



Tribe Pays Tribute To White Wolf

By Toby McClary

On Saturday, September 23, about 200 people attended the "Kyenne Memorial" held at the White Wolf Sanctuary in Tidewater, Oregon. Kyenne was a 14 year-old alpha female that died on Easter Sunday of this year.

Lois Tulleners White owns the sanctuary which has been operating for over eight years. Kyenne was the first wolf that White took into her care.

"Every morning of Kyenne's life, she would be the first to greet me," said White in a brochure dedicated to Kyenne's memorial. "On Easter Sunday morning, as I went out to see the wolves, she was not at the fence."

In the brochure, there is a section titled "Remembering Kyenne" which tells the story of her life and has a photo display of Kyenne from puppy-stage to adulthood.

"My soul is touched forever by your existence," said White in a note to Kyenne.

Tribal Services Representative for the Eugene Satellite Office Jon Darcy Chantell took a group of about 20 Tribal members to the sanctuary in

March of this year. (See *Smoke Signals*, 4/1/2006) After the passing of Kyenne, White asked Chantell if the Tribe would be interested in doing a tribute to her in September. With the help of Chantell, members of

followed by an Honor Song by Johnson, his stepdaughter and Chinook Tribal member Mary Johnson and Tribal member Travis Mercier. There was a lunch and refreshments provided for all in attendance

and several round dances throughout the day.

It was truly a celebration of life for a species that can not afford to lose many more of its members. The White Wolf is currently on the endangered species list and the

majority of their population is in northern Canada.

At the end of the blessing White took center stage and thanked those in attendance for their support and those who had made this event possible.

"I hope that each and every one of you are able to carry a piece of Kyenne in your hearts," said White as tears streamed down her cheeks. "She will be dearly missed."

"I hope that each and every one of you are able to carry a piece of Kyenne in your hearts. She will be dearly missed."

~ Lois Tulleners White

the Public Affairs Department and other Tribal members, the coordination of the tribute was under way.

At the event, Grand Ronde's Thunderhorse Drum group was on hand to do a flag song after a Klamath/Modoc drum brought in the colors. Kia Isham and Dee Odem of Grand Ronde's Honor Guard posted the colors. Cultural Education Coordinator and Chinook Tribal member Tony Johnson did the invocation



Lois Tulleners White



Tribal member Jon Darcy Chantell



Chinook Tribal members Tony Johnson, (l to r) Mary Johnson and Tribal member Travis Mercier sing an honor song.



► Tribal Council member Wink Soderberg (center), with wife Kathy and Chinook Tribal member Tahoma Aleck were at the Kyenne Memorial held on Saturday, September 23.

