

**Attention Tribal members****2008 GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE**

■ Sunday, April 6 — 11 a.m.

Valley River Inn, 1000 Valley River Way, Eugene, Ore.

**NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>
Wednesday, March 19.....	5 p.m.

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

**Letters****Dear Smoke Signals:**

The congregation at Full Gospel Lighthouse Recovery would like to thank everyone who helped fix up the inside of the building. In the last few months, it has been expanded, painted, redecorated and got new carpet.

We want to thank the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde for helping with materials. We greatly appreciate it. We would like to thank Jim Edwards for building a beautiful cross.

Also, a special thank you to Larry Brandon for his hard work building new altars. Thank you to Charles Gleason, Charles Haller, Ed Simper and Thomas Ainsworth Jr., who donated their time to help.

Our prayer is this building will help Tribal and community members in recovery for years to come. So many people have come together to make this vision a reality. God bless you all!

Finally, thank you to Ken and Sandy Haller (pictured), who have a great love and commitment to the people. Their countless hours of hard work and prayers have brought great change to many lives. Congratulations on the final adoption of Lacey Rose!

**Cindy (Gleason) Larson (Roll #1838) and the rest of the congregation at the Lighthouse**

**Dear Tribal members:**

The people have spoken. The count was in favor of passing, but fell short of the two-thirds requirement. Oh, what a shame.

My heart goes out to those families with the split sibling problem because now those who are unable to enroll will not be recognized as Grand Ronde Indian, but their brothers and sisters will be.

They will not receive the medical, educational or financial benefits their brother or sister will, but that's OK. They're still family, just not Grand Ronde family.

We really put a new meaning to the phrase of outcast or lone sheep of the family.

As an enrolled member and grandfather of five wonderful grandchildren, one is being cast out of the fold. Two grandsons and two granddaughters are enrolled members of the Tribe, but one grandson cannot claim that heritage, even though he has the same bloodline as his brother and cousins.

His mother, who is a member, receives medical and other benefits, thank God. His brother receives medical and will have money to go to college if he so desires. But for the other it will be student loans, maybe scholarships and maybe community college. Maybe in another 10 years this issue might come up again. Who knows?

My grandson cannot claim his heritage, but other Native Americans can become members if they give up five years of membership in another Tribe. My grandson cannot give up any time to become part of what he already is. But that's OK; he is still family.

It is a sad day in our history that because of one statement we are unable to take care of all of our family, not just part.

For all of those who put so much time and effort to bring this family together, my heartfelt thanks for all you did for us. Now we are again recognized as the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde.

I am proud and honored to be a part of the Grand Ronde. So are my daughter and son. So are my four grandchildren, but there is one who is not. But that's OK. We are all family.

**Mike Ryser**

Roll #4261

Klamath Falls

See page 16 for more letters.

**Social & Economic Survey forms due**

The Social & Economic Survey that was mailed out in February to members 18 and older needs to be completed and returned by March 20 for those who want to be included in the prize drawing. For more information about the survey, contact Planning & Grants Development Manager Kim Rogers at 503-879-2250.

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<u>DEADLINE DATE</u>	<u>ISSUE DATE</u>
Thursday, Mar. 20 .....	APR. 1
Friday, Apr. 4.....	APR. 15
Friday, Apr. 18.....	MAY 1

**Editorial Policy**

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