



# AMERICAN INDIAN SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON DC

**VOL XXXVII – ISSUE NO. 8**

**AUGUST 2003**

Letter from the President on behalf of the Executive Board

You may have noticed that last month's newsletter was in a new format. We had an offer to have free printing of the newsletter last month. However, the printer did not have the equipment to print it in the same format as before. In addition, other issues with this printer as well as coordinating with the person who was funding the printing led to the delay of the mailing. This was not a result of any action by the newsletter editor. My apologies for the delay.

As AIS transitions from one Treasurer to another treasurer in the upcoming elections, the Board is in the process of reviewing our financial situation. I have prepared a year to date report of our expenses and income (presented at the July monthly meeting). We have noticed a trend that records from previous years also reflect. Most months, we as a Society have been spending more than we have been taking in. At the current rate, this will also hold true for the current year. To address this, we are exploring ways to reduce our expenses as well as do fund raising. This is a result of what we as AIS have been doing and not a result of any actions of our previous Treasurer.

Given our current financial situation, we may have to curtail or significantly change some activities that we have been undertaking. This is not something that we take lightly, but given our current financial situation, we need to look at our primary focus and goals, as well as ensuring the continuation of AIS.

Education is one of the primary goals so the continuation of the scholarships is one item that we are trying hard to ensure. Development of Indian Pines is another goal and Jay Hill has come up with a design for improving the dance arena, and for increasing camping area. We have started a donation fund for this improvement but are far from the goal. We also have an Inaugural Ball in less than a year and half. Although we are not broke, we are at our lowest funding point in the past years.

We are looking for ways to do fund raising. If you have an idea for a fund raising event that you are willing to organize with our assistance, please contact any member of the Executive Board.

The newsletter is one of our biggest monthly expenses. We have reduced our monthly expenses for the newsletter from \$650 to \$420 dollars a month by purging old addresses. To help reduce printing costs, we have started collecting info on those who would be willing to receive the newsletter electronically. If you are willing to receive the newsletter via email, please send a note with an email address that we can send to in the near future.

We also have our largest yearly fund raising event next month selling tacos at the Nanticoke Pow Wow in Millsboro, DE on September 6-7. We need as many volunteers as we can get. For more info on volunteering at Nanticoke contact Mitchell Bush at 804-447-3707. The money raised at Nanticoke is used to help fund the scholarships as well as our other AIS activities.

We need all of your assistance and understanding as we go through these challenging times. We are asking for all the members to chip in with ideas as well as volunteering as much as possible so that we will not have to curtail or change any of our programs significantly. I feel confident that we will be able to get through our current situation with your assistance and look forward to working with you in these endeavors.

Sincerely,  
Michael Nephew, President

**July 4-6** – The Appalachian Cherokees (ACN) hosted a pow wow at the farm of JC/Jennifer Myers in King George, VA. Due to the heat, the pow wow closed early on Friday and Saturday. On Sunday, most of the pow wow participants packed up and left early leaving Wanda Lee, Ray Couch and Mitchell Bush. Jerry Eagle Feather returned to sing later that morning. Due to the heat and competition from the July 4 fireworks, there were not many spectators. Vendors that set up on Friday and Saturday included Gregg Fisher, Wanda Lee, Ray Couch and the AIS information booth manned by Mitchell Bush. Mike Turner set up a food booth serving burgers/hot dogs/barbecue chicken and a variety of cold drinks. ACN/AIS members who turned out for the pow wow included Margo Williams/ and Luis/Turquoise Zapata, Maurice/Marty Cato, Marcos/Dorothy Almanza, Paul Brown, Mike/Joyce Duncan and JC/Jennifer/Josh Myers. Other local folks who turned out included Manuel/Karen Rodriguez, Nathan/Zakiah/Alethea Phillips and Shoshana Konstant, Karen Collins, Chuck/Judy Gray, Josh Henderson, Cyril/Marie Taylor, Barbara Flash, Vicki Araujo, Bonnie Phillips and Alvin Winston. Walter Brown, Chief of the Cheroenhaka Nottoway Tribe (not recognized by VA) and a candidate for the VA Senate, stopped by on Sunday. He brought some pow wow flyers for his tribe's pow wow to be held the same weekend as the Nanticoke pow wow. On Saturday, honor dances were held for Mitchell Bush, JC/Jennifer Myers and Mary Duty and they were presented humble stones made from soapstone which is found on Mike Duncan's property. On their way to the pow wow Sunday morning, Ray and Wanda spotted a bear cooling off in a beaver pond not too far from the pow wow site.

**July 12-13** – Pow wow entrepreneur Barry Richardson (Haliwa-Saponi from NC) hosted a pow wow at the Howard County Fairgrounds west of Columbia, MD. An article appeared in the July 11 WEEKEND section of the WASHINGTON POST about the upcoming pow wow. The article acknowledged that while the Howard County celebration had all the elements of a traditional pow wow (dancers/drummers/contests/prize money/a tipi and vendors selling Indian arts & crafts and food), Barry's presentation had its own personality. Keith Colston was this year's head man dancer though he usually served as the emcee. Lillian Sparks was also mentioned as a participant. The article reported that the Howard County pow wow/American Indian Show and Festival is one of Barry's most popular events.

**July 14** – Alice Hatfield Azure called Mitchell Bush to tell him that AIS member Lee Francis had passed away after a short bout with cancer. A memorial service was held for Lee at the University of New Mexico. Lee was the director of the Indian writers' organization WORDCRAFT. Mitchell advised Alice that Barbara Davis had received a message from Carol Smalley that Pete Boushie had passed away on the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend at his home in KS...Mitchell traveled to Washington to visit the Indian Crafts Shop in the Interior Department. A photo of Mitchell visiting the crafts shop had appeared in the NEW YORK TIMES in 1962 and the shop wanted to recreate the photo for a special 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary show next year. Pete Yazzie, the shop's artist of the month, stopped by with a white buffalo metal cutout to add to his exhibit being exhibited in the shop's out door sculpture garden. Some of Pete's jewelry is also on exhibit in the shop. On his way to the crafts shop, Mitchell ran into Richard (the Z) Zephier who now works for the BIA in Sacaton, AZ. Richard was in town for a meeting. He remembered the deep sea fishing trip AIS took many years ago when we caught nearly a thousand mackerel. "Z" wanted Mitchell to go with him to visit Carol Newman until he learned her office had been moved from the Main Interior to Interior South. Carol, "Z" and Mitchell worked together in the BIA tribal enrollment section at one time.

**July 15** –The Virginia Council on Indians (VCI) and the Criteria Documents Committee (Helen Rountree/Danielle Moretti-Langholtz/Karenne Wood/Dante Desiderio/Mitchell Bush) met in an executive session at the State Capitol Building to review the Information for the VCI website; a handbook on the evaluation process and a brochure for distribution to potential petitioners. The documents were prepared by the criteria documents committee last year at the request of VCI. VCI members present included Reeve Tilley/Wayne Adkins/Terry Stewart/Frank Adams/Nita Smith/Karenne Wood/Dante Desiderio/Dan McGuire/John Ficklin and the recording secretary Deanna Beacham. Reeve Tilley announced that the Governor had announced his new appointments to VCI that day. They are as follows – Karenne Wood (Chair); Danielle Moretti-Langholtz (Citizen at Large); Delegates Miles and Lauderbach; Dante Desiderio (Indian at Large); Buck Woodward (Lower Muskogee/Indian at Large); Reggie Stewart (Chickahominy) and Frank Richardson (Rappahannock). For the next three hours, the group reviewed, paragraph-by-paragraph, the website document and the brochure. No substantive changes were made but there were revisions and omissions of excess language. Another meeting was scheduled for September 16 to complete the review process. The next VCI meeting has been changed to August 12.

**July 19** – The Washington Internship for Native Students (WINS) at American University hosted it's annual pow wow at the university. For once, the weather was nice – not rainy nor threatening to rain and not too hot! The head staff consisted of Will Reeves/Frank Gray Shield as the emcees; head man dancer was Ron Nierenhausen; head woman was Joyla Gates; color guard was Jeremiah Ross (USMC) and Earl Johnson (USN) and the host drum was the Black Bear Singers (Don/Pete Neconie, Dan Addi, Billie Clark, Jody/Jason Cummings, David Barber, John Lukavic, Julius Othole). In addition to intertribals, there were specials and honor dances. An honor dance was held for Don Neconie who was celebrating his birthday, followed by a giveaway. Other dances of significance included several contest dances – a two step, switch dance and tiny tots dance. Judges were chosen from the audience and included Juanita Neconie, Michelle Bird and Mitchell Bush. Francine Worthington and Manuel Rodriguez placed high in the switch dance competition but got beat out by younger competitors. There was also a hoop dance exhibition by two young Native ladies, Meredith Lam and Kristin Adams. Miss Indian Brigham Young University Tacey Atsitty performed several times. Among the vendors were Rose Powhatan/Mike & Kiros Auld, Sharon Folger, and the AIS information booth manned by Mitchell Bush/Fred Osborne. In addition to folks

named above, the following local people turned out to support the WINS students - Marcella/Justin Giles, Martha Redhouse, Keevin Lewis, Edna Paisano, Pete Yazzie, Cynthia Jourdain, Jay Nightwolf, Rico Newman, David Cummings, Rick Harrison, Dottie Tiger, Christine/Tahnee/Keni/Sasha Poafpybitty, Mary Leecis, Tavf Berryhill, Karen/Manuel Rodriguez, Karen Collins, Mercedes Osborne, Debbie Brokenrope, Ralph/Donita Schifano, Eve Hill, Theresa Snay, Marietta Van Pelt/Cody Adams, Vince Mikolainis, Jill Erickson, Tony Yazzie, Emil Her Many Horses, Grace Sine, Claudia Narrow and Michelle Sauve. At the closing, an honor dance was performed for the WINS students. At least 58 students were named in the program from such tribes as the Navajo (8), Cherokee (9), Choctaw (6), Alaska Natives (2), Chippewa (2), Sioux (4) and single representatives from such tribes as the Kiowa/Gila River/Seneca-Cayuga/Lumbee/Colville/Maricopa-Paiute/Jicarilla/Delaware/FortBerthold/Zuni/Seminole/ColoradoRiver/Crow/ Menominee/High Plains Saponi/Eastern Shoshone/Osage/Ysleta del Sur and several of mixed tribal extraction. A man stopped by the AIS information booth and introduced himself as John D. Arnoux, Construction Safety Manager of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project and a Blackfeet Indian. Surprise, he is the cousin of Johnalee Arnoux (remember her), a former AIS member who returned to the Blackfeet Reservation. She sends her regards to all her old (and we do mean old) acquaintances.

**July 20** – Juanita Neconie asked Mitchell Bush if he would deliver a giveaway item given to Steve/Retha Gambano at Don Neconie's giveaway at the WINS pow wow. Mitchell took the basket of food to Steve and Retha at their home in Stafford, VA. Their daughter, Anna Butler, was helping them that day. Steve is recovering from quadruple bypass surgery and was seated comfortably in an easy chair. Anna fixed lunch for the group while Steve, Retha and Mitchell caught up on the latest happenings. Before he left, Retha, Anna and Mitchell picked juicy, ripe figs growing outside the Gambaro's house for Mitchell to eat on his way home. Meanwhile, at Indian Pines, Verde Halley fixed lunch for Manuel/Karen Rodriguez, Rob Brown, Mitchell and himself. Rob brought two DVDs for showing. One about urban New Zealand Maoris and the other about polar Eskimos. Rob had spent Friday night and Saturday night at Indian Pines.

**July 23** – A meeting of the AIS pow wow committee was held at St. Clement's Church in Alexandria, VA. Those present included Michael Nephew (AIS President), Karen Collins (AIS 1<sup>st</sup> VP), Karen Rodriguez (AIS Secretary), Manuel Rodriguez, Chuck Tsinnie, Gene Barnes and Mitchell Bush. In order to save the pow wow, the executive board voted to change from a competition to a traditional pow wow. We will also continue to look for ways to lower pow wow budget. Chuck Tsinnie will prepare a corrected pow wow flyer in time for the Commonground pow wow August 1-3. Chuck suggested that we ask Eve Hill to sell Indian tacos and fry bread for the Society and drinks and other items would be for herself. Michael and Karen Rodriguez discussed ways of getting the AIS newsletter out soon. Pepco Holdings (where Michael works) was backed up and unable to print our newsletter timely.

**July 26** – Pete Yazzie hosted a gathering at his home near Petersburg, VA, on a nice sunny day. He invited people to witness the butchering of a lamb. The event was filmed by Melissa Henry (Navajo) from the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) who was helped by Alfredo Perez, a friend from Peru. After the lamb was butchered, the various cuts of meat were cooked over charcoal except for lamb stew which was cooked in a pot on the stove indoors. When the meat was done, the meal was served. In addition to ribs, heart, kidneys, intestines, the meal featured roasted corn, watermelon, coleslaw, potato salad, beans with chili and a relish tray. The young ladies present busied themselves making tortillas and fry bread. After the delicious meal, the young people played several games of volleyball. Someone remarked that the young ladies beat the pants off the young and not so young men they were playing against. The older folks sat in the shade and tried to resolve the world's problems. AIS members present included the host, Pete Yazzie, Fred/Mercedes Osborne, Karen Collins, Cynthia Jourdain, Mary Leecis, Carl Etsitty and Mitchell Bush. Others present included Ollie Yazzie, Shelly/Keith Watrous, Jayne/Ninabah Clark (Navajo), Natalie Jefferson (OK Choctaw), Arnold/Ellie Brunk, Josh Ohrum, Cedric Wood (Navajo), Alana Chelan (Cochiti), Aade Ware (Cohiti-Kiowa) and Vanessa Vandever (Navajo). NMAI is preparing a video on Indian foods.

#### CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

**Sat.-Sun., Aug. 30-31** – Memorial dedication at Carlisle War Barracks, Carlisle, PA. Tour of former Carlisle Indian School buildings at 5 p.m. on Saturday; memorial dedication at 10 a.m. Sunday followed by a picnic at a nearby park.

**Wed., Sept. 3** – AIS regular meeting at St. Clement's Church, 1701 North Quaker Lane, Alexandria, VA, 7:30 p.m. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS** will be held. Also, selection of Distinguished Service Award, Outstanding Club Member Award and 2003-4 AIS Princess & Jr. Princess.

**POW WOWS & FESTIVALS:** Aug. 16-17 Nansemond pow wow, Chuckatuck (Suffolk) VA; Aug. 16 – Am Ind Heritage Day, Jefferson Patterson Park, St. Leonard, MD; Aug 23 AIITCO pow wow, Old Town Alexandria, VA; Aug. 22-24 Baltimore Pow wow, Catonsville Community College campus and Sept. 6-7 Nanticoke pow wow, Millsboro, DE. SEE FLYERS FOR DETAILS.

**AUGUST 2003**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> Indian Prayer Breakfast US Capitol, 8 - 9 am ..... Movie/Potluck @ K Woods, 7 - 10 pm ..... Commonground Powwow ..... American Univ film series	<b>2</b> Commonground Pow Wow, LaPlata, MD .....
<b>3</b> AIS 37 <sup>TH</sup> Anniversary Picnic, Indian Pines ..... Commonground Pow Wow, LaPlata, MD	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> AIS Meeting 7:30 pm	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Indian Prayer Breakfast US Capitol, 8 - 9 am	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Indian Prayer Breakfast US Capitol, 8 - 9 am	<b>16</b> Nansemond Indian Tribal Festival ..... Amer. Indian Heritage Day, Jefferson Patterson Park
<b>17</b> Nansemond Indian Tribal Festival, Suffolk, VA	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Indian Prayer Breakfast US Capitol, 8 - 9 am ..... Baltimore Indian Center Pow Wow	<b>23</b> American Indian Festival, Market Square, Alexandria, 1-6 pm ..... Baltimore Indian Center Pow Wow
<b>24</b> Baltimore Indian Center Pow Wow	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Indian Prayer Breakfast US Capitol, 8 - 9 am	<b>30</b> 5pm Tour of Grounds, Carlisle
<b>31</b> 10 am Dedication of Historical Marker, Carlisle - Picnic Follows						

**SEPTEMBER 2003**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> Labor Day	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> AIS Meeting 7:30 pm	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Indian Prayer Breakfast US Capitol, 8-9 am ..... Movie/Potluck @ K Woods, 7 - 10 pm	<b>6</b> Nanticoke Powwow (AIS Fundraising Taco Booth), Millsboro, DE
<b>7</b> Nanticoke Powwow (AIS Fundraising Taco Booth), Millsboro, DE	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Indian Prayer Breakfast US Capitol, 8 - 9 am	<b>13</b> Nause-Waiwash Native American Festival, Cambridge
<b>14</b> Nause-Waiwash Native American Festival, Cambridge, MD	<b>15</b> Arts & Crafts Night 6-9 pm	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Indian Prayer Breakfast US Capitol, 8 - 9 am	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Indian Prayer Breakfast US Capitol, 8 - 9 am	<b>27</b> Chickahominy Fall Festival & Pow Wow
<b>28</b> Chickahominy Fall Festival & Pow Wow	<b>29</b> Arts & Crafts Night 6-9 pm	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b> AIS Meeting 7:30 pm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Indian Prayer Breakfast US Capitol, 8-9 am .....	<b>4</b> NOTICE: AIS Powwow CANCELLED

**2003  
American Indian Festival**

**Saturday  
August 23  
1-6 PM**

**Raindate: August 24**

**Market Square  
301 King Street  
Alexandria, VA**

**Arts & Crafts  
Free Music & Entertainment  
Food ♦ Voter Registration**

For information call the Events Hotline at (703) 883-4686

Co-sponsored by Alexandria Department of Recreation,  
Parks and Cultural Activities and the American Indian Inter-  
Tribal Cultural Organization

ci.Alexandria.va.us

**11<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Nause-Waiwash Band of Indians  
Native American Festival  
Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>  
Sailwinds Park  
Cambridge, Maryland**

Sat: 10 am to 6 pm Sun. 10 am to 5 pm  
Grand Entry both days: Noon

Head Male Dancer: Manuel Rodriguez A.I.S.  
Head Female Dancer: Brenda Holotik N.W.B.O.I

HOST DRUM: SWEETWATER  
INVITED DRUM: BUM KNEEZ

Arena Director: Chuck Costello Emcee: Chief Winterhawk

**RAIN OR SHINE**

Traditional Indian Dance \* Drumming & Flute Music \* Indian Jewelry \*  
Rugs \* Indian Art \* Live Demonstrations \* Painted Drums \* Bead  
Work \* Cherokee Art \* Educational Items

Admission: Adults \$4 62 & over \$3 12 & under \$1.

No pets, alcohol, drugs or attitudes!

Host Motel: Cambridge Inn, 410-221-0800, Call by 8/31 for discount

Directions: Take US 50 to Cambridge. Turn West on Maryland Ave.  
then right at first light and straight on to Sailwinds!

For other info:

**THE BALTIMORE  
AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER**

AND THE NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION OF THE  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF BALTIMORE COUNTY-CATONSVILLE

**'HONOR THE CIRCLE'**

PRESENT THE  
**29<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**

**POW WOW**

**AUGUST 22, 23, & 24, 2003**

Located at CCBC-Catonsville Campus Athletic Fields  
FRIDAY, 12:00-8:00 PM, SATURDAY, 10:00 AM-8:00 PM, SUNDAY 10:00 AM-6:00 PM

NATIVE AMERICAN DANCE AND DRUM COMPETITION, CRAFTS,  
ART, CLOTHING AND NATIVE AMERICAN CUISINE

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$7, SENIORS \$5, CHILDREN UNDER 12 \$3, CHILDREN UNDER 6  
FREE, ADULT WEEKEND PASS \$15

Directions & Further Info: [www.baltimorepowwow.com](http://www.baltimorepowwow.com) or phone 410-675-3535

**THE PUBLIC IS CORDIALLY INVITED**

**TENTH ANNUAL  
HEALING OF ALL NATIONS  
ACCOHANNOCK  
INDIAN TRIBE, INC  
FESTIVAL & PAUWAU**

**18 & 19 OCTOBER 2003**

**BENDINGWATER PARK MARION STATION, MARYLAND**

M.C.: JOHN BLACKFEATHER

HEAD DANCERS: OSCEOLA & TINA MULLIN

HOST DRUM: EASTERN BULL

INVITED DRUM: TBA

ALL DRUMS WELCOME

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SUNDAY 9:45 AM TO 5:00 PM GRAND ENTRY 1:00 PM

SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE AT 10:00 AM

DONATION \$4.00

CHILDREN UNDER 5, BOY AND GIRL SCOUTS IN UNIFORM FREE

BRING A LAWN CHAIR\*NO PETS\*NO ALCOHOL OR DRUGS

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT THE TRIBAL OFFICE

Phone 410-623-2660 OR [accohannock@erisfield.net](mailto:accohannock@erisfield.net)

HOST MOTEL: DAYS INN  
1540 OCEAN HIGHWAY  
POCOMOKE CITY, MARYLAND 21851

PHONE: 410-957-3000  
FAX: 410-957-3147

Chief Sewell Fitzhugh, 410-376-3889 / Robin Abbott, 410-228-6836

*The*  
***Nanticoke Indian Tribe***  
 PRESENTS  
 The TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL  
**NANTICOKE INDIAN POWWOW**  
 MILLSBORO, DELAWARE

**SEPTEMBER 6-7, 2003**  
 SATURDAY NOON – 7 PM & SUNDAY 10 AM TO 4 PM

**FEATURING:**

**Host Drum: Nanticoke Indian Singers**  
**Guest Drums:**  
 Red Wolf Singers of North Carolina  
 Red Blanket Singers of New Jersey

**EMCEE: Mel Whitebird**

**LEAD MAN DANCER: Keith Anderson**  
**LEAD LADY DANCER: Adrienne Harmon**

**Grand Opening Dance Session: Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup> – 12:00 Noon**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Dance Session: Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup> – 3:00 p.m.**

**Sunday Dance Session – 2 p.m.**

**Sunday Worship Service – 10:00 a.m.**

**With**

**The Rev. Dr. Thom Whitewolf Fassett,**  
**Emeritus General Secretary of the**  
**United Methodist Church General Board of Church and Society**

- **Native American Music & Dancing**
- **Nanticoke Indian Museum Tours**
- **Authentic Indian Arts & Crafts**
- **Indian Frybread & Indian Tacos, Succotash and more!!!**

**Directions:**

**From Millsboro at DuPont Hwy (Rt. 113), take**  
**John J. Williams Hwy. (Rt. 24) East – 7 miles**  
**To Official Powwow Parking lot on the left.**

**From Costal Hwy. (Rt. 1) & Beach Areas, take**  
**John J. Williams Hwy. (Rt. 24) West – 12 miles**  
**to Official Powwow Parking lot on the right.**

**Ride the shuttle from the parking lot**  
**Be sure to bring your chair!**

**More than 50 Visiting Tribes from across the Nation**

**\$5.00 ALL DAY PARKING - \$1.00 FOR WALK-INS**  
**Proceeds Benefit the Nanticoke Indian Museum**  
**501C(3) Tax Deductible**

**For more information call: 302-945-7022**

**\*Please – No Alcohol, Drugs or Pets**

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Minutes – August 6, 2003  
St. Clement's Church, Alexandria, VA

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Michael Nephew called the meeting to order at 8:02 pm with the following members present: Gene Barnes; Mitchell Bush; Karen Collins; Phyllis/Tom David; Keevin Lewis; Mary Mallett; Michael Nephew; Manuel/Karen Rodriguez; Terry Snowball/Machel Monenerkit and Tanya Thrasher. No guests were present.

The minutes of the July 2, 2003 meeting were read by Karen Rodriguez & approved as read. Michael Nephew gave the treasurer's report of our accounts.

**Old Business:** Powwow: Manuel Rodriguez reported that Mel Whitebird was sorry he did not make it back for committee meeting. He lost access to his email & has not received any messages sent. He will be in town the coming week. He has everything ready to go except port-a-johns & tents. In his absence, committee discussed powwow issues in the parking lot & the board decided if changed to traditional versus contest we could probably pull it off. Discussed if we can afford to loose money if gate is poor with our current account balances & with expenditures exceeding income each month. No fundraising has been done, no grants obtained & we would have to rely on donations for giveaway, raffle & meals. Suggestions included not planning future powwows until funds raised to cover powwow budget, focusing on building up Mother's Day Powwow & grounds instead of hosting 2 powwows until we are in better financial shape, & fundraising taco booth at other events. If powwow canceled we could loose deposit at Urbana Fire Station, would need to cancel contracts explaining our situation, & get the word out. After discussions, motion by Terry Snowball to cancel powwow this year, seconded by Phyllis David & carried by a vote of 12 to 2... Scholarships: Question raised if it was wise to authorize \$5,000 this year with our financial situation. Nanticoke taco booth is an AIS fundraiser but has been used for scholarships recently since it was not needed elsewhere. Members voted to authorize \$5,000 last month, scholarships are in our mission statement, we receive donations designated for scholarships, & the Scholarship Committee has been the most active in fundraising & believe they can raise the remaining funds. Chair Tanya Thrasher reported that she plans to revamp criteria next year to make it more competitive. She reported that 8 applications were received this year, all very impressive. 6 were recommended for award, 1 was incomplete, & 1 was not from this area & not an AIS member. Tanya thanked Keevin Lewis for his help in reviewing the applications. Tanya recommended award as follows: four full-time at \$500 a semester & two part-time at \$250 a semester. Motion to approve by Terry Snowball, seconded by Gene Barnes, & carried with 12 in favor, 2 abstentions... Mitchell reported on the Anniversary Picnic. Word had not gotten out & about 10 people attended. Food was good with Michael Nephew giving the blessing. Karen Collins donated door prizes won by Michael Nephew & Manuel Rodriguez... **Carlisle Ceremony Dedicating Historical Marker** will be at **10 a.m. on August 31** with a picnic following. There will be a **tour** of Carlisle grounds at **5 pm on August 30**. Saturday night camping available at location students were taken for outings/picnics. Barbara Landis, an AIS member, was instrumental in getting the historical marker & AIS wrote a letter of support for the marker... **Nanticoke Powwow, September 6-7, NEED VOLUNTEERS.**

**New Business:** **Nominations & vote for Outstanding Club Member Award, Distinguished Service Award, and Senior & Junior Princesses will take place at our September 3 meeting along with Executive Board elections.** Recipients will be invited to Executive Board Dinner for presentation of awards. Senior Princess Vanessa VanPelt resigned. Mitchell Bush is nominating Cynthia Jourdain (Canadian Ojibwe, 26, jingle dress dancer, works for NIBA)... Information/Craft Booth (primarily information but sell a few items to help with expenses) will be at American Indian Heritage Day at Jefferson Patterson Park, AIITCO American Indian Festival (Karen Collins) & Nause-Waiwash Native American Festival... 4 powwows now scheduled for Veterans Day weekend...

**Announcements:** There will not be an American Indian Leadership Luncheon next Tuesday. Dates selected for Halloween party, October 31 & Christmas Bazaar/Party, December 6. Karen Rodriguez will reserve Marshall Ritter Hall for those events & the Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner.

Having no further business, Manuel Rodriguez made a motion, seconded by Keevin Lewis and carried unanimously to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. The next meeting will be September 3, 2003, at St. Clement's Church, 1701 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria, VA, at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Karen Mallicoat-Rodriguez – Secretary

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**NOTICE:**  
**AIS POW WOW**  
**scheduled for October 4-5, 2003**  
**CANCELLED**

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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 (804-448-3707).

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American Indian Society of Washington, DC  
PO Box 6431, Falls Church, VA 22040-6431

