

BROTHERTON MESSENGER

NOVEMBER 1981

VOLUME 1

IT'S A NEWSLETTER.....

At the September 19, 1981 meeting of the Brotherton Nation, a proposal to issue a newsletter on a regular basis was approved. Its purpose is to inform fellow Brothertons about the tribe's activities, events, and progress toward becoming federally recognized. It is an effort to coordinate information and promote better communication between all Brotherton descendants.

Initially, the newsletter will be issued on a quarterly basis, but if enough financial support is provided through subscriptions, it will be issued bi-monthly or monthly.

The first issue is being distributed free-of-charge, but in order to be placed on our 1982 mailing list, we ask that you donate \$5.00 to help cover printing and postage costs.

Regular newsletter features include a report from the Tribal Genealogist, minutes from previous Brotherton Nation meetings, a Bulletin Board announcing social activities and special events, reports from the HISTORY, CONSTITUTION/BY-LAW, and MEMBERSHIP Committees, a Criteria Corner explaining the process toward federal recognition, and an Open Forum to be used by anyone wanting to comment on issues concerning the tribe.

The next issue of The Brotherton Messenger is tentatively scheduled to be distributed by February 10, 1982. Submission deadline is January 30th. You are encouraged to use the newsletter as a means to pass on information of interest to fellow Brothertons. To submit news, comments or suggestions, send them to...

The Brotherton Messenger
c/o Mark Baldwin, Editor
802 E. Court Street
Janesville, WI 53545

There are many important issues now facing the Brotherton Nation. It is imperative to provide a forum to disseminate information and express opinion in order for the tribe to realize its goal of federal recognition. We need your input and support, and on behalf of the tribe, I encourage your participation.

--Mark Baldwin, Editor--

TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORMS

Have you filled out an application for membership in the tribe? If you or your children were not listed on the 1967 tribal roll, it is necessary to fill out an application in order to be included on the complete membership roll to be sent to the Federal Acknowledgement Board.

Application forms can be obtained from Harry Tousey. If you need assistance tracing your Brotherton ancestral line previous to 1900, send it to Rudi Ottery, Tribal Genealogist.

Anyone of Brotherton descent, regardless of their amount of Indian blood, will be eligible for membership in the tribe.

The sooner applications are submitted and compiled, the sooner we can complete our petition for federal acknowledgement. Send completed application forms to HISTORY COMMITTEE Chairperson, Olivia Tousey.

TRIBAL MEETING

The next scheduled meeting of the Brotherton Nation is Saturday, November 21st. It will be held in the Winnebago Room of the Fond du Lac YMCA, 90 West 2nd Street. The meeting will run from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m., with a Social Hour following the business meeting. Coffee will be provided, but you are asked to bring a snack, relish, or dessert to share with others. Topics likely to be discussed are the tribe's incorporation as a non-profit organization, efforts to have the Brotherton cemetery listed as a Historical Landmark, and Associate Membership in the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council. Everyone is invited to attend!

RECENT RESIGNATIONS

Anna Jacobs, Ad Hoc Chairperson, and Earl Robinson, Secretary of the Brotherton Nation, have resigned their positions effective October 14, 1981. According to Parliamentary Procedure, Vice Chairperson, Marie Robinson, assumes the role of Acting Chairperson until a successor is selected. The office of Secretary remains vacant, and we encourage anyone interested in volunteering to serve as Secretary to attend the November 21st tribal meeting.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

There will be an Executive Committee meeting at 1:00 p.m., Sunday, November 8th, at the home of Marie Robinson. All Council members are expected to attend. Among the topics to be discussed will be the transition of leadership, non-profit incorporation, and status of the tribal newsletter.

EDITOR'S BOX

A special thank-you to everyone who has helped make this first issue of The Brotherton Messenger possible. I apologize for any misspelled names or mistakes which have slipped my eye in the rush to put things together. I look forward to your comments and assistance in keeping fellow Brothertons informed.

OPEN FORUM

This space will be reserved for letters to the editor, questions, or comments concerning tribal issues. In short, it is a forum for the discussion of ideas and opinions. We ask that all letters submitted to the column be signed, but names may be withheld upon request.

I would like to take this opportunity to comment on the recent resignations of the Ad Hoc Chairperson, and Secretary of the Brotherton Nation.

If it had not been for the initiative of Anna Jacobs, few of us would have known of the tribe's efforts to gain federal recognition. Through her direction, the tribe has established a framework which has made the concept of recognition a realistic possibility. Much has been accomplished in the past two years, and we are truly indebted to Anna Jacobs for her efforts in promoting the continuation and recognition of the tribe.

Similarly, we express our gratitude to Earl Robinson for his faithful service as Secretary of the Brotherton Nation. His willingness to volunteer his time and energy embodies the spirit of brotherhood which is the foundation of our tribe.

It is important for everyone to stay active and concerned during this period of transition. We must make sure that the process that has been started continues, and that our dedication to our goals and to each other remains firm.

We know that some have become discouraged in the past, but we now ask for your patience and understanding as we begin a new phase in our quest for tribal unity and recognition.

Now, more than ever, we need your support and concern. We look forward to your participation and fellowship.

Sincerely,

Mark Baldwin

ABRIDGED MINUTES OF THE BROTHERTON NATION MEETING - OCTOBER 17, 1981

- The meeting was opened with a prayer by Della Welch.
- Councilman Harry Tousey read letters of resignation from Anna Jacobs, Ad Hoc Chairperson, and Earl Robinson, Secretary. Meeting was turned over to Councilwoman Phyllis Frederick.
- Minutes of the last meeting and Treasurer's Report were unavailable for presentation.
- A report was given by HISTORY COMMITTEE Chairperson, Olivia Tousey. It highlighted committee progress during past six months. Of special note was the oral history taping recently completed, the Acknowledgement Seminar sponsored by Nicolet College Native American Center, and Dr. Robert Gough's visit to the Federal Acknowledgement Board to speak on our behalf.
- A report was given by MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE member, Damasscus Stroder. She stated she was unable to secure a membership list from the Tribal Office. It was reiterated that anyone of Brotherton descent, regardless of blood quantum, will be eligible for membership in the tribe.
- A report was given by CONSTITUTION/BY-LAW COMMITTEE member, Harry Tousey. He said the Constitution is in the process of being amended. Copies of the final document will be given to all members of the tribe.
- A report was given by Mark Baldwin, Newsletter Editor. He stated the first issue of The Brotherton Messenger will be distributed by November 10, 1981. Printing cost per issue (excluding postage) was estimated at \$30.
- COUNCIL PERSON REPORT was given. Leo Tousey said there was a possibility his employer would pay the postage for the first newsletter. Phyllis Frederick stressed there is only one Brotherton organization no matter where meetings are held, indicating our need for commitment and unity.

OLD BUSINESS

- A motion was made by June Ezold to fill out non-profit incorporation papers now and delay final decision to incorporate to a later date. Motion seconded by E. Moffatt. Vote: 21-yes, 1-no. Leo Tousey, Harry Tousey and Phyllis Frederick will look into the matter and report back at the next meeting.
- A motion was made by Phillip Tousey to send a vote of confidence to Tribal Genealogist, Rudi Ottery. Seconded by Leo Tousey. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- A motion was made by Wesley Tousey to have the Council write letters to Anna Jacobs and Earl Robinson accepting their resignations and requesting return of all materials belonging to the tribe. Seconded by June Ezold. Motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by J. Moffatt to implement a \$5-a-year subscription fee to pay for the tribal newsletter. Seconded by June Ezold. Motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by Rose Tousey to hold the next meeting in Fond du Lac. Seconded by E. Moffatt. Motion passed unanimously. Wesley Tousey will check into finding an appropriate meeting place.
- A motion was made by Phillip Tousey to adjourn. Seconded by Harry Tousey. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned.
- *Special thanks to the Harry Tousey family for providing the luncheon.

Beaver Dam

Chrissey Tousey Editor - N. Forder Lee
1109 Washington Ave

WHO'S WHO: BROTHERTON NATION CONTACT PEOPLE

Snyder

*Sublan
Membership*

COUNCIL PEOPLE

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Arnold Bruette
Clearwater Lake, WI
54518

Ray Hashbarger
Route #1
Gresham, WI 54128
(715) 787-3729

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BLOODLINE: THE EARLIEST BROTHERTON BACKGROUND

by

Rudi Hjella Ottery, Tribal Genealogist

Samson Occum will always be regarded as the most famous Christian Indian of New England, though little is known of him in Wisconsin. He was the founder of the Brotherton Indians, and it is necessary to know his history, to know and understand Brotherton history.

Almost six hundred years of genealogical history can be traced for some of the Brotherton descendants, generation by generation. Nearly every Brotherton descendant can be traced for at least three hundred years. This is true for no other recognized North American tribe.

Much of the information for these articles will be drawn from the book, Samson Occum and the Christian Indians of New England, by W. De Loss Love. I will try to cover the history of the Brotherton in installments, following their trail from barbarism and heathenism via their parent tribes, to Christianity, civilization, citizenship, up to the present. This article will be longer than future ones, because I will attempt to skim all of the New England background that affected the Brotherton ancestors, up to the time of Samson Occum.

A century ago there was still doubt, in some minds, as to whether the Indian was capable of being permanently established in civilized ways. The Brotherton Tribe has often been studied by historians because they have more generations under white influence than other tribes.

Indian history and American history are the same thing. The Indian is the true American. Not only was the Indian the proprietor of our land before he was invaded and conquered, but because of his marriages, Indian blood can be found in all races of our country. As this condition penetrates more families each generation, the day will come when the descendants of those early conquered Indians will rule their own country, however diluted their blood.

Early efforts were made to educate and evangelize the Indians. Laws have been enacted on their behalf. Vast sums of money have been paid for their maintenance. A century ago, people believed the race was dying out. The Brothertons in Wisconsin were in the process of losing or leaving their community.

Most of the good in the lives of these Indians has been the result of the efforts of the clergy. Some of the bad has to be laid at their doorstep too, in spite of their good intentions.

History books have called the Indian a savage. When a thorough study of the early history of New England is made, one will question whether the conquered or the conqueror was the savage.

Not all of the white population treated the Indian badly, anymore than all the Indian population was our current TV stereotype. The purpose of the colonization of America was really immaterial. Many truly wished to bring the word of God to the natives. This aim was written into most of the colonial charters. How much that meant depended on the individual, his integrity and circumstances. The charters directed the colonists to deal peacefully with the Indians and win them to Christianity by example. Often, that was not the case in New England.

There were early Indian missions in New England, and the efforts of some of these clergy were noble and saintly. Samson Occom reaped a harvest from their early seeds.

The colonists thought the Indians had to give up their wandering life in the forests of New England in order to be civilized and Christianized. They also wanted the Indians to speak English. Their plan was to accomplish this through instructing the Indian children. These early efforts took place in Massachusetts.

It was not difficult to Christianize some of the Indians when they were treated fairly. Their native religion included a supreme being that they identified with God, and many wished to have the knowledge they saw exhibited by the white people. Many New England Indians became well acquainted with the religion and lives of their white neighbors.

Early mission workers acquired the Indian dialects and could instruct the Indians in their own language. One of those workers, John Eliot, was tutored by a Long Island Indian who had become captive in the Pequot war and made a servant.

Eliot formed a community of Christian Indians that governed themselves, which is what Samson Occom would do later. Eliot's community was a success and several similar Christian Indian communities were established. Eliot did much good for the Indians and became known as the "Apostle of the Indians." A large number of Indians brought their families many, many miles to be taught in these communities. Eliot eventually translated the Bible into the Indian language, so they could read it for themselves. He soon needed to educate Christian Indians as teachers for these communities.

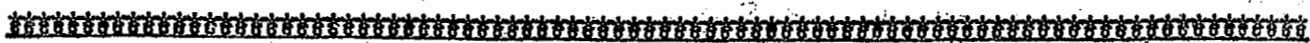
The history of the Brotherton ancestors might have been much different had it not been for King Philip's War, the last stand of the New England Indians against their white invaders. This war resulted in disaster for these Christian Indian communities and for other New England Indians.

After King Philip's War, some survivors moved southward to Cape Cod, Connecticut, and Rhode Island.

One Indian that moved south was named Tomockham, alias Ashneon. He moved into Mohegan territory in Connecticut. Tomockham had a son named Joshua Aukam. Joshua Aukam was the father of Samson Occom...

EDITORS NOTE: Rudi Ottery has been tracing Brotherton genealogy for many years and we are very fortunate to have her as a regular newsletter contributor. If you have questions concerning her reports, or if you need assistance in tracing your Brotherton ancestral line in order to complete membership applications, send them to:

Rudi Ottery
48 via da Vinci,
Renaissance
Clifton Park, NY 12065



HISTORY COMMITTEE REPORT

by

Olivia Tousey, Chairperson

The HISTORY COMMITTEE, consisting of members in Arizona, Illinois, Minnesota, New York, and Wisconsin, is gathering Brotherton historical data, documents, and family genealogies.

The history, documents, and incoming genealogies are being kept in my office in Beaver Dam. Genealogy is one of our very vital areas right now. Your charts must accompany our petition to the Federal Acknowledgement Board in Washington D.C., if you are to be included as a member of the tribe and share in the benefits when the tribe is officially recognized.

The HISTORY COMMITTEE has received many important donations. Mr. and Mrs. Will Ottery have donated a copy of the book, Samson Occum and the New England Christian Indians. Elaine Raddatz, writer of the Stockbridge Indian History, donated a pamphlet entitled, The Early History of the Brotherton Indians. There have also been many donations of personal family history data. We welcome all donations, but we request that you send only copies of the original material. Make sure the copies include your name and address, or where the original can be located.

We have been assisted in our research by many libraries, historical groups, museums, historians, writers, other Indian tribes, and anthropologists. The Federal Acknowledgement Office has given valuable assistance to the HISTORY COMMITTEE, as well as Nicolet College's Native American Center which funded and conducted a Historical Research Training Workshop on September 12, & 13, 1981.

Bob Gough, an anthropologist, and one of the workshop consultants from the So-kaogon Chippewa Community Tribal Archives Project, was asked by the HISTORY COMMITTEE to visit the Federal Acknowledgement Board to speak on behalf of the Brothertons on his recent trip to Washington. We encourage you to attend the November 21st Tribal Meeting as Bob is expected to be with us, and hopefully he will fill us in on his visit.

If we are to succeed in becoming federally recognized, we need everyone's help. Please search your home's out-dated files, old trunks, attics, and safe-deposit boxes. Talk to other family members, especially older ones who can remember who were the tribal leaders, church elders, and council people of years ago. We need records of funerals (death notices in papers) including copies of funeral guest lists. Records of weddings, dances, picnics, graduations, work bees (such as quiltings and barn raisings) sledding and boating parties, can be very helpful. Cemetary records are useful, as well as old phone books, city directories, old maps, platt books, letters, cards, diaries, and pictures.

We are presently looking for volunteers to assist or participate in any of the following areas:

1. Oral History tapings
2. Library research
3. Fund raising
4. Clerical/miscellaneous work

Let us know if you are interested in helping.

(over)

In an effort to help familiarize everyone with names of fellow Brothertons (something quite useful when doing research) I will be listing the people who received land when they became citizens in 1839. These names have been taken from the "Brotherton Reserve Wisconsin Territory" list of July 2, 1839. Many of you will probably recognize names of your ancestors as we cover the list in future newsletter installments. In this issue, surnames starting with the letter "A" are included.

- | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Abner, Gracy | 6. Abner, Randall, Sr. | 11. Adams, Rebecca |
| 2. Abner, Joseph | 7. Abner, Roxey | 12. Adams, Simeon |
| 3. Abner, Josephine | 8. Abner, Sarah | 13. Anthony, Charles |
| 4. Abner, Lucy | 9. Abner, Sylvia | 14. Anthony, Lorenda |
| 5. Abner, Mary Attalla | 10. Adams, Edwin | 15. Anthony, Luana |

Lastly, we encourage everyone to become involved and work together. To become acquainted with the trait which is the foundation of our Brotherton heritage-- brotherly love.

--Olivia Tousey--

BROTHERTON BULLETIN BOARD

This section of the newsletter is dedicated to announcing special activities, accomplishments, social events, occasions, and unique information of interest to fellow Brothertons. Do you have a special Birthday of Anniversary coming up? Have you won an award? Are you planning a special trip? Do you have a favorite recipe, poem, or Brotherton anecdote you'd like to pass along. Drop us a line and let us know about it. We welcome your suggestions and assistance in recognizing the unique individuals who make up the heart of the Brotherton Nation.

DID YOU KNOW???

Brotherton Indians ran the first steamboat in Wisconsin, criss-crossing Lake Winnebago with timber and supplies for buyers in settlements around the lake.

SPECIAL THANKS...

To all those who donated money for the copy machine and the first issue of The Brotherton Messenger. Thanks to Leo Tousey for his donation of an adding machine and two coffee pots.

NATIVE THOUGHT: An excerpt from a letter written to President Franklin Pierce by Chief Seattle, 1855.

"There is no quiet place in the white man's cities. No place to hear the leaves of spring or the rustle of insect wings. But perhaps because I am savage and do not understand, the clatter only seems to insult the ears. And what is there to life if a man cannot hear the lovely cry of the whippoorwill or the arguments of the frog around the pond at night?"

ANOTHER CANDLE???

Reliable sources inform us that November 18th is Lucille Baldwin's Birthday. Special wishes from Barbara, Brett, Mark, Cheryl, & Karen.

BIRD WATCHING...

A little bird informed us that "The Chief" (Harry Tousey) has been feeling "under the weather." Best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery!

CRITERIA CORNER

The Brotherton Nation is in the process of petitioning the United States Government for recognition as a tribe. Individual Brothertons are presently considered Native Americans, but the Brotherton Nation is not acknowledged as a tribe. In order to gain tribal status, we must provide documented information which proves Brothertons have been identified from historical times until the present, on a substantially continuous basis, as American Indian. There are seven major criteria which must be satisfied to gain tribal status.

The Criteria Corner will examine these requirements and report on the tribe's progress toward fulfilling them. When all needed documentation is compiled, it will be sent in book form to the Federal Acknowledgement Board in Washington D.C. The Board will review our petition and make a recommendation for or against recognition as a tribe.

In order to prove the first criteria, which is continued identification as American Indian from historical to present times, any or all of the following can be used as evidence.

- 1) Repeated identification by federal authorities.
- 2) Longstanding relationship with State governments based on identification of Brothertons as Indian.
- 3) Repeated dealings with a county, parish, or other local government in a relationship based on the group's Indian identity.
- 4) Identification as an Indian entity by records in courthouses, churches, or schools.
- 5) Identification as an Indian entity by anthropologists, historians, or other scholars.
- 6) Repeated identification and dealings as an Indian entity in newspapers and books.
- 7) Repeated identification and dealings as an Indian entity with recognized Indian tribes or national Indian organizations.

For the past two years, information has been gathered and donated to the tribe's HISTORY COMMITTEE. Future reports by the committee will help pinpoint where further information and documentation is needed in order to satisfy the Acknowledgement Board's criteria for tribal recognition. If you feel you have information which might be helpful in proving our claim, or if you would like to assist in gathering information, please contact HISTORY COMMITTEE Chairperson, Olivia Tousey.

BROTHERTON

Update

December 1981

January 1982

NOVEMBER 21ST MEETING

Approximately 40 people attended the November meeting of the Brotherton Nation. Reports were given by the HISTORY COMMITTEE on the status of our application for Associate Membership in Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, (GLITC), by Bob Gough on his visit to the Federal Acknowledgement Board, and by Barb Baldwin on Phyllis Frederick's meetings with GLITC, Nicolet College's Native American Center, U.W. Stevens Point Indian Center, and with the coordinator of the Wisconsin Woodland Indian Project.

Motions were passed to hold future meetings at the Pioneer Baptist Church in Fond du Lac, to incorporate as a non-profit organization, and to pursue recognition by the Governor's office of 150 years of Brotherton Indian presence in Wisconsin.

Elections were held to fill vacant seats on the Council, and also on the CONSTITUTION-BY-LAW COMMITTEE. New Council People are June Ezold and Dave Hankwitz. Elected to the CONSTITUTION-BY-LAW COMMITTEE were Nancy Meyer and Barb Snyder. Barb Baldwin was elected as new Secretary of the Brotherton Nation.

1982...A YEAR FOR RECOGNITION?

1982 marks a very important anniversary for the Brotherton Nation. 150 years ago, in July of 1832, the Brothertons signed a treaty with the Menominee Indians establishing for themselves a reservation on the east side of Lake Winnebago.

150 years have passed since the Brothertons chose Wisconsin as their permanent home. In the coming year, the Brotherton Nation will continue to pursue its quest for recognition, and its struggle to preserve the homeland our forefathers fought so long and hard to obtain.

The Brotherton Nation is seeking a proclamation from the Governor of Wisconsin recognizing 150 years of Brotherton Indian presence in the territory and state of Wisconsin. We extend our deep gratitude to Bob Gough for his assistance and advise in this effort. We also welcome every Brotherton to participate in rediscovering the heritage and history of the Brotherton Nation.

WISCONSIN INDIAN EDUCATION CONFERENCE

The Wisconsin Indian Education Conference will be held January 21st through 24th in Rhinelander. The purpose of the session is to promote better communication and understanding between public schools and Wisconsin Indians.

Among topics to be discussed are the effects of education budget cuts on Wisconsin tribes, strategies for effective instruction of tribal students, and integrating tribal culture into the school curriculum.

The conference will be held at Nicolet College and Rhinelander Junior High School. Registration begins 7:00 p.m., January 21st, at Nicolet. A fee of \$5 will be charged for Indian students, \$10 for others who pre-register. Included in the fee is participation in an Indian Banquet 6:00 Friday evening featuring venison, walleye, wild rice, and Indian corn. Saturday's activities include an Indian student Talent Show, Exhibit/Display Booth, and a Pow Wow from 8:00 to 11:30 p.m.

For more information or registration forms call Ernie St. Germaine, Conference Coordinator at 715-369-4504. We encourage all Brothertons to attend.

NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Approximately 40 people have subscribed to the tribal newsletter, The Brotherton Messenger. In order to issue the newsletter 6 times in 1982, we need at least 35 more people to subscribe. We are asking that anyone interested in receiving the newsletter, return the subscription form to Mark Baldwin by January 15, 1982.

The next issue of the Messenger will be distributed by February 10, 1982. Submission deadline is January 30th. If enough people subscribe the newsletter will be issued in February, April, June, August, October, and December. For more information call Mark Baldwin at 608-754-5903.

WISCONSIN WOODLAND INDIAN PROJECT

The Wisconsin Woodland Indian Project (WWIP), is a three-year program designed to collect and develop teaching material which incorporates the history and culture of Wisconsin Indian tribes. The purpose of the project is to establish curriculum which develops an awareness and sensitivity toward Wisconsin Indian people.

Targeted for the 4th-grade Social Studies curriculum, this material will be collected in a supplementary guide enabling teachers to select relevant units on Indian culture adding insight to established curriculums.

The Brotherton Nation is proud to announce that the history of our people will be incorporated into this project. Ernie St. Germaine, Project Coordinator, has requested the HISTORY COMMITTEE to submit information on the Brothertons for use in the project's teaching units.

It is vitally important to preserve the history of the Brotherton people, and we want to express our gratitude to Ernie St. Germaine and the sponsors of this project for acknowledging the Brotherton Nation in this curriculum.

TRIBAL MEETING

The next meeting of the Brotherton Nation will be held on Saturday, January 16, 1982 at the Pioneer Baptist Church, 1509 E. Pioneer Road, Fond du Lac. The meeting will start at 2:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

NON-PROFIT INCORPORATION

At the November meeting of the Brotherton Nation, it was decided to proceed with non-profit incorporation. Listed below are some of the advantages of being a non-profit.

1. We will now be a legally recognized group with specific goals.
2. We are now eligible for private and federal grants.
3. We now have guidelines regulating how we can operate.
4. We are now eligible for a reduced postage rate and we have access to surplus government equipment.
5. Other organizations will be more likely to assist us since we are now legally recognized.
6. Contributions to the Brotherton Nation are now tax-deductible.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL BROTHERTONS.

AND BEST WISHES FOR A PROSPEROUS 1982!

