

an extreme 'letdown' upon entering the Adams village. Why? Because there are no people... no interpreters of the next stage of tribal existence. People see what was in ancient times, and they can read the paper to find out about Now times. But there is a terrible gap in between. Please do not view this as a complaint because I am one who believes that "if you're not part of the solution, you are part of the problem". And I believe that I am a part of the solution!

In reading about all the programs the tribe offers and is involved with, none seem to address the solution which I will suggest here. I believe in this solution so much that I have been recruiting others like myself who believe we can make a difference.

We believe we should take a place (such as the Adams Village) near the rest of the complex, and build a working, living, breathing place-a teaching center. It would be a community with a general store, a blacksmith shop, a huge garden, livestock, church, various craft demonstrations such as candle making, basket weaving, wool carding, spinning and weaving etc. We plan a mule drawn wooden carousel, lots of hands-on projects for adults and children alike. In the center would be a thatched roof brush arbor for outside demonstrations and discussions. There would be an indoor discussion room as well for working either one-on-one or in groups. About eight homes would also be in the village for we plan to operate year round. A small dormitory for approximately twelve live-in students with kitchen and laundry facility would be built to house those who would like to stay with us for a time. It is our purpose in this project not only to provide tourist type information but also to be a learning center for mixed bloods, both registered and non-registered for the purpose of learning the heritage, the pride, the importance of keeping our people as a group knowledgeable and alive. The tourist group would "pay at the gate". However, in exchange for those who choose to live among us for a time, they would work at whatever needed doing such as weeding, grounds maintenance etc. We are also interested in allowing college credit with the area colleges and universities much as NEOSU does during Native American week. In addition to the families living in the center, we would need many day helpers which we would hire from the area- all of mixed blood. This project would involve jobs for many in our tribe not now employed due to the poor economics of the state. For those who wish to learn but can only stay a few days or have families with them, an agreement might be reached with some of the local motels for a lower rate. We feel that a project of this magnitude would require many workers and would provide a good income, not only for the tribe in general, but for many families now needing work who do not want to leave the nation to find it. It is our belief that this teaching center would compliment what the tribe has already accomplished and would provide the continuity between the ancient days and 1994. We are presently working on blueprints of the entire layout... the individual buildings as well as the project as a whole.