



AMERICAN INDIAN SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON DC

VOL XLIV ISSUE NO. 1

JANUARY 2010

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Dec 2 – Karen Collins, Manuel/Karen Rodriguez, Eloise Giordano, Verde Halley and Mitchell Bush met for dinner at the Atlantis Restaurant in the Bradlee Shopping Center, Alexandria, before the monthly American Indian Society (AIS) meeting.

Dec 6 – The AIS hosted its annual Christmas Party at the Burgundy Community Center off Telegraph Road in Alexandria. While waiting for folks to arrive, those present busied themselves with a word game. Mary Sunbeam stopped by early to deliver table games. Finally, the food was ready and Pete Neconie gave a prayer. The group dined on fried chicken, meatloaf, tossed salad, fruit, chips & dip, and a variety of soups, chili, wild rice, corn soup, pinto beans with pies for dessert. Then it was time for the gift exchanges. Cathi Hill took charge of the gift exchanges for the children and later for the adults. Those present at the party included Eve Hill, Steve & Nick Hill/Tia Gibbs, Cathi/Phil/Alexis Hill, Manuel/Karen Rodriguez, Karen Collins, Don/Nettie Mallicoat, Sunny/Johnnie Drew, Tim Hill/Tammy Umbel, Josh & Chaske Hill/Katy Issenock, Pete Neconie, Nita One Bear, Mary Milam, Barbara Drifmeyer/Dylan & Tyler Nohilly, Jay Hill, Marietta VanPelt/Cody Adams, Vanessa VanPelt/Amaya/Brooklyn/Michael, Buster & Thomas Mitchell David IV/Jennifer Boydston, Verde Halley and Mitchell Bush. Thanks to Sunny Drew who served as hostess; to Karen Collins, Sunny/Johnnie; Manuel/Karen, Verde and Mitchell who set up the chairs/tables/etc. and to Sunny Drew and the Hill (Kennedy) clan who cleaned the hall up. Merry Christmas to all of you!



Photo by Manuel Rodriguez

Dec 8 – The Mountain Spirit dancers and singers from the White Mountain Apache Tribe in Arizona performed at the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI). Four of the dancers wearing crowns represented the four directions. They were accompanied by a clown dancer who used a bull roarer frequently. The audience was small but enthusiastic. During the grand entry, three ladies dressed in Apache regalia carried the tribal banner. Howard Bass from the NMAI *Photo*

staff introduced the singers and dancers and related they were in DC for the lighting of the Capitol Christmas Tree which came from their territory. Specifically, the Apache were there to bless the tree later that afternoon. Local folks who attended the performance included Justin Giles, Terry Snowball, Susan Ware-Diaz, Jackie Swift, Karen/Manuel Rodriguez and Mitchell Bush. Leon Leuppe videotaped the event. While the Channel 5 FOX News showed the lighting of the tree, nothing was said of the Apache visitors. THE WASHINGTON POST in its 12/9 edition, carried a photo of the tree and the dancers at NMAI. After the Apache's performance, Mitchell delivered the November AIS Newsletter to members/subscribers at the Interior Department.

Dec 10 – A viewing was held at Murphy's Funeral Home in Arlington for the late Robert (Dave) Davis, husband of Barbara, who passed into the Spirit World on December 5. Barbara and Dave's children, Mella Pyle, Martha Eichenbaum and Roberta Smith, and their children and grandchildren were present to greet those who came to pay their respects. Barbara's sister, Thelma Harjo, Jamie Collins and John Davis were also present. Among the local folks present were Pete Homer, Richard/Jonathan Begay, Gloria Mora, Harry Rainbolt, Jr., Evelyn Nicholas, Eve Hill, Steve/Nicklaus Hill, Tia Gibbs, Karen Collins, Mitchell Bush, Manuel/Karen Rodriguez, Mary Sunbeam, Alberta Joseph and David Powell. Roberta reminisced about her father. Steve sang an Indian song and Eve presented Barbara an eagle feather Steve used in his cleansing ceremony. Afterwards, Karen Collins, Manuel/Karen and Mitchell stopped for supper before returning to their respective homes. For those of you who may not know the Davis family, Barbara was the AIS Treasurer for many years and her daughters Mella and Martha were AIS Princesses.

Dec 12 – The AIS hosted its annual Christmas Crafts Bazaar at The Church of St. Clement-Episcopal in Alexandria. Vendors who took part included Sharon Folgar, EJ/Jeff Carter, Gary/Sharon Schoch, Pete Yazzie, Melvin Jones and the AIS booth manned by Karen Collins, Melvin Jones and Mitchell Bush. Nina McFadden sold sandwiches and soft drinks while Eve Hill sent trays of brownies and cupcakes. Bonnie Cote set up a table to demonstrate God's Eye construction. We also had a silent auction table and received bids on the four paintings left over from the Inaugural Ball silent auction. Our thanks to Manuel/Karen Rodriguez who opened and setup the hall and to Pete Yazzie who served as vendor chair and who closed the hall up, putting away tables and chairs we had used. Our thanks also to Tom David who set up signs in front of the church and to Eloise Giordano who arranged for ads in three local papers promoting the bazaar. Thanks also to the Church of St. Clements for use of the hall and for posting our flyer and the church bulletin announcement. In addition to a significant number of non-Indians who turned out, the following local members of the Indian community not already named turned out – Michael Nephew, Crucita Grover, Evelyn Nicholas, Sunny Drew, Steve/Deb Heisel, Tom/Phyllis/Rosanne David, Nedra Darling, Diane Clements, Pat Pearson, Charity/Tristan Umbel, Steve/Laura/Jordan Cloud, Tim Moore, Glen/Myra Dunwoody, Pete Neconie, Shelly Carter/Buster/Sunny/Peaches Elm, Jay/Justine Hill, Earlette Lamont, Jess Eagleman, Cathy Harmon, Nour David, Charles/Alexis Eagletail, Becky Tudisco, Gordon Delorimiere/Cecilia Baca/Zachary Walton, Sally/Theresa White, Clayton/Anna Old Elk, Dora Birdshead and Dana Padgett. Also present was Cleo White, whose husband Dennis was demonstrating finger weaving at NMAI. ... Karen Collins and Karen/Manuel Rodriguez left the craft bazaar early to travel to the Pamunkey Indian Museum for a Round Dance, attended by over 100 people, with over 20 tribes represented. There they enjoyed a delicious feast prepared by several of the ladies of the Intertribal Women's Circle (IWC) - turkey, ham, venison, squash, corn, beans, etc. – and chose from a host of desserts from the dessert contest (won by Mary Hope Billings). The newly restored one room Pamunkey Indian Reservation Schoolhouse was open

and Mildred Moore spoke of her time as a student there. After the feast and clearing of tables, the round dance commenced, with Yough-Ta-Nund singing. Some of the AIS members spotted, not mentioned above, were Debora Moore (President IWC), Sharon Johnson and Mary Lecis. After an amazing evening, Karen/Karen/Manuel headed home through the cornfields spotting numerous deer grazing in the fields and many houses nicely lit for the holidays.

Dec 13 – Melvin Jones, accompanied by Dennis/Cleo White, traveled to Ruther Glen to view Mitchell Bush's Indian art collection at his home and the nearby Buffalo Pines Indian Art Center. From there, the visitors, joined by Mitchell, took a quick tour of Indian Pines, limited by rain. Then the group stopped at the Iron Skillet for coffee and sandwiches before heading back to their respective homes.

Dec 22 – Mitchell Bush traveled to the Stafford Diner to join Karen Collins for breakfast on her birthday. Also present were Judy/Billy Gray, Barbara Berger and Herb Bush. A surprise breakfast planned for December 20 had to be canceled due to the snowstorm which hit December 18-19. Although the Stafford Diner was open on the 20th, the organizers did not want guests to risk driving before the highways were fully cleared. Anyway, Happy Birthday Karen!

Dec 29-30 – Mitchell Bush drove Verde Halley to the Surgery Center of Central Virginia in Fredericksburg where Verde underwent surgery to remove cataracts in his right eye. A further operation was scheduled for a few days later to remove cataracts in Verde's left eye. Verde was released a couple of hours later just as Manuel and Karen Rodriguez were traveling up I95 near Fredericksburg, so they met up with Mitchell and Verde near the Route 17N exit and the group had lunch at the Waffle House before heading to their respective homes. The next day, Verde returned for a checkup and was advised he was recovering well and his vision in his right eye was now 20/25. He remarked he couldn't wait to get the surgery done on his other eye.

WHAT'S NEW

Our thanks for the following donations: John David Powell (\$300 scholarship and property); Larry Hothem (\$300 scholarship); Prissy/David Huguet (\$200/\$50 each to general, scholarship, powwow, building funds); Joan Harrison/Deborah Ward (\$85 general); Loretta Eller (\$50 scholarship); Nedra Darling (\$30 scholarship); Robert French (\$30 scholarship); Ginger/Joseph Delamater (\$30 scholarship); Rose Powhatan/Michael Auld (\$25 scholarship); Naomi Elsworth (\$20 scholarship) and Marion Cooney (\$20 powwow).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AIS Meetings 1st Wed. of every month: (Feb 3/Mar 3/Apr 7/May 5/Jun 2/Jul 7/Aug 4)
The Church of St. Clement Episcopal, 1701 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria, VA
Baltimore American Indian Center Cultural Classes – Tuesdays from 6:00-9:00 pm
Baltimore American Indian Center, 113 South Broadway, Baltimore, MD, www.baic.org
Mar 13, 2010 (10 am-8 pm) - Lawilowan American Indian Festival, (new location) Shippensburg University, Student Recreation Center, 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257. Indoor, traditional powwow. Admission \$5 per person (children under 10/elders 65 & older free). Proceeds donated to American Diabetes Assoc. All vendors/drummers by invitation Only. free parking. Come join us in our celebration! Noni Many Hawks Nickerson, 717-776-1075, ManyHawks@Comcast.net , www.lawilowan.com
Mar 26-28 - Potomac Native American Flute Festival, Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, Route 50 & George Mason Drive, Arlington, VA. Registration/fee schedule/event schedule/Info: http://www.potomacflutefestival.org
May 15-16 – 3 rd Annual Healing Horse Spirit Powwow, Mount Airy Carnival Grounds, 1003 Twin Arch Road, Mount Airy, MD 21771. Special Guest Performance by Ron Warren. All proceeds benefit HorseNet Rescue www.hnhr.org
May 15-16 – Monacan Indian Nation 18 th Annual Powwow, Rt. 30, 6 miles west of Rt. 29, Elon, VA. www.monacannation.com Phone: (434) 946-0389
Jul 17-18 – Baltimore American Indian Center 36 th Annual Powwow, Timonium State Fair Grounds, 2200 York Road, Timonium, MD 21093. Info: 410-675-3535, www.baic.org
Jun 19 – Mattaponi Indian Reservation 14 th Annual Powwow, 1270 Mattaponi Reservation Circle, West Point, VA 23181. Info: 804-769-8783 (Mark Custalow, powwow coordinator), www.virginia.org
Aug 7-8 – 25 th Annual AIITCO Powwow, Calvert County Fairgrounds, 140 Calvert Fair Drive, Prince Frederick, MD 20678. Email: Aiitco@aol.com Website: www.aiitco.com
Sep 25-26 – Chickahominy Pow-Wow/Fall Festival, Chickahominy Tribal Grounds, 8200 Lott Carey Road, Providence Forge, VA 23140. Info: 804-966-2448, www.chickahominytribe.org , www.virginia.org
CHECK the AIS Website at www.aisdc.org for updates on events between newsletters.

American Indian Society of Washington, DC
Minutes – January 6, 2010
St. Clement's Church, Alexandria, VA

President Michael Nephew called the meeting to order at 8:16 pm with the following members present: Mitchell Bush, Karen Collins, Mary Sunbeam, Pete Homer, Joyce Wakefield, Sam Wakefield, Eloise Giordano, Verde Halley, Cathi Hill, Eve Hill, Steve Hill, Ricaree Vaughan, Steve Heisel and Michael Auld. Guests present Patricia Mills, Mary Castle and Keith Wainwright. Michael Nephew offered the opening prayer

The minutes of the November 4, 2009 meeting were read by Cathi Hill and approved as read. The treasurers report was given by Mary Sunbeam. Mary reported that she was working on a form for all advances and reminded members that accounting of advances needed to be done within 30 days. Mary also suggested that we look at cost saving option for the newsletter. Mary also suggested that the by-laws be updated to add an Assistant Treasurer position. The by-laws committee would meet to work on that addition. Mary has requested a detailed bill from the CPA. Due to accounting the CPA is asking for the Social Security Numbers for scholarship. Mary would check with the CPA to see if providing the last for would be sufficient. It was reported that we have been reinstated with Dunn & Bradstreet. They requested our financials, more information is need to find out why Dunn & Bradstreet needs them. Mary has requested a breakdown of the electric bill at the Pines. It was determined that the bill is going to fluctuate depending on time of year and work being at the Pines. Mary reported that we are losing \$30 a month on the Paypal account. It was suggested that we close the account and reinstate it when it is again needed. Mary reported that the American Express account had been closed. Mary mentioned that she had been called by members needing assistance. The Executive Board would look in a resolution passed many years ago regarding an emergency fund. It was also suggested that we look for a coordinator to

pass along social information to Indians in need. Sam, Ricaree and Steve would check with the Embassy of Nations to see if they can provide any assistance.

Old Business: It was reported that the Christmas Party was well attended. About 50 people attended. The Christmas Bazaar had a good crowd. The silent auction went well and all the items were sold. AIS 1 and AIS 2 played in basketball tournament. AIS 1 finished 2nd and AIS 2 finished 4th. It was reported that Alexis Hill placed 2nd out of 42 girls at her gymnastics competition. It was also reported that Ciera Hill pinned 2 boys in her weight class at her wrestling match. Nicky Gibbs-Hill finished 10th out of 63 at districts in the 1 mile.

New Business: There will be a Basketball Tournament at Lincoln Community Center in Rockville on Saturday February 27 from 1-7 pm. Steve Hill requested \$50 for a deposit to hold the date. The center rental is \$45 per hour. Steve asked Sam and Pete for their assistance and he would really like to involve the kids. Steve is also looking into running a Mother's Day Golf Tournament. It was suggested he speak with Frank Adams. Steve will also work with AP and Jay Hill on co-chairing the Mother's Day Powwow. The new arena would be dedicated the same weekend. Sam Wakefield made a motion to give Steve Hill \$245 to pay for the Lincoln Community Center, seconded by Mitchell Bush and carried unanimously. Steve also said he had made contact with a drum maker and would look in to the cost of a drum for the Society. The Awards committee had meet and come up with a list of awards to be given. The list includes awards for High School and College Athletics (Team), Athletic Accomplishments (Individual) High School and College Scholastics, Community Service/Volunteers and Powwow Events. Nominations would need to be made at the July meeting with a newsletter announcement. Ricaree asked that everyone keep track of individuals so that awards can be given. The Scholarship committee is scheduling a meeting to work on revamping the scholarship process. Eve Hill stated she would like to do a raffle on Mother's Day and is looking for items to be donated. Steve Hill introduced Keith Wainwright. Keith is looking for guidance and assistance in his conflict with the US Air Force and their regulation that requires him to cut his hair. He was given the names of people and organizations that may be able to assist him.

Announcements: We are saddened to announce the passing of Shawn Washington, brother to Angel Washington. Donations can be made to the Shawn Washington Memorial Fund through any Wachovia/Wells Fargo Bank or through paypal at ShawnWashingtonMemorialFund@gmail.com. It was announced that a permanent Native American exhibition will be opening on January 23 at 12:00 at the River Bend Park's Visitor Center in Great Falls, VA. Rose Powhatan was instrumental in the development of this exhibition. There will be an Archery Competition at the Mother's Day Powwow. Keith Wainwright adopted 3 horses and has information for others interested in adopting horses. Morning Star Celebration will be held on January 9, 2010 in Bel Air, MD. Cathi announced that Alexis has another gymnastic meet on Sunday January 17, 2010 at 8:30 am in Arlington. Also, Alexis has Girl Scout Cookies for sale.

Having no further business a motion was made by Sam Wakefield, seconded by Joyce Wakefield and carried unanimously to adjourn at 10:24 p.m. The next meeting will be February 3, 2010, at St. Clement's Church, 1701 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria, VA, at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cathi Hill – Secretary

Lawilowan American Indian Festival

(Walking the Red Creek Path)

Saturday, March 13, 2010

***Shippensburg University
Student Recreation Center
Shippensburg, Pennsylvania 17257***

All proceeds benefit American Diabetes Association



Drums and Vendors by Invitation Only

Host Drum: White Buffalo

Guest Drums: Southern Heart, Turtle Creek Singers

Head Lady Dancer: TBA

Head Man Dancer: Bart Cartwright

Emcee and Sound: David White Buffalo

American Indian Drumming, Dancing, Arts & Crafts

Public Admission: \$5.00

**** Dancers with regalia, children 7 and under, and elders 65 & over, free ****

Open to the public 10:00 a.m to 8:00 p.m. – Free parking

Grand Entry - Noon

For further info, contact Arvil Meisenhelter at walksas1one@yahoo.com, 717-817-6421

Or Noni Nickerson at ManyHawks@Comcast.net, 717-776-1075



This project is supported by the Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts (PPA), the regional arts funding partnership of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency. State government funding comes through an annual appropriation by Pennsylvania's General Assembly and from the National Endowment for the Arts, a Federal agency. PPA is administered in this region by Jump Street, Harrisburg, PA

 <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>AMERICAN INDIAN SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON DC P.O. Box 6431 Falls Church, VA 22040-6431 Website: http://www.aisdc.org</p> </div> 
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MEMBERSHIP DUES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

(please "X" one block each column when submitting form):

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership (includes 1 newsletter) - \$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership (includes 1 newsletter) - \$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Subscriptions - \$17.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> NEW
<input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL (due January 1 each year)
<input type="checkbox"/> CHANGE OF ADDRESS/UPDATE INFO. |
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SELECT ONE OPTION BELOW:					
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(Note: Mail this form & payment to the above address or hand carry to AIS Booth or Officer)



American Indian Society of Washington DC

The American Indian Society newsletter is the official publication of the American Indian Society (AIS). Its sole purpose is to meet any possible need of its community and members through communication and dissemination of information. All editorials, letters and any other communication received by the AIS must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication or discussion. The AIS is a non-profit, tax exempt organization under IRS Code 501(c) (4). Membership in AIS is not limited to American Indians. The AIS Newsletter is published and mailed monthly to its members/subscribers. Annual subscription is \$17.00 per year. Mail material to the editorial office by the deadline (1st of each month). Editorial and circulation offices are at 22230 Cool Water Drive, Ruther Glen, VA 22546 (804-241-5462).



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