



Council Chairman's Report

Delores Pigsley

FROM THE CHAIRMAN:

Because this is my last opportunity to express my thoughts to you in 1984, I want to review some of the highlights of the year. First let me say that I have appreciated serving as your Chairman and look forward to working with you in 1985.

A list of noteworthy events of 1984 must include the establishment of our tribal court. We have trained and certified 26 tribal judges. Our Chief Judge, John Roe, is an attorney and a tribal member. The court has heard several cases and has come a long way in becoming an important tribal institution.

The most important activity of the Tribal Council was its focus on planning for the Tribe's economic future. A highlight of this effort was the conference held specifically for the Tribal Council at Kah-Nee-Ta back in July. The conference provided much needed information to Council members and gave all of us a clearer picture of the difficult economic decisions we have ahead of us.

I also am proud of our efforts to develop a cultural preservation program and to foster pride in our Indian heritage. Our Pow Wow was another great success and has become one of the more impressive tribal cultural activities in this part of the country.

I am happy to report on the tremendous success of our new bingo game. The Bingo Commission consisting of Jane John, Kristi Martin, Bud Lane, along with the help of very capable staff, has established an economic enterprise which provides income to the Tribe and offers a recreational activity to the participants. If you have not yet attended one of our bingo games, I encourage you to enjoy the fun and excitement.

Having listed a few activities about which I am particularly proud does not mean that I do not equally admire the accomplishments of our individual members at work, at school and in their other endeavors. Nor does it mean that activities listed are the only events our Tribe can take pride in. I chose these to remind us that our Tribe truly is a functioning social, political and cultural entity and all of us should be proud to be members.

While we take time to look back at our accomplishments, I think we must remind ourselves that the most important time is the future. I encourage each of you to make your contribution by exercising your right to vote in the upcoming election. This democratic process is the best means for individual Tribal members to make the Tribal Council responsive to individual needs. I encourage all of you to take advantage of the opportunity.

Before I close, I want to express my gratitude and admiration to each and every one of our tribal staff. I think we have a tendency to take our staff for granted and fail to recognize the extremely difficult jobs they do under often trying circumstances. I personally want to thank each of them for the tremendous job that they do.

Finally, I hope every tribal member has the happiest of holiday seasons and a joyous and prosperous 1985.

Sincerely,
Delores Pigsley
Tribal Chairman

New Babies

Vernon and Marie Brown wish to announce the birth of their son, Nicolas Nathan Brown, brown at 12:50 p.m. on December 14th at New Lincoln Hospital. Congratulations Vernon and Marie.

Timmy & Tommy Stuart welcome a baby

sister Tiffany Dawn born on 12-14-84, 8 lbs. 15½ ozs. Proud parents are Thomas & Marlene Stuart. Proud Grandmother Maxine Rilatos of Siletz, also the late Robert Rilatos Sr. Also Grandparents Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Stuart of Hayward, Calif. Great Grandparents Mrs. Pearl Rilatos and Mr. & Mrs. Archie Ben, all of Siletz.

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

At the General Council meeting on November 3, 1984, our people forgot the heart and spirit of this Tribe. We forgot independence and pride, and by a slight majority recommended to the elected Council the first steps of termination. Oh, it was spoken in terms of fairness and equal distribution of benefits, but nevertheless, per capita payments today, is the beginning of the END for the Siletz Tribe. And a swift, sure termination it would be!

A per capita payment is not the right solution to our members' various financial problems. And this is definitely not the right time to even consider one! The timber revenues accumulated to date cannot meet the real needs of all tribal members for a sustained period. Decreasing our capital resources would benefit a few, and that's a noble cause. But much of the per capita payments would be spent on good times, luxury items, and perhaps, pay a few bills. In the long-run, how will we finance improvements on Government Hill, buy land, start a college fund, build a museum or finance small business loans if our money has all been spent?

A per capita payment policy is a poor, short-term solution, that would create long-term problems for our Tribe! We need to build an independent, secure financial future through well planned programs of tribal enterprises and investments. A payment to each Tribal member is not going to improve their housing, health benefits, or create jobs: only cripple the Tribe's ability to do so as a whole.

There was a suggestion that all we need as a people is to hang on to the coattails of government programs and grants. That is not my idea of success or pride! I suggest we need to become financially independent as quickly as possible. As seen by cutbacks in Indian programs in the last 4 years, the American people don't

always elect officials sympathetic to Indian problems and needs. We can't and shouldn't, depend on Government monies to run our programs. It's vital that we create other sources of continued income rather than depend on our limited timber funds. It was well stated at General Council, WE NEED MONEY TO MAKE MONEY!

The Federal Government continues to deal with "the Indian problem", as if it will just go away! Well, Red Culture hasn't "just gone away", not even in the last 200 years of extermination, removal, allotment, or finally termination. We've always hung on to our pride and uniqueness. Let's not do what the Federal Government could not do, that is maim forever that spirit that unites us as Indian people! Should we support per capita payments today, when it points towards a second termination tomorrow? I say, NO!!!

At some point in the future per capita payments may become realistic. Until then, let's not cut our own throats because of "I just don't care anymore" attitudes. It's not the right solution!

Instead of a per capita payment, a more reasonable solution to the question of equal benefits for all members would be increasing our service area. Siletz Tribal members, please, write or call Council and ask that immediate steps be taken to secure the service area required to benefit the majority of members. It would take time, perhaps as long as 2-3 years, but other newly recognized small tribes have equitable service areas, so there is hope that we could persuade legislators to correct ours. Once an equitable service area is being worked on, I hope we can set aside the question of per capita payments until a time when it would be appropriate.

Thank you for reading.
Sincerely,
Denise A. Wilson
7006 Logsdan Rd.
Logsdan, OR 97357

"Opinions, Questions, Concerns"

All letters received will be printed. Please type or write legible, no profane language will be printed. All letters must include your name and address. Send letters to: "Siletz News", P.O. Box 670, Siletz, OR. 97380. Questions? Call 444-2536.

New Phone Numbers

The new central telephone system is now in use. All calls will come through a switchboard, answered by Darlene Carkhuff, who will transfer the calls to the appropriate extension. You may call 444-2532 and ask for the staff person by name or extension. The following is a list of staff, their position and extension.

ALDRIDGE HOUSE		
Ext. #	Person	Title/Position
35	Nancy Simmons	Secretary
36	Wilma Strong	Social Service Worker
37	Frank Peterson	Indian Child Welfare
38	Eloise Case	CHR
39	Maxine Rilatos	CHR
40	Kim McCarthy	Community Health Nurse

SILETZ CENTRAL TRIBAL OFFICE		
Ext. #	Person	Title/Position
11	Darlene Carkhuff	Receptionist
12	Judy John	Secretary
13	Tina Jones	Administrative Assistant
14	Word Processor	
15	Doni White	Human Resource Manager
16	Robert Lockyear	General Manager
17	Conference Room	
18	Kristi Martin	Vice Chairman
19	Dan Rilatos	Maintenance Supervisor
20	Kitchen	

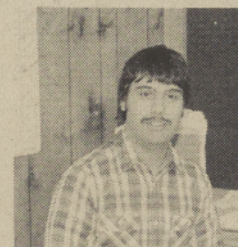
SILETZ AREA OFFICE		
Ext. #	Person	Title/Position
21	Mary Brown	Receptionist
22	Ted Werth	Hunting & Fishing/ Siletz News
23	Phil Rilatos	Tribal Comptroller
24	Karen Bell	Bookkeeper I
25	Shirley Strickler	Enrollment
26	Sharon Edenfield	Bookkeeper II
27	Computer Station	
28	Conference Room	

SILETZ AREA OFFICE #2		
Ext. #	Person	Title/Position
29	Allison Simmons	JTPA/Secretary
30	Mary Lane	JTPA/Counselor
31	Jim Willis	Economic Planner
32	Sue Eggert	Head Start Program
33	John Roe	Chief Judge
33	Kelly Strickler	Court Clerk

U.S.D.A. FOOD PROGRAM		
Ext. #	Person	Title/Position
34		Clerk



SILETZ NEWS



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EDITOR

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DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY
SILETZ NEWS IS JANUARY 14, 1985

Send all articles and photos (black and white, only) to P.O. Box 670, Siletz, OR. 97380.