ANNOUNCEMENTS

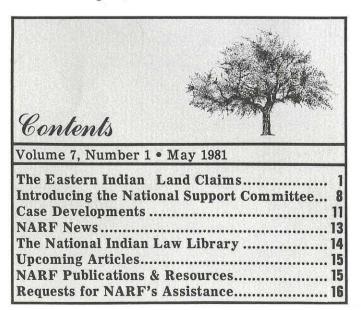
Native American Rights Fund

The Eastern Indian Land Claims

Part I: The Maine Land Claims Settlement

On October 10, 1980, President Carter signed into law the Maine Indian Settlement Act of 1980 (Public Law 96-420). The Settlement Act authorized \$81.5 million to, first, enable the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Penobscot Nation of Maine to reacquire 300,000 acres of the 12 million acres of land which was taken from them in unratified transactions over 160 years ago; and second, establish a \$27 million trust fund for these tribes for economic development.

The Maine settlement is far and away the greatest Indian victory of its kind in the history of the United States. Never before has so much land been returned to Indian control after so long a time. One of the most remarkable aspects of this settlement is that it benefits Indians who, ten years ago, were virtually unknown to other Indians and the rest of the country. Small in numbers and exceedingly poor, the Passamaquoddy and Penobscot people lived on three reservations totalling 22,000 acres. The Maine tribes were not



federally recognized and, therefore, have not benefited from the special programs that Congress has established for federally-recognized Indian tribes. Legally, they were wards of the State of Maine.

The Maine Indian claims were originated by John Stevens, a member of the Passamaquoddy Tribe and a member of NARF's Steering Committee. Shortly after returning from the Korean War, and early in his 17-year term as Governor of the Indian Township Passamaquoddy Reservation, Mr. Stevens was shown a copy of the Passamaquoddy's 1794 treaty with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The treaty was among the papers of an elderly member of the Tribe and had been all but forgotten. Upon reading the treaty, Mr. Stevens realized that the 17,000-acre Reservation once included 23,000 acres. Sensing that his Tribe had rights which were not being enforced, Mr. Stevens set out to study the history of his Tribe's land losses and to investigate the legality of the apparent losses.

It was not until 12 years later, in 1971, that Mr. Stevens and the Passamaquoddy Tribe asked Tom Tureen, a recent law graduate who had opened the Indian Legal Services unit of Pine Tree Legal Assistance in Calais, Maine, to review the Tribe's claims. Tureen, who would soon leave Pine Tree and become a full-time NARF staff attorney, asked NARF attorney Robert Pelcyger and Stewart Ross of the Hogan and Hartson firm of Washington, D.C., to join with him in evaluating the Tribe's claims.

What they discovered was that the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Penobscot Nation could seek return of not just 6,000 acres, but of all the land which had been taken in their unratified treaties with Maine and Massachusetts — upwards of 12,000,000 acres, or two-thirds of the State of Maine. For under the terms of the Indian Trade and Intercourse Act of 1790, all transfers of Indian land which did not receive federal approval are null and void. And since the treaties with Maine and Massachusetts were never ratified by Congress, the land transfers were void.

Continued on page 3

Native American Rights Fund

The Native American Rights Fund is a non-profit organization specializing in the protection of Indian rights. The priorities of NARF are: (1) the preservation of tribal existence; (2) the protection of tribal natural resources; (3) the promotion of human rights; (4) the accountability of governments to Native Americans; and (5) the development of Indian law.



Steering Committee

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Robert Bojorcas (Klamath)	
John Stevens (Passamaquoddy)	Maine
Other Members:	
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ReNee Howell (Oglala Sioux)	outh Dakota
Roger Jim (Yakima)	Washington
Bernard Kayate (Laguna Pueblo)	New Mexico
Leo LaClair (Muckleshoot)	Washington
Louis LaRose (Winnebago)	Nebraska
Leroy Logan (Osage)	. Oklahoma

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Katrina McCormick Barnes
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Alvin M. Josephy, Jr.
Will Sampson, Jr. (Creek)
Maria Tallchief (Osage)
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Founded in 1970 and Incorporated in Washington, D.C.

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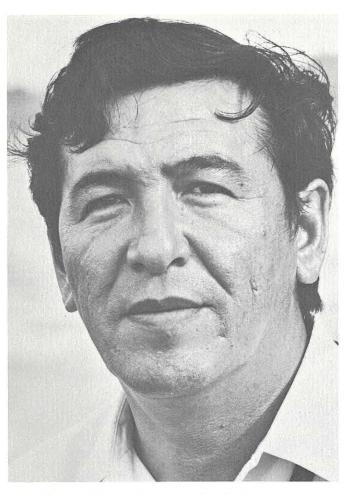
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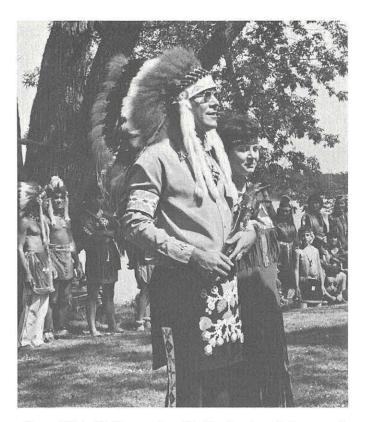
Susan Driver, University of Oregon Law School Beth Fitts, Dartmouth College*

*Washington, D.C. Office staff members.



John Stevens, of Maine's Passamaquoddy Tribe, has been a member of NARF's Steering Committee since its inception. Mr. Stevens first became involved in the land claims of his tribe in the 1950s, but it was not until the early 1970s that actual litigation was initiated. During the eight years of negotiations, he served as a member of the negotiating committee. He is a past Governor of his Tribe and is now Director of Social Services for the Passamaquoddy Tribe.

The claims were to raise a host of difficult and novel legal questions, not the least of which was whether the Non-Intercourse Act applied at all within New England. The Passamaquoddy Tribe, nonetheless, authorized its new team of lawyers to proceed with this approach. The Maine Indian claim began in February of 1972 when the Governors of the Passamaquoddy Tribe asked the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to have the federal government initiate a suit to recover all lands taken from the Passamaquoddy Tribe in violation of the Non-Intercourse Act. A similar request was subsequently submitted on behalf of the Penobscot Nation. The federal government responded to these requests by maintaining that the Non-Intercourse Act applied only to federally-recognized Indian tribes. NARF then filed suit on behalf of the tribes against the Secretary of the Interior and the United States Attorney General. NARF obtained an initial court order requiring the federal government to file preliminary protective suits on behalf of the tribes prior to the expiration of a federal statute of limitations. Finally, in 1975, NARF obtained a federal court judgment which held that the Non-Intercourse Act protects all



George Mitchell (left), a member of the Penobscot negotiation committee in the Maine land claims, is pictured here at an Indian Island (Maine) traditional dance.

bona fide Indian tribes, whether federally recognized or not. This decision was unanimously affirmed on appeal.

Despite this victory, the claims of the Passamaquoddy tribe and the Penobscot Nation were not taken seriously until 1976. In the fall of that year, private attorneys practicing within the land claim area began taking note of the pendency of the Indian claims in their land title opinions. More importantly, in September of 1976, a distinguished Boston firm which did most of the bond work in New England, Ropes and Gray, refused to certify that towns within the claim area had clear legal authority to collect the taxes needed to repay their bond indebtedness. This, in turn, led to the collapse of Maine's municipal bond market and resulted in the introduction of legislation in Congress, which if enacted, would have wiped out the Indians' claim. Nonetheless, in early 1977, the Justice Department announced that if the Administration and Congress did not provide for an alternative, it would file suit on behalf of the tribes.

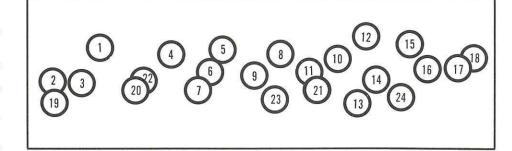
This was the situtation when President Carter took office. He responded to the situation by appointing a special representative who, after considerable study, recommended that the Passamaquoddy Tribe and Penobscot Nation receive 100,000 acres of land and \$25 million in settlement of their claims. He also suggested, however, that if the tribes were unwilling to accept this amount, the President should support the unilateral extinguishment of the tribes' claim against all private parties (approximately 90% of their claims) and limit the tribes to suing for approximately 400,000 acres of state-held land.



Pictured here are most of the principals involved in the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Penobscot Nation, the years, and involved the U.S. government, the State of Maine, ficials and counsel.

Maine land claims negotiations which extended over eight Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, and their respective of-

- 1. John M.R. Paterson, Deputy Attorney General, State of Maine.
- 2. Joseph E. Brennan, Governor, State of Maine.
- 3. Estelle Lavoise, Aide, U.S. Senator George Mitchell.
- 4. John Martin, Speaker, Maine House of Representatives.
- 5. Gerald Connelly, Maine Senate Minority Leader.
- 6. Michael Pearson, Chairman, Maine Joint Appropriations Committee.
- 7. Hartley Nicholas, Governor, Pleasant Point Passamaquoddy Reservation.
- 8. Allan Sockabasin, Tribal Council Member, Indian Township Passamaquoddy Reservation.
- 9. Carl Nicholas, Lt. Governor, Indian Township Passamaquoddy Reservation.
- 10. George Stevens, Council Member, Indian Township Passamaquoddy Reservation.
- 11. James Sappier, Negotiating Committee, Penobscot Nation.



- 12. Stuart P. Ross, co-counsel for NARF.
- 13. Tim Love, Governor, Penobscot Nation.
- 14. Terrance Polchies, Chairman, Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians.
- 15. James Case, Assistant, Senator George Mitchell.
- 16. Andrew Akins, Chairman, Passamaquoddy/Penobscot Negotiating Committee, Penobscot Nation.
- 17. Rueben Phillips, Negotiating Committee, Penobscot Nation.

- 18. David Flanagan, Counsel to Governor Brennan.
- 19. Janmarie Toker, Aide to Senator Mitchell.
- 20. Senator George Mitchell.
- 21. Richard Cohen, Attorney General, State of Maine.
- 22. Not identified.
- 23. Tom Tureen, NARF staff attorney, Passamaquoddy and Penobscot Tribes.
- 24. Suzan Shown Harjo, NARF Legislative Liaison for the Maine Settlement legislation.



Jeannette Neptune of Indian Township, Maine, was one of the negotiators for the Passamaquoddy Tribe.

Indian opposition to the suggestion of an imposed settlement led President Carter to appoint a three-member White House work group to negotiate with the tribes. Negotiations with this work group led to an agreement in which the tribes agreed to accept a settlement involving 300,000 acres and a \$25 million trust fund, plus a pledge on the part of the State of Maine to continue providing services to the tribes for 15 years.

The agreement worked out with the White House Task Force met with significant hostility when it was presented in Maine. The Indian claims had become a major political issue in the State, and emotions by this time were running high. The Governor accused the tribes of blackmail and seeking to establish a separate "nation within a nation." The State Attorney General was maintaining that the Court had addressed the wrong issue in the 1975 case. The real issue, he said, was not whether the Non-Intercourse Act applied to nonrecognized tribes, but whether the Act was geographically applicable outside an area known as "Indian country" which he maintained never included land within Maine. For these reasons, Maine vigorously opposed the jurisdictional provisions of the proposed settlement, which provided that the tribes' lands would constitute "Indian country." In addition, Maine's large landowners were outraged by that part of the proposal which would have had them contribute the 300,000 acres at \$5.00 per acre, a figure well below market price.

By the summer of 1979, the tribes had reached a tentative agreement with the Carter Administration whereby the President would support a settlement which would provide the tribes with 300,000 acres to be paid for with federal

funds. But when this proposal was presented to the Maine congressional delegation, they declared that no such proposal could move forward in Congress until it had the support of the State of Maine. However, since obtaining the support of the State required an agreement on jurisdiction, and since the tribes and the State were far apart on this issue, a lengthy negotiation process ensued.

Agreement on the jurisdiction issue might never have come about but for two decisions, each of which brought into sharp focus for each side the risk of proceeding further in court. The first of these cases was State of Maine v. Dana, a decision by the Maine Supreme Judicial Court. Dana was a criminal case in which two Indian defendants challenged Maine's assertion of criminal jurisdiction over the Passamaguoddy Reservations. Since its creation in 1820, Maine had always assumed that it had complete governmental authority within these reservations. Prior decisions of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court had held that the Maine tribes had long since lost their sovereignty and were subject fully to State control. Because of these prior decisions and because jurisdiction was directly linked to the central issue in the land claims - the Indian defendants were asserting that the reservations constituted federal "Indian country" because they were protected by the Non-Intercourse Act - Maine decided to use Dana as its primary testing ground for its new theories concerning the geographic applicability of the Non-Intercourse Act. However, the decision of the State's high court was unanimously in the Indians' favor and undoubtedly came as a shock to the State officials handling the claims. The Court held that the reservations constituted federal "Indian country" and rejected Maine's theories about the geographic limitations of the Non-Intercourse Act.

If Dana was a shock to the State, the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Wilson v. Omaha Tribe was an equal shock to the tribes. Decided three days before Dana (and without the knowledge of the Maine court), the Supreme Court in Omaha seemingly adopted Maine's argument and said that the 1834 Indian Trade and Intercourse Act applied only within "Indian coutry" as defined at that time. While the issue had not been briefed by any of the parties (the Supreme Court addressed the issue on its own initiative), and was directly contrary to what the Supreme Court had said in a 1974 decision concerning the Non-Intercourse Act, the Supreme Court is nonetheless the last word on such questions. If it had agreed to review State of Maine v. Dana and merely reaffirm in the context of the Dana case what it had just said in Wilson, the tribes' land claims and its hope of obtaining federal jurisdictional status could have been dashed. Unlike several of the other tribes which are pursuing Non-Intercourse Act claims (most notably the New York tribes) whose reservations and internal affairs are protected by federal ties, the Maine tribes did not have these protections, and the threat of defeat on the jurisdiction issues was a matter of real concern.

The State of Maine, on the other hand, also had substantial reason to fear a showdown in the U.S. Supreme Court. In every instance in which the Maine tribes had had an opportunity to argue the Non-Intercourse Act issue in court, they had won. If the Supreme Court granted review in Dana and reversed its position in Wilson on the Non-Intercourse Act, the tribes' hand would have been immeasurably strengthened in the land claims, and the State might well not

The Signing Ceremony for the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act

Remarks of the President

Governor Brennan of Maine Senator Mitchell of Maine Secretary of State Muskie Tom Tureen, NARF Attorney

THE PRESIDENT: Governor Brennan and Secretary Muskie, Senator Mitchell, Representatives of the Passamaguoddy, and the Penobscot, and Maliseet Tribes, this is indeed a culmination of a great deal of effort of perhaps everyone in this room and a lot of those who are not assembled here today because the room is not large enough to hold those who have worked on this important legislation. This is also a great day for all the people of Maine, for the Indian tribes involved, for Maine's landowners, and also a good day for the Congress of the United States because they are all satisfied with the settlement act, because we have a settlement act rather than lengthy and extremely costly litigation, a mutual consent agreement, rather than acrimonious debate and further division among the people of Maine. It's a good day for me as President as well.

When I first came to office in 1977, I was determined to help resolve the uncertainties surrounding the land ownership question in Maine. It was an intolerable situation. On the one hand, the federal government had failed to live up to its responsibility to the Maine Indians. On the other hand, the citizens of Maine were subjected to fear and uncertainty about the title of the land they considered to be their own. The federal government owes a special responsibility to all the people of Maine, of course, Indian and non-Indian, to settle this claim.

In 1977, I appointed a very distinguished former Georgia Supreme Court Justice, William Gunter, to evaluate the claims, and to advise me on an appropriate course for the federal government to follow. At his suggestion, we appointed a working group which undertook extensive negotiations with the tribes and with the representatives of various landowners in the state of Maine. These negotiations have paved the way for satisfactory out-of-court settlement of what might otherwise have been a lengthy and costly and bitter lawsuit.

The settlement authorizes a permanent land base and trust fund for the tribe and also resolves once and for all the title to the land for all the people who reside in Maine.

The Settlement Act does something else as well. It's a reaffirmation that our system of government works. A hundred and ninety years after the Passamaquoddy and Penobscot Indians and Maine settlers fought side by side to protect Maine's borders, to help defend all thirteen colonies in the Revolutionary War, the people of Maine have again shown themselves to be an example to us all,



by working together, by acting with patience and fairness and understanding. This should be a proud day for everyone who was involved in this effort. Many of them are here today, the tribes who placed their trust in the system that has not always treated them fairly, the leaders of the state of Maine who came openly to the bargaining table, the landowners who helped make the settlement a reality by offering land for sale that they might not otherwise have wanted to sell, the members of Congress who realize the necessity of acting and all the citizens of Maine who have worked together to resolve this problem of land title.

And now it's with a great deal of pleasure that I, as President of our country, sign into law this bill which settles once and for all in a fair and equitable manner a dispute that has concerned all of us over many years.

I think I'll let a few people comment if you'll have a brief period of time. Governor, would you say a word first?

GOVERNOR BRENNAN: Mr. President, I wish to thank you and commend you and your Administration for a superb response to solving the most difficult problem that has faced Maine in its history. By virtue of the efforts of your Administration in the signing of this bill, an economic cloud has been removed from Maine and the opening of a new relationship between Indians and non-Indians will begin. Thank you very, very much.

SENATOR MITCHELL: Well, I'd just like to add my thanks to those of the governor and, Mr. President, this is but one example of your responsiveness to the problems of the people of Maine that has existed since you took office, the Lowe Air Force Base, the Bath Iron Works, this settlement, your prompt response to the governor's request last week for disaster recognition for the Maine coast demonstrated a concern and responsibility in dealing with the problems of the citizens of Maine. And I know everybody in Maine is deeply appreciative of that and very thankful to you. Thank you.

have been able to negotiate a settlement in which the cost was eventually borne entirely by the United States.

In the summer of 1979 the tribes and the State of Maine entered into serious negotiations for the first time on the question of jurisdiction. By March of 1980, a detailed agreement had been reached between the tribal Negotiating Committee and the State Attorney General's office which provided that the tribes' existing reservation lands, *plus* all land acquired in trust for them in connection with the settlement, would be subject to a federal restriction against alienation.

The agreement also provides that the Maine tribes will continue to be considered federally-recognized tribes, a status which they obtained in 1976. The federal government is obliged under the settlement to provide services to the Maine tribes to the same extent that it provides services to other Indian tribes. The tribes are also eligible under the agreement for all services which the State of Maine provides to any of its municipalities. Under the terms of the settlement, the tribes will control hunting and trapping on all of their lands, fishing on some of their waters, and will operate tribal courts with powers similar to those of tribal courts operated by other federally-recognized tribes.

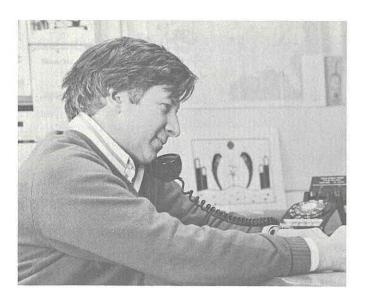
SECRETARY MUSKIE: Mr. President, I contemplate the history of this complicated problem. I can only think of one appropriate word to say. Amen.

MR. TUREEN: We thank you. It's a problem not just for these tribes but for our whole system. If it hadn't been for your courage, who knows what would have happened in these cases. There's a temptation to turn your back on what was right, and you resisted that and we'll all be appreciative. Thank you very much.

THE PRESIDENT: I might say as a personal note that this is one of the most difficult issues I've ever gotten involved in. I aroused the animosity and the criticism of almost everyone at least for transient periods of time. But I felt it was my responsibility as President representing all the people of this country to stay with it, and I imported a very fine and distinguished jurist from Georgia to help me with it. And I think that his basic recommendation and the courage of all those here to face a difficult issue head-on has resulted in a settlement that is gratifying to everyone involved. Again, I want to thank all of you for coming here. I think the people of Maine responded well to a very difficult and potentially permanently divisive issue in your state. And I think that the final resolution has been a credit to our system of government.

SECRETARY MUSKIE: Mr. President, if I may mention one other person that is not to be forgotten, who can't be with us and that's Governor Jim Longley who really fought for Maine's best interests, who persisted with you and I think his involvement and contribution ought to be recognized.

MR. PRESIDENT: Thank you all.



Tom Tureen, NARF staff attorney, was lead counsel for the Passamaquoddy and Penobscot Tribes during the long years of litigation and negotiations that ended in the successful settlement of the Maine Indian land claims. A graduate of George Washington Law School, he left a local legal services program in 1972 to join NARF in order to work fulltime on the legal problems of the Eastern tribes. In addition to the Maine claims, Tom has successfully negotiated settlement of the land claims of the Narragansett Tribe of Rhode Island. As of counsel for NARF, he is now in the process of settling the land claims of Wampanoags of Gay Head, Western Pequot and Schaghticoke Indians.

Maine's general laws are to be applicable to the tribes, but only to the extent that they do not interfere with internal tribal affairs. The tribes will control access to tribal lands and determine whether non-Indians may live on their lands, but non-Indians who are permitted to live on tribal lands will not have the right to vote in tribal elections.

The settlement was approved by the tribes in March of 1980, by the State of Maine on April 2, 1980, and was signed into law by President Carter on October 10, 1980. Funds to effectuate the settlement, which did not become effective under the terms of the agreement until all funds were appropriated, were provided by Congress on December 12, 1980. The settlement agreement gives the Maine tribes the option of having their permanent trust fund privately invested. Until a decision is made by the tribes on this question, the funds will be invested by the Department of the Interior in the same manner as it invests other Indian trust funds (i.e., treasury bills and federally guaranteed certificates of deposit). In keeping with the luck which seemed to follow the Maine tribes throughout their claims, the Settlement Act funds were appropriated by Congress, on the same day that interest rates reached an all-time high in the United States, and the initial investments were made at a composite rate of 20.91%.

A decade ago, few would have believed possible a victory on the scale of the Maine Indian settlement. The Native American Rights Fund is rightfully proud of its central role in litigating these claims and in bringing about this settlement.

The next issue of *Announcements* will include Part II of this NARF report on the status of the Eastern Indian land claims.

Introducing the National Support Committee

The Native American Rights Fund is pleased to introduce the first nine members of our newly-established National Support Committee. The purpose of the Committee is to help expand NARF's fund raising efforts into new areas and sources. Each of these volunteer committee members has previously demonstrated a concern for the conditions and rights of disadvantaged and minority groups, and supports NARF's work on behalf of this country's Native Americans. The brief biographical sketches below reflect their diversified talents and backgrounds, and, according to their time and interest, they will be involved in NARF's fund raising activities.

On behalf of the NARF Steering Committee, staff and our tribal clients throughout the country, we would like to extend our great appreciation to these nine individuals for the willingness to personally participate with us in the pursuit of justice for the First Americans.

OWANAH ANDERSON, a Choctaw Indian from Oklahoma, has long been active in local and national affairs, many of her activities concerning the rights and welfare of American Indian and Native Alaskan women. She is currently project director of the National Women's Program Development, which was established in 1978 with federal funding under the Women's Educational Equity Act. Her other past and present activities include serving as chairperson of the National Committee on Indian Affairs of the Episcopal Church; current member of the governing board of the National Council of Churches; past chairperson for the Texas Advisory Committee on Child Care; delegate to state and national Democratic conventions; and appointee of President Carter in 1980 to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe to review the Helsinki Agreement. Ms. Anderson also co-chaired the Texas delegation to the 1977 National Women's Conference and helped organize the Indian delegation. In her present position with the National Women's Development Program she is continuing with what she feels is her most important contribution — that of making Indian women more visible and increasing their impact on funding programs and decision making affecting Indian and Native Alaskan women. $\square \square \square$



Owanah Anderson

KATRINA McCORMICK BARNES has long been a friend and supporter of the Native American Rights Fund. For many years she served on the national board of the American Civil Liberties Union, is currently a supporter of the National Council of LaRaza, and was one of the founders of "Scholarships, Educators and Defense Fund for



Katrina McCormick Barnes

Racial Equality." Under her name and leadership, a scholarship program has been established at the University of Denver for minority students and she has recently been elected to the board of the Chicano Education project.

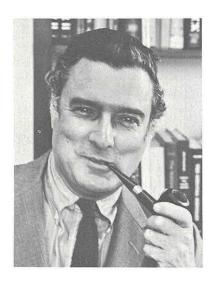
"I have always felt strongly that education will better enable Indians to compete in a world in which they have been forced to live."

Katrina McCormick Barnes



Will H. Hays, Jr.

□□□ **WILL H. HAYS, JR.** first came to know about NARF thorugh his position as program officer at the Lilly Endowment which has been a long-time supporter of NARF's work. Before joining the Lilly Endowment in 1973, Mr. Hays pursued a variety of interests and careers. After graduating from Yale Law School, he practiced law for



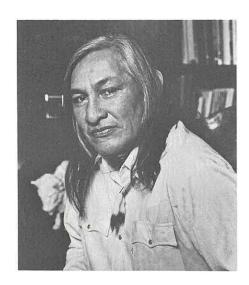
Alvin M. Josephy, Jr.

several years before leaving for California to become a movie script writer. In 1954 he wrote a top seller, Dragon Watch, and also wrote for Ralph Edward's TV program, "This is Your Life." Mr. Hays later returned to Indiana to teach creative writing at Wabash College at Crawfordsville. Switching careers to politics, he served two terms as mayor of Crawfordsville from 1964 to 1972. In 1972, declining to run for a third term, he chaired the Indiana Republican Committee for the Re-election of the President. During all this time, Mr. Hays was active in numerous local and state civic and charitable organizations, including 14 years as a trustee for Wabash College. In 1978, he retired from Lilly Endowment and is now working on a novel in Crawfordsville. \square \square Among the many works by author **ALVIN M**. JOSEPHY, JR., are The Patriot Chiefs, The Nez Perce Indians and the Opening of the West, The Indian Heritage of America and Red Power. He has recently published On the Hill, a history of the United States Congress, Mr. Josephy has been involved in American Indian affairs for 30 years, working with tribes and Indians throughout the country. In

"I have been an enthusiastic supporter of NARF since its beginning . . . its record has been truly historic. In almost every field of Indian affairs, it has been in the forefront of the battle for Native American rights."

Alvin M. Josephy, Jr.

the 1960s, he served as commissioner of the Indian Arts and Crafts Board. He is currently a Director and Senior Editor of the American Heritage Publishing Company in New York, and a trustee and President of the National Council for the Museum of the American Indian, also in New York. In June, he will become President of the National Council of the Institute of the American West at Sun Valley, Idaho. Mr. Josephy is currently working on a book on contemporary Native Americans, tentatively titled *Now That the Buffalo's Gone*. $\Box \Box \Box \Box$ While perhaps best known



Will Sampson, Jr.

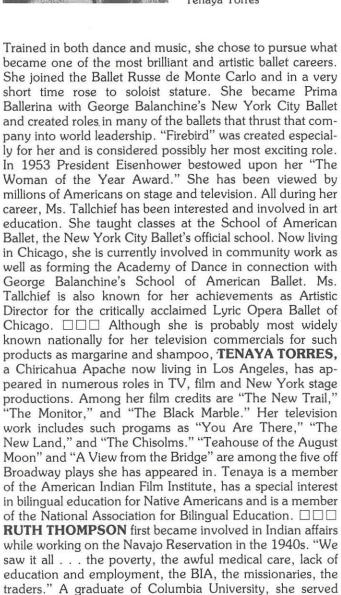
for his role as Chief Bromden in "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," a performance which won him an Academy Award nomination as best suppoting actor, WILL SAMPSON, JR., a full-blood, Oklahoma-born Creek Indian, is also considered one of the country's leading Native American painters. His paintings of western Americana have been exhibited nationally, including the Smithsonian Institution and the Library of Congress. His other movie roles include "Buffalo Bill and the Indians," "The Outlaw Josey Wales," "White Buffalo' and "Orca." In 1979 he was awarded the Best Foreign Actor Award at the Toronto Film Festival for his role in "Old Fish Hawk." Feeling strongly that non-Indian people need to be re-educated in their perception of Native Americans, he recently narrated "Images of Indians," a series for public television dealing with indian stereotyping by Hollywood. In addition to his work in painting and acting, he is honorary Chairman of the National Indian Board of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. He also serves as a board member both for the American Indian Free Clinic in Compton, California, and the American Indian Film Institute. Mr. Sampson is now working on a mini-series for television based on Dee Brown's best seller, Bury My Heart PASCHEN, universally known as America's first great Prima Ballerina, was born in Oklahoma of Osage descent.



Maria Tallchief



Tenaya Torres



with the Red Cross during World War II and later again dur-

ing the Korean conflict. For several years now, she has sup-

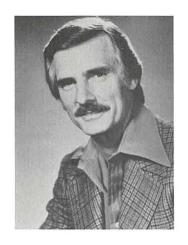
ported and been very interested in NARF's work, especially

its Eastern Indian cases. Ms. Thompson participated with

Louis Bruce, Ruth Bronson, Will Rogers, Bob Burnette, and

Yeffe Kimball in the early fund raising efforts of the National

Congress of American Indians. Today, she is still actively in-



Dennis Weaver

volved in Indian concerns, including the American Indian Archeological Center in Washington, Connecticut, as well as health and litigation issues. Recently she helped finance the Children's Conference in Dallas, serving as volunteer Indian communications liaison. (Ms. Thompson's photo arrived too late to be included in this issue but we hope to publish a photo of her in a future issue — Editor.) $\square \square \square$ The Washington Post cited "Ishi . . . the Last of His Tribe," starring **DENNIS WEAVER**, as one of television's best films of the 1978-79 season. It is a role the celebrated Calfornia actor proudly cites as one of his most satisfying accomplishments. Mr. Weaver's decision to participate on NARF's National Support Committee is totally consistent with his personal commitment to actively promote human rights, especially for minority groups in this country. He has served on the Fair Housing Board in his area and participated in other human rights movements. In 1979 he narrated the nationally-acclaimed documentary covering the first convention of the American Indian Youth Conference. While television fans recognize him for his Emmy-winning performance as the immortal Chester of "Gunsmoke," and the Taos marshall on "McCloud," he very much enjoys the roles he has played on the stage as well. Among others, Mr. Weaver has performed in "The Big Knife," "Stalag 17," "The Glass Menagerie," "Catch Me If You Can," "A Street-car Named Desire" and "Come Back Little Sheba." In addition to his numerous television and film productions, he also organized "The Dennis Weaver Actors Workshop," and has his own music publishing company in which he not only is involved in management, but writes, sings and produces country western productions. Currently residing in California's West San Fernando Valley, Mr. Weaver and his wife, Gerry, devote much of their time to community activities and local charitable organizations. Recently, he and his family were named "Family of the Year" in their community and cited for their outstanding moral, social and civic leadership.

NARF would like to increase the size of the National Support Committee to include other individuals who may be able to help in fund raising activities. For more information on the Committee or on NARF generally, please contact Mary Hanewall, Development Officer, at the Boulder office.

Case Developments

Following are reports on major developments in on-going NARF cases or new matters recently undertaken.

Pamunkey Settlement Signed

On November 23, 1980, President Carter signed a bill settling the claim of the Pamunkey Tribe of Virginia against a railroad company in trespass since 1855. Under the Act, the company will pay \$100,000 in damages to the Tribe for past trespasses and an annual rental to commence in 1989.

In 1855, the Richmond and York River Railroad purported to condemn approximately 20 acres of the state-recognized Pamunkey Indian Reservation in King William County, Virginia. Southern Railway acquired the line through bankruptcy proceedings in 1894 and has been since operating the line at a profit and without compensation to the Tribe for its use. The Tribe approached NARF in 1973 about assisting it in boundary disputes with non-Indians whose property adjoins the reservation. The reservation encompases about 300 acres and is roughly 50% swampland. Although the reservation was set aside by treaty between the Tribe and the Colony of Virginia in 1677, there never was a survey drawn or the boundaries of the reservation established otherwise. Since 1677, the Tribe has lost over half its land by non-Indian enroachment.

In the process of researching the boundary issue, NARF discovered that the condemnation of tribal land by the railroad had never been approved by either the State or federal government. Consequently, the condemnation was void and the railroad had been trespassing on Pamunkey land ever since.

Upon being informed of this, the Tribe requested NARF to represent it. After several years of negotiations, Southern Railway and the Tribe agreed upon the final settlement terms in November 1979. The agreement provides for a waiver of the Tribe's claim in exchange for \$100,000 and a future rental arrangement by which the railroad will pay an annual fair rental value for use of the tribal land beginning in 1989. Both the Virginia legislature and the United States Congress passed legislation ratifying the settlement agreement in 1980. In January 1981, the \$100,000 settlement fund and interest thereon were transferred to the Tribe.

While settlement of the trespass claim was being negotiated with the railroad, NARF also negotiated with the Virginia Attorney General's office to assist the Tribe with its boundary problems. Earlier, in 1978, the Governor's office had agreed that once the matter with the railroad was resolved, the State would file a law suit on the Tribe's behalf in State court to obtain a judicial declaration on the reservation's boundaries. Although this suit will be filed in the State's name, NARF will work with the Attorney General's office as attorney of record. It is hoped that the boundary issue can be completed sometime this year.

Indian Inmate Religious Rights Upheld

For many years NARF has been involved in the protection of the rights of incarcerated American Indians. Numerous litigation and non-litigation activities have been successfully completed by NARF in the areas of conditions

of confinement and the protection of the religious freedom of Indian inmates in federal, state and county facilities.

Most often, protection of Indian inmates' religious freedom has taken the form of compelling prison authorities to allow Indian inmates to build and use a sweat lodge within the prison confines (See box item). In the past few months, NARF successfully negotiated settlements at three prisons on behalf of the Indian inmates.

Ross v. Scurr. In early 1980, Christopher Ross, a Lakotah Sioux Indian inmate at the Iowa State Penitentiary in Fort Madison, filed suit to compel prison officials to allow the Indian inmates to build and use a sweat lodge at the prison as an essential part of their religious practices. In September, a U.S. District Court denied the request on the grounds that Ross had other opportunities to practice his faith by attending services at the prison's Indian-Chicano Center; that the fire and rocks needed for a sweat lodge were a security risk; and that, therefore, Ross's complaint failed to prove that his constitutional right to freedom of religion had been violated.

Soon after the original suit was dismissed — and at Ross' request — NARF attorneys, along with local attorney Gordon Allen, asked the Court to reopen the case. NARF submitted statements from prison wardens in other states declaring that sweat lodges in their prisons were not a security risk and, in fact, improved discipline. The statements showed that sweat lodges are permitted in Colorado, Nebraska, New Mexico, California, South Dakota and other states. NARF attorneys pointed out that prison officials typically fail to understand the vast differences between the tribal religions of Indians and the Judeo-Christian religions which most people are familiar with, and consequently fail to view a request for a sweat lodge as a valid religious practice.

When the Court decided to vacate its original ruling, the State corrective officials agreed to an out-of-court settlement on March 13th. According to the settlement, prison officials must now allow the Indian inmates, using their own materials, to build a sweat lodge within two months.

Frease v. Griffin. Indian inmates at the New Mexico State Penitentiary in Santa Fe and legal services attorneys requested NARF's assistance in 1979 in prosecuting a law suit designed to protect their religious freedom by allowing them access to a sweat lodge and the right to grow their hair long in the traditional Indian fashion.

After conducting discovery procedures, NARF persuaded the prison officials and their attorneys to initiate the relief requested on a trial basis. This trial period convinced defendants that these activities were beneficial and that there was a recognized legal basis for this activity. In December 1980, NARF attorneys and the New Mexico Attorney General's office signed a permanent consent decree which settled the law suit.

Marshno v. McManus. Similarly, Indian inmates at the Kansas State Penitentiary in Lansing, Kansas, filed a law suit requesting access to a sweat lodge and certain educational programs. At the request of the Indian inmates, NARF entered the law suit. NARF educated prison officials and their attorneys regarding the legal and religious basis for the sweat lodge. Once this was successfully accomplished, prison officials signed a permanent consent decree in December 1980, consenting to the construction of the sweat

lodge at Lansing, and to the accompanying educational programs.

Tunica-Biloxi Tribe Recognized

On December 5, 1980, the Bureau of Indian Affairs issued notice on its preliminary decision to grant federal status to the Tunica-Biloxi Indian Tribe of Louisiana (Federal Register, 12/23/80). This notice is a declaration that the BIA, through its Federal Acknowledgement Project, has concluded that the Tunica-Biloxi Indians constitute a separate and valid tribal entity under federally-established guidelines and should be given federal recognition status. The required four-month comment period ended on April 22nd, but may be extended.

Once the Tribe is federally recognized, it will be able to proceed with its land claim which it had asked NARF to investigate several years ago. In 1979, NARF had submitted a litigation request to the Department of the Interior asking the United States to bring suit on the Tribe's behalf to recover possession of several thousand acres of land in Louisiana which was taken in violation of both the Indian Nonintercourse Act of 1790 and the Louisiana Purchase Treaty. Since it was the federal policy not to bring land claims for non-recognized Indian groups, NARF proceeded first with efforts for federal recognition. When this is achieved, the Tribe, represented by NARF, will begin negotiations with the State of Louisiana and the federal government toward settlement of the land claim. The Tribe's litigation request is still pending in the Interior Department, but, hopefully, the outof-court negotiations will be successful.

Muckleshoot Zoning Ordinance Upheld

In 1977, the Muckleshoot Tribe of Washington enacted a comprehensive land use ordinance designed to regulate the use and development of lands within the boundaries of their

reservation. Shortly thereafter, Trans-Canada Enterprises began work on a proposed trailer and subdivision development on private lands within the reservation boundaries, but without the requisite tribal permits. The proposed development would substantially alter the rural character of the northern portion of the reservation and destroy what remains of the Tribe's fishery which is protected by treaty with the United States.

When the Tribe attempted to enforce its land use regulations, Trans-Canada brought suit in Federal District Court to provent the Tribe from enforcing its land use ordinance. In 1978, the Court denied Trans-Canada's request for injunctive relief and held that the Tribe's right to regulate land use on its own reservation was central to its governmental purposes. However, following the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Oliphant v. Suquamish Indian Tribe*, the Court reversed its position and held that the Muckleshoot Tribe did not have jurisdiction to regulate land use by non-Indians on private lands within reservation boundaries.

In 1979, NARF, as co-counsel with Evergreen Legal Services, appealed the case to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The case was argued before the Ninth Circuit last Fall and in December 1980, the Court ruled in the Tribe's favor. The court stated that "the challenged tribal action here (attempting to enforce its zoning ordinance) is not a question of procedure before a tribal court in a criminal matter, but an exercise of tribal sovereignty and self-government." The Court held that there was no basis for federal court jurisdiction to be found in either the Indian Civil Rights Act or the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution. The Court specifically declined to rule on other grounds which might give the federal court jurisdiction but which had not been asserted by Trans-Canada in their complaint, and directed the District Court to consider those other grounds if they should be raised in any new complaint which may be filed.

The Indian Sweat Lodge

The sweat lodge ceremony is nearly universal among American Indian tribes, its use in the United States extending from coast to coast and from Alaska to Mexico. It is still in use today by Native Americans who continue to practice their tribal religions and traditions.

The sweat lodge itself varies from tribe to tribe, but typically it is a small, dome-like structure (6 to 12 feet in diameter), constructed of saplings and covered with canvas or hides. An area of the dirt floor is excavated and lined with stones heated by a fire built outside the sweat lodge. The stones are chosen for their durability and capacity to absorb and hold heat. The layout of the lodge is sometimes done for sacred reasons, such as having the opening always facing east.

The sweat lodge ceremony serves several purposes. First, it is a religious rite to purify the body and propitiate the spirits; second, as a medical treatment to cure ailments or to prevent ill health, which is also related to religion because the sweat bath ceremony influences the spirits; and, third, as a social function in the instruction of the young in the culture, traditions and knowledge of the tribe by older people.

Although the sweat bath can be regarded as a sacred rite in itself, it is sometimes part of a larger religious ceremony. For instance, it is done as a purification in preparation for important ceremonies such as the sun dance, the Native American Church peyote ceremonies, and the fertility ceremonies designed to enhance the return of nature. Purification is a major theme in Native American religions and the sweat bath is one of the main ways by which ritual purification is achieved.

The sweat bath ceremony is such a central part of the religious beliefs and rites of those tribes which practice it that it is inconceivable that an Indian could practice his complete religious life in the traditional Indian sense without having access to a sweat lodge. Yet when Indian inmates at state, federal and local prisons request sweat lodges — which pose no security problems and cost the prisons nothing — the requests are almost routinely rejected. On numerous occasions over the past ten years, NARF has assisted Indian inmates in compelling prison authorities to allow the use of sweat lodges. NARF will continue in its efforts, such as those in the cases described in this section, to protect the religious freedom rights of Indian inmates.

NARF News

Within the last few months, NARF has undergone several Board and staff changes which we would like to pass along to our readers.

Steering Committee. Herman Williams, a member of the Tulalip Tribe of Washington, and Lucille Dawson, a Narragansett Indian from Virginia, are no longer members of the NARF Steering Committee. Like all past members of the Committee, they graciously served with no compensation and often at personal sacrifice to their families and their work. The members of the Steering Committee and staff would like to thank them for their services and counsel to the Native American Rights Fund.

In November 1980, Bernard Kayate, A Laguna Pueblo from New Mexico, was elected as a member of the Steering Committee. Mr. Kayate is presently the Business Manager for the Southern Pueblo Agency of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Albuquerque. Mr. Kayate was born and raised on the Laguna Pueblo, located just west of Albuquerque. He received his B.S. degree from the University of New Mexico in math and physics. He later received an advanced degree in electronics from Highlands University of Las Vegas (N.M.), and is now an MBA candidate in the Robert O. Anderson School of Business at the University of New Mexico. He previously worked for Sandia Laboratories and Indian Education Training, Inc.; was Director of the Johnson-O'Malley Program for the All-Indian Pueblo Council; and most recently served as Business Manager for the Laguna Pueblo. He is past Vice-President of the All-Indian Pueblo Council; past member of an advisory council for developing a program for the State's public schools to improve science and engineering programs for Indian students; and was chairman for two years of the Laguna Pueblo Colony of Albuquerque, of which he is still an active member. Mr. Kayate lives in Albuquerque with his wife, Lucy, who is also a member of the Laguna Pueblo. Their daughter, Donna, is a sophomore at the University of New Mexico.

Staff Attorneys. Tom Tureen resigned as a staff attorney in December of 1980 after eight years of association with the Native American Rights Fund. (Please see the lead article in this issue for a brief sketch of Tom and his activities while he worked for NARF).

Bruce Davies resigned last January to join a private law firm in Alaska. A member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe of South Dakota and a 1979 graduate of the University of Denver Law School, Bruce was first hired by NARF to work for the Indian Law Support Center and later assigned as a regular staff attorney under NARF's Indian Lawyer Intern Project, a special training program for recent Indian law school graduates funded by the Carnegie Corporation. Douglas Endreson, a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School and a Navajo Indian, was selected to replace Davies on the Intern Project and will be joining NARF in August.

Professional Staff: After more than four years at NARF, **Lorraine Edmo** resigned last December to enter graduate school at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. A member of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe of Idaho, Lorraine first joined NARF as the Technical Writer in 1976. In 1979, the NARF Steering Committee selected Lorraine as NARF's first Development Officer, a position created by the Committee in order to strengthen NARF's fund raising activities. Lorraine was the recipient of a special fellowship and will be pursuing a graduate degree in Public Administration.

Mary Hanewall joined NARF the first of February as NARF's new Development Officer. Since receiving her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications from the

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Mary has been active in a variety of public and private organizations. She has worked for the March of Dimes, the League of Women Voters, the Waubesa Lakes' Association of Wisconsin, and has held various other positions involving fund raising, public relations, administration, writing and editing, and other skills, all of which will be of great value in her position at NARF. During the last three years, NARF has had to make some major staff changes in order to broaden its funding



base throughout the public and private sectors. The Development Officer position was created in September of 1979 to enable NARF to expand into new areas of fund raising and to improve existing funding sources. In her position as Development Officer, Mary is responsible for overseeing all of NARF's fund raising activities in such divergent areas as foundations, corporations, federal agencies, direct mail, tribal solicitations, deferred gifts and other sources. Any inquiries regarding NARF's funding activities should be directed to Mary at the Boulder office.

Other Staff Changes: In December of 1980, NARF concluded a special one-year Indian Corrections Project which was funded by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration of the Department of Justice. The Project's purpose was to investigate the conditions of Indian inmates in state and federal institutions in the Great Lakes and Northwest areas and to report to LEAA with findings and recommendations on ways to address the unmet cultural, religious and legal needs of the Indian inmates. The Project's Director was Richard Williams, an Oglala Sioux from South Dakota, and the coordinators were Don Holman, Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux of South Dakota and Delmar Hamilton, a Kiowa from Oklahoma.



The National Indian Law Library

The National Indian Law Library (NILL) is a repository and clearinghouse for materials on Indian law. It was established by NARF in 1972 in response to a growing demand for materials on Indian law and is a major part of meeting NARF's commitment to the development of Indian law.

- The Collection. NILL collects, indexes and distributes an ever-growing collection of materials on Indian law. The holdings, which now number over 3,500 items, consist of: (1) court decisions, including some pleadings and briefs; (2) articles from law journals and other periodicals; (3) books, monographs, and government documents; (4) solicitors' opinions and memoranda; and (5) numerous other resource materials on Indian law.
- The NILL Catalogue. The library disseminates information on its holdings primarily through its National Indian Law Library Catalogue: An Index to Indian Legal Materials and Resources. The NILL Catalogue is designed for those who cannot visit the library but would like to know what is available in any particular area of Indian law and to be able to request materials. In addition to a comprehensive Subject Index of 400 headings and subheadings, the Catalogue includes a Table of Cases, an Author-Title Index, and is supplemented periodically. The first cumulative edition is now out of print and a second cumulative edition is scheduled for publication later this year. The library is in the process of converting its holdings to a computer system to enable it to update case files more quickly and to improve research into the collection. (Please see enclosed coupon).
- The Services. NILL's resources are available to anyone interested in Indian law. Copying costs are ten cents per page; this fee is waived for LSC-funded legal services programs and Indian parties. Although all the holdings are available at the library for anyone to study, not all materials can be sent out, either because of copyright restrictions or excessive copying costs. Information for obtaining these restricted materials directly from the source is given in the Catalogue. Until the computer system is operational, the library cannot accommodate requests for extensive research into the collection. Requests for NILL materials should be limited to ten items per request.
- **Donations.** NILL welcomes donations of books, articles and other materials on Indian law. Briefs and pleadings from Indian law cases, usually difficult and expensive to obtain, are especially welcome because of their value to the library's clients. Please contact the librarian Diana Lim Garry regarding donations.

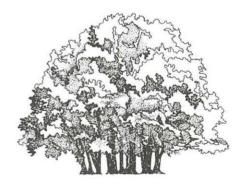
NARF Publications & Resources

ANNOUNCEMENTS. NARF's quarterly newsletter reports on NARF's activities to our grantors, individual contributors, clients, and others interested in Native American rights. There is no present subscription charge but contributions to help pay for publication and mailing are welcome. Anyone interested in receiving *Announcements* should fill out the enclosed coupon. (Editor's note: Donors to NARF who contribute \$25 or more annually will receive this newsletter automatically).

"Indian Rights, Indian Law." This is a film documentary, produced by the Ford Foundation, focusing on NARF, its staff and certain NARF casework. The hour-long film is in color and may be rented from: Association Films, Ford Foundation Film, 866 Third Ave., New York, New York 10022 (212-935-4210) (16mm, FF110-\$50.00).

NILL Catalogue. The National Indian Law Library Catalogue: An Index to Indian Legal Materials and resources is described in the NILL article in this issue. The first edition is out of print and the Second Cumulative Edition is scheduled for publication later this year. Please see enclosed coupon.

ANNUAL REPORT. This is NARF's major report on its program and activities. Because of cost, the annual reports are distributed on a limited basis to foundations, large contributors, required submissions to certain federal and state agencies, tribal clients, Native American organizations and to others upon justified requests.

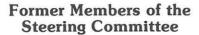


ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: Photo of President Carter by Teresa Zabala; photo of John Stevens by Dan Budnick; photos of Tom Tureen, George Mitchell and Jeannette Neptune by Steve Cartwright of the Wabanaki Alliance.

Upcoming Articles

Future issues of *Announcements* will carry articles on the following subjects, all of which NARF is involved in. Anyone interested in contributing items for publication should contact the editor (Ads are not accepted).

- Indian Water Rights. A major article on Indian water rights, including a status report on NARF's Indian water cases.
- Eastern Land Claims. Part II of the historic land claims of the Eastern tribes.
- Recognition & Restoration. A report on the efforts of non-recognized and terminated tribes to obtain federal recognition, including NARF's work in this vital area.
- Indian Child Welfare Act. A report on this 1978 Act and on what tribes and others are doing to enforce and strengthen the Act.



Jacob Adams (Inupiat Eskimo), Wendell Chino (Mescalero Apache), John Clifford (Rosebud Sioux), Lucille Dawson (Narragansett), Vine Deloria, Jr. (Standing Rock Sioux), Fred Gabourie (Seneca), Martha Grass (Ponca), Leo Haven (Navajo), L. Vernae James (Shoshone-Bannock), Rodney Lewis (Pima-Maricopa), Charles Lohah (Osage), Philip Martin (Mississippi Choctaw), Cipriano Manuel (Papago), Janet McCloud (Tulalip), Francis McKinley (Navajo-Ute), Alfonso Ortiz (San Juan Pueblo), Richard Trudell (Santee Sioux), Joseph Upicksoun (Inupiat Eskimo), Herman Williams (Tulalip).





"See, Brothers: Spring is here.
The Earth has taken the embrace
of the Sun, and soon we shall see
the children of that love.
All seeds are awake, and all animals.
From this great power we too have our lives.
And therefore we concede
to our fellow creatures
even our animal fellows,
the same rights as ourselves,
to live on this earth."

—Sitting Bull, 1877

Requests for Assistance

Any work undertaken by the Native American Rights Fund, whether it be litigation, advocacy or other legal assistance, must come within the priorities and guidelines established by the NARF Steering Committee. NARF's resources, both financial and attorney staffing, also determine NARF's ability to accept legitimate requests. All requests for legal assistance or inquiries regarding NARF's services must be addressed to the Executive Director at the Boulder, Colorado office:

John E. Echohawk Executive Director Native American Rights Fund 1506 Broadway Boulder, Colorado 80302 (303-447-8760)

Contributions to the Native American Rights Fund

The work of the Native American Rights Fund is supported by grants and contributions from private foundations, corporations, federal agencies and individuals. NARF is continually in need of funds to support its efforts to protect the rights of Native Alaskans and American Indians throughout the United States. Those who would like to make a contribution should see the enclosed coupon. Anyone interested in knowing more about NARF may contact the development officer, Mary Hanewall, at the Boulder office.

Remember NARF With a Bequest

A bequest to NARF will not only help us to continue defending Indian rights in future years, but can be of benefit to you in your present tax planning. For information on this method of giving, please check the box on the enclosed "Contributions" coupon.

Native American Rights Fund 1506 Broadway Boulder, Colorado 80302 Nonprofit Org. U.S. POSTAGE PAID Boulder, Colorado Permit No. 589

