

SCA
OrColl
E
78
.06
S523
v. 32
no. 11
November
2004

Restoration agenda;
celebrate wellbriety
Pages 5 and 8

Apprenticeships, all-stars, new
babies, and retirements
Pages 10-13

Flu shot update and ways to
help avoid getting the flu
Page 19

Professional billiards,
concerts, and comedy
Page 21

SILETZ



NEWS

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon

Vol. 32, No. 11 November 2004

Siletz Group Attends NMAI Opening

by Ed Ben

The brand new National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C., was scheduled to be dedicated Sept. 21, 2004. A procession of more than 500 tribes was to walk, in alphabetical order, from the Capitol Mall to the museum as part of the dedication.

I am both proud and thankful to have the opportunity to represent our Siletz Tribe at the dedication. I walked in the procession with the following members and friends of the Siletz Tribe: Don and Dee Pigsley, Alfred (Bud) Lane III, Alfred (Brother) Lane IV, Alan and Dona James, Leslie Ralston, Kenny Ralston, Randy Lane, Selene Rilatos, Robert Kentta, LeRoy and Doni Wilder, and Randy Fuson.

We arrived early at the Capitol Mall staging area to ensure our place in the lineup. Hundreds of Indians already were milling around in the staging area. Dee and Bud conferred with one of the coordinators and we were immediately placed in the lineup and began the walk.

Part way through the walk, I heard a familiar voice say, "Hey you Siletz Indians, look over here." There in the crowd stood my son, Gerald, camera in hand. He and his friend, Randy, joined us for the remainder of the walk. He has told several people he was not sure he could ever find us in all those feathers and leathers.

We walked with tribes around us singing song after song. Bud and Robert honored our group with several

songs. Selene and I sang a song during one of the stops of the procession.

Our contribution to the procession was well documented by the hundreds of cameras and video cameras in the hands of people standing shoulder-to-shoulder, five to 10 deep, lining the parade route. We finally arrived at the seating area to await the arrival of the remaining tribes and organizations.

Our early arrival at the seating area provided us the time to see the other tribes as they entered. We visited with many people, Indian and non-Indian, who came to our area to take pictures and/or say hello and question where we were from. One man who honored us with a visit introduced himself as a grandson of Aggie Pilgrim.

Emotions ran deep as the program of speeches and acknowledgments began with an Indian Color Guard and drumming group entering the speaker's stage. It was awesome to see thousands of people standing in unison to the singing of a flag song. Some estimates place the attendance at the dedication at upwards to 80,000 people.

Some of us attended a preview of the museum on Sept. 20. It's everything the critics have described.

If you went there expecting a "skull and bones" exhibit, you probably went away disappointed. If you expected a positive spin on the uniqueness of the different tribes, you probably went away satisfied. With representatives of



Kenny Ralston, Selene Rilatos, Bud Lane, LeRoy Wilder, Leslie Ralston, Dona James, Robert Kentta, Delores Pigsley, Ed Ben, and Buddy Lane stand in front of the Washington Monument while awaiting the procession to the National Museum of the American Indian. See more photos on pages 15-17.

500 tribes passing through the museum, one can expect a variety of opinions. Likewise, we Indians can always rely on the media to exploit the negative.

My ability to attend the dedication was made possible with the help of several tribal members. Thank you to Bud

and Gerald for helping me find an airline ticket that fit my retirement budget. Thank you to Buddy for giving up his bed rather than having me sleep on a \$25-a-night rollaway bed. Thanks to Sonja for making me a new ribbon shirt and breechcloth to wear in the procession.

What's Inside

Letters to the Editor	2	Notices	14
Chairman's Report	3	Tribal Council Timesheets	15
Vice Chairman's Report	5	Siletz Clinic	18
Tribal Program News	6	Chinook Winds	20
Tribal Member News	10	Passages	23

Siletz News
Confederated Tribes of
Siletz Indians of Oregon
P.O. Box 549
Siletz, OR 97380-0549

Delores Pigsley,
Tribal Chairman
Brenda Bremner,
General Manager
and Editor-in-Chief

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SILETZ, OR
PERMIT NO. 2

University of Oregon Library
Received on: 10-29-04
Siletz news