## Aquidneck Island Intertribal Indian Council



# Rewsletter

November 2012



#### Council News.

On Sat Sept 29, we drummed, lectured and brought Native culture to the 4th Annual Heritage Day festival at the Paine House Museum in Coventry. It was good to see Chief 2 Bears and Dove Spirit Dancing again, and to have them join us around the drum. We tried a couple of our newest songs on the people and we taught them to dance. 2 Bears was also there to perform a friendship ceremony at the peace pole in the front of the museum.

November is national Native American Awareness & Heritage Month. We will have many chances, this month, to educate the public on the Native culture, through lectures, historical teachings, dancing & drumming. Most of the events, that we are participating in, are posted on our "Calendar of Events".

Leilani has been working on Council & Soaring Eagle Singers logos which she and Scott will soon be able to put on shirts or hats. They will be offering these to Council members in the near future.

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.

Shadow Fox has gone into the hospital to undergo surgery; <u>keep him in your prayers</u>. We send him our best wishes for a speedy recovery. He will be missed around the drum for the weeks he will be recuperating.

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 Nov 4.

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3 Horses.



#### Kateri (Catherine) Tekakwitha

Informally known as **Lily of the Mohawks** (1656 – April 17, 1680), was an Algonquin-Mohawk Catholic virgin and religious laywoman. Born in present-day New York, she survived smallpox and was orphaned as a child, then baptized as a Roman Catholic and settled for the last years of her life, where she died at the age of 24, at the Jesuit mission village of Kahnawake, south of Montreal.

Various miracles and supernatural events are attributed to her name after her death.

She is the first Native American woman to be venerated in the Roman Catholic Church. She was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1980. On October 21, 2012 Pope Benedict XVI announced that Tekakwitha has been formally canonized.

#### On the lighter side:



"You just show up here illegally and expect us to tell you about corn?"



## Spiritually Speaking

All things in the world are two. In our minds we are two, good & evil. With our eyes we see two things, things that are fair and things that are ugly... We have the right hand that strikes and makes for evil, and we have the left hand, full of kindness, near the heart. One foot may lead us to an evil way, the other may lead us to good. So are all things in two, good & evil.

Letakots-Lesa, Pawnee

Teach your children that the ground beneath their feet is the ashes of our grandfathers and grandmothers. So they will respect the land, tell the children that the earth is rich with the lives of our kindred. Teach your children what we have taught our children – that the earth is our mother. Whatever befalls the earth, befalls the sons & daughters of the earth... This we know: all things are connected like the blood which unites one family.

Chief Seattle, Duwamish-Suquamish

We believed in a power that was higher than all people and all the created world, and we call this power the "Man Above". We believed in some power in the world that governed everything that grew, and we called that power "Mother Earth". We believed in the power of the Morning Star (sun), and of the Night Sun (moon), and the "Four Old Men" who directed the winds, the rains and the seasons and give us the breath of life. We believed that everything created is holy and has some part of the power that is all over.

Carl Sweezy, Arapaho



#### Calendar of events

#### Nov 3 & 4

Trudeau Center PW 3445 Post Road, Warwick RI 401-739-2700 ext 278

**NAAM**: Native American Awareness Month observances (Some presentations may not be accessible. Call first)

#### Nov 13

NAAM Presentation Common Fence Point Community Hall 933 Anthony Rd, Portsmouth RI, 6:00 – 7:30 401-525-0927 or 401-683-4589

#### Nov 15

NAAM Presentation Naval Station Newport RI Bldg 1378chi 10:30 – 11:30 401-841-4814 or 401-683-4589

#### **Nov 19**

NAAM Presentation Shining Star Pre-school Valley Rd, Middletown RI 10:00 – 11:00 401-849-7827 or 401-683-4589

See The Wandering Bull's PW schedule for more events.

#### Did you know?

#### 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 non-Indian themes. Many songs and dances are intertribal, and are formed to please all.



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

#### Seminole Nation of OK Tribal Flag



# Next meeting:



Sunday Nov 4, 1:00 @ 222 Middle Rd Portsmouth

Guests Always Welcome

#### AIIIC 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

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#### **Inspiration**:

The Circle has healing power. In the Circle we are all equal. When in the Circle, no one is in front of you, no one is behind you. No one is above you, no one below you. The Sacred Circle is designed to create unity. The Hoop of Life is also a circle. On this hoop there is a place for every species, every race, every tree and every plant. It is this completeness of Life that must be respected in order to bring about health on this planet. To understand each other, as the ripples when a stone is tossed into the waters, the Circle starts small and grows .... until it fills the whole lake.

#### From 3 Horses:

Isn't it strange that in October there is a holiday for Columbus, and in November there is one celebrating the landing of the puritans in Plymouth? They are both "days off with pay", for most people. November has been declared Native American Awareness Month, by the federal government, but it seems to be in words only. On Veteran's Day, another "day off with pay", there are parades, ceremonies and a lot of political correctness to honor the veterans. Wait; it's Native American Awareness Month, where's the parades for our people, unless you are a Native veteran, which there are many. Where is the "day off with pay" for the Native?

For November, I want people to think back, and up to the present; if it wasn't for the Original People, where would the US really be? So here's your chance, "November – Remember". Remember your ancestry, remember your heritage, remember those who have gone before us. Take the time to educate those that will listen. Be in the public's view; perform ceremonies or other Native events. Let's try to put more *awareness* in Native American Awareness Month.



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.