

# Ol' Wiz

Wisdom from the Country

Dear Miss Connee:

A woman came to me the other day about some paper she had signed for LRDA. Well, she didn't understand what she had signed, Miss Connee, and she thought Ol' Wiz could explain it to her. Well, this here paper the LRDA is passing out gives the appearance that, if you sign it, you support our Lumbee bill. But, when Ol' Wiz read it close, its saying that if you sign it you give LRDA the right to be in charge of you as a tribal government. Now, the woman didn't understand that when she signed this paper, Miss Connee. She was told by the LRDA that it was in support of the Lumbee bill. They just didn't tell her the other part in the paper, cause if she had known that, she would have told them where to put their piece of paper.

LRDA has taken advantage of our people for so long, Miss Connee, that they see nothing wrong in asking a woman to sign a paper that she don't understand which gives up her right to have a tribal government. Deceit is an evil thing, Miss Connee, and when we have so-called leaders pulling the wool over their own people's eyes, we are living in some mighty bad times. Ol' Wiz expects that the LRDA papers with this woman's name on it will be sent up there to Washington to prove to some Senator or to the Bureau of Indian Affairs that LRDA is over all of us Indians. But, when they get this other little piece of paper that this woman is sending up there, I reckon their scheming to set themselves up over us as our tribal government will be brought into the open.

Now, the proper way for us to elect us a tribal government is to first figure out what we want this government to do and what it can't be doing. Ol' Wiz likes to call it rules and regulations, but in Indian business, its called a tribal constitution. It sets out on paper what the tribal government can do and what it can't do. Then, once we vote on that, we elect the people who I run our tribal government under those rules and regulations. Ain't nothing odd about that, Miss Connee. Thats the way PTA is run, the way Churches are run, and the way the United States runs and a whole bunch of other countries who care about freedom. Course, if you ain't wanting to do something the right way, you might

sneak around and ask people to sign some paper that goes against the democratic way.

Rules and regulations are a good thing, Miss Connee. If you have them written out on paper and its adopted by the people, then you don't have situations like we have here with the LRDA. But, if you ain't wanting to follow any rules or regulations, you're going to be working against them, which is what LRDA is doing. They ain't wanting to be held down by any rules excepting those they make up along the way, which if it suits their purpose, they can ignore.

Our people have always been taken advantage of, Miss Connee. Off of our poverty and lack of schooling, they build themselves up. Then, they forget the people, until they want something else from us. Well, then LRDA boys can beg all they want. Ol' Wiz ain't signing their paper to give away his rights to LRDA, Miss Connee. About the only thing Ol' Wiz believes they are fit to be in charge of is those turkeys they own up there in St. Pauls.

Speaking of turkeys, Miss Connee, our REA signed off on the LRDA is getting thousands of co-op money to buy that turkey farm. Ol' Wiz has even heard they turned over a bunch of money that was given to the REA to LRDA on helping people with their light bills. What the people should do who gave this money is ask for an accounting of that money given to the LRDA. Ol' Wiz would like to know, Miss Connee, whether it really went to the people, or whether it went for something else at the LRDA.

Now, this other young woman I know was telling me that she got laid off by the LRDA. According to her, she ain't the only one thats laid off. It seems, Miss Connee, that they're in some kind of bind over there. The way I heard it, they're running short on money and are having to let some folks go. Course, if they had listened to Ol' Wiz about throwing away money on fancy ads, they might not be in this fix they're in and that woman might have a job today, but the LRDA ain't caring about these things, Miss Connee. If they ain't careful, they'll spend every cotton-picking nickel sent here to help our people in fighting the people on their constitution.

Course, this woman ain't the only one upset, Miss Connee. The rumor is that one of the board men on this Lumbee Industries, hand-picked by the LRDA, has a warehouse on the airbase and thats where the Lumbee Industries is looking to moving. From what I hear, this same man on the Lumbee Industries is already picking up some big rent money from LRDA. Ol' Wiz wishes he could get on that board, Miss Connee, and rent them out that barn he ain't using. But, it makes you wonder if there ain't some wheeling and dealing going on under that table, Miss Connee. Course, if they're having people sign papers they ain't understanding, I reckon they ain't above doing some other things that ain't right either.

Like Ma said, Miss Connee, birds of a feather stick together. Seems to me that some of these REA boys, these LRDA boys, and those Lumbee Industries boys are sticking mighty close together and are controlling millions of dollars. If this Lumbee bill passes, they're wanting to get their hands on millions more, Miss Connee. This is the real reason they're fighting the people so hard on having a constitution. They figure this constitution will bind them to some rules and regulations, Miss Connee, and they ain't wanting to live under any rules or regulations, excepting the ones they make up which benefit them, not the people.

The way Ol' Wiz looks at it, they ain't show him what they have done with the millions they have already went through, and he sure ain't wanting to give them his blood money to be a wheeling and dealing through their corporations that he ain't no member of, receives nothing from except some taters.

Now, there might be some of our people that can afford to sign a blank check over to the LRDA, Miss Connee, but Ol' Wiz ain't one of them. He's looking down the road to college bills that have to be paid for his grandchildren, having some money if one of the children have to go to the hospital, and helping out his children and grandchildren when they ain't got no money coming in to buy groceries, pay light bills, or doctor bills. He's looking toward the day and time when leaders are held accountable by the people cause they operate under the rules and regulations of the people. We ain't got that now, but I reckon it won't be long before we will have us a constitution.

Now, if folks want to give them LRDA boys a blank check to be in charge of them with no rules and regulations, they need to line up at the LRDA to sign their paper. But, Ol' Wiz ain't going to be in that line, Miss Connee. He'll be standing over there in that other line to vote, on our

constitution cause he's looking down the road, Miss Connee, to the future of our people.

If some folks are thinking thats where LRDA is looking, they need to take a close look at whose future the LRDA is worried about.

From what Ol' Wiz sees, the only future LRDA is looking after is the future of LRDA, not the people. Thats why corporations like LRDA can't run tribes, Miss Connee. There comes a time when it gets torn between whats in the best interest of the people and whats in the best interest of itself. But, a corporation ain't got blood through its veins, Miss Connee. It doesn't weep when a family member dies, cause it ain't got no family. All its got is paper, a bank account, and a permit from the government to carry on business. A corporation doesn't buy groceries, Miss Connee, cause it ain't got no need for food.

It don't go to church, cause it ain't got no need for salvation and corporations ain't allowed in heaven anyway. Only people go to heaven. A corporation doesn't marry or have children, either. It can merge with other corporations, and it create other corporations like the way LRDA created Lumbee Industries. But it doesn't stand before Almighty God and take an oath to love, honor, and obey; neither does it suffer the pangs of childbirth, Miss Connee, or knows what it like to sit up with a sick child through the night.

But, if folks want to put the interest of a corporation over their own flesh and blood, thats their choice, Miss Connee. All Ol' Wiz will do is remember them in his prayers. know that

W. D. Locklear



## Faircloth Introduces Real Welfare Reform Act

Today in a speech on the Senate Floor, Senator Latch Faircloth (R-NC) formally introduced the Faircloth-Grassley-Brown Real Welfare Reform Act of 1994.

Faircloth announced that there are 16 original cosponsors of the bill, including Minority Leader Bob Dole. A companion bill introduced by Congressman Jim Talent of Missouri will be introduced in the House.

The bill directly addresses the three major areas of needed reform: 1. Controlling the growth of welfare costs, 2. Reducing illegitimacy and 3. Establishing serious and sensible workfare requirements.

"Before coming to the Senate I spent 45 years in the private sector meeting a payroll as a businessman", Senator Faircloth said. "Out of all the spending programs implemented by the federal government, I do not know of a group that has been a bigger failure than those collectively known as 'welfare'."

Faircloth explained, "Since President Johnson declared 'war on poverty' in 1965, almost 30 years ago, we have spent almost \$5 trillion on a well intentioned but failed effort to end poverty. In the past five years alone, total welfare spending has more than doubled. Government welfare programs -- often well-intentioned -- have destroyed the initiative of whole generations of our citizens."

The bill will cap aggregate spending on 76 welfare programs at 3.5% (medicaid is excluded). This money will be converted into a single discretionary block grant to the states. "President Clinton's welfare proposal

will increase spending anywhere from \$9.4 to \$38 billion", Faircloth said. "Serious reform means spending less money, not more money. I call on President Clinton to endorse my plan for placing a cap on welfare spending. If he truly wants to end welfare as we know it, then the President should endorse this bill."

Faircloth said, "Real welfare reform must address the root cause that has been fueling the welfare bureaucracy for 30 years: illegitimacy." The bill eliminates direct cash benefits to young women who have children out of wedlock. "Rather than creating a cash incentive to have children out of wedlock, we should promote and reward the institution of marriage," he continued. His bill provides a tax credit to low-income married couples with children.

A third component of the bill establishes workfare requirements in exchange for benefits. "It only makes common sense to expect that people who are being given a helping hand by the working people of America should be expected to at least do a day's work themselves."

Priority will be given to requiring single, able bodied adults on welfare to work. All single able bodied food stamp recipients would be required to work for their benefits. By 1996, half of all single mothers receiving Aid To Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) would be required to work for benefits.

Senator Faircloth concluded, "As I have said many times before, we need workers not welfare."

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## Elders and Traditionalist Corner

### On The Pow Wow Circuit



The following list of upcoming powwows is not intended to be a complete list. Anyone having information about upcoming powwows not listed is encouraged to send them to: Wild Turkey, P.O. Box 1075, Pembroke, NC 28372 or fax to (910) 521-1975

- \* May 28, Upper Mattaponi Spring Festival, Sharon School, King William, VA. Info.: 804-769-2408.
- \* June 3, 4, 5th 2ND Annual NALIA/Loretta Lynn Pow-Wow Waverly, Tennessee, American Indian Vendors/Traders & Dancers Welcomed. For more info. call Native American Indian Asso. Georgia Maggie at 615-726-0806.
- \* June 4-5, Machapunga Tuscarora Indian Tribal Association First Annual Native American Pow Wow, Moratoc Park on the Roanoke River, Hwy 711 S Business, Williamston, NC. Info.: 910-793-6117/910-975-1473 after 6 p.m.
- \* June 16, 17, 18, & 19, Rebirth of the Traditional Spiritual Gatherings, a Tribute to the Great Spirit, Father of all Indian Nations, North Carolina Indian Cultural Center, Call Spotted Turtle (910) 521-4178, Painted Turtle (910) 521-0020 or Wild Turkey (919) 521-2826.
- \* June 24-25 Allentown, PA, Pow-Wow (410) 788-0689.
- July 2, 1994 - 11:00 a.m. - 2 p.m. & 6 p.m. - Until, AISES Chapter invites the public to our Third Annual Powwow at Pembroke State University.
- \* July 15, 16, 17- Charlotte Native American Festival, First Union Atrium and Plaza 301 South Tryon St. Charlotte, NC. Info. 704-588-5870.
- \* July 15-17 Howard County, MD (410) 788-0689, (919) 257-1720
- \* July 24, Cherokee of Hoke County and Maxton, NC Tuscaroras, Intertribal Festival, at Rockfish near Davis Bridge, NC. Contact Chief or Mrs. Edgar Bryant. (910) 875-0222.
- \* July 29-31 Virginia Beach, (410) 788-0689 or (919) 257-1720.
- \* July 30-31, Third Annual Pow Wow and Festival, Rising Water and Falling Water, Showplace, Richmond, VA. 804-769-1018, 804-443-4221.
- \* August 26-28 Baltimore American Indian Center Pow-Wow (410) 675-3535
- \* September 9-10, Coharie Pow Wow, Clinton, NC Contact (910) 564-6909.
- \* September 15-17 Guilford Native American Association (919) 273-8686
- \* September 23-24, Native American Festival, Durham Technical Community College, 1637 Lawson Street, Durham, NC. Call (919) 598-9188 or (919) 479-8000.
- \* Sept. 30-Oct. 1, Indian Trail Pow Wow, Indian Trail, NC. Call Metrolina Association: 704-331-4818, Kingston Sanderson, 704-821-6361.
- \* October 7-8, Cumberland County Native American 13th Annual Pow Wow, Memorial Indoor Arena, Fayetteville, NC 910-483-8442.
- \* October 14-15 Wacamaw-Siouan Pow Wow, Bolton, NC. For info: (919) 655-8778.
- \* October 14, 15, 16, 13th Annual NALIA Pow-Wow & Fall Festival Nashville, Tennessee for more info. call 615-726-0806. American Indian Vendors/Traders & Dancers Welcomed. 211 Union St. Stahlman Bldg. Suite 932 Nashville, TN 37201-1505.
- \* October 21-22, Meherrin Indian Tribe Pow Wow, Winton, NC.
- \* November 7-13 Great American Indian Expo (410) 788-0689
- \* November 21-27 Native American Pow-Wow, Baltimore, MD (410) 675-3535

What: Rebirth of the Traditional Spiritual Gatherings

Where: North Carolina Indian Cultural Center, Pembroke, NC

When: Father's Day Weekend June 16, 17, 18, 19th

Why: To Promote and Educate the Principals of Native American Traditional Life...

### Rebirth of the Traditional Spiritual Gatherings

A Tribute to the Great Spirit, Father of all Indian Nations (All day and all night Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday until evening)

June 16, 17, 18, 19, 1994

North Carolina Indian Cultural Center

There will be dancing, drumming, singing, storytelling and demonstrations occurring day and night. No schedule of events. All time is "Indian time."

\*NO VENDORS (SELLERS) Traders (Bartering Only)

\*No Admission  
\*No Prizes  
\*No Competition

Anyone can barter for any item displayed. Anyone wishing to trade Native made crafts etc. bring Blanket and set up FREE.

CAMPING IS FREE.

Lodges of any style have preference at the site.

Primitive camping preferred.

NO HOOK UPS

Separate area for trailers, motorhomes

One item of non-perishable food will entice one meal ticket.

ALL food and clothes gathered will be donated to The Rebebon County Church and Community Center.

Sponsored in part by Title V, B.A. Program, established in honor of Elders and the Traditionalist Vision. Lumbee Regional Development Association, Inc. judges a cultural center



A tribute to the Great Spirit, father of all the Indian Nations, is being planned for the weekend of Father's Day June 16, 17, 18, & 19.

It will open Thursday (evening afternoon) with the lighting of the Ceremonial Fire by Lumbee fire keeper Many Skins. No special time since all activities taking place during the weekend will be on "Indian Time" "Indian Time" is defined as sleep when you are tired, wake when you are rested, eat when you are hungry, dance when inspired by the Spirit or you are looking for the blessing of the Spirit; Pray when you need to and socialize, barter, and learn as much as you can as your time allows.

Speaking of bartering, it is the Indian way - you have what I need, I have what you want, we swap. Cost should not be a factor because the primary reason for the barter is want or need. There will be nothing for sale. If you have a need, we are sure that you will be satisfied with any barter that you agree on. There will be food available day and night for the people at the Cultural Center. Participants will trade help in the promotion, care, and education of the "Gathering" for their meals. Visitor should bring a Non-perishable food item in exchange for a meal ticket for each item. We hope to have a clothing exchange organized. Bring in your outdoor school and winter clothes and warm jackets (all sizes) in good condition and exchange for items that will fit next year. There will be designated areas for tribal elders, chiefs, artists, craftspeople, etc. at the gathering site. The separation is only intended only to show the differences and similarities of the various tribes.

represented with regards to tradition, crafts, art, education, etc. Each family in the group will have space for a blanket or table to display their trade items.

Camping will be free and primitive camping is preferred. Lodges of any style will be given first preference in the inner circle of lodges. Tribal members camping behind the tribal elder or chief's lodge will locate their site in a pie shape that will be marked off. There will be a area designated for modern campers, trailers, motorhomes, etc., however no hook-ups will be provided.

It is the vision of the organizers of this gathering to form an INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF ELDERS to promote at least four of these gatherings in the four sacred directions of North Carolina. The four proposed sites are: NORTH - DURING THE WINTER MONTHS IN THE HALIWA-SAPONI HOMELAND; EAST - DURING THE SPRING MONTHS IN THE WACCAMAW-SIOUAN HOMELAND; SOUTH - DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS IN THE LUMBEE-CHERAW HOMELAND; WEST - DURING THE FALL MONTHS IN THE CHEROKEE HOMELAND. We need at least two (2) elders from each tribe who believe that the traditional ways of our people must survive. To accomplish this we must educate the young, the middle-aged, and elderly people in the traditional ways of the NATIVE PEOPLE. It is not the intent of the INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF ELDERS to change anyone's religious beliefs but to reinforce the respect for the Spirit beliefs, respect for the environment, respect for all animals, and harmony in all that you do. Any elder or qualified Indian educator (Traditional) wishing to be a part of this group is needed and all help will be surely appreciated. The group will have no dues, and no cost; however, we will have the satisfaction of knowing that we have done our best to bring the knowledge of the traditional ways to someone who truly wanted to learn. We envision an elder sitting under an arbor talking of the old ways to people of all ages and these people getting inspired and wanting to learn more. We are hoping that the wisdom of the Elders will be spread to all NATIVE PEOPLES in this manner, so that we can eliminate the pollution of the environment, crime in our neighborhoods, and the needless slaughter of man and animal.

We will not tolerate the vices that destroy the inalienable right of every person to enjoy their life in spiritual friendship and peace. ALCOHOL, DRUGS, OR ATTITUDES will not be allowed anywhere on the grounds and this includes campers. This gathering is a tribute to the GREAT SPIRIT; therefore we will encourage all who attend to always be on their best behavior while the spirit is near. We know that the spirit will be present and will give many blessings. Let us glorify to be ready to accept all of the blessings that will be delivered with a clear heart.

We really want the INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF ELDERS to work and it will with the help, support and representation of all of the NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES IN NORTH CAROLINA. A peaceful and loving attitude with a key to success. Each member of the INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF ELDERS will have an equal voice around the circle and all decisions must have the support of all members. In this manner we will speak as one voice or group. This may sound idealistic but it is not, it will not be easy but with a commitment to our young and all our people it will work.

For further information:  
Call Ray Inattentive or Painted Turtle at (910) 521-4178  
Wild Turkey at (919) 521-3002  
or you may contact the Carolina Indian Voice - % Wild Turkey, P.O. Box 1075, Pembroke, NC. 28372 (910) 521-3236

If your child or you wish to learn dancing, drumming, singing, etc.