

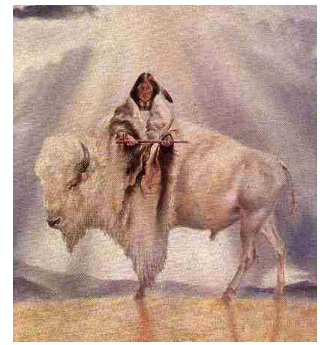
Aquidneck Island Intertribal Indian Council

(est. Oct. 14, 2007)

Newsletter

Sept 2018

We're still here



Council News

Our yearly 4th of July gathering was kind of small this year. Being that the 4th was on a Wednesday, and most of us had to work Thurs & Fri, we really didn't have as big a celebration as we have had in the past. But, we still had a chance to have a cookout and hang out with a fire, and a few camped out.

On Sun Aug 5 we traveled out to Onset to offer our culture and medicine to the members of the Wig Wam Spiritual Retreat. As always there was much fun and friendship. We are always treated well and it gives us a chance to educate the non-native people on "mixed" heritages and culture. Our drum always seems strong and loud there, she speaks good medicine. Thank you to Patti & Bob for the cookout and the chance to educate your people.

At this month's meeting, we will be discussing October's "Healing of the Water" ceremony. Also we will talk about our Fall/Winter dance Socials. The dates have been submitted to and accepted by Sandywoods Center for the Arts – YES we have negotiated with them for our return. Tiverton Rod & Gun was gracious in letting us use their hall for the past 2 years, but I think we all agree, even tho we miss Russ, the former activities director, Sandywoods is a nicer hall and easier to find.

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 Sept 2.

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Walking the Red Road

"This is the hardest time to live, but it is also the greatest honor to be alive now, and to be allowed to see this time.

There is no other time like now.

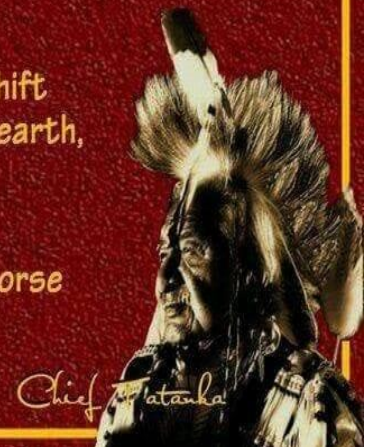
We should be thankful, for creation did not make weak spirits to live during this time.

The old ones say 'this is the time when the strongest spirits will live through and those who are empty shells, those who have lost the connection will not survive.'

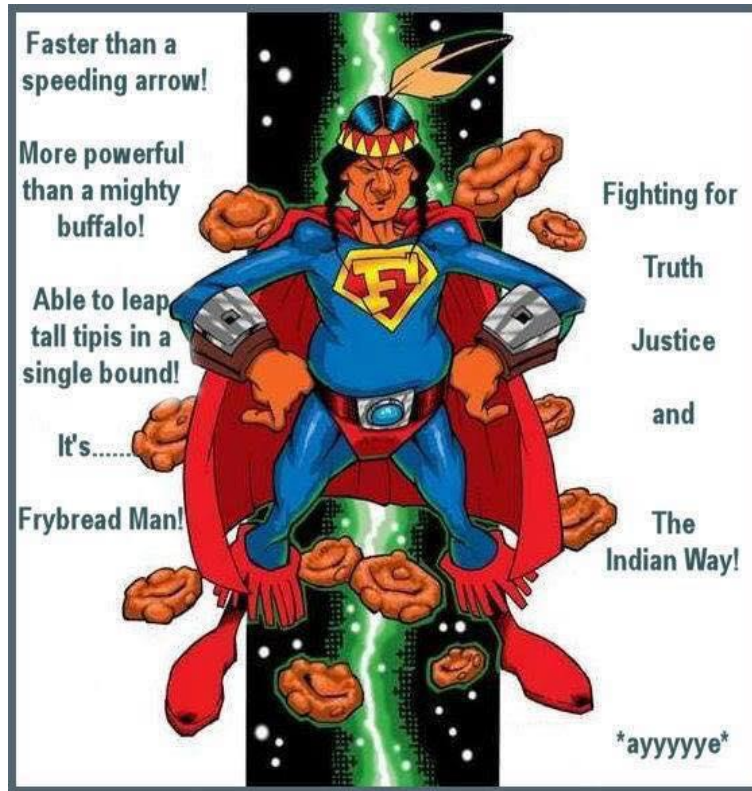
We have become masters of survival - we will survive - it is our prophecy to do so."

"Humanity must shift from living 'on' the earth, to living with her."

~ Tiokasin Ghosthorse



On the lighter side: ☺



Spiritually Speaking

"Our Creator makes available to us all that we need. It is an honor to go out and gather it. We must remember to say 'Thank You.' It is honorable to give away, to show our gratitude... and to let the children see this."

--Barney Bush, Shawnee

So many times we forget to say "Thank You" to the Creator. He made for us an abundant universe. He built the Mother Earth to reproduce plenty of everything. It is an honor to be a part of the Great Spirit's world. The Creator always gives us what we need. When we are given things, we should be willing to share it with others. Whenever we give to others, this makes us feel good inside. The more we give, the better we feel. The better we feel, the more we want to give. We need to teach this to our children. The children learn by our behavior.

My Creator, thank you for today. Thank you for the sun. Thank you for the earth. Thank you for my life. Thank you for everything.

"everything is laid out for you. Your path is straight ahead of you. Sometimes it's invisible but it's there. You may not know where it's going, but still you have to follow that path. It's the path to the Creator. That's the only path there is."

--Leon Shenandoah, Onondaga

Everything on the earth has a purpose and a reason for its existence. Every human being is a warrior and every warrior has a song written in his/her heart and that song must be sung or the soul forever remains restless. This song is always about serving the Great Spirit and helping the people. This song is always sung for the people. Many times I need to learn much about the difficulties of life. I need to know this, so I must experience it. Then I can be of use to the people. Because I am experiencing difficulty does not mean I have left the path or that I have done something wrong. It means I'm doing the will of the Great Spirit during these times of testing. I need to pray constantly to keep a good attitude.

Great Spirit, this I know - You will never leave me, only my doubting makes it seem like You do. This I know - Your love is always dependable, only my doubting makes it seem like You do. Today remove the doubts from my belief system and allow me to stand straight and see You with straight eyes.

Upcoming Events:

Sun Sept 2
Aquidneck Indian Council's Monthly Meeting
222 Middle Rd, Portsmouth RI
401-683-4589 1:00 - ?

Sat Sept 15
A Country Day at Pardon Gray
Main Rd Tiverton RI
Tiverton Land Trust 10:00 – 4:00

Sun Oct 7
Aquidneck Indian Council's Monthly Meeting
222 Middle Rd, Portsmouth RI
401-683-4589 1:00 - ?

** 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.

Did you know?

There are many stereotypes of Native American/American Indians that must be avoided:

- *Indians do not all look alike.
- *Not all Indians know Native history and culture, especially that which is not their own.
- *Indians observe the religion of their choice.
- *Not all Indians are alcoholics.
- *"Indian-ness" is not decided by the percentage of Indian blood in your body.
- *Indians do not always have an Indian name.
- *Indians were not uncivilized before the white man came here.
- *Indians were not conquered.
- *There are many American Indian heroes.



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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

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



Del Rio Apache

Editorial: A New Season

by *Dreams of Wolves*



Well here we are starting up with our meetings once again. Hope everyone has had a great summer.

We have accomplished a few good things this year, hopefully there will be more. Getting a bus for the Council is one of the biggest things we have accomplished, hopefully the next will be to get a hall or meeting place. Miracles do happen and we sure do need some, but we will leave that in Creator's hands.

We are small, but I always said, we are mighty. We have come through some tough times and I'm sure we will be further tested. We, as an extended family, need to stick together, that is the only way we will succeed.

One thing I am grateful for is; all of the ladies have come a long way. We have our time to get together and learn some great songs so that we can show just how much of a family we are and contribute our voices when needed.

It is true; we need more members, but, we have to be careful in who we want to join our family. We have had a lot of people come and go. Some for reasons of their own and others that have been asked to leave. We need quality more than quantity. Those that really want to find something in their life will eventually find us. We need to find people that want to be a part of this Council family, to take part and not to join, just to say you belong. Being in the Council is to get involved and take part in doing things as a group, a family. We have commitments and we should be there to support each other. There are those that are always there, there are some that are there whenever they can be, and we have others that seem to never find time to attend our events/functions.

We need to have people in the Council that can be there and support the goals & functions of our family and its commitments. The certain few are always there and do all the work, while others come & go. This is the reason we need more good people, so that the same ones that are always there don't get burnt out.

Yes, it is hard to get things together, but, that is what it's all about. Right now we have a group of good family members, yes we have to work harder because we are small, but, as a family we will accomplish what needs to be done. We are mighty and we will do what we have to.

If you are a member, let's all get together. It's time to take part, start coming to functions and meetings. Even though it is a separate entity; if you are a member of the "drum", you should show up for practice. There are a few new songs to learn.

It's a new season; let's start off by everyone getting re-involved with the Council. See you at the September meeting.

Family
IS EVERYTHING

Native Teaching:



Spirit of White Buffalo

White buffalo walked from the west, her large eyes watching the grass that covered the endless plains as it waved in the breeze, like strands of golden hair stirring with the gentle touch of unseen hands.

Hooves trod over endless miles, mighty head held aloft as she continued her journey, following the whisperings of the summer breeze that carried the message meant for her ears alone. She would not rest until she had completed her journey.

From over the softly rolling hills, emerged a figure walking upright. She recognized this figure's shape as being that of a two-legged, and she hastened her own approach, recognizing the urgency of the voice that continued its whispering in her ear.

The man looked up toward the distant horizon, having been compelled to journey toward the west where the sun would soon be dipping down, marking the end of the day. His eyes caught the vision of white brilliance that was filling up the plains around him, indeed the very sky, and for a moment his heart leapt in fear, for this was unlike any light he had ever known, dazzling in its intensity and brilliance.

For some reason not completely known, yet thoroughly compelling, like the beat of the drum during the sun dance, the warrior suddenly felt no fear, and walked toward the magnificent creature who now had stopped just a few feet from him.

The beautiful creature's great eyes met his own and the movement of time halted its relentless thrum. Long strands of grass moved in slow motion and he could see tiny particles of pollen dance and glitter in the rays of the sinking sun like tiny crystals cast upon the winds.

Her light enveloped him and he knew no fear, no concern or anxiety, he knew only peace, as though the light were a warm blanket left before a roaring fire before being placed over his form. And in the next moment he was following the white buffalo . . . toward the setting sun.

As they reached the doorway between planes, white buffalo turned to the two-legged and encouraged him forward. He stepped into the brilliance of the light that spilled forth from the great doorway as a warrior among men. Yet he emerged on the other side as a dove.

White buffalo looked toward the farthest reaches of the western gate, the place where the buffalo nation resides. She felt their love for her, and as she cast her eyes to the sky nation, she heard the song the ancestors sang, yet as she watched the fading figure now enveloped in the brilliant light, she knew the reason she had made the journey, and her heart sang a song of resounding joy.

LIGHT BEARER: White Buffalo is the Totem for one who's Life Path is to awaken the Soul of Others. Yet in order that she might fulfill this role, she needs first to find the Light Within herself, to integrate the Mind, Personality, Emotion and Soul.

BUILDER OF THE BRIDGE: When Great Spirit moved Its Creative Force across the expanse of the Earth Mother, a Doorway was left between the Blue Road of Spirit and the Red Road of Physical Life. And yet there remained a chasm between Planes that the two-leggeds found difficult to cross, so Great Spirit called upon White Buffalo that she fashion a Bridge to link the Two Planes together.

TRUTH: It is said that part of the reason White Buffalo is white, is because she cannot speak any untruths, her spirit blessed in the Waters of Truth and Honesty which in turn turns her hide white.

ELDER SPIRIT: White Buffalo is an Elder Spirit amongst the Animal Totems, for she was with Wakan Tanka at the creating of Earth Mother and placed in the West to hold back the tides.

Herein lies the challenge, as the Path for White Buffalo is never smooth, yet riddled with pebbles, boulders and divided at times by raging rivers. Yet through Trust in his Path and Soul's Purpose, Faith in Great Mystery that all will be exactly as it is meant to be, and Love for All, any challenge that presents itself will always be acknowledged, embraced and absorbed, leading him to the Light streaming from the Gateway where he may then lay himself down to fashion the bridge so that others might make the journey across.

The deadly history of this Rhode Island monument is terrifying but true.

Living in one of the original colonies means quite a few things for New Englanders. We can enjoy gorgeous historic sites like old colonial homes, fantastic museums, and so much more. It also means there are plenty of examples of dark histories lingering all over. Many would argue that Rhode Island is even among the most haunted states, if you believe in that sort of thing. Here is one old story that is still chilling to those who visit this place.

The Great Swamp Massacre Monument stands in the middle of a peaceful hiking trail in South Kingstown. The easy going mile hike through the woods almost feels interrupted by this man-made structure that suddenly appears into sight. Anyone who stumbles upon it unknowingly can't help but wonder what it represents.



Unfortunately, the past tragedy it stands to remind us of is not one for the faint of heart. This monument stands at the site of the Great Swamp Massacre, an event that took the lives of what some scholars estimate were in the hundreds.



The massacre occurred during the King Philips war and was waged against the native Narragansett tribe. The attack occurred on December 19th, 1675.

Visiting this site and considering the great battle that occurred here is a powerful, and eerie experience.

Native Recipe

Apples & Bacon



Two foods brought by the colonists during the 17th Century were combined to make a delicious and popular dish for white man and red man alike.

Pigs were introduced to New England in the late 1600's although prior to that time, pork and hams were "imported" from the south, mainly Virginia.

Apple trees came with the first settlers and by the mid-eighteenth Century, apples were growing in every colony.

Ingredients:

1 lb bacon

1 cup brown sugar

4 to 6 lbs apples (mixed varieties)

2 tablespoons cinnamon

Instructions:

Fry 1 pound of bacon - crispy. When done, remove bacon and set aside. Cut apples into bite sized pieces, leaving skins on. Mixed varieties of apples make for a better taste. Saute` apples in the bacon grease until tender.

Sprinkle apples with the brown sugar & cinnamon. Crumble the bacon over the top. Stir well and serve hot.

Serves approx. 6

Next meeting:



**** Sunday Sept 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

Website: www.aquidneckindiancouncil.org

Inspirational:

Our fathers gave us many laws, which they had learned from their fathers. Those laws were good. They told us to treat all men as they treated us, that we should never be the first to break a bargain, that it was a disgrace to tell a lie, that we should only speak the truth..

Chief Joseph, Nez Perce

From 3 Horses:

Summer is almost over. Soon fall will be upon us. I hate to see summer leave, but I will welcome the cooler weather. We cannot stop the changing seasons, we can only adapt to it. We have opened some new doors, we have made some new friends, with that we are growing and changing, just like the seasons. Creator is watching us, from a distance, but is in our midst whenever we call upon Him. Look forward to the new growth, embrace the chance for change, enjoy what He puts before us. Each day is a learning experience, hopefully we will be learning these things together and together we will grow. Open your ears, open your mind, open your heart, and let Him speak to you. Talk with Him as you would anyone else. Listen & look for change. Change is good.

There will be much to discuss at this month's meeting. Please plan to attend. Remember, any/all guests are welcome to attend any of our meetings or events. If you have a friend who you think may enjoy what the Council has to offer, invite them to the meeting. Weather permitting; the meeting will be outside, with a pot-luck to follow. If the weather is bad, we may hold the meeting in the Council tee-pee or in the house.

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.



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&

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

