

Tribal Member News Wanted

Siletz News is looking for information about tribal members similar to the articles you see on this page. We're looking for positive news about you, someone in your family, or someone you know.

Give us a few details and we'll write the story. Or if something has been written about you, send us a copy and we'll get permission to print it in Siletz News. Send us photos and we'll be sure to get them back to you. Don't worry - we'll still keep the birthday, anniversary, and holiday wishes on the back page.

You can reach us at 1-800-922-1399, ext. 291 or 293; fax 541-444-2307; or e-mail pias@ctsi.nsn.us.

Dispute, con't from page 10

five persons to serve one year. The Tribes residing at the Upper Farm station consisting of Rogue Rivers, Galese Creeks, Coquills & Cisticostas - to elect one arbitrator. The Klamaths and Cisatanas to elect one. The Tribes at the Agency station consisting of Tootootones - Joshuas - Mackinotens & Chetcoes - to elect two. The Tribes at the Lower Farming station - Sixes - Euquas - & Nultanatans - to elect one.

The Tribes at the different stations as above elected and reported to an adjourned meeting - the names were submitted to the general convention, and approved. They then elected an officer to act as a Sheriff for the same period. They also elected a head chief for all the Tribes. The rules governing this court are yet crude and might be criticized and perhaps ridiculed by lawyers among a civilized and enlightened people, but the object aimed at is to teach self reliance and secure the ends of justice.

The people take hold of it with a good deal of interest and in some of the trials just held by this court manifest a good deal of tort and shrewdness and the decisions of the court has thus far been generally approved by the people. I have deemed it wise to throw the responsibility of settling controversies by their own action - rather than to always submit to the decision by the Agent.

According to the rule adopted the complaint is to be first made to the Agent - and he is to be the Judge as to whether it is a matter of sufficient importance to warrant the assembling of the court - if so he [anorithes?] the sheriff to notify the arbitrators and witnesses and fixes the time and place of meeting and for a time presides at their meetings so as to maintain order and accustom them to the usages of civilized rules something of this kind appeared indispensibly necessary for there is no one Tribe of sufficient influence and power to adopt any general rule - and the petty jelocies and hereditary prejudices existing among them renders it well nigh impossible to maintain harmony without some recognized authority - besides it will be an encouragement for them to think and act for themselves. I have reason to believe that if this effort be encouraged, and managed judiciously, it will eventuate in great good to these people. We may adopt a code similar to our justice court for the settlement of petty differences - as being less expensive. An appeal from the present arbitrators court is to a court consisting of the head chief of each of the thirteen Tribes to be drawn by lot, whose decision is to be final unless set aside by the Agent - for gross violation of justice.

The delapidated condition of nearly all the buildings upon this reservation renders a sojourn here at this inclement season of the year very unpleasant and it must continue to be so until funds can be obtained to construct a sawmill.

We have arranged and put in running order the small home mill for grinding wheat and are now manufacturing an article of coarse graham flour that answers a very good purpose using a hand wire sive for seperating the coarse brand.

On Monday knight of the 23 Dec. was one of the severest wind storms here that I have experienced in a residence of nearly 28 years in Oregon - houses and barns were unroofed - a number apart, timber broken and upset - more than one half the entire fencing upon the Reservation blown down - post & nail, picket, as well as worn rail fence - all roads and trails were blockaded with fallen timber. It gave the entire Agency district a very dilapidated appearance, and to add to the difficulty, we have no nails with which to repair

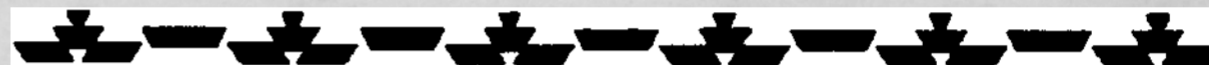
Honor Siletz World War II Veterans

by Pat Duncan

Edward Collins, a highly decorated World War II veteran and a respected Siletz elder, has a dream to travel to Washington, D.C., in November 2002 to visit the monument dedicated to the heroes who served in World War II. Other Siletz Tribal members also served honorably during this war.

To assist Edward and any other World War II veterans in traveling next year to visit the monument dedicated in their honor, a number of tribal members are holding fund-raising activities, such as raffles, at tribal events. Any donation of raffle items or purchase of raffle tickets to show your support in honoring our Siletz warriors will be greatly appreciated.

If you or a family member is a World War II veteran, please contact Kathryn Dick, elders coordinator, at 541-444-8261 or 1-800-922-1399, ext. 261.



An idea may be formed of the severity of the storm when many clapboards on roofs of houses and barns sloping to the south and west nailed on being laid 2 feet - and some twenty inches to the weather - broke square off at the but of the shingle overlapping them - this was not an isolated case but in numerous instances - outside the Agency, many of the settlers cattle were fatally injured by falling timber - great many had their horns nockt off.

A great among a few of the white settlers along Yaquina River & Bay became known to me a few days since upon receiving a petition signed by twelve persons - alleging a combination between the Indians of this Agency, Alcea & Grand Rond Agency - for the purpose of making war upon the White settlers - this report has become known to the Indians - and has necessarily carried a little excitement among them. The report is in my opinion without the least shadow of foundation. There is no such combination, nor, in my opinion had there been an intimation by any Indian of such a move.

It is more likely the whim of those having a guilty conscience for wrongs done these people. And who apprehend that retaliation would be but justice. Strengthened and encouraged by those who are looking with longing as to the time when these Indians will be removed and this Reservation thrown open to settlement. The war with the Modock Indians being deemed a favorable time to urge such a moove, has been hastily acted upon and consequently but few were aware that such a step had been taken. But a few restless evil disposed persons are always able to excite a community and cause unnecessary alarm where the two races are residing in close proximity. The quashing of the inditement against T. Boyle recently in Corvallis, for the killing of Tootootna Jack, is a pleasing reflection to that reckless portion of community, who claim that an Indian has no rights, that a white man is bound to respect and this entire noise may be intended to open the way for removing other Indians as they did Jack. It is to be hoped otherwise. I am satisfied that there is no foundation for the report.

Quite a number of Indian are sick. There has been five deaths during the month - three adults and two children - and there are several others who cannot survive but a few days.

I am inclined to again urge the importance of making allotments of land in severalty to those entitled to it, as being the surest means of allay their fears as to the ultimate intentions of the government for if that were to be done this winter each one would proceed to make improvements upon his own land instead of spending his time in idleness and gambling - the omission to do so is a serious drawback to the progress of these Indians.

[ends]

The Tribal Court and Code Development project will continue working on the Siletz Community Court, developing an operations manual.