

Howlak Tichum

Melvin Greeley ~ 1935-2018

Melvin Greeley was born on June 17, 1935 to James Greeley of Warm Springs and Nez Perce/Walla Walla tribes, and Merle Scott Greeley of Warm Springs and Wasco tribes.

Melvin was born among the cherry orchards at The Dalles along the Columbia River. He was named after the owner of the cherry orchard.

Melvin was the third of four children: His older sister Lolita Greeley, and his older brother Elton Greeley, both who are deceased; his younger brother Hamilton Greeley, who resides on the Warm Springs Reservation, is here today.

Mel's first and early years of education were attending the Warm Springs Reservation Bureau of Indian Affairs boarding school, from first-through eighth grades. He enjoyed playing football, basketball and baseball, and was on the school boxing team.

His free summer time days were spent riding bare back on an old horse that liked to gallop around the reservation hills. Melvin also liked swimming and fishing on the reservation rivers. He would also help his grandmother with her big garden of fruits and vegetables.

Most of Mel's teen summers were spent working in the strawberry fields and picking other kinds of berries, as well as cherries and apples. Towards the end of summers, his brother and sister would go camping up in the mountains with their grandmother to pick huckleberries.

He worked in the hop fields too. Once I asked, "Why do we have to pick hops?" He replied, "It's for the beer people's brewery." In the early fall he would pick a few hundred sacks of potatoes a day for 5 cents a gunny sack. Those were 50-pound burlap bags.

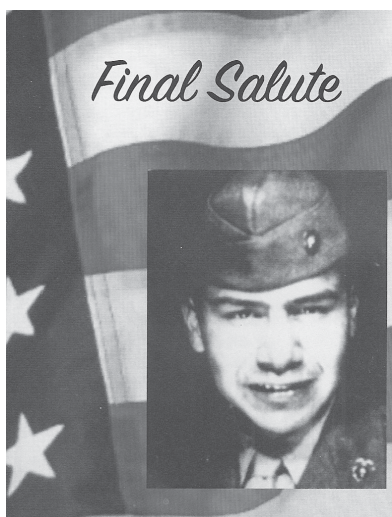
At the Indian boarding school, most of the time it was fun. But it was also a place that we had to obey a lot of rules to live by. Most years, not a day of school was missed. Mel was smart. He was very good with the school studies, and he graduated eighth grade with high honors.

He attended high school at Madras Union High School. He made the basketball team. Guys he played basketball with liked how good he could shoot baskets, because he almost never missed.

Mel got bored with high school and in his senior year he enlisted into the U.S. Marine Corps, to be one of the few and the proud. After boot camp he deployed to South Korea for a year of overseas duty. On his return to the U.S., Camp Pendleton was his duty station for the next three years. His Marine Corps service came to an end with an Honorable discharge. His service awards were:

The National Defense Service Medal, the Foreign Service Medal, the U.S. Service Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, and M1 Rifle Expert. After his Corporal Military Occupation Specialty, he returned as an Infantry Specialist. Then Mel went home to the Warm Springs Reservation to work in the field of land management.

His next move was to enlist in the U.S. Air Force. He did his Basic Airman training at Lackland Air Force Base,



Texas. Mel became an Airman Third Class E-2. His military occupation specialty school was fuel supply operations. After completing the fuel supply operations school, he was deployed to an Air Force base in France. Mel earned the Air Force Longevity Service Award while stationed in France.

From France he returned to the United States and was stationed at the Portland Air Base, from where he was Honorably discharged.

He returned to the reservation, where little work was to be found. He signed up with the Bureau of Indian Affairs relocation program. The relocation program had all kinds of jobs and training available in the big West Coast cities. Mr. Greeley picked Los Angeles.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs found Mel a good paying job with the Fletcher Air Craft Builders. He performed air craft assembly work for about a year. I worked in the sheet metal machine operation in El Monty, California. That spring, I told Mel I was going to give up my sheet metal machine operator's job and take a motor cycle ride to Old Mexico for a little vacation from the Los Angeles area. Mel told me, "That sounds like a good idea—Wait for me."

Mel and I departed for Old Mexico on my brand new Matchless 650 cc. On our way we met up with some of Mel's old USMC buddies in downtown San Diego. We spent about a week touring Old Mexico and returned to the U.S. by way of Tucson and Phoenix. It was a hot ride in 120 degrees.

Mel and I journeyed to the Auburn, California Indian Nation, where we were welcomed into their homes and the Auburn community itself. The Auburn boys were good at helping the Greeley brothers find work, even picking pears for 80 cents an hour.

After a hot Labor Day of picking pears and whatever, the Leggett brothers, Ray brothers, Cooper brothers, William brothers and Brownie Taylor, me and Mel would all bike down to the Folsom Lake for a good cool swim. Or at other times, we all went down to the wild part of the American River, and we would jump off the rock cliffs into the cold river.

Mel was taken in by grandpa and grandma Rey, who provided him with a good place to live with great home cooked meals.

One of those days in Auburn, Mel met a good looking girl, Maxine (Max) Taylor. They fell in love and departed to Reno for a private wedding and short honeymoon.

For work, Mel was hired at the Placer Ranger District as a wild-life fighter. About 1969 Mel's wife gave birth to their daughter, who was welcomed into this world with very much love. The beautiful baby girl did not live very long. She was born with some medical problems and was laid to rest at the Auburn, California Maidu Indian Cemetery. This was one of Mel's unhappiest times.

He started a new job with Airo Jet Fire Fighting Department at the Mather Air Force Base in California. His job was to help put out fires of U.S. air craft if they caught on fire during take-off or landing,

Mel turned out to be a journeyman fire fighter in the Sacramento area. His work outfit was the fire-proof fire fighter gear. This turned out to be his long life work, which he enjoyed while he was in good health.

Fifty-plus years of his life were being part of the California Rancheria Indian and non-Native people. Mel loved life and the local Auburn people. He became acquainted with just about all the Auburn Rancheria Indian Nations people. He loved them very much and they loved him in return.

The Taylor-Cayton family took extra good care of him. They provided him a nice little home to live in. He had all the good comforts of a good life. The saddest part of his life was the loss of his loving wife, Max, who preceded him in death by a few years. Nobody could ever replace Max.

Max, his pet dog Awol and people who passed on before him will all be waiting to welcome him to the other world, way beyond the Sun. Mel lived mostly a good happy life with his grandmother Sally Ike up the Tenino Valley on the Warm Springs Reservation. Going and playing in sports in the BIA boarding school, attending Madras Union High School, the best younger years serving the U.S. Marine Corps and Air Force that allowed him to travel all over the world. A lifetime working as a fire and rescue man on the Mather Air Force base. The happiest part of his life was with his beautiful wife Max. Now he will join her and their child to their journey into the next world.

Most of his free time he spent having fun with the Auburn Rancheria Indians, swimming in the American River, socializing at the Thunder Valley Casino and attending concert events with his friends and family. His last few years he lived on the Auburn Rancheria Reservation. The tribal members, mainly the Cayton family, took excellent care of his most required life needs to make him comfortable. Carol Kronberger, Mel's best friend, made sure Mel had a good hot meal each day.

The Greeley family would like to give a big thank you to the 2018 Tribal Council of United Auburn Indian Community of California for granting Melvin a place to rest in peace with his beloved wife and daughter at the scared burial grounds. A big thanks to the Cayton family for a place to crash, to share good meals and for generous financial assistance that comes with funeral costs.

Thanks for the good time visits, the stories of family good times, moral support and some of the "hell no's" on Mel's mind. Mel had nothing but good things to say about family and friends with added humor.

Thank you to the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs for the casket and loans to my family to help them make it to be with Mel on his last days of living on this earth. If I forgot to thank anyone or mention anyone, please forgive me. I am getting old, feeble and almost time for me to decompose too. Thank you for your time to listen and get to know a little bit of Mel's life story.

Mel, I hope you are resting well.

I remain humbly and truly yours, **Hamilton Greeley**, last of the Greeley brothers.

Summaries of Tribal Council

September 24, 2018

1. Roll call: Chief Delvis Heath, Chief Joseph Moses, Chief Alfred Smith Jr., Vice Chairman Charles Calica, Raymond Tsumpti, Valerie Switzler, Carina Miller, Lee Tom, and Brigitte McConville. Minnie Yahtin, Recorder.

2. Budget presentations:

• Human Services budget overview

• Education budget overview

• Secretary-Treasurer, Community Assistance budget overview.

• Finance budget overview

• G&A, Debt Services, Place for Kids, Capital Projects, Election Committee and Tribal Gatherings budget overview.

• Irrigation, Range & Ag Committee budget overview.

3. Federal and state legislative update call.

4. Enrollments/disenrollment:

• Motion by Raymond adopting Resolution No. 12,515 enrolling five applicants. Second by Alfred. Question: 3/0/4, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

• Motion by Raymond adopting Resolution No. 12,516 approving the request of a member for disenrollment from the Warm Springs Tribe. Second by Joseph. Question: 5/0/3, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

5. Budget call backs:

• Tribal Probate and Legal Aid

• Public Safety

• Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance.

September 26

1. Roll call: Chief Delvis Heath, Chief Alfred Smith Jr., Chairman Eugene Greene Jr., Vice Chairman Charles 'Jody' Calica, Raymond Tsumpti, Carina Miller, and Lee Tom. Minnie Yahtin, Recorder.

2. 2019 proposed budget:

• Motion by Jody to post the alternate 2019 proposed budget of \$18,403,965. Second by Carina. Question: 5/1/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

3. Casino equity agreement:

• Motion by Jody adopting Reso-

lution No. 12,519 approving the Addendum and Amendment No. 3 to the Equity Investment Agreement in substantially the same form as attached in Exhibit 'A'.

Authorizes the Tribal Council Chair, Vice Chair or Secretary-Treasurer to execute Addendum 3 and to take or cause to be taken all other acts on behalf of the Tribe that the Authorized Representative deems reasonably necessary or desirable to carry out the intent of this Resolution, Addendum 3, and the modified repayment schedule. Second by Carina. Question: 5/0/1, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

4. Washington State University update.

5. Kah-Nee-Ta:

• Motion by Raymond authorizing the Executive Officers to utilize current year savings of up to \$300,000 for shuttering expenses for 2018. Second by Lee. Question: 4/0/2, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

6. With no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

October 1

1. Roll call: Chief Delvis Heath, Chief Alfred Smith Jr., Chairman Eugene Greene Jr., Vice Chairman Charles Calica, Raymond Tsumpti, Ronald Suppah Sr., Valerie Switzler, and Lee Tom. Recorder Alfredine Smith.

2. BIA update

3. Office of Special Trustee update

4. Realty – Randy Scott

• Motion by Charles to direct Randy Scott to continue to do research on BNSF Railway Right-of-Way in the absence of a Realty Officer. Second by Ron. Question: 6/0/1, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

5. Columbia River housing update

6. Federal and state legislative updates

7. Tribal Attorney update

8. No further discussion. Meeting adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

Language, Coyote stories featured during Smith Rock series



Courtesy State Parks

Smith Rock will be the backdrop for the presentations.

Native culture of the region will be a feature at the Smith Rock State Park Oregon Archaeology Celebration lecture series.

The series will be Fridays during October, from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Smith Rock State Park Welcome Center, located at 10087 NE Crooked River Drive, Terrebonne.

The lectures are free and open to the public. Audience members will have a question and answer opportunity with the speaker after each talk. Scheduled presentations with Native themes:

October 19: Jarold Ramsey, author and professor emeritus at University of Rochester, New York, and member of Jefferson County Historical Society will present *In Search of Coyote: Examining the Identity of Native America's Most Provocative Cul-*

ture Hero.

October 26: Dallas Winishut, Ichishkin language instructor with the Culture and Heritage Department of the Confederated Tribes, will present *Ancestral Voices: The Ancient Languages of the Warm Springs Reservation.*

The next presentation will be on **October 12:** Dr. Patrick O'Grady, staff archaeologist at University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History will present *A Window to the Past: Recent Archaeological and Paleo-environmental Research at Rimrock Draw Rockshelter.*

More information, including a park map, is available at oregonstateparks.org

Call 541-923-7551 ext 21 for more information about the speakers.

Friday, October 19: After Senior Fitness class there is a brunch at the Seniors building. They are serving cream of potato bacon soup, hard tack and fruit.