



AMERICAN INDIAN SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON DC

VOL XXXIX – ISSUE NO. 2

FEBRUARY 2005

IMAGES FROM THE AMERICAN INDIAN INAUGURAL BALL JANUARY 20, 2005



Honorary Chair Adam Beach with AIS President Michael Nephew



Masters of Ceremonies Drew Lacapa and Vanessa Short Bull



AIS President Michael Nephew and actor/director Rick Schroeder



Derek Miller performs in the Arlington Ballroom at the American Indian Inaugural Ball



Martha Redbone and Dennis Banks



Honorary Chair Adam Beach, wife Tara Mason, and singer/songwriter Keith Secola enjoy a round dance during Derek Miller's performance



Signature Quilt by AIS member Phyllis David

Inaugural Ball Silent Auction a success!

The Scholarship Committee hosted its first Silent Auction during the Inaugural Ball and raised a total of \$4,570.00 in support of student scholarships!

The AIS Scholarship Committee expresses its gratitude for the generous support of Silent Auction donors, the AIS Executive Committee, and the Inaugural Ball Committee. Most importantly, thanks to those who bid on the auction items and whose excitement and support generated such a tremendously successful event.

The variety of auction items ranged from a remarkable "Signature Quilt" created by AIS member Phyllis David – featuring the signatures of Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell, Joanne Shenandoah, and R. Carlos Nakai, among many other notable Native Americans – to beaded peyote fans, Pendleton blankets, commemorative posters, autographed publications, hand-crafted woodwork and jewelry, and original artwork by renowned artists Tony Abeyta and Frank Hyde.

AIS wishes to thank the following artists and donors for their generosity:

Tony Abeyta
 Frank Hyde
 Tom and Phyllis David
 Pete Yazzie
 Emil Her Many Horses
 National Congress of American Indians
 Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma
 Indian Craft Shop, Department of the Interior
 Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian
 National Geographic
 Ho-Chunk Nation
 Gwendolen Cates

All auction proceeds directly benefit the AIS Scholarship fund. Nine outstanding students (undergraduate and graduate) were awarded 2004-2005 scholarships, and they attend colleges and universities across the United States and Canada.

January 1 - Mitchell Bush hosted his annual "New Yea" day observance of an old Onondaga custom where people go house to house calling out "New Yea" and receiving cookies or fruit before traveling on to the next house. Early arrivals waited in the club trailer at Indian Pines for the event to begin. Folks arriving at the pavilion called out "New Yea" and were greeted at the door by Mitchell. He gave guests a choice of a fruit danish or an orange. He then said "La Bon Annee, Nih Jih!" to them and they entered the pavilion. That expression is supposed to mean "Happy New Year, My Friend" in the Michif dialect. Verde Halley celebrated his birthday by providing a feast and gifts for all present. Manuel/Karen brought bottles of Sparking Grape Cider for an after dinner toast which was given by Verde. The group then watched "Auntie Mame". Those present included Karen Collins, Chuck/Judy Gray, Manuel/Karen Rodriguez, Marion Cooney, Fred/Mercedes Osborne, Cyril/Marie Taylor, Herb Bush, Brandy Berger/Victoria Cheeseman, Robert Brown and Joe Chavez. The weather was a balmy 60 degrees and it was quite comfortable in the pavilion. When it began to cool down, Verde switched on a propane salamander to warm the pavilion up. Verde had set up his usual Christmas village scene inside the pavilion and set up outdoor decorations.

January 5 - Manuel/Karen Rodriguez and Mitchell Bush met at the Atlantis Restaurant in the Bradlee Shopping Center for dinner before the American Indian Inaugural Ball (AIIB) meeting which preceded the monthly AIS meeting at St. Clement's Church in Alexandria. Those present included the chair, Maria Canellis and the AIS President, Michael Nephew. Also present were Karen Collins (AIS 1st Vice President), Karen Rodriguez (AIS Secretary), Terri Carter (AIS Princess), Manuel Rodriguez, Mary Sunbeam, Eloise Giordano, Jackie Swift, Tanya Thrasher, Justin Giles, Sunny Drew and Mitchell Bush. Maria reported on the AIIB progress. At that time, 32 tables had been sold but she had pending requests for additional tables. Two tables would be set aside for the AIS. Since Floyd Westerman could not make it for health reasons, he asked Keith Secola to stand in for him and accept the award which will be presented for him. Maria is working on securing a drum group to participate in the opening ceremony and ending the evening with round dancing. She is happy with the security to be provided by the hotel and reports that parking for the evening has been negotiated to \$8 for the evening. Maria has also chosen the menu for the evening. From 8-11, there will be a variety of foods available, desserts from 11 on. Also, there will be complimentary non-alcohol drinks. On January 15 at noon there will be a walk through of the AIIB site and on January 20 at 11 a.m. there will be a session for all volunteers. Maria showed the t-shirts which have been designed for the AIIB and remarked that there were independent sales of t-shirts.

January 12 - Felipe Rose (Lakota/Puerto Rican) who portrays the Indian in the singing group VILLAGE PEOPLE donated his gold record "YMCA" to the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) and was given the royal treatment by the NMAI staff. Felipe, who now lives in Richmond, VA, cut a CD called "Red Hawk Woman" about the late Thomasina Jordan and the VA Indians bid for Federal recognition. He sang the song at last year's Virginia Council on Indians (VCI) annual conference and gave copies of the CD to those present. Felipe's "Red Hawk Woman" has been nominated for five Grammy's this year.

January 14-15 - The Virginia Council on Indians (VCI) hosted the second annual Tribal Leaders' Summit at the Woodlands Hotel in Colonial Williamsburg, VA. On Friday night, the College of William and Mary hosted a reception in Reeves Hall on the campus for the VCI members and tribal leaders present. Travis Henline (Colonial Williamsburg's American Indian Initiative) and the Williamsburg Mayor, Jeanne Zeidler, were among the guests. After the reception, the group returned to the Woodlands Hotel for dinner. On Saturday, the group met in the Woodlands Conference Center. In attendance were VCI members/staff Karenne Wood/Deanna Beacham/Nita Smith/Reggie Stewart/Frank Richardson/Paige Archer/Danielle Moretti-Langholtz/Frank Adams/Mitchell Bush; Tribal Representatives (Chiefs Anne Richardson, Marvin Bradby, Ken Adams, Steve Adkins; Assistant Chiefs Warren Cook, Gene Adkins, Wayne Adkins, Mark Custalow; Others Pinky/Keith Smith, Bertie Branham/Diane Shields and Reggie Tupponce, Jr., representing VITAL. Chief Ken Adams opened the session with a prayer. Frank Richardson presented an outline of five options for a VA Indian signature event being considered in conjunction with the Jamestown 2007 celebration. Karenne led a discussion on the options. Frank Adams presented an Option 6 for consideration. Karenne requested that tribal leaders inform the VCI by letter before February 20, 2005, whether they wish to participate. Karenne announced the VCI annual conference to be held at the Holiday Inn Central in Richmond on March 4-5; a session on tribal sovereignty and federal recognition at the University of VA, Charlottesville, on March 18-19. There will be a panel discussion on March 19 co-sponsored by the VA Foundation for Humanities called "Pocahontas, an accurate portrayal." The Governors Interstate Indian Council will be coming to VA in August 2005 at the invitation of the VA Governor/VCI. The delegates will attend the NMAI pow wow to be held August 12-14 at the MCI Center and be bussed to Central VA to visit the tribal communities. VCI members were excused after lunch and the tribal delegates held a closed meeting.

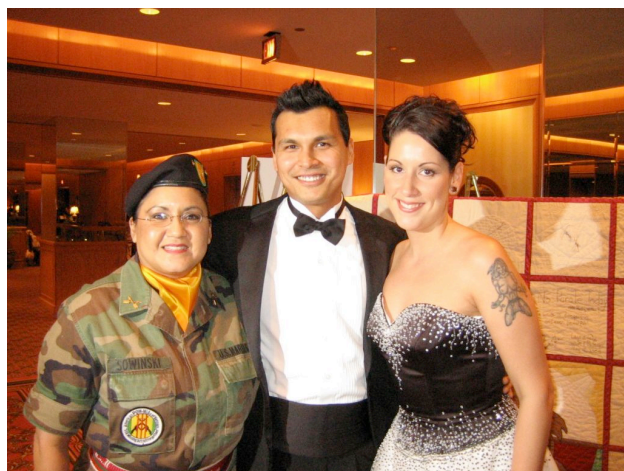
January 15 - The National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) hosted "Let's Round Dance" featuring the Battle River Singers from the Red Lake Band of Chippewas in Minnesota. The singers used hand drums and had a young lady prompter who lead several of the dances. Of course, NMAI was packed with people and many of the tourist types joined in the round dancing. Local AIS and community members who turned out for the event held in The Potomac Rotunda were Michael Nephew, Karen Collins, Manuel/Karen Rodriguez, Eve Hill, Phil Hill/Cathi Obenstine/Alexis Obenstine-Hill, Edna/Jose/Weewee/Andrea Campos, Tom/Phyllis/Jessica David, Erlette Lamont/Josh Hill, Will Reeves,

Tim Moore, Barbara Driftmeyer, Chris Davidson, Katherine Fogden, Naomi Little, Fred/Mercedes Osborne, Christian Kane Bentley, Debbie Moore, Jennifer Beinhacker, Rico Newman, Jay Nightwolf, Anna/Dora Old Elk, Leon Leuppe, Georgianna/Lillian Sparks, Shana Greenberg, Ellen Trancosa, Joe Vasquez and Mitchell Bush.

January 17 - Jeff Ball and group performed at the Francis Scott Fitzgerald Theater in Rockville, MD, as part of a Martin Luther King observance. Michael Nephew and Josh Hill danced in accompaniment to his music. The performance was well attended by the general public.

January 19 - Kicking off the American Indian inaugural activities, the Native Youth Alliance (NYA) hosted the Inaugural Pow wow at the Marriott Crystal Gateway hotel in Arlington, VA, under the supervision of Nathan Phillips/Shoshana Konstant. Don Neconie served as the emcee; head man dancer was Nathan Longhorn; head lady dancer was Feather Chicharello from Denver, CO. The host drum was Black Bear (Pete/Don Neconie, Paige Burgess, Jeff Bailey, Manuel Rodriguez with Rochellda Sylestine as chorus girl). The VEVITA Color Guard (Richard Begay/Kim Sowinski/Randy Curley/Leander Sage/Demetria Simms/April Taase) took part in the opening ceremony. Dave Henderson was the soundman. Although there were not too many dancers, many of the out-of-town Indians in town for the inaugural, as well as some of the hotel's other guests who heard the drum, dropped in. In addition to the head man/lady, dancers included Ray Couch, Joe Chavez, Verde Halley, Jay/Josh Hill, Mercedes Osborne, Marion Cooney, and Shawndae Dawson in regalia but several others joined in the social dances. A 50/50 was won by John Buck of CORN BRED, one of the bands in town to perform for the American Indian Inaugural Ball, and he donated his winnings back to NYA. Local folks who turned out for the pow wow included Michael Nephew, Karen Collins, Karen Rodriguez, Terry Snowball/Machel Monenerkit, Christian Bentley, Phil Hill/Cathi Obenstine/Alexis Obenstine-Hill, Ollie/Irving/Josh Henderson, Fred Osborne, Gene Barnes, Erlette Lamont, Vivian Dawson/Inez Miller/Greg Sharp, Georgia Gibson, Wanda Lee, Shawna Robbins, Luis Zapata, Sally/Harold/Theresa White, Joe Whatmough, Mary Hope Billings, Eloise Giordano, Georgianna/Lillian Sparks, Maria Canellis, Martha Redhouse and Mitchell Bush.

January 20 - U.S. Senators George Allen and John W. Warner from VA hosted a coffee in the Russell Senate Office Building on Capitol Hill in DC. Among the VA Indians who attended were Steve Adkins (Chickahominy Chief), Ken Adams (Upper Mattaponi Chief) and Reggie Tupponce, Jr. (President of VITAL). Elizabeth Walker of Walker Associates, coordinator for the VA Indians' federal recognition effort, was also present. The January 21 edition of the RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH and January 23 edition of the FREE LANCE-STAR (Fredericksburg, VA) carried stories about the coffee/reception.



VEVITA Honor Guard member Kim Sowinski, Honorary Chair Adam Beach and Wife Tara Mason

January 20 - The American Indian Inaugural Ball (AIIB) hosted by the American Indian Society (AIS) was held in the Arlington/Grand Ballrooms of the Marriott Crystal Gateway hotel in Arlington, VA. Included as sponsors were those tribes, casinos, lawfirms, and individuals who purchased tables. Sponsors at the Gold, Silver, Bronze, and Friends & Family levels sat at reserved tables, although there was an addition this year of many smaller tables/chairs for those that weren't at reserved tables. The AIIB Chair was Maria Canellis and the AIIB Honorary Chair was actor Adam Beach (Saulteaux). The emcees were Drew Lacapa (Apache/Hopi/Tewa) and Vanessa Short Bull (Oglala Lakota). Bands included Corn-Bred (Onondaga Territory, NY), Derek Miller (Canadian Six Nations), Martha Redbone (Lumbee / Shawnee / Choctaw), and Stateline (Navajos from Whitecone, AZ). A Lifetime

Legacy Award to Floyd Red Crow Westerman was accepted on his behalf by friend and musician Keith Secola, with a letter from Floyd read by his long-time friend and fellow activist Dennis Banks. Floyd is recovering from major surgery and could not travel to accept the award. Actor/director/producer Rick Schroeder and his wife attended the Ball as guests of the Seneca Nation. The festivities began with a Grand Entry. Host drum was Black Bear (Don/Pete Neconie, Paige Burgess, Clayton Old Elk, Jeff Bailey, Jody Cummings, Dennis Zotigh and Wallace Coffey). The Indian Nations Warriors & Veterans Honor Color Guard and VEVITA Color Guard led the grand entry followed by AIS representatives (Michael Nephew, Terry Snowball, Mitchell Bush, Machel Monenerkit, Karen Rodriguez, AIS Princess Terri Carter and AIS Jr. Princess, Ciera Snay), Honorary Chair Adam Beach, and tribal leaders. Outside of the ballroom, Tanya Thrasher and her helpers, William Cabeza/Lillian Thrasher/Keevin Lewis, set up a Silent Auction with proceeds benefiting Scholarship Fund. Artists, individuals and organizations who donated art to the auction included Tony Abeyta, Frank Hyde, Tom/Phyllis David, Pete Yazzie, Emil Her Many Horses, NCAI, Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, The Indian Craft Shop, an Anonymous Donor, National Geographic, Ho-Chunk Nation, and Gwendolen Cates. Volunteers handled the sale of AIIB Programs and AIIB t-shirts designed specifically for the ball by Native

Threads, another of the ball sponsors. Both the program and t-shirts were professionally done and quite in demand as souvenirs of the ball. Karen Rodriguez was in charge of the volunteers who worked long and hard. We needed volunteers for ticket-taking, wrist bands, will call, t-shirts and programs and goodie bags. Thank You to the Volunteers- Amy Orris/Beverly Holland/Nadine West (who among others listed below stuffed goodie bags before the ball), Anna Aloizos, Miranda Belarde-Lewis, Christian Kane Bentley, Faye Wright, Steve Hill, Vivian Dawson, Inez Miller, Christina Davidson, Justin Giles, Eloise Giordano, Rebekah Maher, Jackie Swift/Barney McCabe, Shawna Robbins, Mary Sunbeam, Bonnie Cote, Rico Newman, Colleen Reeks, Gail Chehak, Lawrence Tsosie, Manuel Rodriguez, Ginevra Portlock, Delores Bailey, Mitchell Bush, the Silent Auction Staff and volunteers mentioned above, Nedra Darling who did an outstanding job with the press, and AIS Staff Maria Canellis, Michael Nephew, Karen Collins, Machel Monenerkit, Terry Snowball, and Karen Rodriguez. Photographic services were provided by Reflections, one of the official photographers for the Presidential Inaugural Balls, with documentary photos by Tim Warner of Tim Warner Photography in New York. The ball was first rate if we say so ourselves...Inaugural activities closed the next day with a brunch in the Arlington ballroom. The food was delicious, plentiful and the staff/servers were helpful. Tables of tired ball goers enjoyed the meal but, for a few volunteers, there was still a little work to do - selling t-shirts and programs and distributing more goodie bags!

The American Indian Society wishes to thank the many generous sponsors that purchased reserved tables at the American Indian Inaugural Ball. GOLD: Comanche Nation, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, National Congress of American Indians, Native American Management Services Inc., Seneca Nation of Indians, Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians. SILVER: Akin Gump Strauss Hauer Feld LLP, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon, National Indian Gaming Association, Pinnacle West Capital Corporation, Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians, SODAK Gaming, Tohono O'odham Nation. BRONZE: Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Monteau & Peebles LLP, Navajo Nation, National Indian Business Association, National Indian Gaming Association, National Museum of the American Indian, Native American Management Services Inc., Oneida Nation of Wisconsin, Public Service Company of New Mexico, Saginaw Chippewa Tribe, Southern California Edison. FRIENDS & FAMILY: Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Rudy Hawk, Holland & Knight LLP, Homer Law, ICI LLC, Iroquois Sisters & Friends, Native Opportunity Way, Edna Paisano, Patricia Prescott, Sycuan Band of Kumeyaay Indians.

January 22 - Rick Harrison (Osage), longtime AIS member and well-known OK straight dancer who passed away on January 19, was laid to rest in the Parklawn Memorial Park in Rockville, MD. Rick was survived by his wife, Joan, son John Harrison and daughter Rikki Ann Lovett, and several stepchildren, Debra Ward/Sandra Meinberg/Linda Hazlewood/Patricia Haga/Michael Doyle and David Doyle. Rick's obituary was published in the WASHINGTON POST on January 20, 2005. Unfortunately, most of the Indian community was at the American Indian Inaugural Ball and did not learn of his passing until after the funeral. Our thoughts, however, are with the family.

January 29 - The AIS crafts committee/friends visited the studio/gallery of Retha Gambaro (AIS member of long standing) in Stafford, VA. Retha gave a guided tour of her studio which is well lit and spacious. After the tour, Retha's husband, Steve, served a homemade soup (like minestrone) for the Gambaro guests. A "Happy Birthday" was sung for the February Birthday Boys (Steve Gambaro/Cyril Taylor/Mitchell Bush) and Mercedes Osborne sang her version of Marilyn Monroe's happy birthday Mr. President. A decorated birthday cake with ice cream was served. After much discussion on current events, the group headed homeward - into the beginnings of an ice/snow storm which shut the area down the next day. Folks who gathered at Steve/Retha's home included their daughter, Anna Butler, Karen Collins, Bonnie Cote, Fred/Mercedes Osborne, Cyril/Marie Taylor, Manuel/Karen Rodriguez, Barbara Driftmeyer, Verde Halley, Joe Chavez and Mitchell Bush.

WHAT'S NEW

WEBSITES OF INTEREST-- Navajo News (on-line): <http://www.navajotimes.com/main.php>; Indian Country Today article on the AIIB: <http://www.indiancountry.com>; Photos from the AIIB: <http://www.reflectionsorders.com/AIIB/Corn-bred>: Syracuse New Times article: <http://newtimes.rway.com/2005/011905/shakin.shtml> & Syracuse Post Standard article: <http://www.syracuse.com/entertainment/poststandard/index.ssf?/base/entertainment-8/110621382317660.xml>; NAMMYS: <http://www.nammys.com> Nammy info on the CD Felipe recorded about Thomasina "Red Hawk Woman" Jordan: <http://www.tomahawkrecords.com...> Verizon is hiring all over for Service, Cable Techs, Escorts, etc. This is an opportunity for all, especially for Native Americans in the area that are looking for employment: <http://www22.verizon.com/about/careers/jobsearch/results/?referrer=ftp...> **HELPING ELDERS:** If you would like to make a donation towards purchasing wood or other necessities for Elders living in Tuba City, AZ (many are without the basic necessities: food, heat, water) you may send your tax deductible donation to: AIITCO, Twinbrook Station, PO Box 775, Rockville, MD 20848 (mark it "for the Elders".) Native American Actors Needed - All ages, children to senior citizens - union and non-union talent. Speaking and non-speaking roles. Email pictures & contact info to: sarevaracher@aol.com. Questions: 410-227-2102 after 10 am. Please mail hard copy headshots or pictures to: Sareva Racher, Casting, 4104 Century Towne Road, Randallstown, MD 21133...

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Every Friday - Indian Prayer Breakfast, US Capitol, 8-9 a.m.
Feb 28-Mar 2 - NCAI Executive Council Winter Session Wyndham Hotel Washington DC www.ncai.org 202-466-7767
Wed. Mar. 2, Apr. 6, May 4, Jun 1, Jul 6, Aug 3, Sep 7, Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7, 2005 – AIS Monthly Meeting 7:30 pm, St. Clements Episcopal Church, 1701 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria, VA
March 4-5 - 11th Annual Governor’s Conference on Indian Affairs, Holiday Inn Central, Richmond, Virginia. For more information, contact Karenne Wood, Chair, 703-338-1652 or Deanna Beacham, VCI Program Specialist, 804-225-2084.
Mar. 12, 2005 - 13th Annual Red Creek Mid-Winter Festival, Dickenson College, Kline Athletic Center, Carlisle, PA, Grand Entry 1 p.m. & 7 p.m., Doors open to public 10 a.m. Info. contact Don Hockenberry at 717-677-8026
Mar 19-20 Indian Pines Cleanup – Please come and bring your rakes/lawn tools and help get Indian Pines ready for the 2005 activities & pow wow. We work hard but have FUN! Please join us.
Mar 26-27 AIS Easter Campout with Sunday potluck dinner and egg hunt. Indian Pines, Ruther Glen, VA. See website www.aisdc.org for directions.
May 7-8 – AIS Mother’s Day Pow Wow, Indian Pines, Ruther Glen, VA. See website www.aisdc.org for directions
June 18-19 - Shennandoah Valley Pow Wow- Silver Phoenix, Quicksburg, VA Exit 269 off I-81 Sphoenix@shentel.net 540-477-9616
June 25 - American University WINS Summer Pow Wow at American University Quad, 4400 Massachusetts Ave. NW Washington, DC. For more Information please contact the WINS office at (202) 885-5934
July 1-3 - Cherokee 4th of July Powwow Fireworks, July 4, 10:00 PM, Cherokee Indian Fair Grounds Contact info: Cherokee Welcome Center, 800.438.1601; Loretta Kirby, Fair Grounds Coordinator, 828.497.8128; Janice Wildcatt, Coordinator's Assistant, 828.497.8122
July 2-3 – TENTATIVE (date subject to change) AIITCO 21st Annual Pow Wow, check website for updates: http://www.aiitco.com/ Contact: 301-869-9381
July 16-17 Tipton Pow Wow, Delgrosse Amusement Park, Tipton, PA (814) 684-3538
Aug. 6-7 - AIS 39th Anniversary Celebration & Pow Wow , Mt Jackson, VA - Exit 269 off I-81 in field next to Silver Phoenix. Contact Michael Nephew president@aisdc.org 202-872-2017 or Mitchell Bush 804-448-3707 www.aisdc.org
Aug. 12-14 NMAI National Pow Wow at the MCI Center, Washington, DC (no further info currently available - watch the website: www.nmai.si.edu for info on this event.)
Aug 20 – Alexandria Festival, Market Square, 301 King St., Alexandria, VA Info contact: Dana Padgett at (202) 624-2708 or email: Dahnagawsta@comcast.net
Sep. 10-11 - Nanticoke Indian Powwow, Millsboro, DE, info: (302) 945-3400. AIS Scholarship Fundraising Taco Booth sets up here – Volunteers always needed for this major fundraiser.



**American Indian Society
of Washington DC**



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**EASTER CAMPOUT with
Sunday Potluck dinner and Egg Hunt
March 26-27, 2005
Indian Pines, Ruther Glen, VA**

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March 19-20 Indian Pines Work Weekend

Please come to Indian Pines for the work weekend to get it ready for 2005 activities & pow wow.

**MOTHER’S DAY HONORING
POW WOW
May 7 & 8, 2005**

Indian Pines, Ruther Glen, Virginia

\$5 per car

Gates open at 10:00 am Grand Entry at 12 Noon
Bring your own chairs

Positively no Drugs, Alcohol or Dogs (animals) allowed

Directions to Indian Pines From Washington.

Take 95 Exit 104 - Bowling Green Carmel Church at top of ramp take left - East on Rte 207 at second traffic light take a right on Ruther Glen Road. Go 2.2 miles and look for signs for pow wow on the right.

Directions to Indian Pines From Richmond.

Take 95 North to Exit 104 - Bowling Green Carmel Church at top of ramp take right - East on Rte 207 at first traffic light take a right on Ruther Glen Road. Go 2.2 miles and look for signs for pow wow on the right.

For more Info contact Michael Nephew 703-534-0904 or Mitchell Bush 804-448-3707 or <http://www.aisdc.org>

American Indian Society of Washington, DC
Minutes – February 2, 2005
St. Clement's Church, Alexandria, VA

First Vice President Karen Collins called the meeting to order at 8:10 pm. She introduced member Steve Gonyea to the newer members. The following members were present: Gene Barnes; Mitchell Bush; Maria Canellis; Karen Collins; Phyllis/Tom David; Chris Davidson; Sunny/Johnnie Ann Drew; Barbara Driftmeyer; Eloise Giordano; Verde Halley; Patricia Pearson; Manuel/ Karen Rodriguez; Terry Snowball/ Machel Monenerkit; Mary Sunbeam; Tanya Thrasher/William Cabeza; and Chuck Tsinnie.

The minutes of the January 5, 2005, meeting were read by Karen Rodriguez and approved as read. Terry Snowball gave the treasurer's report of our accounts.

Old Business: Maria Canellis reported on the American Indian Inaugural Ball (AIIB) which was held on January 20. Approximately 1,000 people attended. There was an article in Indian Country Today and one is expected in Native Peoples. Nedra Darling did an outstanding job with the Press. A few outstanding bills but we are in the black. Maria thanked all the volunteers – we couldn't have done it without them and their service is very much appreciated. The follow up meeting will be on Wednesday, February 9, for active committee members. Maria was thanked and applauded for all she did to bring about a very successful ball. Maria said the success of the ball and seeing people have fun was her reward. She also was presented a signed/framed AIIB poster after the ball.... Tanya Thrasher reported on Scholarships and the Silent Auction which raised funds for Scholarships. All scholarship checks have been mailed, except one which will be mailed soon once paperwork is received. The scholarship information on our website will be updated in a few months. All scholarship recipients are doing very well. Tanya expressed her gratitude to the AIIB committee and her small but determined team of volunteers. The Silent Auction raised just shy of \$4,600 for scholarships (met with applause) and many people walked away with information on the program. Tanya thanked Phyllis/Tom David especially for the signature quilt and invited them to the follow up meeting. Phyllis/Tom David received a resounding round of applause... Chuck Tsinnie recommended that the vendor's fee remain at \$200 for our 2005 pow wow. Mitchell Bush made a motion that we accept Chuck's recommendation, seconded by Gene Barnes and carried unanimously. Chuck will contact vendors who supported our pow wow last year and give them first priority on 2005 vendor spaces and start getting contracts out.

New Business: Discussed whether we want to order T-Shirts with the AIS logo on them so we can have them in time for the pow wow season. Tabled until next month. It was suggested that we get bids from several vendors.... Chuck talked about a fundraising idea he is thinking of doing to raise funds for AIS and AITCO scholarships.

Announcements: T-Shirts and programs will be available at the next month's meeting. We have many programs left, but that is good since they can be used to help sell tables next ball... Richard Clark Harrison passed away on January 19... read a note from Alice Kekabah... Reflections photographers online with photos of the ball... Verizon job opportunities... NCAI call for volunteers for their Winter Conference, Contact Jamie Gomez at 202.466.7767 or jgomez@ncai.org... NAMMY website... March 26-27 Easter campout/egg hunt/potluck picnic. Cleanup of Indian Pines the weekend before (March 19-20). Chief's basketball games (local all Indian team)... 3d Annual State of Indian Nations Address... NMAI Public Programs Cultural Registry of Performers... calendar of upcoming events.

Having no further business, Manuel Rodriguez made a motion, seconded by Mary Sunbeam, and carried unanimously to adjourn at 8:50 pm. The next meeting will be March 2, 2005, at St. Clement's Church, 1701 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria, VA at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen L. Mallicoat-Rodriguez

Karen Mallicoat-Rodriguez – Secretary



AMERICAN INDIAN SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON DC - ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

- Preserve** Indian culture and perpetuate Indian traditions;
- Promote** fellowship among members to all American Indian tribes;
- Enlighten** the public and encourage better understanding of Indian people; and
- Assist** American Indian youth in their academic studies through an annual scholarship fund.



The goals of the American Indian Society (AIS) of Washington, D.C. have been central to its mission since its inception in 1966. The AIS Scholarship program, now in its 4th decade has raised & awarded funds to hundreds of students across the country. Six out-standing students (undergraduate and graduate) were

awarded 2003-04 scholarships. In their own words, current scholarship recipients reflect on the importance of this program to their individual academic goals:

"The American Indian Society's Scholarship is a wonderful assistance in realizing my educational goals, helping me set an example for younger American Indian generations." -- Leah S., Oneida Nation Iroquois

"The AIS Scholarship has helped me achieve my educational goals during both my undergraduate and graduate studies in Psychology. Without the scholarship I would not have had the opportunity to cover expenses such as books, supplies, and university fees. The scholarship is unique in the fact that it is there specifically for Native students and to help our community. I am truly grateful for all of the support both financially and emotionally the community of AIS has given me." -- Jessica D., Ojibwe

"Funding from the A.I.S. scholarship program has helped me realize my goal of graduating with a Bachelor's degree in 2001...now the scholarship is helping me attend graduate school, a dream that has become a reality!" -- Theresa W., Coeur d'Alene

Support of the AIS Scholarship fund is needed and contributions are greatly appreciated.

Questions? Contact Tanya Thrasher, Scholarship Chair, at (202) 252-0091.

Address: AIS, P.O. Box 6431, Falls Church, VA 22040-6431. Website: www.aisdc.org

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.

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