

NAIWA Conference Opens Here Today

Indian women from throughout the United States and Canada will be attending the fifth annual conference of the North American Indian Women's Association (NAIWA) which will be held on the campus of Northern Michigan University, today through Sunday.

"The Roles and Rights of Native Indian Women" will be the theme of the conference which has been dedicated to the observance of International Women's Year.

Nationally-known Indian leaders from both the U.S. and Canada and top federal officials from the U.S. Office of Education, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and a member of President Ford's White House staff will take part in the program.

Mrs. Agnes Dill of Isleta, New Mexico, NAIWA president, said that the organization "has an exceptionally full and varied program" this year which will focus on educational, health and social needs of

Indians, and particularly the roles—both traditional and emerging—of Indian women. About 500 are expected to attend.

Mrs. Dill said that seminars and workshops will take up such topics as women's role in the judicial system, consumer buying and the economy, enrichment of family and community life, and awareness of non-traditional occupations for Indian women.

The conference—the first held by NAIWA east of the Mississippi—is being hosted by the Organization's Michigan chapter, headed by Mrs. Beatrice LaBine of Trout Creek.

Registration began at 3:00 Wednesday afternoon, with the program scheduled to begin at 9:00 this morning.

Participants include:
 • Mrs. Virginia Knauer, special assistant to President Ford for Consumer Affairs;
 • Dr. William Dommert, Deputy Commissioner and Director of the Office of

Indian Education, U.S. Office of Education;

- Dr. Clennon E. Sockey, Director of Indian Education Programs, Bureau of Indian Affairs;
- Ada Deer, Kenosha, Wis., chairman of the Menominee Restoration Committee, and nationally-known Indian leader;
- Members of the National Advisory Council on Indian Education;
- Bertha Clark, Fort McMurray, Alberta, president of the Native Women's Association of Canada;
- James Hillman, Lansing, executive director of the Michigan Commission on Indian Affairs;
- JoAnn Bergy, Director of the Seattle, Wash., area office of the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission, and
- Esther Peterson, Washington, D.C., president of the National Consumers League.

The conference includes seminars,

workshops, an Indian fashion show and other social and recreational activities.

Miss Indian America, Claire Manning—a Shoshone-Paiute from Owyhee, Nevada, will also be in attendance.

Other participants will be representatives from Indian organizations in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and other parts of the U.S. and Canada.

A number of tribes will be represented including Comanche, Blackfoot, Apache, Sioux, Ojibwa, Cherokee, Navajo, Ottawa, Isleta-Laguna, Gros Ventre, Caddo, Potawatomi, Mohawk, Zuni, Menominee and others.

For further information, persons may call Mrs. Dill or Mrs. LaBine at Magers-Meyland Hall, Northern Michigan University, Marquette, phone 906/227-1778.



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EXTRA ★ ★ ★ WELCOME EDITION ★ ★ ★ EXTRA

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Ada Deer To Offer Keynote Address Thursday Morning

Ada Deer, nationally known spokesman of the Menominee Indians of Wisconsin, will be the keynote speaker at 10:15 a.m. Thursday in Auditorium 102, Instructional Facility.

A member of the Menominee Indian Tribe, Keshena, Wis., Miss Deer was chairman of the Menominee Restoration Committee, a major force behind the successful effort to restore reservation status to Menominee County, Wis. She presently is chairman of the Menominee Common Stock and Voting Trust.

The restoration movement, led by Miss Deer, gained national attention last year.

She received her bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin and a master's from the Columbia University School of Social Work. She has also begun studies in law at the U of W.

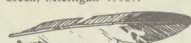
Miss Deer has been extensively involved in Indian cultural and social activities on the area, regional and national levels. She is a member of numerous professional organizations and her services as a consultant are sought throughout the United States.

Her professional positions have included group worker, Protestant Council of New York City and the New York City Youth Board; program director, Waite Neighborhood House, Minneapolis; community services coordinator, Bureau of Indian Affairs; Indian Affairs coordinator, University of Minnesota, and she has been a school social worker with the Minneapolis Public Schools, and director of the Upward Bound program for Wisconsin State University—where she was also responsible for PRIDE Programs.

In addition to Miss Deer, a number of prominent persons are slated to take part in the NAIWA

conference—the first ever held in the Midwest.

For further information and reservations, persons may contact Mrs. Beatrice LaBine, president of the Michigan Chapter, NAIWA, P.O. Box 105, Trout Creek, Michigan 49967.



From BIA-OE:

Education Directors on Program

Two of the nation's foremost leaders in American Indian Education will attend the NAIWA conference.

Dr. William G. Demmert, Jr., deputy commissioner of Indian Education in the U.S. Office of Education, and Dr. Clennon E. Sockey, director of Indian Education Programs of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, head the Indian education programs for the USOE and the BIA. Both are from Washington, D.C.

Demmert, a Tlingit-Sioux Indian and native of Alaska, will address the conference at 3 p.m. on Thursday, in Auditorium 102 of the Instructional Facility at NMU.

Sockey, a Choctaw from Oklahoma, is scheduled to take part in a workshop, "Enrichment of Family and Community Life," to be held at 1:30 p.m. Friday, in Room 213 of the Instructional Facility.

NAIWA is a non-profit educational association dedicated to the improvement of Indian life through family, community, health, communications and education.



Dr. Demmert



Ada Deer



Virginia Knauer

Virginia Knauer, White House Staff, To Speak Friday

Virginia H. Knauer, special assistant to President Gerald R. Ford on consumer affairs is a main speaker of the conference.

Mrs. Knauer who is also director of the Office of Consumer Affairs will speak on Friday at 9:15 a.m. in Auditorium 102 of the NMU Instructional Facility.

"We are very pleased to have Mrs. Knauer appear on our program," Mrs. Agnes Dill, Isleta, New Mexico, NAIWA president, said. "She will discuss concerns which are foremost in the minds of many women and consumers throughout the country."

Special assistant to the President since 1969, Mrs. Knauer is responsible for developing consumer policy, for presenting consumer viewpoints within the administration and for communicating with consumers for the administration.

As director of the consumer affairs office in the office of the Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare—Mrs. Knauer and her staff advocate consumer positions before Congress and federal agencies, work with industry on voluntary consumer programs, handle consumer complaints and promote consumer education and information.

In addition to these two positions, Mrs. Knauer has been appointed by the President to several Cabinet-level committees. She is a member of the Council on Wage and Price Stability (and was on the Cost of Living Council which preceded it), and she also sits on the Domestic Council Committee on the Right of Privacy.

Mrs. Knauer is a member of the Energy Resources Council and works closely with other federal agencies to promote energy conservation and to ensure that consumers have a role in the development of federal energy policy.

Consumer Committee Member—She is the U.S. representative to the Consumer Policy Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, an international organization whose 23 member nations seek to coordinate economic policies; she also serves as its vice-chairman.

A native of Philadelphia, Mrs. Knauer is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and she holds numerous honorary degrees. Her husband, Wilhelm F. Knauer, is a Philadelphia attorney. They have two married children.



National Advisory Council Here

Programs of the Indian Education Act will be the subject of a panel by the National Advisory Council for Indian Education, which will appear here Friday.

Six members of the advisory council will appear on a panel at 3 p.m. in auditorium 102 of the Instructional Facility.

Council members participating will be:

- Ann Coleman Glenn, a Choctaw from Norman, Oklahoma, who is presently an attorney with the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission;
- Mrs. G. Cooper, a Yakima from Toppenish, Wash., a member of the Yakima Tribal Council Executive Board's Committee of Finance, Budget and Enrollment;
- Mrs. Patricia McGee, Prescott, Ariz., a Yavapai Apache, Tribal Chairwoman of the Yavapai Tribe;
- Rep. Daniel Peaches, a Navajo from Window Rock, Ariz., first

vice-chairman of the national advisory council, a member of the Arizona House of Representatives, and Director of the Office of Public Affairs for the Navajo Tribe;

- Geraldine Simplico, a Zuni Pueblo from Zuni, New Mexico, an education advisor with the Branch of Student Relations of the Zuni Tribe, and a member of the JOM Parent Advisory Commission for the Gallup-McKinley County Schools, and
- Boyce Timmons, a Cherokee, from Norman, Okla., a member of the faculty of Oklahoma University, chairman of the American Indian Institute and a member of

the Oklahoma State Committee of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission.

Also attending will be Dorrance Steele, of Washington, D.C., executive director of the national advisory council.

The 15-member council was established by the Indian Education Act of 1972 to advise the Commissioner of Education on ways to implement the act, including planning and development of regulations, practices and policies.

The council also reviews all applications for assistance under the act. It evaluates all Department of Health, Education & Welfare programs in which Indian children and adults participate, and it disseminates information on them.

Technical assistance to local school districts, Indian education agencies, tribes, and organizations is also provided by the council.



Regional Panel To Discuss Outlook For Indian Youth

A six-member panel representing the majority of the regional divisions will discuss the future outlook for the youth of Indian women.

As decided by the executive board meeting held here last winter, the topics to be discussed will include opinions on health, education, occupations, politics, judicial, and health.

Mrs. Agnes Dill, president of the North American Indian Women's Association (NAIWA), has stated that she is pleased to

see the young people take an interest in this organization.

Panel members will include Mary Cherino, a student at New Mexico State University, representing the Southwest area; Luwana Cooper, Miss Indian Cherokee from North Carolina for the Southeast area; and Mike Gomez, a student at Chemawa Indian School in Oregon, delegate from the Northwest region.

Also from the Northwest region will be Wanda Allen from Hays, Montana; Connie Secondine for

South Central from Walters, Oklahoma, and Tom Cook from the staff of *Akwesasne Notes*, past member of White Roots of Peace and board member for the National Indian Education Association (NIEA).

Moderator for the panel is Marlene Gauthier of the *Nishnawbe News* staff.

The panel will make its presentation on Thursday at 1:30 p.m., in the Instructional Facility Building on the NMU campus.

Leona Blondeau Represents Native Women of Canada

Leona Blondeau of Regina, Sask., will represent the Native Women's Association of Canada at the 5th annual conference of the North American Indian Women's Association (NAIWA), being held Thursday through Sunday on the campus of Northern Michigan University.

Mrs. Blondeau, a member of addition's board of directors, will deliver the keynote address at

the conference banquet Saturday evening. She will represent Mrs. Bertha Clark of Fort McMurray, Alberta, association president. Several other Canadian representatives are also scheduled to attend.

Mrs. Blondeau is a member of the Cree Tribe of Saskatchewan and is the southern vice-president of the Saskatchewan Native Association Women's Movement.

Active throughout the province, she was instrumental in establishing a native women's center and day care center in Regina, and is a staunch promoter of Native women's rights and Indian culture.

She is the mother of six children.

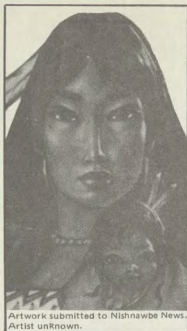
The NAIWA conference will be attended by approximately 500 women from Canada and the United States.

Others on the program are Mrs. Virginia Knauer, a member of President Gerald Ford's White House Staff and special assistant to the president for consumer affairs; Dr. William Demmert, deputy U.S. commissioner of education and director of the Office of Indian Education; Dr. Clennon E. Sockey, director of Indian Education Programs, U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs; Ada Deer, Kenosha, Wis., national-known Menominee Indian leader, and other Indian leaders and organization and government officials from throughout the country.

WESTERMAN HERE



Folk singer Floyd Westerman will perform at the conference on Thursday. Westerman, a Sisseton Sioux, has recorded two albums and wants to cut a new one (when he gets the time). He has become one of the most admired folk singers in Indian country. His first album, "Custer Died for Your Sins," and his second, "Indian Country," are heard in the cities and villages across the land wherever Native people are found. Constantly on the go, he expresses the feelings we cannot put into words. That desire for unity, the desperate problems and the gentle courage needed to endure he expresses in a song, a laugh or a tear. From the hearts of Indian country the thoughts are the same. "We love you, Floyd." He will appear at 8:30 p.m. in Auditorium 102 of the Instructional Facility.



Artwork submitted to *Nishnawbe News*. Artist unknown.

MICHIGAN CHAPTER HOSTS N.A.I.W.A.



The months of planning and work to host the 5th annual conference of the North American Indian Women's Association have largely been the responsibility of the officers of the Michigan Chapter shown here. They are (from left) Roberta Weinert, Manistique, vice president; Beatrice LaBine, Trout Creek, president, and Florence Uusitala, Baraga, secretary. Not shown is Mildred Showman, Lansing, who is treasurer.



Claire Aca Manning

Miss Indian America:

Claire Aca Manning To Give Invocation At Conference

Miss Indian America for 1975 will be in Michigan this week as she takes part in the 5th annual conference of the North American Indian Women's Association being held Thursday through Sunday on the campus of Northern Michigan University.

Claire Aca Manning, a 22-year-old Shoshone-Paiute from Owyhee, Nevada, will give the invocation at 9 Thursday morning at the opening ceremonies of the conference in Auditorium 102 of the Instructional Facility.

Over 500 women from throughout the United States and Canada are expected to attend the conference.

Miss Manning, who began her duties this past March, will be a senior this fall at Arizona State University at Tempe, where she is majoring in counseling.

She has also attended Bacone Junior College and attended the University of Nevada while she worked in the speech and reading center at Stewart Indian High School.

She held the Miss Indian Nevada title in 1971 when she entered the national Miss Indian America Pageant at Sheridan Wyoming. When she re-entered

the pageant in 1973, she was named an alternate and selected as Miss Congeniality by her fellow candidates.

Miss Manning is making appearances across the United States in 1975. She interprets the role of Miss Indian America as an emissary for her people to help others understand their various tribal cultures. She will try to bridge the gap between her people and others in America so that "We cease to be like strangers in our own country."

Skilled in silversmithing, wood carving and horsemanship, she does beadwork and is learning to tan hides. She also participates in basketball, softball and swimming.

At home on the Duck Valley Reservation in Nevada and Idaho, she and her three sisters are "rich in relatives."

Her Indian name, Aca, means "sun flower" and she is a descendant of Chief Winnemucca, a noted Paiute. Her father is tribal chairman.

DISCOVERY

A small child reaches up and lightly touches her mother's golden brown hand

Yet the child is unaware of its purpose and doesn't seek out its purpose

In time, the small child grows into a young adult, a young American Indian woman?

The young woman searches for what exactly, I don't know

But in doing so, she discovers the use of her hand.

For a long time, the young Indian woman thought and thought about her new discovery.

Suddenly she realized that in seeking for something, it would gradually be found.

To be a young American Indian woman, is to reach out and survey the future for the real person in her.

Excerpt a letter from Mary Cherino, Southwest Representative for NAIWA Youth Panel, New Mexico.

SPECIAL EDITION

The *Nishnawbe News* staff wishes to extend special thanks to James L. Carter, NMU News Director, and Robert Bailey, Director of American Indian Programs at NMU for their assistance.

The *Nishnawbe News* is published by the Organization of North American Indian Students (ONAIS), a non-profit organization devoted to serving our people through better communications. Your support and cooperation is greatly appreciated now and in the future.

Marlene Gauthier

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