

Indian Symposium held

An Indian Culture Symposium was held at Providence Baptist Church in Charlotte, North Carolina on May 19-20, 1977. The symposium was conducted by the Title IV Part A Indian Education Program of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools in co-operation with The General Assistance Center at East Carolina University and The Bilingual Center at the University of Miami.

The Symposium Overview and Welcome was presented by Ms. Rosa Winfree, Title IV Co-ordinator, Charlotte - Mecklenburg Schools.

Greetings to the group were extended by Mr. A. Bruce Jones, Executive Director of the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs.

A panel of local and national Indian leaders discussed Indian needs and concerns on Thursday, May 19. The speakers and topics for this session were as follows: "Indian Education Past and Present"--Mr. Purnell Sweet, Superintendent of Robeson County Schools; "Indian History: Fact from Fiction"--Dr. Dean Chavers, Consultant on Indian Education, Pala Alto, California; "The American Indian Today"--Dr. H. Lindy

Martin, Dean of Student Services, Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama; "Growing Up As an Indian in North Carolina"--Mr. G.B. Chiltonsky, Wood Sculptor, Cherokee, North Carolina.

A dinner banquet was sponsored by the Metrolina Native American Association and The Program for International Studies, University of North Carolina at Charlotte on Thursday night at 7:00 p.m. Master of ceremonies was Mr. Lee Epps, Chairperson, Metrolina Native American Association. The guest speaker was Dr. Lindy Martin, author of a forthcoming book on Indian culture entitled

From Whence the Winds Blew

A Traditional Indian Dance Presentation was given by the Wabash Indian Dancers of Hollister, North Carolina. This group consisted of Arnold Richardson; Patricia Richardson; Wa Yah Sti (Little Wolf) Richardson, who is only 5 years old; Jo Ann Richardson, the Haliwa Princess; and Elkon Richardson.

Various workshops were presented simultaneously on Friday, May 20. Topics and speakers for these sessions included the following: (1) "Career Opportunities in the Health Field"--Dr. Ben Hardin, First Indian Graduate of the University of North Carolina Medical School, Chapel Hill, N.C.; Mr. Joe Shunkamolah, Association of Native American Physicians, Norman, Oklahoma; Ms. Kathy Reede, Phoenix Area Indian Health Board, Phoenix, Arizona; Dr. E. Lavonia Allison, North Carolina Health Manpower Development Program; (2) "Lumbee Indian History and Culture"--Mr. Adolph Dial, author of *The Only Land I Know* and Director of the Indian Studies Program, Pembroke State University; (3) "Cherokee History and Legends"--Mr. G.B. Chiltonsky, Wood Sculptor, and Mrs. Mary Chiltonsky, Indian Legend Storyteller; (4) "Meeting Cultural Needs of Indian Children"--Dr. Dean Chavers, Indian Education Consultant; (5) "Methods and Techniques for Developing Indian Curriculum Materials"--Ms. Linda Skianer, Indian Educational consultant, Seattle, Washington; (6) "Catawba Indian History and Culture"--Ms. Frances Wade, Director of Catawba Programs, Rock Hill, South Carolina; (7) "Indian Simulation Game: Reservation"--Dr. Rachel Bonney, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, N.C.

The symposium participants consisted of more than 100 teachers, social workers, state and federal agency personnel, and other interested persons--Indians and non-Indians. Local participants included Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth R. Maynor; Ms. Mary M. Bell; Ms. Katrina Locklear; Ms. Pattie Brayboy; Ms. Bonnie Hunt; Ms. Pauline B. Locklear; Ms. Janie M. Locklear; Ms. Florence Ransom; Ms. Drenna J. Oxendine, and Ms. Linda Locklear, Miss Lumbee 1976.

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by Alta Oxendine

It just hit me! About the time I passed The Carolina Indian Voice on my way back to Pembroke from the Church and Community Center.

Like Editor Bruce Barton, I am one of those favored few who are doing what they really want to do--and I hadn't even looked at it just that way before!

First, I am a wife and mother. It was always my dream. I had nearly given it up long before my post-30 marriage nearly 18 years ago.

Our family has not always had smooth sailing since then. In fact, we have really had our share of storms and tribulation through the years. But I have a person, a gifted husband who has given me three attractive children, full of the potential to make a genuine contribution to this world.

Also, this year I am writing on my own time about all those things which stayed buried inside of me for years. Writing was another man. I used to wonder what writer was like--how he or she would look, act, dress, talk, etc. I am still awed by successful writers.

But I had a surprising experience one day last fall. I was visiting for the first time in the home of one of our Pembroke tutors. She interrupted our conversation to get some copies of The Carolina Indian Voice and to show me the page with "Reflections."

What really shocked me was her exclamation, "I know a writer!"

I have to admit it was fun turning the tables turned for once. I know I was not really that important. I'm just an ordinary person whose mind goes on wondering whether or not anything will come of it. My mind, it seems, must process incoming information, then pass the results on to others to analyze and evaluate in a similar process.

For me, putting thoughts on paper is a mental and emotional let, a chance to sort out my thoughts as I go along from day to day.

I am grateful for these opportunities to take the PSU Writing Workshop last summer

and the Laubach High Interest/Low Level Writing Workshop for tutors this fall.

And, thanks again to the Carolina Indian Voice for giving me the space and encouragement to share my ideas with each one of you, as a reader.

My writing problem at present is finding the time and solitude to focus on one subject until it is finished. During the last few months I have started 10 or 12 articles for "Reflections." But, somehow, I never managed to get back to working on them. And nothing I write these days gets polished enough to really be presentable. Still, I do enjoy writing.

Of course, there's not a lot of leisure time around our house. While the rest of the family are busy at their three respective Pembroke schools, I am riding, at least four days a week, on one of the Center's Senior Citizens vans. With the county van we go to Maxton and Pembroke on Mondays, Rowland on Tuesdays, St. Pauls on Thursday and the Parkton-Red Springs area on Friday. However, on Wednesday and Friday, I often work with Mr. Herman Maynor on the Lumberton van. Five days a week he takes Senior Citizens to and from Tudor Court and Eastwood Terrace, where the riders go for lunch and fellowship.

I helped Wanda Kay get ready for the Ninth Grade Banquet at the Junior High.

Leon and I watched Donny during three events at the Senior High. He took part in a Health Careers Club service explaining the green and gold emblem, marching in the Junior ROTC Awards Day program, and along with many others at the Athletic Awards Banquet, received a letter for participating on the track team. The next Tuesday night he brought home a medal he had won as a member of the PSHS Relay Team at a track meet held in Lumberton.

However, the most memorable experience for me during these two weeks occurred on Mother's Day. Appropriately, my family paid for developing the color pictures I finally took of the spring time flowers in our area. This was a thoughtful gift for Mother's Day.

But the best gift of all came to me as a surprise at church on Mother's Day morning. After the regular service all three children, along with several other young people, went forward to be baptized and take the vows of church membership.

They have not changed a lot since then. They are still very human. Like their parents, they are still making plenty of mistakes from day to day. But they have

taken the first vital step. They have made a real beginning.

They have shown that they want to be guided by the Great Spirit, the Greatest Spirit of all time and every place, the Creator, Lord and Savior of us all!

For years this has been my hope, and dream, and prayer.

Even now, with the farm, our yard, and the road to our house buried under water, I have a lot to be thankful for.



observes 7th birthday with classmates

Twelve-year-old Gordon announced that he was on the "Graded School" softball team. A few days later he was working on a special science project.

I helped Wanda Kay get ready for the Ninth Grade Banquet at the Junior High.



Michael Sean Baker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Archie C. Baker, celebrated his 7th birthday Wednesday, May 18, at Prospect School where he is a student. Helping Mike enjoy his day were 27 of his classmates, his teachers, Ms. Harvelene Bullard and Mrs. Solly Dillard. Other guests were Ms. Gwen Dial, Mrs. Samuel Locklear, Jr., Debra, Kris and James Baker, Robin Bullard. The children enjoyed birthday cake, party squares, potato chips, corn cheese, drinks and punch. Each child received a party favor. Calling to wish Mike a happy birthday were his sisters, Joan M. Baker of Chapel Hill and Ms. Jacquelyn B. Strickland and Billie Jo of Raleigh.



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