

The Journey of a Sacred Fire – 2013 Update

Here are just a few of the travels of the Peace Fire Coal Bundles **Updated November 21, 2013**

- * **Appalachian Trail** –Jeremy Roche, at 66 years young, carried the coal bundles from March 27 to August 19, 2012, on his 14 state, 145 day, 2,184 mile journey while hiking the entire Appalachian Trail. He left coal bundles at Springer Mountain - at the beginning, Clinger Dome - the highest spot on the trail, Harper's Ferry – the midway point, and Katahdin Mountain at the end of the trail. His wife Sheri and the "trail angels" were vital to his successful adventure.
- * **Afghanistan – Chicago** - On April 4, 2006, coal bundles were given to Reza Deghati on a visit to Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU). Reza has been awarded the Chevalier Legion d'Honneur medal, France's highest civilian honor, because of his work to develop free speech around the world, and help revive children's right in Afghanistan.
- * **Arizona, Flagstaff (Kendrick Park)** – On March 31, 2011, coal bundles were left at Spirit Mountain Ranch, located at the base of the San Francisco Peaks. Spirit Mountain Ranch was the home, at that time, to nine (9) white buffalo.
- * **Arizona, Sedona** – On March 30, 2007, a coal bundle was left at the Amitabha Stupa in the new Tibetan Peace Center. The 36-foot high Amitabha Stupa is completely filled with hundreds of millions of prayers for peace.
- * **Arkansas, Little Rock** – On November 9, 2007, a coal bundle was handed to Minnijean Brown Trickey, the keynote speaker at the 35th Annual Association for Experiential Education (AEE) International Conference. On September 25, 1957, Minnijean and eight other African American teenagers helped to desegregate Central High School, in Little Rock. It was a seminal event in American history and was the catalyst for school desegregation in the United States.
- * **Colorado** – On July 29, 2012, Mim Neal of Prairyerth, at the 11th *Gathering of the International Council of the 13 Indigenous Grandmothers* personally gifted the Fire coal bundles to all of the 13 Grandmothers.
- * **France, Normandy Beach** – On October 3, 2013, Kathy Creely left Fire coal bundles on the beach and in the English Channel at Normandy – Arromances, Omaha Beach, and La Pointe Du Hoc. These were the landing sites and harbors for the American troops on D-Day June 6, 1944.
- * **France, Paris** – Between September 26 and October 6, 2013, Kathy Creely left fire coal bundles in several locations in and around Paris. Sites included; the garden of Notre Dame Cathedral, the River Seine, the Louvre, Chez Leon, Rouen, and Musee D'Orsay.
- * **Greenland** – On July 17, 2009, Angaangaq, called *Uncle*, and Jane Goodall placed Fire coal bundles into the sacred Fire Uncle lit as part of a special ceremony in Greenland. It was the first time in thousands of years their own trees were used in their Fire ceremony. You can read of Angaangaq's work around the world at Icewisdom.com.
- * **Guatemala – Chicago** - On September 21, 2012 & September 20, 2013, Mayan Elders and Fire Keepers Tata Pedro Cruz, and Shuni Giron conducted their Sacred Fire Ceremony at Northeastern. Tata stated, "I have spoken all over the world. Northeastern is the first university where I have felt any spirit or spirituality. It is a very special place."
- * **Holland** – On July 7, 2013, Philip van der Zee, a professional story teller from Holland, received Fire coal bundles at the conclusion of the Salt Creek Sundance. He used them in a purification lodge on his land, on July 28, 2013.
- * **Illinois, Chicago** – On June 5, 2010, the sacred Fire was lit for the 6th year at NEIU for the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer. Northeastern was the 13.1 mile rest stop and over 20,000 walkers visited the Fire in those six years.
- * **India - Illinois, Chicago** – On July 5, 2008, Amma, considered a living saint in India, on her first Darshan to the Chicago area was gifted the Fire coal bundles, and an 18" Peace Pole by President Sharon Hahs and a group of Northeastern peace keepers. Amma received the distinguished Gandhi-King Award in 2002, and has hugged over 33 million people on her humanitarian and peace work around the world.
- * **Ireland - Illinois, Chicago** – On 09-09-09, September 9, 2009, a sacred Fire was lit at sunrise in Ireland by the Women of Ireland. People lit peace Fires at sunrise in each time zone for the next 24-hours around the world. Twenty-six people from Ireland flew to Northeastern to place their Fires coals in the Northeastern Fire at 7:00pm on 09-09-09. You can view the ceremony on YouTube at "[Northeastern 09-09-09 Peace Fire.](#)"

* **Ireland, Leitrim** – On August 7, 2012, a coal bundle was given to Eugene O'Halloran at his home in Cloodrumman. The first sacred Fire was struck on his land with flint and steel. Three honor songs were sung on a sacred drum built, blessed, and sent by the Native Elders of the United States for his land, and his work for the children of Ireland.

* **Israel – Chicago** - In October, 2012, Dr. Gilo Kwesi Cornell Logan, from Northeastern Illinois University, carried 17 peace Fire coal bundles to Israel. He was part of a delegation of 49 Peace Keepers from the United States.

* **Maniwaki, Ontario, Canada** – On July 29, 2008, Grandfather Commanda was handed, at his home, the peace Fire coal bundles. Grandfather Commanda was the caretaker of the 700 year old Seven Fires Prophecy Belt, and traveled the world speaking of peace and unity for all people. Go to Grandfather Commanda ... "*Circle of all Nations.*"

* **Mongolia - Illinois, Chicago** – On June 21, 2007, Khamba Lama Dr. Natsagdorj was given the Fire coals. He traveled to Chicago for a Peace & Water Conference at Northeastern. He also performed an ancient Mongolian water blessing for Lake Michigan. Khamba Lama is revered by the people of Mongolia and is considered their Dalai Lama.

* **Nebraska, Bancroft** – On July 22, 2013, Nancy Gillis, Executive Director, of the John G. Neihardt State Historical Center accepted the Fire coal bundles. John Neihardt authored the landmark book *Black Elk Speaks* in 1932 about Black Elk's great vision to heal the hoop of the nation. The vision Black Elk had over 140 years ago is for ALL people.

* **Northern Ireland, Fermanagh - The G-8 Summit**– On June 2, 2013, the Fire coal bundles were used in a clearing ceremony at the head waters of the River Shannon. The coal bundles were then carried to the Lough Erne Resort in Fermanagh, Northern Ireland and placed into the burning fire place, in the hotel lobby, where the 39th G-8 Summit would be held on June 17 -18, 2013. The summit, for world leaders, creates protests and controversy.

* **Peru, Cusco** – Between October 29 & November 8, 2013, Chris & Betty Jo (Hardwick) Proehl left coal bundles at all of the sacred sites visited on a ten day cultural immersion guided by Dr Theo Paredes, of Cusco. Sites included - The Temple of the Falcon above Pisac; Machu Picchu; the archeology park of Raqchi; Los Uros – the floating islands on Lake Titikaka; Amantani Island on Lake Titikaka; Sillustani; Tarawasi; and Saywite.

* **Poland - Illinois, Chicago** – On June 29, 2009, Lech Walesa, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, visited NEIU for a ceremony to dedicate a hall on campus in his name. It also happened to coincide with the 30th anniversary of the fall of communism in Poland. Mr. Walesa was presented with the Fire coal bundles and an 18" Peace Pole.

* **Scotland, Cairngorm Mountain** – On July 16, 2007, the living mountain was completely fogged in. It is the "Heart" of the National Park. Twenty five percent of all the threatened species in the UK live here in the park. A Fire Coal bundle was left at the top of the mountain, and within five minutes the fog cleared and the valley was visible for miles.

* **Scotland, Isle of Skye** – On July 17, 2007, a coal bundle was given to John Pear at the Aros Environmental Center. John is "Keeper of the Eagles." John has been working for the last 30 years to restore Scotland's White Tail Sea Eagle. The sea eagle has a 9' wing span, dives at 60 mph, and can grab a 5 lb. salmon in its talons out of the water.

* **South Dakota** – Between July 22 & 28, 2013, Fire coal bundles were left after pipe ceremonies at Bear Butte, the Needles, and Grey Horn Butte (Devil's Tower) by Quentin & Ginger Young, and Sharon Hogue. These are all ancient ceremonial sites and sacred to American Indians.

* **Turkey** – In January, 2008, a coal bundle was presented to His All Holiness, Bartholomew, Archbishop of Constantinople and New Rome, Ecumenical Patriarch, the 270th successor of the 2,000 year old Orthodox Christian Church. His All Holiness recognized as "the Pope" works to advance reconciliation and peace building among Christians and Muslims. Turkey is flourishing economically while it seems the rest of the world struggles.

* **United Nations, New York City, New York** – On May 19, 2009, over 2,000 delegates at the General Forum of the Indigenous Council at the United Nations, listened to the story of the sacred Fire at Northeastern. In addition, a letter from the children at Dewey school entitled, "*The Voices of the Children*" was read to these indigenous world leaders.

In the last 18 years, over 20,000 thousand coal bundles have been carried around the world and used by good-hearted people

Our story is over 30 pages long and you can read the details at www.neiu.edu/~team/archive