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N.C.A.I. convention addresses issues

The annual convention of the National Congress of American Indians, held in Salt Lake City October 18-22, produced a number of significant resolutions. Representatives of 113 tribes and 30 Indian organizations nationwide met together for a week to discuss national, regional and local issues.

The recommendations resulting from the convention will be presented to the American Indian Policy Review Commission in November. The Commission in turn will submit its findings to the 95th Congress.

Founded in 1944, the NCAI exists so that "Indians themselves can freely express their views and wishes on national legislation and policy." The NCAI is thereby a means for tribes to communicate with one another and then present a unified voice to Congress.

Sub-committees worked all week in such areas as natural resources, reservation development, health and welfare, and education, pooling ideas and input from individual tribes. Results of the committees' work were submitted to the central Resolution Committee where priorities were established.

A great deal of time was spent in the assembly working on a few major resolutions and there were hundreds that never made it to the floor for discussion or vote. One proposal worked on by Nelson Wallulatam concerning forest management, was to be presented on the floor but time ran out.

Those resolutions that were discussed and passed concerned the BIA's trust responsibilities, tribal government status, legal representation and other nationwide matters. About 1500 voting delegates and alternates listened to and

considered the proposed resolutions. Warm Springs' official delegate was Amos Simtustus, Sr., and the alternate was Elmer Quinn.

Other representing Warm Springs at the convention were Sanders Heath, Wilbur Johnson, Sr., Nelson Wallulatam, Roger Suppah, Ralph Minnick, Ken Smith, Doug McClelland, Uren Leonard and Sid Miller.

Wednesday evening provided colorful diversion for the conventioners. A parade was held through the center of Salt Lake City, with Nelson Wallulatam and Wilbur Johnson, Jr.

gracing the Warm Springs float in their full regalia. A pow-wow followed and the culmination of the evening was the selection of Miss NCAI.

This year's crown went to Miss Papago. Representing Warm Springs in the competition was Edith Johnson, whose presence inspired the pride of the Warm Springs delegation.

Details about the resolutions and other NCAI business will be available in the next issue of Spilyay, when reports of the participants have been gathered.

Trick or Treat . . . Once!

General Manager Ken Smith has announced that the official time for trick or treating in Warm Springs will be Saturday evening from 5:00 to 7:00. Don't expect treats at any other time!

The Community Halloween Carnival will be held at the Community Center directly after these trick or treat hours. Remember, Saturday from 5 to 7 is the official time!

Ambulance program needs help

How many people would know what to do if a loved one suffered a heart attack or a friend was badly injured in an automobile accident? When faced with situations such as these, most of us feel utterly helpless and are dependent upon the aid and knowledge of someone who has the training to handle such emergencies.

We rely upon ambulance personnel to get there quickly and we expect those manning the ambulance to know how to administer oxygen, stop bleeding, and be able to do whatever is necessary to keep our family member or friend alive and stable enroute to the hospital or clinic.

We expect all this, and yet at Warm Springs Jeff Sanders, tribal police chief, believes that for a community of this size, ambulance service is far below what is considered normal.

He is asking for help in building up the ambulance program in order to give more service to the community. Presently, the only people manning the ambulance are members of the police force, and that's not enough, according to Sanders.

"We need volunteers from the community (men or women) who would be willing to take the training required to ride in the back of the ambulance," said Sanders. He also said that he would welcome



CHRIS AND VICKIE STILL are ready and waiting at the clinic on a daytime ambulance run. Both are certified Emergency Medical Technicians.

and claim satisfaction in the knowledge that they've helped save lives.

Photo by Sandy Rangila

individuals who volunteer to drive the ambulance. No special training is required in order to drive the ambulance.

The ambulance attendant or person who rides in back with the patient, must be certified as an EMT (Emergency

Medical Technician). This involves about 80 hours of training which will be provided here in Warm Springs at no cost to the trainee. While taking the course the trainee could drive the ambulance, thus gaining experience and

confidence.

The only requirements of the ambulance driver are a safe driving record, an Oregon license, and the ability to stay calm behind the wheel in an emergency. Sanders said it would be a simple matter to

familiarize the volunteer with the vehicle radios and equipment.

The 80 hours of lessons required for certification as an EMT include (to name a few) instruction on bandaging, splints, how to treat shock victims and heart attack victims, pressure points to stop bleeding, and how to take vital signs.

Sanders said he feels that the advantages far outweigh the time spent on training and the lack of monetary reward. He said going through a course like this and participating in the ambulance program is not only beneficial to the individual and his family, but it's of benefit to the community, too. "There's a personal inner feeling of helping people," he said.

Vickie and Chris Still agreed that this is probably the best part of being part of the ambulance crew - the feeling of helping people and the knowledge that they've saved lives. Sanders (who is also an EMT) says that even in the boondocks he'd feel confident in handling any emergency situation for his family and friends.

Those who would like to participate in this community based ambulance program may contact Jeff Sanders at the police station or Lee Loomis at the clinic. "Even if 100 people volunteered their service it wouldn't be too many," Sanders remarked.