

# Aquidneck Island Intertribal Indian Council

## Newsletter

March, 2012



### Council News.

At the Feb meeting we read an application from Bianca, which will be voted upon at this month's meeting. For those members who couldn't attend last month's meeting, come out and say hi to Bianca.

On Feb 11 we attended & drummed at Dighton Council's dinner/dance social. As always a good time was had by all.

FYI: March will be a very busy month for us. Check the calendar of "Upcoming Events".

### **\*\*Spotlight >>>----->**

Invitations had been sent out to vendors and artisans; all tables have been spoken for since the 2nd week of Feb. As you can see, we have grown from 2 drums to 4. We have 1, possibly 2, flute players and Jay has offered to play guitar. Invite all your family and friends to come and join us at our event.

Future event: Planting of the Corn ceremony. At last month's meeting, we briefly talked about the ceremony and came to a tentative date; Sat April 21 with a rain-date of Sun Apr 22. More info to come after this month's meeting.

### Sick call:

Lori "She Who Walks" has been ill.  
Bob is still healing from shoulder surgery.  
Rick has been under the weather for the last couple weeks.  
Lora "Lone Wolf" is recovering from wrist surgery.  
Lisa had slipped & fell on ice; hit her head & hurt tailbone.  
Also have been told that Blue Eagle has been down & out with back trouble.

*Keep them all in your prayers. Feel free to drop them a note, email, or give a call to send well wishes.*

If you know of any other 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 Mar 4**

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- Page 2; Lighter Side. Spiritually Speaking
- Page 3; Adverts, Events
- Page 4; Assorted info. Charity Info. Inspirations. Message from 3 Horses.

### 5th Annual Indoor Pow-Wow



Saturday March 24<sup>th</sup>

9:00 – 5:00

Knights of Columbus Hall  
7 Valley Road, Middletown RI

Drumming, Dancing, Flute music,  
Storytelling and more.

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

Drums (4): The Soaring Eagle Singers, Little Brother, Eastern Medicine & Turtle Moon  
Flute Player: Scott Shuffitt  
Storyteller: Granite Stone Face

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

Admission: 1 can or box of non-perishable food to help feed the Elders.

Open to the Public. All are Welcome.  
Alcohol & Drug free event.  
For directions or information  
Contact the Council Secretary  
@ 401-683-4589



On the lighter side:



"I suppose we might as well start packing again."

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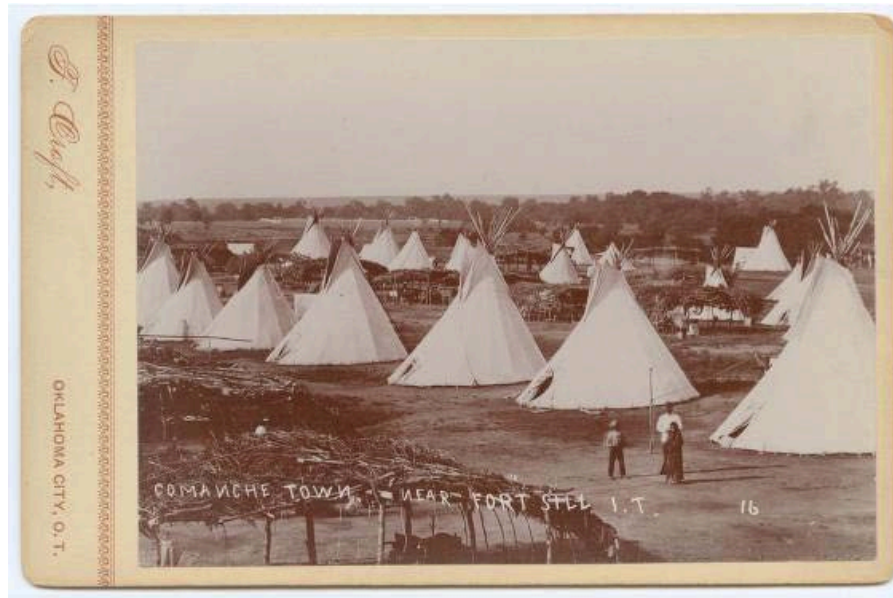
## *Spiritually Speaking*

*"My pottery is the handiwork of God."*

*--Teresita Naranjo, Pueblo*

The Great One has given every human being at least one special talent and one special gift. We need to develop and practice these gifts because they are the handiwork of God. Maybe we are artists - when people look at our work it puts joy in their hearts; maybe we are singers - when people listen to our songs, their hearts are happy; maybe we are writers of song or poetry - when people hear or read our work, it may change their lives. We need to honor ourselves and our gifts. We need to thank the Creator for our talents and our gifts.

My Creator, let me use my gifts to further Your work on the Earth.



{Fort Sill, Oklahoma Circa 1896}

*"The dances are prayers."*

*--Pop Chalee, Pueblo*

When we dance to the drum we pray to the Creator and attract the heartbeat of the earth. We never dance without reason; every dance has a purpose. We dance for rain; we dance for healing; we dance for seasons; we dance for joy; we dance for our children; we dance for the people; we dance for courage. The drum plays to the beat of the heart, to the beat of the Earth. The drum connects us to the Earth while we dance our prayers.

Oh, Great One, let my dance and prayers be heard by You.

Upcoming Events:

Sat March 10<sup>th</sup>

Dighton Council: Social, Pot Luck & Dancing  
Council Oak Hall, 1111 Somerset Ave, Rte 138, Dighton, MA  
5:00 – 9:00  
508-880-6887

Sat March 17<sup>th</sup>

Dighton Council: Snow Crust Moon PW  
Taunton Armory:  
111 Honorable Gordon Owen Blvd, Taunton, MA  
508-880-6887

Sat March 24<sup>th</sup>

Aquidneck Council 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Indoor Pow Wow  
K of C Hall: 7 Valley Rd. Middletown RI  
401-683-4589



Wovoka woke the Native nations when he originated the Ghost Dance Religion in 1889. A prophet and spiritual leader, Wovoka believed there would one day be a time when all Indian people, both living and dead, would be reunited.

In early 1890, the Ghost Dance Religion spread to many Tribes throughout the west. Also in 1890, the Office of Indian Affairs outlawed the religion, arresting those who participated.

After the death of Sitting Bull, (who was arrested for suspicion of being a Ghost Dance leader), Big Foot and his band traveled to Wounded Knee, where he and 300 other men, women and children were killed.

Despite the prohibitory law, practice of the Ghost Dance continued in secret until 1978. After which, the law was abolished.



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(Official photographer of the Aquidneck Indian Council)

Aquidneck  
Land Trust

790 Aquidneck Ave. Middletown, RI 02842

T: 401-849-2799

F: 401-851-8998

E: TClement@ailt.org

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



*This space available*

Chemehuevi Tribe flag



# Next meeting:



Sunday March 4, 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

## St Joseph's Indian School

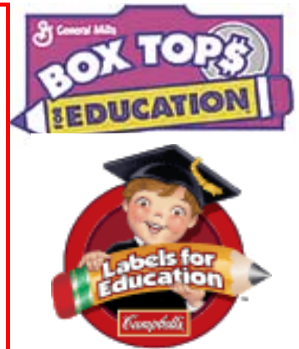
### Constant Needs:

- 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"  
labels UPC codes.

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



### Inspirational:

"The most important thing you can do during the course of the day is to pray."

*--Joe Coyhis, Stockbridge - Munsee*

### From 3 Horses:

We have been very lucky this winter. No big storms. No frozen pipes or other damage that comes with freezing temperatures. We can talk all day about weather, but what we need to direct our attention to, is the overall betterment of our council family. What can we do to peak the interest of everyone? We obviously all like the social aspect of our culture. Some like the education. Some like drumming and singing. Some like the spirituality & healing. Sometimes in our busy life it is hard to make time to get together and really practice/indulge in these various functions.

This month will be another busy month for us. There are many calls for us to come together and drum. In all this, we come together around the drum, but we should not forget the pipe. I have been told that we should let the pipe guide our hearts & minds. Sometimes we forget that she lays sleeping, waiting to be woken and used for prayer. I know we think it is okay to look up and talk with the Great Spirit, but I think the pipe would help us to better connect with the Ancient One Above. As a close circle, let us open our minds and hearts and hear what she has to offer..

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.*