

Northwest leaders gather in Spokane to discuss issues affecting Indian tribes



Warm Springs delegates await an evening barbecue during ATNI meeting in Spokane.



Mike Clements is the newest ATNI treasurer.

The power of politics is in the air all across the country today, and this year's Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians convention is no exception, as voices from Indian Country stand up to be heard.

On Thursday, September 3, Joe DeLaCruz, of the Quinalt Indian Nation, addressed the ATNI attendees with reflections of the past and how things have moved forward to the present. In the fifties, his remarks referred to the days of termination and the hardships and difficulties of those years. There were things that happened right in the Bureau offices. The NCAI took the form of the Affiliated Tribes. The rights of Indian people and self-determination.

The sixties, according to DeLaCruz, focused on economic development in Indian Country through HUD projects. And, the Public Health Service moved from

the Bureau. At that time, the biggest concern was water and sanitation.

Down through the years, the Affiliated Tribes, which has proven many times to be one of the strongest Indian organizations in the country, took the lead in confronting Indian issues head-on. Several times, litigation has stalled many decisions of other tribal groups until ATNI made their move on complex issues. The lead was usually the right move concerning Indian problems. Today, ATNI still striving in that direction.

Committee Reports

Sovereignty/Jurisdiction chairman Del White stated that sovereignty is a very big word and encompasses a great number of issues such as hunting and fishing rights, tribal courts bill, the gaming issues of the state of Idaho, the Allotment act, which is an issue from the past that has remained dormant for many

years. The committee concentrates their work on Indian issues.

The BIA task force: The Portland Area Director Stan Speaks gave a short rundown on issues the task force is working on. Members of the task force present at the meeting were Speaks, Ken Smith, Harold Monteau and Jim Sizemore. Monteau explained that with so many complex situations, the task force has been working on policies. Monteau said, "There are changes in the Bureau. They may be slow in formulating, but they are present. The tribes themselves have a hand in the area action in the transition of duties in the BIA." Tribal leaders who participate in discussing the issues carry the message back to their respective tribes. "This works very well," said Monteau.

A person from the Bureau is assigned to work with each district. Each area has their own concerns and the Tribes can determine their priorities, a few of which is economic development, tribal courts and Indian Education. Priorities vary from Area to Area.

"There is a better understanding of Indian policies," said Ken Smith after meeting with tribal leaders. Working with the tribes, communication is very important. Leaders need to be informed and must be willing and able to actively participate in the Bureau's budget process. The Indian Priority System was "all right", but the "people were not agreeable with it."

Allocation of Funds: Some tribes wanted the budget divided by the size of the tribes, which would be unfair to smaller tribes. In the next process, the tribes will have a say on how the process will work. It looks favorable on identifying needs. Now, the tribes have the authority to reprogram funds as Congress gave authority for tribes to move funds from one program to another. The task force is asking ATNI to host a meeting in the

future to see what everyone's opinion is on the idea.

According to task force member Jim Sizemore, the budget process should be clearer after a meeting later this month in Sacramento. Moving programs have been a problem in the past in many areas, not only in education, but in other areas as well. The time frame on the tribes to get their input to the task force for a better process is needed.

Area Director Speaks stated that the BIA superintendents have the authority to approve contracts and a number of other things that will enable them to manage their programs so that tribes are better served. He also said, "Trust responsibility? That's our responsibility!" Committee reports were presented

to the attendees. Reporting out were the sovereignty/jurisdiction committee, the legislation/litigation committee, economic development committee, education and governance committees.

The several resolution from each of the committees will go on to National Congress of American Indian convention that will be held in October in Virginia.

NCAI Convention
October 12-16
Arlington, Virginia

ATNI delegates select new officers

The Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians convened for its annual meeting in Spokane, Washington recently to settle current business and also prepare pre-National Congress of American Indians concerns of the Northwest.

There were elections for first vice president, second vice president, secretary, assistant secretary and treasurer. This was one of the fastest elections in many years, as Antone Minthorn was nominated and after a short spell, there were no other nomination. A motion was made to accept him by acclamation, a second and accepting motion shortly followed.

The second vice president was also filled by acclamation, as Del White was nominated. Mike Clements was nominated as treasurer and was also accepted by acclamation.

There was some discussion on the secretary's position, as the regular secretary, Pat (Morrell) Duncan, had submitted a letter of resignation be-

cause she now lives in Utah. With this, the body accepted the resignation and nominated Karen Fenton, assistant secretary, as secretary. The assistant secretary's position was filled by Marcy Parker. All new officers were sworn in by Judge Elbridge Coochise.

During the meeting, several important issues, such as Indian gaming on reservations, were discussed. Idaho, in particular, reported their disappointment in Idaho's attorney general's position on Indian gaming. Not only do the high ranking Idaho state officials object to Indian gaming, the state of Nevada is also against Idaho gambling as well. Nevada officials fear the gaming trade in northeastern parts of Nevada may be threatened if Idaho approves Indian gaming.

Idaho state attorney general John Echolaw agrees with the state. Tribal leaders from Idaho, especially the Sho-Bans, were disappointed in Echolaw's stand since he was at one time their tribal attorney. It all boils down to politics.

CFIE holds 5th annual conference in Las Vegas

The coalition for Indian Education will be hosting their Fifth Annual conference "Maintaining Tribal Sovereignty Through Education" October 26-28, 1992 at Harrah's in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Three nationally known keynote speakers will be present, Edward B. Fiske, Author, "Smart Schools, Smart Kids", will be discussing "What makes an effective school". Dr. Harold Hodgkinson, Author/Lecturer will be discussing "The Demographics of Indian Diversity", and Robert Chiago, Executive Director NACIE will discuss "The challenge for Indian Education in the 1990s".

A total of 22 workshops will take place at the three day event with topics such as "Helping Students Learn", "Creative Strategies to Re-

duce Absences and Dropouts" and "Achieving Exemplary Results in High School Biology".

Special features will include: an Opening Reception, Awards Banquet, and Tours of the Las Vegas area such as: Grand Canyon, Zion National Park, Death Valley, Calico Ghost Town, and Hoover Dam.

Exhibit Booths will be available for schools, private industry, tribes, arts and crafts makers, Indian organizations, and government agencies. Sales of articles is encouraged.

The amount for one registration will be \$140, and \$120 for additional registrations from the same organization, for a commercial exhibit booth it will be \$350 and nonprofit booths will be \$150.

NCAI to feature activities highlighting American Indians

The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), the nation's oldest Indian tribal advocacy organization, will hold its 49th Annual Convention, October 11-16, 1992 at the Double Tree Hotel in Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia.

In announcing plans for the meeting, NCAI President, Gaiashkibos, said "President Bush has declared by Presidential Proclamation that 1992 is officially the "Year of the American Indian." We expect to bring that point home through our convention and the many other Indian activities that will be going on in Washington that week."

The organization expects some 2000 American Indians to be in the Nation's Capitol that week.

NCAI Executive Director, Michael J. Anderson, states that the convention theme, "Honoring Our Youth, Our Families, Our Religion," will be addressed in a number of ways. Beginning on Sunday, October 11, with "Native Voices On The Mall," a reception honoring American Indian Veterans, a Native Youth Symposium, a women's luncheon, and an Elder Wisdom Circle, general assemblies will honor the many segments of Indian life that are a part of their world today.

Senator Daniel K. Inouye (D-HI) is sponsoring the Mall event being held on the lawn of the U.S. Capitol on the afternoon of Sunday, October 11. Inouye is chairman of the Senate Select Committee of Indian Affairs

and a powerful advocate for American Indian issues in the U.S. Congress.

Hattie Kauffman, the consumer affairs correspondent on CBS's Morning News, will be the featured speaker at the Women's Honor Luncheon. Kauffman is a member of the Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho. Native women from many areas of professional achievement will be honored at the luncheon.

Donald Rojas, president of the World Council of Indigenous People, will address the convention of inter-

national issues on Tuesday. Other recognized leaders in international affairs will discuss tribal participation with indigenous groups around the world.

President Bush and Governor Clinton have been invited to speak to the convention.

The NCAI is a national membership organization of federal and state-recognized tribes which serves as an advocate and voice for their concerns and issues. It is the only national American Indian organization which speaks for member tribes.

Indian Beading Workshop being offered

Maynard White Owl Lavadour, a nationally known artist and craftsman, will lead a Native American beading workshop at The High Desert Museum in Bend from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, October 10 and 11.

With Lavadour's direction, each participant will make a small medicine pouch using traditional Native American designs, techniques, and colors. Lavadour, whose work had been exhibited widely in the U.S.,

grew up on the Umatilla Indian Reservation and has set a personal goal to share and preserve his cultural heritage.

The fee for the workshop, which includes all materials, is \$44 for Museum members and \$49 for non-members. Pre-registration is required. To register, send a check to The High Desert Museum, 59800 South Highway 97, Bend, OR 97702, or call (503) 382-4754 by Monday, October 5, 1992.

Diabetes classes to begin Sept. 29

The Warm Springs Diabetes Program is sponsoring a five-week series of classes on diabetes. The classes will be held every Tuesday beginning September 29, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Warm Springs Community Center. Anyone is welcome to attend, and refreshments will be served. Registration is not required; however, if you know that you will be attending, please call Susan Mathew, Diabetes Nurse Educator, at the Clinic at 553-1196 so that she can plan for handouts, chairs, etc.

The theme of this series is "Facing Your Fears" in regard to the following aspects of diabetes:

-September 29—What is dia-

betes?

-October 6—High blood sugar-low blood sugar

-October 13—Treatment of diabetes

-October 20—Self-blood glucose monitoring

-October 27—Preventing complications of diabetes

Because each class will cover a separate topic, you will benefit from coming to one or several of the classes if you are unable to attend the entire series. If you have any questions regarding the classes, or about the Diabetes Program in general, please call Susan or Candace at the Clinic.

Diabetes support group to meet September 23

The first organizational meeting of the Warm Springs Diabetes Support Group will be held on Wednesday, September 23, at 7:00 p.m. at the Warm Springs Community Center. Candace Reich, Diabetes Program Coordinator, and Lucinda Green are coordinating the meeting.

The main purpose of the group is to offer emotional support and confidence to people with diabetes and their families. When you first find out that you have diabetes, you may be frightened or wonder "why me?"

These are very real feelings that many people have when they first find out they have diabetes.

Different people have different feelings about diabetes. The important thing is to be aware of how you are feeling and to know that your feelings may be different from those of others. Also, your feelings about diabetes may change from day to day — or even within the same day. It may help to talk about your feelings with others who have the disease.

Learning to live with diabetes

takes a long time. As you learn about diabetes, you will find out that you need to make some changes in the way that you live. It's always hard to make changes. It's easy to get discouraged and you may even want to stop trying. Talking to others who are trying to make similar changes may help.

During the first meeting, the group will discuss when and where future meetings will be held, what topics will be scheduled for discussion, and what format the meetings will follow. If you have any questions regarding the support group, call Candace at the clinic at 553-1196.

Cressman to be featured at Musum

An audio-visual presentation on anthropologist Luther Cressman will be held at The High Desert Museum on Thursday, October 8, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

It will be conducted by Don Hunter, former head of the University of Oregon's Audiovisual Media Center, the unique presentation, called "The Sandal and the Cave," will take participants back in time to Dr. Cressman's pivotal discoveries in determining the antiquity of human occupation in the Northwest. The fee for "The Sandal and the Cave" is \$3, and pre-registration is required. To register, send a check to The High Desert Museum, 59800 S. Highway 97, Bend, OR 97702, or call 382-4754 by Wednesday, September 30, 1992.



Work on the new Warm Springs museum continues. The structure is completed with displays currently being designed and constructed. Scheduled opening for the museum is March 14, 1993.

Spilyay Tymoo

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