

TRIBAL PROGRAM NEWS

Hundreds Attend Siletz Elder Honor Day

by Shirley B. Walker

The Siletz Elders held their annual event on April 6, 2004, at Chinook Winds. The theme was Spring at the Beach.

I welcomed everyone to the event. Our Siletz Honor Guard included Rick Bartow, Walt Klamath, Don Hudson, Ed Ben, and Charles Stan Sicade, an elder from Puyallup.

An Alaskan Inuit veteran, Bill Annalack, gave us the song at the opening ceremony. He served in Vietnam and protected his fellow warriors by throwing himself on a hand grenade.

Invocation was by Sister Francella Griggs. Sister offers prayers for us continuously and we honor her faithful service.

Walt Klamath was our master of ceremonies. We look forward to his charm and good jokes each year. We appreciate your assistance, Walt.

We had asked Bud Lane to help us with the program and he volunteered to display his basket collection and did a great job representing our culture to the visiting tribes. Good job, Bud.

Mary Cagey and her brother, George, from the Lummi Tribe shared their prayers and songs with us. Rose from the Lummi Tribe is a veteran and she has 11 veterans in her family. She sang an honor song for our veterans.

The Siletz Tribal Head Start program loaned us a video of the children and we enjoyed it. The elders participated in the Hokey Pokey.

Andrew Joseph, our NICOA representative, attended with 30 elders. He spoke on the importance of changes in funding for health care for elders. Darcy Trego, diabetes coordinator at the Siletz Clinic, spoke on healthy living.

Tribal member Amber Owen presented a dance experience. Kathryn Dick presented an exercise in which the elders took part. Pam Lane, tribal elder, sang a song for us. God gave the Downey girls a great singing talent and we appreciate Pam sharing it with us.

Attending tribes included Swinomish, Suquamish, PiNeeWau Group, Chinook, Squamish, Lummi, Coos-Siuslaw-Lower Umpqua, Coquille, Colville, Umatilla, Grand Ronde, Nisqually, Puyallup, Nooksack, Chippewa, Portland American Indian Elders, and our Siletz Elders.

According to the casino, the total guest list was 475.



Above: Elders and others take part in the Hokey Pokey.

Right: The Siletz Honor Guard opens the Spring at the Beach Elder Honor Day at Chinook Winds Casino.



Elder's Go to Honor Day in North Bend

by Kathryn Dick

The Elder Council group took 53 elders to the Mill Casino in North Bend for the annual Elder Honor Day hosted by the Coquille Tribe and the Coos, Siuslaw, and Lower Umpqua Tribes.

This was the eighth year they've held this event. It was a very fun time spent with many friends we've made over the years. We stayed at the beautiful Mill Casino Hotel.

The gathering started with a welcome reception at the Coos, Siuslaw, and Lower Umpqua Tribal office. They served coffee, breads, and fresh fruit.

From there we traveled down the road to the North Bend Community Center for registration and lunch. While we were there, they honored all of their elder veterans with a certificate and a Pendleton blanket. They also did the

drawing for the king and queen. Two elders from Grand Ronde won the honors and were heaped with gifts from both tribes.

We then had a break to rest up for the evening activities. The dinner hosted by the Coquille Tribe was held at the Mill Casino Salmon Room. It was quite festive with another big delicious meal.

The Oregon Coast Lab Band entertained us. The band was made up of very talented high school students who played music from the big band era. It was just amazing and we enjoyed them very much. I even watched some of the elders sing along. Needless to say, I was too young to recognize the songs. Ha!

The Coquille Tribe also hosted a breakfast the next morning before we started home.

Elder Council Meeting

May 8, 2004

Chinook Winds Casino & Convention Center

2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Another Year of Wisdom Happy Birthday!

- Walter Bacak, 5/28
- Alice Balza, 5/22
- Ray Ben, 5/19
- Barbara Bennett, 5/5
- Elsie Bennett, 5/26
- Virgene Blair, 5/24
- Bensell Breon, 5/22
- Bennie Brown, 5/13
- Leland Collins, 5/19
- Darryl Debarris, 5/8
- Roy Downey Jr., 5/4
- Thomas Downey, 5/22
- Sally Engstrom, 5/19
- Leonard Flanary Sr., 5/27
- Roger Freeman, 5/26
- Dorothy Hall, 5/10
- Ila Hoiness, 5/18
- Jane John, 5/11
- Rosalie Johnston, 5/25
- Elmer Jordan, 5/3
- Walt Klamath, 5/18
- David McClay, 5/21
- Meri McClay, 5/4
- James McCormick, 5/8
- Lila Peterson, 5/16
- Pauline Peterson, 5/27
- Joan Randol, 5/6
- Deanna Redlinger, 5/1
- Velma Redmer, 5/29
- Stephany Shields, 5/14
- Edwin Sondena, 5/22
- Rachael Summer, 5/24
- Darcy Tucker, 5/17
- Betty Whitehead, 5/19
- Charles Wilcox, 5/16
- Elizabeth Worthington, 5/27
- Ernestine Yarbour, 5/19
- Gloria Zimmerman, 5/16