

Aquidneck Island Intertribal Indian Council

(est. Oct. 14, 2007)

Newsletter

April 2013



Council News

On Sat Feb 23rd we attended and provide song and Native education at the Melville Park Winter Walk. It was cold but it was a good turnout. See *Lone Wolf's* pics on our website... *Wado* – thanks to all that participated.

On Sun March 3rd we drummed at the Pocasset Wampanoag indoor Pow-wow. It was good to get out and give away our brand of medicine and help support a good cause. Thank you, Chief Page and his family for having us.

At the time of writing this newsletter, we haven't yet hosted our 6th Annual Indoor Pow-wow. Upfront I want to THANK everyone who will pitch in to help set up the hall, vend, drum/sing, cook, run raffles, greet people, dance, clean and return the hall to the way we found it. *One person cannot do it all*, it is indeed a Team/Family effort. It is a labor of love to provide others with a safe, friendly place to come, to gather, and enjoy the music, dance or pray with other Native peoples. If this PW is anything like the last 5, we should all have a great time.

****Spotlight > upcoming event ----->**

**** Special News:**



The Aquidneck Council has been asked to host a 2 day outdoor Pow-wow on July 27 & 28 to help celebrate the 375th Anniversary of the Town of Portsmouth. We have taken on the challenge and have started contacting drums and vendors. This is a joint venture between the Council, the 375th Committee and the Portsmouth Rotary. We are working on this and will soon be sending out flyers and invitations. Keep those days open on your calendar, this is a "first" for us, and a special event for the Town.

Drum practices have been every Thursday at 6:00. If anyone wishes to come and join us at the drum, or even just to enjoy the friendship, the door is always open.

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

****See you at the next meeting: Sunday April 7**

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Planting of the Corn Ceremony



Saturday April 20th

*rain date Sunday 21st

Ceremony starting @ 12:00

{smudging and private prayers start at 11:00}

222 Middle Rd, Portsmouth RI

Music by

The Soaring Eagle Singers

(weather permitting)

Pot Luck Social to follow

(Please bring a dish to share)

Natives: Regalia please

Non-natives: casual

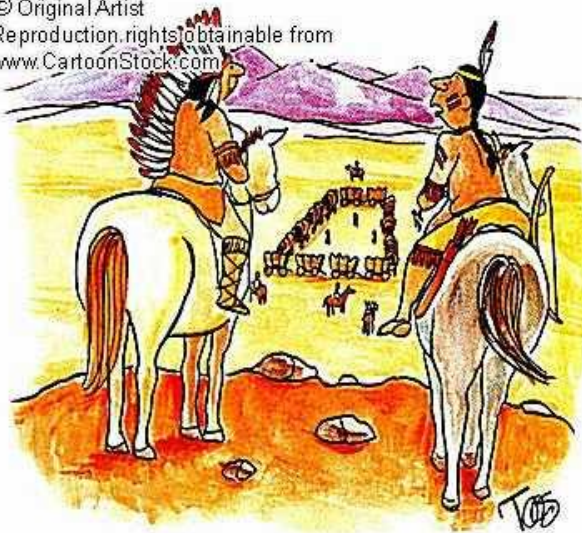
For directions or information

Contact the Council Secretary

(401)-683-4589

On the lighter side:

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"They squared the wagons! Can they *do* that?"

Spiritually Speaking

We preferred hunting to a life of idleness on our reservation. At times we did not get enough to eat and we were not allowed to hunt. All we wanted was peace and to be let alone... I was not allowed to remain quiet. I was tired of fighting... I have spoken.

Crazy Horse, Oglala

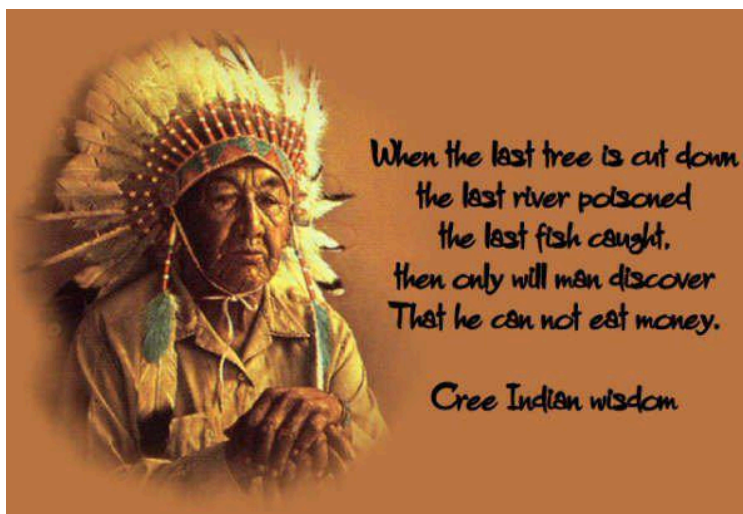
The idea of full dress in preparation for a battle comes not from a belief that it will add to the fighting ability. The preparation is for death in case that should be the result of the conflict. Every Indian wants to look his best when he goes to meet the Great Spirit, so the dressing up is done whether in imminent danger in an upcoming battle or a sickness or injury at times of peace.

Wooden Leg, Cheyenne

Honor Mother Nature:

Mother Nature is not *for* us - she is *part* of us; and we, like everything else that lives and breathes upon her are her children. Your own direct connection with Mother Earth is to be encouraged daily. Paint her portraits, swim in her waters, tend to her flowers, stroll through her glorious forests and care for her many children: all plants, people and animals.

We must live according to her principles and choose not to pollute her body. The alternative is death to our Mother – and death to her children.



Upcoming Events:

Sat Mar 23rd
Aquidneck Indian Council's 6th Annual Indoor PW
9:00 – 5:00 Grand Entry 12:00
KofC Hall, 7 Valley Rd, Middletown RI
401-683-4589

Sun April 7
Aquidneck Indian Council's April Meeting
1:00 - ?
222 Middle Rd, Portsmouth RI
401-683-4589

Sat April 20
Aquidneck Indian Council's
Planting of the Corn Ceremony
11:00 for private prayers & smudging 12:00 - ?
222 Middle Rd, Portsmouth RI
401-683-4589

Something to think about:

Easy Paths

by, Seeker of Owl Wisdom

“There are no easy paths to follow in life. They are all long and winding, with mountains to climb, rivers to cross and great plains and deserts to walk across. Great Storms of Wind, Rain, Snow and Heat challenge us at every turn. However, there is a path which is the most difficult of all; it is the path that you yourself chose to follow”.



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

Spokane Tribe flag



Editorial:

Power of Words

by, *Raven Speak* (Robin Riley)



Recently it was brought to my attention about the “POWER OF WORDS”, which is known to a lot of people as Gossip!!!!

This made me realize how much we do this on a day-to-day basis... So I listen to one speak and I decided to keep my ears and eyes open around to everyone I came into the company of... Studying this for a total of 5 days I came up with many different ways of one’s speaking, and to my knowledge I have seen that; Gossip is like a secret craving. We say we don’t like it, but when it’s within reach, we almost can’t resist it. We get a sudden appetite to know what we don’t know about somebody else. And if we don’t know anything we make something up just because some just like to hear themselves speak. When we confront the person who gossips, the first thing for us to say is “I did not say that”... “Not me”. “I’m not into sharing the dirty details about a person’s life” or, “I never said that about you”. So looking deeply into this gossip I have seen multiple different ways to gossip.

*First way of gossip is (SLANDER) It’s defined as spreading rumors or lies to cause damage purposely. This is a very nasty way to use the power of words.. It can affect people’s life to do damage that sometimes cannot be fixed..

*Next is what I like to call (DISHING) “Dishin’ the dirt” basically means sharing the “juicy info” you learned about someone. Maybe the intent isn’t to directly cause damage, but by keeping the gossip alive, it continues to spread and infect the image of the person it’s about.

*Then we have (BACKBITING) It’s a way of gossip that involves speaking spiteful or slanderous words about another who is not present and can do nothing in defense. It’s a secret thing. The bible actually mentions it by name in Proverbs 22:23: “The north wind brings forth rain, and a backbiting tongue, angry looks.” Also: “Whoever secretly slanders his neighbor, him I will destroy; No one who has a haughty look and an arrogant heart will I endure” (Psalm 101:5).

*And then my most favorite of all that just makes me giggle is (Whispered Innuendo) These subtle insinuations can mislead others into thinking wrong thoughts, especially if the conclusions are based on gossipy hunches. Here’s an example: “It’s interesting how he was “out of town” the night that the house caught on fire”. Which leads us to Proverbs 26:30 tells us; “For lack of wood the fire goes out, and where there is no whisperer, contention quiets down”. And a warning from the bible: “What you have said in the dark will be heard in the daylight, and what you have whispered in the ear in the inner rooms will be proclaimed from the roofs” (Luke 12:3). No matter how many times I read this I myself am so guilty of this which is why it makes me laugh.

*After all that we turn to (THE NOT REALLY JOKING JOKES) Have you ever taken some part of truth and turned it into a joke about someone that makes others question their character? It also serves as a passive way to spread more gossip. Example: “Maybe he/she will actually get off the couch today long enough to blah-blah”. That my friend is what I like to call mockery.

*Last but not least we have the (GOT THIS ALL WRONG GOSSIP) You admit you probably got it wrong, but spread it anyway, because it’s still touching on some points that could be true, or, would sound exciting if true. Either way, it usually starts out like this: “I probably got this all wrong, but apparently”...This is one of the most common types of gossip. We think we’re just passing on the latest news.

So my friends and readers please, when you are amongst your friends and family and one starts to gossip – STOP! Before you feed the gossip with your fuel, try smiling and casually change the subject. Allow them to be the one to gossip.... We are all guilty of this natural habit on a day-to-day basis. So my message to you all is to just remember what it would feel like for you to have tall tales of gossip spreading around on you before you go using , what I call, THE POWER OF WORDS..

LOVE AND LIGHT

Next meeting:



Sunday April 7, 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
c/o 222 Middle Rd. Portsmouth, RI 02871
401-683-4589

Email: aquidneck_indian@verizon.net
Website: www.aquidneckindiancouncil.org

St Joseph's Indian School

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)



Inspirational:

We have lived upon this land from days beyond history's records, far past any living memory, deep into the time of legend. The story of my people and the story of this place are one single story. We are always joined together.

Pueblo Elder

From 3 Horses:

It is April, it's officially spring. No more threat of snow, the crocuses are popping up. The Planting of the Corn ceremony is coming soon. For those of you who don't know; the ceremony represents new birth – re-birth. It is not just about planting corn, it is about planting our prayers into Mother, asking not only to feed our people, but to support us and let us live and survive. The corn is a symbol, the prayers that the ladies place upon the corn and place into Mother, is the intent. Birth comes from the woman, and we are nurtured by the woman, and when we cross, our bodies return to the woman.

We thank Mother for nurturing us. We stand on her, we raise our hands to the heavens. We ask The Ancient One Above to look down upon us and bless us. Father in the sky, Mother which we stand upon – there is balance. Without balance, there is turmoil. *May the Blessings of re-birth be upon you, now and always..*

Happy Easter.. Happy Spring...

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



3 Horses & Dreams of Wolves

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.