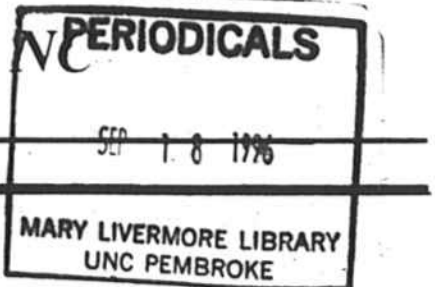


THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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A Front Page Editorial of the Carolina Indian Voice

Looking for Henry Berry Lowrie And Crazy Horse!!!

This is the third in a series of articles about the state of affairs in O'Robeson from an Indian perspective, or "The World According to the Robesonian's Bill and O.H. Lewis and other items of interest." We also will look at how O.H. Lewis wound up with our Indian business in his ear, then printed it in the Robesonian; thinking, we suppose, that it would split the Indian community.

Until recently, the Carolina Indian Voice was counted as a supporter of the Lumbee Cheraw Tribal Council. No more. In the beginning, The Indian Voice office was a favorite watering hole of the Lumbee Constitution enthusiasts, and the vote for a Lumbee Constitution was conducted a lot of times from the office of this newspaper. The Indian Voice editor and others finally split because the editor does not believe that the destruction of LRDA or the takeover of that agency is the reasoning for the adoption of the Constitution or the election of a tribal council. The purpose and intent of that was the establishment of tribal government. Before that, in years gone by, this newspaper was a staunch supporter of LRDA (Lumbee Regional Development Association). We have been lauded and damned by both sides from time to time over the last few years, depending on the issue before the Indian electorate. Now it seems that we are a pariah in both camps. We suppose that is probably the best place a newspaper can be, an outcast and not tied to either camp. Both of these Pembroke-based organizations claim to represent the aspirations of the Lumbee. Both can claim some legitimacy, but neither have been particularly heroic in attempting to put their spin on things concerning tribal sovereignty. Recently, both organizations have boycotted this newspaper, although LRDA has warmed up a little bit in the last few weeks.

It All Starts With a History Lesson!

It all starts with a history lesson, and brings to mind the travails of Henry Berry Lowrie and Crazy Horse. Henry Berry Lowrie, the local Indian hero of the Civil War era, kept his own counsel and was, in part, betrayed by his own people, if the truth be known. It is good that he escaped to parts unknown. We are sure someone would have turned him in, and it probably would have been one of his own. Crazy Horse, the great Sioux war chieftain, finally surrendered to the overwhelming enemy, the United States Army, at Fort Robinson, Nebraska in 1877. Shortly thereafter, his arch enemy, General George Crook attempted to put him in the reservation prison because witnesses said, he did not seem to be a broken man. Crazy Horse carried himself with great dignity. Somehow, in the scuffle to arrest him, Crazy Horse was bayoneted to death. It is said that Indian tribal policemen might have been holding either arm as he was killed. One of the other chiefs, who had decided to compromise and appease the whites, said, "It is good... he has looked for death and it has come." The thought seems to imply that Crazy Horse's death was his own fault.

There is an Indian type that loves to whisper in the white man's ear, hoping that they can manipulate him and wreck havoc on their Indian enemy. Why we fight one another is beyond our editorial comprehension. After all, we are not

the enemy, or are we? This is something that has been a part of Indian history since the beginning of time. Recently the Robesonian and O.H. Lewis have been the recipient of this Indian phenomenon. Indians from both camps, for some time now, have been planting information in the Robesonian in order to try to gain the psychological edge. These two camps are the Lumbee Cheraw Tribal Council and the incumbent, LRDA (Lumbee Regional Development Association), both headquartered in Pembroke. Both seem to have out done themselves attempting to see who can tell the Robesonian the most about "Indian" business. Both need to be chastised for their unseemly behavior and asked not to do it again.

About Wiz Locklear and 8,040 for and 223 Against...

LRDA started it in the summer and fall of 1994 when a constitutional committee, seeded and initiated by LRDA, broke away from her corporate master and took their campaign directly to the people and won. Indian people in Robeson and adjoining counties decided to hold tribal elections and did so successfully in October of 1994. The first order of business though was to approve a referendum calling for a Lumbee Constitution to govern the affairs of the Lumbee. Indian people voted to approve the referendum by a margin of 8,040 for to 223 against during the week of June 27, 1994. LRDA actively worked against the vote and was walloped in the process. In order to regain momentum, and the heart of the electorate, LRDA began a series of paid advertisements in the pages of the Robesonian, totaling more than \$8,000 over the rest of that summer and fall. It was not LRDA's finest moment... \$8,000 in an endowment could have funded Indian scholarships, for instance. The point is, Henry Berry Lowrie would not have done such a thing, as we see it.

LRDA was mad, in part, with the Indian Voice because of a series of editorials written by a character named "Wiz Locklear" (a pseudonym of course) in the Indian newspaper. Many believe "Wiz Locklear" was a disgruntled, former LRDA employee. The articles which began appearing in the pages of the Indian Voice that frenetic summer questioned LRDA's role in attempting to derail the vote on the tribal constitution and council elections and more. The Indian Voice has never identified this individual publicly, and does not do so now. Still, LRDA probably had, in one sense, a right to be mad. It was not the Indian Voice's finest hour either. In retrospect, "Wiz Locklear" in part, as we see it now, might have used the Indian Voice for a personal vendetta against LRDA. Hindsight is a great teacher. If we had it to go over again, we probably would have exercised more editorial restraint toward "Wiz Locklear" because he/she spent too much time attacking LRDA and not enough articulating the concern of the Indian people. Hastily though, for the record, "Wiz Locklear" was an editorial expression of the Carolina Indian Voice. "Wiz" appeared with our blessings that crazy summer of 1994. "Wiz Locklear" also said some things to the Indian community back then that needed saying. The record will show that James Hardin, the executive director of LRDA, and others responded forcefully in paid advertisements and letters to

the editor of the Robesonian to present their side of the issues. They were not coy in defending themselves.

Although we do not wish to fight with our Indian brothers and sisters, we must note regretfully that LRDA has cancelled elections to her board, a grievous error in our editorial opinion. They have recently stated as one of their goals that they will hold elections to that board using the tribal rolls. We encourage them to do so. We also encourage them to do so in 1996.

On the other hand, the Lumbee Cheraw Tribal Council has been a public relations disaster from the very beginning. They also seem to have a fixation with LRDA and have not been magnanimous in victory. We do feel that they are seated under the Lumbee Constitution that could work, but seems frayed around the edges right now. We also charge some of the members of the tribal council and their administrators with being the "Deep Throat" that has told O.H. Lewis everything there is to tell about Indian business, even going so far, editorially speaking, as to tell our shoe size. We suggest that our readers mostly ignore O.H. Lewis. He is reading from a prepared script. The tribal council has filed suit against LRDA and it is now in Superior Court. The suit in effect is an attempt to legitimize the tribal council. Irony continues in this case because long time Indian nemesis Superior Court Judge Joe Freeman Britt, is expected to hear the case before too long. O.H. Lewis has been, in our editorial opinion, duped by his handlers. There is little credence in what he has to say about Indian business because he doesn't know much, only what he has been told. He certainly has not been balanced in his editorials, and probably could not be, even if he wanted to. One is what one is, Lewis, in a series of articles in his "Reality Check" column in the Robesonian has been decidedly one-sided in favor of the tribal council. This is so because they are the only ones talking to him. We have been asked over and over again about O.H.'s involvement in Indian business. The question is: What business has he got in our business? The answer, of course, is NONE! We don't delve into all white business and he should stay out of Indian business.

We feel that Federal Recognition is the most important issue before us, not whether LRDA or the tribal council will necessarily represent Indian people. Our editorial opinion is that LRDA and the tribal council have a sit down immediately and decide what is practical and right for Indian people, collectively. Both are legitimate. Both have distinct and separate responsibilities. One is government. The other is providing services. Neither are going any place. We believe the Constitution is sound and cannot be ignored by LRDA. The Chairman, elected under the Constitution, Dr. Dalton Brooks, is esteemed within the Indian camp. On the other hand, LRDA's fiscal responsibility with the federal bureaucracy is commendable. LRDA also controls the tribal enrollment

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Share Life Foundation organized to help with bone marrow transplant education and financial needs

The Share Life Foundation has been organized and is committed to meeting the financial needs of victims of Leukemia and other blood diseases that require a bone marrow transplant to extend life.

As most everyone is aware, whenever a major illness strikes a family, it can become overwhelming financially. There are many things to be considered. For instances, the cost of traveling back and forth to the hospital, the expenses incurred by family members who feel a need to be close to their loved one during their stay in a hospital. Also, because the idea of a bone marrow transplant is still considered research because of the low survival rate of those receiving transplants, many times insurance companies will not pay for the initial search required to find a donor. Therefore, Share Life Foundation has stated one of its priorities to raise funds in order to pay for the initial search for a donor.

Another priority is to encourage

and educate healthy persons to realize that it is only by the Grace of God that they are not victims of leukemia or some other chronic disease. One way that they can express their appreciation for good health, is to be tissue typed and become registered with the National Bone Marrow Registry. You may be the person who can save the life of a small child, a teenager, or an adult. Only God can know how truly grateful a recipient and their family would be for the Gift of Life. For more information, call H.B. Bullard, official spokes person for Share Life at (910) 73807335.

The Share Life Foundation was organized to meet the ever increasing need for financial assistance for victims of the more than 80 blood diseases that can be cured with a bone marrow transplant. The most recognized of these diseases is leukemia.

Because bone marrow is genetic like the color of one's hair or eyes, it is imperative that minorities be on the

National Bone Marrow Registry in order for minorities to have a better opportunity to receive a bone marrow transplant. In order for a transplant to be performed, it is necessary for the donor and the victim to meet several matching requirements. That is why it is important for minorities to be on the National Registry. In most cases a Native American, a Black or a Hispanic has a greater chance of matching another person of the same Nationality.

For more information or to make a financial contribution, write to: The Share Life Foundation, Post Office Box 1765, Lumberton, NC 28359

Officers of the Share Life Foundation include: Connie Brayboy, president; H. B. Bullard, vice president; Shirley Bullard, secretary; John Brayboy, member at large; Patricia Brayboy and Patricia Bullard, co-treasurers.

Additional information is available by calling: Connie Brayboy at 910-521-2826 (the Carolina Indian Voice) or Patricia Brayboy at 910-738-5057 (the American Red Cross)



Keith Dial honored at Prospect United Methodist

Keith Dial (left) is presented with a plaque by Wade Hunt during a recent ceremony at Prospect United Methodist Church. Dial is treasurer of the United Methodist Men of Prospect UMC and he was honored for his role in heading the efforts to pay for the church parking lot. (Photo by David Malcolm)

Tribal Council to sponsor meet the candidates event

Political candidates for federal, state and local offices have been invited to meet with the Lumbee Tribe on March 30, 1996. According to the Lumbee Tribal Government, candidates are looking forward to the event and the opportunity to meet with the Lumbee people.

Candidates have been asked to address the people on two of the following topics: Federal Recognition, Tobacco, Taxes, Education, Abortion, Prayer in School, Foreign Trade, and Economic Development growth in Robeson and adjoining counties.

The meeting has been scheduled for Saturday, March 30 at the Adolph L. Dial Amphitheater, home of "Strike at the Wind" on the beautiful grounds of the NC Indian Cultural Center. The program begins at noon that day and ends at 5:00 p.m.

Organizers say they will have lots of food, gospel singing and arts and crafts throughout the afternoon. This is a great opportunity for Lumbee people to get to know the candidates and hear what they have to say on issues that affect Lumbee people.

There is no admission fee and all people are invited. In case of rain, the event will be held at Purnell Swett High School.

Clerk's Office seeks persons to collect funds

Jo Ann Locklear, Robeson County Clerk of Superior Court is seeking to locate the following persons entitled to claim funds held by her office. Claimants may contact the Bookkeeping Department in her office at 910-671-3381 or may visit the Bookkeeping Department in person. Mrs. Locklear stated that if these funds are not claimed, they will be escheated to the State.

Jeffrey Jacobs
George McNair
Teresa Sancenbaugh
Katherine Butler Herring
Peggy Sue Jacobs
Howard Monroe Livingston, Jr.
Willie Paul Scott
Kim Yvonne Troy
Ronald David Wright
Worth Junior Hunt
Willie David McBryde
Michael McLean
Ruby Laphis Schneider
Sarah Wibert

Lollie McKoy
Sally Walters
Gail Allen
Ismael Segurta Guerrero
Sandy Chavis
Nathaniel L. Solomon
Steven Price
Mary Ann Pittman
Glenn Everett Locklear
Robert M. Stanley
Corinthia Elaine Threat
Jonathan Elias Murray
Dock Locklear, Jr.
Michael Evans McMinis
Charles Gill McNeill
Linda L. Davis
Laura Welch
Jason Mitchell Deese
Lumbee Car Wash
Eva Mae Evans
Renae Kahn
William Thompson
Betty Graham
Marie B. Thomas
Billy Love
Michelle Morgan
Ann Marie Haggins
Robert Lance Ingram



Shown are Chris Blue, Rose M. Oxendine, and Brandon Locklear. Chris was first runner up in the Deep Branch Elementary Montessori School Spelling Bee. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Mickey Blue and Sandra Blue. Brandon Locklear, represented the sixth grade. He is the son of Mr. Bobby Locklear and Ms. Phyllis Locklear. Ms. Rose M. Oxendine is the fifth/sixth grade teacher.

Bob Bleecker appointed to PSU Board of Trustees

Robert F. Bleecker was recently appointed to the Pembroke State University Board of Trustees.

Bleecker is owner of Bleecker GMC Trucks in Fayetteville and Bleecker Oldsmobile, Buick, GMC in Red Springs. He and his wife, Judy, live in Fayetteville.

"Bob Bleecker has been a loyal and generous supporter of PSU since long before my arrival here seven years ago," said Chancellor Joseph B. Oxendine. "I am thrilled with his appointment to our Board of Trustees and have full confidence that as a member of the University family he will assist us in our continued growth in this region. Bob's life is a genuine success story and we are more fortunate to have his energies and ideas as part of our team."

Bleecker attended East Carolina University and has been in the automobile business his entire adult life. He is active in the Kiwanis Club and the Knights of Pythias. Bleecker is a member of the board of directors of First Citizens Bank and of Coquina Harbor at Little River. He is a past Deacon and Elder at First Presbyterian Church.

He also served on the board of directors of State Bank, the Fayetteville Academy and Presbyterian First School. Bleecker was treasurer of the Carolina Olds Network. He is a member of the North Carolina Motor Vehicle Advisory Board, the National Automobile Dealers Association, the North Carolina Automobile dealers Association, and the GMC Dealer Advisory Board Southeast USA.