

The Winter Solstice Feather Dance

Submitted by Selene Rilatos-Lynch

The Winter Solstice was a true blessing for those who were able to attend. The ceremony which was held on December 21st at the Tribal Community Center hasn't taken place here in many moons.

The Feather Dance use to go for ten days and was held on the Winter & Summer Solstice. The meaning was and is a blessing of renewal, to be thankful for the past year and to offer prayers for the coming year. After the forced removal of our people to the Siletz Reservation, the ceremony was discontinued as a result of cultural genocide. However, the people kept on dancing. Through the years, many of our tribal people kept up the feather dance and kept the beliefs strong. Many people recognize our past Honorary Chief Archie Ben for his dedication and beliefs in the feather dance, keeping our identity strong through his belief in prayer, and keeping the culture alive in his humble manner. Today, our people are still dancing through the vision and dreams of our ancestors. We, the people of the Siletz Nation, come from strong survivors and must always remember that someone has paid a price for us.

Today the dance group is led by Bud Lane through his songs and prayers that he learned from Loren Bommelyn. To start the evening off, Aggie Pilgrim offered prayers and

blessings over the Solstice. We had our meal and had the pleasure of having our guests from the Grand Ronde Tribe, Jackie Provost, Duane Many Hides, Gary George and 14 of their youth attended. Grant Pilgrim sang some of his beautiful traditional songs for the people. Then the feather dancers performed the traditional dances. The dancers were Aggie Pilgrim, Nellie Orton, Gladys Bolton, Bonnie Petersen, Natalie & Michelle Cadena (from San Diego), Fish Martinez, Darin Rilatos, (the marty twins), Robert Kentta, Alfred Lane IV (brother), Snowball Butler, and myself.

To follow this, the people played stick games under the instruction of Jim & Charlene Holycross. The Grand Ronde youth and some of our youth participated in learning how to play the stick game. Everyone had a great time.

I would like to acknowledge the following people for helping with the solstice: To Bud, Cheryl, Alissa & Brother Lane for their love and dedication to the feather dance and for the songs and prayers from Bud. To Loren Bommelyn for graciously sharing his knowledge of the Na-Dash and his commitment to a survival of a people. To Aggie & Grant Pilgrim for traveling this distance to attend and for their cultural strength & sharing their knowledge. To Nellie Orton for always showing support for all the people and for her

instruction and knowledge. To Nellie Orton for always showing support for all the people and for her instruction and knowledge of the feather dance. To Gladys Bolton for her elegance in her dancing and for insuring the traditions of our people. To Robert Kentta for always offering support to the feather dance and their preservation of our traditions. To Council Members Lillie Butler and Mike Darcy for their support and attending the feather dance. To Pat Darcy for her dedication to our cultural activities, for cooking and for offering her home to our guest. To Jim & Charlene Holycross for sharing their stick game power with us! Aye! Rememba' I'm a Ben! To Duane Many Hides & Jackie Provost for helping in bridging the gaps of our two nations, our sister tribes and for bringing the youth to share our traditions. I hope I didn't leave anyone out but my appreciation goes to all who attended this "First Winter Solstice". During this time prayers were offered for those who couldn't attend and for those who've been here before. I look forward to the Summer Solstice, until then many blessings to each and everyone!



Tribal Council Time Sheets

Editors Note:

The editor accepts full responsibility for a misprint on the bottom of Rosemary Breon Landis' November & December time sheets printed in the January issue of the Newsletter. While attempting to make the totals easier to read by retyping them, I put in the wrong numbers. Here are the corrected timesheets. My apologies to Rosemary.

Rosemary Breon Landis - December

Date	#1 BILLY CAMPBELL or GARY NELSON	#2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS	PROGRAM DUTIES	OTHER EXECUTIVE DUTIES (CAPACITY)	Cashier	Treasurer Pam Gaming Council	Explanation
12/4			3		2		AAO Candidate Fair
12/4			3				Packet reading
12/5			3		4		Salmon Candidate Fair
12/7					1		Travel to Reno
12/8			2 1/2				Self-Gov. meeting
12/9			7		1		Self-Gov. meeting / return home
12/10		3/4	2 1/2	1	5		Health / gaming / Request / Packet
12/10			3				Packet Reading
12/11			2 1/2		2		Springfield Candidate Fair
12/12			2 1/2		2 1/2		Silet Candidate Fair
12/13			5 1/2		4		Personal & Automotive
12/14			2		1		ATUW / BIA meeting
12/14			3/4		5		Springfield Community Meeting
12/15			1 1/2		8		Work in Silet
12/16			3 1/2		2		IHS retraining - Portland
12/17			1	1 1/2	2		Gaming / Compact Negot. - Salmon
12/18	8		1/2		2		Reg. Council / Packet reading
12/20			1		8		Silet Community meeting
TOTAL	8	3/4	X	14 1/4	212	40 1/2	TOTAL HRS 105 1/2 x \$7.84 = \$827.12

Rosemary Breon Landis - November

DATE	1	COMMITTEE MEMBERS	2	PROGRAM DATES	3	END OF THE MONTH	4	TRAVEL TIME	5	REMARKS
11/5			2	1		4				CHS Interview / packet reading
11/6	2 1/2	2	6			3 1/2				Replenished Health Board-General Council
11/7						8				travel to Las Vegas
11/9			6 1/2							IHS Self-Governance Meeting
11/10			8	1 3/4						Health Meetings-IHS Self Gov
11/11			7 1/2	1						" " " "
11/12			6 3/4							Health Meetings
11/13						8				travel home
11/15			1 3/4			8				personal manager interview committee
11/16				1 1/2						packet reading
11/20						4				Restoration in Pomeirova
11/21	9			1						Council Meeting / packet reading
11/22						3 3/4				home Education Meeting Cancalal
11/23			3			3 3/4				Salon Community Meeting
11/24				2						packet reading
11/19										PAO General Council Concurrence
TOTAL	11 1/2	2	35	14 3/4	X	43 1/4				TOTAL HRS. 106 1/2 x 7.84 = \$834.96
										Total: 106 1/2 hrs X 7.84 = \$834.96

Lillie Butler - December

Date	REG. COUNCIL / COMMITTEE MEETING	COMMITTEE MEETING	REG. MEETING	GROUP EXECUTIVE MEETING (EXCEPT)	Council	Travel Time Council Council	Explanation
12/12				2	4		Hardstart Interview
12/10	1 1/2			-			Spec Council - gaming
12/11		6					STEDCO
12/14				1 1/2			Met w/Brian Dossy
12/18	7				4		Rigida Counsel
12/20				1 1/2			Community Meeting - Constitution
TOTAL	8 1/2	6	X	4	X	8	Total hrs 26 1/2 x 7.84 =

Total: 26 1/2 hrs X \$7.84 = \$207.76

Mary Fisher - December/January

[illegible]

Delores Pigsley - Dec/Jan

Date	1 GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING	2 COMMITTEE MEETINGS	3 PROGRAM MEETINGS	4 LONG EXECUTIVE JURIES (EXCEPT)	Casting	TRAVEL TIME CONFER- ENCES	Explanation
2/14				1/2			Mail
2/16		1/2			3/2		Meeting Committee
2/17 1/2					3		Special meeting Planning
2/18 8				2			negotiations Regular Council
2/20	3/4		1		4		Relly Comm. - White Community
2/21			1 1/2	1/2			Leadership NARA - Planning
2/23				1/2			Callers Cable re: Planning
2/27		1 1/4					Lyons
2/28					3/4		Conf call - Planning
2/29			1/2				Mail
1/3			1 1/4				Meeting with Baker
1/4				1 1/2			mtg w/ Baker & Sal
1/5			1 1/2	1			mtg w/ Danny Ray around production
TOTAL	9 1/2	3/4	1 1/4	6 1/4	11 3/4	4	TOTAL 33 1/2 X 7.84 = \$262.64