

Walt's Words of Wit and Wisdom

Some people say they would like me to write more about the old times, the homesteads, and what have you. I think I have written about them, or many of them. One has suggested that I write about the big tree and the high waterfall.

Well, the big tree. Vern Stoker, whom I hunted with about three years before he went to the Spirit World, told me it was the biggest Douglas fir in the world. He said that it would furnish enough lumber to build 36 houses.

This tree is off the 1400 road. I think 1404 is the spur. 1400 comes out at Hoskins or can be picked up going up Rock Creek Road. The tree is so big that it's almost breath-taking. I always forget to take a tape with me to measure the circumference.

When I first saw it, there were trees all around it. Now that they have felled all the trees, that tree is vulnerable to high winds. It's been mentioned taking a camping trip to the site. I think the gates are locked at night, but could camp on Rock Creek. During hunting season, the gates are open, but no fires are allowed.

The other area is the waterfall, I don't remember exactly where it is, but go to the old Valsetz dam site and go down the river a ways. Take a spur to the right and that road goes up quite a ways.

The waterfall starts way up. Vern said it would put Multnomah Falls to shame. When one walks out on the landing and looks down, that does take your breath away and one steps backward quickly as it's straight down for a long way.

Years ago, I had the Boy Scouts. One of the goals was to have a survival camping trip, using an Explorer Scout who was working on his merit badge to go along to show what roots and bugs can be eaten (doesn't sound too appetizing now).

At that time, we considered the Skyline Trail but it could be these areas instead. Now, the gates are closed to vehicles, but one can pack in. I've talked with a couple of boys and they're game for it.

Take a half-tent, an axe, a knife, some string, a fish hook, some matches,

and maybe a small gas stove in the summer. In the winter, I don't know how much is available. Vern said that when he was a kid, there were fish in that stream. I guess there aren't today.

It's something to think about. Don't know how many of them bugs sound appetizing either.

I've heard that them worms in the rotten trees are tasty. I'll take their word for that.

There are several interesting places to go. There's a lake on the North side of Granite Mountain, then down from that is another lake. Makes one wonder why the water doesn't drain from the top to the bottom.

Well anyway, I don't think that a survival camp is feasible but a back-packing trip is, in fact maybe several of them. And one can fish, catch crawdads, maybe a steelhead, and cook 'em up out there.

I wouldn't recommend a bear though, they might object. In fact, if a bear decides he likes the food you have, better that you give it to him and find a place somewhere else. Anyway, daydreaming here.



Resources Needed

From time to time we have tribal members who place their child/children up for adoption. The Indian Child Welfare (ICW) Program wants to insure that those children remain within our tribe whenever possible and would like to have a list of tribal families who are interested in being a placement resource.

If you are interested in being considered as an adoptive placement, please contact the ICW Program and request an Adoptive Placement Packet by calling Bekki Johns at 1-800-922-1399, ext. 1338, or Wendi Schamp at ext. 1236.

Registration Form Siletz Cultural Day Camp

July 27-30, 2004

Applications are due June 1, 2004

Pre-registration is necessary for participating in Culture Camp

This is a day camp only, unless you are traveling from the Eugene, Salem, or Portland areas. Parent/Guardians are welcome to attend and are responsible for dropping off and picking up children at appropriate times. Children age 10 or younger must be accompanied by an adult.

Name: _____

Birthdate: _____ Roll #: _____

(If pre-registering your family, please submit all names, birthdates, and roll numbers.)

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone #: _____ Social Security #: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

Parent/Home #: _____ Work #: _____

Emergency Contact Person: _____

Emergency Phone #: _____

Does participant have any allergies? If so list below: _____

If participant is from outside the Siletz area, please call 1-800-922-1399, ext. 1230, to reserve a tipi or camping space (limited number available).

What nights: Tuesday Wednesday Thursday

Chaperone's Name: _____
(Chaperone's must be 18 or older)

Chaperone's Phone #: _____

Classes will be pre-scheduled based on your selection. Please select the five classes you are interested in from the following. Prioritize your selections by using 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

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| _____ Siletz Basket Weaving | _____ Flint Knapping |
| _____ Earrings & Necklaces | _____ Brain Tanning Demonstration |
| _____ Moccasins | _____ Cedar Bark Weaving |
| _____ Shell Necklaces | _____ Soapstone Carving |
| _____ Drum Sticks | _____ Bow Making Demonstration |
| _____ Story Telling | _____ Beadwork |

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____

Date _____

Please return registration form to your nearest tribal office or send completed form to Cultural Program, CTSI, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380-0549.