

Pembroke Kiwanis Report

The weekly meeting was held Tuesday evening at the Jade Garden Restaurant. President Brian Brook presiding.

Program Chairman Arlie Jacobs presented Miss Shelia Lowry, Child Care Worker of the Baptist Odom Home for Children. Miss Lowry, UNCP Music Major graduated in 1992. The work with students involves regular school on the campus, teachers from Purnell Swett High School. Open House for their new building will be in January 1, 1998. Good work habits, person responsibility, Christian education of the highest ethics is a priority. This was dramatically brought out in two skits by the Odom Girls Choir in their very strong voices and fine dramatic ability. The first skit with recorded music depicted a teen-aged girl with problems unsolved until another real Christian girl came into her life showing her the Spirit of Christ and saved her as she too became a Christian. The Song, entitled "Total Eclipse of the Heart" Was the main theme of the first skit.

The second skit entitled, "Grace" was sung by Miss Lowry and the choir. Beautifully done. The Kiwanis members were truly impressed by the fine performance of Miss Lowry's in-depth description of the outstanding work done at Odom Home.

Invocation- Clay Maynor; Pledge of Allegiance- Brian Brooks; Song Leader- Ray Lowry; Reporter- Ken Johnson.

VFW Post 2843 to Meet December 15

All members of Pembroke VFW Post 2843 are urged to attend a special meeting at the Post Home on Union Chapel Road on December 15 at 7 p.m. All members are urged to attend this special meeting.

Experience is the only prophecy of wise men.
—Alphonse de Lamartine.

Cookie's Corner

By: Vinita Maynor Clark

Now, it's time to sit down and "take time to smell the flowers." As you read my column this week I want you to read a story that I wrote about "the true meaning of Christmas."

The Smallest Angel

There was a great rejoicing in heaven over the birth of the newborn king. All of the angels that had been there in heaven for years were going around telling everyone there "what they were going to give the newborn king as a present". Some of the angels had really collected a lot of things since they had been in heaven.

There was a lonely little boy named Joell in heaven that had just come there and he had no gifts because when he left Earth he couldn't bring anything with him. He heard all of these angels talking about the fine gifts that they were going to give the baby Jesus. Joell so was depressed and was crying. His Guardian Angel Michael came over and knelt down beside him and said "what's wrong Joell?" And Joell looked up him with tears in his eyes and said "I have no gifts to give the Baby Jesus". His guardian angel looked down at Joell and asked him "if I would let you return to Earth to go to your room and get something, is there something there that you would like to give the baby Jesus?" And Joell said "Yes". "Well, Joell you can go but you must return as fast as you can we only have three hours till the giving of the gifts" said Guardian Angel Michael.

So Joell went back to Earth and walked in his old home. His mother and father looked so sad and they were saying how much they missed their son but they knew that he was in a better place because he was not sick anymore. Joell went in his bedroom and looked around. Still in his corner was his most prized possession, his toy box. And Joell said "Every boy needs a toy box. I'll give mine to the baby Jesus! Happily, Joell flew back to heaven.

The procession was starting when

Joell returned and he got at the end of the line. his guardian angel Michael said "Did you get something?" and Joell said "Yes. I got my most prized possession and I am going to give it to the baby Jesus". No one could see what it was because he had wrapped it up very carefully.

It was a very long procession, there were a lot of gifts such as gold, silver, jewels and gifts of every kind. But the best was saved for the last.

Joell respectfully knelt down at the foot of baby Jesus's crib and Joell said, "I have no fine gifts; for I am just a small boy but Baby Jesus. I want to give you this thing that I cherished most on the Earth...my toy box." The older Angels "gasped" and you could hear one of them say "that's not fit for a King". But when Baby Jesus had the box open for him he "smiled", for there was a ball, a stick, and a piece of rawhide that was used for a glove". Joell looked up at God thinking that God might be angry at him and then God "Smiled" and said "Joel, I thank you for the purest gift, the gift from your heart, you did not do like the others and give Baby Jesus something that was "politically correct". You gave him your heart when you gave him that toy box because I know how much you loved it when you were on Earth." I want your gift to be a reminder to the entire world. That it doesn't matter the size or the price of a gift but the thought behind it. From this day forth everyone will know of your love for the Baby Jesus because your gift will shine in the night sky and lead every one to his Earthly birth place. For your gift shall become The Star of Bethlehem and shall shine for all eternity.

You see it doesn't matter the size of the gift "it is only the thought behind the gift that really counts."

So folks, when you are out there shopping remember that,

Has anyone told you today that they love you...well I do!

If you have to keep reminding yourself of a thing, perhaps it isn't so.

—Christopher Morley

Along the Robeson Trail

by Dr. Stanley Knick

Director, UNCP Native American Resource Center

In our on-going effort to situate the Lumbee in the broadest possible context, we have been trying to reconstruct the past. Last week we began imagining the life which Lumbee ancestors must have lived — the life of a village; the life of *pimádaziwin*. We can only imagine that life of long ago, with the help of evidence from other similar Indian cultures, because most of us live in a modern culture so thoroughly unlike the Woodland culture of the Lumbee ancestors. We have seen that the life of *pimádaziwin* is the balanced life, the good life.

Imagine again your village. Here is a woman who is your best potter. She is the one who knows where the prime clay can be found, and how to prepare it in just the right way. She knows that sand from a certain spot on the river makes the best tempering, and she knows the best way to roll the coils and build the pots. She knows the finest ways to decorate the outer surface — remembers the designs that have been used in your village since long ago. She knows these things because her mother knew them, and her grandmother before that. And when it is time for the women of the village to make new pots for the ceremony of the changing seasons, they will always come to her lodge and say: "Sister, it is time." And because

Attention Readers

Do you have something going on in your family such as a Wedding, church homecoming, special events, or yard sale? Why not contact us at The Carolina Indian Voice. We would be more than happy to put your article in the paper so that your friends and relatives will know what is going on?

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she is living *pimádaziwin* with them, she helps them to get the best clay, and everyone has new and wonderful vessels for the ceremony and the coming season. And balance is restored.

Here is a woman who is your herbalist. She is the one who knows where every healing herb lives, and what time of day is best to pick it, and which part of the plant is best to use. She knows the names and uses of three hundred plants which live in the forest and beside the river and streams. She knows that there is a certain time of the moon's cycle for picking each plant, and a certain time of the year. She knows which plants may be combined with other plants to give a particular effect, and how to mix them. She knows which plants are poisonous, and which will give you a rash. She knows how to treat everything — a headache, a child with colic, a painful birth, an open sore, "female problems" — everything that has been known to trouble the people of your village for as long as anyone remembers. She knows these things because her grandfather knew them, and his grandmother before that. And when someone in the village is sick, they know they can go to her lodge and say: "Auntie, it is time." And because she is living *pimádaziwin* with them, she makes the tea, fixes the poultice,

restores the balance.

Here is a man who is your spiritual leader. He is the one who is most in touch with the spirit world — the spirits of all things and the Great Spirit. He knows the proper way to prepare the ceremonies, which things to put where and how to arrange them. He knows the appropriate song, the right chant, the correct prayer, the ancient pipe ceremony. He knows the sacred places in the forest, and has walked in many visions, and has made the great journey to the place where the sun rises. He knows how to see into the heart of one who is troubled. He knows these things because his grandmother knew them, and her uncle before that. And when something is just not right in the village — when the crops are not doing well, when the peace has been disturbed, when the spirit of the people is in need — you know that you can go to his lodge and say: "Grandpa, it is time." And because he is living *pimádaziwin* with you he will sing the song, make the prayer, help you restore the balance.

In the next segment, we will continue to imagine *pimádaziwin* in our efforts to reconstruct the past. For more information, visit the Native American Resource Center in historic Old Main Building, on the campus of The University of North Carolina at Pembroke.



The first male United States citizen to be recognized as a saint by the Roman-Catholic church was 19th century bishop John Nepomucine Neumann, canonized in 1977.

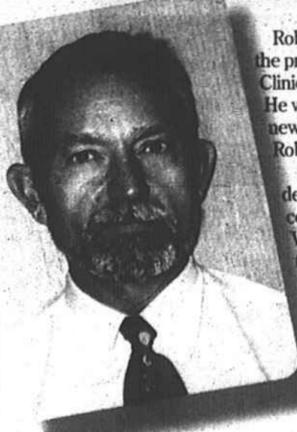
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This Community Just Keeps Getting Healthier.



Robert R. Earnest, M.D., has joined the practice of Lumberton Children's Clinic and the medical staff of SRMC. He will also be the lead physician at the new Children's Health Program at Robeson County Health Department.

Dr. Earnest earned his medical degree from Emory University and completed his residency at Vanderbilt University Hospital and the University of Virginia. He is certified by the American Board of Pediatrics and has been involved in implementing a community access to care program developed by the American Academy of Pediatrics, of which he is a Fellow.

Robert R. Earnest, M.D.

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Carolina Indian Voice is published every Thursday by First American Publications
304 Normal St.-College Plaza
P.O. Box 1075
Pembroke, North Carolina 28372

Phone: (910) 521-2826
Fax (910) 521-1975

Connee Brayboy, Editor
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