

ALONG the ROBESON TRAIL

by Dr. Stan Knick, Director
PSU Native American Resource Center

The Bureau of Indian Affairs' publication *Indian News* recently presented an interesting summary of information about Indians from the 1990 census. Since the Bureau of Census is such a large organization, and has as its responsibility counting nearly everything about nearly everybody, it always takes them a while to get their data together. So I guess the Bureau of Indian Affairs is just now getting a hold of the census report.

There are a lot of numbers in census reports—numbers about which Native Americans live where, and how many of them there are; numbers about education and poverty, employment and unemployment, family income and household size. You really need to be "into numbers" to read very many census reports. But there are a lot of things to learn from the census.

One thing is that as a nationwide group Native Americans (including Alaska Natives) seem to be getting younger, unlike the total population of America. For quite a few years the average age of Americans in general has been getting older, as more Americans have been living longer lives. But in 1990, 39 out of every 100 Indians were younger than the age of 20, while only 29 out of every 100 in the total American population were younger than the age of 20.

At the same time, only 8 out of every 100 Indians were older than the age of 60, while more than twice that many in the total American population were older than the age of 60 (17 out of every 100). This probably has to do with two things. First, Native Americans still have a somewhat shorter life expectancy than the

general population. Second, birth rates in many Native American communities are higher than in the general population. When you add these two things together, it means that you get more younger people in the Indian community, and therefore the average age of Native Americans nationwide is younger than the average age of the total American population.

Another fact to be learned from the census is that Native Americans (including Alaska Natives) as a group seem to be getting more education than they used to. In 1980, only 56 out of every 100 Indians nationwide were high school graduates. But by 1990, that number had climbed to 66 out of every 100. So while we hear a lot about increasing drop-out rates, there is some good news on the national scene when it comes to how many Native American young people have decided to "stay in school." Of course there is often considerable difference in drop-out rates from one Native American community to another.

The census also tells us that 2 out of every 3 Native Americans (including Alaska Natives) in the country live in just 10 states. Oklahoma, California, Arizona, New Mexico, Alaska, Washington, North Carolina, Texas, New York and Michigan (in that order) have the largest Indian populations. That means North Carolina now has the 7th largest Indian population in the U.S.

This brings us to another fascinating fact. To me, it seems to be a curious set of "facts." This same Bureau of Indian Affairs publication (Volume 17, Number 14; December 17, 1993) reports the ten largest

American Indian "tribes"—Cherokee (308,000), Navajo (219,000), Chippewa (104,000), Sioux (103,000), Choctaw (82,000), Pueblo (53,000), Apache (50,000), Iroquois (49,000), Lumbee (48,000) and Creek (44,000).

Where did all those Cherokee come from? The last time the government counted Indians the Navajo were out in front.

When did Pueblo start being a tribe? I thought the Pueblo people were really a complex conglomeration of 20 or so nations (i.e., Hopi, Zuni, Acoma, Jemez, Picuris, etc...) who have a lot in common but who live in separate communities and are not, and apparently never have been, a single tribe. And what about the Iroquois really being a confederation made up of six nations (Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Seneca, Cayuga and Tuscarora)?

And then there are the 48,000 Lumbee. Is this the same Bureau of Indian Affairs that has been giving the Lumbee people such a hard row to hoe about being recognized as Indians? Does the right hand up there in Washington know what the left hand is doing? I wonder...

If you want a copy of this BIA publication, you can get one from BIA, 1849 C Street NW, Room 1346, MS1340-MIB, Washington, D.C. 20240-0001. The original Bureau of Census report, with lots more numbers about Native Americans, can be obtained by calling the Customer Services Office at 301-763-4100.

For more information, visit the Native American Resource Center in Old Main Building, on the campus of Pembroke State University.

In the Armed Forces

Jerry L. Mahoney

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Jerry L. Mahoney, son of Jerry M. Mahoney of Rt. 3, St. Pauls, NC, recently returned from a seven weeks of Combat Systems Ship Qualification Trials (CSSQT) with the guided missile cruiser USS Vella Gulf, homeported at Norfolk, Va. in the Caribbean Sea.

Vella Gulf, the Navy's newest guided missile cruiser, tested all elements of the ship's Aegis weapons system, in all warfare areas. The result was to qualify the crew as operationally ready.

The trials included tests of the ship's guns, aircraft control system, torpedoes, radar and sonar, as well as its Tomahawk missile, anti-air and anti-submarine warfare capabilities. During the Tomahawk portion of the trial, the ship scored a near-perfect 103.6 out of 106 possible points, the highest score of any ship in 1993.

On a brief port visit to Fort Lauderdale, Fla., the crew enjoyed the hospitality of the city which included a complimentary Miami Dolphins football game and international boat show.

Naval forces will be prepared to fight promptly and effectively, but they will serve in an equally valuable way by engaging day to day as peacekeepers in the defense of American interests. Naval forces are unique in offering this form of international cooperation, from the sea.

The 1989 graduate of South Western High School of Hanover, Ind., joined the Navy in August 1989.

Navy Seaman Donnet O. Bule, a 1993 graduate of Purnell Sweet High School of Pembroke, NC, recently completed basic training at Recruit Training Command, Orlando, Fla.

During the cycle, recruits are taught general military subjects designed to prepare them for further academic and on-the-job training in one of the Navy's 85 occupational fields.

Studies include seamanship, close-order drill, naval history and first aid.

Although the Navy is getting smaller, the state-of-the-art ships, aircraft and high tech systems in today's fleet require bright, talented young men and women to operate them. The Navy has over 60,000 job openings this year, most of which include guaranteed training.

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Edward P. Smith, son of Louwana Clark of 305 Powell St. Fairmont, NC was recently designated a Master Training Specialist.

Smith earned his designation as an instructor by demonstrating exceptional dedication to duty, leadership excellence, technical competence, superb instructing procedures and a desire to improve fleet readiness through quality instruction.

He is currently assigned at Combat Systems Technical Schools Command, Naval Air Station Mare Island, Vallejo, Calif.

The 1979 graduate of Fairmont High School joined the Navy in January 1985. His wife, Pamela, is the daughter of Huel Faulk of 106 Jenkins St., also of Fairmont.

Five PSU Students to have Senior Art Exhibit

Five Pembroke State University art students will have their senior art exhibition Jan. 7-26 with a special reception scheduled Sunday, Jan. 9, from 2-5 p.m. in PSU's Locklear Hall Art Gallery.

The artists are Frances Lee Barnhart of Fayetteville, Tony Chavis of Clarkton, Sherry Ray of Pembroke, Al Rhyne of Ellenboro, and Leslie Woods of Maxton.

Barnhart, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Barnhart, will display works of a realistic style consisting of flowers, still life, and ones showing his personal feeling toward life.

Chavis, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Chavis, will have art dealing with surrealism and an abstract style combined with symbolism.

Ray, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Ray, will exhibit work of watercolor that is contemporary and expressionistic. She will also exhibit lithography, etchings, drawings, and bronze sculptures.

Rhyne, the son of Mr. and Mrs. L.A. Rhyne, will show paintings of abstract symbolism and drawings of surrealism.

Woods, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Woods, will include a repertoire of paintings, watercolors, prints, and ceramics. Most of her work will be contemporary, realistic and symbolic.

Barnhart, a graduate of Patapsco Senior High in Maryland, has been the recipient at PSU of both an art scholarship and academic scholarship. He tentatively plans to become a teacher.

Chavis, a graduate of Clarkton High, has received a Student Government Association service award for serving on the campus activities board and has received a Baptist Student Union award for serving on the BSU Council. He plans to attend graduate school.

Ray, a graduate of Oscar Carlson High in Michigan, has won two awards from the Fayetteville Area Advertising organization. She is undecided about her plans after graduation.

Rhyne, a graduate of East Rutherford High, has served as secretary of the Student Government Association and been both president and treasurer of Pi Lambda Upsilon. For two years he was student intramural director and has been a member of the golf team. He plans to attend graduate school.

Woods, a graduate of West Robeson High (now Purnell Sweet High), was Art Club president in high school and won the art awards in '88 and '89. She is undecided about her future plans.



Al Rhyne



Sherry Ray



Tony Chavis



Leslie Woods



Frances Barnhart



Sign your name to save a life

This holiday season, sign up to give a gift with enduring value—the gift of life! The National Kidney Foundation of North Carolina is asking all North Carolina residents to sign their names to save a life and to discuss their feelings about organ and tissue donation with their families. Designating oneself as an organ donor is as simple as signing an organ donor card or the back of one's driver's license.

According to a recent survey conducted by the National Kidney Foundation, many Americans who have not signed donor cards believe that organ donation is against their religion and that "donated organs are sold to the highest bidder."

Marty Lambert, President of the National Kidney Foundation of North Carolina says, "The fact is that religious leaders throughout the world representing many different religions endorse organ donation as the ultimate gift of life and act of charity."

"At this time of year when people are turning over new leaves, we want to encourage them to consider organ donation. It's one New Year's Resolution that's easy to keep and someday it could help save lives," he added.

Organ allocation criteria are set by the United Network for Organ Sharing which is the national organ procurement and transplantation network in the United States. People who need transplants are placed on a waiting list and available organs are

matched with people on the list according to blood and tissue type, medical need and length of time waiting.

More than 33,000 Americans are currently waiting for an organ transplant, but only about half of those will actually receive one. Six or seven people die every day while waiting for life-saving organ transplants.

Lambert, National Kidney Foundation of North Carolina President continued, "The National Kidney Foundation will provide organ donor cards to anyone in North Carolina who is interested in joining our campaign. We also urge all those who sign cards to talk it over with their families. At the time of donation, it is the next of kin who must sign a donation consent form. When your family knows your wishes, it makes the decision process so much easier."

The National Kidney Foundation of North Carolina is one of 52 Affiliates of the National Kidney Foundation, Inc., which helps more Americans prevent, treat and cure kidney diseases than any other voluntary health agency. The Foundation is committed to the goal of ensuring that every American who needs a transplant receives one. The work of the National Kidney Foundation is entirely funded by the public.

For more information and an organ donor card, contact the National Kidney Foundation of North Carolina at 5970 Fairview Rd. Suite 408, Charlotte, NC 28210, 1-800-356-5362.

Plight of the Lumbee

You may ask from whence I came. To the World my beginning was encompassed in clouds of controversy and mystery.

As for me, it was far less dramatic. One Red, one white, together one common bond - survival. Amidst these clouds would emerge a nation, determined and strong. Although it was no humble beginning, by far, yet a beginning just the same. In the decades past I have yearned for your acceptance.

Neither Red nor white willing to give. My mother has yet to hear my cries. They are drowned out by iniquity's howling winds. Yet, I know within my being of my significance to this land. Abandoned, I must cling to self-recognition as my salvation. Still, there are those who say that I am a figment of man's imagination. There are those who would deem me non-existent. By fate I am destined to journey through these adversities. Though alone, I shall prevail.

I am as Real as The New Born Dawn. I am as Real as Its Whisper-kissed dew. If you have seen these, you have seen me. I am your Reality, for I am Lumbee and I am Proud.

by Wendy Moore Ledwell

Untitled

It was January 1993. An introduction was made to the senate floor. To recognize a tribe called Lumbee Through Bill HR334. Once again opportunity would knock. A people's hopes and dreams entrusted. Only to be eulogized by a southern-drawled warlock. Hopes and dreams again fillerbusted! Wake up America. Or your souls you must sell. Your demise this dreaded disease. You see - prejudice is alive and well. For the world is full of Little Jessies!

by Wendy Moore Ledwell



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