

# Aquidneck Island Intertribal Indian Council

(est. Oct. 14, 2007)

## Newsletter

Dec 2018

*We're still here*



### Council News

Due to the bad weather, the Council tee-pee has been taken down. With all the rain and heavy winds, if we had left it up for any longer, it would be gone.

During the month of November, for Native American Awareness & Heritage Month, we conducted presentations at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center, Sandywoods Center for the Arts, Tiverton Pack 18 Boy/Cub Scouts and Shining Star Preschool. Any time that we can share our "mixed" culture is great. Some people don't know anything about Natives except what they read in outdated school books or see on TV westerns.

Our return to Sandywoods for our Fall Social went well. We appreciate the support and enjoy making new friends.

**\*\* Note:** This month's meeting will be our Annual Christmas Party, pot-luck social, Nikomo and gift gathering for St Joe's. see -----> If you have any friends who might be interested in our ways, or are interested to see what we are about, feel free to bring them along, but, explain to them the idea of the Nikomo, that way no one is left without a gift. The more the merrier, guests are always welcome to any/all of our events.

Our next Social is Sat Dec 8. See page 6 for details.

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.

*Next meeting is Sunday Dec 2*

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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 2<sup>nd</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.

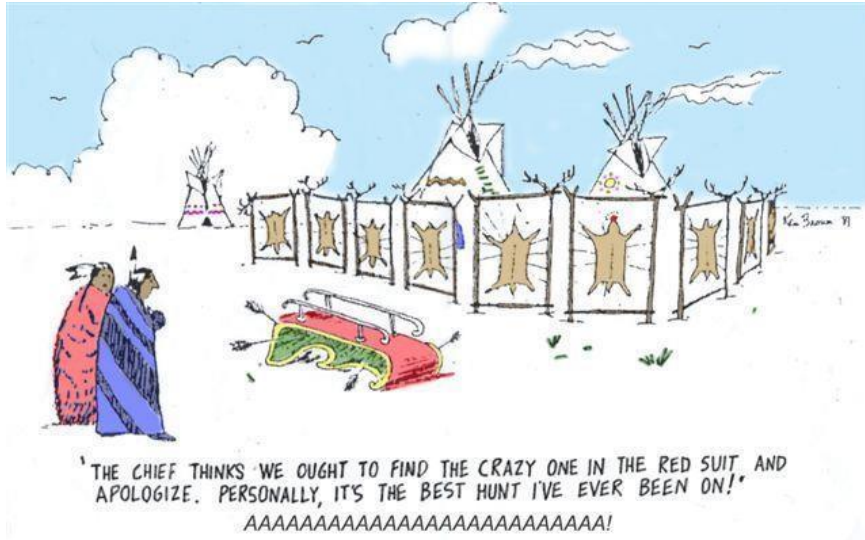
Also in keeping with the season, and as a gesture of the heart, we ask you to please bring a small unwrapped item/gift, which will be added with others, that we will be sending to St Joseph's Indian School. The Sioux children that attend the school are very poor and need OUR help. The gifts don't have 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: ☺



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## *Spiritually Speaking*

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

*--Traditional Circle of Elders, NORTHERN CHEYENNE*

The Elders have spent years learning to pray and communicate with the Great Spirit. Their job is to pass this knowledge onto the young people. The Elders have told us we are now in a great time of healing. The Creator is guiding them to help the young people figure this out. We must get involved and participate. We should pray and see what it is the Great Spirit wants us to do. We need to sacrifice our time to help the people and to be of maximum use to the Creator. Every person is needed to accomplish this great healing.

Creator, whisper what You want me to do.

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*"In our language there is no word to say inferior or superiority or equality because we are equal; it's a known fact. But life has become very complicated since the newcomers came here. And how does your spirit react to it? It's painful. You have to be strong to walk through the storm. I know I'm a bridge between two worlds. All I ask is for people to wash their feet before they try to walk on me."*

*--Alanis Obomsawin, ABENAKI*

For native people who speak their language, English can be very confusing. Many times you cannot express in English the true meaning of Indian words. When we hear something in English we sometimes react or our spirit reacts. Sometimes we need to use English words out of order to express our true meanings. We need to be patient and pray. Living in two worlds can be difficult. Life is painful sometimes. The pain of life is where the lessons are learned.

Creator, let me learn the lessons You have taught my people. My Creator, let me demonstrate Your power today. Let me be loving to all I meet.



# Dues time:



Dues for 2019 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 2019 card upon payment.*

## Upcoming Events:

Sun Dec 2

Aquidneck Indian Council's Monthly Meeting  
Christmas Party & Nikoma  
222 Middle Rd, Portsmouth RI  
401-683-4589 1:00 - ?

Sat Dec 8

Winter Lunch & Dance Social  
Sandywoods Center for the Arts  
43 Muse Way, Tiverton, RI  
401-683-4589 12:00 - 5:00

Sun Jan 6

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

Sat Jan 12

Winter Lunch & Dance Social  
Sandywoods Center for the Arts  
43 Muse Way, Tiverton, RI  
401-683-4589 12:00 - 5:00

\*\* 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.



## Please support our advertisers:

Handcrafted Native American Ribbon Shirts & Dresses, Blankets and Fancy Shawls  
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### *Zartiphin's Emporium*

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Does your car or truck need mechanical or body repairs?

### *S&H Auto*

Scott Guilmette  
{Strong Elk}  
32 Stafford Rd Tiverton RI 774-208-6443



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)

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](mailto:evroty@aol.com)



Fort Sill Apache

## Native Teachings:

# NATIVE AMERICAN LEGENDS

by Beverly Morningstar

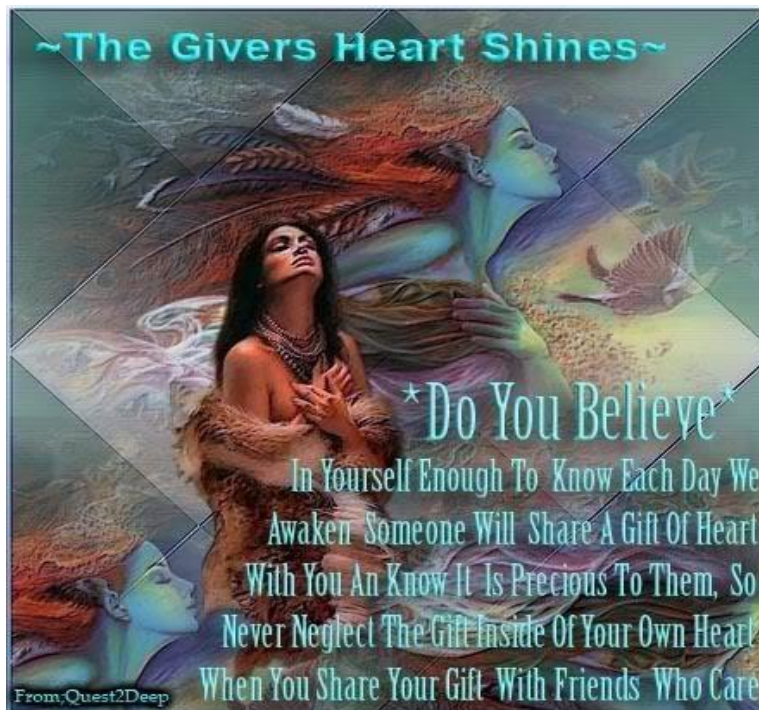
### **Introduction:**

This teaching is to help others gain understanding of the spiritual relationship of Native Americans to the animals in their environment. Native Americans had many myths and legends regarding their animals that they had to share the land with. They watch the animals closer for many signs and taught their young people to do the same. They showed great respect for all living things and by doing so learned many valuable lessons from the environment and its insect, plants and animal life.

It was through storytelling that many of these legends and myths were revealed. They would sit by their fires on a cold winter's night with the wind howling and the snow blowing outside their homes. It was a perfect setting for the elders to teach the young ones. The elders were the guardians of traditional teachings, sorting information or details for the young people to pass down from generation to generations. They would tell stories about creation, spiritual growth, and the mysteries of the animal kingdoms. All the while during their teachings they would advise them on conservation and preservation of the land as they were to be good stewards of it.

Remember that legends were hand down from generation to generation to help the younger ones understand many things about life. It is much like the stories that we were told about our own ancestors. Each nation/tribe held on to their own legends/myths as it was their way of explaining why things happened the way they did.

From the Seneca Nation comes the story of the Thunder Beings who lived under the great falls called Ne-ah-ga. The story as follows: one day a young woman, alone in her canoe, was crossing the river far from the falls when she lost her paddle. The current swiftly and swept it and her away. This young woman had always been friends with the Thunder Beings, giving them gifts every new season. As she was carried away she did not cry out she asked for help and trusted that somehow she would be saved. The Thunder Beings caught her in a blanket saving her life. The chief of the Thunder Beings then asked this young woman to be his wife she accepted. This is one legend that is still being told today by the Seneca Nation. That when one hears the voices of Thunder Beings roll across the sky, the brave young woman is keeping watch, and reminding us that for every gift we give it gives us back a blessing.



### **Conclusion:**

The lesson this legend teaches us is to be kind to one another and to be a giver not a taker. One is always blessed when they give to others from their hearts and not their egos. Respect and honor is to be shown at all times to others is the way of the Native American People and our Ancestors. A'HO

## **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”.

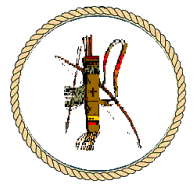
The animals were in awe, for they too were grateful that night, for the love they felt from the Native people. So that night the animals gathered around the fire and celebrated with the Natives. They enjoyed the drumming, the singing and dancing - thinking this truly is peace on Creator’s birthday.

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?





The  
**AQUIDNECK INDIAN COUNCIL**



*Invites you to attend*

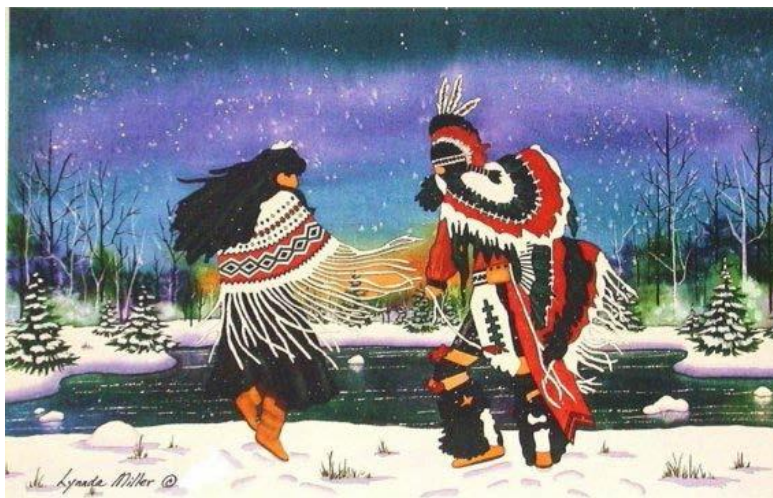
our Winter Potluck - Lunch, Dance Social Gathering

Sat Dec 8<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.*

# Native Recipe

*\*\* I know we used this last year, but it's so good.*

## 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 2, 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:

"If the Indian loves, he speaks the truth; but if he does not, he is silent."

*Tecumseh, Shawnee*

### From 3 Horses:

I know the holidays are beginning; everyone is, or will be busy, but take a moment out of your major chores to think of someone who may be worse off than yourself. Think of their major chores, ones that you might not even wish on your worst enemy, now look at yours. Stop and take time to thank the Creator, God, Wakan Tanka, Great Spirit, Holy Spirit for all that you have. Many times I, myself, forget how well off I am, but, you know what, I never forget to thank Him for taking care of me. Open your hearts during this special season. As the song goes, "open your hearts and let the dear child enter in". Be like children, laugh, love, play, enjoy life, there are no "do-overs" or "take-backs". *Great One Above, Thank You for all You give us. We ask that You watch over those who are not as fortunate as I/us – pour Your blessings on all Your children.*

**To hi ge se s di** - Cherokee for "Peace on Earth"

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

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

*3 Horses & Dreams of Wolves*



1301 North Main Street  
Chamberlain, SD 57325

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

### **Constant Needs:**

- Men's deodorant
- Hair gel
- Little girls full slips 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)

