

Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem Under the Grand Priory of the United States

May 2014

SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENTS FOR THE PRIOR OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE: Recent activities by Prior of Indigenous People James (WFE) Mooney made great leaps towards honoring the historical and cultural legacy of the world's Indigenous People or "first people." As co-founder of Oklevueha Native American Church, Mooney is protecting and restoring a way of being, that we refer to as the "Native Way." The Native Way is a view of life that, by virtue of being created by the One Creator, we are all related.

Mooney influenced Indigenous People presence within society, their ways of life and their rights. Mooney's key issues and activities highlight his recent efforts towards helping Indigenous People with traditional lands, territories, natural resources, and religious freedom. Perhaps most importantly, Mooney helped people who struggle with political and government powers that prevent/keep them from communicating with Creator God the way they are led to.

This report/speech highlights how Mooney protects and restores indigenous culture and draws attention to those who violate this God given truth or "way of being." Mooney's argument is that it is a God given appointment for each man (humankind) to seek Creator God. God is calling man unto himself. And this divine appointment is a "God-given natural, unalienable right." Mooney's recent activities include:

- Achieved Self-Determination Historic First Utah Governor refers to Oklevueha Native American Church as Sovereign Nation.
- Influences Indigenous Peoples' Land, Territories and Natural Resources.
- Historical Reality Instills Humanhood.
- Responds to Separation of Church and State.
- Protects Indigenous.
- Protects Gifts from Creator.
- Offers Clear Communications, Cooperation And Understanding Key To Acceptance and Change.
- Empowers Oklevueha Native American Church Branches.
- Promoted to Prior of Indigenous People for Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem

ACHIEVED SELF-DETERMINATION HISTORIC FIRST – UTAH GOVERNOR REFERS TO OKLEVUEHA NATIVE AMERICAN CHURCH AS SOVEREIGN NATION. In an official and recorded audience with the Priory of Indigenous People Pastor/Elder Mooney, Utah Governor Gary Herbert referred to the Native American Church headed by our Prior as a "Sovereign Nation." This is the first time that a state government agency is recognizing the Native American Church as a Sovereign Nation. The Governor of Utah is sincere about righting the wrongs committed against the indigenous, native people of this country and honoring the Native American Church as an ambassador of the Earth and the voice of Native American spirituality and culture. We are so proud of the achievements of Commander James Flaming Eagle Mooney and Chasta Linda (Bright Hawk) Mooney. Attending the event were: Utah Governor Gary Herbert and First Lady Jeanette Herbert; Utah Lieutenant Governor Spencer J. Cox and Mrs. Abby Cox; ONAC Elder Seminole Medicine Man James WFE Mooney and Medicine Woman Linda (Bright Hawk) Mooney; and a host of guest and other Utah influencers.



Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem Under the Grand Priory of the United States

May 2014

INFLUENCED INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' LAND, TERRITORIES AND NATURAL RESOURCES. What makes sense as a collective right for all people is still being violated here in the United States of America. It is no surprise that the United States is opposed to various rights and provisions for Indigenous People here. The implications to territory, admission of major injustices is great and it is unfortunate that giving Indigenous People the ability to access that which is completely natural would be politically explosive.

Recently, Mooney participated in a host of legal issues as the representative of Indigenous Peoples' rights to freedom of religion. He served as key spokesperson for the Paiute Nation to preserve clean water and land rights after their land was being dispossessed for construction of a toxic waste dump. Mooney represented a tribe's right to decide, whether a toxic waste dump should be allowed to operate on Paiute land. The impact for the Paiute is clean water, better health, and living conditions for the entire tribe; thus improving the quality of life for the entire tribe.

Routinely Mooney conducted traditional sacred ceremonies to bless sacred spaces. In April Mooney visited Virginia and blessed Paleo-Indian ceremonial grounds found by Confrere Christopher (Comeswithclouds) White MLJ, the Commandery of Virginia Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem (Under the Grand Priory of the United States). White and his wife Rene' White (Feather) are of Native American ancestry and are CEO and President of the ONAC of Virginia. The above ground site is called the "Sanctuary on the Trail." The site owners plan to use the sacred site as a hub to "help leaders first," especially Indigenous Leaders from around the world and the Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem. It is our hope that with their Native American Church of Virginia that they be a hub or center to assist in healing our world and all our relations. Artifacts discovered from the Paleo-Indian site date to 10,470 years old. NBC News aired that, with the establishment of the ONAC of VA, this is the oldest church in continuous operation in the world. Mooney envisions the sacred site being restored and that people would say, "It is as the 'Garden of Eden."

Additionally, Mooney led a "Reclaim your Freedom Fund" established to notify City, County and State municipalities about their violations of Constitutional rights regarding gatherings, beliefs and practices of earth-based purification ceremonies. Mooney is a voice for the collective rights over land, resources and religious freedom, which are essential for the survival of our Indigenous People.

HISTORICAL REALITY – INSTILLING HUMANHOOD. The historical reality is actually being ignored. The issue extends far greater than land lines and blood quantum. It is about humanhood and loving your neighbor as if it were yourself.

We could debate who the "original" people of the United States are or were, or we can choose to live now. We cannot go back into the past nor change it. Now is when we can make a difference in the lives of our country men, women and children. Mooney recognizes that now is when we need protection. Now is where we create possibilities of a future being related.

The seed that Mooney planted years ago in working with government officials to create the possibility of being related is now realized in people like Governor Herbert and his invitation and actions.

During day to day church operations, Mooney ensures that each of his 100+ branches represent people of all races, of many faiths and political viewpoints and that they take on the vision to, "Unearth the Creators Spirit, in Our Hearts and Heritage, for all of our Relations." Mooney accomplishes this by focusing on the traits of love, forgiveness, humility, honor, respect, charity, gratitude, and faith. ONAC is now a force



Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem Under the Grand Priory of the United States

May 2014

of goodness that is playing a significant role in assisting today's world populations in rediscovering ways in living out ones existence on Mother Earth in a more respectful and loving manner.

Mooney shares that the scope of being related is not limited to humanity or two-leggeds. Our relation with the winged, four-legged, the finned, the plant kingdom, the elements of earth (earth, fire, water and air), all knit together are one creation/organism. The belief that, if one element of the whole creation is destroyed or lost, the organism itself cannot survive and will eventually die; to allow that to happen would be dishonoring creation, more so dishonoring Creator.

RESPONDED TO SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE. Where is the honor and where is the love when a church or the government tries to determine what is religious and what is not? Where is the love to eradicate a people and their way of life? Indigenous People across the United States continue to battle with other churches and government officials despite that the country's very founding document providentially says, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights." What's more, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion," according to the first amendment.

Recently, Mooney petitioned to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to step up with their 2-year investigation and immediately upon completion, turn over their evidence to the U.S. Attorney General's office for a resolution to a conspiracy against freedom of religion for indigenous people. The FBI concluded their investigation into the state of Utah Attorney General's office, Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) which concurred with James's claims that people of responsibilities within these two government agencies and the LDS in-fact had violated ONAC members' of their civil liberties. However, because James stated unequivocally that he would not bring or support any criminal charges brought against any person, state agencies and/or the LDS Church, because the FBI is a criminal investigative branch of the United States, they have closed their investigation by advising each of these institutions that they need to cease and desist in their violations of ONAC civil liberties and to make amends where possible. Mooney supplied the FBI with evidence in several cases. Certain leaders of the LDS Church have repeatedly violated their sacred calling by not honoring the separation of church and state. These particular religious leaders have actually influenced a multitude of United States Government agencies to repeatedly treat ONAC as a criminal enterprise and to even have blocked ONAC Internet sites on its controlled internet hosting system by labeling ONAC as a terrorist organization. The exposure and resolution of these issues could shake the very foundation of our democracy by not handling these issues in a loving and respectful manner.

Mooney provided protection to loving people, their friends and family members that want nothing more than to serve their fellow human beings but are continually met with terrorism threats, threats of being murdered, work equipment stolen or impounded, imprisonment and most sadly to say with the support of miss guided federal, state and/or local law enforcement agencies. Now, the federal courts will soon decide, what is already in their hands to be valid or not.

PROTECTS INDIGENOUS PEOPLE. ONAC leadership recognizes that special measures are required to protect the rights of our Indigenous People here and around the world. Basic human rights and principles include: right to seek Creator, self-determination, equality, non-discrimination, gender equality, collective



Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem Under the Grand Priory of the United States

May 2014

rights and the right to development. Mooney is making strides in ensuring Indigenous People see the full range of rights established under international law. Mooney has been directly involved in resolving these type issues across the nation including: ONAC of Happy Valley (ONAC Custodian of the Medicine); ONAC Medical Director Dr. Robert Courtney M.D. effort to acquire Sacred Land in Northern California to protect American Native Sacred Ceremonial areas, Burial Grounds and to provide cancer curing cannabis to the needy; ONAC of the Navy; ONAC of Northern California; ONAC of Northern Thunder; ONAC of Hawaii; ONAC's Roger Christy; ONAC of Mother Medicine Wheel; ONAC of Heart Living Center; ONAC Dr. Robert Beckstead MD; and ONAC Russ Jensen.

PROTECTS GIFTS FROM CREATOR. Over millennia, tribes from all over this hemisphere have learned and passed down ways of healing and empowering, understanding and living harmoniously and productively with ourselves, others, and nature. With the relatively rapid decline of our Indigenous languages the world stands to lose more if we lose our Indigenous understanding of natural plant medicine.

Mooney works with Indigenous People who do not want to share what they have learned because of the atrocities they have suffered at the hands of "civilized" people who have invaded, co-opted and destroyed the lands that sustained them. This is understandable. Also, because the impact global healing will have on pharmaceutical and medical giants, we expect there will continue to be resistance in this area of change. But Mooney continues to take steps to bring about this transformation about.

Mooney uses ONAC to help bridge the painful gap by sharing and protecting those understandings and natural medicines that can bless not only all the people of the world, but the world itself. Mooney insists that Indigenous medicines be available to all races and cultures in the hope that they can assist in healing our world and all our relations. ONAC is working with churches throughout the world to admit people of any racial makeup and include anyone around our sacred fires. Keeping what Mother Earth brings forth is a "Sacred Sacrament" and sacred sacraments are gifts from Creator God. Natural/plant medicines are gifts of Creator from the beginning. Our world needs the wisdom we have saved for all our relations in this area.

Mooney has always asserted that earth based medicines were given by Creator for healing of body, mind and spirit; and each individual has the right from Creator to access their healing. News about the cannabis Cannabinoids curing cancer, tumors, and seizures is no surprise to Indigenous People. There is much suffering in the world, and Indigenous Peoples' knowledge of plant medicines can help.

Mooney assists ONAC's vision in providing safe environments for indigenous earth based healing and spiritual ceremonies to thrive. Recently, Mooney launched the <u>ONAC participation card</u>. It is not a membership card, but rather helps individuals prove they are of a particular faith to help receive federal protection. Implementation of this card, is offering protection to native and non-native people. Members of 'any' federally recognized tribe and/or 'members' of a bona fide Native American Church have the constitutional rights and protection to worship with any and all earth-based Sacraments "especially Peyote."

Recently Prime Time television featured Mooney in the first episode of Fusion Network's "Strange Medicine – Peyote – Oklevueha Native American Church," part of a half hour 12-part quest to find cures and exotic medicines from around the world. Jareth 'Mountain goat Climbs High' Schmidt (Sacred Prayer Pipe Holder, Sweat Lodge Leader, Sun-dancer and Eucharist administrator) supervised the ONAC ceremonies for the Fusion Network program that aired globally.



Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem Under the Grand Priory of the United States

May 2014

One of Mooney's biggest emphasizes has been on continuing the "Matriarchal" system in society. Mooney constantly emphasizes the importance of Indigenous Women to the community and to the world. He ensures Indigenous Women are given respect, power, autonomy and equality. During all his professional meetings and sacred ceremonies Mooney encourages all men to value and honor their daughters, wives, mothers and grandmothers as providers, nurturers, mothers, counselors, leaders and spiritual healers for all people.

OFFERING CLEAR COMMUNICATIONS, COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING KEY TO

ACCEPTANCE AND CHANGE. ONAC is dedicated to educating and maintaining the integrity of bona fide American Native Indigenous ceremonies, thus serving the communities in which we reside. Our diversity is one of our strongest components that makes us part of the "United" States of America. Clear and transparent communications about Indigenous People is key to global understanding, acceptance and change.

Mooney launched an updated the ONAC web site, branded with a new logo, and content that is shared worldwide. The site clearly outlines ONAC ceremonies, sacraments and code of ethics. It lists ONAC teachings, habilitative programs, online consultations and partnerships with the U.S. Military. It provides information, news, articles, videos, and resources for those concerned about and for Indigenous People around the world. The site also offers ways others can get involved with helping preserve and protect the Indigenous Peoples' way of being or the Native Way.

Additionally, Mooney launched six Facebook sites and oversees countless sites and pages hosted by 100+ individual ONAC branches. Mooney provides online consultations in a number of areas because of his diverse background in law enforcement, corrections, undercover work, motivational coaching, Native American culture, ceremonies, medicine man and pipe carrier lend a unique understanding of human nature and its effects on livelihood.

We recognize that our actions effect Indigenous People in all parts of the world and sharing information helps not only inform and educate, but helps get others involved to help make a difference. As we continue to synergize we can have an unprecedented impact on the world's Indigenous People. Cultural communication, cooperation, and understanding are key to helping Indigenous People maintain our language, culture, and identity.

EMPOWERS OKLEVUEHA NATIVE AMERICAN CHURCH BRANCHES. Mooney began moving the daily temporal affairs of the more than 100 churches he established and blessed unto themselves. This move is an effort to duplicate himself and empower each branch. Each church branch president and each individual member has the right to seek Creator God. Mooney empowers each church president to freely choose how each church operates, which ceremonies are provided and who participate, as long as they following the ONAC code of ethics. In taking this stand, Mooney declares that Indigenous People have the right to maintain and strengthen their own religious institutions, cultures and traditions and to pursue their development in accordance with the prompting of Spirit.

Most recently, Mooney launched an affiliate program that welcomes affiliates to participate in the mission to educate and/or maintain the integrity of bona fide American Native Indigenous ceremonies and



Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem Under the Grand Priory of the United States

May 2014

sacraments. Affiliates may choose to participate as an Independent branch of ONAC or to simply refer participants to one of over 100 branches in the Americas.

Mooney also continues to gift and bless new ONAC branches across America.

PROMOTED TO PRIOR OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE FOR HOSPITALLER ORDER OF SAINT LAZARUS OF JERUSALEM. In appreciation of Mooney's hard work in the field of the Indigenous People in the United States, and also due to the very positive comments received from the US Grand Priory, the Supreme Grand Priory sanctioned the constituted Commandery of the Indigenous People under the Grand Priory of the United States to be elevated to being a Priory of the Indigenous People under the Grand Priory of the United States. This means Mooney is being promoted in office from Commander of the Commandery to Prior of the Priory. His investiture will take place either in Nevis or the United States later this year.

<u>CONCLUSION</u>. In the United States we have come a long way from being denied that we were even human, to being rated second class citizens. But, it is time for more. The missing ingredient is accepting that "we are all related."

What the Paiutes, Ute's, Navajo, Goshute and Shoshone have endured, at the hands of a few misguided American leaders and sadly to say, is still is going on in the United States. Our Oklevueha Native American Church members continue to struggle with raids on their sacred property and during their sacred ceremonies. Today Indigenous People may be the victim, but tomorrow it may be you. We believe in a world where religious intolerance will someday end – where all men, women and children and all churches are treated as equal and where every man, women or child has the same right to attend or not attend the church of his or her choice.

Mooney and the ONAC leaders and members aim to continue helping all people, especially Indigenous People, exercise and enjoy the rights we are all equally given. We commemorate the contribution of Indigenous People culture and tell the story of a vibrant way of life that continues to contribute to the world.

We declare a collective right of Native Americans / Indigenous People in the United States and around the globe. Our contributions are essential for the integrity, survival and well-being of our nation and communities. We are linked, not only by our land and what we know as DNA, but by our spiritual DNA. We are all created humans and for this prime reason we are inseparable from the whole.

We also recognize that we cannot accomplish this important necessity alone. We look forward to new possibilities with the Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem. We can accomplish more together, especially because we are all related. It is the "Native Way."

This document has been reviewed and endorsed by the Pnor of Indigenous People Pastor / Medicine Man James Warren Flaming Eagle Mooney ChLJ

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Christmas Gathering at the State of Utah Governors Mansion, 2013

(L to R) Utah Governor Herbert, First Lady Jeanette Herbert, Oklevueha Native American Church Seminole Medicine Woman Linda TBH Mooney, Oklevueha Native American Church Elder Seminole Medicine Man James WFE Mooney Mrs. Abby Cox, and Utah Lieutenant Governor Spencer J. Cox

Website for Oklevueha Native American Church: www.nativeamericanchurches.org