

## Memorial Day Gathering

A Memorial Day gathering is planned at the Tribal Community Center on Monday, May 28, 2007. The meal will be at noon. Speakers will begin at 3 p.m. and the events will likely run until 5 p.m.

For more information contact Dakota Whitecloud at dakota.whitecloud@grandronde.org or 503-879-1309.

## Attention Tribal Members:

### 2007 GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

■ Sunday, June 24 — Grand Ronde, NOMINATIONS ONLY

NOTE THAT ALL GENERAL COUNCIL MEETINGS START AT 11 A.M.

## NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, May 16 .....	5 p.m.
Wednesday, May 30 .....	5 p.m.

Please note that these times and dates are subject to change if needed. Please call Dakota Whitecloud, Tribal Council Relations Coordinator at 503-879-1309 to confirm.

## Letters

### Why Honoring the Circle of Renewal is Vital to the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

*A note of appreciation and encouragement for participants in the Meth Workshop*

No matter how effective or exciting a Tribal organization may be for its members, it will inevitably find itself in need of renewal. Renewal must be an on-going function. It may be an obvious need in periods of inactivity when the Tribe seems stagnant or in times of turmoil when the members seem stressed. This is natural and is not something to fear. It is, however, something that must be addressed. As a participant, you have the obligation to recognize when things are not going right and to work to change them.

Most often what gets Tribal organizations into trouble is a faulty leadership style, poor internal relationships and managerial blind spots. The delusional hope of a troubled Tribe is that it will be saved without having to make changes in these highly personal areas.

My focus on one of the basic issues facing groups, Tribes and communities as they try to remain healthy and productive, is that relationships ultimately determine the action taken. These relationships, when broken or never fully formed, can lead Tribes and communities to a point of being unproductive and even destructive to its members.

It is important to address the issues that can cause problems for groups and Tribes as they attempt to continually renew themselves. These issues include a lack of attention to mission, vision, and core values; poor relationships; not taking responsibility for actions; lack of involvement by members; lowering of ethical standards; and lack of attention to process. As we explore these various concerns, we can show how the Tribal Leadership Model, with its stress on the role of purpose, inclusion, empowerment, ethics, and process, can serve as a useful guide in our renewal efforts.

In order to renew and reinterpret values, liberate energies, reenergize forgotten goals or generate new goals, achieve new understandings, and foster the release of human potential leaders must understand the interweaving of continuity and change. Continuity means taking the best of how the group or Tribe is and carrying it forward under conditions that require new approaches.

The most critical step in the renewal process is the release of talent and energy from within the members. Nothing is more vital to the renewal of a Tribe than the arrangements by which able people are nurtured and moved into positions where they can make their greatest contribution.

I would like to finish this writing by saying that Tribes change for the better when members are selflessly helping to achieve or stand up for the Tribe by having good leaders and members that collaborate, and when everyone in the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde takes ownership and responsibility for the Tribe.

That was demonstrated by Tribal Council, musicians, and all of the other participants at the Saturday, May 5th's workshop. We all brought our spiritual energy and strength as we remembered those who have gone before us, united as a community and a Tribe through stories and the commitment to stand together for our present and our future.

Marcella Selwyn #1721

## Tribal Office Closures

All Tribal Offices will be closing on Friday, May 25 at noon and will be closed on Monday, May 28 in observance of Memorial Day.

## ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBERS

The following Committees and/or Special Event Boards have vacancies:

**Fish & Wildlife Committee — 1 Vacancy**

**Health Committee — 1 Vacancy**

**Timber Committee — 2 Vacancies**

For more information contact Dakota Whitecloud at 503-879-1309 or dakota.whitecloud@grandronde.org

## Smoke Signals

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#### DEADLINE DATE      ISSUE DATE

Friday, May 18 ..... JUNE 1

Tuesday, June 5 ..... JUNE 15

Wednesday, June 20 ..... JULY 1

Friday, July 6 ..... JULY 15

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Our editorial policy is intended to encourage input from Tribal members and readers about stories printed in the Tribal newspaper. However, all letters received must be signed by the author, an address must be given and a phone number or email address must be included for verification purposes. Full addresses and phone numbers will not be published unless requested.

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