

## RICK'S PLACE



A couple weeks ago, a friend asked me if I was trying to "get LRDA". I wasn't very sure what he meant. I asked him to explain why he thought I was trying to "get" anybody or anything. He said he had noticed that since the beginning of the constitutional controversy, The Carolina Indian Voice and Rick Barton seemed to be anti-LRDA. He wanted to know if I and The Carolina Indian Voice was waging a personal vendetta. I took last week off and thought, among other things, about LRDA, the Lumbee tribal constitution and the Carolina Indian Voice.

I was very glad he asked about those issues for many reasons. The first, of course, being that if he asked about what I had written, then he must have read this column and this paper. Being in the newspaper business, it makes me happy whenever anyone takes time to read our paper. The staff at the Indian Voice takes great pride in presenting to our people a forum for ideas as well as a forum for information about our community and the issues that are important to The Lumbee-Cheraw Nation. We firmly believe communication is the key to the universe. As Bruce Barton always said, "the positive exchange of ideas is always better than the negative blast from a shotgun."

Another reason I was glad he asked about those issues is it showed he was concerned about his community, his people and the future. He was concerned enough to confront me. I respect that. It is very easy to sit back and let things run their course. Many people, for many different reasons, will allow things to continue even when they feel someone should say or do something. I was raised to believe

that I am someone. If someone needs to take a stand, I truly believe as a Christian, as an Indian, and finally as an American, I have the duty, as well as the right to take that stand.

Neither I nor The Carolina Indian Voice is Anti-LRDA. We believe LRDA has provided many services to the Lumbee people in the past and will probably continue to do so in the future. We believe that on the issue of a tribal constitution, LRDA, and its board of directors have taken a stance that is inconsistent with the needs of the Lumbee people. We believe LRDA needs to do its business in the light of day, not behind closed doors. Closed doors should be saved for married folks, not public servants. LRDA's actions are not the actions of a government of the people, for the people.

Neither I nor the Carolina Indian Voice is Anti-the LRDA board of directors. In years past, the Indian Voice and LRDA's board has worked toward many of the same goals. Individually, I respect and admire many of the board members. I believe that many board members will run for tribal council once things are set in place. If they are elected, I'll certainly support them, as long as they do the right thing. Let the people decide. As a news organization, the Carolina Indian Voice is committed to presenting the news to the people. We are not anti-LRDA. We are not trying to "get LRDA". We are trying to get LRDA to do the right thing. We are trying to get better. We are anti-stupidity, anti-ignorance. We are pro-Lumbee. We are pro-Indian. We support the Lumbee Bill.

Rick Barton, President  
First American Publications

# REFLECTIONS

by Alta Nye Oxendine

## SINGLE ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Before I forget it, our next Singles' Meeting will be a week earlier this time, on the First Tuesday, June 7th instead of our regular Second Tuesday of the month. As usual, we'll be meeting at First United Methodist Church in Pembroke, at 7:00 pm.

Here it is, almost time for Father's day, and I'm still thinking about Mother's day. At our last Singles' meeting Shirley Lowry presented an interesting program. It included several readings from the Book of Comfort and Joy. Then she asked each of us to jot down something about our mother, or about Mother's Day. As we took turns reading what we'd written, I was so impressed by these informal "essays" that, after the meeting I asked those who were still present if I could share their thoughts in this column.

Anne Boyle, "Everyday is Mother's Day. We ask so little and get so much. That's why we are special." Irene Oxendine, "If my mother was here I would tell her and show her in more ways of love, how I appreciate a mother." Myrtle Woodell, "She was a loving mother, a caring mother. But most of all, she was a Christian mother. She taught us to respect others." Norma J. Thompson, "Life is not always easy, but I always knew my mother loved me and trusted and believed in me. This trust kept me from doing things that I knew she disapproved of, therefore making me a more disciplined, moral person. She taught me the value of Love. How to Love! The Force of Love!"

Flora Ransom, "My mother meant the world and all to me. She was always there for me. She was kind and gentle. She guided me in the right direction, giving sound advice. She was there when I was happy, and sad. I still miss her, especially on Mother's days." Annie Pearl Cummings, "My mother's greatest gift to me was that she raised us in a Christian home and guided us through most of the struggles in our lives. She also was the corner stone in my life in helping me raise 6 children. And of the five that are left-they are all Christians and workers in their churches."

Another member said her mother warned her children to be careful in choosing their friends. "There is never a lie told that someone won't believe it," she told them. I'm sorry some had already left, because each person made a special contribution. Also, I did not get down the nice things Shirley Lowry said about her mother. I, too, have fond memories of "Miss Lela". I was staying with her when Leon and I got married.

About my own mother I said, "I'm thankful for a mother who has been in

this world for 91 years and is still going strong! I've known her for over 66 of those years. We've had our misunderstandings. But she has been a Christian guide and a faithful friend." I could have added that we are now closer than ever, for which I am very grateful.

## MEMORIAL DAY

Over the phone she told me about her little trip on Memorial Day. That's when people in Montana always plan to take flowers (often wild flowers) to the cemetery.

My cousin Betty, who has looked after Mother through the years, picked her up at the Nursing Home and several relatives drove together to the Point of Rocks cemetery where my father, his parents, Mother's parents, and many others are buried. Let's also remember all who have fought and died around the world, in order to keep or promote freedom, including everyone involved in the Normandy Invasion 50 years ago.)

Afterward Mother spent a little time at her own house. She said she enjoyed eating a good meal at my Aunt Clara's home, a mile and a half down the dirt road from where Mother has lived since 1941. Just before we got into World War II, we moved back to that little log house where daddy was born (in 1898). Aunt Clara also a widow has a nice double wide trailer at one

end of the ranch where Mother grew up.

## FUTURE WARS!

I wonder whether we will be involved in more wars. At present, it looks to me like the situation in North Korea is the most ominous. Surely now we Americans can see that the "communism is dead" idea was just wishful thinking. China, Cuba, and other countries still have a communist back into power if they were ever really out. I still believe it's the Communist Serbian government rather than the Serbian People in Yugoslavia who started the war there by not allowing republics like Croatia and Bosnia to become independent.

We have some very good friends in Montana who are Serbian. Also, I'm still wondering what Communist party leader Joe Slovo may be p to in South Africa. He has an important position in the new coalition government. There was reportedly a big cheer when Fidel Castro arrived for Nelson Mandela's inauguration. According to what Mandela said during the town meeting when he was in this country several years ago, Castro is considered one of the ANC's good friends. Another thing I wonder about is the clenched fists you see on TV and in newspaper pictures. I understand that to be a Marxist symbol calling: "Workers of the World, Unite!"

Certainly we need to pray daily for Our country and for the Entire world!

## KEVIN AND KELVIN

So Kevin Eastman has replaced Kelvin Sampson as head coach at Washington State! When I called WECT to ask why they hadn't given Kelvin more coverage as a native of southeast NC, the sportscaster told me

he didn't have much info on him. I hope WECT will be able to use the articles I faxed to them for a story on Kelvin sometime in the future, maybe in connection with the Goodwill Games.

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## New Wind

Some say a new wind is blowing  
None like our eyes have seen  
Though to a people it be long coming  
Eager are the hearts who welcome its torrent arrival

The wind we speak is the wind of change  
Destined to rush ore the land  
Rubbled empires its aftermath  
No evidence of survivors

Its heavenly gusts sweep clean  
The corridors of the mind  
Courageous are those who stand in its forefront  
Nothing will ever be the same.

Blow wind Blow!  
Wendy Moore Ledwell  
May 29, 1994

## Carla & Redemption's

4th Anniversary Weekend Celebration

Friday, June 3rd & Saturday June 4th

At Lumberton High School Auditorium • 7:00 P.M.

Featuring:

Friday, June 3rd



Pierce  
"Total Submission"



Charles Johnson & The Revivers  
"Love Of Jesus"



Serenaders  
"Till Storm Passes By"

Saturday, June 4th



Nadine & Steve  
"He's Alive"



Quinton Mills  
"I Found The Lily In My Valley"



Darrell Luster  
"I Deceive He Died For Me"

Tickets \$5.00 Advance  
For Each Concert  
\$7.00 At The Door  
Children 6 & Under Get In Free  
\* Reserve Tickets Holders Will Be Guaranteed A Reserved Seat.  
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WIS, WKE, G104  
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\* After Saturday's Concert, All Are Invited To The Wedding Of Carla Oxendine & Earl Monds Of (Carla & Redemption), Reception Will Follow In School Cafeteria All Welcome.



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