

Chairman's Report

Living Earth Festival at NMAI

Our Tribe was invited to participate in the Living Earth Festival in Washington, D.C., in July at the National Museum of the American Indian. The festival included other Tribes and Native Hawaiians.

The festival's focus was on climate change and how the environment affects Native foods, but several other events also occurred. Siletz feather dancers performed inside the rotunda, Bud Lane cooked salmon outside the museum and Tina Retasket spoke on climate change and its effects on gathering.

While the feather dancers were performing inside, Tribal member Jack Strong, our Chinook Winds executive chef, participated in a cook-off. The two competitors had to complete the cook-off using heirloom tomatoes in several dishes. The judges were famous Washington-area chefs. We were very proud of Jack as he won the competition, a job well done (see story on page 4).

Siletz legislation

While we were in Washington, we made our usual rounds of visits with our congressional delegation as well as other visits with Housing and Urban Development and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

We were notified the day before we left that our legislation regarding our reservation boundary would be introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman Kurt Schrader on Wednesday. A House hearing was then scheduled the following Tuesday by the House Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs, so our stay in Washington was extended so I could testify at the hearing.

The hearing on HB 6414 and HB 726, the Grand Ronde legislation, was chaired by Congressman Don Young of Alaska. Both the Siletz and Grand Ronde legislation seek to have the original treaty boundaries recognized for purposes of

taking land into trust. Ours is the 1855 Treaty boundary and Grand Ronde's is the 1857 Treaty boundary. Also included in the hearing was legislation for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe to settle an enrollment issue.

All three pieces of legislation were supported by testimony from Mike Black, acting assistant secretary for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. In addition, Lincoln County Commissioner Terry Thompson testified in support of the Siletz legislation.

Testifying in opposition to our legislation was Chairman Bob Garcia of the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw and Vice Chairman Reyn Leno of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. Both indicated they have some claim to our original reservation. Neither could provide any support for their allegations.

Our oral testimony time limit was five minutes; my testimony is on page 3. Our written testimony is much more extensive.

Nesika Illahee Pow-Wow

This year's pow-wow was a great success! The weather was perfect as Tribal members, visitors and guests participated in the parade and pow-wow.

We were very proud to acknowledge our surviving World War II veterans as grand marshals - Ed Ben, Alfred Lane Jr. and John Roe Sr.

Thank you to all the staff, Pow-Wow Committee and former and new Royalty for making this event successful.

Recognition

The Tribal Council hosted a workshop on our shellfish issue with Professor Charles Wilkinson and John Echohawk, executive director of the Native American Rights Fund. We discussed the issues brought before the last two general council meetings. A plan will be put forward to the membership and will be covered in the *Nesika Illahee* newsletter.

At a dinner that evening, John Echohawk was presented with a check made out to the Native American Rights Fund to support the work that was done on the Nez Perce settlement on behalf of our Tribe.

Sen. Joanne Verger also was recognized with a Treaty blanket for her work and support in the State legislature. She retires at the end of this session. Rep. Jean Cowan could not be present but was recognized for her support in the State legislature.

We were happy to have Rep. Arnie Roblan in attendance. He is seeking Sen. Verger's seat in the State senate.

Charles gave a wonderful presentation on Siletz Tribal history that was a preview of *The People Are Dancing Again*. We thank Charles for his continued support of our Tribe.



Delores Pigsley



Courtesy photo by Matt Hill, Lone Rock Strategies

Alfred "Bud" Lane III, Tribal vice chairman; Chris Fluhr, subcommittee director; Delores Pigsley, Tribal chairman; Don Young, House Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs chairman; Terry Thompson, Lincoln County commissioner; and Robert Kentta, Tribal Council member, gather for a subcommittee hearing.

Elders Council Meeting

No meeting in September

For more information, contact Dee Navarro at 800-922-1399, ext. 1261; 541-444-8261; or deen@ctsi.nsn.us.

Nuu-wee-ya' (our words)

Introduction to the Athabaskan language

Open to Tribal members of all ages

Eugene

Eugene Area Office
Sept. TBD - 6-8 p.m.
Oct. 1 - 6-8 p.m.

Portland

Portland Area Office
Sept. 17 - 6-8 p.m.
Oct. 8 - 6-8 p.m.

Siletz

Siletz Tribal Community Center
Sept. 4 - 6-8 p.m.
Oct. 2 - 6-8 p.m.

Salem

Salem Area Office
Sept. 18 - 6-8 p.m.
Oct. 9 - 6-8 p.m.

Classes begin with basic instruction and progress over the year. They also are a refresher course for more-advanced students. Come and join other members of your community and Tribe in learning to speak one of our ancient languages.

We also have equipment in the Cultural Department available for use in grinding and drilling shell or pine nuts or other applications. If you need to use the equipment, call the number below to set up an appointment.

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.

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 - contact the Enrollment Department at 541-444-8258; 800-922-1399, ext. 1258; or angelam@ctsi.nsn.us. All others - call the newspaper office.

Send information to:

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Deadline for the October issue is Sept. 11. Submission of articles and photos is encouraged. Please see the Passages Policy on page 32 when submitting items for Passages.



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