrapped gift, not for anyone specific, whether bought or handmade. You place it on the blanket with other gifts. After the meeting at some time during the social, the members will line up, "eldest" first, and you will take your turn and choose any gift from the blanket that you would like.

Also in keeping with the season, and as a gesture of the heart, we ask you to please bring a small unwrapped item/gift, which will be added with others, that we will be sending to St Joseph's Indian School. The Sioux children that attend the school are very poor and need OUR help. The gifts don't have to be expensive. You can find many nice things at stores like, Dollar Tree, Job Lot etc. The school asked for girls & boy's underwear, (all sizes) as well as socks, health & beauty aids (soaps, deodorants, shampoos, etc.), and all types of school supplies, not to mention toys (see page 8 for more needed things).

Contact me for details.



*Dreams of Wolves*

On the lighter side:

*Santa, Are you in there?*



### *Spiritually Speaking*

"Money cannot buy affection."

*Mangas Coloradas, Apache*

In these modern times we put too much emphasis on material things and on money. We believe that money is power. If we have money, people will respect us. If we have money, people will admire us. If we have money, we can have anything we want. Maybe we can purchase anything in the material world, but we cannot purchase anything in the Unseen World. The Unseen World is not for sale. It can only be given away. Love, affection, admiration, trust, respect, commitment -- these must be earned or given away. If we use these things from the Unseen World, we are using real power.

*My Creator, let me demonstrate Your power today. Let me be loving to all I meet.*

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"We were taught generosity to the poor and reverence for the Great Mystery. Religion was the basis of all Indian training."

*--Charles A. Eastman (Ohiyesa), SANTEE SIOUX*

Every Indian knows and has a feeling inside that, bottom line, our real purpose on earth is to be of service to our fellow man and to be of maximum service to the Great Spirit. The Creator designed the earth to be self supporting - everything is interconnected and all things were created to be of service to each other. The Indian way is to pray about all things. Religion is not separate from any part of our lives. Everything is spiritual and we are to view all matters in this way. Family is spiritual, work is spiritual, helping others is spiritual, our bodies are spiritual, our talk is spiritual, our thoughts are spiritual. We need to practice seeing all things as spiritual.

*Great Spirit, today let me help the needy and allow me the wisdom to have respect and reverence for Your teachings.*



# Dues time:



Dues for 2020 can be paid at the December or January meeting, or checks can be mailed or dropped off to the Secretary at 222 Middle Rd. Portsmouth, RI 02871

*\$10 yearly dues help defray the cost of newsletters, snail mail, birthday, get well and/or sympathy cards. It also helps us support our charity, St Joseph's Indian School. Members & Assoc members, in good standing, will receive a 2020 card upon payment.*

## Calendar of Events:

Sun Dec 8<sup>th</sup>

Aquidneck Indian Council's monthly Meeting  
Nikomo and Christmas Party  
222 Middle Rd, Portsmouth RI  
401-683-4589 1:00 - ?

Sat Dec 14<sup>th</sup>

Winter Pot-luck Lunch & Dance Social  
Sandywoods Center for the Arts  
43 Muse Way, Tiverton RI  
401-683-4589 12:00 - ?

Sun Jan 5<sup>th</sup>

Aquidneck Indian Council's Annual Meeting  
222 Middle Rd, Portsmouth RI  
401-683-4589 1:00 - ?

Sat Jan 11<sup>th</sup>

Winter Pot-luck Lunch & Dance Social  
Sandywoods Center for the Arts  
43 Muse Way, Tiverton RI  
401-683-4589 12:00 - ?

\*\* 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.



## Please support our advertisers:

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### *Zartiphin's Emporium*

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{Strong Woman Spirit Chaser}

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Does your car or truck need mechanical or body repairs?

### *S&H Auto*

Scott Guilmette

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774-208-6443

**Aquidneck Land Trust**

790 Aquidneck Ave. Middletown, RI 02842  
401-849-2799 [chuckallott@ailt.org](mailto:chuckallott@ailt.org)

Preserving the Island's open spaces and natural character for the lasting benefit of our community.

Looking for a new style or place of Worship?  
*The Oniset Wig Wam Spiritualist Camp*

9 Crescent Place, Onset, MA.  
[www.OnisetWigwam.com](http://www.OnisetWigwam.com)

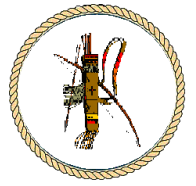
Contact: Rev Patti Craig

1-508-436-3105

[evroty@aol.com](mailto:evroty@aol.com)



Lipan Apache



The  
**AQUIDNECK INDIAN COUNCIL**

*Invites you to attend*

our Winter Potluck - Lunch, Dance Social Gathering

Sat Dec 14<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 5:00

@ Sandywoods Farm, 43 Muse Way, Tiverton, RI

Raffles, Dancing and afternoon fun.

Open to the public - all are welcome.



Please bring something to share.

(Coffee, water & soda will be provided by the Council)

Drumming by: the Soaring Eagle Singers

All Native entertainers welcome. Call us.

**\*\*This is an Alcohol & Drug Free Event\*\***

Directions to: Sandywoods Farm

From Fall River, Providence, and points north, take Route 195 to Route 24S. Follow 24S to 81S. Follow Route 81 to the 81/177 intersection, then turn right, then take your first left (at the Bulgarmarsh Recreation Area) onto Roosevelt. Roosevelt will bring you to Muse Way and the Sandywoods village center.

From Newport and southern RI, take the Jamestown and Newport bridges and continue through Middletown and Portsmouth on Route 114 (West Main Road) to Route 24N. After crossing the Sakonnet River bridge, take the Fish Road exit (Exit 6) off of 24N. Turn right at end of exit, then left at the end of Fish Road onto Bulgarmarsh Road. Follow Bulgarmarsh to the Bulgarmarsh Recreation Area (just before the 177/81 intersection) and turn right onto Roosevelt. Roosevelt will bring you to Muse Way and the Sandywoods village center.

NOTE: Because Muse Way and the other roads at Sandywoods Farm are newly constructed, you may find that they do not yet show up on your GPS device. [info@sandywoodsfarm.org](mailto:info@sandywoodsfarm.org)

For more info contact us at

401-683-4589

[Aquidneck\\_Indian@verizon.net](mailto:Aquidneck_Indian@verizon.net)

[www.aquidneckindiancouncil.org](http://www.aquidneckindiancouncil.org)

*The Aquidneck Island Intertribal Indian Council is a non-profit volunteer organization for the preservation of mixed Native American Tribal Heritages and Ancestral ways and makes no claims as to be an authority nor expert on any specific Tribe or Nation.*

## **Story: Does it take animals to explain the real meaning of Christmas?**

by: *Dreams of Wolves*



Once a long time ago, deep in the woods, there were all kinds of animals. There were deer, wolves, fox, rabbits and many more animals. It was December and very close to Christmas, and all the animals were watching the humans running around decorating their houses and buying gifts. The animals were watching the white man, with all their festivities. They watched for several days and finally got bored. The doe said, “All I see is a bunch of people rushing around, putting up trees, wrapping gifts and spending all kinds of money”.

So the animals decided they had enough of watching people running here & there. They went deep in the woods and low & behold, they came upon a clearing. They saw tee-pees, children playing, adults dancing, singing, praying, smoking the pipe and families sitting around campfires eating and talking and telling stories.

The animals came into the camp; they all sat at the edge, so not to bother the people. All of a sudden an Indian child saw the animals and invited them into the circle. The animals started telling the Indians about how the white man were doing all kinds of gift wrapping and spending money, but they did not even think once about what Christmas is really about. The chief then said, “Ah – you believe in what we believe. It is the Creator’s birthday. We give Him our gifts. We offer tobacco to Mother Earth, thanking her for all the food we receive from her. We thank Father Sky for giving us a beautiful day with the sun in the day and the moon and the stars at night. We thank Creator for our life and in return, for His birthday we give our love, song, dance and friendship to all of His creatures”.

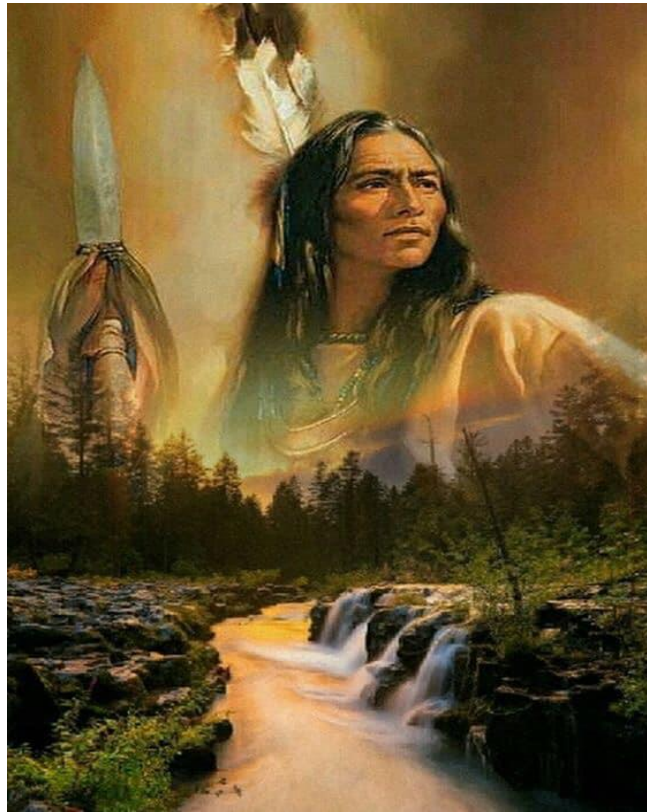
The animals were in awe, for they too were grateful that night, for the love they felt from the Native people. So that night the animals gathered around the fire and celebrated with the Natives. They enjoyed the drumming, the singing and dancing - thinking this truly is peace on Creator’s birthday.

Remember what Christmas is – the “Birthday of the Son of God”. So why is it so important to run out and buy gifts for people? Is it that important? On that day, we should give ourselves to Creator and try to become better people. What better gift is there?



# Native Teaching: Lost Native American Languages Rediscovered

by Bev Morningstar

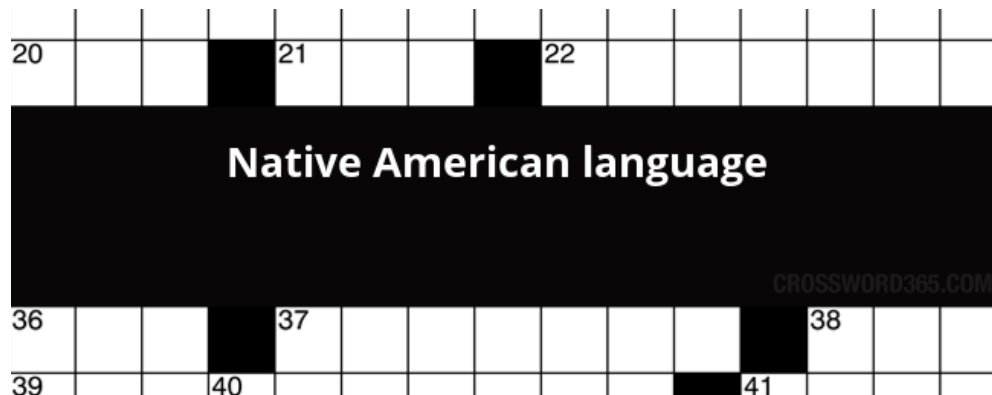


Recently a Smithsonian linguist found that the Native Americans living in central Massachusetts spoke five different languages instead of just one. Prior to these experts believed there had only been one single spoken language. New research now shows that they were wrong in their theories. The recent discovery was found by taking a look at several manuscripts written by French missionaries who were also researching the languages back in the 1700's. Several of the researchers found that there were three different ways of saying the word beaver which in turn made them dig deeper into the theory of more than one spoken language.

During the King Phillip's War in the 1670' many groups of Native Americans were displaced some to upstate New York. Those who did this stayed in villages and had encounters with the French missionaries who studied their language to better communicate with them. Many of tribes had been killed off either by sickness or by wars; survivors were too few to maintain their unique way of life as they intergraded with other tribes and the whites. Their languages' soon disappeared.

It was only through the researchers at the Smithsonian that we now know other languages were spoken.

Conclusion: Thank you our Creator that more and more discoveries are being found out about our ancestors so that we can still learn from them today. Great Spirit no matter what language we may speak; may it be with respect for you and our ancestors, and for those to whom we converse with daily.



# Native Recipe

## Gingerbread



### Ingredients:

2 eggs  
¾ cup molasses  
1 ½ cups flour  
1 ½ teaspoon ginger  
¼ teaspoon salt

½ cup sour cream  
¼ cup brown sugar  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
½ teaspoon ground clove  
½ cup melted butter

Beat the eggs and add the sour cream, molasses and sugar and beat again.

In a separate bowl, sift together the dry ingredients; flour, baking soda, ginger, clove and salt.

Stir into sour cream mixture and add melted butter.

Pour into greased and floured 9" square pan.

Bake 35 minutes at 350\*

Serve warm with whipped cream or light lemon sauce.

## Next meeting:



**\*\* Sunday Dec 8, 1:00**  
**@ 222 Middle Rd Portsmouth**  
*Guests Always Welcome*

### 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](mailto:aquidneck_indian@verizon.net)  
Website: [www.aquidneckindiancouncil.org](http://www.aquidneckindiancouncil.org)

### Inspirational:

"Come forward and join hands with us in this great work for the Creator."

*--Traditional Circle of Elders, NORTHERN CHEYENNE*

### From 3 Horses:

December is upon us and for some, it is a hard time. With the hustle & bustle of the holidays, some people become wrapped up in the materialistic part of it. Some people shun it. Some people remember what the symbolism of the holiday season is about: Love of family, giving, not just gifts, but of yourself, extending yourself to help a friend who might be one of those who shun the events of the season for one reason or another. Remember when you were a child. Even though we are older, enter into the season like a child, wide eyes, excitement, with joy and peace in your heart.

So, this is my wish for you; *May the love and strength and knowledge of the Great Spirit be with you this holiday season.*



**Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Happy Kwanza, Happy Holidays to all..**



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

*3 Horses & Dreams of Wolves*



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1301 North Main Street  
Chamberlain, SD 57325  
[www.stjo.org](http://www.stjo.org)

### **Constant Needs:**

- Men's deodorant
- Hair gel
- Little girls full slippers in sizes 8-14
- Children's robes
- Dish cloths
- School supplies
- Boys Boxers (all sizes)
- Bath towels
- Running shoes - men's & women's sizes
- Children's tennis shoes (sizes 1-4)
- Men's T-shirts (all sizes)
- Chewable vitamins
- Twin, extra long twin & queen comforters/spreads

### **Remember to save:**

"General Mills" + "Betty Crocker"  
products box tops. ----->

&

"Campbell's"  
products labels. ----->

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

