



Wellbriety!

White Bison's Online Magazine

Volume 4, Number 20

Come to the Conference!

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Thursday, September 18—Sunday, September 21, 2003



Tatanka Wijnyan/Buffalo Woman

*A Memorial Video
to Lakota Rose
Madison and the
Standing Rock
Community*



"Lakota People be patient

Seven Generations need you

*Seven Generations are born
every day*

*Give them your wisdom and
hope..."*

*Sung by Helmina Makes Him
First
on Tatanka Wijnyan*

See it at the Conference, Thursday Evening, September 18. Read about it in the story inside



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White Bison Speaks

Come to the Circles of Recovery Conference! Albuquerque, New Mexico, September 18-21, 2003

Mark your calendar and plan to attend White Bison's Fourth Annual Circles of Recovery Conference in **Albuquerque, New Mexico**, from **Thursday to Sunday, September 18-21**. This year's gathering for sobriety, recovery and well living is titled "Strengthening Our Nations" and registration is FREE to the first 750 people who sign up. The Conference will be held at the Albuquerque Convention Center, 401 Second Street NW in Albuquerque.

The White Bison Conference offers four days of healing Ceremonies, videos, speakers and presentations, Wellbriety workshops, and eight different conference tracks all aimed at bringing sobriety and wellness possibilities to Native Americans and those working with them on the healing journey. The Conference also features discussions with Elders, a Wellbriety Powwow, a banquet, an awards ceremony, and for the first time, a uniquely Native American Wellbriety "Roast."

This year's Conference is jointly sponsored by White Bison, Inc, and NANACOA. White Bison, Inc. is an American Indian non profit dedicated to bringing culturally friendly recovery and healing programs, videos, books, and other resources to Native Americans who seek healing, addictions prevention, and wellness for themselves, families and communities. NANACOA, The National Association of Native American Children of Alcoholics, supports Native people who grew up around the destructive effects of alcohol.

Videos

The Conference opens Thursday evening, September 18, with Grand Entry of the 100 Eagle Feather Hoop and welcoming remarks by Don Coyhis, Founder and President of White Bison, Inc. Thursday's special event will be the Indian debut of the video *Path of Hope*, produced by MADD (Mother's Against Drunk Driving) to support Native American families who have lost a loved one to a

drunk driver. *Path of Hope* features the stories of five different Native American families who have been impacted by drunk drivers. Its purpose is to send the message that Native people can come to MADD for help. After its debut in Albuquerque, *Path of Hope* will be available to Native communities nationwide.

A second Thursday evening video promises to hush the audience and bring tears to the eyes an possibly anger and shock to the heart. *Tatanka Wijnan*, or *Buffalo Woman* is a film by David Weinkauff and Mary Anne Angel telling of the murder of 17 year old Lakota Rose Madison on the Standing Rock reservation in South Dakota in 2001. Lakota Rose was killed because gangs and violence are out of control on Standing Rock. And she was not the only one. In *Tatanka Wijnan* we get to know Lakota Rose as an articulate "young elder" during her presentation at the Circle of Light Initiative in Dayton, Ohio in March of 2001. But then we lose her. The community tries to make sense of the tragic, senseless killing, and as viewers, we do too. Why did it happen? Drugs and alcohol are certainly one reason and that's why Buffalo Woman will be shown at the Conference. But there are other reasons too. When you watch the video listen carefully for the challenge to all of us voiced by one of the community members, spoken in his sorrow and in his strength. For that's why we will be at the conference.

Talks, Workshops and Elders

Kevin Gover, former head of the BIA, will highlight the Conference's "Strengthening Our Nations" focus with a keynote address on sober leadership. Entitled "Sober Leadership and the New Millennium," Gover's message will be that it takes Native American leaders who are themselves on healing and wellness journeys to send the message of sobriety and healthy living to their communities, families and individuals. It is only through sobriety that the dreams of sovereignty, education, economic well being, and cultural strength can be reached.

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Other keynote speakers or workshop leaders include nationally acclaimed authors Claudia Black, Margaret Wheatly, Anne Wilson Schaef, and Bill White, who have all written well known books on recovery from alcohol and drugs, self-development, or visionary looks at a well future for all people.

Back again this year will be Jeri Brunoe Samson, leading her popular youth work as part of White Bison's Wellbriety for Youth program. Theda New Breast will also return with presentations on the GONA (Gathering of Native Americans) approach to healing and wellness through Indian culture. Blaine Wood's unique Wellbriety for Prisons program, as well as his leadership of the White Bison grassroots Firestarter's healing circles taking place around the nation, will be featured at the Conference.

Those who attended the first three White Bison Circles of Recovery Conferences in Colorado Springs (1999), Rapid City (2001), and Billings (2002), will be happy to know that a number of beloved Elders will be back. Ozzie Williamson, Bill and Carol Iron Moccasin, and Horace and Andrea Axtell will lend their own Wellbriety, humor and love to the Gathering. There will be an Elder's panel at which these Elder's will speak, as well as being available to visit throughout the Conference.

Banquet, Powwow, and "Roast"

The Circles of Recovery Conference is part of National Native American Recovery/Wellbriety Month, September, 2003, which is being celebrated throughout Indian country in September. Native Wellbriety Month is, in turn, a part of the larger National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month celebrated by all America in September. There will be a Recovery Month Powwow held as part of the Conference in Albuquerque on Saturday Evening September 20, 2003 at the Convention Center. Contact Norman Sitting Up in Albuquerque at (505) 489 2001 if you want to go. The Powwow will be emceed by Native artist and recovery advocate Sam English, as well as by Kevin Peniska, Sr., publisher of the Native American "Well Nations" Magazine.

The Fourth Annual Circles of Recovery Conference in Albuquerque features all of this and so much more. Participate in Circles of Recovery 2003 for your own sobriety, recovery, and wellness, or to purchase wellness resources and Indian products offered at the many vendor tables. And come to the Conference to share in the first ever Wellbriety "Roast" of Sam English.

Contact White Bison at toll free 1-877-871-1495, by e mail at info@whitebison.org, or visit the website at www.whitebison.org to receive a Conference Brochure or to download the online Magazine, "Wellbriety!" for more information. ✚

--White Bison, Inc.

Obtaining the Conference Videos

You or your community can obtain copies of *Path of Hope* and *Tatanka Wijnyan*, or *Buffalo Woman* after the conference. Contact the people listed here to find out how:

Path of Hope

From MADD
(Mothers Against Drunk Driving)
Betty Swinners
phone: 1-800-438-6233 ext. 4570
or e-mail: swinners@MADD.org

Tatanka Wijnyan/Buffalo Woman

From David Weinkauff
phone: (814) 587-3640
or e-mail: weinkauff@toolcity.net

White Bison Speaks

Meet the Elders, Presenters, and Workshop Facilitators

Meet the Elders, Presenters, and Workshop Facilitators

Elders

OZZIE WILLIAMSON (Blackfeet Nation)

BILL IRON MOCCASIN (Lakota Nation)

HORACE AXTELL (Nez Perce Nation)

Good Words at the Conference

Thursday Evening, September 18, 2003

Keynote Talk

KEVIN GOVER (Pawnee), Native American attorney and former head of the BIA, Clinton Administration
“Sober Leadership and the New Millennium”

Friday Morning, September 19, 2003

Opening Remarks

DON COYHIS (Mohican), Founder and President of White Bison, Inc.
“The Healing Forest and the Wellbriety Movement”

Keynote Talk

WILLIAM L. WHITE, Addictions researcher and author of *Slaying the Dragon*
“Alcoholism in Native Americans: The Untold Story of Resistance and Recovery”

Keynote Talk

CLAUDIA BLACK, Author of *It Will Never Happen to Me* and other books on healing from emotional trauma due to the addictions environment
“Letting Go of Our Baggage”

Saturday Morning, September 20, 2003

Opening Remarks

DON COYHIS (Mohican), Founder and President of White Bison, Inc.
“Recovery Community Insistence on Sober Leadership”

Keynote Talk

MARGARET WHEATLEY, Author of *Turning to One Another: Simple Conversations to Restore Hope to the Future* and other books on a sustainable future
“Good Leaders Emerge From Healthy Communities”

White Bison Speaks

Meet the Elders, Presenters, and Workshop Facilitators

Sunday Morning, September 21, 2003

Closing Remarks

DON COYHIS (Mohican), Founder and President of White Bison, Inc.

“The Vision of Eliminating Domestic Violence: 100 Communities Must Make a Commitment”

Conference Tracks and Workshop Facilitators

Track 1: Aligning the Community to Wellbriety

ANNE WILSON SCHAEF (Cherokee), Author of 13 books and Living Process healer

{Healing Unhealthy Communities}

MARGARET WHEATLEY, Author of *Turning to One Another: Simple Conversations to Restore Hope to the Future* and other books on a sustainable future

{Leadership Skills for Nurturing Healthy Communities}

Track 2: Strengthening Our Nations for Wellbriety

THEDA NEW BREAST, (Blackfeet), Founder and lead writer of GONA (Gathering of Native Americans) Curriculum

{GONA and Women in Wellness}

WILLIE WOLF (Dakota), Wellness program provider

{Men in Wellness}

DON COYHIS (Mohican), Founder and President of White Bison, Inc.

{Visioning Session}

Track 3: Coalition Building

EDUARDO HERNANDEZ-ALARCON, Deputy Director of CADCA (Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America)

{Coalition Building}

MARTHA BURNSIDE, Tri-Ethnic Center for Prevention Research, Colorado State University

{Community Readiness}

Track 4: Healing Approaches for Native American Children of Alcoholics

CLAUDIA BLACK, Author of *It Will Never Happen to Me* and other books on healing from emotional



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trauma due to the addictions environment
{Emotional Abandonment}

GARY NEUMANN (Salish-Kootenai), ACOA (Adult Children of Alcoholics) program provider
{Understanding ACOA}

Track 5: The White Bison Firestarters Program: Community and Prison

BLAINE WOOD (Cherokee), White Bison Wellbriety For Prisons and Firestarters Program Director
{Wellbriety for Prisons, Firestarter Experiences, 7 Community Trainings}

Track 6: Treatment Using Culture

DENNIS LORENZO, RAY DAY, TEX ANDERSON, N'anizhoozhi Treatment Center, Gallup, New Mexico
{Traditional Approaches to Prevention and Intervention}

PHILLIP ARCHAMBAULT, Native American Rehabilitation Center (NARA), Portland, OR
{The 12 Principles of Indian Philosophy and Times of Grieving}

SUSAN DOCTOR, FAS/FAE program provider/researcher
{Healing Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Fetal Alcohol Effect}

JUANITA U., Alanon/Alateen program provider for Native Americans
{Implementing Alanon in Native American Communities}

Track 7: Wellbriety for Youth (Ages 13-19)

JERI BRUNOE-SAMSON (Wasco/Warm Springs), Program provider for Native American youth
{Providing for Our Youth (with Brandon James)}

Track 8: Wellbriety for Youth (Adults who want to help)

SHARON WHITEFAWN, Program provider for youth in recovery and other healing ways
{Daughters of Tradition and Sons of Tradition}

LORI BAKARA, Executive Director, Medicine Wheel House, Dayton, Ohio
{Children of Alcoholics}

JERI BRUNOE-SAMSON (Wasco/Warm Springs), Program provider for Native American youth
{Working with Native American Youth} ✚