

Smoke Signals Radio Archive Episode 1993-01-02  
Segment 1  
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*Dan Smoke recalls the Smokes' recent travels visiting the Onondaga Nation and Oneida Nation in Syracuse, New York. Dan Smoke also recalls attending the recital of the Great Law of Peace at the Six Nations Reserve.*

Host(s): Dan Smoke, Mary Lou Smoke  
Guest(s): Hal Gilpin

**DAN SMOKE:** Aanii! Boozhoo! Sge:no, shekoli! Aniish na? Skanako:ka? My name is **Dan Smoke** and you're listening to Smoke Signals, a First Nations Radio Program here at Radio Western, CHRW 94.7FM, and we are heard every Saturday from 1:00 to 3:00, changing the face of radio. I'm in the studio this afternoon with my brother **Hal Gilpin** and my wife **Mary Lou Smoke**, co-hostess of Smoke Signals. Hi Hal, Hi Mary Lou.

**HAL GILPIN:** Hi Dan.

**MARY LOU SMOKE:** Hi Dan.

**DS:** So, the weather's pretty mild up here. We just got back into town yesterday, we came in from **Syracuse, New York**. We were down at the **Onondaga Nation** and visiting the **Oneida Nation**. They're just a short distance apart from each other, but we'd been down there visiting with different spokespersons, and we had a thoroughly good time. It was, we were well received, well accommodated, it was very hospitable but we're glad to be back. And I understand that Paul was in last week to chair, to host the show, and we're very grateful to **Paul Hogan**, our brother over at the **N'Amerind Friendship Centre** from the **Mississauga Nation**. He may be in to join us later on in the show. So, Mary Lou, what would you like to tell our listeners about our short trip?

**MLS:** Well, I was just going to mention that if Paul does come, we might just have a nice little Smoke Signals t-shirt for him that we picked up on our trip.

**DS:** Yeah, down at, on the **Onondaga Reservation** there's a little cigarette smoke shop, gasoline, diner combination, and it's owned by **Kenneth Papineau**, who we happened to meet when we were travelling on the **White Roots** of, or the **Great Law of Peace Tour** this past summer on the **Pilgrimage of the Peacemaker** as he walked his footsteps through the **Iroquois Confederacy** and changed them when he preached the power, peace, and righteousness, which are the precepts of the **Great Law of Peace**. He was hosting our group, of which there must have been about, I would say close to 25 people, 30 people in our group who went on this tour, and we were able to go over to his house. But he owns Smoke Signals, which is really quite a place. It's just booming in business. They, a lot of people come to buy cigarettes there, buy their gasoline there, and this is one of the issues that's really facing Native people today – this unregulated cigarette trade, gasoline trade, without the collection of the taxes, because it inferiorates the provincial, state, federal governments. And they want to be able to make, generate some revenue themselves, but the Native people have been exercising their sovereignty, exercising their nationhood status by practicing this right to sell cigarettes and gas.

So, we were down at Onondaga and there they have the smokehouse, at Smoke Signals they have their t-shirts of the Onondaga Nation. So when we were down there this past summer, we were fortunate enough to pick up a couple and they're, they are nice looking t-shirts. But someday in the near future, maybe we here at Smoke Signals will have our own t-shirts. And, you know, hopefully we'll see that day sometime.

**DS:** But whilst we were down there, we were trying to get some footage for the **Great Law of Peace packaged series** that we're attempting to put together here at Smoke Signals. We are currently in production, trying to do that. And we would like to be able to play that for you here on Smoke Signals in the near future. We do have footage of the actual recital of the Great Law of Peace, which took place September 19<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup>, at the **Iroquoian Institute** on the **Six Nations Reserve**. Being hosted by the Iroquoian Institute, there were number of various dignitaries of the **Iroquois Confederacy** – some of our confederate lords were in attendance. The actual recital was done by **Cayuga Chief Jake Thomas** of the **Sandpiper Clan**. He was the actual, one of the few living people today who know the **Confederacy law** in its entirety. And because of his ability to speak all six languages of the Iroquois Confederacy, he is able to interpret and translate into **English** the Great Law in its pure form, in its purest, without missing any of that purity. And because he has been a past lecturer, professor, in the **Native Studies department** at **Trent University**, he brings this expertise as a lecturer, and as a teacher, to this new position as a translator of the Great Law. And so, for the people who were in attendance, some 300 people every day, it was really enriching to hear the Great Law of Peace and how it came to the Iroquois Confederacy. So, because we were there in attendance, we were allowed to tape the proceedings that were taking place, and we would like to share them with our listeners here at Smoke Signals. And we would also like to share them with other First Nations radio programs. But at this time, we may get around to that later on today, depending on our time.

**DS:** But for now, I'd just like to say that we are going to be playing another instalment of the **Spirits of the Present**. The instalment that we will be playing today is **Episode 13**. It's entitled "**The Indian in the Global Mind**" and this is the **Native American** legacy of **Native America**. And we have been playing that since October the 12<sup>th</sup>, which is **Columbus Day** down in the **United States**, and which is **Thanksgiving Day** up here in **Canada**. So, right now, we'll take a music break and we'll listen to **Robbie Robertson**, who is a **Mohawk** from the **Six Nations Reserve**, and the song we're going to listen to is "**Somewhere Down the Crazy River.**"