

Reibach receives Lifetime Achievement Award

By Dean Rhodes

Smoke Signals editor

He's only 43, but with 15 compact discs, two DVDs and 39 national awards to his credit, Tribal member Jan Michael Looking Wolf Reibach was recently named Spirit Wind Record's first Silver Arrow Lifetime Achievement Award recipient.

"I'm blown away," Reibach, who is also the Tribe's Lands Manager, said.

"This very special award recognizes an artist who has dedicated their life to the Native music industry and made a substantial positive impact globally," a Spirit Wind Records press release says.

"We are honored to present this year's Lifetime Achievement Award to Jan Michael Looking Wolf for his many outstanding contributions to both Native and nonNative communities through musical achievements. He has worked tirelessly to help those less fortunate and promote healing to the world through his music."

Reibach, a Kalapuya Native, suffered two strokes that caused him to become a paraplegic for more than a year in 1994 from a rare genetic enzyme disorder prone to Native Americans. After healing, he has dedicated his life to helping others through music.

Working with five separate independent labels, he has released a bevy of compact discs that have ran the gamut from traditional Native flute instrumentals to blues to rock 'n' roll. He received the Artist of the Year Award at the 11th annual Native American Music Awards in 2009 for his flute-rock release "The Looking Wolf Project."

In 2008, he became the first Native player to be named Flutist of the Year by the NAMMys and the Indian Summer Music Awards in the same year.

He has worked with many well-known artists, including Floyd Crow Westerman, Peter Buffet, Tim Yett and George Noriega.

In 2007, he created the children's CD "Seven Rabbits" that included stories from seven bunnies. A story CD, it shares hope, healing and inspiration to children with cancer based on traditional Native lore and contemporary settings with Reibach's flute music.

Thousands of copies of "Seven Rabbits" were distributed to children across the country and he was recognized with a Hero Award by the Children's Cancer Association for the project.

More recently, Reibach and Spirit Wind Records created a homeless benefit CD "Rise Up." He also recorded and donated the title track and personally helped finance production.

His newest recording, "Breakin' Free," is a special project to give back to Native communities by supporting drug and alcohol prevention among Native youth. The CD, music video and anti-drug abuse posters will be distributed to every Reservation in the country this year.

"Spirit Wind Records is honored to have Jan Michael Looking Wolf as part of our family and extends a big congratulations," said Spirit Wind Chief Executive Officer Donald Blackfox. ■



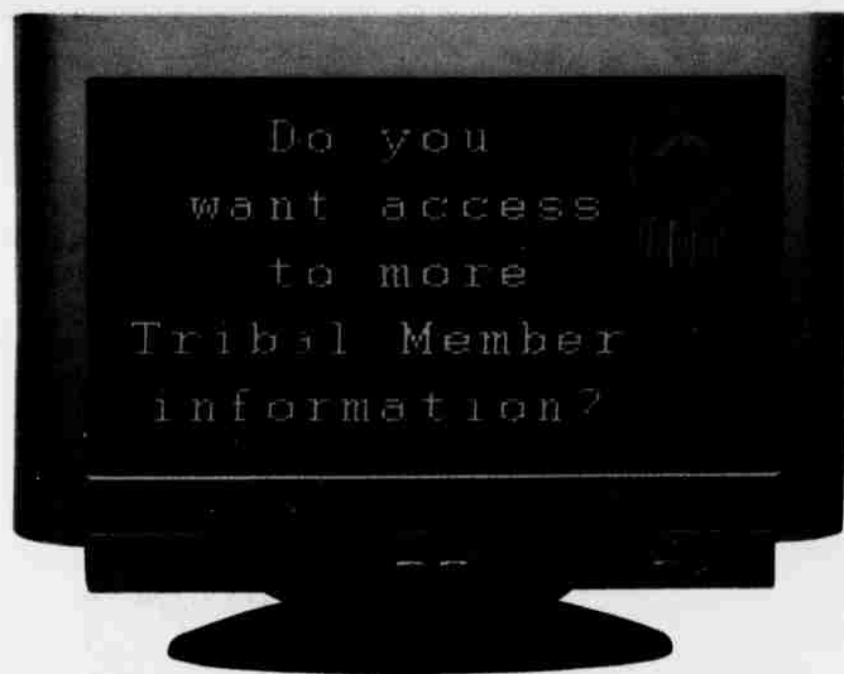
Tribal member Jan Michael Looking Wolf Reibach

Summit meeting



Photo by Michelle Alaimo

Tribal Elders Gladys Hobbs, right, and Cherie Butler, second from right, co-chairs of the Elders' Committee, look over the committee's budget at the annual Committee/Special Event Board Summit at Spirit Mountain Casino on Monday, Jan. 11. Also at the table with them are fellow Tribal Elders and committee members Duane Wheeler, second from left, and Lana Takhar.



Graphic by George Valdez

In an effort to more efficiently and more rapidly communicate with Tribal members, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde is asking Tribal members to register at the Tribal Web site and allow the Tribe to electronically send them news updates, e-zines and PDFs of *Smoke Signals*, among other news and informational items.

To register, go to www.grandronde.org.

Click on the "Log in here" link in the upper right-hand corner.

Enter your user name and password, and click the "login" button, or if you are not registered, click the link below the login button to register with the Web site.

If you have registered with the site before and have forgotten your login information, you can click the link to recover it by providing the e-mail address that you verified when you registered with the site.

If you have not registered before, you will need to do so to view the Tribal member-only section of grandronde.org.

First-time users will need to fill in the required fields and click the register button at the bottom of the form.

After you click the "register" button, you will need to check the e-mail address that you provided and click on the link in the e-mail that our system sent to you. The e-mail should arrive moments after you click the register button. If you do not see an e-mail you will want to check your junk mail folder/spam filter. Clicking the link will verify that the e-mail address you provided is correct and active, and you will be able to log on to the Tribal member section of the Web site. ■

Elder Foster Program

"A Place To Call Home"



The Tribe's Elder Foster Care lodges are committed to offering quality care to our Elders and helping them remain as independent as possible, while providing the personalized assistance they need. At our lodges, a wide range of services is available in a comfortable setting where privacy is respected and maximum independence is supported. For information, contact the Elder Foster Program director at 503-879-1694.