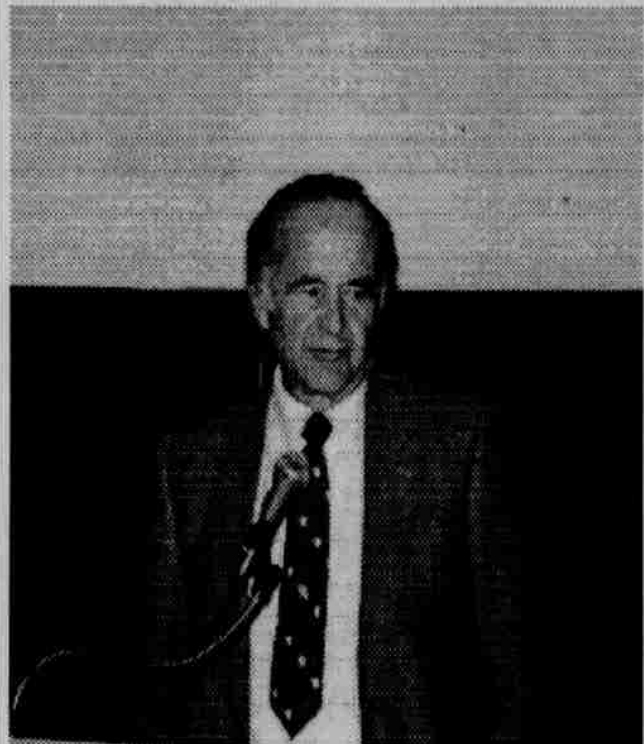


STATE SENATOR KEN JERNSTEDT HONORED



State Senator Ken Jernstedt

Oregon state Senator Ken Jernstedt was honored by Oregon Indian tribal representatives on December 8, 1988 for his service on the Commission on Indian Services.

The state Senator has been appointed to serve on the Commission four times and has served seven years. Jernstedt did not seek re-election to his state Senate seat. His term expires in January 1989.

The tribal representatives hosted a surprise dinner in his honor and presented him with a framed photograph of Celilo Falls, the Indian fishing grounds destroyed by the Dalles Dam.

Jernstedt will take on new responsibilities as the mayor-elect of Hood River.

The Commission on Indian Services was created in 1975 and includes ten tribal representatives one member of the state House of Representatives and one member from the state Senate.

CHURCH RETURNS LAND TO KLAMATH TRIBE

KLAMATH FALLS (AP)-Leaders of the Beatty United Methodist Church signed papers Sunday giving 110 acres of land deeded to the congregation by President Warren G. Harding back to its original owners, the Klamath Indians.

About 200 people attended the ceremonies at the church, located in the tiny community of Beatty, about 35 miles northeast of Klamath Falls.

The land was once part of the Klamath Reservation, which once covered 1.1 million acres. In 1924, the 110-acre parcel was deeded to the church by President Harding. In 1954, the tribe was dissolved by federal decree.

Restored to tribal status in 1986, the Klamaths currently have about 200 acres of land, mostly Indian cemeteries scattered around the area, tribal chairman Charles Kimball said.

A community center for about 25 tribal members living in Beatty was among the possibilities being considered for the land, Kimball said.

He said the tribe was putting together overall plans for its own economic development. About 60 percent of the 1,200 tribal members in Klamath County are unemployed.

The idea for returning the land came from the Revs. Kevin and Carol Seckel, who ministered at four United Methodist churches in the area a few years ago, said Patricia Davidson, a former lay minister at the church and a member of the Klamath tribe.

"They (church members) see it as a point of justice for the church to not be in the land-taking business of the Indians," Davidson said. "That's one of the reasons I'm a Methodist, because they emphasize those points."

The congregation of the church has dwindled, as people have died or moved away, to the point where as few as three sometimes attend services, she said.

- From The Oregonian

BILL AFFIRMS TREATY FISHING INCOME NOT SUBJECT TO TAXATION

On November 10, 1988, President Reagan signed into law a tax bill that reaffirms Native Americans' rights to exercise treaty fishing rights without being subject to state or federal income taxes.

"It's a significant victory for Native American people--one that's been a long-time coming," said John E. "Now, finally, hundreds of individuals can exercise their rights to fish without fear of losing their homes and fishing boats to the Internal Revenue Service for failure to pay taxes they don't owe."

The provision specifying the exemption was included in the bill entitled Technical Corrections to the Tax Reform Act that was adjourned on October 22nd. The legislation was needed to solve a protracted dispute with the Internal Revenue Service which, for the past eight years, has been harassing Native Americans over taxes the federal agency determined were owed on treaty fishing income.

"During the past eight years, the IRS has seized bank accounts and boats, put liens on property assistance," noted Jerilyn DeCoteau, the NARF attorney handling the law suits.

"Thanks to this legislation, these people will now be able to get back on their feet financially, re-establish their good credit ratings, and get on with their lives. One Indian fisher told me he will now be able to fish again for his livelihood as his ancestors had from before treaty time up until the IRS began its enforcement actions eight years ago."

Although the legislation affects all Native Americans, the IRS had consistently targeted tribes in Michigan, Washington and Wisconsin. Attorneys representing the IRS have stated their willingness to insure that liens are removed, refunds and interests are paid to all those eligible, and that the misguided collection efforts of the past are stopped.

- The Oregonian



Pete Petite beside the car he owns. Photo from collection presented to the Tribe from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.



Lloyd Riggs, Betty Riggs, Elfreda Riggs, Marcella Tom, Loraine Smith, Lloyd Weaver, Stanford Hudson, Leon Tom, Russell Leno, Delmar Croy, Clarabell Weaver, Dean Mercier, Darrell Mercier, Ivan Langley. From BIA collection.