A Time to Choose

Written by the Klamath Tribes Negotiating Team: Jeff Mitchell, Will Hatcher, Bud Ullman, and Larry Dunsmoor. Released to the Press on May 27, 2009.

It is time to choose between collaboration and conflict in the Klamath Basin. Choosing settlement will direct energy and resources into constructive, collaborative resolution of complex problems. Rejecting settlement is choosing conflict, and will direct energy and resources into litigation and regulatory action, pathways the Klamath Basin has been experiencing for the past 20+ years.

Much has been said lately about removing the lower four Klamath River dams and settling parts of the Klamath Basin Water Adjudication. All of these things and more would be accomplished through basin-wide settlement agreements. Not surprisingly, strong emotions and opinions about the changes that would come with settlement have been widely expressed.

Also not surprising, but always disheartening, local and national racist elements have been making their presence known. Months ago, locals linked with a national anti-tribal group drove around rural Klamath County placing anti-tribal DVDs in mailboxes. Two weeks ago, elected officials released results of a poll that was blatantly designed to elicit anti-tribal sentiment.

As is always the case, those who push these kinds of views rely on the fact that most people are not well informed on whatever issues are in view. Their task is easy to do here, since the issues surrounding tribal rights, dams, and water are complex. Two good examples are the emotional debates surrounding water rights and dam removal.

Before addressing these issues, however, several facts must be emphasized. The Klamath Tribes have lived here for millennia – this is our home, and we are not going anywhere. We signed a Treaty in 1864, and so did the United States, and this continues to hold both moral and legal significance which we will not abandon. We have valid, substantial rights and interests in water, in fisheries, and in many other areas. Our commitment to collaborative, settlement-based solutions to complex, divisive issues is real, as we have demonstrated over the past several years of productive negotiations.

The Klamath Tribes hold the most senior water right in the Upper Klamath Basin – time immemorial. A question asked in the poll was whether respondents thought that “the KBRA will give the Klamath Tribes too much control over our water”. Water rights in the West follow a pretty simple rule – “first in time is first in right”. Who was using the water in the year 1200? Perhaps you can understand our gut reaction to the question asked by the poll, which clearly states that the water belongs to someone else. We realize, of course, that nobody knows how much water they have a right to until the ongoing water adjudication has run its course. Those who commissioned the poll know this as well.

After many more years of litigation, the water adjudication will establish how much water each party has a right to, and in what priority order. Even if the Tribes only partly prevail in the adjudication, there will be significant reductions in the availability of irrigation water. While the ultimate outcome of the water adjudication remains uncertain for all parties, one thing is certain. Enormous amounts of money have been spent in the adjudication by all parties since it began in 1975, and much more will be spent if settlement is not achieved. One of the things this money will buy is continued conflict.
We are working hard to collaboratively settle water rights issues in ways that meet our needs and the needs of others. The Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement is a remarkable example of such settlement with the irrigators in the Klamath Project. We remain committed to seeking similarly remarkable, collaborative outcomes with other Basin interests. We welcome the recent formation of the Upper Klamath Water Users Association because there has for too long been no voice for the rational, reasonable people who we know exist in the area outside of the Klamath Project.

In regard to the dam removal issue, it is true that removing the lower four Klamath River dams will increase costs to rate payers by about $1.50 month. Legislation capping rate payer costs at this amount, Senate Bill 76, is making its way through the legislature. What rate payers – that is, all of us – should understand is that if settlement efforts fail, and the dams proceed through relicensing, costs that will face rate payers will be substantially higher, and will have no cap. PacifiCorp sees settlement as the best option for rate payers, which is why they support the legislation and are working hard on settlement.

Efforts to relicense the dams have been ongoing since 2000. In 2006, a judge upheld a series of mandatory measures PacifiCorp will have to implement if the dams are relicensed. They will have to build and operate upstream and downstream fishways. They will have to allow significantly more flow to go down the Klamath River below JC Boyle Dam, and severely curtail their peaking operation at JC Boyle, both of which decrease generation of electricity. Next in the relicensing process, should settlement fail, comes battles over a required permit under the Clean Water Act. Reservoirs behind the dams create conditions that support blooms of toxic algae that pose health risks for humans and the ecosystem, and they also store heat that warms the Klamath River downstream to damaging levels when Fall Chinook are trying to swim upstream to spawn. They create many other problems as well, but these two alone are major obstacles to meeting Clean Water Act requirements.

So there are two choices. One is to keep the dams in place and pursue relicensing, a course that guarantees many years of expensive litigation and, if successful, expensive structural and operational changes. Under this option, all expenses will be covered through rate increases which will be passed on to you the rate payer. The other choice is to resolve issues through settlement resulting in dam removal, avoid most litigation, and cap costs to rate payers. We think settlement is a better deal for rate payers. The Citizen’s Utility Board, a Portland-based group that advocates for Oregon rate payers, agrees and supports Senate Bill 76, which is designed to cap settlement-based costs to rate payers.

**Finally, to Senator Whitsett and Representative Garrard we say this: Get out of the way.**

The mindset you represent is deadly to building collaborative solutions to complex problems. Stop expending all of your effort trying to tear down what others have built through years of supremely difficult work. We ask both of you, where are your solutions? After you tear down the settlement, what will you replace it with? If you succeed in your efforts to dismantle settlement, then you doom the Basin to the ensuing conflict as all parties turn to litigation as the only available pathway to meeting their needs.

The Klamath Tribes have neither seen nor heard from either of you during these negotiations. You have never shared your thoughts or ideas with us, or attempted to meet with our leadership to help craft solutions. Citizens of Klamath County and the State of Oregon deserve much better leadership than you are giving them. You do not have to like the Klamath Tribes, and it is clear that you do not, but it is simply irresponsible to attempt to destroy what we have built with the Klamath Project irrigators and many other parties, especially when you offer no viable alternatives.

More information contact:
Klamath Tribal Councilman, Jeff Mitchell (541) 891-5971 or Email: Mohiswaqs@aol.com
Klamath Tribal Water Attorney, Bud Ullman (541) 783-3081

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**Distribution:**
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**Submissions:**
Submissions should be typed and not exceed 500 words. Submissions must include the author’s signature, address and phone number. Submissions are used as fillers and publication is strictly dependent upon space availability. *We cannot guarantee publication of any article or submission.*

**Order of Priority for Newsletter:**

#1- Tribal Government/ESSP Information
#2- Tribal Program Information
#3- Associated Tribal Information
#4- Fillers (when space is available, must be submitted by the family): i.e.- Obituaries, Wedding, Birth, and Family Announcements, Graduations, Individual Tribal member info., Birthdays, Etc...

**Letters to the Editor:** Letters are viewed as Associated Tribal Information. However, they must be less than 500 words. Any and All articles may be edited for clarity and length. Letters/articles that may contain libelous, slanderous, or personal attacks will not be printed.

**Photographs** should be vivid and clear or 300jpg

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**Change of Address:**
Send address changes (for the Newsletter Only) to the following address. *Please include your old mailing label if possible.*

**Klamath News/ Public Information Dept. Staff:**

*Mrs. Taylor R. David,
Public Information/News Manager
Member of Native American Journalist Assoc. (NAJA).*

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or Visit the Tribal Website at:

[www.klamathtribes.org](http://www.klamathtribes.org)
On Thursday, May 14, 2009, an historical event took place at the Oregon State Capitol Building in Salem, Oregon where Oregon's nine federally recognized tribes came together for Tribal Information Day and a Flag ceremony/monument that was added at the Capitol grounds. The nine sovereign nation flags are now part of the Walk of Flags and will be flown year round with the other 50 state flags of the United States.

A welcome speech was provided by Cheryle Kennedy, Tribal Chair, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and Member of the Legislative Commission on Indian Services and Delores Pigsley, Tribal Chair, Confederated Tribes of Siletz. With introductions of the other nine tribes by Jay Minthorn, Chair of the Legislative Commission on Indian Services and Member of Umatilla Tribes.

An honor song and flag song was led by, Eugene “Austin” Green, Warm Springs Tribal Council and Star Horse Drum Group. The Flag Procession was coordinated by Ron Brainard, Member of the Legislative Commission on Indian Services and Member of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Tribal Council. The Eagle Staff was brought by the Grand Ronde Tribe. Flag bearers were representatives of Oregon’s nine federally recognized tribal governments. The Star Spangled Banner was sung by Michael Rondeau, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe.

A formal Proclamation and welcome was given by Oregon Governor Theodore A. Kulongoski, with remarks on Oregon’s State-Tribal Government-to-Government Relations and The Significance of Flying the Flags of Oregon’s Tribal Nations at the State Capitol. The Governor's speech was followed by each of the nine tribes Tribal Chairman or representative who gave a speech on the events:

- Burns Paiute, Chair Dean Adams
- Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw, Chair Bob Garcia
- Coquille Indian Tribe, Chair Ed Metcalf
- Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Chair Cheryle Kennedy
- Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, Chair Sue Shaffer
- Klamath Tribes, Chair Joseph Kirk
- Confederated Tribes of Siletz, Chair Delores Pigsley
- Confederated Tribes of Umatilla, Chair Antone Minthorn
- Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Ron Suppah

*The Legislative Commission on Indian Services would like to extend Special Thanks to: Senator Metsger and the other Sponsors of SB 1078-A, The Oregon Legislature, Director Tim Wood, Jim Myron, Russ Richards and other staff from the Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation, Oregon Tribal Governments, those who did the construction and all who have contributed to and supported this massive project.

More photos provided on page 4...
Umatilla Veterans raise the Flag for their Tribe.

Governor Kulongoski takes time to visit with Klamath Tribal Elder, Bill Tupper his daughter Tana Walker and son, Brandon Tupper at the ceremony.

Senator Kate Brown and Governor Kulongoski are pictured here with honored tribal elder and Warm Springs Tribal Council Woman, Bernice Mitchell, and Burns Tribal Chairman, Dean Adams.

Warm Spring Tribal Vice-Chairwoman, Aurolyn Stwyer-Pinkham

Klamath Tribal Chairman, Joe Kirk, is assisted by Klamath Tribal Members Father and Son, Bill Tupper and Rayson Tupper, during the flag raising ceremony.

Klamath Tribes Public Information and News Manager, Taylor David (left) and Dawnielle Tehama, Marketing Manager of Kla-Mo-Ya Casino, facilitated the Klamath tribal booth during the ceremony and during Tribal Information day at the State Capitol. Each year, all nine tribes combine efforts with the Commission on Indian Services to make this day spectacular.
On May 27, 2009, the Fremont-Winema National Forest Service invited the Klamath Tribes to spend some time with new Region 6 Regional Forester, Mary Wagner, as she spent the day at the Chiloquin Ranger District in Chiloquin, Oregon. The Klamath Tribes attended at the invite of Amy Gowan, the Fremont-Winema National Forest Tribal Government Relations & Partnership Coordinator.

Tribal Chairman, Joe Kirk and Vice Chairman Joe Hobbs were present, along with many other guests and representatives of the Fremont-Winema National Forest and local community. Chairman Kirk said, "It is an honor to meet with you today to continue the government-to-government relations we have with the Forest Service. It is important that this relationship continue to prosper and grow as we both recognize that the Fremont-Winema National Forest was formerly the reservation of the Klamath Tribes, prior to the Federal Termination Policy of 1954. We look at the Forest Service as the stewards of our former homelands and that is a huge responsibility. We look forward to working with our friends at the Forest Service now and in the future."

On May 20th, 2009, the Klamath Tribes hosted a film showing -2008 Best Documentary Feature- American Indian Film Festival Winner, called River of Renewal, which was produced after his first film, Upstream Battle.

The 54 minute documentary, River of Renewal, examined the water and wildlife crisis in the Klamath Basin—a bio-region as large as Connecticut, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire combined. The communities that harvest food from the Klamath Basin—raising crops and cattle, catching salmon in the river and offshore—have all suffered due to the lack of enough water to serve the needs of irrigation and fisheries alike.

The documentary explores the current crisis in its historical context by taking the viewers on a journey through the Klamath Basin. This is the journey of Jack Kohler. The son of a Welsh woman and a Yurok/Karuk Klamath River Indian, Kohler grew up in San Francisco. A traveler in the land of his ancestors, Jack Kohler combines an open mind with the ability to speak to people of diverse backgrounds and to explore the ever-growing crisis of the Klamath Basin.

Filmmaker Stephen Most was at the screening to discuss the film. Most is also the author of the critically-acclaimed Klamath history book River of Renewal, which Orion Magazine called the “best source available for those wishing to think clearly” about the Klamath basin crisis.

Public Relations Manager Taylor David said, "I encourage everyone see or purchase the DVD or River of Renewal book. The film, in my opinion, is one of the best documentaries I’ve seen regarding the history of the Salmon, Water, and Dam Removal process. I guarantee you'll learn something and find the film very interesting."

For more information on the DVD or book go to: www.klamathriver.org/films
Klamath Tribal Members are invited to attend the 2009 Kla-Mo-Ya Casino Shareholders Meeting & Dinner Saturday, June 27, 2009

Meeting Time: 1-3 p.m. in Tribal Administration Auditorium
Dinner: 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Tickets required)
Location: Kla-Mo-Ya Casino Still Waters Buffet

***Dinner Tickets for Tribal Members and Family will be distributed at the meeting only.***
***One dinner ticket per person. Maximum of five dinner tickets per family.***
Buffet will be open to Public.

R.S.V.P. for Shareholders Meeting & Dinner

Name: ______________________________________
Mailing Address:______________________________
Contact Phone:________________________(Optional)

□ Yes, I will be attending, please reserve a space for me.
□ No, I am unable to attend, please mail the Shareholders Information Booklet to me at the above address.

My Klamath Tribal Roll # is ________________  (Required)

Please R.S.V.P. on or before Friday, June 19, 2009 or ASAP. This R.S.V.P. can be mailed, faxed or phoned in to:

Kla-Mo-Ya Casino
Attn: Susan Transue, Executive Assistant
34333 Highway 97 North
Chiloquin, OR 97624
PHONE: 541-783-7529 ext. 224 or FAX: 541-783-7543

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE OF SURPLUS VEHICLE

THE KLAMATH TRIBES WILL SELL TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER VIA SEALED BID FOR THE FOLLOWING VEHICLE:

#1. 1995 Chevrolet Cargo van
VIN # 1GCEG25HXSSF14352 (color dark red)(Mileage 71,000).
Minimum bid - $1,500.00

This Chevy van has two-seat bucket seats in the front, cruise control, delay wipers, air conditioning, AM FM radio cassette and one set of studded snow tires in good condition. The body is in good condition and it runs good.

The envelope must have written on it “SEALED BID ENCLOSED”. The front of the sealed envelope must indicate the vehicle, vin number and color to which the bid applies. In the case of duplicate bids the earliest postmarked envelope will be awarded.
Mailed and personally delivered sealed bids will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on June 22, 2009. The mailing address is:

The Klamath Tribes
Attention: Jackie Galbreath
P.O. Box 436
Chiloquin, OR 97624

Or personally deliver to:

Jackie Galbreath
The Klamath Tribes Administration office
501 Chiloquin Blvd.
Chiloquin, Oregon 97624.

Bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m. on June 23, 2009, in the Community Service Room and will be awarded to the highest bidder. Successful bidders will be notified the same day. Vehicles must be paid for and removed by 5:00 p.m. on June 26, 2009. If not paid for and removed, the next successful bidder will be awarded the vehicle. Terms of sale are “CASH” and sold “AS-IS”. The Klamath Tribes retain the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

The vehicle will be available for inspection at the Klamath Tribes Commodities, 2200 South 6th Street Klamath Falls OR. Any questions, contact Richard Tupper (541) 883-2876.
MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF JUDGE

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you the Court’s accomplishments during this reporting period as well as its activities for future court development.

The Court, as with any institution, has experienced some growing pains this reporting cycle involving staff and community relations, policies and procedures, and with general organizational development. We continue to implement processes to alleviate these growing pains and address all concerns.

Chief Judge Contract and Schedule

Under the Chief Judge’s 2009 Contract with the Klamath Falls Tribe, I am required to work for the Court on-site for no less than 5 days per month. Although my hours are limited as to off-site hours, much work is accomplished off-site through regular communication with the Court Administrator via phone, fax, e-mail.

I operate my office on an open-door policy. I am happy to speak with community members about any issues. However, I cannot discuss matters pending before the Court. Please feel free to contact the Court for my on-site schedule, make an appointment and I will be happy to visit with you.

For those of you who do not know my background, I am law-trained in Indian Law from the University of South Dakota Law School and the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada. I am a member of the Sicangu Lakota (Rosebud Sioux) located in South Dakota. I have been committed to serving Native people through the legal processes for 16 years in tribal, state and federal court. I have been serving as a Tribal Court Judge for six years and with the Klamath Tribes since December 2007. I will be serving as Chief Judge for the Klamath Tribal Court under contract until December 31, 2009.

Court Administrator Functions

As Chief Judge, I have noted recently that some community members are not clear as to the functions and duties of the Court Administrator for the Klamath Courts.

The Court Administrator, Diana Lang, serves as the key staff person for the Klamath Judiciary. She is an officer of the Court and responsible for all administrative duties essential to the proper operation of the Court. She is the go-between the judge, attorneys, clients and community. The Court Administrator essentially runs the Court’s day to day business.

The Court Administrator operates under legal authority set out in the Tribal Court Ordinance and under the Supervision of the Chief Judge. In addition to acting as the Judge’s assistant, she has a wealth of knowledge on court technology. The national trend for all courts is to move away from the use of paper documents and filing to computer and online court work and records.

Court technology is one of Diana Lang’s key assets as she assists in the work of developing a modern tribal court system.

Policies and Procedures

The Judge, along with the Court Administrator and Court Clerk, with the assistance of the entire staff, have been actively developing a set of Court rules that will serve as a manual for the Staff on correct operation procedures. This task is extremely daunting and will take some time to accomplish all we have planned but we are making steady progress.

Courthouse and courtroom security procedures are currently being discussed and drafted to ensure all parties appearing before the Klamath Courts are resolving disputes in a secure and safe environment.

Staff Relations

The Court conducts monthly staff meetings for better communication, program and project updates, and these meetings have greatly improved the Court’s internal relations.

Judicial Commission

• The Chief Judge and Court Administrator meet with the Judicial Commission once a month to update the members and provide any other information requested.
• The Court participated in a Judicial Commission Retreat in April 2009. The Judge and Staff provided the Commission with an update on all programs, budgets, and addressed various concerns and sought direction. The Retreat was a positive interaction.
• Two members of the Commission attended a Tribal Court/State Court meeting relating the Memorandum of Understanding transferring juvenile delinquency matters to tribal court on March 26, 2009 at the Klamath District Court in Klamath Falls. The MOU process is near completion, the process has been ongoing for 2 years. A follow-up meeting is tentatively scheduled for June, 2009. The Court has had one successful juvenile case transferred under the draft MOU which has been recommend for closure by the Tribal Court.
• I have expressed concern to the Commission and to the Tribal Council that a tribal council member cannot be a member of the Judicial Commission according to the Tribal Constitution and Ordinances and I am hopeful this matter will be resolved. My Legal Memorandum providing my position is available at the Court for anyone wishing to have a copy.

Conclusion

There is at times a tendency to rush to make changes before allowing new processes and procedures to work out. I have seen and have been part of the stumbles of the development of the tribal judicial system since December 2007. There is no “How To” book or instructions as to developing a Tribal Court from the ground up.

The Judge and staff have learned from these stumbles and adjusted to make the Court organization and system work better each day. That being said, I must discourage any recommendations to make significant changes in the Tribal Court Ordinance and/or the Court’s organizational structure until significant time passes to allow for internal changes and adjustments. Should significant changes be approved by the General Council or amendments to Ordinances by the Tribal Council at this time and after so much hard work, it would fall in the line with “throwing the baby out with the bath water” and all our past struggles, development and refinement will be for naught.

The United States judicial system developed over a period of 200 years and was based upon hundreds of years of English law. The Klamath Tribe is developing its dispute resolution methods through the establishment of Peace Court, Juvenile Court and Tribal Court. The Tribe has accomplished this is less than 10 years from planning to present.

I have the privilege of working with a Court and Child Support staff that is dedicated and competent. Their commitment to serving the Klamath Tribes is to be commended. While there will always be those who criticize the tribal court, who claim a breach in case confidentiality, who voice and spread opinions about the Court and staff that are not based upon facts, the Court will continue to uphold its mission to provide the highest level of service to the community.

I am honored and privileged to serve the Klamath Tribes.
Pila Maya (Thank You).
Chief Judge Deborah DuBray
116 E Chocktoot Street
PO Box 1260
Chiloquin, OR 97624
(541) 783-3020
** Sports Camp 2009! **

** Pre-Registration Required **

** July 14-16 (6-18 year olds) **
10:00-3:00 at Ponderosa School

** July 17 (Family Activities) **
10:00-12:30 Swimming at OIT Pool
1:00-3:00 Awards and BBQ at Moore Park Marina

- Structured coached activities in basketball, football, volleyball, softball, soccer, and swimming!
  Choose what sports you want to improve your skills in!

- Bring athletic shoes (no flip-flops or sandals) and any required medications everyday to camp.
  Bring towels and swim wear on July 17.

- Snacks, drinks and lunch provided daily.

- Transportation available July 14-17 for registered youth participants:
  Chiloquin Administration, pick up 9:00 drop off 4:00.
  Beatty Community Center, call Christa @ 882-1487 x 222 for times.

- Children with special needs are welcome and need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian during camp activities.

- Registrations due no later than July 8.
  Send to Christa Runnels, Klamath Tribal Health 3949 S 6th St Klamath Falls, OR 97603
  Fax: 541-882-1670

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** Coaches for Sports Camp! **

July 14-17, 2009 at Ponderosa Junior High
9:00 AM-3:00 PM

Basketball, football, volleyball, softball, and soccer coaching positions available.

Earn a $100 pre-paid visa for 6 hours of coaching your favorite sport.
See application for more details.

Applications available at:
- Tribal Health in Klamath Falls
- Wellness Center in Chiloquin
- Tribal Administration in Chiloquin

Questions? Call Christa Runnels, Health Educator, KTHFS @ 541-882-1487 X 222.

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** Pow Wow CD Recording Special **

Reign Dance Studios

1,000 Professionally Recorded, Mixed and Mastered CDs, in Full-Color Jewel Cases - $2,490
(100 for $1,990)

As a grand-opening promotion, Reign Dance Studios is offering an introductory Pow Wow CD Recording Special. This special package includes recording, mixing, mastering, and professional duplication and packaging of 1,000 CDs, in full-color jewel cases, for a total package price of $2,490 ($2.49 per CD). Reign Dance Studios can record your drum line on location at Pow Wows or other events, or at the Reign Dance Studios professionally designed and equipped recording, mixing, and mastering facility. Ownership of all master recordings and associated rights will be the property of the drum group.

Note: Price does not include travel outside of the Upper Klamath Basin area, or jewel case and CD design and layout.
- Offer valid until 9/30/09 -
Goodwill Ambassador

Dear Editor and Tribal Members; (I am a relative of the Hurtado and the Barney families)
Here is a photo where I received a certificate which says: "Presented in Appreciation to Donna Converse on the occasion of your visit to Israel. I am honored to recognize you as a true friend of Israel. Thank you for your support and solidarity which are deeply appreciated. It is my pleasure to name you as a TOURISM GOODWILL AMBASSADOR FOR ISRAEL."
Ruhama Avraham-Balila---Minister of Tourism for the state of Israel
Then there is a verse on the bottom: "And He will teach us of His ways, And we will walk in His paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the Law, and the Word of the Lord from Jerusalem." Isaiah 2, 3 If any of you would like to visit here there will be a tour by this agency in September. It will be the trip of your lifetime. I even saw some eagles! If you would like to send a note to learn about the tribes of Israel (the similarities are startling) my e-mail is: dlconverse@gmail.com or my summer address is:
Donna Converse PO Box 874253 Wasilla, Alaska 99685

To Protect and to Serve

Congratulations goes to Klamath Tribal descendant, Kody Bodner, (pictured above right), with Shasta County Sheriff, Tom Bosenko. In March 2009, Kody was awarded the Cadet of the Year Award for the Shasta County Sheriff’s Department in Shasta Lake City, CA. The award was presented during the Shasta Damboere 2009 Community Awards Ceremony.
Kody is 21 years old and is the son of Mitchell Bodner and Debbie Beaver, of Shasta Lake, CA. He is the grandson of Klamath Tribal Elder Buttons Bodner of Sprague River, Oregon, and paternal grandmother, Shirley Rockwell of CA.
He currently works full-time for the Shasta County Sheriff's department and attends Shasta Community College, with his brother, Kurtis, where they are both honor students.
Congratulations Kody Bear we are Proud of You!

Unique Shop Opens in Chiloquin called The Native Nook

The unique shop opened in April, 2009, when good friends Cyndy Graves (above left) and Fran Randazzo (above right) decided to go into business together. Three years ago, Cyndy and her husband, Rick, moved to Chiloquin. Long time residents, Fran and her husband Jack, became their neighbors and a fast friendship grew between the couple. Fran and Cyndy filled their time crafting various projects such as lavender sticks, lavender pouches, etching pots, leather and bead art, and whatever their imaginations could come up with. As their crafting skills grew, so did the calling to be involved in the Chiloquin Community and when a small retail space located next to the Chiloquin Post Office, they knew it was the perfect opportunity.
The beautiful lil' store features everything from Tribal Art to Nascar Memorabilia, Bridal Dresses, Red Hatters and Collectibles, and many unique gifts. Cyndy also provides alterations and upholstery services in the store.
Cyndy (a Klamath Indian who is the granddaughter of the late Tribal Elder, Eldon Seldon Miller, Sr.) says, "Our husbands, Rick and Jack, have been our support team making the Native Nook possible. Jack even has his own little section in the store that revolves around men's gifts. We would like to thank the many customers that have already become patrons of our shop and we look forward to serving those yet to come in the future."
The Native Nook is open Tuesday - Saturday 9am to 5pm
Native Nook 230 1st Ave. Chiloquin, OR (541) 783-3995

Congratulations goes to Regina Dumont on the new arrival of Dakota Dumont, who was born on January 14, 2009 at the Rogue Valley Medical Center in Medford, Oregon. Grandparents are Diane Wright-Ibarra and the late Allen "Tubby" Eggsman, and Aunt Puggy Dumont.

[Image of Kody Bodner with Shasta County Sheriff, Tom Bosenko]

[Image of Cyndy Graves and Fran Randazzo, owners of The Native Nook]

[Image of Donna Converse with certificate]

[Image of Early College Academy advertisement]

[Image of Blue Mountain Community College, Eastern Oregon University, Rogue River Community College, and Western Oregon University]

[Image of The Native Nook shop interior]
Spotlight on Success

Say hello to Klamath Tribal descendant, Mark A. Cruz, (pictured above with Congressman Greg Walden in Washington, D.C.). Mark is former high school graduate of Klamath Union High School in Klamath Falls, Oregon. He is the grandson of proud Tribal Elder, Barbara “Bunny” Unive, and equally proud son of Leta Unive. Below is an update on this native student and his journey toward success. Your family and the Klamath Tribes are proud of you.

Why I chose Pepperdine: I chose Pepperdine for its nationally recognized programs, ideal location and dedication towards fulfilling its mission of building students for lives of purpose, service and leadership.

What or who helped me on my journey here: This is a deep question that I’d like to make sure I give proper attention too. First and foremost I’d like to recognize the many different foster care families that went out of their way to care for my siblings and I under difficult circumstances. One which includes my lovely and gracious grandmother Barbara. Her steady guidance and faith have served a constant role model to me and my family. Another person that has played a significant role in my success is my mentor Mr. Ralph Watah. He has been a constant resource for me since the 2nd grade. He has helped me develop and better understand my cultural heritage, and inner being. Also Amanda Kirk and Calvin Hill served as huge assets in assisting me when I was applying for college and scholarships while I was in high school.

Future goals: Finish my undergraduate degree, travel a bit more, find a woman that can first put up with me and second keep up! Possibly seek a masters degree, attain financial security, help Indian Country better function in relation to working with the United States government, address the education gap Native Americans face in terms of low high school graduation rates, and higher education enrollment and success. And if I have time I would love to run for public office in Oregon and serve the people of Oregon who have already done so much for me. (In this order).

What advice do I have for other students/youth? This is a great question and every time I return to Oregon I make sure I visit a number of classrooms (an arrangement with former teachers). I think it is important for students and youth to see one of their own as being able to become successful. In an age when there is a serious lack of positive role models and a disintegration of the nuclear family it is important we pick ourselves up, don’t look for and make excuses and work hard. Each youth should allow themselves to dream big! But remember that it is through effort, trial and tribulation that the rewards we seek come. Also it is vitally important to stay true to yourself, your family and heritage. We should be proud of who we are, and the prospects for what we can become. Another thing I’d like to stress is the importance of not blaming non-indians for our problems. Sure our people have been taken advantage of, history can never take that from us. However, we should not use it as an excuse for our current situation. Nobody and nothing is holding us back now. Plus the current trend of blaming others would sadden our ancestors that scarified so much, so that we may in the future, have the potential to be successful in society. (Which is now!). And finally when they reach the levels of success I have no doubt they will, to remember the difference between confidence and arrogance. People do themselves a great disservice by being arrogant. Remember “Each one of us is one in a million, and one OF a million.”

Mark A. Cruz
24255 Pacific Coast Hwy #1094,
Malibu, Ca 90263 Phone 310.359.3073

Native Warriors

Congratulations goes to Klamath Tribal Members & Brothers, Irwin Weiser Jr. 25yrs, and Brandon Weiser 22yrs. Both are Extreme MMA Cagewar Athletes. They recently won in Edmonds, Washington, bringing Irwin to a 4-1 undefeated record. Brandon also captured a quick 1st round victory in just 1 min. 21 seconds.

Their father Irwin Weiser Sr. says, "I want to tell my boys how proud I am of their victories and hard work. They both are fearless in the cage and fight like true Yahoooskin Warriors. I'm proud of them and so is their sister "baby girl" and their cousins Anna & James. Your family are all very excited and supportive for you both in your MMA Careers."

For more information/photos you can log onto: cagewars.com

For ringside action you can come support Irwin Jr. as he will be at Seven Feathers Casino Resort in Canyonville, Oregon on June 27th, 2009. Any questions call Irwin, Sr. at (541) 533-3136.

50 Year Anniversary

Family & Friends helped celebrate John and Beverly Ochoa's 50th Wedding Anniversary on March 6th, 2009. Two family celebrations were held, one at the Chiloquin Community Center on March 15th, and one at the Southern Oregon Powwow on April 11th. They were honored by their family with a Pendleton blanket.... We Love You.

Dear Daddy Pockets,

Happy Father's Day daddy, your the best! We love you and can hardly wait to see you! And to our grandpa's, Grandpa Dickie and Grandpa Ed, happy father's day too! We love you so much and we know that our lives are blessed!

Love from,
Raylee and Chuggers (Rori) Benson
Phyllis Francis Samson

Phyllis Francis Samson went to be with her Savior as she passed away in her husband’s arms at their residence in Chiloquin, Ore., on Tuesday, April 21, 2009, at the age of 72.

Phyllis was born to Edward Case Sr. and Cassie (Lalo) Case at the Oregon Coast on April 17, 1937. She was also an enrolled member of the Siletz Tribe.

Phyllis always loved watching her children and grandchildren playing all the sports and hunting with them and her husband George. She also loved having her family over for dinners and the holidays.

Phyllis was known for her famous deer jerky and watching John Wayne movies and gaming at Kla-Mo-Ya Casino.

She is survived by her husband of 38 years George; sons, Elias Samson, Timothy Wright; daughters and sons-in-law, Shannon and Antonio Mendoza, all Chiloquin, Ore., Phyllis “Mikey” Cole and Jessie Wright, Salem, Ore.; daughter-in-law Barbara Allen, Chiloquin, Ore.; grandchildren, Cody and Harlen Cole, both Salem, Ore., Troy Allen, Tyler Wright, U’Kia Vasquez, Tobias Vasquez, Silas Jackson, all Chiloquin, Ore.; brother and sister-in-law Ed and Betty Case; sisters and brothers-in-law, Cassie and John Law, Jackie and John Galbreath, all Chiloquin, Ore., Jessie and Gregory Aguilar, Portland, Ore.; brothers-in-law and wives, Ronnie and Patty Samson, Keno, Ore., Donald and June Spears, Sparks, Nev.; sisters-in-law Shirley Gentry, Chiloquin, Ore., Darlene Spears, Minneapolis Minn.; mother-in-law Sadie Samson, Chiloquin, Ore., and Janet and Manual Rodriguez, Corona, Calif. She also leaves many nieces and nephews as well as many special friends.

A Celebration of Life Service was held on Saturday, April 25, 2009, at the Chiloquin Christian Fellowship (Assembly of God) followed by a potluck.

At her request, disposition was completed at Pyramid Cremations prior to the service. Davenport’s Chapel of the Good Shepherd, directors, was in charge of the arrangements.

Elnathan Glen Davis

A Mass of Christian Burial was held for Elnathan Glen Davis on Wednesday, April 29, 2009, at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, with Rev. Rogatian Urassa celebrating. A luncheon reception followed at the parish hall. An Evening Vigil Service and recitation of the Holy Rosary was held from the chapel of Ward’s Klamath Funeral Home, on Monday, April 27, 2009. Concluding services were held at the Grand Ronde Cemetery in Grand Ronde, Ore., on Thursday, April 30, 2009.

Those wishing to do so may send contributions in memory of Al to Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 815 High Street, Klamath Falls, OR, 97601, the Klamath Christian Center, 6100 Church Hill Drive, Klamath Falls, OR, 97603 or to Cancer Care of the Cascades, 2100 NE Wyatt Court, Bend, OR, 97701.

Mr. Davis, 57, a native and life time resident of Klamath Falls died of natural causes at Sky Lakes Medical Center on Wednesday, April 22, 2009. He was born Oct. 31, 1951, in Klamath Falls to Elnathan and Minnie (Menard) Davis. He attended and graduated from Sacred Heart Academy. He served in the United States Navy aboard the USS Tripoli. He was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Shield Crest Golf Course and he was a Tribal Elder for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. He enjoyed sports in general, especially golf and bowling. He was an avid fan of the San Francisco Forty Niners, the San Francisco Giants and the Golden State Warriors.

He is survived by his siblings, Marvin Leish Davis of Waienae, Hawaii, Minnie Kay Herbert and Peter Elmer Davis of Klamath Falls, Paul Francis Davis of McMinnville, Ore., Mark Allen Davis of Klamath Falls, Ruth Elizabeth Davis and Ruby Elizabeth Davis of Portland, OR, and his special friend Bobbi Shewmaker of Klamath Falls. Also numerous nieces and nephews. Ward’s Klamath Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Raymond Gerald Styles

Raymond Gerald Styles, 38, was born in Klamath Falls, Ore., on Feb. 11, 1971. He walked into the next life on May 14, 2009, in Chiloquin, Oregon.

He is survived by his mother Aileen Weeks and brother Douglas Styles of Chiloquin; brother Garrick Jackson of Klamath Falls; sister Lesia Vorachak of Lebanon, N.H.; sister Cheerae Styles Leonard of Utica, N.Y.; uncles Gene Ray and William Ray of Estacada, Ore.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his aunt Jami Jackson, father Raymond Clarence Styles and grandmother Goldie Styles.

Except for a few years of his childhood spent in the Prescott and Chino Valley, Ariz., areas, Ray was raised in Klamath Falls, and was a 1989 Klamath Union High School graduate and an enrolled member of the Klamath Tribes.

He enjoyed his life of working in the construction and mechanic trades, which took him on extensive travels throughout the United States.

His hobbies included fishing, hunting, hiking, camping and living up to the challenges of the outdoors. He also enjoyed being with his family, varieties of music and was himself a versatile trumpet player.

He served in the United States Marine Corps as a heavy equipment mechanic during the Desert Storm Occupation, earning the National Defense Service and South West Asia Service Medals.

A celebration of life service was held on Friday, May 22, at the Williamson River Indian Mission Church on Modoc Point Road. A potluck dinner followed the service.

Davenport’s Chapel of the Good Shepherd, directors, was in charge of the arrangements.
Exhibit Panels will be on Display at the Klamath Tribes Admin. Bldg (501 Chiloquin Blvd) and the Downtown Chiloquin Community Center in Chiloquin, Oregon from...

June 10th - thru - August 3rd.

Free and Open to the Public

Explore this ground-breaking exhibit and learn about the cultures of all nine Oregon tribes with artifacts and information never before assembled in one exhibit on contemporary indigenous cultures.

Oregon Is Indian Country Exhibit Panels will be on display at the Klamath Tribes Administration Building and the Chiloquin Community Center, in Chiloquin, Oregon from June 10th thru August 3, 2009.

Everyone is invited to come view this special exhibit of Oregon’s Native American heritage- "Oregon Is Indian Country" to commemorate this year's Sesquicentennial Celebration of Oregon's 150th birthday.

Oregon Is Indian Country represents a ground-breaking project bringing all nine federally recognized Oregon tribes together to present information never-before-assembled in one exhibit on contemporary indigenous cultures. Oregon’s Indian traditions are inherent from many art forms including native voices, historical artifacts, photographs and more, producing a powerful exhibition on these large displays.

The exhibit is a direct result of the Oregon Tribes Project, a multi-year collaboration between the Oregon Historical Society’s Folklife Program and Oregon’s nine federally recognized tribes. Tribal members and staff documented their contemporary traditions and worked with Society staff to plan a series of heritage resources to be used to teach about tribal histories and cultures including a student magazine that is being utilized as an educational tool.

For more information regarding the display at the Klamath Tribes and the Chiloquin Community Center contact: Public Relations Manager, Taylor R. David at 541-783-2219 ext. 147 or Executive Assistant, Tammy Oates at ext. 164. The Chiloquin Community Center contact is Sally Wells at 783-7780.