

# Siletz History

(Information derived from the National Archives)

The Siletz Reservation was established by Executive order dated November 9, 1855, signed by President Franklin Pierce. The Siletz Indians, living on the river of that name, and the Yakonan Tribes (the Yaquina, Alsea, Siuslaw and Kuitsh) formed the nucleus of the Indians on the reservation. Most of the coast Tribes to the south and on the lower Rogue River were moved onto the reservation in 1856 and 1857. These were small Tribes most of which today apparently have lost their separate identity.

The Tututni (the Tototin, spelling differs in all documents) were the most important. They lived on the lower Rogue River and on the coast north and south of its mouth. They were moved to the Siletz Reservation in 1856 as prisoners of war, having taken part in the Rogue River wars. The Chastacosta (Shastacosta) lived along the Rogue River to the east of the Tututni. They had the same language and customs and are often considered a band of the Tututni. The Coquille, differing slightly in language, lived north of the Chastacosta. The Mackanotin were a band of the Chastacosta. The Uka are the Yukichetunne, a band of Tututni, living on Euchre Creek, north of Rogue River. The Cheatee are possibly the Chetco, situated on either side of the mouth and about fifteen miles up the Chetco River. They are known to have been brought to the Siletz Reservation in 1856. The Port Orford Indians came from the vicinity of Port Orford, including Flores and Sixes creeks. It is believed the Joshua band are from this same general region. The Coos or Kusan Indians from Coos Bay were also moved to the Siletz Reservation about this time.

After the end of the Rogue River War in the spring of 1856, the leader of the Rogue River band, Chief John, together with Chiefs George and Sam, with over 700 followers including many Shasta Indians with whom they were closely related, were placed on the Grand Ronde Reservation in the upper Yamhill valley. In May 1857, however, all these Rogue River and Shasta Indians except Sam's band were removed to the Siletz Reservation where they remained. The Rogue River Indians are known as the Takelma Tribe. Subsequent agents described these people as ravaged by disease, and they declined rapidly in number.

By 1885 the Indians on the reservation had declined to about 900 in number and they were no longer counted by Tribes or bands. By 1905 their numbers were under 500.

The military post nearest to the Siletz Reservation was Fort Hoskins, garrisoned in 1856 and 1857 by the 4th Infantry, commanded by Captain C.C. Augur. Lieutenant Philip H. Sheridan early in 1857, with a detachment of the 4th Infantry, assisted Agent Metcalfe in locating the Indians on the reservation. When he left the reservation on April 14th Sheridan left behind at a temporary blockhouse a small force of twenty-five men for the Agent's protection from these recently hostile bands.

Records show that when Fort Hoskins was ordered abandoned by Special Orders No. 121, District of Oregon, September 23, 1864, a detachment of one subaltern and from twenty to twenty-five privates was to remain at the Siletz Blockhouse. It cannot be determined just how long this detachment remained, but according to General Orders No. 19, Headquarters, Military Division of the Pacific, dated August 3, 1866, orders had been given to "break up" the Siletz Blockhouse and Fort Hoskins and to remove or dispose of all public property at each of these posts.

## Mason Completes Training

E-3 Kevin Michael Mason has completed B.T. "A" School in Great Lakes, Illinois. Kevin is the son of Linda and Larry Dooley of Newport and the late Terry Mason of Waldport. He is married to Tracy L. Mason. He is a 1982 graduate of Newport High School.

Completing B.T. "A" School qualifies him as a Boiler Tender for the U.S. Navy. He is now stationed aboard the U.S.S. Bradley, F.F. 1041 in San Diego, CA. Before going to school in Illinois, he was stationed aboard the U.S.S. Suribachi A.E.-21 out of Earle, New Jersey, where he completed a 6 months tour of the Mediterranean seeing countries such as France, Spain, Sicily, Diego Garcia, Turkey and Egypt. He crossed the Suez Canal during war-like times. Kevin in a member of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz and any of his friends wishing to write him can do so at:

Mason, Kevin M. "B Div."  
U.S.S. Bradley F.F. 1041  
San Diego, C.A. 96661-1403

## Tribal Socio-Economic Study

by Doni White

As many of you will recall, in 1978 the Tribe conducted a survey to gather information from tribal members to complete the Tribal Specific Health Plan and the Reservation Implementation Plan. The information gathered from that study is now seven years old and consequently outdated.

This summer the Tribe will be undertaking a new Socio-Economic Survey project to gather information which will enable tribal leadership to better meet the needs of tribal members. The Tribe will be assisted in this project by staff from Oregon State University. OSU staff will help in designing the survey form, training the interviewers, and analyzing the statistical data. The people conducting the surveys will be temporary tribal employees who have received appropriate training.

Information from this new Socio-Economic Survey will be used by the Tribal Council and Tribal Administration in the following ways:

- 1) Update of the Tribal Specific Health Plan.
- 2) Statistical data for use in the preparation of funding proposals;
- 3) Economic development planning to identify enterprise opportunities for the Tribe and for individual tribal members.
- 4) Economic development to provide jobs for tribal members.
- 5) Program planning and development.

Funding limitations will not permit a complete survey of all tribal members. Instead a stratified random sampling method will be used. Additionally, not all contacts will be in person - some will be conducted by telephone or through the mail.

We would like to encourage all of you who are contacted to provide the requested information as completely and as accurately as possible. This will help ensure that the Tribal Council has the most accurate information possible when planning for the Tribe's future.

## Culture Gathering

by Cynthia Viles

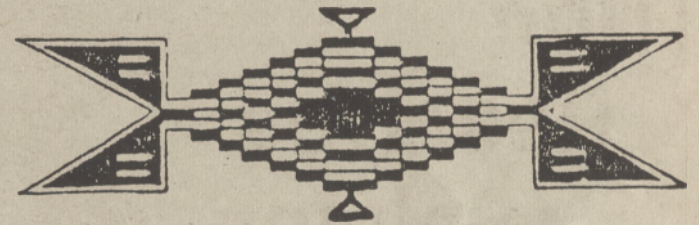
The Culture and History Gathering is in its seventh week now and is looking bright.

The gathering of information is limited to four major areas of the state. All persons living away from these areas would honor the four gatherers by informing them of times they will be in the areas.

If a family reunion, Pow-Wow, or vacation brings you within the Portland, Salem, Siletz or Springfield areas, a gatherer could arrange a convenient time to meet you, thereby adding to their files information on Tribal Culture and History.

Each interview I have initiated in the Portland area has proven successful to adding insight on Tribal Culture and History.

I have filed typed reports of each meeting chronologically and the summaries alphabetically. The subjects covered so far include: Tututni language, life at Siletz before automobile, canoe travel and construction, basketry, life attitudes, life away from Siletz before 1855 and after the turn of the century, Chemawa school, school at Siletz prior to 1916, housing construction after turn of century at Siletz, termination, restoration efforts, clamming, eeling, Shasta ethnology, herbal remedies, working hopfields around Salem and sport subjects.



Little Miss Siletz, Angela Martin, and Miss Siletz, Julie Staggs, ride on float in Loyalty Days Parade in Newport.

The two also rode in the Warm Springs Parade and were given a ribbon for 2nd place. Congratulations!

Name: ALFRED LANE III								Name: VERNON BROWN									
Month: MAY								Month: MAY									
EXPLANATION								EXPLANATION									
DATE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	DATE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5/1			8						5/4		4				2		
5/2			6						5/6				7				
5/4						2			5/7				3				
5/10		2							5/14		3						
5/4						1			5/16				7				
5/27						14			5/18						84		
5/6			8						5/27						14		
Total		2	22			45			Total		7	17			11 3/4		
284 HRS. X \$5.00 = \$142.50								15 1/4 HRS. X \$5.00 = \$17.75									