

THE TRIBAL NATIONS EXCHANGE  
INFORMATION SHARING ON  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
ACTIVITIES IN INDIAN COUNTRY

***NOVEMBER IS AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH***

**Tribal Liaison Leads Los Angeles District in Computer Donations to Tribes**

Glynn Alsup, a member of the Corps team in Los Angeles District, has worked for much of the last three years among the Navajo and Hopi on a massive abandoned uranium mine project. He knows tribal needs well, including a severe shortage of computer equipment. *USA Today* recently reported that in the year 2000, only 9 percent of Native American households had a personal computer, compared with 47 percent of non-Native American homes.

In the true spirit of the Chief of Engineers' *Just Do It!* campaign, Alsup contacted the Los Angeles District Logistics Management Office, which has an inventory of computers available to donate. A 1996 Executive Order established the computer donation program nationwide. As a result of Glynn's initiative and Painted Rock Dam operators Don May and Cliff Olson, dozens of computer systems were provided to the Navajo Nation and many more systems were donated to the Tohono O'odham Nation's government center, near Gila Bend, Arizona. Adults and children are being trained on the computers at the government center which hosts a library, community room and recreation area used by tribal members. The Navajo have used the Corps computers in their Rough Rock High School in Chinle, Arizona and the program has been so successful that the district plans to continue making donations later this year.

***Information developed by Mike Tharp, Los Angeles Public Affairs Office and provided by Joe Dixon, Los Angeles District.***

**USACE Recruiting at American Indian Society**

This month the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) will hold its annual conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and a USACE recruiting team will be there. The USACE team will be looking to attract the best and brightest Native American students and professionals into careers in engineering and sciences. USACE will have a booth at the AISES Career Fair where the focus will be on recruiting candidates for the Federal Career Intern Program (FCIP) and the Student Career Experience Program (SCEP).

The team will be led by Mr. Dwight Burns, Senior Executive in the Northwestern Division and will feature Corps employees such as Ms. Kimberley Oldham (Muscogee Creek / Yuchi), a civil engineer and Native American Coordinator for Kansas City District.

**Quote of the Issue**

*"NAGPRA is the strongest federal law that the tribes have to protect cultural resources, and we want to make sure that the tribal rights and tribal resources are fully protected."*

Nez Perce attorney Rob Roy Smith in announcing the intention of the Nez Perce, Umatilla, Colville and Yakama Tribes to appeal the 30 August 2002 Kennewick Man ruling in the Federal Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

**From the United States Environmental Protection Agency...**

The *Tribal Environmental and Natural Resources Assistance Handbook* is now available online. This handbook was developed by the Domestic Policy Council Working Group of American Indians and Alaska Natives. It is a compilation of the Federal sources of financial and/or technical assistance programs available for tribal environmental management. The handbook benefits tribal environmental staff and informs Federal, regional, state and local government employees about the sources of environmental assistance available in order to improve customer service to the tribes. The document is available at [www.epa.gov/indian/tribhand.htm](http://www.epa.gov/indian/tribhand.htm).

*Catching the Dream (CTD)*, formerly the Native American Scholarship Fund, Inc., has published the first-ever comprehensive directory of grants to Indians. The book, called *The National Indian Grant Directory (NIGD)*, is a 600 page description of grant makers. It details some 548 foundations, corporations, Federal government agencies and religious organizations that make grants to Indian tribes and not for profit organizations. The book is available from CTD for \$ 99.95 plus \$ 3.50 for shipping and handling. The CTD address is 8200 Mountain Road, NE, Suite 203, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87110; telephone (505) 262-2351

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