

THE MOSAIC

"During National American Indian Heritage Month, I call on all Americans to learn more about the history and heritage of the Native peoples of this great land. Such actions reaffirm our appreciation and respect for their traditions and way of life and can help to preserve an important part of our culture for generations yet to come."
 — President George H. W. Bush

"Guiding our Destiny with Heritage and Traditions"

For almost 100 years, Americans have insisted that there be permanently designated a time to honor the contributions, achievements, sacrifices, and cultural and historical legacy of the original inhabitants of what is now the United States: the American Indian and Alaska Native people. The quest for a national recognition of Native Americans began in the early 20th Century as a private effort. Since the late 1970s, Congress has enacted legislation and subsequent presidents have issued annual proclamations designating a day, a week, or a month to celebrate and commemorate the nation's American Indian and Alaska Native heritage. In 1990, President George H. W. Bush designated 01–30 November as National American Indian Heritage Month. Since then, each U.S. President thereafter has released a proclamation declaring November as American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month.

American Indians have served with distinction in the U.S. military for more than 200 years. It is estimated that more than 12,000 served during World War I and more than 44,000, out of a total Native American population of less than 350,000, served between 1941 and 1945 during WWII. Today more than 14,000 active-duty and reserve Sailors and 1,200 civilians of Native American and Alaska Native heritage serve as part of our Navy total force. In every facet of naval operations, these talented Sailors and civilians work, serve, and sacrifice for their nation, and their unique perspectives and experiences enhance our Navy. Please join us in celebrating National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month!

For more information, click on link: <http://www.public.navy.mil/BUPERS-NPC/SUPPORT/DIVERSITY/Pages/DiversityObservances.aspx>

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From The Navy Office of Diversity

When we participate in outreach activities, there are often opportunities to mentor and to be mentored. Seeking out individuals with like interests and like backgrounds is one way to gain support in one's personal and professional life, and the Navy encourages individuals to pursue activities that help with professional development as well as contribute to a healthy life-work balance. Individuals and organizations are encouraged to celebrate the diverse makeup of our Navy Total Force, and to participate in activities enhancing and embracing Navy diversity.

NAVAJO CODE TALKERS

"..Maintaining secrecy, particularly during wartime, is vital to the national security of every country. On the battlefield, secrecy is essential for victory, and breaking enemy codes is necessary to gain the advantage and shorten the war.

During World War II, sending and receiving codes without the risk of the enemy deciphering the transmission required hours of encrypting and decrypting the code. The US Marine Corps, in an effort to find quicker and more secure ways to send and receive code, enlisted Navajos as code talkers.

Philip Johnston initiated the Marine Corps' program to enlist and train Navajos as messengers. Johnston, the son of a missionary, grew up on a Navajo reservation and became familiar with the people and their language. He was also a World War I veteran who knew about the military's desire to send and receive messages in an unbreakable code. Johnston said he hit upon the idea of enlisting Navajos as signalmen early in 1942, when he read a newspaper story about the army's use of several Native Americans during training maneuvers with an armored division in Louisiana. The article also stated that, during World War I, Native Americans had acted as signalmen for the Canadian army to send secure messages about shortages of supplies or ammunition. The US Army's program, however, was never given the priority that the US Marine Corps assigned to Johnston's idea in 1942..." – "Semper Fidelis, Code Talkers" by Adam Jevic

To read more of this story, click or go to link: <http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2001/winter/navajo-code-talkers.html> or for more information: <http://www.navajocodetalkers.org/> .



"..At Camp Elliott the initial recruits, along with communications personnel, designed the first Navajo code. This code consisted of 211 words, most of which were Navajo terms that had been imbued with new, distinctly military meanings. For example, "fighter plane" was called "da-he-tih-hi," which means "hummingbird" in Navajo, and "dive bomber" was called "gini," which means "chicken hawk." In addition, the code talkers also designed a system that signified the twenty-six letters of the English alphabet. For example, the letter A was "wol-la-chee," which means "ant" in Navajo, and the letter E was "dzeh," which means "elk." Words that were not included in the 211 terms were spelled out using this alphabet.

The Navajos soon demonstrated their ability to memorize the code and to send messages under adverse conditions similar to military action, successfully transmitting the code from planes, tanks, or fast-moving positions. The program was deemed so successful that an additional two hundred Navajos were recommended for recruitment as messengers on July 20, 1942. Philip Johnston offered his services as a staff sergeant to help develop the code talker program. On October 2, 1942, Johnston enlisted and began training his first class in November and spent the remainder of the war training additional Navajo recruits. After the new recruits went through the Marine Corps's basic training course, they came to Johnston for what he termed an "extremely intensive" eight-week messenger training course.

As the code talker program grew, so did the development of the code. A cryptographer who monitored the code talkers' transmissions concluded that the code might be broken because using the alphabet to spell out words not in the Navajos' vocabulary produced too many repetitions. The code talker alphabet therefore grew from twenty-six to forty-four terms by expanding the number of words used for the most frequently repeated letters – E, T, A, O, I, N, S, H, R, D, L, and U. For example, the letter A could be designated by the words "be-la-sana" and "tse-nihl," which mean "apple" and "axe," as well as the original "wol-la-chee," meaning "ant." The original 211 vocabulary terms were also expanded to 411.

By April 1943 the additional two hundred recruits had completed their training, while the initial recruits were attached to marine divisions in the South Pacific. Following recommendations of marine divisions in the field, the Marine Corps determined that the program should be continued and expanded further. According to the new proposal, an additional 303 Navajos were to be recruited at 50 men a month for six months..." – Adam Jevic



Learn this Language!

Submit and teach your culture!



Throughout history, language has been a primary factor that has made cultures unique. We can expand and exercise our brains while learning to speak different tongues. The Mosaic spotlights a culture's native language to encourage both individual growth and human understanding. Who knows? Maybe the next time you meet someone or are in a foreign country, you'll remember how to say 'hello'!

Knowledge is Power! **Chishiki wa chikaranari!** **Connaissance est le pouvoir!** **Wissen ist Macht!**

This month we'll be learning basic Navajo phrases.

The short vowels are pronounced as follows:

- a = as in father
- e = as in west
- i = as in sit
- o = as in low

The long or doubled vowels are pronounced the same, but the sounds are held longer:

- aa = as in say "aah"
- ee = as in yeah
- ii = as in see
- oo = as in oh

The combined vowels are pronounced as follows:

- ai = as in my
- ao = as in cow
- ei = as in say
- oi = as in chewy



| | |
|---|---|
| How do you do! Good. = Yah'eh-teh' | House. = Hogan. Hoh-rah'n'. |
| Friend. = Sih-kiss.' | Yes. = O'o. |
| American. = Bel-ih-kah'nah. | No. = Doh-tah'. |
| Navajo. = Dih-neh.' | War Dance. Squaw Dance. = Nn-dah' Ah-nah'jih. |
| The President. = Washingtone Nah-tah'nih. | Mountain Chant. (Fire Dance.) = Dzith kih'jih Hah-tah'. |
| I don't know. = Ho'láh. | Medicine-man. = Hah-tah'lih. |
| Automobile. = Chih'dih. | Dollar. = Bay'soh |
| Horse. = Thleen. | Blanket. = Bayl dlah'dih. |

Navajo language is quite complex, with a large variety of noun classes including "animate", "round object", "long, stiff object" and "granular object". Very simple verbs in Navajo may translate into many words in English; for instance, the verb si' means "to cause a hafted object to move" or, more practically, "to practice".

If you want to have your language or dialect posted in the Mosaic, contact any Diversity member. Happy learning!

Reminders & Upcoming Events

Check out our electronic Diversity Binder on the P: Drive!

Check out:

<http://www.facebook.com/navydiversity>

Watch for info about events on the Yard!

NHC Annapolis Native American Indian Heritage Month Celebration

22 November 2013
1200, Lockwood Heaton

Baltimore American Indian Center Cultural Classes

Tuesdays & Thursdays
Baltimore American Indian Center
113 South Broadway Baltimore, MD

Famous Alaskan Americans in History



Irene Bedard was born in Anchorage, Alaska in 1967, she was the voice of the title character in the animated Disney film Pocahontas. She has portrayed Native American people in many other films. Her heritage is Inupiat Inuit and Metis.

Carlos Boozer was born in Germany in 1981 (his father was in the military), but grew up in Juneau, Alaska. He won a Gold Medal in the 2008 Summer Olympics and plays basketball for the Chicago Bulls. He also won the NCAA men's division I Basketball Championship in 2001 with Duke University.

Joe Juneau was the co-founder of Juneau, Alaska. He struck it rich in gold with Richard Harris and was known to spend gold as fast as he found it. He stayed in Alaska was buried in the place that was named after him.

Ray Mala was born in Candle, Alaska in 1906. He was the most prolific film star who was a Native Alaskan and starred in the Academy Award winning movie, Eskimo/Mala The Magnificent.

Scott Gomez was born in Anchorage, Alaska in 1979. He was the first Native Alaskan to play in the NHL where he played for the New Jersey Devils, the New York Rangers and the Montreal Canadiens. He has scored over 600 NHL points.



INGREDIENTS:

vegetable oil (for frying) ; 2 1/2 cups flour ; 1/2 teaspoon salt ; 1 teaspoon baking powder ; 1/4 teaspoon sugar ; 1 teaspoon oil ; 1 cup warm milk

Directions:

1. Heat oil in skillet til hot over med-high heat, but not smoking.
2. In a large bowl, Combine the rest of the ingredients to make dough.
3. Shape into round disks.
4. Fry shaped dough in hot oil til brown and crispy.
5. Serve hot.
6. Traditionally you would eat this with stew.
7. Or top with some honey.
8. Pile Chili on top and add a little cheese, lettuce and tomato for a "Navajo Taco" Or use the round as your base for a Tostada, add taco meat, beans, cheese, lettuce, tomato and Guacamole.

Food is a gateway to other cultures and expands relationships with one another. This is "Cook's Corner"; try it because you might even like it. Happy, healthy eating! This month's recipe is FryBread! Some history of this delicious meal:

Navajo frybread originated approximately 144 years ago, when the United States forced Indians living in Arizona to make the 300-mile journey known as the "Long Walk" to relocate in New Mexico. Unfortunately, the new land was not easy to cultivate their traditional staples of vegetables and beans. To prevent the indigenous populations from starving, the government gave them canned goods as well as white flour, processed sugar and lard—the makings of frybread. The frybread is symbolized by some to be of Native pride and unity. Make, Eat and Enjoy!