

Editorial E Coosh EEWA:

(The way it is)
Letters to the Editor



"Spilyay Speaks"



A confusing issue

We have a "hot one" coming up. What I refer to is the amendment to Article IV, Section 2, on apportionment. But first, I would like to address the Constitution and By-Laws of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, approved February 14, 1938.

"Preamble: We, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, in order to establish a more responsible and effective organization to promote our general welfare, conserve and develop our lands and other resources and secure to ourselves and our posterity the power to exercise certain rights of self-government not inconsistent with existing

Federal and State laws, do ordain and establish this Constitution of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon.

"Article I—Objectives: It shall be the object of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon. (a) To establish and maintain with the aid of the federal government, a form of home rule that shall promote the advancement and welfare of the Indians of the Warm Springs Reservation. (b) To establish and enforce such rules as may be necessary to safeguard Indian property and resources for the use of present and future generations. (c) To obtain for all Indians of this Reservation of the present and future generations lands needed for homes and livelihood."

Now the question of apportionment is facing us and we have to decide whether or not to amend the Constitution and By-Laws, which would reduce the number of districts from three to two, thus eliminating the Seekseequa district and placing all voters in two large districts. The election is set for Wednesday, May 31 and asks whether or not Article IV, sections 2 and 8 of the Constitution and By-Laws should be changed.

There are many things to consider and one of the first is the signing of the treaty. As it has been said, the treaty was signed by the Seven Bands from along the Columbia River and the United States government.

Today's tribal member enrollment has Warm Springs, Wasco, and parts of almost every tribe on the west coast. There are but a very few who can truthfully say that both of their parents are fullblooded members of the Warm Springs tribes. The integration is so strong that it's hard to find any fullblooded Warm Springs and Wascos.

So now consider Article III, Memberships, Section 1, Membership of Allottees—"Every living person whose name appears on the allotment roll of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, shall be entitled to membership in the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon. Provided that the Tribal Council shall have authority, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, within one year from the approval of the Constitution, to make corrections in said roll to the end that it may be an accurate record of the membership of the tribe."

The more this is mentioned, the more I'm getting confused, so I'll cut it off here and think about it some more and hope ends meet somewhere.

Economic development important for future

Dear Agency District voters and tribal members,

On April 25, 1989, you will go to the polls once again to vote for your third representative in the Tribal Council. I would like to thank the people who voted for me in the last election making it possible for me to be able to run once more for this important seat in our Tribal government. Also, thank you Rita for your good luck wishes. I return the same to you.

My position and concerns is the future economic development of the Tribe, all of which includes employment for our unemployed, education and training for the youth and young adults, and housing for Tribal members. If we had more economic development, we could

give more benefits to enrolled members. Some of these benefits would be improving Senior Citizens programs, unemployment and capital for other economic projects.

I have much concern for subsidizing our economic projects (Kah-Nee-Ta, mill, gift shop, tribal garage, etc.). These existing problems have to be corrected within the enterprise so that the enterprise can operate on their own and bring capital back to the Tribe in terms of profit.

I have 12 years' experience working for the Tribe, so I have had many years of first-hand, day-to-day experience. On the other hand, much of my personal experiences in these past years has made me realize the problems that many of our people are facing daily and

much of the frustrations and concerns they feel.

It is not a dream to be stating the following because it should be a reality for the future of our Tribe that there will be employment and housing on our reservation for all our enrolled members.

I cannot make promises, but I will represent our people in the matter they expect me to if I am elected.

If you voted for me in the main election, I would appreciate your vote again, but if you did not vote, I ask for your vote now on April 25.

Thank you,
Uren Leonard

EDITOR'S NOTE

Spilyay Tymoo welcomes articles and letters from its readers. All letters, preferably 300 words or less, must include the author's signature and address. Thank you letters and poetry will be published at the editor's discretion.

All letters are the opinion of the author and do not reflect in any way the opinion of Spilyay Tymoo. Spilyay Tymoo reserves the right to edit all copy OR refuse publication of any material that may contain libelous statements.

Consider impact of apportionment when voting

To all tribal members of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs,

I write to you to express my feelings on the issue of apportionment. I believe many of you have concerns regarding what a move like this will do to our reservation. Many times, we young people have heard the words, "Our old people were thinking of future generations (US) when they made decisions regarding the reservation." Many of their decisions still benefit us today. I wonder, are the decisions that are being made today (without our knowledge) going to benefit individuals OR the reservation as a whole in the future? I hope many of you are aware that all the people on the board who decided for a small log mill, are people whose income comes from logging or forestry related fields. Where was our representation as tribal members? I truly believe that we should be exploring other avenues in which we could employ more tribal members and receive more revenue. Our voices seem to have come to a stand still as tribal members of our respective districts.

These are some of the things that cross my mind as I think of the impact apportionment will have on our reservation and our people. I want each of you who read this to know that I had to start researching some of the things that worry me about apportionment.

I have known for some years

Thank you for care during loss

To the Editor,

I would like to thank everyone who helped us when my son, Darryl Calica, and my sister, Agnes Nathan, passed away. To those of you who attended their funerals, helped with the meals, sent flowers, I say thank you. Your concern and care are much appreciated.

Inez Calica

Reward offered

To the Community,

On Friday, April 14, between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m., our house at milepost 3, Tenino Road, was entered and burglarized.

Jewelry, (necklaces, rings, bracelets, earrings), a black ghetto blaster and Reebok shoes were taken.

We are offering a reward for the return of the items taken. If everything is returned, no questions will be asked and all information will be kept confidential.

Kelly, Pinky, Waylor and Nevada Beymer

that our sovereignty as individual tribes, help in protecting our tribal rights. We have rights which have somewhat been guaranteed to us in a number of federal court rulings, one of which is the Cherokee vs. Georgia case. Our right as a separate nation is recognized before the coming of the white man to the North American continent, aboriginal rights. Is the apportionment issue infringing on the rights of the people who are represented by the Seekseequa district? In my studying, I have found strong evidence that the more we adopt state and federal concepts of law and government, the more we open ourselves to losing our sovereignty. Apportionment is a system used by states to elect officials according to the population of areas. It does not take into consideration individual tribal sovereign rights.

Using information gathered from our elders and documents once belonging to my grandfather, Sam Wewa (who was on the first Tribal Council), I know our districts were set up to represent three distinct tribes and not according to apportionment.

Our elders took into consideration, three individual sovereign tribes with vested interests within the newly formed confederation.

In 1967, the solicitor's office was in agreement with a letter which was addressed to the superintendent of Warm Springs.

"While not specifically stated

in the treaties entered into by the Warm Springs Tribe, the United States has continually reserved the right to place Indians other than those for whom reservations were initially established on any reservation. Since the settlement of the Paiutes on the reservation occurred after the date Congress set forth in its plenary powers in Indian matters, it is our determination that the placement of the Paiutes on the reservation, and their acceptance by the Indians of the Warm Springs Reservation constituted the investiture of membership and tribal rights to those Paiutes who settled on the reservation and affiliated themselves therewith. Therefore, these Paiutes become invested with the full incidents of tribal membership as of that time."

It is with this in mind that I ask each of you, who have the power to vote, ask yourselves these questions:

Who will benefit by apportionment?

How will apportionment affect our sovereignty?

Who is giving the initiators of the apportionment petition legal advice?

Are there conflicts of interest within our tribal organization and outside organizations?

Will apportionment push us toward P.L. 280 and its jurisdiction on us? We are now exempt!

Will this have an impact on the future?

There are many other questions we need to have answered and I feel we need a General Council meeting as soon as possible to have the initiators of the apportionment petition and our tribal attorneys answer us on the foreseeable impact this could have on us should the apportionment referendum pass.

Many of you know that there are allegations that lies were used to persuade people to sign the apportionment petition. I truly do not know the answer to this but, if you signed the apportionment petition and were misled, you still have the right to vote against the apportionment referendum.

In the Constitution and By-Laws of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, the preamble starts, "We, the Confederated Tribes..." this means all of US—Warm Springs, Wasco and Paiute. It is our right to be members of this reservation and we can exercise our rights to assemble and get answers, before we vote!

I pray that each of you will think this through and seek answers to your questions before you vote. The Bible says, "A nation divided against itself cannot stand."

Please, take the time to think about it!

A fellow tribal member,
Wilson Wewa, Jr.
Seekseequa District

Family appreciates help during funeral

To the wonderful friends & relatives of Lil' Chief:

We thank the Lord for all of you. Without your loving support, it would have been next to impossible to bury our beloved son. To Chief and Joann for taking care of him in his final months with us. To Kogie for being with Aaron when he needed a friend. Our spiritual parents from LaConner, Merle & Rose Williams, officiating the service with love.

To George Aguilar, Sr. for building his casket & outer box, Ella for praying us thru. To Larson & Danny McGee for "bringing him home" and taking him to his final resting place. To Bridget for the use of her pickup to make this possible. To our supervisors & co-workers for being so understanding & carrying our share of work.

To the many relatives & friends that traveled so far to be a part of the funeral, just your presence at the dressing, church and cemetery touched our hearts and helped ease the pain. Those that couldn't be with us, we know were here in spirit. Thank you for your prayers.

Special thanks to Paula and Eraina for being with us from the beginning to the end. To Pebbles for staying with us until she had to return to school. To Myrna Walking Eagle for loving him, to my sister Val for arranging the paper-

work to be processed from Olympia for his final trip home.

My aunt Edith for his wampum, Maxine for his moccasins, the grave diggers for getting up so early to dig his grave. To Nadine Williams for being with Paula, Michael Williams for being here for Easton. To Gram & Orin for the use of the Full Gospel Church, Bobbie James & Margo Boise for the good meals, Romaine and Sandy Miller for the beef, the

tribe for the salmon and deer meat.

To all of you for loving him. If we failed to mention anyone, it isn't our intent but in this time of sorrow it can easily be overlooked. We love you all in the name of the Lord. May He bless you and keep you always.

Tina, Easton, & Aaron Aguilar, Perry Kalama, Jr.; Paula Smith & "Max" and the rest of the family

Community encouraged to get involved in AFS visitation 4/22

To Parents, Students and Community Members,

Well, April is here and it came upon us fast! As you know, in April, the Education Committee hosts the annual AFS visitation (foreign students). Each year we get together with Betty Wallan and Madeline Patchen, who are part of the group from Madras that sponsors this activity, to plan and make preparations. The foreign students who are placed in Oregon gather annually to visit the Warm Springs reservation.

We have scheduled this event for April 22. The students will be arriving on Friday evening. On Saturday morning, around 10 a.m., we do a cultural and an historical presentation of our reservation. This will be done jointly with the museum staff and the Culture and heritage department. Many students are unaware of how we live today. They think that we still live in teepees and ride horses or buggies! It's with enthusiasm that students see and hear what Warm Springs has done to strive and to advance in the world today. They have been very interested in this presentation.

After lunch the visitors go to Kah-Nee-Ta to spend the afternoon. They return to the Agency Longhouse for a salmon dinner. All suggestions, donations, or volunteers are welcome. Please give us a call. After dinner is the powwow, where we show our traditional dances and some of the students do their dances or songs.

We are inviting the community to join us at welcoming and hosting these students. The Warm Springs people, through history and presently, have been known for their hospitality and friendliness—so let's graciously receive and entertain our guests traditionally at the powwow. A little reminder that this is a drug-free event as we have been encouraging not only our community events, but our workplaces as well.

Parents and students, get your regalia on and dance with us. Drummers, bring your drums and best songs for social dances.

We encourage our students to visit with the foreign students. They generally have "hundreds of questions", so don't be afraid to mingle.

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Tribal Council Agenda

Monday, April 24—Tribal Council Meeting

9 a.m. — Business
9:30 a.m. — Enrollments
10:30 a.m. — Union Pension Plan Law Suit
1:30 p.m. — Integrated Resource Management Plan (IRMP) and 10% Administrative Fee Budget

Tuesday, April 25—Tribal Council Meeting

9 a.m. — Business
9:30 a.m. — Education Committee
11 a.m. — Minutes
1:30 p.m. — Realty

Wednesday, April 26—Tribal Council Meeting

9 a.m. — Invocation
9:15 a.m. — Business
10 a.m. — U.S. West Communications
1:30 p.m. — Invocation
2 p.m. — To Be Scheduled Items

To Be Scheduled items include Columbia River Gorge, Tribal Garage RFP and Water Board/Air Quality Recommendations

Inez Calica