

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Alcohol on the Gaming Floor

As I reported in the March issue of *Siletz News*, the question before the Tribe was whether alcohol should be served on our casino gaming floor.

Contrary to the assumption by certain individuals that no one appears to be paying any attention to this issue, the Siletz council has, indeed, been earnestly dealing with this serious issue.

My March article pointed out that the issue also was discussed at a meeting of the Oregon Tribes Gaming Alliance. In response to my question, representatives of the three Tribes that had approved alcohol on their casino floors reported no negative consequences and further, their casino revenues had increased.

Our Tribal Council is aware of the economic implications of our no-alcohol policy, for it has caused the loss of some conventions – and therefore revenue.

The council understands that to adopt the new alcohol policy would require the adoption of some specific conditions, such as special training of casino personnel, the enactment of appropriate liability measures and the prohibiting of free alcohol in the casino.

Also because of the importance of this issue, the council had determined



Delores Pigsley

that a vote of the general membership was needed.

So an election was conducted with 2,182 ballots mailed to our eligible voters. A total of 867 were returned, of which 679 voted yes (78 percent) and 188 voted no (22 percent).

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the state of Oregon will need to be amended approving the use of alcohol on the casino floor as well as officially notifying the city of Lincoln City and the state of Oregon of our new policy.

Wilkinson's Book

The history of the Siletz Tribe being written by Charles Wilkinson was scheduled to go to press by June 1 of this year. The project was extended from the original date because of a number of additional interviews with Tribal members that have enhanced the book tremendously. The book will include a large number of maps and photos that have increased the volume of the book.

Most of you already are familiar with Wilkinson, the author of 12 books, who at present is a Distinguished University Professor and the Moses Lasky Professor of Law at the University of Colorado.

His latest book, *Blood Struggle – The Rise of Modern Indian Nations* published in 2005, has received positive reviews by (among others) Alvin Josephy Jr., Vine Deloria, Wilma Mankiller, Stewart Udall and Senators Daniel Inouye and John McCain.

Regarding his Siletz research, Wilkinson commented:

"I came out for the Feather Dance in June (2005) and was deeply moved by what I saw. It made me begin to realize the magnitude of the cultural revival that Siletz people have created. In September, I came out for the Run to the Rogue and was overwhelmed by the power of the land and the presence of the ancestors ...

Doing the interviews and reading caused me to appreciate much more deeply the amazing cultures that thrived in Western Oregon before the diseases, wars, removals and land grabs ... Siletz people should be lastingly proud of that heritage and I hope that this history will describe the ancestors in a way that gives them the respect they so richly deserve."

Casino GM

This position has been advertised and more than 100 people applied. The first review eliminated many applicants.

The remaining applicants will have background information and reference checks completed along with a more thorough review. When this process is complete, interviews will take place.

Currently, Sar Richards is the acting general manager and will continue in this position until a general manager is selected.

Tribal Gathering

I attended a Longhouse meeting at the University of Oregon recently. The Tribes were present to report on Tribal activities and to say goodbye to President Dave Frohnmayer. The meeting was well attended.

President Frohnmayer will serve until the end of June when a new president takes the position.

Nuu-wee-ya' (our words)

Introduction to the Athabaskan Language

Open to Tribal members of all ages

Siletz

Siletz Tribal Community Center
June 2 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
July 7 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Salem

Salem Area Office
June 9 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
July 9 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Portland

Portland Area Office
June 8 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
July 22 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Eugene

Eugene Area Office
June 1 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
July 6 – 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 Cultural Department at 541-444-8320 or 800-922-1399, ext. 1320; or e-mail budl@ctsi.nsn.us.

Elders' Council Meeting

June 13 • 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

Apply Now for Tribal Head Start

Applications are now available for the Siletz Tribal Head Start program for the 2009-2010 school year.

In addition to an application, parents also will be asked to fill out a family needs assessment and a health summary for their child.

All of these forms are available from Lori Jay-Linstrom in the Head Start office in Siletz. Please contact her at 541-444-8376 or 800-922-1399, ext. 1376; or lorij@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 July issue is June 10. Submission of articles and photos is encouraged. Please see the Passages Policy on page 24 when submitting items for Passages.



Member of the Native American Journalists Association

Siletz News is free to enrolled Siletz Tribal members. For all others, a \$12 annual subscription fee applies. Please make checks payable to CTSI and mail to *Siletz News*.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

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.