

# TURTLETALK NEWSLETTER

A Quarterly Publication of  
Mass. Center for Native American Awareness, Inc.  
617-884-4227    mcnaa@aol.com    www.mcnaa.org

## SPRING-SUMMER-AUTUMN 2007

**GOVERNING BOARD:** President: Burne Stanley-Peters; Board Members: Dawn Duncan, Claudia Fox Tree, Marie Levenson, Kim Orben, Anthony Silva, and Maria Wilkins.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Don Barnaby, Eva Blake, Anne Foxx-Whitford, John Sly Fox Oakley, and Autaquay Peters-Chacin.

**FOUNDER:** Burne Stanley-Peters

**NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS:** Anthony Silva, Winchinchala, and Burne Stanley. ■

**NOTE:** *As a few of you noticed, our quarterly newsletter hasn't been published for awhile (as is evidenced by the dates of some of the articles.) There are a number of reasons for this delay and I hope you understand how badly we feel about it. One of our very good friends and supporter who moved to Maryland looks forward to this publication every quarter. Like many of you, she doesn't have a computer so she doesn't benefit from some of the quick updates and info I e-mail in between issues to members (with e-mail.) Consequently, she...as well as you, hasn't heard from MCNAA in awhile. Thank you all for your patience in waiting for this latest issue of TurtleTalk. ■*

## MCNAA NEWS & INFORMATION

### INTO THE SPIRIT WORLD

*by Burne Stanley*

Former MCNAA Board Member

**I**t is with a heavy heart that I report the loss of a good friend and former MCNAA Board Member, Jan "Red Feather" Ozorowsky. She passed into the Spirit World on March 5, 2007 at the young age of 48. Jan joined the MCNAA Team in 1989 shortly after it was founded. She was one of the original Board Members who helped get the activities up and



running. Living just around the corner in Everett, a short distance from Burne, made it easy for Jan and her late husband John to help with many aspects of MCNAA. She had valuable insight into our programs and always had “ideas, answers, and suggestions” to present to the board either at meetings or via e-mail.

Shortly after the death of her husband, Jan and her son Sequoia moved to Oklahoma in 2003 to start a new life. They lived there for about a year and then decided to journey to Florida where they remained. She kept in touch with MCNAA over the years and then in December 2006 informed us that she had cancer. She was very optimistic about the prognosis. Sadly, it wasn't the cancer that took her life; it was a blood clot to the heart and lungs during an operation.

We have lost a dear friend and someone who devoted so much of her time to MCNAA. She will be sorely missed by many who knew and grew to love her. ■

## **MCNAA ANNUAL SOCIAL & POTLUCK FEAST**

*by Anthony Silva*

**M**CNAA held it's annual social and pot-luck feast on January 27, 2007 at the Middleboro VFW. As usual there was a very large turnout of our Native friends to share Native foods, music and dance, as well as friendly conversation. Also added to the event was the awarding of MCNAA scholarships to Native students in Massachusetts to help defray college expenses beyond tuition. Students receiving tuition waivers from the Commission on Indian Affairs were invited to partake of the social & potluck and to participate in the drawing for various awards ranging from \$100.00-\$750.00. Each student wishing to enter the drawing registered at the door and was introduced when they were called upon to place their name in a jar at the front of the room for the drawing which took place later in the evening.

The evening began very nicely as everyone greeted each other and proceeded to the buffet where ample foods were available to fill even the biggest appetite. Buffalo Chili, Venison stew and Quahog Chowder were among the tasty dishes. One of our Wampanoag brothers, Cedric, brought tubs of freshly dug quahogs for all to share and take home. We all appreciate the effort as these were dug in frozen soil and many still had the ice on them.

As usual, the evening was carried by some fine drumming by Eastern Suns and by the Iron River Singers followed by Eastern Woodland dances led by Jonathan Perry. It was nice to see everyone, including children and elders, participate in the dances.

Many of our elders and tribal leaders were present including Chief Lopez of the newly federally recognized Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe. Both he and our dear friend and elder Lee Edmonds, who attends all of our events with his brother Harry, were called upon later in the evening to help with the scholarship drawings. We wish these students lots of luck and hope they will return after graduation to give back to the Native community.

Unfortunately, Anita "Great Star" Nielsen, one of our elders and a big supporter of MCNAA, was experiencing ill health and was unable to attend. Our prayers go out to her.

Again, we thank all of you who joined us to make this a wonderful time to break from the winter doldrums to keep our Native Spirit alive. ■

## EIGHTEENTH YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

by Anthony Silva

I'm sure you will all agree that MCNAA's 18<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Celebration, held on Sunday, April 1, 2007, was a huge success. Board Member –Claudia Fox Tree – was our emcee, and did a tremendous job. Dawn Duncan, also a Board Member, cleansed the space with what is called a "cleansing song" and Dr. Water's offered the prayer & thanksgiving. We had a fine group of passionate guest speakers that included Everett "Flying Eagle" Page, III,



*Marlene Blake enjoying herself with friends Dianne & Len Pocknett.*



*Board Member Anthony Silva presents Mrs. Waters with an award & flowers.*

Pocasset Wampanoag; Anne Foxx, Mashpee Wampanoag; and Don Barnaby, Mi'qmak. As always, the fellowship of our Native Brothers and Sisters made the extensive planning of this event well worth it. Most notably this year was the honoring ceremony of a very Special lady and long-time MCNAA Member ----- Mrs. Mary Waters. It was great to see her, as always, along with her family. We look forward to this event next year on April 6, 2008. We hope you'll join us then. ■

## RAFFLE DRAWING RESULTS

by Burne Stanley

Our first step in this fundraising effort was to mail letters to some of our members in February/March asking for their support. In that letter, I took the liberty and included (10) tickets. Each ticket was valued at \$2.00. I reminded them that back in September 2002, MCNAA embarked on a small raffle campaign to raise \$5,000 for our Youth Empowerment & Cultural Enrichment Program. Through the hard work of our Fundraising Committee and with the help of our members, we had a successful campaign and nearly met our goal. We decided to use the same fundraising approach this year in efforts to raise \$5,000 before the end of March 2007. This time the proceeds would benefit MCNAA's Youth Empowerment & Cultural Enrichment Program as well as our Scholarship Program. We asked members for their help in selling tickets to friends, family, and co-workers and through this effort we successfully raised over \$4,000.

The five donated prizes were:

- 1st Prize: Gift Certificate for a Mid-week Overnight Stay at Foxwoods & Dinner for 2 at Cedar's Steakhouse - \$360.00 value
- 2nd Prize: A Pendleton Blanket from the Legendary Series "The Iroquois Turtle" - \$184.00 value
- 3rd Prize: Gift Card to "Home Depot" - \$125.00 value
- 4th Prize: Gift Card to "Staples" - \$100.00 value
- 5th Prize: Native-made Necklace - \$50.00 value

The drawing was held on Sunday, April 1, 2007 at MCNAA's 18th Year Anniversary Celebration at the Holiday Inn in Randolph, MA. Winners didn't have to be present to win. I am happy to report the results of the drawing:

#5 Hand-made Native necklace of amber & hematite: Sandy Sodano of Medford

#4 Staples Gift Card for \$100 - Pumukqien Collins of Hyannis

#3 Home Depot Gift Card for \$125 - Eva "Smiling Fox" Brooks of Amesbury

#2 Pendleton Blanket from the Legendary Series "The Iroquois Turtle" – Emma Jo Mills of Mashpee

#1 Overnight Stay at Foxwoods & Dinner for 2 at Cedars Steakhouse – Carole Brown of Rhode Island

Kim made a personal call, on behalf of MCNAA, to all the winners who were not able to be present at the Celebration.

Congratulations to all the winners! And for those of you who bought tickets and contributed to this effort, we thank you for your generous and continued support.

Since this effort has proved to be a successful way to help raise funds for our programs, we will do this again next year with your help. ■



*Chichil- Fancy Dancer  
Marshfield 2007*

## **MCNAA CULTURAL ARTS EVENTS**

MCNAA's Cultural Arts events that were planned for this year were held. They included our Spring Planting Moon Pow-wow at the Marshfield Fairgrounds on May 26-28, 2007; the Summer Moon Pow-wow at the Topsfield Fairgrounds on June 30-July 1, 2007; and our Annual Intertribal Pow-wow at Plug Pond in Haverhill on September 8-9, 2007. ■

## WORKSHOPS OFFERED TO EDUCATORS BY MCNAA

**M**CNAA offers schools and organization, workshops on topics related to systems of oppression, multicultural curriculum, diversity in the workplace, and specifically teaching about Native Americans. Although focused on teacher education, topics are relevant to other groups and individuals and are able to be adjusted. A few are entitled:

- (1) What You Didn't Think You Needed to Know Before Teaching About Native Americans
- (2) Transforming Classroom Lessons to Create Culturally Relevant Classrooms
- (3) Race, culture, and achievement: What Strategies make the Connection?
- (4) Talking About Race and Racism
- (5) Intelligence and the Academic Achievement Gap
- (6) We CAN learn from each other! Peer Visits - A Model
- (7) Being An Ally Across Systems of Oppression
- (8) Workshops on specific Nation/Tribes: Wampanoag, Nipmuc, Arawak/Taino and others

The workshops run from 3 – 6 hours depending on your request. If your school or organization is interested in scheduling a workshop on any of these topics or any topic related to Native Americans, please contact us for further information and pricing. 617-884-4227 or [mcnaa@aol.com](mailto:mcnaa@aol.com) ■

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER

**A**lthough he's been an official committee member for over a year, it's never too late to welcome one of the newest members to MCNAA's Advisory Committee. It's Len Rose. He's not new around the Circle or at pow-wows or to the community..... he's just new to our Advisory Committee.

Len is not replacing anyone on the Committee. As a matter of fact he's joining a wonderful group of people who have been dedicated to MCNAA with their efforts, ideas and support. The other members include: Don Barnaby, Eva Blake, Anne Foxx, Sly Fox Oakley, and Autaquay Peters-Chacin.



Here's a little bit about Len that you probably didn't know:

Len sold crafts with his grandfather (Leonard Bayrd - Narragansett) as far back as he can remember. They attended pow-wows, shows, and school events. This stopped after his grandmother became ill. Len returned to vending in 1993 and has been vending on his own since then. At all the events Len attends, he always lends a hand to everyone in need.

For nine years Len owned and operated his own business repairing and calibrating scales. He sold the business a year or so ago. He now works full time making jewelry, paint, reproductions, and kids toys that he sells at pow wows. He also started singing/drumming with The Split Feather Singers. ■



## COMING UP

### ANNUAL BENEFIT AUCTION & RECEPTION

MCNAA's Annual Benefit Auction and Reception is scheduled for Sunday, October 28, 2007 at the Holiday Inn in Randolph, MA at 12 Noon.

Please keep in mind that this is one of the few fundraising events we hold during the year so please put it on your calendar and consider supporting it. We have various items up for bid. They include all types of Native American ware (paintings, books, blankets, jewelry, pottery, gift items) as well as electronics, small furniture, cookware, services, an overnight stay & dinner for two at Foxwoods, and much more. We are still open to receiving more quality items. If you have something to donate but haven't had the opportunity to get it to us, please contact Tony at MCNAA 617-884-4227.

At this special event, we will also have a door prize, a 50/50 raffle drawing as well as a full hors 'd oeuvre buffet. It's an event that is open to all so please join us. It's a lot of fun. Admission is only \$5.00 and you can purchase your ticket in advance from the MCNAA office or from any of our Board or Advisory Committee Members. If you're unable to attend the auction but want to help support it, you can always mail a check to us at: MCNAA, P.O. Box 5885, Boston, MA 02114-5885. Thank You. ■

## MCNAA'S WISH LIST

Donations of all types needed!

*by Kim Orben*

- Reams of copier paper
- New computer with flat panel monitor
- Postage stamps
- Memorial Gifts - When a friend or relative passes into the spirit world, honor their memory and send a tax deductible contribution to MCNAA. Your contribution will be acknowledged by MCNAA to you and to the family.
- A Building - Donate a useable building for MCNAA's permanent administrative offices and programs. Certain tax benefits may apply.
- We will also accept a parcel of land that will be used as financing leverage to build our Center. Any size or location within the I-495 belt is acceptable. Certain tax benefits may apply.
- A travel trailer or motor home to be used as an on-site office, resting place, at MCNAA pow-wows. ■

## MOVIE REVIEW - "BURY MY HEART AT WOUNDED KNEE"

by Winchinchala

On Tuesday, May 8, 2007, at the invitation of the Massachusetts Center for Native American Awareness, I, along with over 75 MCNAA members and friends, had the honor of attending a special screening of "Bury my Heart at Wounded Knee." The screening was sponsored by HBO in conjunction with Boston University. I was very happy to meet screenwriter Daniel Giat who impressed me with his deep compassion for the subject. These are my observations: Your comments and feedback are welcome.

"Bury my heart at Wounded Knee"

<http://www.hbo.com/films/burymyheart/>

It is written that "Bury my Heart at Wounded knee" powerfully explores the economic, political and social pressures that underpinned the opening of the American West and the tragic impact this expansion had on American Indian culture," and that is true. However the story is told by focusing on the relationship of a Sioux, Ohiyesa and his relationship overtime with Senator Dawes. Through this relationship, the well known story of the Western Europeans invasion and thievery of the Native nations and attempts to annihilate our cultures is seen as an act of greed as usual, but also as racial supremacy and cultural imperialism but not one which touched all individuals equally. The conflict of beliefs is revealed in lines such as:

"The earth belongs to the white man. There is no future outside of his world."

"Assimilation over extinction" and "Absorbed but not assimilated"

"Adapt to the point of elimination."

"No word in any language to own the earth."

"Excess land"



As they deeply believed that "setting the Indian on the course to civilization is the only course," clearly the Whites felt justified in what they were doing in taking the land and forcing their way of life on us. Additionally "Bury My Heart" reveals how many indigenous people fell under the spell of the material goods that the whites offered and caused a rift among the Bureau of Indian Affairs and other native peoples. And it is this very division which allowed Indian people to follow the order of the invaders and ultimately shoot to death Tatanka Iyotaka, Sitting Bull.

While the film is very long due to directorial choices in pacing, it is worth the sit for the script which works brilliantly to reveal the spectrum of emotions from personal anguish to loss to love. What is conspicuously absent is even a minugia of reference to the development of the romance between "Indian" Hakadah (the Pitiful Last One) who became Ohiyesa and then Charles Eastman and Elaine Goodale (Anna Paquin), a

white woman and the difficulties they may have encountered as an interracial couple at this time in history. Their relationship and the death of Sitting Bull are two points in the film whose depictions were questioned and may have been presented as they were not as a result of writing or directorial choices but budget limitations, as is often the case.

According to Eastman's own accounts of his relationship with Goodale, he had read her writings before meeting her on the Sioux reservation after finishing his medical studies at Dartmouth. In the film she is a starry-eyed Bostonian who is captivated by him when he gives a speech.

As for the demise of Tatanka Iyotaka, Sitting Bull, the imagistic sequence of events makes it appear as if Sitting Bull were killed at Pine Ridge not his cabin on Grand River near Standing Rock.

However Adam Beach once again rises to the heights of his craft in his portrayal of the conflicted Sioux, Ohiyesa who became Charles Eastman. Tears to romance to anger flash across his beautiful dark eyes and we truly suffer and mourn and rejoice when he does. His accent and mannerisms clearly depict a man from another time period. He obviously worked very hard to recreate this man. Hopefully there we will see more from Adam. Equally impressive are the performances of Aidan Quinn and August Shellenburg who play Senator Dawes and Sitting Bull respectively

According to the writer himself, Daniel Giat, there was some question about the amount of Sioux to be used. At first the minimal touch seemed restrictive; however, reflecting on "Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee," employing it in the three key instances in which it was spoken, gave incredible meaning to the words and actually caused the listener to strain to understand them before they were translated.

All in all "Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee is a much needed re-visitation of this tragic story in a new medium. I encourage everyone to see it. ■

## **ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS AROUND THE REGION**

### **HAFFENREFFER MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY, BROWN UNIVERSITY**

300 Tower Street  
Bristol, RI 02809

#### **Exhibit**

Kayak, Umiak, Canoe

*Kayak, Umiak, Canoe* explores the traditional watercrafts of northern Native American cultures. More than sixty archaeological and ethnographic objects, images, and a hands-on area for visitors of all ages provides a rich and entertaining context for understanding these lasting symbols of northern Native people and their seafaring lifestyles.

## **Lecture**

Thursday, November 15, 2007 5:30 PM

Archaeological Investigations at Werowocomoco  
Capital of the Powhatan Chiefdom

Martin Gallivan (College of William and Mary) will discuss his recent excavations at the site of Werowocomoco. Four hundred years ago, Jamestown's colonists entered a world of Native American communities bound together within the Powhatan chiefdom. From his residence of Werowocomoco, chief Powhatan dominated Tidewater Virginia. Early colonial encounters at Werowocomoco involved well-known figures from this period, including Powhatan, John Smith, and Pocahontas. Recent archaeological investigations at the site, undertaken in close collaboration with contemporary descendants of the Powhatans, are revealing how Werowocomoco differed in striking ways from other Native communities and served as a center of power for four centuries prior to Jamestown's settlement and during its fateful last years of encounters with Jamestown's settlers.

*Lecture takes place in Manning Hall Gallery  
Brown University  
Reception following the lecture*

## **Event**

Saturday, November 17, 2007 11AM – 2:00 PM

Honoring The Harvest

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Honoring the Harvest event with Native Americans from the Pokanoket Wampanoag community. Tribal members come together with local families and friends to celebrate the harvest. Activities include storytelling, dancing and drumming, craft activities and a feast of Native foods including succotash, cornbread, pumpkin bread, and cider.

Back on Sunday, May 6 of this year, Barbara Hail (curator emerita at the Museum) lead a guided walk to "King Philip's Seat" or what is also known as "The Seat of Metacom". It is a remarkable quartz outcrop long believed to be the site where Metacom met with his community and his warriors, and perhaps the site from which King Philip's War was launched.

For more information on the exhibit, lecture and event, please call 401-253-8388 ■

## **MASHANTUCKET PEQUOT MUSEUM & RESEARCH CENTER**

110 Pequot Trail  
Mashantucket, CT 06338

## **Scout Workshops**

Saturdays in October and November 3, 10, & 17  
10AM and 1PM each day in the CL&P Classroom

These two-hour workshops combine a guided exhibit tour with a fun-filled, hands on program and are designed for scouts of all ages to help meet badge requirements.

Topics to choose from are:

- Fishing Without Poles: How Native people harvested fish
- From the Earth: What stones made the best spear pints and tools?
- Petroglyphs – Images in Stone: Learn about and make one of these ancient rock carvings
- Digging into the Past: Discover what archaeologists learn from the past's trash
- The Truth about Wampum: Read Wampum belts and discover its original meaning
- What's in a Plant?: Discover 6 plants used by Native Americans
- Puppet Theatre—Cautantowwit's Garden: Act out the traditional story of how corn came to the Pequots
- Native American Sports and Games: Play traditional games and learn their cultural importance

The fee of \$11 per scout includes Museum admission for the day.  
Call 860-369-6839 to register.

### **Gifts of the Land – Harvest Thanksgiving Festival**

Monday, October 8, 2007

11AM – 3PM in the Gathering Space

Celebrate the bounty of Fall – cranberries, shellfish and more – in traditional Native American style with music, games, food, a puppet show and hands-on activities for the whole family. Learn how birch bark canoes are made from master craftsman Aaron York as he shows slides of his creations and discusses the role of canoes and canoe-making in his tribal culture. Youngsters can also weave a fish net, make a bracelet out of corn husks, discover how a birch bark canoe is made and enjoy the songs of the Mystic River Drum.

### **Annual History & Culture Fair**

Saturday, October 20, 2007 10:00AM – 3:00 PM

Calling all history buffs – and anyone who wants to know more about this region's intriguing and diverse past! Come and meet fellow antiquarians, including historians, authors, local historical society member, Museum researchers and genealogists, at this special one-day History and Culture Fair. Talk to professionals in various disciplines and share ideas about the transforming events that shaped modern southeastern Connecticut and western Rhode Island. Various scholars, including Robert J. Miller, author of "Native American" Discovered and Conquered," will be available for discussion and book signing. Many displays and exhibits from participating organizations focus on their respective historical collections and research materials, including genealogical data.

Free and open to the public.

### **The Art of Storytelling**

Saturday, October 27, 2007

9:30AM – 4PM in the CL&P Classroom

Join workshop leader and storyteller Trudie Lamb Richmond as she examines the purpose and techniques of this age-old art, which can strengthen language development and stimulate students' imaginations. Discover the role that entertaining tales can play in the classroom educational process. Workshop includes an afternoon roundtable discussion with Native authors and illustrators Tim Tingle, Jeanne Rorex-Bridges, Debra Duvall and Murv Jacob, who discuss their collaborative efforts in creating compelling literature for young people.

\$35/\$25 for Museum members, 6 CEU's, limited to 25

Call 1-800-411-9671 to register.

### **Honoring the Nation's Veterans**

Saturday, November 10, 2007

11AM – 2PM in the Gathering Space

On Veteran's Day, join Mashantucket Pequot and other Native American veterans in the Gathering Space to acknowledge the contributions of all members of the armed services. All veterans and the public are invited to attend.

Call 1-800-411-9671 for further information. ■



## **MCNAA CALENDAR**

### **2007**

Oct. and Nov. Numerous Lectures and Workshop as requested by schools and civic organizations.

Sun., Oct. 28 Annual Benefit Auction, Holiday Inn, Randolph, MA 12 Noon

### **2008**

Sat., Jan. 26 Annual Pot-luck Feast, Social, and Scholarship Drawing, VFW, Middleboro, MA 5PM

Sun., Apr. 6 MCNAA's 19<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Celebration & Honoring Ceremony, Holiday Inn, Randolph, MA 1PM ■



**Windsor Woods at Canton**

Canton, Massachusetts

is currently accepting applications for placement on its waiting lists for affordable housing currently under construction.

40 units will be rented to households at 80% of current area median income limits (AMI) for:

11 - 1BR units

29 - 2BR units

In order to qualify, gross annual household income cannot exceed the following income limits per household size:

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	1 Person	2 Person	3 Person	4 Person
LOW INCOME (80% of AMI)	46,300	52,950	59,550	66,150

1-BR rents-\$1,134.00

2-BR rents - \$1,351.00

Utilities are not included in rent.

Housing applications may be obtained at:  
Windsor Woods at Canton Management Office  
1 Windsor Woods Lane, Canton, MA 02021  
or by telephone at (866) 319-2357 Fax: (781) 830-9103  
Email: [canton@windsorcommunities.com](mailto:canton@windsorcommunities.com)



*Windsor Woods is an Equal Housing Opportunity Provider*