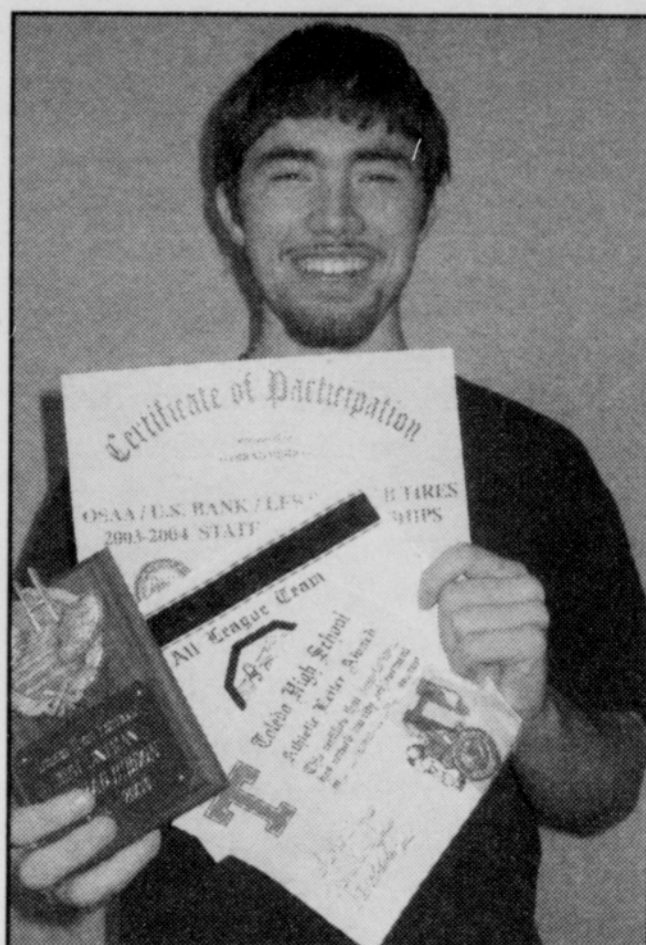


TRIBAL MEMBER NEWS



Gyrrad Hibdon

Hibdon Honored with Several Football Awards

by Val and Larry Hibdon

Congratulations, Gyrrad, for the outstanding honors you received at the Toledo High School Awards night.

Gyrrad received a plaque for Toledo High School's Best Lineman Award, a medal for First Team All-League Defensive Line, Second Team All-League Offensive line. He received a Certificate of Participation for taking part in state playoffs 2003.

Gyrrad was a joy to watch on the football field. Congratulations, Gyrrad, we are proud of you.



Carollee Zuercher and Sar Richards decorate one of the trees for the Fantasy of Trees Charity Auction and Angels Ball, held at Chinook Winds in December.

Correction: The article on Pete Depoe and Redbone in the November issue of *Siletz News* should have included the following:

William Depoe Jr., Pete's brother, will open the show with a blessing for the band to do a good job at any concerts it may have.

Pete and Redbone are interested in performing in or near Siletz as a fund-raiser for Siletz Valley School. Snoball Butler, William Depoe Jr. – and possibly other musicians – are ready to join them.

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, including details on births, graduations, service in the Armed Forces, weddings, engagements, and deaths.

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.

Walt's Words of Wit and Wisdom

Hello – by golly time does fly. Seems like only a week or two since I was scrambling for Christmas and here it is that golly time again. Hope all is well with everyone and that you had the best of the best and all dreams become nightmares again.

Well, I'll talk about my elk hunting this year. To start out, the week before the hunt someone came into my shop and stole my Coleman Powermate generator, a shotgun, a couple of cordless drills, two timber dogs used to pull logs to cut for wood, and strange I think, four fluorescent tubes. Anyway, I have a backup generator that weighs close to 200 pounds, so with some help loaded it on the trailer.

Took off on a Thursday; season didn't start until Saturday. Did a pipe ceremony at Two Rivers on Thursday night then two sweats on Friday. Just getting ready to go into the lodge when the chaplain came in all shook up.

He said that they were talking about my helper and I and they came to the conclusion that we were going hunting. That meant we had rifles in the rigs. They aren't allowed on the premises. The chaplain had to get the keys and take the vehicles down the road a couple of miles.

Well, all went well. Had a couple of young people from Siletz at the sweat Friday night; then continued on to Ukiah.

Arrived at the campgrounds, where they asked for \$10 a night to stay there. Thought that was a little steep, so went to a place where in the past have killed elk and set up camp.

Now, I believe in roughing it when out doing whatever it is I'm doing, so I had my electric fry pan, microwave oven, Mr. Coffee, and all the necessary lights plus a ready heater, You know the Boy Scout motto – be prepared.

I started that big generator, but it died. Started it again; it died. This went on for an hour or so until finally had to break out the gas stove percolator and gas lantern.

There was very little snow; the temperature was at the lowest 28° and sunshine, downright terrible. It did rain, though, to keep the dust down.

I've hunted that country since 1959, north side – Desolation, Murders Creek, and Ukiah. I've seen many changes. I've seen the forest service come in and fall every tree and leave them lay. Sure messed up the elk hunting in that area. It's been reseeded by air and the little pines are so thick one cannot walk through them, but elk tracks lead into the thickets.

When it was a bull with horns longer than ears, I saw many big cows and calves everywhere.

Then the game commission changed it to spike only. Now the big bulls read all about this and they would come strolling by and stop, probably talking to themselves about how foolish we looked and mosey on their unhurried way.

The big cows would browse along, no hurry. Now, this happens every year. There wasn't a year that I didn't see elk, just the wrong size or sex.

Now here is the corker! This year I had a hair tag. I'm guaranteed an elk this year. Hah, didn't see a thing!

Even came back earlier than planned. We were planning to leave around noon on Thursday. After coming in from the morning hunt, we packed up and headed out. Got home and went to get a Friday paper and guess what – it was Thursday.

Did enjoy the trip, though. Used to be 12 of us hunted in that area. All have crossed over now. All but two were real heavy drinkers.

One was a baker; he died of "white lung." He didn't drink. Another died three years ago of Alzheimer's. He didn't drink. All the others crossed very early in life, and I was second oldest of the bunch.

Now it's time to start planning next year's hunt. This year, had a hunting partner and now another says that he'd like to hunt over there. May have two hair tags next year?

