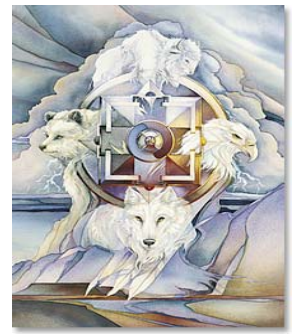


Aquidneck Island Intertribal Indian Council

(est. Oct. 14, 2007)

Newsletter

April 2017



Council News

At last month's meeting, we received and read a membership application from Scott G. At this month's meeting, pending the outcome of the Elder's Committee interview, Scott's application will be read for the 2nd time and he will be voted upon by the membership. Please plan to attend and let your vote be cast.

At this month's meeting we will review the March 25th Pow-wow.

Announcement: Our annual "Planting of the Corn" ceremony; Sat April 22nd. 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 have a Naming request (so hopefully we can conduct that portion of the 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. ----->

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.

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..

See you at the next meeting: Sunday April 2

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Message from 3 Horses.

"Planting of the Corn" ceremony



Including a Pipe, Naming and a Fire ceremony

Saturday April 22nd 12:00

** Rain date: Sun April 23**

Smudging & special prayers – 11:00

@ 222 Middle Rd, Portsmouth RI

Open to the public - all are welcome.

Drumming 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

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



Spiritually Speaking

A TIME TO REMEMBER

Robert Soto, Lipan Apache

So many times we seem to get into this self-pity and despair when things do not go our way. We tend to forget who the Creator is and even how He has taken care of us in times past. We try to find the solution to our problems and can only see ourselves in the equation. We forget that what is happening before us is far beyond us and all about God. We can only see the problem and not the source of the solution. All we can remember is what we did and not the miracle of the Creator's hand and His dealing with us. With each trip to the federal court came the ups and downs of man not seeing eye to eye in our situation. More than half of the time I had to ask my lawyers, "Was this good or was this bad?" A lot of time it was the frustration of knowing that we were in the right and the government who was in the wrong seemed to be in the right. I kept reminding people that all our trips to the federal courts were just stepping stones to something far greater than ourselves.

It is written in the Bible, "Remember the wonders He has done, His miracles, and the judgments He pronounced..." He asked us to remember three things. First of all were the wonders He had done. Wonders are those supernatural revelations that reveal the very nature of who the Creator is and can do for you. They are an outward testimony of the power of God's hand on the creation to reveal and show us His helping hand. Then, He asked us to remember miracles. I can tell you miracle upon miracle that have happened before my eyes that can only be explained as God's work in the people before me; like restoring the eyesight of a man to share the Gospel. Or the time a friend was pronounced as having five cancers and God told me to tell her husband that cancer would not kill his wife. A few days later the surgeons could not find one spot of cancer. Finally, He asks us to remember His judgments: His verdicts for the good and for the bad we or others have done. As we face 2017, let us look at the past to change our future. Let us remember His wonders and miracles that He has allowed to be placed before us, and never forget that God will pronounce judgment on those who do not seek Him.

Upcoming Events:

Sun April 2
Aquidneck Indian Council's Monthly Meeting,
222 Middle Rd, Portsmouth RI
401-683-4589 1:00 - ?

Sat April 22
Planting of the Corn ceremony
222 Middle Rd, Portsmouth RI
401-683-4589 12:00 - ?

Sun May 6
Aquidneck Indian Council's Monthly Meeting,
222 Middle Rd, Portsmouth RI
401-683-4589 1:00 - ?

Sat June 3 & Sun June 4
Pratt Farm Strawberry Moon Pow wow
110 East Main St. Middleboro MA

Sun June 11
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. 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.

Did you know?

There are many stereotypes of Native American/American Indians that must be avoided:

- *Indians do not all look alike.
- *Not all Indians know Native history and culture, especially that which is not their own.
- *Indians observe the religion of their choice.
- *Not all Indians are alcoholics.
- *"Indian-ness" is not decided by the percentage of Indian blood in your body.
- *Indians do not always have an Indian name.
- *Indians were not uncivilized before the white man came here.
- *Indians were not conquered.
- *There are many American Indian heroes.

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Aquidneck Land Trust

790 Aquidneck Ave. Middletown, RI 02842
401-849-2799 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.
Opening May for the 2017 Season
www.OnisetWigwam.com

or

First Spiritualist Church of Brockton

243 Winthrop St. Rehoboth, MA (Grange Bldg. Rte 118 & 44)
Sunday Services: June thru August - 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM
Sept. thru May - 10:00 AM to 11:30 with fellowship to follow.
Check out their FB page: First Spiritualist Church of Brockton

For info on either the Wig Wam or Church of Brockton,
Contact: Rev Patti Craig
1-508-436-3105 evroty@aol.com

The Native American Sweat Lodge Ceremony Part 2

by Beverly Morningstar



The Sweat Lodge Ceremony is a purification of the body, mind, and spirit and is considered a Sacred ceremony keeping this in mind one has to be aware of what is expected of them.

The question of many is what do I wear for this Ceremony? Remembering; that it is a ceremony that is considered Sacred one has to wear modest attire. It should be something that is comfortable and loose fitting as well. Some women choose to wear a bathing suit however, a towel should be wrapped around their waist and a loose tee shirt should be worn as well. Shoes are not worn into the lodge but, may be worn outside the lodge between mounds (which are the breaks there are four of them). It is also advisable to take a large towel in with you.

What is considered respectful behavior while in the Ceremony? The leader will ask that no one consumes alcohol 24 hours prior to attending. He will also advise the participation that no photographs are to be taken of the Sweat Lodge prior to the ceremony.

Restrictions are for the following participations: Pregnant woman should not attend due to health reasons. Women on their “moon cycles” (menstrual cycle) do not participate. The reason for this is in Native American tradition: women are on their moon cycle, and undergoing their own powerful personal purification ceremony. Anyone who has a cardiac condition, high blood pressure or other serious issues should seek their physician’s advice first. Anyone with any health issues should consult their physician prior to attending the Ceremony. It is advisable to drink plenty of water during the day of the Ceremony as well as not to eat for a few hours prior to it. The morning of the ceremony should begin with a prayerful attitude as well as being mindful of what is to take place. No cell phones or beepers are allowed near the ceremonial grounds as it would be a distraction. No jewel or glasses should be worn as it would cause one to be burned. The Sweat Lodge area is to be treated with reverence at all times voices should be soft and an earnest intent displayed. No one is allowed to touch ceremonial objects such as drums, feathers, pipes fan, or others that do not belong to you. When entering into the Lodge while kneeling down (crawling into it) one should say “all my relations”. It is a prayer of oneness and harmony with all those who we share the Circle of Life with.

The Leader will direct you as to what direction you must go usually it is a clockwise direction. If the heat is too intense for you it is a good idea to put your head low to the ground and cover your shoulders with the large towel. At first some people feel a little claustrophobic but as you relax and join in singing and praying one usually overcomes it. If you feel you need to make an exit, wait for the ending of the song, prayer, or another appropriate time then ask the leader to allow you to leave. If you should decide to leave remember that you remain part of the ceremony, so trying staying close to the Lodge as possible and continue praying.

Immediately after the ceremony a potluck meal is given it is considered to be part of the ceremony. One should rationally make offerings of support prior to the ceremony taking place. Examples may be wood for the fire, water, food, sacred herbs and also an offering should be given to the leader as well. All offerings should be given from your heart as a gift showing gratitude to the Leader.

In ending remember all Sweat Lodges are run differently by different leaders wherever you go you must follow the instructions of the leader.

Conclusion: We thank you Great Spirit and our Ancestors for teaching us the old ways to renew our Spirits and Minds so that we can be the ones who teach the next generation.

Native American Legends

A Cherokee Legend: How the Deer got his Horns



In the beginning the Deer had no horns, but his head was smooth just like a doe's. He was a great runner and the Rabbit was a great jumper, and the animals were all curious to know which could go farther in the same time.

They talked about it a good deal, and at last arranged a match between the two, and made a nice large pair of antlers for a prize to the winner.

They were to start together from one side of a thicket and go through it, then turn and come back, and the one who came out first was to get the horns.

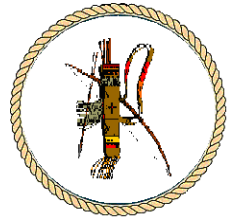
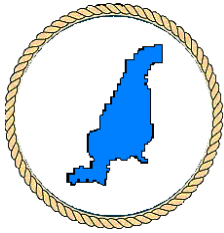
On the day fixed, all the animals were there, with the antlers put down on the ground at the edge of the thicket to make the starting point. While everybody was admiring the horns, the Rabbit said, "I don't know this part of the country, I want to take a look through the bushes where I am to run."

They thought that all right, so the Rabbit went into the thicket, but he was gone so long that at last the animal suspected he must be up to one of his tricks. They sent a messenger to look for him, and away in the middle of the thicket, he found the Rabbit gnawing down the bushes and pulling them away until he had a road cleared nearly to the other side.

The messenger turned around quietly and came back and told the other animals. When Rabbit came out, at last, they accused him of cheating, but he denied it until they went into the thicket and found the cleared road. They agreed that such a trickster had no right to enter the race at all, so they gave the horns to the Deer, who was admitted to be the best runner, and he has worn them ever since.

They told the Rabbit that as he was so fond of cutting down bushes, he might do that for a living hereafter, as so he does to this day.





The
AQUIDNECK ISLAND
INTERTRIBAL INDIAN COUNCIL



Invites you to attend
The “Planting of the Corn” ceremony
followed by a Pipe, Naming and a Fire ceremony



Saturday April 22

{rain date Sunday April 23}

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}

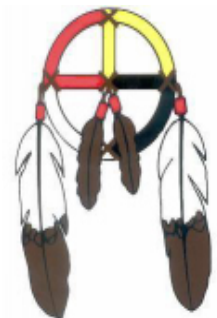
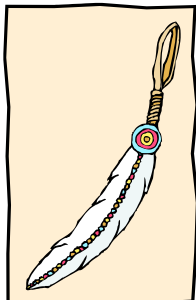
Followed by a pot-luck social
 {please bring something to share}

Natives: Regalia please
 Non-natives: Casual dress

For more information:

401-683-4589 or

aquidneck_indian@verizon.net



Native Recipe

Mushroom Soup



Ingredients:

1lb mushrooms, chopped	2 small sprigs of mint or basil	
1 bunch scallions, sliced	2 sprigs of watercress	3 tablespoon butter

Other ingredients:

4 packets of beef broth	8 cups water	½ cup cream or milk
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Saute` above in butter, just a few minutes. Add 8 cups of water and beef broth and spice to taste.

Simmer 30 to 40 minutes.

If you like it a little richer, add ½ cup of cream or milk, but do not boil.

Serves 6 to 8

Next meeting:



**** Sunday April 2, 1:00**
@ 222 Middle Rd Portsmouth
Guests Always Welcome



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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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&

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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



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.