



# AMERICAN INDIAN SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON DC

**VOL XLIV ISSUE NO. 2/3**

**FEBRUARY-MARCH 2010**

Jan 1 – An Onondaga “Noo Yay” day celebration hosted by Mitchell Bush was held at his home in Ruther Glen, VA. As guests arrived at the door, they called out “Noo Yay” and Mitchell greeted them with a tray of fruit and donuts. After choosing their preference, the guests entered and waited until most of the other guests arrived when Verde Halley served a bountiful meal. The house was still decorated for Christmas. After dinner, Verde presented gifts to all present which included Manuel/Karen Rodriguez, Karen Collins, Chuck/Judy/Billy Gray, Herb Bush/Brandy Berger/Tori Cheeseman, Glen/Myra Dunwoody, Kathleen Dorn, Steve/Rie Miller, Tim Moore, Ray/Angel Couch, and Rob Brown/Robbie Ibay. Verde’s dogs Mogli and Latika (Mouse’s granddaughter) were also present and enjoyed the attention and tidbits. The “Noo Yay” celebration happens every New Year’s day on the Onondaga Territory and is an ancient event.

Jan 6 – Karen Collins, Karen/Manuel Rodriguez, Verde Halley and Mitchell Bush met for dinner at the Atlantis Restaurant in the Bradlee Shopping Center near the Church of St. Clement where the monthly AIS meeting is held. Eloise Giordano arrived after Karen Collins, Verde and Mitchell left for the meeting but joined Karen and Manuel who were not going to the meeting.

Jan 9 – The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Morning Star Celebration, a benefit powwow for St. Labre Indian School, was held at John Carroll School in Bel Air, MD. Head staff consisted of Clayton Old Elk (emcee), Ted Severe (arena director), Emil Her Many Horses/Mary Ann Robins (head man/lady dancers), Black Bear (host drum), and Black Horse Butte/White Buffalo Singers (invited drums). AIS members/friends who served as vendors included Pete Yazzie, Linda Steele, Diane Hutchens, Ella/Paul Halcheck, Gary/Sharon Schoch, Cherie/Jan Germer, and the AIS booth manned by Mitchell Bush. Thanks to Cherie/Ella who watched the AIS booth so Mitchell could take breaks. The celebration began with a Cheyenne moccasin seminar followed by a flute presentation by Lou Levin, gourd dancing, grand entry, dinner break with folk music, and the evening dance session. The evening session began with the retirement of the colors and the head man/lady honor dance and giveaway and social dancing. Singing with Black Bear were Pete Neconie, Jay Hill, Josh Hill, Greg Sharpe, Page Burgess, John Smith, Jon Orens and Jim Etchison. AIS members Derek Robins/Andy Grunion sang with Black Horse Butte and former AIS member Dave White Buffalo sang with the White Buffalo Singers. Among the large turnout were AIS members/community members (many of whom danced) Georgianna Old Elk, Boe Harris, Vivian Dawson, Shawndae/Osatake Sharpe, Earlette Lamont/Justine Hill, Katy Issenock/Chaske Hill, Eve Hill, Phil/Cathi/Alexis Hill, Mike White Eagle, Tim Moore, Dave Holland/Mary Hope Billings, Diane/Michelle Bynum, Rosie Mills, Bobby Van Pelt, Jr., Marcos/Dorothy Almanza, MJ/Katie Madwolf, Mary Lecis, Terry Snowball/Machel Monenerkit, Dennis/Jennifer/London/Lexi Zotigh, Dennis’s mother Maxine, Joe Whatmough, Pete/Missy/Tyler/Breeanna Vargas, Pam/Phil Page, Keith Hunsucker, Becky Tudisco, Wayne Howard, Frederika/Charles Joseph, Hannah Jacobs, Steve/Deb Heisel, Theresa/Sky/Summer Yazzie, Apesanahkwat/Christine and Go Go Poafpybitty, Nita One Bear, Wanda Lee, and Balerma Burgess. AIS members Gary Scholl and Linda Coates were coordinators of the event.

Jan 5 – Robert (Dave) Davis, late husband of Barbara Davis, was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery (ANC). Mourners other than the immediate family who arrived at the ANC Administration Building before traveling to the burial site included Michael Nephew, Naomi/Dani Little, Dafnee Berwald, Pete Neconie and Carol Leader Charge. Pete sang an honor song at the gravesite.

Jan 14 – The AIS Executive Board (AISEB) and Elders Council met at the Starbucks in Tysons Corner, VA. AISEB members present were Ricaree Vaughan, Mary Sunbeam and Cathi Hill. Elders present were Karen Collins, Verde Halley and Mitchell Bush. Phil Hill was along for moral support. The AISEB discussed several issues relating to the bylaws or constitution. The First Vice President will pursue the matter. The Treasurer brought up two issues concerning paperwork. The Treasurer stated that the bylaws require receipts to be submitted within 30 days. She will continue in her efforts to resolve these two issues. The Secretary and former Secretary have worked out the problem of membership. The problem was that the Newsletter Committee needs updated membership listings once a month for mailing of newsletters. The First Vice President feels a membership committee chairperson may be needed.

Jan 17 – The AIS Junior Princess, Alexis Hill, competed in a gymnastics competition at the Barcroft Sports & Fitness Center in Arlington, VA. She came in first out of twelve young ladies. Those who turned out for moral support included Phil/Cathi Hill, Eve Hill, Marietta Van Pelt/Cody Adams, Josh/Chaske Hill, Katy Issenock, Pete Neconie, Nita One Bear, and Mary Sunbeam... Meanwhile, Lea Hill’s team came in first in cheerleading competition and Ciera Hill placed fifth in wrestling.

Jan 17 – AIS members Glen/Myra Dunwoody took a drive on a drizzly Sunday from their home in Ladysmith to Gloria’s Café in Dawn for lunch. Meanwhile, Judy Gray and Karen Collins went to visit Chuck Gray in Fredericksburg and then headed south to Dawn arriving before the Dunwoodys left. And then, Mitchell Bush and Verde Halley traveled over to Dawn for a bologna burger arriving before Judy and Karen finished. After, Judy, Karen, Verde and Mitchell stopped by Indian Pines on their way to their respective homes.

Jan 18 – Verde Halley hosted a birthday luncheon at the Stafford Diner for Julio Lopez. After lunch, “Happy Birthday” was sung, birthday cake/ice cream was served, and gifts/cards presented to Julio. Among the guests were Manuel/Karen Rodriguez, Karen Collins, Herb Bush/Brandy Berger/Tori Cheeseman, Martina Vobornik, Mitchell Bush and Manny Martinez. Karen took pieces of birthday cake to Judy/Billy Gray who couldn’t make the luncheon due to a prior commitment.

Jan 19 – The Virginia Council on Indians (VCI) met at the General Assembly Building (GAB) in Richmond. VCI members present included Frank Adams, Chief Anne Richardson, Sherry Munford, Jerry Stewart, Mitchell Bush, Deanna Beacham (VCI staff) and Eric Gregory (AG staff). Guests included Chief Ken Adams (Upper Mattaponi), Chief Stephen Adkins (Chickahominy), Allard/Lynette Allston, Sydney Turner, Beth Roach, William Wright, Archie Elliott, Kenneth Munford, Paige Archer, Carolyn/Crystal Joyner, Leroy Hardy, Ethel Johnson, Gloria Hawkins, William Lamb Howell, James Williams, Ethel Johnson, Edward Bundy, Walter Brown, Cynthia Brown, Beverly/Gloria El, Deborah Motagari, Teresa Preston, Inez Burton, Darryl Burton, Gerald Epps and Nathaniel Elliott... The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. and Chief Adams gave the invocation. VCI members and guests introduced themselves. The resignation of Earl Bass as Chairman and Nansemond Delegate was read. Inasmuch as a quorum was not present, no business requiring a vote could be taken. The approval of the November 17, 2009 minutes must wait for a quorum. Deanna discussed the VCI budget... Under Public Comment, Walter Brown spoke about the Chereonhoka Nottoway’s efforts to be state-recognized. He was followed by Archie Elliott who spoke on behalf of the Nottoway Tribe of Virginia.... Under New Business, Delegate Chris Peace was not present to present the establishment of the Virginia Indian Commemorative Commission. Frank Adams read the presentation... Under Old Business, Sydney Turner discussed the VCI conference. Since we do not have information on pending budget cuts, the planning was tabled. About the honoring of Chief Bill Miles, Chief Richardson feels we should look for an alternative event to honor him... Under Announcements, the next VCI meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2010. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.



Jan 23 – The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County Park Authority Board hosted the opening of Riverbend Park’s new exhibit “A Rare and Rugged Refuge.” The exhibit explores the unique natural resources as well as the cultural richness found in relics from Native peoples stretching back 13,000 years. Before the ribbon cutting ceremony, the Dranesville representative on the Fairfax County Park Authority

Board spoke, as did the Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the Dranesville Supervisor on the Board

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of Supervisors, the Treasurer of Friends of Riverbend, and our own Rose Powhatan, described as a contributing artist. Along with Rose were her husband, Michael Auld, her son Kiros and his friend Annie Begay (Navajo from New York City). Rose acknowledged the AIS members, IWC Elders, and the matriarch of the Hill family who were present – Eve Hill, Karen Collins, Mitchell Bush, Manuel/Karen Rodriguez, Marietta Van Pelt/Cody Adams and Brooklyn/Amaya Winfield. The exhibit included a period Native mannequin appropriately attired and carrying a bow in one hand and an arrow in the other. Mitchell was spotted stroking the jaw of a rather large black rat snake (it was of course, safely behind Plexiglas). The snake seemed to enjoy the attention. Before they returned to their respective homes, our members enjoyed a visit on the sun drenched deck eating sandwiches and posing for pictures.

Feb 2 – Brandy Berger drove Mitchell Bush to the Surgery Center of Central Virginia in Fredericksburg where Mitchell underwent cataract surgery on his left eye. Afterwards, Verde Halley joined them and the three traveled to the Stafford Diner for a late breakfast. Karen Collins and Judy/Billy Gray were already at the diner, and Herb Bush and Manny Martinez arrived just after the others left the diner... In the meantime, Las Vegas entertainer, Wayne Newton, traveled to the State Capitol in Richmond to speak on behalf of the Patowomeck Tribe. Mr. Newton is a member of that tribe. Bob Green, Chief of the Patowomecks, was also at the hearing held by the House Rules Committee. At the hearing, Deanna Beacham (Virginia Council on Indians staff) briefed the new Governor on the recognition process. The bill which seeks to recognize the Patowomecks passed, but at least one tribal leader from a group already recognized expressed his view that the Patowomecks should go through the recognition process rather than side stepping that process. THE WASHINGTON POST, FREELANCE STAR and RICHMOND TIMES DISPATCH all carried articles on Wayne Newton's visit in their February 3 editions.

Feb 8 – Verde Halley and Herb Bush hosted a birthday luncheon at the Stafford Diner honoring our "Birthday Boys" (Steve Gambaro / Chuck Gray / Mitchell Bush). Although the Winter Blast affected turnout, guests included Karen Collins, Judy/Billy Gray, Brandy Berger, Tori Cheeseman, Manny Martinez, Julio Lopez and Tom/Gina Vobornik. Marie Taylor, widow of Cyril, one of the "Birthday Boys" until he passed last year, had planned to attend but was most likely snowed in. Judy/Karen took a piece of birthday cake to Chuck to sample. Chuck is a patient in a residential care facility. After their meal, the honorees with help blew out the candles on their cake. "Happy Birthday" was sung and cards/gifts distributed.

Feb 12-13 – Karen Collins, Verde Halley and Mitchell Bush traveled from Ruther Glen to Richmond to attend funeral services for and burial of our old friend Juanita (Nita) Smith, a member of the Nansemond Tribal Association. In addition to Nita's family members (Pinky, Keith, Phyllis DeLong, Susan and a couple of grandchildren) and Nansemond members, many people from the powwow circle came to show their respects. Nita had asked the Four Rivers Drum to sing at her funeral and they were in attendance (Bob Jondreau/Robert Narcomey and two others), as were a couple of Indian flutists. Michael Butler usually sings with the group but could not get off from work for the funeral. The weather in the Richmond area was not as severe as that in Northern Virginia and the road to the cemetery was clear. Nita was laid to rest on a sunny but cool winter day. Old friends and associates from the Virginia Council on Indians (VCI) included Nokie Lemons, Wayne Adkins, Mark Custalow, Mitchell Bush, Earl Bass, Helen Rountree and Gene Adkins. Others included Beverly Yazzie, Keith Anderson, and David/Prissy Huguet. Joanne Curnutt visited the family at home earlier... Afterwards, Karen/Verde/Mitchell headed back to the China Inn (where Julio Lopez works) for lunch... Later, at Mitchell's home, the three watched the 21<sup>st</sup> Olympic Winter Games from Vancouver, British Columbia. The First Nations of Canada were featured as hosts. Four main groups representing the First Nations of the Northwest (Inuit), Metis, Prairie, and First Nations of the East danced for hours during the opening ceremonies. The Canadian flag bearer wore a special hat presented by the First Nations of Canada... On Saturday morning, Karen, Verde and Mitchell traveled to the Flying J for breakfast. They were joined by Manuel/Karen (K.Rod) Rodriguez. Karen and K.Rod were on their way to a meeting of the Intertribal Women's Circle (IWC) at Joanne/Bill Curnutt's home near Mechanicsville. During their meal, our group spotted Glen/Myra Dunwoody at the restaurant with some friends. Our group dispersed, but Karen/K.Rod found out when they arrived at Joanne's that the meeting was cancelled. Beverly Yazzie also turned out for the IWC event. The ladies had a nice chat with Ted Wood who now lives in Tobyhanna, PA. He is doing fine and sends his regards. Karen and K.Rod returned to Ruther Glen where they were joined for dinner at the Iron Skillet by Manuel/Verde/Mitchell before dispersing to their respective homes.

Feb 15 – AIS members Verde Halley and Mitchell Bush were invited guests at a Chinese New Year's celebration hosted by the China Inn in Bowling Green. Delicacies served, with the exception of the dumplings, were foods not carried on their restaurant menu. AIS member Julio Lopez, who works at the China Inn, was also present. Guests included many regular patrons from the Bowling Green vicinity.

Feb 16 & Feb 26 – The Virginia General Assembly passed legislation recognizing three new Virginia tribes – The Patowomeck Tribe, Nottoway Tribe of Virginia, and the Cheroenhoka Nottoway Tribe. The Nottoway Tribe had petitioned for recognition through the recognition process adopted by the Virginia Council on Indians (VCI) but their



petition was denied by the VCI after over a year's review by the VCI Recognition Committee. The Chereonhoka Nottoway had not filed a petition, but rather maintained they had a continuing relationship with the Commonwealth dating back to Colonial days. The Patawomeck Tribe had been discouraged from filing for recognition, but was advised to gather additional documentation. The efforts simmered until the hearings held in early February. The Patawomecks were recognized on February 16 and the two Nottoway tribes on February 26.

Feb 28 – The AIS hosted a 3 Point Basketball Shooting Competition in conjunction with a community potluck social at the Lincoln Park Community Center in Rockville, MD. Overall winner of the competition was Steve Hill. Alana Fields and Paige Burgess came in second, representing women/men in the competition. The potluck was a huge success with trays of homemade foods including Plains corn soup and deer meat. Thanks to everyone who brought food. AIS provided the plates, utensils and cups. Pete Neconie gave the blessing before the food was served and Steve Hill prepared a spirit plate for Wayne Howard who passed away in mid-February. Clayton Old Elk was asked to speak about Wayne and the Blackbear Singers (Pete Neconie/Jay Hill/Josh Hill/Dennis Zotigh/Paige Burgess/Sonny Fields IV/Greg Sharpe/Phil Hill/Steve Hill/Ben Norman) sang an honor song for Wayne. After, an honor song/dance for Eve Hill, Chaske Hill and Roland Fields to celebrate their birthdays was followed by social dancing and a rigorous piñata game for the kids. Jay Hill served as the emcee and Fred Miller as the soundman. Among the many community members (not already mentioned) who attended were Mary Sunbeam, Cathi/Alexis Hill, Karen Collins, Earlette Lamont, Justine Hill, Katy Issenock, Tia Gibbs/Nick Hill, Marietta Van Pelt/Cody Adams, Sonny Fields III, Diana/Avery Fields, Fred/Brenda/Jennifer/Christopher Miller, GW/Charity/Tristan Umbel, Tim Hill/Tammy Umbel, Tara/Cayden/Sadie King, Jennifer/Alexis/London Zotigh, Vanessa/Calvin Van Pelt and Amaya/Brooklyn/Michael Winfield, Hershel/Diesen Gorham, Anna Bennett/Tonnie Francisco, Donita Neconie/Kayla Schiffano, Vivian Dawson, Shawndae/Osatake Sharpe, Cheyenne/Wendy Woodbury and Noah River, Tim Brown, Kevin Swope, Wes Wentz, Nita One Bear, Georgianna/Dora Old Elk, Anna Birdshead, Manuel Johnson, Jawzien Booth, Mike Beatty, Theresa/Raven/Leah/Petey Hill, Paul Tsose, Mary Milam, Megan Carter, Patrick Carter, Kenia and Carolina Santos, Mardella Spotted Elk, Michelle Kline, Erica/Jaide Velle Issenock, Balerma Burgess and Mitchell Bush.

## WHAT'S NEW

Our thanks to Marie Taylor for her \$50 scholarship donation and to new member Susan Jewell for her \$35 general fund donation.

Congratulations to Alexandra (Alex) Sabha, daughter of Angie and Ed Collins, who graduated from Tulane University in December 09. She received a Bachelor of Science in Evolutionary Biology. She is now working on a Master's degree.

Congratulations to Marietta Van Pelt on her new grandson! Marietta's son Robert and Leiha had a baby boy, Quinten Jaquin, on February 8. Quinten weighed in at **10 lbs.** and 21 inches long. Quinten is Marietta's ninth grandchild (5 granddaughters and 4 grandsons).

Need Avon Products? Contact Marietta Van-pelt, 703-573-3914, email: [mavanpelt@hotmail.com](mailto:mavanpelt@hotmail.com).

If your preference is Mary Kay, contact Bernadette Henman to place orders (shipping is free) or set up a skin care class: Phone: 240-291-2988; E-mail: [BHenman@marykay.com](mailto:BHenman@marykay.com); Online: <http://www.marykay.com/bhenman>

**Fridays from 7-8 pm** - "The American Indian's Truths – **Nightwolf** - The Most Enlightening Show on Radio", **WPFW** – **89.3 FM** – Pacifica Radio, online at [www.WPFW.org](http://www.WPFW.org). With Originator and Host: Jay Winter Nightwolf (Cherokee/Shoshone/Taino)

### **The Nightwolf South Dakota, North Dakota, Oklahoma and Arizona Indian Reservation Winter Relief Program**

For information about the Relief Program please call: 301-471-1934

Website: <http://home.comcast.net/~earthspeak/site/>

**Fridays from 7-8 pm** – **Native Trailblazers Radio Show** with **Vincent Schilling** – St.Regis Mohawk - Freelance Writer / Photojournalist / Award-Winning Book Author **HOW TO LISTEN TO THE SHOW:** GO TO [www.blogtalkradio.com/nativetrailblazers](http://www.blogtalkradio.com/nativetrailblazers), Click on the **BLUE TITLE** of the show you'd like to listen to. Email – [NativeTrailblazers@gmail.com](mailto:NativeTrailblazers@gmail.com), Join the **Native Trailblazers Radio Show Group** on Facebook – <http://www.facebook.com/groups.php?ref=sb#/group.php?gid=250843468045>

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

<b>AIS Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Wed. of every month: (Feb 3/Mar 3/Apr 7/May 5/June 2/Jul 7/Aug 4)</b>
The Church of St. Clement Episcopal, 1701 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria, VA
<b>Baltimore American Indian Center Cultural Classes – Tuesdays from 6:00-9:00 pm</b>
Baltimore American Indian Center, 113 South Broadway, Baltimore, MD, <a href="http://www.baic.org">www.baic.org</a>
Mar 27-28 - Indian Pines Cleanup
Sunday, April 4 – Easter Egg Hunt and Potluck, Indian Pines, Ruther Glen, VA Please bring a pot luck dish and a dozen colored eggs for the hunt.
May 8-9 – Mother’s Day Pow Wow and dedication of the dance arena created by Jay Hill, Indian Pines, Ruther Glen, VA
May 15-16 – 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 <a href="http://www.hnhr.org">www.hnhr.org</a>
May 15-16 – Monacan Indian Nation 18 <sup>th</sup> Annual Powwow, Rt. 30, 6 miles west of Rt. 29, Elon, VA. <a href="http://www.monacannation.com">www.monacannation.com</a> Phone: (434) 946-0389
Jul 17-18 – Baltimore American Indian Center 36 <sup>th</sup> Annual Powwow, Timonium State Fair Grounds, 2200 York Road, Timonium, MD 21093. Info: 410-675-3535, <a href="http://www.baic.org">www.baic.org</a>
Jun 19 – Mattaponi Indian Reservation 14 <sup>th</sup> Annual Powwow, 1270 Mattaponi Reservation Circle, West Point, VA 23181. Info: 804-769-8783 (Mark Custalow, powwow coordinator), <a href="http://www.virginia.org">www.virginia.org</a>
Aug 7-8 – 25 <sup>th</sup> Annual AIITCO Powwow, Calvert County Fairgrounds, 140 Calvert Fair Drive, Prince Frederick, MD 20678. Email: <a href="mailto:Aiitco@aol.com">Aiitco@aol.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.aiitco.com">www.aiitco.com</a> or call 301-869-9381
Sep 3-5 (Labor Day Weekend)– Appalachian Nation Cherokee 25 <sup>th</sup> Annual Powwow, Rocca’s Farm, 39550 Lime Kiln Rd, Leesburg, VA 20175. Info: 540-645-1143
Sep 18-19 – Nottoway Indian Tribe of Virginia, Inc. Powwow, Surry Parks & Recreation Center, Hwy 10 at Hwy 31, 205 Enos Farm Drive, Surry, VA 23883. Info: 757-654-9301, <a href="mailto:NottowayofVA@aol.com">NottowayofVA@aol.com</a> , <a href="http://www.nottowayindians.org">www.nottowayindians.org</a>
Sep 25-26 – Chickahominy Pow-Wow/Fall Festival, Chickahominy Tribal Grounds, 8200 Lott Carey Road, Providence Forge, VA 23140. Info: 804-966-2448, <a href="http://www.chickahominytribe.org">www.chickahominytribe.org</a> , <a href="http://www.virginia.org">www.virginia.org</a>
CHECK the AIS Website at <a href="http://www.aisdc.org">www.aisdc.org</a> for updates on events between newsletters.

**NOTICE: Due to a snowstorm and then back to back blizzards the month of February 2010, there was not an AIS meeting in February 2010 so there are no meeting minutes for February 2010.**

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**American Indian Society of Washington, D. C.  
Minutes-March 3, 2010**

**The Church of St. Clement-Episcopal, Alexandria, Virginia**

President Michael Nephew called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. The following were present: Board Members: Riccaree Vaughan, Mary Sunbeam; Elders: Mitchell Bush; Pete Homer; Sam Wakefield; Joyce Wakefield; Verne Halley; Members: Myra Dunwoody; Keith Hunsucker; Guest-Mill Butler. Jay and Steve Hill arrived @9:30. Michael Nephew offered the opening prayer. The snowstorm prevented a meeting in February and the January minutes were waived as there was no copy on hand to read. Mary Sunbeam presented the Treasurer’s Report: Balances for AIS accounts were read. Membership approved transferring three quarters of checking account funds to an 18- month CD. Mary Sunbeam proposed membership approve one signature on checking accounts, with authorization for approval from another board member. This authorization would be by email when time permits or verbal with an email follow-up if short notice. Proposal seconded by Joyce Wakefield and passed unanimously. Membership approved insurance bonding for Karen Collins who serves as Assistant Treasurer. Membership approved Advance of Funds form with a revision of certification. Pay Pal account was closed with monies transferred to main checking account. All major accounts are now on an automatic payment plan and the scholarship recipients receive cashier’s checks. Mary meets with Steve Heisel monthly to process transactions into Quick Books. Steve serves as the oversight auditor and all records are current. Mary released by AIS constitution a six month accounting of AIS transactions. Discussion was held regarding over 30 day accounting due by members who receive advances for AIS activities. Jay Hill will have electrical project completed for the opening ceremony of the dance arena on Mother’s Day at the Pines. Scholarship recipients

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were announced for this semester: Gloria Baca; Kejon Cote; Johnnie Drew; Katrina Tsinnie; Theresa White; Chelsea Fish; Sean Latulipe; Mackenzie Mitchell; Marcus Monenerkit; Vanessa Van Pelt. Congratulations with continued accomplishments from us all at AIS. Basketball tournament and social held at the Lincoln Park Center, Rockville, Md. February 28 was booked from 9:00-6:00 for \$360.00. The deposit of \$50.00 was returned as the gym was left in satisfactory condition. Trophies were acquired for \$53.25 with payment pending receipt of invoice. Appreciation extended for all those who supported the clean-up.

**Old Business:** Riccaree Vaughan, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, is dutifully reviewing the bylaws discussing Membership Committee categories and the voting rights of members and members within the family unit. On the discussion of resignations, the attending members agreed and recommended to the bylaws committee that a member may resign from an official AIS position and remain as a member and that resignations are accepted when received with a signature. Discussion was also held on recourse for over 30 day accounting with continued input to President and Executive Board to be included in bylaws.

Discussion about the newsletter was held and membership was informed of the computer problems that have caused a delay in the newsletters. It was agreed to have a combined Feb-Mar newsletter.

Mitchell Bush reported on the Basketball tournament and Social. Over 100 members attended. Winners of the basketball men's division was Steve Hill and women's-Katie Hill. The children enjoyed their miniature hoop game and candy filled pinata. Black Bear sang an honor song for Wayne Howard of the White Oak Drum who recently transitioned and honor songs for Eve Hill and Chaske Hill (1 year) celebrating their birthdays. Many joined the Black Bear drummers for social and round dancing. Appreciation for the potluck foods brought by all. The finale was birthday cake with plenty of picture taking. This event celebrates a second year – see everyone in February 2011.

**New Business:** Mitchell Bush requested approval to print for a 3<sup>rd</sup> edition the AIS cookbook. The cookbook has continued to raise funds for AIS. Motion made by Steve Hill, seconded by Mary Sunbeam and carried unanimously. Mitchell Bush requested \$365.25 for Rob Brown to finish the rock garden at the Pines requiring 3 boulders and Bob Cat rental. Motion made by Mitchell Bush, seconded by Mary Sunbeam and carried unanimously. Steve Hill shared a newspaper article of Ciera Snay, a wrestler, requesting funds for her continued endeavor. Michael Nephew offered a raffle at both Easter and the Mother's Day celebration. Attending members agreed.

**Announcements:**

Indian Pines Cleanup March 27th and 28th.

Sunday, April 4, AIS celebrating Easter at the Pines with an Easter Egg hunt for the children. Pot Luck food.

Saturday-Sunday, May 8-9, celebrating Mother's Day with a Pow Wow at the Pines and the dedication of the dance arena, created by Jay Hill. Elder Eve Hill is collecting items for a scholarship raffle this weekend. Please bring to the April meeting or the Mother's Day weekend at the Pines.

Having no further business, motion was made and carried unanimously to adjourn at 10:55 p.m. The next meeting is April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at the Church of St. Clement, 1701 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria, VA. at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Sunbeam, Treasurer

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**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 (1<sup>st</sup> of each month). Editorial and circulation offices are at 22230 Cool Water Drive, Ruther Glen, VA 22546 (804-241-5462).



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