

# Gladys Bolton: 'I've never been anything but a Siletz Tribal member'

Gladys Bolton, 93, is the daughter of Alfred and Maude Lane and currently is the second oldest member of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians.

She grew up with three sisters and four brothers, all of whom got their Chetco heritage from their dad's side of the family.

She has three sons – William and twins Donald (deceased) and Ronald, 10 grandchildren (one of whom is deceased) and 15 great-grandchildren.

Gladys graduated from Siletz High School in 1941 and worked at Bensell's store. Then life took her several different places before she landed back in Oregon.

"I got married and moved to Chemawa (Indian School in Salem, Ore.). I worked in the little girls' dorm and the hospital at Chemawa," she said. "In 1957, I went to Guam with my husband, Lester Bolton, where I worked in the kindergarten."

The family eventually moved to Mountain Home, Idaho, where Gladys worked as a janitor until she moved to Seal Rock. She moved to Salem from Seal Rock and now resides in Grand Ronde, Ore., with Herman Hudson.

Gladys has been involved with the Tribe in many different ways for many years.

"I served as a Tribal Court judge and an elders transporter for about 10 years. I was on the Housing and Health committees and was the Tribal whipwoman for

several years," she said. "When I was a transporter, I enjoyed this job and wish I could still do it. I was able to visit Tribal elders in their home and hospital, and help them in many ways. Many times, my mother was with me and we would take elders to lunch with us when we could."

She also said she is grateful for the health care she receives from the Tribe. The Tribe's pow-wows provided her with great times with her grandchildren because "I was able to dance and take my grandchildren and teach them to dance along with other kids."

When asked about something people may not know about her, Gladys rattled off several things.

"I like to Indian dance. I enjoy watching the Trail Blazers and I like most kinds of music. My favorites are country and gospel," she said. "In my younger days, I worked in the fields. I am a Catholic and I enjoy my religion. I was Miss Siletz for the rodeo back in the '30s."

Gladys says that the most significant things the Tribe has done since 1977 (Restoration) is that it "gave me the opportunity to work with the elders and serve on committees. It provided opportunities for my children and grandchildren to work and go to school.

"I've never been anything but a Siletz Tribal member. I've represented the Tribe when I was young on many occasions and continued to represent the Tribe as



File photo

Gladys Bolton at a Siletz Tribal Restoration Pow-Wow

the whipwoman. I proudly served as the whipwoman and I would still serve if I was able. I still dance at the pow-wows and when I can't dance, I still attend."

Editor's note: This is the first in a monthly series of articles about

our Tribal elders, who hold a unique importance to our Tribe, their families

and to the nation(s) for which they served. Please enjoy this article and

look for more in upcoming issues of Siletz News.

## CTSI Jobs

Tribal employment information is available at [ctsi.nsn.us](http://ctsi.nsn.us).

Note: "Open Until Filled" vacancies may close at any time. The Tribe's Indian Preference policy will apply. Tribal government will not discriminate in selection because of race, creed, age, sex, color, national origin, physical handicap, marital status, politics, membership or non-membership in an employee organization.

CTSI constantly is looking for temporary employees to cover vacancy, vacations, maternity leave and extended sick leave. If you are looking for temporary work that can last from 2-12 weeks, please submit an application for the temp pool.

## Nesika Illahee Pow-Wow

### Attention Siletz Tribal Artists

The 2017 Nesika Illahee Pow-Wow Committee is once again having a logo contest for the upcoming pow-wow in August 2017. All Siletz Tribal artists are encouraged to submit a pow-wow-themed logo.

The winning logo artist will receive a cash prize of \$250 and a professional banner with your logo. The winning artist will have his or her logo highlighted on Nesika Illahee Pow-Wow flyers and merchandise.

Please submit your artwork to the cultural education director's office at the Tribal Community Center or mail it to Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Attn: Pow-Wow Logo Contest, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380-0549.

All entries must be received no later than Feb. 28, 2017.

### Royalty Crown Proposals

The Pow-Wow Committee is now accepting proposals for 2017-2018 royalty crowns. Proposals are being accepted for Miss Siletz, Junior Miss Siletz and Little Miss Siletz.

Proposals for a crown must include art design, size of the crown and a bid for the crown or crowns of your interest. Proposals can be submitted for individual crowns, two crowns or you can submit a bid for all three crowns.

Crown proposals must be turned in to the committee no later than Feb. 28, 2017. Proposals should be sent to Siletz Pow-Wow Committee, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380-0549.

If you have any questions, contact Buddy Lane at 800-922-1399, ext 1230, or 541-444-8230.

## STRCP amends policy on number of loans

The Siletz Tribe Revolving Credit Program (STRCP) is pleased to announce the Tribal Council has amended its Program Declaration of Policies with the goal to further enhance Tribal member access to consumer, home improvement and small business loans.

STRCP, in addition to reporting loans to TransUnion Credit Bureau on a monthly basis with the goal of improving the loan recipient's credit score, will now allow applicants who met all the conditions of their previous loans per policy to get additional loans.

If you are interested in applying for a loan or would like more information, please don't hesitate to contact Shani Gilila, STRCP credit administrator, at 541-994-2142 or 877-564-7298; or visit the STBC website at [stbcorp.net](http://stbcorp.net).

Siletz Indian Child Welfare is in need of foster homes for our Tribal children.

Being a foster parent is an opportunity to help improve your community in a unique way.

To find out more or to get an application Contact:  
Marne' Grusing, Foster Family Certifier  
phone: 541-444-8338  
e-mail: [marneg@ctsi.nsn.us](mailto:marneg@ctsi.nsn.us)