

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As most of you know by now, the governor of the state of Oregon and the chairmen of all the Oregon Tribes meet annually in what is called the governor's summit conferences.

This year's summit was held in Florence, Ore., and hosted by the Coos Tribe at its new Three Rivers Casino Resort. It was one of the best we have had and included cluster meetings on specific areas of concern.

The governor spoke of Senate Bill 770, which recognizes Tribal sovereignty and the special relationship between the state and the Oregon Tribes. As a footnote, I would like, as a reminder, to state that Senate Bill 770 was adopted by the Oregon Legislature eight years ago – in the spring of 2001. The bill included such provisions as the following:

- Establishes a process to identify the programs of the state agency that affect Tribes.
- Promotes communications between the state agency and Tribes.
- Promotes positive government-to-government relations between the state and Tribes.
- A state agency shall make a reasonable effort to cooperate with Tribes in developing and implementing programs of the state agency that affect Tribes, including the use of agreements authorized by Oregon law.
- Once a year, the governor shall convene a meeting at which representatives of state agencies and Tribes can work together to achieve mutual goals.
- The bill also states that at least once a year, the Oregon Department of Administrative Services in consultation with the Commission on Indian Services shall provide training to state



Delores Pigsley

agency managers and employees who have regular communications with Tribes on the legal status of Tribes, the legal rights of members of Tribes and issues of concern to Tribes.

And as an additional footnote, I would like to say that it was former Gov. Vic Atiyeh who sponsored the bill that created the Commission on Indian Services (mentioned in the section above), still a viable entity created by the state Legislature more than 30 years ago. It's encouraging to see how well, in the state of Oregon, Democratic and Republican politicians have contributed positively to Indian issues.

Each Tribal chairman spoke of planning for the future. Our Tribe highlighted the need to address water and infrastructure issues on the Oregon coast.

In addition to the cluster meetings involving groups of state and Tribal representatives, we had a fine dinner hosted

by the Coos Tribe with the governor, his top staff and the nine Tribal chairmen taking part.

The meeting also was the last official event with Attorney General Hardy Myers, who was present for the occasion. The Tribes presented Myers with a Pendleton blanket and thanked him for the services he rendered to the state and to the Tribes.

Restoration

This year was one of the best ever Restoration celebrations. A reminder to those of you who asked about the historical pictures that were displayed during the celebration, you can contact the Tribe to obtain a copy. Send an e-mail to Diane Rodriguez at dianer@ctsi.nsn.us or call her at 800-922-1399, ext. 1291, or 541-444-8291.

It's the same CD of photos that was shown in 2007, so if you received one after the 2007 Restoration Celebration, you won't need one from the 2008 celebration. But if you did not receive one from 2007, however, please be sure to contact Diane.

Also a reminder to many veterans – please forward a picture to the Tribe so you can be included in the veterans' archive.

Thank you, Bud Lane, Ed Ben and Tina Retasket as well as casino and Tribal staff for making the day a success.

Standing Committees

Every year, Tribal members have a strong voice and important role in the direction the Tribe leads. Your vote is very important – please take the time to vote for the candidates of your choice.

While it's important to vote, it's also important to serve on Tribal standing committees. Applications are in this newspaper (see page 3) and also on the website. Standing committees give important feedback to the Tribal Council and assist greatly in decisions that are made affecting the membership.

The Tribe personally thanks all the Tribal members and staff representatives who have served on committees during the past years.

Nuu-wee-ya' (our words)

Introduction to the Athabaskan Language Open to Tribal members of all ages

Siletz

Siletz Tribal Community Center
Jan. 6 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Feb. 3 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Salem

Salem Area Office
Jan. 13 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Feb. 10 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Portland

Portland Area Office
Jan. 12 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Feb. 9 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Eugene

Eugene Area Office
Jan. 5 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Feb. 2 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Come and join other members of your community and Tribe in learning to speak one of our ancient languages.

For more information, contact Bud Lane at the Siletz Culture Department at 541-444-8320 or 800-922-1399, ext. 1320; or e-mail budl@ctsi.nsn.us.

Elders' Council Meeting

Jan. 10 • 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Chinook Winds Casino Resort

For more information, please contact Danise Barker at 800-922-1399, ext. 1225; 541-444-8225; or daniseb@ctsi.nsn.us

Siletz News Letters Policy

Siletz News, a publication of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, is published once a month. Our editorial policy encourages input from readers about stories printed in *Siletz News* and other tribal issues.

All letters must include the author's signature, address, and phone number in order to be considered for publication. *Siletz News* reserves the right to edit any letter for clarity and length, and to refuse publication of any letter or any part of a letter that may contain profane language, libelous statements, personal attacks, or unsubstantiated statements.

Not all letters are guaranteed publication upon submission. Published letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *Siletz News*, Tribal employees, or Tribal Council.

Please type or write legibly. Letters longer than 450 words may be edited for length as approved by Tribal Council Resolution #96-142.

Please note: The general manager of the Siletz Tribe is the editor-in-chief of *Siletz News*.

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Deadline for the February issue is Jan. 9. Submission of articles and photos is encouraged. Please see the Passages Policy on page 20 when submitting items for Passages.



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Name: _____

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Change of address: Tribal members – call the Enrollment Department at 541-444-8258 or 800-922-1399, ext. 1258; all others – call the newspaper office.