

Aquidneck Island Intertribal Indian Council

(est. Oct. 14, 2007)

Newsletter

March 2015



Council News

On Sat Feb 14th we held our last Winter Social, for this season, at Sandywoods Farm. There weren't as many people, as hoped, but it was a fun time for all. Met a few first timers, to our Social, and saw some extended family members who braved the cold and threat of snow. We thank Eagle Sings for drumming and singing with us. Good food, good fun and "Valentine's Day" themed raffle items. Hope to see all our friends at our next big event.

Also at the Social, Sleeping Turtle was happy with his "surprise birthday" party. Raven Speak picked out a great theme cake, "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles", so Sleeping Turtle had all his little brothers with him to celebrate.



*On Sat March 28th we will be hosting our 8th Annual Indoor Pow-wow and Spring Gathering at Knights of Columbus hall, 7 Valley Rd Middletown.



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 Mar 1**

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8th Annual Indoor Pow-Wow



Saturday March 28th

9:00 – 5:00

{Grand Entry @ noon}

Knights of Columbus Hall
7 Valley Road, Middletown RI

Drumming, Dancing, Flute music,
Storytelling, Raffles and more.

Drums: The Soaring Eagle Singers
& Eagle Sings

Flute Player: Scott Schuffitt

Refreshments available

Free Admission

(**Donations gladly accepted)

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



*** This is a drug free and alcohol free event ***

On the lighter side:



Spiritually Speaking

"In our modern world today, we may seem like drowning men because of the loss of much of our spiritual tradition."

--Thomas Yellowtail, CROW

Our spiritual tradition shows us the way to live in harmony, balance and respect. The tradition taught us how to behave and how to conduct ourselves. The spiritual way taught us to pray and to purify ourselves. Handed down from generation to generation were the teachings about a way of life. Our relationship to Mother Earth and to each other was very clear. The Modern World does not relate to spirituality but to materialism. If we do not allow spirituality to guide our lives, we will be lost, unhappy and without direction. We are spiritual beings trying to be human, not human beings trying to be spiritual. It is said, "Know thyself".

Grandfather, lead me to spirituality.

"The Old Ones have always said that no matter who despises or ignores you, no matter who keeps you from entering their circles, it is right to pray for them because they are like us, too."

--Larry P. Aitken, CHIPPEWA

You don't know how an apple tastes until you taste it. You don't know what a fish tastes like until you eat it. You don't know how it is to be a woman unless you are one. You don't know what it means to have a baby until you have one. So it is with the natural laws. An example: the natural law of forgiveness says, if you hate someone, pray for the person to be blessed with happiness, joy and all the blessings of the Great Spirit. You will not know about this law unless you do it. The natural law says love others as you love yourself. If you hate yourself or feel guilt in some area of yourself, you will tend to judge and condemn your neighbor. You cannot give away what you don't have. You teach your children by your example, not by your words. The natural laws are written in our hearts.

Great Spirit, teach me how to look into my heart.



Upcoming Events:

Sun March 1

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

Sat March 28

8th Annual Indoor Pow-wow & Spring Gathering
K of C Hall, 7 Valley Rd, Middletown RI
401-683-4589 9:00 – 5:00 (GE at noon)

Sat April 4

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

Sat April 11 (rain date Sun 12th)

Aquidneck Indian Council's
Annul "Planting of the Corn Ceremony"
222 Middle Rd, Portsmouth RI
401-683-4589 12:00 - ?

Sat April 18

Metis Clan of SE Mass 2nd Annual Arts & Crafts Fair
Sandywoods Farm
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.

The drum is a heartbeat:

Native dancers move to a drumbeat that, for Indians, symbolizes the human pulse and the fundamental rhythms of all life including Mother Earth. For this reason, performance has always played an important part in Native expression, and both dance and music have undergone an extraordinary renaissance in recent years. Indian creativity has also found outlets in such non-traditional visual forms as the theater and fine art. Indian artistic expression often relates to specific tribal concerns and heritage, but it also touches on pan-Indian themes. Many songs and dances are intertribal, and are formed to please all.



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Capture the Moment Photography

Lora {Lone Wolf} Parker

401-662-0068 terra2570@aol.com

(Official photographer of the Aquidneck Indian Council)

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Natural & Native items & collectables.

the Enchanted Cottage

Fall River MA

508-617-6024 enchanted11@cox.net

**Visit their Website: www.enchantedkottage.com

Acrylic painting – on Canvas, Wood, Stones, etc.

Painting with Inspirations

Robin {Raven Speak} Riley

(Peer-to-peer Recovery Coach Specialist & Reiki Master)

401-741-1527 ronbinriley826@yahoo.com

Handcrafted one of a kind jewelry, dream catchers,
lithographs, Native American men's ribbon shirts,
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Zartiphin's Emporium

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401-824-6758 dragmer@cox.net



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 2015 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

Editorial:

Insecurity

By Robin Raven Speak



I woke up one day and discovered that my friends were not the people I had come to see them as. They were not trying to control me; they were not trying to suck the life out of my passions; they weren't even jealous of the time I liked to invest in those passions. All they wanted was the freedom to enjoy them with me. What I thought I saw in them was actually the residue that the lens of my own fears had left on my perception. Because I had always pushed people away out of fear of compromising my creative time, I assumed that they were hitting me at my weakest spot - but they weren't. They were giving me the freedom to be alone again and again. But because I am human I couldn't see it through my insecurity. They were powerless. What could they do other than let me go, and let me go, and let me go? They couldn't clean my lens for me. Thank goodness.

So I got to thinking recently, back 5 years ago, I was so insecure with who I was in my own skin. I was insecure with the judgment others spoke about me. I was insecure because I had no direction in my life. And most of all I was insecure about my spirituality.

Think about this "INSECURITY" It's a self-controlling vicious cycle of being lost in your head. If my insecurity could cut me off from another human being, then continue on to damage my connection with my spirituality and creator. Then that means it's bad. But thank goodness creator, of course, offers reasoning's to clean our lenses for us at any time. But the fact that He can do it doesn't mean that He always will, or that He'll keep them clean for us. His method is not to control us or protect us from our own disasters, but to let us live life, love, and hate, with occasional moments of revelation when the lenses come clean.

How do I see creator through my own insecurity? Do I cling to the rituals and doctrines of past generations out of fear that creator cannot relate to me if I don't? Do I feel a sense of guilt when I choose to watch Netflix over the chance to meditate and connect with my inner self? Do I check my hair in the mirror before going to a spiritual ceremony even though I don't care about it throughout the week? Do I feel a need to expound X number of core truths about the gospel to some lost soul instead of meeting him wherever he came from and letting creator do the rest?

So my message today is stop sitting there on your butt waiting for someone to fix you. "GET UP" Find the source that is causing how you feel. Creator can break our insecurity, and sometimes He does. If He isn't laughing when it happens, He must be crying. But most of the time He seems to leave us to make the move that only He can give us the strength to make. Sooner or later we need to just do it!!! WHATEVER IT IS!!! I did and I turned out somewhat OK!!!!

Be Blessed



The Stories of our Ancestors

by *Morning Star Karen A. Proulx* (1991)



The stories of our ancestors are carried on the wind; they speak of days so long ago from beginning to the end.

They traveled over mountains high, canoed uncharted seas, track moccasin feet through barren lands, and places covered with trees.

The message that they carried were in languages for all to hear, the time for people to unite would soon be drawing near.

Tear streaked faces, etched in pain, they sat in council, and told their sad sad story, of coming wars, and reservations, and battles fought for glory.

The people will be scattered, separated from one another, not many will be left to whom would call you his brother.

Now the time has come to pass I feel so all alone, bloodlines have become so thin, my spirit cries for a place to call home.

Look all around my people, from all four corners of the earth, see with open hearts, not just with open eyes, hear the words I speak for they are words of truth, not, words of lies.

Have not our people been scattered, and turned from one another? How few of us are left who dare to call us his brother?

My heart lays heavy on the ground for all of you to see, come let us join again as one in peace and harmony.

When all of this is said and done one more journey there will be, for all my brothers to walk hand and hand on the Good Red Road with me.



Aquidneck Indian Council

8th Annual Indoor Pow-Wow



Hosted by:

*The Aquidneck Island
Intertribal Indian Council*



Saturday March 28th
9:00 – 5:00 {Grand Entry @ noon}
Knights of Columbus Hall
7 Valley Road, Middletown RI

{Just off Rte114 West Main Rd & Rte 138 East Main Rd}

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

Drums: The Soaring Eagle Singers & Eagle Sings
and invited drums.

Flute Player: Scott Schuffitt

Drumming, Dancing, Flute music, Storytelling and more.

Free Admission (Donations gladly accepted)**

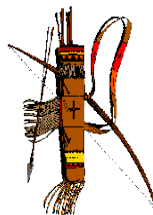
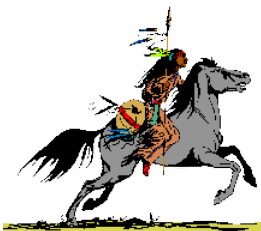
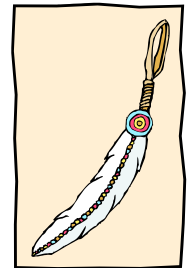
Proceeds to help support St Joseph's Indian School and The Aquidneck Indian Council's charities

**** This is a drug free and alcohol free event ****

For directions or information: Contact the Council Secretary

@ 401-683-4589 or aquidneck_indian@verizon.net

Visit us at: 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

Acorn Squash Baked with Apples



Ingredients:

2 Acorn Squash
3 Apples

½ cup Brown sugar

Instructions:

Split and scoop out the seeds from 2 acorn squash. Par boil for 15 minutes. Place in a buttered baking pan.

Mix ½ cup brown sugar with 3 pared and sliced apples, add a dash of nutmeg and cinnamon.

Fill scooped out cavities of squash with apple mixture, dot with butter.

Bake 40 minutes at 325*

Serves 4

Goes great as a side dish to Pork Roast

Next meeting:



Sunday March 1, 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

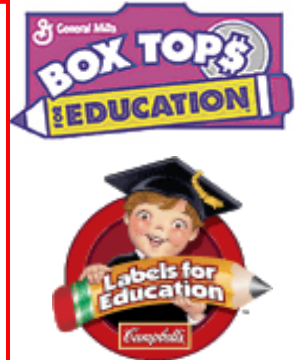
Constant Needs:

- 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:

Never try to mess up someone's life with a lie, when yours can be destroyed with the truth.

Shadow Fox, Elder

From 3 Horses:

No more snow!!! Past winters we were not as active as we have been this year. This is one of the coldest and most snow filled winters in a while. But that doesn't seem to stop us. We have ventured out in the bad weather to drum or do crafts demonstrations or just to gather. Where am I going with this, you ask? I am offering up the fact that we are not "Fair Weather Friends". We are family and we have a need to be together. I know the weather has not been on our side, but that hasn't stopped us.

I enjoy our times together, as do the most of you, or else you wouldn't be here. I just hope that those of you who attend these events or functions are really enjoying them. In the days of old there was/were no TV or computers to keep your attention, it was gathering together and listening to a storyteller or drumming or playing games with others. So what we do, during our time together, is more than the "now", but reaching back to the days of old. So I ask that when we gather, invite the ancestors to join you/us, let them feel needed or wanted. *Creator, let me always be aware of the presence of those around me.*

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

3 Horses & Dreams of Wolves



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