



AMERICAN INDIAN SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON DC

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DECEMBER 2009

Nov 3 – Tribal representatives from all corners of Indian Country, international dignitaries, Members of Congress, Administration officials and tribal supporters gathered for the official opening of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Embassy of Tribal Nations in Washington, D.C. "For the first time since settlement, tribal nations will have a permanent home in Washington, D.C. where they can more effectively assert their sovereign status and facilitate a much stronger nation-to-nation relationship with the federal government," said NCAI President Jefferson Keel. The historic opening coincided with the 1st Annual Obama Administration's Tribal Nations Conference set for Thursday, Nov. 5 at the U.S. Department of the Interior. The Administration invited one representative from every federally recognized tribe in the U.S. to attend the conference.

SOURCE National Congress of American Indians Press Release

<http://www.reuters.com/article/pressRelease/idUS208858+30-Oct-2009+PRN20091030>

AIS current and former members spotted at the opening included Michael Nephew, Pete Homer, Terry Snowball/Machel Monenerkit, Jackie Swift, Dennis/Jennifer Zotigh, Echohawk Pete Neconie, Nita One Bear, Mary Milam, Faye Lone, Michael Burgess, Maxine Hillary, Maria Dadgar and Francine Blythe.

Nov 4 – Karen Collins, Verde Halley, Manuel/Karen Rodriguez, Eloise Giordano and Mitchell Bush met for dinner before the monthly AIS meeting at the Atlantis Restaurant in the Bradlee Shopping Center, Alexandria. While they were eating, Sheldon/Wauleah Ellison came in to eat also. And Barbara Davis and Thelma Harjo happened by. Barbara reported that Steve/Naomi/Kathy Gonyea were leaving Atlantis as they entered.

Nov 5 – The Obama Administration hosted a Tribal Nations Conference in the Nation's Capitol. All federally recognized tribal nations were invited to send one representative to the conference. Although some sources reported over 400 delegates in attendance, AIS member Jonathan Begay who ushered delegates to their seats felt more than 500 delegates were present. Before President Obama addressed the delegates, a luncheon was served in the nearby DAR building. The conference was held in the Sidney Yates Auditorium in the Interior Department. The overflow was seated in the Interior South Auditorium across the street. President Obama's planned speech to the delegates was modified due to the Fort Hood tragedy which occurred that day. Perhaps that is the reason little coverage of the Tribal Nations Conference was carried by the media. During the conference, a group of Leonard Peltier supporters demonstrated outside the building. The First Peoples Human Rights Coalition reported that Chief James Ransom of the St. Regis Mohawks asked the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the President that the United States should endorse the United Nations (UN) Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Apparently, no government panelist addressed the Chief's question. That evening the Florida Seminole Hard Rock Café in downtown Washington presented Native Music Rocks! (see report below).

Nov. 5 - Native Music Rocks! led by Micki Free and featuring Free's American Horse Trio with drummer Cindy Blackman, formerly of Lenny Kravitz, and bassist Jon Brant, formerly of Cheap Trick, and performances by Keith Secola, Shea, Terry Tsoitigh, and Casper and the 602 Band appeared at the Washington DC Hard Rock Café. The special performance was presented in honor of the White House Tribal Nations Conference, with 100% of the \$10 door cover, guitar auction and blanket dance proceeds going to World Hunger Year (WHY). WHY's founding in 1975 sought to bring attention to innovative, community-based, grassroots solutions to hunger and poverty. Eight "on the ground" partner organizations will benefit from funds raised through IMAGINE THERE'S NO HUNGER. Sponsors included AIANTA (American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association), FAME, LLC (First American Music and Events), and the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development. Native Music Rocks! was created with the support of Chairman Mitchell Cypress of The Seminole Tribe of Florida and launched in 2009 to promote the diverse abundance of musical talent from different tribes across the country. Native Music Rocks! has played all over the United States and Europe, including the 2009 American Indian Inaugural Ball. AIS members/friends spotted at the Hard Rock included Michael Nephew, Pete Homer and family members,

Machel Monenerkit/Terry Snowball, Jackie Swift, Dora Old Elk Birdshead, Anna Old Elk, Jeff Barehand/Shana Greenburg Barehand, Karen/Manuel Rodriguez, Pete Neconie, Nita One Bear, Faye Lone, Evans Craig, Keith Hunsucker, Cheryl Se, Matt Bugelski and Jason Edwards. *Submitted by Karen Mallicoat-Rodriguez*

Nov 7 – The 12th Annual American Indian Festival, cosponsored by the AIS and the Montgomery County Executive Council/Montgomery County Public Libraries/Health and Human Services, was held in the Montgomery County Executive Office Building in Rockville, Maryland. The festival began with an overview of the festival activities by Michael Nephew, AIS President and flute music by Evans Craig. A mini powwow followed around 12:30 p.m. Head staff included Clayton Old Elk, emcee; John Hoffman, arena director; Page Burgess/Dora Old Elk Birdshead, head man/lady; Blackbear, host drum; and Fred Miller, soundman. Singing with Blackbear were Pete/Don Neconie, Jay/Josh Hill and Greg Sharpe. In the grand entry, the colors were brought in by Fred Nordhorn/Tyne Layton/Shawndae Sharpe. The AIS Princess Haley Dawson and the AIS Junior Princess Alexis Hill were given places of honor in the Grand Entry. Among those who danced were Georgianna/Anna Old Elk, Nita One Bear, Mary Phillips, Michael Nephew, Tim Moore, Clarence Joseph, Jay/Josh Hill, Luis Zapata, and Mary Milam. Vendors included Anselm (JR) Davis, Diane Hutchins, Chuck Tsinnie, Native Spirit, AIS Booth manned by Karen Collins/Mitchell Bush/Manny Martinez, Sharon/Darien Folgar, Rose Powhatan/Mike/Kiros Auld, Sharon/Gary Schoch, Shawndae Sharpe/Vivian Dawson and Linda Steele. Exhibits were set up by SAGE, AAIA, Census Bureau and AISES. Manuel/Karen Rodriguez ran the raffle and 50/50. The 50/50 was \$122.50 (\$245 total). Vendors contributed the prizes for the raffle. Our thanks to Juanita Neconie and her helpers who ran the kitchen offering Indian tacos (for \$4), Iroquois corn soup, plains corn soup, frybread and a fudge brownie. The Title 9 group from the Rocking Horse Center sold soft drinks and bottles of water. Don Neconie gave the opening prayer and Juanita Neconie gave the closing prayer. After grand entry, there were presentations, intertribals, specialty dances and social dances. The color guard which took the colors out was Tyne Layton/Shawndae Sharpe/Fred Miller. During the powwow, Montgomery County officials and the IHS Director, Yvette Robideaux, spoke. Among those who turned out for moral support not named above were Terry Snowball/Machel Monenerkit, Dennis/Jennifer/Lexi/London Zotigh, Brenda Miller, Katy Issenock/Chaske Hill, Phil/Cathi Hill, Joe Vasquez/Ellen Trancosa, Earlette Lamont, Justine Hill, Jess Eagleman, Wayne Howard, Balerma Burgess, Leon Leuppe, Fredericka Joseph, Susan Morgan, Elkhorn Vaughan and Corey/Desiree Pennethy (new AIS members).

Nov 9 – Verde Halley, Julio Lopez and Rob Brown met up with Mitchell Bush at the Stafford Diner for breakfast before heading out to the George Mason powwow. Karen Collins, Judy Gray, Herb Bush, Brandy Berger, Tom/Gina Vobornik and Manny Martinez were also at the diner for breakfast/coffee.

Nov 9 – The 7th Annual George Mason University (GMU) Veterans' Powwow was held at Dewberry Hall/Johnson Center at the GMU Fairfax campus. Head staff consisted of Lawrence Baker (emcee), Nicholas Birdshead/Mary Phillips (head man/lady dancers), Manuel Rodriguez (arena director), Blackbear Singers (host southern drum) and White Oak Drum (host northern drum). Alex Fire Walker was the head junior boy dancer. Vendors who took part included Sharon/Gary Schoch, EJ Carter, Ray/Angel Couch, Sharon Folgar, Evans Craig, and the AIS booth manned by Karen Collins, Verde Halley, Rob Brown, Julio Lopez and Mitchell Bush. During the Grand Entry, the colors were brought in by members of American Legion Post 177 in Fairfax. The colors were brought in by John Rocco and Jay Hill for the evening session. During the afternoon, there was intertribal dancing, specialty dances and storytelling/flute playing by Elkhorn (Riccarea) Vaughan, Redbird and Evans Craig respectively. After a break for dinner, the dancing resumed until about 10 p.m. Honor dances, giveaways and social dances took place during the evening. During the afternoon an honor dance was held for veterans and the powwow committee presented each veteran a gift. In addition to those named above, dancers included Clayton/Georgianna/Dora Old Elk Birdshead/Anna Old Elk, Nita One Bear, Shawndae Sharpe, Katy Issenock, Alexis Hill, Angel Couch, Megan Nicholas, Karen Rodriguez, Dana Padgett, Jay/Josh Hill, Tim Moore, Keith Hunsucker, Shelly Carter, Rita Ayeni and Ario Sanfo. Among the folks who turned out for moral support not named above were T Carter (committee), Joe Vasquez, Ellen Trancosa, Phil/Cathi Hill, Tahj Vaughan, Dave Nicholas, Osa Take Sharpe, Juanita/Donita Neconie, Kayla Shiffano, Pauline Prater, Tom/Phyllis David, Marlene Gun

Shows, Fred/Brenda Miller, and Bradley/Regina Bennett. During the afternoon, the Salinas family from Mexico City presented a program of Aztec dances which involved the audience. Singers for Blackbear were Pete/Don Neconie, Page Burgess, Greg Sharpe, Dennis Zotigh and Jay/Josh Hill. Singing for White Oak were Wayne Howard, Lawrence Baker, Will Reeves and Josh Hill.

Nov 10 – A memorial service for Fred Nahwooksy was held at the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) in Washington, DC. Fred, the son of Reaves and Clydia Nahwooksy, who lived in the DC area in the 1960's, passed away on October 2, 2009, in Johnson City, Tennessee. Fred's father, Reaves, passed away in 2008 and his mother, Clydia, is in frail health and could not travel to DC for the Memorial. The family was represented by Fred's sister, Susan, who spoke at the Memorial. A meal provided by NMAI staff members was served prior to the remembrances. Kevin Gover, NMAI Director, gave the welcome and opening remarks. Those who spoke about Fred included Rick West (former NMAI Director), Tim Johnson, Terry Snowball, Jackie Swift, Gabrielle Tayac, Machael Monenerkit, Caleb Strickland, and Paul Chaat Smith. After the presentations, Page Burgess sang a Comanche memorial song. In addition to those who spoke, local folks who attended the Memorial included Michael Nephew, Manuel/Karen Rodriguez, Karen Collins, Mitchell Bush, Keevin Lewis, Tanya Thrasher and Sandy/Marcy Tiger. Laura Harris and several others traveled to DC for Fred's tribute. Following Indian tradition, Mitchell took home a container of salad, passing up cakes, pies and cookies.

Nov 13 – The National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) hosted a symposium in connection with the opening of IndiVisible, African-Native American Lives in the Americas. Panelists included Penny Gamble Williams (Chappaquiddick Wampanoag), Judy Kortese, Tiya Miles, Gabrielle Tayac (Piscataway), and Robert Keith Collins. Kevin Gover served as the moderator. Those attending were given an opportunity to ask questions of the panelists at the close of the program. Following were a book signing and reception. Local folks/AIS members/friends in attendance included Tim Moore, Angel Couch, Riccaree/Cynthia/ Tiombe/Tahj Vaughan, Phoebe Farris, Allard/Lynette Allston, Karenne Wood, Keevin Lewis, Dennis Zotigh, Nicole Pastor-Kovich and Mitchell Bush.

Nov 13-15 – Pow Wow Inc. (Barry Richardson) hosted the 19th annual Great American Indian Exposition and Powwow at the Showplace in Richmond, VA. Karen Collins attended the powwow/festival on Saturday and reported that local folks in attendance included Phil/Cathi/Alexis Hill, Jay Hill, Josh Hill/Katy Issenock/Chaske Hill, Greg/Shawndae/Osa Kote Sharpe, Vivian Dawson, Don/Juanita/Pete/Donita Neconie, Nita One Bear, Clayton/Georgianna/Anna Old Elk, Nicholas/Dora Birdshead, *Barbara Drifmeyer, *Deborah/*Mildred Moore, *Sharon Johnson, *Beverly Yazzie, *Emma Kelsey and Apesanahkwat. Michael Auld/Rose Powhatan and Don/Margaret Harris served as vendors. Rose also set up a Powhatan exhibit. The actress, Irene Bedard, had a booth showcasing DVD's of her many movies. On Saturday evening, after the pow wow, those named above shown with an asterisk joined other members of the Intertribal Women's Circle (IWC) for dinner at a nearby restaurant. On Sunday, Mitchell Bush attended the powwow/festival primarily to take in the dance competition finals. In the Girl's Fancy, Alexis Hill took 1st, Junior Men's Traditional, Sherman Addi took 3rd, Women's Fancy, Katy Issenock took 2nd, Women's Jingle, Elise Sparks took 1st, Men's Fancy, Josh Hill took 1st, Men's Traditional, Apesanahkwat took 3rd and Pete Neconie took 2nd. In the drum contest, 3rd went to Red Oak, 2nd to Blackbear, and 1st to Red Earth. Singing with Blackbear were Don/Pete Neconie, Dennis Zotigh, Greg Sharpe, and Jay/Josh Hill. Dan Addi and Page Burgess sang with Buffalo Hill. Stoney Creek was the host drum. Yough Ta Nund also sang. On Sunday, Mitchell saw Christine/Go Go/Okemah/Keni Poafpybitty, Jennifer/Lexi/London Zotigh, Earlette Lamont, Justine Hill, Jess Eagleman and Georgaline/Lillian Sparks. Schirra Gray was the arena director and head man/lady were Bo Goins/Brenda Silva.

Nov 14 – The First Annual American Indian Festival hosted by the Natural & Historical Resources Division of the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission was held at the Patuxent River 4-H Center in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. Michael Nephew served as the Master of Ceremonies. There were many displays and exhibitions, including the hoop dance by Dennis Zotigh. The host drum was Blackbear (Page Burgess/Doug Hall). There was live music by Ron Warren and Janice Torres, and storytelling by Joseph Stands With Many and Zachary Strong Buffalo. There were intertribal dances and the many children in attendance joined in the dancing. Steve/Nick Hill/Tia Gibbs was the Indian Food Vendor. Among the vendors/exhibitors were Chuck/Danita/Natika Tsinnie, Margo Williams, Dana Padgett, Virginia Robles-Villalba (formerly Rosario). AIS members/friends present included: Marie Taylor, The Zotigh family, Rico Newman, Maxine Hillary, Karen/Manuel Rodriguez and Ollie/Tina Maria Spencer. *Submitted by Karen Mallicoat-Rodriguez.*

Nov 17 - The Virginia Council on Indians (VCI) held a regular meeting in the General Assembly Building (GAB) at the State Capitol in Richmond. VCI members present included the Chair, Earl Bass, and members Wayne Atkins, Sherry Munford, Joanne Howard and Deanna Beacham (VCI Staff). Guests present included Loleta Bass, Sidney Turner, Allard/Lynette Allston, Archie Elliott, Beth Roach, William Wright, Gerald Epps, Helen Rountree, and Kenneth Munford. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. and the invocation was given by Wayne Atkins. A quorum was

not present so no action requiring a vote could be taken. Under Administrative Business, Chairman Bass led the introduction of VCI members and guests. Due to a lack of a quorum, the minutes of the September 15 and October 20 will be considered when a quorum is present. Copies of the October financial report were reviewed. The Chair asked whether VCI might be affected by budget cuts, but there is no way to anticipate cuts at this time... There was no Public Comment... Under New Business, Chairman Bass reported that he has been appointed by the Governor to serve on the Complete Count Committee for the 2010 Census... Under Old Business, there was continued discussion about the 2010 VCI annual conference. Sidney Turner, Chair of the Advisory Committee, reported that the committee plans a meeting on December 8. VCI staff will announce the meeting and ask for volunteers. The planners are reminded that an event such as this should bring in as much as is spent on the event... The honoring of Chief Miles was postponed due to Chief Richardson's absence since she is taking the lead on this... Delegate Munford asked about VCI's response to the Chereonhoka Nottoway letter. Due to the letter's length, a great deal of research was required to draft a response... Under Announcements, the next VCI meeting will be January 19, 6:30 p.m. in the GAB... On November 25, Pamunkey/Mattaponi Tribes made their annual tax tribute at the Governor's Mansion... On Dec. 6, 3 p.m., VITAL will host its annual Christmas dinner at the Chickahominy Tribal Center... The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Nov 21 – The American Indian Student Union at the University of Maryland in College Park, MD hosted its 5th Annual Powwow at the Nyumburu Cultural Center. The event was well attended by students and visitors but the dance arena barely accommodated the few dancers in regalia. Likewise, the vendors were elbow to elbow in several small rooms. Those who set up in the entrance fared better. Steve/Nicklaus Hill and Tia Gibbs had a food booth outside selling potato and corn soups, tacos and frybread. EJ/Jeff Carter also set up in the entranceway. Sharon/Darien Folgar and the AIS booth manned by Mitchell Bush set up in a conference room with a Bureau of the Census and a University of Maryland Recruitment booth. Parking was non-existent unless you had a handicapped permit and the university parking enforcement folks were on duty from 9 a.m. of course. You could park in a nearby parking garage. The emcee was Ray Silva and Brenda Silva was the head lady. The Blackbear Singers (Pete Neconie/Page Burgess/Josh Hill) sang. Katy Issenock, Jay Hill, Luis Zapata, Rita Ayeni, Alex Firewalker, Donita Neconie and Kayla Schiffano were among the dancers. Those who turned out for moral support included Don/Juanita Neconie, Pauline Prater, Evans Craig, Melvin Jones, Nina McFadden, Manuel/Karen Rodriguez, Earlette Lamont, Justine Hill, Jess Eagleman, Chaske Hill, Maxine Hillary and Sonya French Begay (a new Navajo young lady).

Nov. 21 - Gloom, doom, ka-boom!!! That's the most popular interpretation of the Dec. 21, 2012 date on the Mayan calendar which has now replaced the "millennium" event as the target date for global destruction. End-time theorists are attempting to marry bits



and pieces of interpretations of this Mayan calendar milestone to a variety of end-time theories related to the biblical apocalypse, including aspects of Egyptology and Nostradamus predictions in an effort to legitimize and promote their theory. And let's not forget the movies, emergency supplies, survival kits and other assorted pricey paraphernalia that come packaged with these theatrical promotions. In an effort to clear the air waves of all the confusion, Miguel



Sobaoko Koromo Sague and Antonio Aj Ik of Chahul K'iche from Guatemala, have collectively launched a series of workshops to discuss the Mayan interpretations. One such workshop was hosted by Shelia and Curt Hanson at their farm in Delaplane Virginia on Nov. 21. Antonio stated that the Mayan calendar is comprised of 20 symbols and 13 numbers. Each symbol has its own meaning and name and yield a combination of 260 patterns. Thus there are 260 days before the combinations repeat. The numbers 13, 20 and 260 are used to create higher grouping to represent groups of years, ultimately resulting in 5 groups of "Suns" or "world age periods" that represent approximately 5200 years (20 groups of 260 years). According to Antonio, Dec, 21, 2012 represents the end of the 5th Sun. The number 260 days also represents the gestational period for human babies. And this provides a hint into the interpretation of the meaning of each period. The end of any period signals the transition into a new one, which points more to a rebirth than death. Thus the Mayan interpretation is that Dec, 21, 2012 just represents a transition into a new age. It was not meant to predict any particular catastrophic event. So what are the Mayan's saying about all these other theories? Antonio states "I only see one person out there who is telling the truth about my people's prophecy", "His name is John Major Jenkins, and people should be listening to what he says". For more information, refer to the website <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BCrjhy0IB1g> for the August 14 2009 airing of a 2012 Mayan Calendar piece on Fox News featuring interviews with Mayan researchers John Jenkins and Univ. of Central Florida professor Arlen

Chase are saying. Native locals spotted among the attendees included Shelia Hanson, Kathleen Dorn, Karen Collins, Teresita Josinto, Elizabeth Peterson, Ellory Pennock, MJ Madwolf, Carol and Ted.Bauer. *Submitted by Kathleen Dorn*

Nov 23-26 – Karen Collins, Judy/Billy Gray, Verde Halley, Herb Bush, Tom/Gina Vobornik, Trever Ottinger, Manny Martinez, and Mitchell Bush stopped for breakfast at the Stafford Diner in North Stafford, VA. Afterward, Mitchell headed out for the Onondaga Nation, stopping at Manuel/Karen Rodriguez’s apartment to deliver a draft of the December AIS Newsletter. He arrived at Onondaga that evening. The next day, the Onondaga Indian School served a Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings to the community. Mitchell went with his sister Wendy, niece Loretta, nephew Steve, and brother Tony. He sat next to Genevive Bucktooth (Lance Hodaquin’s mother), and visited with Betty Babcock (Leo Nolan’s aunt), Jody Lewis (retired from the BIA Syracuse office) and Bobby Tarbell (Haskell graduate, who married a Creek Seminole). On Wednesday, before dinner, the family watched the Macy’s Thanksgiving Parade from New York City. The Oneida Nation participated with a huge turtle float with a 30 foot Tree of Peace on its back. Several singers and dancers performed on platforms built into the turtle’s back. Then, Mitchell enjoyed a traditional Thanksgiving dinner at home for the first time in 43 years. On Thursday, he visited his sister Anna and her husband Dave, and with his brother John and nephew Charley (who now plays guitar in an up-and-coming band). On his way back to Virginia, Mitchell drove out of the valley of the Onondagas to find snow covered fields and woods, but the roads were clear. A few miles further south, the snow stopped and it was clear sailing back to Virginia.

Nov 25 – The American Indian Society hosted its annual Thanksgiving Dinner at the Burgundy Community Center in Alexandria. Hostess for the event was Sunny Drew, a resident of the community. Those officers in attendance included Michael Nephew and Mary Sunbeam who brought ham and turkey, respectively. Others in attendance included Joe Whatmough, Melvin Jones/Nina McFadden, Suzanne Adkins, Mary Mallett, Tim Moore, Norm/Arisane Underwood, Carol/Ted Bauer and Bonnie Cote. Bonnie gave lessons on making dream catchers after dinner. Although attendance was small, those present had a nice dinner.

Nov 25-Dec 2 – A group of AIS folks met at Steve Hill’s home in Winchester, VA, before heading out to Hamilton, Ontario to work in Isaac Day’s food booth at the Canadian Aboriginal Festival which was moved from Toronto. Making the trip with Steve were Nicklaus Hill, Tia Gibbs, Eve Hill and Karen Collins. Phil/Cathi/Alexis Hill also traveled north. Alexis came in 4th in the Junior Girl’s Fancy Shawl dance. Josh/Chaske Hill and Katy Issenock also traveled with the group. Josh came in 4th in the Men’s Fancy. Edna/Jose Campos, who live in St. Catherine’s, offered Eve/Karen/Josh/Katy/Phil/Cathi/Alexis a place to stay. Andrea, (Jingle) and Jose (Grass) also danced. John Hill and his daughter and Richard and his 2 daughters also joined the group for Thanksgiving Dinner. On Friday Eve/Karen went to Bingo and saw Gerald Hill.

WHAT’S NEW

Our thanks for the following donations: AIS Scholarship Fund: Sharon/Gary Schoch (\$200), Richard and Brenda Gillum (\$30); and Julia Dobson for her General Fund donation.

We sadly report that Maisie Shenandoah, Wolf Clanmother of the Oneida Nation, passed into the spirit world the morning of December 2, 2009 at 3:30 AM in the Oneida Castle home of her daughter Joanne Shenandoah. She was with her children Gerry, Wanda, Joanne, Diane, Victoria and Danielle.... Our condolences to Barbara Davis and her family on the passing of the family patriarch, Robert (Dave) Davis, on December 6, after a lengthy illness.

Congratulations to Buster (Thomas David III) and Jennifer Boydston on the birth of Thomas Mitchell David IV who weighed in at 8 lbs. 13 ounces., 20.3 inches on October 22, 2009. Father, mother and baby are doing well, as are the proud grandparents Phyllis and Thomas (Tom) David II. Thomas IV made his AIS debut at the AIS Christmas party and he’s a real cutie!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AIS Meetings 1st Wed. of every month: (Jan 6/Feb 3/Mar 3/Apr 7/May 5/Jun 2/Jul 7)
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
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
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
Jan 1, 2009 – AIS MEMBERSHIP DUES/SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS DUE (form on page 7)

American Indian Society of Washington, DC
Minutes – December 2, 2009
The Church of St. Clement - Episcopal, Alexandria, Virginia

President Michael Nephew called the meeting to order at 8:15 pm with the following members present: Mitchell Bush, Karen Collins, Tom David, Eloise Giordano, Verde Halley, Cathi Hill, Steve Hill, Manuel Rodriguez/Karen Mallicoat-Rodriguez, Mary Sunbeam, Ricaree Vaughan and Sam Wakefield. Guests present: Steve Heisel and Eric Cree. Steve Hill offered the opening prayer.

The minutes of the November 4, 2009 meeting were read by Cathi Hill and approved with a correction of Department of Homeland to Department of Homeland Security. The treasurers report was given by Mary Sunbeam. Mary reported that Jay Hill had volunteered to learn the Quickbooks program. It was suggested that all the officers find volunteers to learn their positions. AIS's status with Dun & Bradstreet has not yet been updated. Mary will fill out the application for bonding of the officers. Signature cards for the new officers has not yet been updated at Bank of America. It was suggested that we go to a different branch to process the signature cards. Mary stated that all accounting of advances needs to be done within 30 days. Everyone was reminded to sign the Thank you card for the Church of St. Clements. It was suggested that an officer approach the Church of St. Clements about the opportunity of using the facility after the Christmas Bazaar. There was a withdrawal in the amount of \$7.95 from American Express. When questioned American Express stated the card had been inactive for 3 years so they started charging a fee of \$7.95. It was decided to cancel the card. Mary also stated that the Selective Insurance has been put on auto debit so late fees will not be an issue. Also a check was sent to Rappahannock Electric Company to get us up to date on payments. Now it will be an auto debit program. The taxes on the trailer at the pines have also been put on an auto debit program. Mary asked that all officers come up with a budget for 2010 calendar year at the January meeting.

Old Business: Michael Nephew stated he has a blanket for the Webmaster that did the Inaugural Ball website. Michael also stated that the Rockville Powwow was well attended. It was also reported that the First Annual American Indian Festival in Upper Marlboro was very nice. There were about 30 people who turned out for the Thanksgiving dinner. Bonnie Cote made Dreamcatchers with the attendees. It was reported that National Congress of American Indians opened the new Embassy of Nations. Michael Nephew read a letter from Haley Dawson, AIS Sr. Princess. It was also reported that the Richmond Powwow was well attended and quite a few members placed in the dance contest. Michael Nephew reported that T. Carter had not had a chance to look at the changes to the By-Laws. Michael Nephew spoke at a Day School in Sully. They made a donation to AIS.

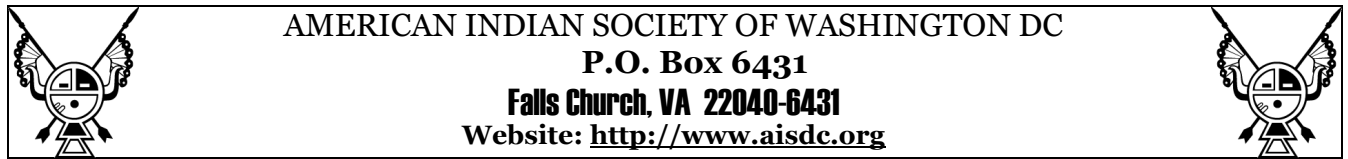
New Business: AIS Christmas Party Sunday, December 6 at Burgundy Center 11-3. Tree was set up already last year. AIS Crafts Bazaar Saturday December 12 from 10-5 at the Church of St. Clements. Eloise Giordano was authorized \$150 for advertising in a local paper. Eloise was also going to check to see if the Church of St. Clements would place an announcement in their weekly bulletin. It was also suggested that the left over items from the Inaugural Ball Silent Auction be put up in another Silent Auction at the Christmas Bazaar. Mary Sunbeam would check with the artist to see if they were okay with that. Michael Nephew and Mary Sunbeam were interviewed for the Falls Church Newspaper.

Announcements: Due to technical difficulties there are no announcements.

Having no further business a motion was made by Manuel Rodriguez, seconded by Karen Collins and carried unanimously to adjourn at 9:25 p.m. The next meeting will be January 6, 2010, at St. Clement's Church, 1701 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria, VA, at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathi Hill – Secretary



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Falls Church, VA 22040-6431
Website: <http://www.aisdc.org>

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"/> NEW |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership (includes 1 newsletter) - \$20.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL (due January 1 each year) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Subscriptions - \$17.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> CHANGE OF ADDRESS/UPDATE INFO. |

SELECT ONE OPTION BELOW:			
<input type="checkbox"/> SEND MY NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY (E-Mail) <input type="checkbox"/> MAIL MY NEWSLETTER			
Enclosed is \$ _____	General Fund \$ _____ Pow Wow Fund		
\$ _____	Scholarship Fund \$ _____ Building Fund		
NAME: Member #1 or Subscriber			
NAME: Member #2 (Family)			
Children (Fill out if family membership)	<table border="0"> <tr> <td align="center"><u>Names</u> _____</td> <td align="center"><u>Year of Birth</u></td> </tr> </table>	<u>Names</u> _____	<u>Year of Birth</u>
<u>Names</u> _____	<u>Year of Birth</u>		
ADDRESS	_____ _____ _____		
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EMAIL	_____ _____ @ _____		
Tribal Affiliation (if any)			
Organizational Affiliation(s) (if any)			

(Note: Mail this form & payment to the above address or hand carry to AIS Booth or Officer)

