

Tribal Elder attends Obama inauguration

Tribal Elder, Education Committee secretary and "two-year fervent" Barack Obama supporter Terri Dilts returned from a two-week visit in January to see her daughter, Cara, in Washington, D.C., and attend the inauguration ceremonies.

Dilts' desire to attend the presidential inauguration came after donating to the Obama campaign for two years, actively campaigning for and participating in the Obama Blog, and painting a watercolor portrait of Obama and then turning it into 800 handwritten postcards sent to the Postcards for Obama Campaign.

Before leaving for Washington, D.C., Dilts received news that her name had been drawn from Oregon Sen. Ron Wyden's lottery to receive tickets for the inauguration. She met and shook hands with Wyden outside his Washington office while picking up her tickets.

On inauguration morning, Terri and Cara set off on foot at 6 a.m. Jan. 20 to walk from Cara's row house to the Silver Section gate near the Capitol with their tickets. Temperatures varied from 22 to 27 degrees with wind chill factors making it seem like 11 to 17 degrees.

Their hats were pulled down to their eyebrows with a scarf wrapped around their noses as protection against the frigid temperatures. Toes and fingers needed to be constantly wiggled while waiting for the ceremony to begin.

Arriving at the final spot near



Throng of people shuffled toward Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., on Tuesday, Jan 20, to see President Barack Obama sworn in as the country's 44th and first African-American president. Right, Tribal descendant Cara Dilts and her mother, scarf-covered Tribal Elder Terri Dilts, were among those who braved the frigid cold for more than three hours to witness history being made.

Photos courtesy of Terri Dilts



the first Jumbotron on the National Mall was an adventure in itself, Terri said. It involved them shuffling along en masse, barely able to see the ground in front of their feet with voices in the crowd yelling "Curb!" or "Step down!"

Cara held her mother's hand, guiding her toward the Silver Section gate. There were times when ribbons of people holding hands cut through the crowd that massed across the sidewalks and streets. People had a difficult time going

against the tide toward a different color gate.

After going through airport-like security with a pat down, Terri and Cara arrived at their spot three hours before the ceremony and they began snapping photos.

When the event began, the crowd was tightly packed together making the large screen essential.

Sharpshooters were visible on all surrounding building rooftops. The unity and camaraderie found in those tight quarters were infectious. The roar of the crowd after the swearing-in ceremony even dwarfed the 21-gun salute.

That night, Terri and Cara donned their finest clothes and drove amidst the limousines and taxi cabs to the All American Ball, which was Terri's Christmas gift from her daughter.

The ball was unofficial, so the Obamas did not make an appearance, but Cara snapped a photo of Terri next to a life-sized poster of Obama.

Comparing notes the next day with Cara's friends, roommates and people they met at the ball, Terri and Cara discovered that many people had not made it through the crowd to get to their ticketed spot. Some were even stuck in the "Third Street Tunnel of Doom."

Terri and Cara said they felt lucky to have gotten to their vantage point and experienced the long, emotional and historic day firsthand with millions of Americans. ■

TRIBAL INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY February 2009

OVERVIEW: Tribal Career Development Program at Spirit Mountain Casino is offering qualified Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde candidates the opportunity to complete a three-year internship in Internal Audit.

Internal Audit Intern 3-year duration

- Under the leadership of the Chief of Internal Audit, the Internal Audit Intern will be exposed to specific principles and procedures established by and for the internal audit profession and develop the tools and techniques necessary to be successful as an internal auditor. This internship will provide the intern the opportunity to learn how to conduct various audits, including internal control, compliance and operational audits as well as participation in consulting and enterprise risk management (ERM) activities; all performed following Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) standards.

Education, Experience, Licenses, Registrations and Certifications:

- Associate Degree, preferred Bachelor's Degree in accounting or business/finance related field, or equivalent combination of education, training and professional experience that meets The International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing (Standards)
- High security gaming license issued by the Grand Ronde Gaming Commission

Prerequisites

Participation in the Internship Program requires that the individual must:

- Be an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.
- Meet age requirements and position qualifications
- Ability to obtain a high security gaming license



For more information and application contact:
 Sanda L. (Sam) Henny, Tribal Career Development Manager
 Spirit Mountain Human Resources
 Ph: 1-800-760-7977-extension 3896 or 503-879-3896 or cell 503-437-1344
 E-mail: sam.henny@spiritmtn.com
 Apply on-line at www.spiritmountain.com/employment



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