

## Thus Saith God's Word

by Rev. Ted Brooks

### Finding Scholarships for Indian Students (c) Copyright, 2001

Two of the stories about college that have stuck with me the most have been about a San Francisco State College student and myself. Let me tell you about them.

About 26 years ago, I learned that there is a lot of money available for Indian college students. J. Ben Lucero, who was the EOPS Director at Palomar College at the time, came up to the Indian Center of San Jose to train my education staff on applying for college, finding scholarships, and the like.

Ben, who was also the President of the California Indian Education Association at the time, told us of an Indian girl who had finished at Palomar the year before. Since Palomar is a two-year college, she had to transfer to San Francisco to complete her four year degree. She had gotten the \$4,500 she needed to pay for college in federal financial aid. (Everything was cheaper back then.)

But Ben told her about private scholarships. She applied to 20 scholarships and won \$10,000 a year in scholarship money. With the extra money, she bought herself a new Mustang and went to college in style. (You could buy a new Mustang then for \$2,500.)

Unfortunately, her story got to me about 15 years too late. When I finished high school as the valedictorian of a small rural high school, I know now I should have had the money to go to college. I should have gotten it from scholarships. But no one at my high school told me about scholarships.

So I finished high school and started looking for a job. These were Eisenhower days, so it took me almost five months to find a job. Finally, I landed a factory job at Hercules Powder Co. in Hopewell, VA. After working there for 11 months, I had a grubstake and quit to go to college.

During that year, Mrs. Collier, a lady in our church, came up to me one Sunday. She had heard I was working and saving money for college. "Son, do you need a scholarship?" she asked me.

"Yes, mam," I said.

"I'll bring you an application next Sunday," she said.

She brought the application, I completed it, and got the scholarship for \$200. That is the only scholarship I got as an undergraduate.

I now resent that no one in my high school told me about scholarships. The same thing is still happening to Indian students today. High schools are not telling them about scholarships. High school libraries in Indian schools do not have any scholarship directories in their holdings.

Everyone- parents, teachers, students, counselors, foundation officials, principals, school board members, superintendents- assumes that Indian students will automatically be eligible for federal financial aid. Not all of them are. If both parents are working, and the family income is \$50,000, an Indian student will not be eligible for any financial aid.

One of the foundation presidents told me just two weeks ago, "It has been my experience that money is no object to an Indian student. The money seems to be there for them to attend college."

He is half right. But he is also half wrong. Students who qualify for financial aid, which is 90% of Indian students, can get financial aid. But students who do not qualify, because their parents make too much money, can not get any financial aid. Their alternatives are work, parents, loans, and scholarships.

What is the big alternative? It is the private sector, specifically the 50,000 or more scholarships that are available. Private scholarships have been in existence almost from the time of the founding of the first college in the U.S. They are funded and overseen by a wide variety of philanthropists, educators, bankers, lawyers, special interest groups, occupational groups, doctors, dentists, and many others.

The two things I hate hearing the most from scholarship people is: (1) "We could not give away all our money last year," and (2) "Why don't we ever get an application from an Indian student?"

Ben showed me how to use the resource 26 years ago, and I have been trying to use it to the maximum extent for Indian students ever since. But sometimes I feel like I am swimming in molasses. The pace of change and improvement in our Indian schools is so slow.

But I found a bright spot recently at the annual meeting of the United South and Eastern Tribes (USET). Sam Lambert, my friend from Quallah, is the Chairman of the Education Committee, and he invited me to talk to the tribal representatives about our program. He also invited a charming and enthusiastic professor from UNC Charlotte to attend. Her name is Dr. Kathryn Johnson.

Dr. Johnson has developed the Native American Scholarship Database Project to "enable as many students as possible to receive a good education," she says. "Educated men and women will be the hope of the Nations in the future."

I could not agree with her more. Her goals are laudable. "I hope we can develop a nationwide program that will meet the needs of both young and traditional students" she told me. So far, she has built scholarship databases for Indians in thirteen states; Alabama, Connecticut, Florida, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, and Texas.

She is still working on developing databases in the big Indian States- Arizona, New Mexico, California, Washington, Oregon, South Dakota, Minnesota, and so on.

These databases are available as CD-ROMs and through her web site (<http://www.uncc.edu/kvjohnso/>). "Students who visit the Web site will find materials regardless of which state they live in or where they attend school," she says. "However, manuals have not yet been prepared for every state. If a tribal government from a state not listed would like information, I will do the research and get the information out to them as quickly as possible."

The funding she has received so far has come from her university, from NASA, and from the National Science Foundation. She is applying for corporate and federal grants to expand the program.

"However, the real source of funding that keeps this project going is the human capital," she told me emphatically. "The faculty and staff of UNC Charlotte make extraordinary contributions. There is no way to assign a dollar amount to what they give."

Dr. Howard Phillips (Choctaw) of the Computer Science department, her own department (Religious Studies), Admissions, Financial Aid, the Native American Academy, and the Native American Student Organization all work as volunteers on the project. "Scholarships, grants, and fellowships benefit the entire community," she stated. "By winning outside funds to pay for their own education, gifted students literally free up money that can be used for other students who truly need financial assistance."

There are three levels of students, she told us at USET. First, there are the extremely talented. They can be admitted to Ivy League schools and win lots of scholarships. They should not get any tribal monies. Second, there are what she calls "second level students." They can get into top state universities, and also win lots of scholarships and grants. They should not get tribal monies.

Finally, there are "level three students." They may be "C" students, older, married, working, need job skills, or some combination of these traits. "They are often the least able to afford to pay tuition and the least likely to be able to win a scholarship award. These are the people in whom the tribe should invest its resources."

"Graduates who complete technical programs at community colleges and become skilled electricians, mechanics, and plumbers also make important contributions to their families and society," she says.

She is also worried about desperate students being conned by scholarship scams. "There are a great many scams on the Internet and advertising their services to local communities. Families should beware when they are pressured to pay for information, provide credit card or bank account numbers in order to 'reserve a particular scholarship' for their student, or are told that the company will 'do all the work for them.'"

One of the most valuable functions of their Web site is that it provides free access to more than a hundred scholarship search sites. These sites give free access to information on thousands of scholarships and grants. "It is not necessary to hire someone to find a scholarship," she says. "Don't fall for that line!"

"Second," she adds, "do not send money or give out important financial information. Scam artists often tell clients they need money or an account number to reserve a particular scholarship. Organizations making legitimate scholarship offers do not require winners to provide cash deposits or their bank account numbers."

Dr. Kathryn Johnson can be reached at the Department of Religious Studies, University of North Carolina, 214 Macy Hall, 9201 University Blvd., Charlotte NC 28223-0001, phone (704) 547-4586, fax (704) 547-3002.



Pointillism, a painting method developed by Georges Seurat, uses dabs of color that are intended to mix in the eyes of the viewer rather than on the canvas.

## Pediatric Pointers

by Dr. Joey Bell, Pembroke Pediatrics

### Acute Otitis Media; Symptoms and Treatment by Amy Wells, Duke PA Student

One of the most common infections in children during this time of year is a middle ear infection, also known as acute otitis media. Acute otitis media occurs when there is inflammation behind the ear drum. Bacteria and viruses travel through the eustachian tube (a tube which connects the nose to the middle ear) to cause a buildup of pus in the middle ear. Children are more likely than adults to get ear infections because their eustachian tubes are shorter and straighter. Shorter tubes make it easier for bacteria and viruses to travel to the middle ear.

Common symptoms of ear infections include ear pain, hearing loss, and fever. Very young children may be fussy, pull at their ears, or have trouble eating and sleeping. Ear infections are often associated with colds, so children may also have runny noses or cough. Sometimes the infection causes the ear drum to burst, allowing pus to drain out of the ear.

Middle ear infections are generally treated with antibiotics, such as amoxicillin, sepra, or zithromax, depending on the duration and severity of the infection. As the antibiotics work to kill bac-

teria, the pus in the middle ear will dissolve, and children's hearing will improve. With proper treatment, even ear drums that have ruptured will usually heal. Sometimes, however, children may retain non-infected fluid in their middle earing loss and may last for a month or more following antibiotic use.

Some children are more likely to develop ear infections than others. Traits that increase the chance of infection include being male, being Native American, having allergies or immune deficiencies, and having anatomical abnormalities such as a cleft palate. Children exposed to cigarette smoke or those in day care also have a higher risk of developing ear infections. Breast-fed children are less likely to get middle ear infections. Ear infections are not contagious, but the colds that often precede them are.

Untreated ear infections can lead to serious complications, so any child with a suspected ear infection should be seen by a health care provider. Other causes of ear pain include dental problems, foreign objects in the ear, damage to the ear canal, or impacted ear wax. A pediatrician or other health care provider will best be able to diagnose the exact cause of earache and prescribe the appropriate remedy.

### Check Out These Web Sites:

Here are a few Web sites you may want to watch:  
Formby's at [www.formbys.com](http://www.formbys.com).  
Telenisus at [www.telenisus.com](http://www.telenisus.com).  
Comtan at [www.comtan.com](http://www.comtan.com).  
Book Adventure at [www.bookadventure.org](http://www.bookadventure.org).  
Campbell Soup at [www.campbellsoup.com/eatsmart](http://www.campbellsoup.com/eatsmart).  
A WebMD at [www.webmd.com](http://www.webmd.com).  
iMotors at [www.imotors.com](http://www.imotors.com).  
The American Podiatric Medical Association at [www.apma.org](http://www.apma.org).  
Babcock & Wilcox Chapter 11, reorganization at [www.bwbar.date.com](http://www.bwbar.date.com).

## 29th Annual Competition for NC Artists thru May 20

The Annual Competition for North Carolina Artists is one of the Southeast's most distinguished and highly competitive professional exhibitions. 65 artists from across the state will feature cutting edge art, chosen by President of International Arts and Artists David F. Furchgott. The finalists will also appear simultaneously on-line for a cyberspace exhibition. You can even vote on-line for your favorite artist! Log on at [www.fmoa.org](http://www.fmoa.org).

## Injured At No Fault of Your Own? Don't Risk Being Victimized Twice!



ARNOLD LOCKLEAR  
ARLIE JACOBS  
GRADY HUNT  
BRIAN K. BROOKS  
MARK LOCKLEAR

### Your Winning Team

Locklear, Jacobs, Hunt & Brooks

Is only a Phone Call Away-Attorneys Committed To Your Interests

203 SOUTH VANCE STREET-PEMBROKE, NC

521-3413

## PROGRESSIVE STATE BANK



\*This \$100 Minimum Balance Checking Account Allows You To Write Checks WITHOUT A SERVICE CHARGE As Long As The Balance Does Not Fall Below \$100.00.

If the Balance Does Fall Below \$100.00, A \$6.00 Monthly Charge And 30 Cents Per Check Is Necessary. This Account Does Not Pay Interest.

DEPOSITS FEDERALLY INSURED TO \$100,000.00.  
Substantial Penalty For Early Withdrawal. Rate Subject To Change Without Notice.

## PROGRESSIVE STATE BANK

308 N. Chestnut Lumberton, N.C. 738-1478  
4400 Fayetteville Rd. Lumberton, N.C. 738-1415  
720 Harris Avenue Raeford, N.C. 876-2488  
410 E. 3rd Street Pembroke, N.C. 521-4206

## JUST SAY NOT GUILTY! NOT GUILTY!

Did you know that it is your right as a jurist to vote not guilty!

The right to say not guilty dates back to the beginning of the United States and juries have repeatedly voted not guilty when they think or feel that government agents have lied.

Today, Indians and Blacks make up over 60% of the NC prison population. Yet, Indians and Blacks barely make up 13% of the state population. Indians and Blacks are filling up the prisons on petty drug offenses and because of the lies of government agents. And these same Indians and Blacks are being forced into slave labor being made to work in NC's huge Prison Industries for \$1.00 per day. Yet they produce millions of dollars for the NC Prison system.

Eddie Hatcher has been wrongly charged. The government is trying to frame, convict and send Eddie Hatcher to death row. Did you also know NC's Death row is over 60% Indians and Blacks as well? We say **ENOUGH IS ENOUGH**. Please don't believe the well-spoken, nicely dressed government agents. They want only to silence Eddie Hatcher.

**REMEMBER- You hold the right to say NOT GUILTY! NOT GUILTY! It's your right to stop turning our young Indians and Blacks over to the slave labor prisons. It's your right.**

**JUST VOTE "NOT GUILTY! NOT GUILTY!"**

For more information;  
[www.eddiehatcher.org](http://www.eddiehatcher.org)  
Eddie Hatcher  
PO Box 2702  
Pembroke, NC 28372  
Thatcher2 @ PeeDee World. Net