

COMMENTS FROM YOUR COMMUNITY ORGANIZER . . . .

One Saturday, December 19, 1981, in fact, I went to an all day meeting with Carole Logan and Calvin Hecocta concerning their efforts in establishing a state-wide organization of preservation committees involving Oregon tribes and their responsibilities with their won Indian cemeteries and burial sites.

Carole and Calvin have asked to meet with the Grand Ronde Tribal Council to further explain their plans. They have already presented their ideas at a meeting with the Commission on Indian Services in Salem, Oregon. The Commission gave them their support and advised them to present their ideas to the individual tribes and communities. They are tentatively scheduled to be here on February 4, 1982, to address the Tribal Council.

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A letter from Community Action Agency Director, Bud Schmidt, has been written supporting the Grand Ronde Tribes in their efforts towards Restoration. This is the result of the January 12, 1982 meeting with the Community Action Board and two tribal members held in McMinnville, Oregon. The slide presentation "Our Hearts Beat As One", which tells the Grand Ronde tribal history, as well as three other Oregon tribes, was shown by Cheryl Carl and me at the beginning of the regular Board meeting. The presentation seemed to be well received by this C.A.P. Board.

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After remaining here to give the slide presentation for the C.A.P. Board, Tuesday evening, I left Grand Ronde the next morning to travel to Ocean Shores, Washington to attend The Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Conference scheduled there for January 14th, 15th and 16th, 1982. The rest of the Grand Ronde delegation, including our Tribal Chairman Marv Kimsey, Sec./Treas. Jackie Colton, and Councilman Merle Holmes, joined me there. Together, we not only represented our tribes, but learned a lot by attending each meeting and also made good contacts that could be of assistance to us in the future. Some of those contacts included B.I.A. Area Director, Vince Little, Portland Area Office; Joe DeLaCruz, Quinalt Tribal Chairman and newly elected Chairman of the National Congress of American Indians; Mrs. Susan Barjo, attorney and lobbyist for the Native American Rights Fund, Washington D.C.; and many other tribal representatives.

We were proud of our Tribal Chairman, Marvin Kimsey, when he was appointed to serve on the Resolutions Committee for the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians.

Some of the tribes represented at this conference were; Yakima, Squaxin Island, Siletz, Metlakatla of Alaska, Quinalt, Coar'de Lane, Umatilla, Warm Springs, Muckleshoot, Shoshonish, Samish, Tulalip and the Duwamish and Nisqually, and of course the Grand Ronde's too.

The Affiliated Tribes voted to support us, The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Indians, in our fight for Restoration. This action alone, on the final day made the entire Conference worthwhile to us. We headed home tired but with the feeling that we had accomplished many things!

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On Friday afternoon, January 22, 1982, Jackie Colton and I met with Polk County Commissioner Chairman, "Hank" Dougherty at the County Courthouse in Dallas, Oregon. The purpose of this meeting was to inform the Commissioners of our Tribes' efforts towards Restoration and to seek their support. Chairman Dougherty was quite interested in our activities and agreed to send a letter of support to our Tribal