



MHA Women's History Month

2019

Imogene Baker Campbell

Imogene Baker Campbell, Mea Shiiri "Buckskin Horse Woman", was born to Louis Baker, Sr., and Ellen Grinnell Baker on February 8, in the Independence District of the Fort Berthold Reservation. Imogene spoke Hidatsa fluently and was a member of the Dripping Dirt Clan, and child of the Flint Knife Clan. In her youth, Imogene attended Independence Day School and the Congregational Mission School in Elbowoods. Following her Garrison High School graduation in 1935, Imogene attended Concordia College in Moorehead. At Concordia, she participated in sports and other extracurricular activities while working toward her degree in Home Economics. In the fall of her senior year, Imogene was selected as the Homecoming Queen of Concordia College. One of her memorable experiences was representing Concordia and greeting Crown Prince Olav and Princess Martha of Norway during their visit as commencement speakers at her graduation ceremonies. Listed in *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* in 1939, Imogene was one of only eight women selected that year. Upon graduation, Imogene's parents held a two-day celebration for her at Independence to honor her accomplishments, at which time Mrs. Foolish Woman gave her the name of Chief Woman. Imogene was the first four-year college graduate from Fort Berthold. Imogene began a 15-year teaching career in home economics at Bureau of Indian Affairs schools at Warm Springs, OR; Fort Totten, ND; and Intermountain Indian School, UT. In 1955, she changed careers within the BIA and moved from Brigham City, UT, to Los Angeles, where she contributed to the BIA Relocation and Vocational Department in the development and administration of the most successful relocation, vocational guidance, and placement program in its time. The program recruited, housed, obtained training, and placed Native American students into productive jobs and careers throughout the Southern California area. In 1965, Imogene was promoted and moved with her son, Warren Dogeagle, to Seattle. She retired as an associate director in 1973 and remained in Seattle.

