

THE MIXED BLOOD UINTA'S OF UTAH



Sept. 22, 2003

Report on Meeting of Sept. 20th 2003

by Oranna (Bumgarner)) Felter

The meeting started off at 10: AM with Richard Curry sr. giving a prayer of thanks to the Grandfathers. Our Attorney Dennis Chappabitty then gave a very detailed report to those who were in attendants on our response to the Governments "motion to dismiss."

Cal Hackford help Mr. Chappabitty with some of the historical background. This response has to be filed on or before October 6, 2003.

We then presented Alvin and Naomi Denver a bouquet of flowers for their 65th Wedding Anniversary. They were married September 18th 1938.

We also presented Alvin Denver and Kobe Dee Peterson with a "Single Rose" for being the oldest and youngest individuals on our case of Felter -vs- Norton. Uncle Sonny (Alvin Denver) informed me that he wasn't the oldest but that the Rose belongs to Naturitch Kolb Nelson who is the oldest who was unable to attend the meeting, I let Alvin keep the rose anyway and took one to Naturitch.

With the help of my cousin Don Reed of Lander Wyoming, we had a 31 inch Drum made for our group. This Drum was made then giving to all those individuals who are on the case of Felter -vs- Norton by a little Sioux Native American from Ft. Washakie, Wyoming. He said that this is a very special Drum because we are fighting a very hard battle and this Drum was made especially for our group with Buffalo hide. The Drum is painted a deep maroon (dark red) with four Bears painted around the Drum,

representing the four directions (the Bear is the Uinta's symbol.)

When the Drum was finished and Don delivered the Drum to me, I had James (jimmy) Murray bless it. So now the Drum is ready for our group and our singers.

This group of singers will be known as the Eaglewing singers, a name that was picked out by our Attorney Dennis Chappabitty. The following group of individuals will be our singers, they are Carlos Iorg (Drum caretaker), Carlos will make sure the Drum is well taken care of and insure that the Drum is handle correctly according to tradition . Along with Carlos, Alvin (little Sonny) Denver will be helping with the Drum. The rest of the group will include Lavae Hackford, Kila Wood, Arlissa Pope, John W Gardner, Ronnie Butcher, Stewart Reed, Russell (Rusty) Reed, Julian Reed JR, Shawn Hackford, and Allan Bumgarner. Other singers will be added as the group gets going. We are also hoping that James Murrey will help with the group. They will be singing spiritual songs asking for blessing on our people who are on the case of Felter -vs- Norton (Pow Wow's will come later.) We would like to thank the about named people for taking on this task. The Eaglewing Drum and singers are a very important part of "us". The Drum and singers is the heart of our struggle, its beat is the spiritual heart beat of us all! Thank you Guys..

I then called Richita Hackford and Sandy H Asay up to the front and ask them if they would be the "Keepers of our Memorial Wall" which they both accepted.

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I feel we should always display the posters that shows those who have gone on, never forgetting them and to keep their memories with us at all times. This will be Richita and Sandys Job, to make sure the posters of our loved one's gets to the meetings. They will be the keepers of our memories posters, they will be contacting people asking them to make up a poster of those who have passed on. So if you have one of the original 490 or one of their descendants who have passed on, please make up a poster and sent it to Sandy or Richita in Roosevelt, UT. I'll post their address's later.

We broke for the pot luck lunch. After lunch, we had the drawing for the Pow Wow Drum and Cradle board. Rebecca Hackford Murray won the Cradle board and Kila Wood's Daughter from Rocksprings Wyoming won the Drum. Both items were donated, congratulation guy's.

Then it was time for the "Balloon Lift". We went out on the lawn where there were 490 helium felled balloon were waiting to be released. Each balloon was tied with a label which had each of the original 490 "terminated" Uinta's roll number, name and our website written on it. There were also extra balloons for their descendents. Many thanks to Dee Felter for all the time he spend making all the arrangements on getting the balloons ready, for getting the Helium, parachutes, stakes, etc. Also thanks to Change Peterson, Jessica Peterson, Bert Peterson and Blaine Rust for helping with all the work getting the balloons ready and a Special Thanks to my two Daughters, Kimberlee and Mitzi for all the hours setting down and writing all the information on the labels for the balloons.

It was quite a site, watching 490 plus balloons being released and flying up into the beautiful sky sailing towards the "Uinta Mountains." As I watched those balloons raise higher and higher, I thought to myself, our "Spirit People" were smiling down on us, knowing we have not forgotten them and the pain and suffering they went through. As I look at my people who were standing and watching those

balloons raise higher and higher, some were clapping, some had tears in their eyes and I could see the hope of a better tomorrow in each and ever one of them.

It is my hope that when you "my people" look at the beautiful sky, you will keep the thought in your heart, mind and spirit, the sight of those balloons floating and remember those of our people who have gone on. Remember their "pain and suffering", Remember the struggle we're in now, our Attorney Dennis Chappabitty, the people who work so hard on the case, all those who are listed on the case and for all Native American people who are fighting a battle. Pray to keep us "strong", "healthy", "safe from all harm" and especially "united". Never, never let us forget why we are fighting this battle!

Now to all those who could not attend the meeting. We'll be posting picture of the meeting and the balloon lift on the website, www.undeclaredutes.net When you see these pictures "Remember."

I pray to you "Grandfather" for these my people! Thank you for bring us together as one, to fight this battle for justice. I ask "Grandfather" that you bless each and every one of these precious Native Americans who are standing tall and proud. To give all the strength, courage, health, wisdom and knowledge to over come any obstacle placed in our path. Keep us strong and together as one. We ask all our Brother and Sister Native Americans across this great land to come forward with their help and support in fighting this spiritual battle. Bless Dennis and Linda Chappabitty.

Let us all pray for those younger one's, that they will become more "involved" and to attend the meeting to hear and learn about the struggles of their forefathers and ours. After all they will be the future leaders.

I want to incourage everyone to attend the meeting when one is called, you are an important part of this case! Thank you...

Oranna Felter...

