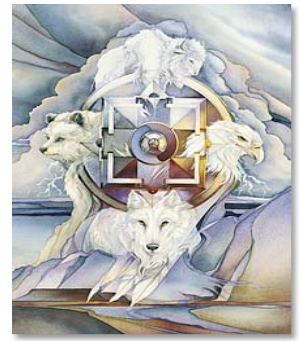


Aquidneck Island Intertribal Indian Council

Newsletter

February 2013



Council News.

To highlight: On Sunday December 30 we held a Naming Ceremony for 4 of our family members. It had snowed Saturday night, so our plans for holding this event at Melville Park were changed. Even though it was held indoors, we still had a great turnout to witness Jared, Leilani, Scott and Wayne receive their names. The Naming ceremony was followed by a Pipe ceremony and drumming. Even though it was inside, there was plenty of room for dancing.

At the Jan meeting, we were pleased to welcome Ann and Kevin as the newest members to our Council family. We welcome them and look forward to a continued friendship that started more than a year ago.

Big news: After much hard work, the Council website has been resurrected. We would like to thank Steve for putting a lot of time & effort into creating this website. For those of you who haven't seen it yet, you can go to: www.aquidneckindiancouncil.org There are lots of photos, Council news, Event news, contacts page and even our drum songs on the Home Page. Let us know what you think.

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

Invitations have been sent out to vendors and artisans who have joined us at past events, but there is always room for new talent. If you know of any artisan/vendor who might be interested, feel free to let them know about our event.

We have been asked to attend and provide song and Native education at the Melville Park Winter Walk on Sat Feb 23rd. See page 3 for info.

We also have been asked to drum at the Pocasset Wampanoag indoor Pow-wow Sun Mar 3rd. See Events calendar for info.

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 Feb 3**

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Page 5; Assorted info. Charity Info. Inspirations.
Message from 3 Horses.

6th Annual Indoor Pow-Wow



Saturday March 23rd

9:00 – 5:00

Knights of Columbus Hall
7 Valley Road, Middletown RI

Grand Entry: noon

Drumming, Dancing, Flute music & more.

Native American (and some not-so-native) items for sale

Drums: The Soaring Eagle Singers,
Turtle Moon & Eagle Sings

Refreshments: Then & Now Native Foods

Open to the public. Free Admission
This is an "Alcohol & Drug Free" event

Proceeds to help support:
St Joseph's Indian School and
The Aquidneck Indian Council's charities

Native entertainers, Artisans & Vendors Welcome.

For directions, information or to show your wares

Contact the Council Secretary
@ 401-683-4589



On the lighter side:

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" I don't understand ' knock-knock ' jokes. "

Spiritually Speaking

Everything on the earth has a purpose, every disease an herb to cure it, and every person a mission. This is the Indian theory of existence.

Mourning Dove, Salish

Often in the stillness of the night when all nature seems asleep about me, there comes a gentle rapping at the door of my heart. I open it and a voice asks, "Pokagon, what of your people? What will their future be?" My answer is: "Mortal man has not the power to draw aside the veil of unborn time to tell the future of his race. That gift belongs to the Creator alone. But it is given to Him to closely judge the future by the present, and the past."

Simon Pokagon, Potawatomi

I hope the Great Heavenly Father, who will look down upon us, will give all the tribes His blessings, that we may go forth in peace and live in peace all our days, and that He will look down upon our children and finally lift us far above this earth; and that our Heavenly Father will look upon our children as His children, that all the tribes may be His children and live in peace.

Red Cloud, Oglala

To "make medicine" is to engage upon a special period of fasting, thanksgiving, prayer and self-denial, even of self-torture. The procedure is entirely a devotional exercise. The purpose is to subdue the passions of the flesh and to improve the spiritual self. The bodily abstinence and the mental concentration upon lofty thoughts, cleanse both the body & the soul and puts them into, or keep's them in health. Then the individual mind gets closer toward conformity with the mind of the Great Medicine above us.

Wooden Leg, Cheyenne

Guard your tongue in youth, and in age you may mature a thought that will be of service to your people.

Wabasha, Sioux

Upcoming Events:

Sun Feb 3rd
Aquidneck Council: Feb meeting
222 Middle Rd Portsmouth RI
1:00 - ?

Sat Feb 23rd
Portsmouth 375th Anniversary Melville Park Winter Walk
Melville Park/Ponds off Bradford St near Melville School,
Portsmouth RI
1:00 – 3:00

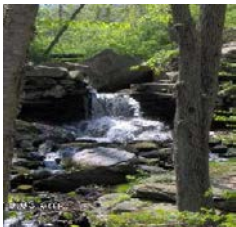
Sun Mar 3rd
Pocasset Wampanoag Indoor PW
Fall River Boys & Girls Club
Bedford St Fall River MA

Sun Mar 23rd
Aquidneck Indian Council's 6th Annual Indoor PW
KofC Hall, 7 Valley Rd, Middletown RI
401-683-4589

Melville Park Winter Walk
Saturday, February 23, 2013, 1 - 3 PM
a Portsmouth 375th Anniversary Event



Join us and get to know this beautiful preserve with its wooded paths, ponds, streams, waterfall & wildlife.
It's All FREE



3.75 km Walk – The first 50 participants to register and successfully complete each stage of 3.75 km walk will receive commemorative medallion with ribbon.

Guided walk – Learn interesting history about the park. (Park has unimproved natural walking paths.)

Free Refreshments - Hot Chocolate, Coffee and Snacks
Native Music: Aquidneck Indian Council's, Soaring Eagle Singers

Location: - Melville Park is just off of West Main Rd. (Rt 114). Take Bradford Ave (at Melville School) to Smith Road, turn right just beyond the Melville Campground

Follow signs to registration, guide and refreshments (same day registration only)

Website for more information: www.melvilleponds.org

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Aquidneck Land Trust

790 Aquidneck Ave. Middletown, RI 02842
401-849-2799 info@ailt.org

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

White Mountain Apache flag



Editorial:

Lessons from the inner voice...

by, *Raven Speak* (Robin Riley)



Many of us seek the answers to life's questions by looking outside of ourselves and trying to find advice from the people around us. But as each of us is unique, with our own personal histories, our own sense of right and wrong, and our own way of experiencing the world that defines our realities, looking to others for our answers is only partially helpful. The answers to our personal questions can be most often found by looking within. When you realize that you always have access to the part of you that always knows what you need, and is meant to act as your inner compass, you can stop searching outside of yourself. If you can learn to hear, trust, and embrace the wisdom that lives within you, you will be able to confidently navigate your life.

Trusting your inner wisdom may be hard at first, particularly if you grew up around people who taught you to look to others for answers or you are just plain lazy to think for yourself.. We each have exclusive access to our inner knowing. All we have to do is remember how to listen. Remember to be patient as you relearn how to hear, receive, and follow your own guidance.

When you second guess yourself and go against what you know to be your truth, you can easily go off course because you are no longer following your inner compass. By looking inside yourself for the answers to your life's questions, you are consulting your best guide. Only you can know the how's and why's of your life. The answers that you seek can be found when you start answering your own questions.

I'm writing this note as a lesson to myself and I hope it will be something that might turn into one for you as the reader as well.. Recently, someone said to me, "Go out and find your voice. Speak it out loud, and others will listen." At the time, I remember wondering where my voice had gone. . I was shocked to discover that my thoughts and ideas might sound generic and clichéd – as though my voice were somehow not my own. If I did have another, truer voice somewhere within, how would I go about finding it? Then one day I didn't listen to myself on a decision, and I fell seeing the weak side of who I really was and knowing that was then, when the answer I discovered, was to trust myself. That day, I realized that, whatever the form of communication is, most people struggle to find and to trust their own voice they only have to listen. My struggle to reconcile that voice was the demands of my daily life. Many of us have forgotten how to trust our inner voice and have learned to trust custom and tradition instead.

So my message to you is: Look at that wall and know you will sooner or later hit it and fall down, but as a wise young lady once said **YOU NEED TO GET UP AND FIGHT..** I've realized we carry that one and only weapon that we need and that's **OUR VOICE.** If we say our words out loud it will go the direction where it will be needed and do what it is meant to do... **HEAL THE WOUNDED, or BREAK THE NEGITIVE...**

Many Blessings...

Next meeting:



Sunday Feb 3, 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:

*"Touch not the poisonous firewater that makes wise men turn into fools and robs the spirit of its vision."
Tecumseh, Shawnee*

From 3 Horses:

Wow Feb already, seems like we were just celebrating Christmas. The months are going by too fast. There are always things to be done. We sometimes look so far ahead, we don't see the now. I will admit that it happens a lot more than we'd like to think. We all look forward to spring, we don't look forward to winter. But, we need winter to perform it's part in the circle of life, the changing of seasons. Things must die, or fade away, to be reborn or rejuvenated in the spring. So, yes it may seem cold and blah, but it is needed.

As we look ahead, do not forget the now, nor the past. We learn from the past. We live in the now. *"Creator, Great One Above; may we all enjoy all the days you lay before us. May we use them and never waste them. Grant us many more days here upon Mother".*

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.