Sacred Record

Peyote Way Church of God Rev. Anne L. Zapf. President

In 1991, Oregon legalized the religious use of the holy sacrament Peyote for members of the Native American Church; a Federal Judge in New Mexico dismissed charges against a non-Indian member of the Native American Church; and here in Graham County 19 live Peyote plants were returned to the Peyote Way Church of God. (See articles on pages 2 and 3).

Deaconess Norah Booth produced a 50 minute videotape about Peyote, the Peyote Way Church of God, and Mana Black Rim Earthenware pottery made by vowed Church clergy, which was viewed 8 times on Tucson Community Cable. Copies are available for \$25. dollars ppd. or free with \$100. dollars minimum donation.

The Peyote Way Church of God withdrew its complaint against Texas and the Federal Government for their discriminatory Peyote laws after 10 years in the courts. The Supreme Court ruling against Al Smith removed the First Amendment requirement that State show a compelling interest in depriving a citizen of religious freedom, weakening our argument. Convinced that religious freedom is no longer protected by Federal courts, we began construction of the Peyote House, a structure designed by inspiration and revelation. Rabbi Matthew Kent, Brother Calvin Harris and I rented a truck and filled it with \$1600. dollars worth of building materials. Construction began on the Peyote House a few days later, after the delivery of \$800. dollars worth of rough cut humber.

When we received an invitation to the Annual Conference of the Native American Church, in Rocky Boy, Montana, Deaconess Norah Booth was called by the President to represent the Peyote Way Church of God. She showed the videotape and answered questions about the Church. Her comments about the Conference are in the July newsletter.

We were pleased by the response to our invitations to the First Annual Peyote House Work-In on November 2, 1991. Church friends Chris, Bobby, Delora, Tim, Dan and Mary helped stucco the exterior of the Peyote House. Jeff (8), Joseph (7), and Joy(10) also helped by screening sand and watching two year old Tristan. Two windows are still plugged with styrofoam, but a \$200. dollar donation from Brother William Blackton purchased a door, caulk and other materials needed for winterizing.

Several visitors donated time and labor on the interior of the Peyote House: spackling, painting, or doing other finish work. Progress has been slow as the hands and funds to finish the work have been scarce. Our thanks to Bob Byrnes, Dan Moran, and Calvin Harris for their help.

We had over 200 visitors this year. Most of these people were in need of spiritual and practical counsel, shelter, and a quiet place to collect their thoughts, and



February, 1992

stayed 3 days or sometimes more.

We cut 40 tops off growing Peyote plants for Spirit Walks and distributed 30 buttons given to us by Brother Bill Stites, who was arrested in Texas and charged with criminal possession of Peyote. I have not heard the outcome of his case at this time.

We lament that we have not had any holy sacrament available. We received about 400 inquiries in 1991, from people interested in the Church and Pevote. We have been observing fast day without sacrament, and working toward the future. When I look at the cut Peyote buttons and see the young sprouts growing from their sides, I know there will be a time when we will have enough Peyote for our membership. Peyote takes 20 years to grow to a suitable size for Spirit Walks, so we continue to support House Bill # 2797, the Freedom Restoration Act. When the First Amendment to the constitution is restored, we will try again to obtain our holy sacrament from Texas where it grows. Now that congress is back in session, please write your representatives and urge their support of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (HR 2797).

This year we buried a friend, Brother Michael Wagner, in the Church cemetary. We learned from his loss not to be in such a hurry, and to hug your friends when they leave. Each moment is important, and the time shared may be the last in this life.

Peyote is a spiritual medicine. It can bring us in touch with the God within us, our Heavenly Father and our Earthly Mother. Peyote puts us in balance again with the Earth underneath our feet. The Earth that we've forgotten as we've created our technicological society. We forget that we are dust. We are from this Earth and it is the Earth that sustains us. We've recognized our Heavenly Father for millenia, but we've forgotten our Earthly Mother who feeds us every moment. Once we put Her back into our consciousness and into our actions, and into our lives, then we'll re-estabhish the balance that we need to live together in harmony with the Earth in a sustainable way; so we don't need to dread what may come in the future because of what we are doing now. We'll know what to do and we'll find the strength to make the changes so that each generation can share in the beautiful Earth that we have been given.

Peyote is a plant sacrament. It is a plant teacher. It is a way of life. It gives one spiritual strength. After all, the spiritual path is the only path that has true satisfaction, for it is eternal. Our time in these bodies is brief. When we eat the Peyote we experience time and eternity, and it is from that vantage that, the next day, we can live our life in a very positive and non-trivial way, realizing that this day could be the last and everyone around us is our brother and sister and we need each other.

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New Mexico Federal Judge Dismisses Peyote Charge

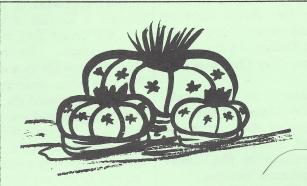
"The fight against drug trafficking is a wildfire that threatens to consume those fundamental rights of the individual deliberately enshrined in our Constitution."

-U. S. District Judge Juan Burciaga

ALBUQUERQUE (AP)- THE ARI-ZONA DAILY STAR reported on Friday, September 6,1991, a ruling by New Mexico's chief federal judge in favor of a non-Indian member of the Native American Church. U.S. District Judge Juan Burciaga, said Wednesday that the fight against drug trafficking is "a wildfire that threatens to consume those fundamental rights of the individual deliberately enshrined in our Constitution."

Lawrence R. Boyll, 56, of Mill Valley, Calif., was accused of mailing about 8 pounds of the holy sacrament Peyote from Mexico last May to his own post office box in San Cristobal. N.M., north of Taos. Boyll said he has used Pevote only as a religious sacrament since becoming a member of the Native American Church in Taos nearly 10 years ago.

Congress exempted religious usage of Peyote in 1965, but the prosecution argued that it never



"Ironically, as we celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights, the tattered Fourth Amendment right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures and the now frail Fifth Amendment right against self incrimination or deprivation of liberty without due process have fallen as casualties in this war...

"In its 'war' to free our society the devastating effects drugs, the government slights its duty to observe the fundamental freedom of individuals to practice the religion of their choice regardless of race. ply put, the court is faced with the quintessential constitutional conflict between an inalienable right upon which this country was founded and the response by the government to the swelling political passions of the day.

"In this fray, the court is compelled to halt this menacing attack on our constitutional freedoms"

-U.S. District Judge Juan Burciaga

autorized importation. The government also argued that some church chapters required that members be at least one-forth Indian.

Several Indian witnesses testified that Boyll is a legitimate church member. Boyll said nobody in the church sought to exclude him and the government shouldn't either. Judge Burciaga agreed.

Boyll said he had made several pil-grimages to Mexico to obtain Peyote. He said the amount that he obtained in May would have lasted Church members at least a year.

"The way I practice this is strictly for myself and my family" he said, "We rely on this way of praying, and there is nothing in it I can see that's harmed my family and my children. We're happy that we have this spiritual way."

Prosecutors said the decision to appeal would be made in Washington, D.C.

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Perote Plants returned by Graham County Attorney

Peyotists must declare their religious use of the Holy Sacrament Peyote.

Sister Karen Redwine was witness to the divine blessings of the the Holy Sacrament Peyote, but she didn't want to join the Church. Counsellor Matthew Kent advised her to register a Notarized Statement of her Peyote Faith at the Graham County Recorder's Office, which she did. Later that summer, her home and property were searched by two officers from the Sheriff's department holding a search warrant for Marijuana plants. No marijuana was found but one deputy discovered 19 live potted Peyote plants in Karen's garden. Karen was not home at the time so she could not show her Declaration of Peyote Faith to the officers. The plants were held for two months while letters, phone conversations and personal visits were made to the Sheriff's and Attorney's offices by Rev. Anne Zapf and Sister Karen Redwine.

Graham County Investigator, Mike McEuen, who returned the Holy Sacrament to Karen and Anne, commented as he returned the plants, "Now we know. If we see a Notarized document near the Peyote that states that Peyote is believed to be a Sacrament, we'll leave it alone." We're proud of our local law enforcement agents for returning the Peyote plants, respecting their religious

importance, and understanding Arizona Law.

John Chalmers
Assistant District Attorney
Graham County Courthouse
Safford, AZ, 85546 Sunday August 18,1991
Dear Mr. Chalmers,

The twenty Peyote plants that were seized and removed, on July 3, from the property of Karen Redwine are considered by her to be an essential and inseparable part of her religious practice. The Declaration of Belief (Docket 433 Page 176) she voluntarily swore to before a Notary, and registered at the Graham County Recorder's Office demonstrate (Prima Facie) to the State that her reasons for possessing the Peyote plant are solely religious, as required by Arizona Revised Statutes.

I have known Karen for over five years and have had several personal discussions with her concerning her Peyote faith and her reluctance to join an organized church. I believe her testimony to be true. As citizens of a great nation dedicated to liberty, equality, and justice, we should not only tolerate our many differences, but we should respect them.

I therefore beseech you to release all the

empounded Peyote plants to the custody of Karen Redwine after she swears before you by Affadavit that the plants are solely for religious use.

It is deeply distressing to Karen and me, and to all Peyotists, that our holy sacrament, which we believe to be an embodiment of diety, is being held where they can not get sunlight. Like most other living things they require a certain amount of sunlight and water to survive. Please don't let them die.

It is particularly troubling to me to think of the suffering of these plants when I know that an honest jury will agree with me that they are being unjustly held. Would it not be more reasonable to recognize Karen's sincere faith and return the plants than to expend tax-payers' money and court time to come to the same conclusion in a court of law?

Yours Sincerely in Its Service.

Rev. Anne L. Zapf,

President
ccPaul McCullar, Graham County District

Attorney

Irval Mortensen, Attorney C.B. Fletcher, Deputy Sheriff

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Even voor own

Paul H. McCullar Graham County Attorney 800 West Main Street Safford, AZ, 85546

September 5, 1991

Re: Karen Redwine-Peyote Plants. Your Letter Of August 18,1991, concerning July 3, 1991 Seizure Dear Rev. Zapf:

I have reviewed the above letter you sent to me and have also reviewed Ms Redwine's recorded Declaration of Belief and the Arizona Statute which controls such matters- A.R.S. 13-3402.

If you and Ms. Redwine will forward to my office. statements that the religious exercises do not involve those who do not practice this religious belief and that they are not conducted in the presence of children. then I shall direct the Graham County Sheriff's office to release the items in question.

Respectfully,

Paul H. McCullar, Graham County Attorney John R. Chalmers, Deputy County Attorney JRC:mm

cc: Graham County Sheriff's Office Attn: Investigator Mike McEuen

We complied, though in principle Mr. McCullar had no right to require such stipulations. We received the holy sacrament Peyote on September 6, 1991. Protect your rights by declaring your religious belief in Peyote in writing and notarized, and if you have Peyote enshrine a copy with It. Members, keep your member ship card with the Holy Sacrament at all times.

PEYOTE WAY CHURCH OF GOD ADVOCATES:

1) the sacramental use of Peyote

- 2) a holistic lifestyle (the health of the body, of the family and of the Earth-see Section 89 of the Doctrine and Covenants of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints)
- 3) the pursuit of personal experiences of the Holy Spirit within and without ourselves
- 4) self-discipline
- 5) compassion
- 6) non-violence
- 7) selfless service
- 8) the recognition of the central role of the female as the giver of life
- 9) family oriented cottage industry

The seal of the Pevote Way Church of God is a mandala. The endless circle circumscribing Q four-leaf lotus made by the double infinitu sign. This interweaving of the infinite universe of male (∞) with the Infinite universe of female (8) forms the Flower, symbol of life, centered in the eve of God.

Peyote Now Legal for Huichol Indians

submitted by Brother Reid Stuart

Pevote was placed on the Mexican Governments endangered species list at the end of 1991. Initially, it appeared that It would be Illegal for Mexican indians to collect Pevote for their traditional religious ceremonies. This situation was corrected by an amendment to the Mexican Constitution which gave indigenous citizens the right to use Peyote for religious purposes. It is admirable that the Mexican government finally stood up in defending native culture. This civil rights victory is particularly impressive considering the United States Government opposed it, and many prominant Mexican aristocrats openly state that they believe the indians should be exterminated. This victory for religious freedom was acheived through the efforts of dedicated individuals who have lobbied for many years to defend Peyote

One of these activists is Juan Negrin. Initially, Juan, a Mexican citizen, organized exhibits of Huichol art. He became more involved with the Huichol indians as he learned their Uto-Aztecan dialect. For many years he has practiced their shamanic tradition using not only Peyote but also Datura. His advocacy against the exploitation of the Huichol indians by special interest groups such as the timber industry resulted in at least two conspiracies to assasinate him. Besides these organized murder attempts. Juan has at several, other times risked his life to speak out in defense of the Huichols and their Peyote religion. This altruistic self-sacrifice has been carried on in spite of medical problems which would have disabled any ordinary individual.

Hopefully Peyote will some day be given the same legal endorsement in all fifty of our United States. But for now, we must applaud the new Amendment to the Mexican Constitution. We should also salute people like Juan Negrin who make this sort of progress possible.

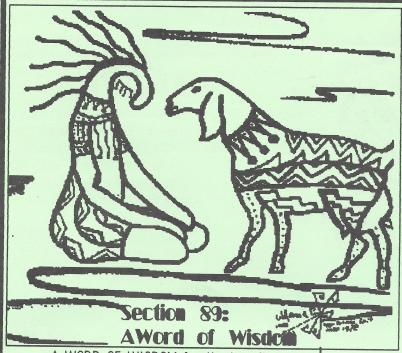
Arizona Revised Statutes
Undame II a. Titles 36 & 37.
In prosecution for peyote. It is defense In prosecution for peyote. It is detense that peyote was being used in connection with bona fide practice of religious belief. That it was integral part of religious practice, and that it was used in a manner not dangerous to public health, safety, or morals. Lase law established in State v. Whittingham. Use of peyote in bona fide pursuit of religious faith was protected by Free Exercise clause of the Federal Constitution.

Michie's New Mexico Statutes

D. the enumeration of peyote as a controlled substance does not apply to the use of peyote in bona fide religious ceremonies by a bona fide religious organization

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answer to quiz-c they were all vegetarians.



A WORD OF WISDOM, for the benefit of the council of high priests, assembled in Kirtland, and the Church, and also the saints in Zion-To be sent greeting; not by commandment or constraint, but by revelation and the word of wisdom, showing forth the order and will of God in the temporal salvation of all saints in the last days-

Given for a principle with promise, adapted to the capacity of the weak and the weakest of all saints, who are or can be called saints. Behold, verily, thus saith the Lord unto you: In consequence of evils and designs which do and will exist in the hearts of conspiring men in the last days, I have warned you. and forewarn you by giving unto you this word of wisdom by revelation-That inasmuch as any man drinketh wine or strong drink among you, behold it is not good, neither meet in the sight of your Father, only in assembling yourselves together to offer up your sacraments before him. And, behold, this should be wine, yea, pure wine of the grape of the vine, of your own make. And, again, strong drinks are not for the belly, but for the washing of your bodies. And again, tobacco is not for the body, neither for the belly, and is not good for man, but is an herb for bruises and all sick cattle, to

be used with judgement and skill. And again, hot drinks are not for the body or belly. And again, verily I say unto you, all wholesome herbs God hath ordained for the constitution, nature, and use of man-Every herb in the season thereof, and every fruit in the season thereof: all these to be used with prudence and thanksgiving. Yea, flesh also of beasts and of the fowls of the air, I, the Lord have ordained for the use of man with thanksgiving; nevertheless they are to be used sparingly; And it is pleasing unto me that they should not be used, only in times of winter, or of cold,

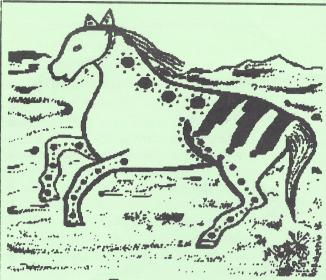
or famine. All grain is ordained for the use of man and of beasts, to be the staff of life, not only for man but for the beasts of the field, and the fowls of heaven, and all wild animals that run or creep on the earth; And these hath God made for the use of man only in times of famine and excess of hunger. All grain is good for the food of man; as also the fruit of the vine; that which yieldeth fruit, whether in the ground or above the ground—Nevertheless, wheat for man, and corn for the ox, and oats for the horse, and rye for the fowls and for swine, and for all beasts of the field, and barley for all useful animals, and for mild drinks, as also other grain.

And all saints who remember to keep and do these sayings, walking in obedience to the commandments, shall receive health in their navel and marrow to their bones;

And shall find wisdom and great treasures of knowledge, even hidden treasures;

And shall run and not be weary, and shall walk and not faint.

And I, the Lord, give unto them a promise, that the destroying angel shall pass by them, as the children of Israel, and not slay them. Amen.



BEQUESTS

The Holy Sacrament Peyote is an endangered species. In order to protect It from extinction and insure its continued availability for future communicants, the Board of Stewards began construction of the Peyote House, a building designed to imitate Peyote's native environment. The Peyote House is near completion, but progress depends on continued support. Meanwhile, Judicial and Legislative decisions concerning the individual's right to practice their religion continue to become more restrictive. The Peyote Way Church of God depends on the generous contributions of members and friends to continue the work of the Church to protect the religious freedoms of all Peyotists.

Your Will and Life Insurance policies enable you to provide a way to give longlasting support to causes in which you believe. Naming the Peyote Way Church of God in your will or life insurance policy will enable us to continue our work for the Holy Sacrament Peyote.

The Peyote Way Church of God is a tax-exempt organization. Your bequests are tax-deductible for federal estate tax purposes. (EIN 94-2722621)

To be sure your wishes are carried out, please speak with your attorney specifically about writing the correct information in your will.

Recommended reading, listening and support:

Iron Horse. Volume 15 No 3 (\$3.95), March 1992, 519 8th Ave, 15th Floor, New York, NY, 10018. six page spread on "Apache", Full patch Ching A Ling-AKA Rev. Immanuel Trujillo,

Apostle of the Peyote Way Church of God. Boing! Boing!, PO Box 18432, Boulder. CO,80308 (Number 7-\$3.95) Intriguing and amusing. Excellent interviews. Robert Anton Wilson, Paul Di Filippo, Breaking Cultural Trance*, Game Theory. Subscription-\$14.00 Magazine, PO Box 6667, Syracuse, NY, 13217-7934 (January/February-\$3.95/ \$450 Canada) Discusses environmental damage caused from raising Cattle for food. Eye-opening. Subscription-\$20.00

Vegetarian Journal, Vegetarian Resource Group, PO Box 1463, Baltimore, MD, 21203 membership-\$20.00 donation. Gives sound advice for beginning vegetarians.

FIJA, Fully Informed Jury Association, PO Box 59, Helmville, MT, 59843, \$15.00 minimum donation

For The People, Three River Street, White Springs, FL, 32096. Global Short Wave on **WWCR**, Broadcasts from 8-10 pm. Eastern Standard Time on 7.435 Mhz. Membership \$15.00. KCKY, 1150, in Arizona from 12-2. DSM Reform Initiative, PO Box 1562, Albany, NY, 12201. Working to change the psychiatric labeling of psychedlics and cannabis use as a sickness in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.Donations welcome

Board of Stewards of the Penote Wou Church of God

Rev. Anne L. Zapf, President Rabbi Matthew S. Kent, First Counsellor Rev. Immanuel Truillo, Apostle Deaconness Norah Booth, Second Counsellor Deacon William Gaiewski, Board member

Associate Membership is available to anyone over the age of 18, regardless of race or spiritual disposition. Upon receipt of \$20.00 Annual membership dues, plus \$8.00 for a copy of the Church Bylaws. we will send a membership card and put your name on the Church mailing list.

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Peyote Questionaire

Brother Li Ravicz, a student doing Post-Graduate psychology work at the University of Tennessee, has requested that we submit these questions to our readers, to be answered and returned to We have met Brother Li and answered his questions. We feel that the results of his research will show that the holy sacrament Peyote is not dangerous when used in a religious man-Submissions can be anonymous although relationship to the Church should be declared (i.e. Member, Clergy, etc.). Audiocassettes may be submitted. Please pass the questionaire on to Pevotist friends.

- (1) What, if any, were your expectations prior to taking Peyote the first time? How, if in any way, were these expectations met, challenged or exceeded?
- (2) Describe your experiences with Peyote and narrate any important aspect of that experience in as much detail as you would like (i.e. perceptual changes, visions or teachings.
- (3) Describe in what, if any, ways Peyote has influenced the course of your life.
- (4) What has been your physical experience with Peyote and, if any, the physical after affects of It?
- (5) Can you describe what, if any, relationship exists between other mood altering substances and Peyote in your life?

gerne un a Jury...

and remember it is your responsibility to judge the law as well as the accused.

The U.S. Constitution was built on the principle that government derives its power from the people. The ballot box and the jury box are the only two means the average citizen has to control what happens in our government. If a juror feels the law a person allegedly broke is an unjust law, or that the law is being unfairly applied, they have the right to acquit that person.

"I consider trial by jury as the only anchor yet imagined by man, by which a government can be held to the principles of its constitution."

-Thomas Jefferson

"It is not only his right, but his duty . . . to find the verdict according to his own best understanding, judgement, and conscience, though in direct opposition to the direction of the court."

-John Adams (writing about the rights of jurors)

". . . to consider the judges as the ultimate arbiters of all constitutional questions is a very dangerous doctrine indeed, and one which would place us under the despotism of an oligarchy."

-Thomas Jefferson

Urite Your hepresentative

Dear Congressman/ Senator,

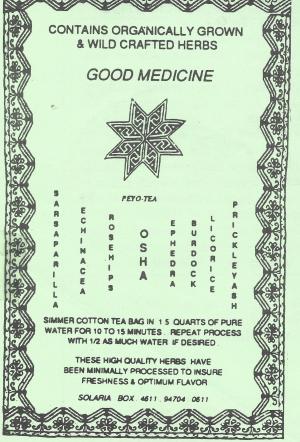
As a constituent in your district, I respectfully request that you support the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (H.R. 2797)

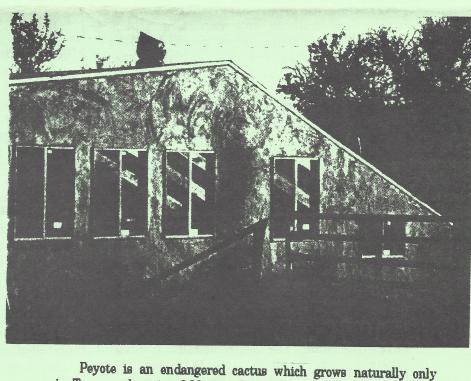
It is my desire to live a peaceful and honorable life guarded by the religious freedoms that this nation was built upon and which were intended by the founders of this country to be the heritage of all citizens. In this respect, I suggest no new or unusual rights and/or protection for any criminal or hurtful practice, but a swift and sure return to the previous and traditional test of civil rights: a compelling interest of the state that is satisfied by the least restrictive means in keeping with one's religious convictions.

Rev. Anne L. Zapf, President.

Please don't sign that execution order. Nobody is justified to take someone else's life, not even the State. The death penalty is State Authorized murder. Please let compassion guide your actions. "It is ours to forgive and the Lord's to judge"-Joseph Smith

Yours Sincerely in Christ.
Rev. Anne L. Zapf. President.
Peyote Way Church of God





in Texas and parts of Mexico. The Peyote House is our way of

bringing Peyote's native environment to Arizona where we can

protect It and insure that there will be a supply of the Holy Sacrament Peyote for future spirit walk communicants. The Peyote House isn't finished. We need your donations in order to finish this important work-Rev. Anne L. Zapf. President

Above. West Side of Peyote House



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What do Pythagoras, Mahatma Gandhi, Leonardo Davinci, Plato, and Albert Einstein have in common?

a) They were all Mudists

c) They were all verelations

b) They all enjoyed long walks c) they were all vegetarians