

The Da'luk



The Official Newsletter of the Wiyot Tribe

September, October
2015
Volume 1, Issue 3

A Message from your Chairman

September is already turning out to be an awesome month. First, I would like to thank our council and staff for putting together a great Wiyot and Elders Day. This annual celebration was held on Sept 5, 2015 here on Table Bluff at the All My Relations Dance Grounds. This was a day that we honored our elders and veterans for their service to the Wiyot people. We had traditional dancers from the Native Women's Collective, feather dancers from Round Valley, Jaime Kibby and his family, Bruce Kaye and his drummers, Native Resistance Drum Group from Santa Rosa, and of course the Wiyot Brush dancers. Then we cannot forget the traditional salmon and beef dinner provide by Vincent Dimarzo, Cheryl Seidner and their crews. Our fabulous

kitchen staff was supervised Fawn Lopez. We also had vendors, and each department had their department's booth up. Of course we cannot forget Lonyx Landry for being such a great M.C. Finally, I would like to extend a big thank you to all the children that helped and assisted our elders. Hou'.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the celebrations that day, especially our elders. In particular, we were honored by Evelyn Horn our oldest elder of 100. As always, the children had a great time sliding down the hill on cardboard. The highlight of the day was the stick tournament between your Natural Resource Department and The Cultural Department. The tournament was a great hit. Everyone there had an awesome time watching, and interacting in finding the

tassels when they got lost in the tall grass. There was a lot cheering going on for both departments.

I would also like to thank Albert and Beverly James and their family, and everyone else for getting us back to Table Bluff so that we can continue to practice our traditions and culture. It was great watching our elders and youth come together. It is a great feeling to see our Wiyot Culture alive and strong. Already I look forward to next year's event and hope to see many of you there.

Hou'

Ted Hernandez

Wiyot Tribe Chairman



“Cante Waste Nape Ciyuzapo” ~ “I Greet You From My Heart”

It is my hope and wish that you are all well and most importantly happy! I would like to extend my GRATITUDE TO ALL of the Wiyot Elders, Veterans and Citizens, Staff, Volunteers and Guests who attended Wiyot Elder Day on September 5th, 2015! The day was bright, sunny and truly reflected the “heart” of the Wiyot People. It was amazing to witness and experience the immense sense of community and gratitude expressed for the Elders, Veterans and especially children! It is my hope that if you were not able to attend ~ that you know you are most welcome at next year’s event and will be greeted with respect and kindness! I am especially appreciative of all the efforts of staff and council in the planning and hosting of the activities and food preparation!

As Fall continues to move towards us.... The staff and I have been busily working on and preparing for submission the HUD

Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG for \$50,000) as well as the HUD Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG for \$605,000) proposals. The HUD ICDBG provides eligible Tribe’s with direct grants for use in developing viable Indian and Alaska Native Communities, including appropriate housing, a suitable living environment, and economic opportunities. It is our hope we can assume the Tribe’s first successful ICDBG this coming Spring 2016.

We have been continuing negotiations with the City of Eureka for the return of the remainder of Indian Island to the Wiyot Tribe. It is my hope the transfer process will be completed toward the end of December 2015. It has been a true learning experience for all individuals involved in the negotiations. We are also working with the City of Eureka in plans for development of the Eureka Waterfront and it my hope

~ Wiyot’s will soon have a presence there to foster Wiyot community services as well as promotion of enterprises.

The staff is also working diligently to ensure the day to day operations of the Tribe and departments are successfully fulfilled as well as improve our abilities to meet the day to day and long-term needs and requests of Wiyot Tribal Citizens. We are all grateful each day for the opportunity to serve the Wiyot Tribe and do all we can to assure the continued vibrancy of the Wiyot Tribe and People.

It is my hope and wish this message finds you enjoying the beautiful Fall days!!

“Cante Wasteya Nape Ciyuzapelo” ~ “With a Good Heart I Take Your Hand”

Dr. Jacquelyn R. Bolman
Wiyot Tribal Administrator

Soulatluk Houdawik (Wiyot Language News)

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New language materials available:

I have recently put together a set of 16 vocabulary mini-posters, each of which features 3-5 Wiyot words around a theme such as numbers, place names, etc. Each mini-poster features illustrations and QR codes which can be scanned to hear each word pronounced. I have also finished a new and improved set of flash cards for reading and writing Wiyot (also with QR codes for audio), and a video based on Della Prince's recording of Wiyot numbers from 1 to 1000. Please contact me if you would like copies of any of these materials!

2016 Wiyot language calendar:

If you have any photographs or artwork related to family (or images that could be used as background, such as a redwood forest, river, or ocean scene, etc.), please submit them no later than the end of

September.

This month, I am featuring a traditional Wiyot story which many readers may not have heard. This version of the Wiyot story of how salmon came into the world was told to Alfred Kroeber by "a man named Bob" and published in Kroeber's article "Wishosk Myths" in *The Journal of American Folk-Lore* (vol. XVIII, April-June, 1905). A longer (and more confusing) version of the story was told by Jerry James to the linguist Gladys Reichard, and also by Della Prince to the linguist Karl Teeter. In their version, the hero of the story is called *Rrak Shou'r Lhughilh* ("Southwest-Young-Man" or "He-Who-Goes-Down-South"), instead of *Gatswouqhire* (meaning unknown), but these are different names for the same character. Please contact me if you would like copies of the Jerry James/Reichard and/or Della Prince/Teeter versions of the story.

GATSWOUQHIRE AND THE ORIGIN OF SALMON.

Gatswouqhire took seeds of the madroña (*shaghichu'n*, literally 'little red things') that look like salmon eggs (*wa'l*). There were no fish (*valhuk* =

'salmon or salmon-like fish') in the world. *Gou Datrri Gaqilh* ("Above-Old-Man") had not let them out. He wanted to keep them a little longer. *Gatswouqhire*, carrying the *shaghichu'n*, came to where the *valhuk* were kept. There he took them out. Then the one that was keeping the *valhuk* thought: "Oh, they are already out. They are about the world." [He thought this because he saw the berries, which looked like salmon eggs, scattered about.] The *valhuk* were kept in a hollow rock, all kinds of them. *Gou Datrri Gaqilh* had made them. *Gatswouqhire* came there because he wanted the *valhuk* to be all over the world. *Gou Datrri Gaqilh* thought: "Well, let it be. Let him make them be all over the world." Then it was foggy and no one saw how the *valhuk* went out. Then the sun shone again. *Gatswouqhire* went on and came to a place and saw *valhuk*. He came to another place and saw many *valhuk* there too. Some of the people had spears (*dutwaghulh*), some had set nets (*shaghaturr* = gill net), some dip nets (*jawurrach* = dipnet for salmon). Then he was glad. But *Gou Datrri Gaqilh* had done it. Some say that the person who kept the *valhuk* was a woman, some say that it was a man.

Cultural Department Dominates Natural Resources at Sticks Match

One of the highlights of this year's Wiyot Day celebration was a friendly sticks match between the Cultural Department and the Natural Resources Department. The game, which is normally played to resolve hostilities between young men, was an exhibition match between the departments. After establishing teams composed of Wiyot youths and tribal employees, the teams gathered for prayer and discussion of the game. Afterwards, the two teams took the field. Natural Resources,

helmed by Department Chair Stephen Kullmann, took an early lead by scoring the first two goals in a best of five matches contest.

Not to be outdone, Ted Hernandez, acting as the captain for the Cultural Department, made some changes to the team lineup. With skill and determination, the Cultural Team forced Natural Resources to score a point against themselves. This was quickly followed by two more points from the Cultural Team, making the final score

three to two in favor of the Cultural Department. While the Natural Resources team resigned themselves to their fate, the crowd that had gathered to watch the game wanted more. As a result, the best of five matches added two more rounds of play, with each team winning another point.

"It was a fun day for everyone. Both departments work hard, and it was great seeing our youth engaging in all types of traditional activity," said Hernandez. "Of course, it was a bit more fun for me since my team won."

GRID Alternatives Comes to Table Bluff

On September 23rd and 24th, we welcomed representatives from the non-profit organization GRID Alternatives to Table Bluff Reservation. Volunteers came from Willits and as far as the Bay Area to generously donate their time to install solar panels on our Elder George Buckley's home. Our own staff members, Jacob, Sonny, and Jeremiah also participated in the installation while receiving valuable job training in this growing field.

For the past three months, staff at the Tribal offices worked closely with GRID representative Maggie Graham to bring solar energy into Table Bluff reservation. GRID is an organization dedicated to providing low-cost solar energy to homes on Tribal lands and other low-income areas. Solar energy is an environmentally-friendly way to power our homes, all while saving significantly on monthly electricity expenses. GRID Alternatives use donated materials and volunteers to keep costs

affordable for low income families. In addition, GRID is also committed to providing job training to those who are interested in a potential career in solar installation.

For two days, the installation team worked diligently to ensure that George's home would be equipped with safe and effective solar panels. Natural Resources Director Stephen Kullmann provided the final inspection when the team had concluded their work. By the end of the installation, staff at the Natural Resources Department prepared a wonderful Elder's Lunch of albacore tacos which were shared with our GRID guests.

The staff at the Wiyot Tribal offices would like to extend its deepest gratitude to the volunteers of GRID Alternatives. We will continue to work closely with Maggie to explore funding options to bring solar to more Tribal homes. As funding becomes available, please don't hesitate to



Sonny working hard on the rooftop

contact the Tribal offices to ask for more information and to fill out an application. We also encourage those who are interested in volunteering to ask for more information. By volunteering, you can make a huge difference to Tribal members receiving solar, while learning potential job skills. The staffs at the Wiyot Tribal offices and GRID Alternatives are dedicated to serving the Wiyot people, and we will keep the membership updated on any changes as we continue our partnership.



The GRID team, George, and Tribal staff

Natural Resources Department News- Wiyot Eel River Green Sturgeon Survey Continues

By Stephen Kullmann

As part of a National Marine Fisheries/NOAA funded Tribal Species Recovery Grant, members of the Wiyot Natural Resources Department (WNRD) have been researching the population of *Ba'm*, Green Sturgeon, in the Eel River. Anecdotally, we know that green sturgeon are using the Eel River, but NMFS and other agencies have no data on numbers or timing. The project has a few different areas of research, including mapping the deep river's deeper holes as potential spawning habitat, using a high tech SONAR DIDSON camera to search for green sturgeon. Furthermore, we have been capturing green sturgeon and placing them with radio transmitter tags and taking genetic sample for further analysis.

There are two distinct population segments (DPS) of green sturgeon; northern and southern. Southern DPS are considered endangered and spawn in the

Sacramento River. Northern DPS spawn in the Klamath and Rogue Rivers. The Eel River has been considered to be a part of the Northern DPS population, although no testing has occurred and both Northern and Southern have been documented in Humboldt Bay. The genetic samples that the WNRD are gathering will answer this question.

To date, WNRD staff, along with fisheries consultants from Stillwater Sciences, have successfully completed a 120-mile river journey from Dos Rios to the Eel River Estuary to map deep holes. Furthermore, we have captured and tagged 5 adult green sturgeon in various locations from Cock Robin Island to Rio Dell. This year, up to ten adult green sturgeon were observed on SONAR between the South Fork confluence and 12th Street.

As the WNRD continues working on these innovative

fisheries research programs on the Eel, we are building the Wiyot Tribe's reputation as an active steward of its natural resources and ancestral rivers. State and federal agencies have begun to approach us both for knowledge we have gained from these studies and further opportunities for future partnerships. We will continue working on the Wiy'at on behalf of the Wiyot people, for the sake of the ba'm, gou'daw, tswal, valhuk, and all who depend on these sacred waters to thrive.



Technician Eddie Koch with a green sturgeon



Natural Resources Specialist Tim Nelson with a green sturgeon



Eddie Koch and Tim Nelson fishing for green sturgeon on the eel river

A Message from the Cultural Department

Ha'wa'lou

The Cultural department worked with the youth program during the month of August and September. During these month the boys got to make their own raqlhayo'wuk stick and the girls got to make taqupluwunu dice. These two games played for gambling and settling differences. The children had a great time learning how to make these traditional game pieces. They were also taught rules and protocol of these games.

Ráqhlaiyúwuk, commonly called the stick game, was traditionally played between representatives of different villages. On each side were three players armed with sticks (ráqhlaiyúwuhl, thrower) with a crooked end. Two pieces of heavy wood about three inches long were tied together near one end with a short piece of deerskin thong. In the middle of a two hundred-yard course two opposing players stood with their sticks. One held the missile (rakíhl)

between his teeth. At the word of the umpire (luwílisihl) he dropped it, and each tried to toss it toward his opponent's goal. The other players stood in opposing pairs about halfway from the middle point to the goals, and each grasped the wrist of his opponent and held his stick between his teeth. As soon as the missile was dropped, and tossed, the pair in the center began to wrestle, and each man of the other two pairs grasped his stick in both hands, placed it behind his opponent's back, and endeavored to bend him backward to the ground so that he himself might escape and throw the missile toward the opposite goal. Any hold was allowed, but the stick could not be grasped by an opponent. When at last someone broke away from his antagonist and raced toward the missile and hurled it, his opponent leaped up and pursued him, and, if he succeeded in catching him,

seized him by the waist or the leg or the neck and hurled him to the ground with all possible violence. Heavy wagers were laid.

Hou'

Ted Hernandez
Assistant Cultural Director



Health and Human Services Department

Tsek Houdaah "Where the Children are at"

With all of the school age children going back to school Tsek Houdaah, the Wiyot Youth Center, will be changing our hours of operation to 11 am to 5:30 pm Monday through Friday. We will be initiating a Toddler Time Program which will focus on pre-school aged children Monday through Thursday from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. The program will focus on preschool topics including learning the alphabet, counting, story time, singing songs as well as Wiyot language and culture.

We will be transitioning from our summer youth program to an after school program which will operate from 3 pm to 5:30 pm. Program will include an after school snack, tutoring, crafts, games, cultural activities, Wiyot language a Girl Scout Troop and a 4 H club amongst other things.

For more information please contact Fawn at (707) 733-5055 ext 117 or email her at fawn@wiyot.us.

High School Scholarship

Council set aside \$2000 to assist high school students who are in honors/College prep courses in need of specialized equipment such as a graphing calculator. Eligible students must be enrolled full-time in high school, a student in good standing who is enrolled in Gifted and Talented, Honors, College Prep Coursework. Students may apply by sending a written request, proof the equipment is necessary for the Course (course syllabus/letter from school) with an estimate of cost of the (from a reputable business), along with a current GPA/proof of enrollment to ATTN: High School Scholarship, 1000 Wiyot Dr., Loleta, CA 95551 or fax to (707) 733-5601.

Community Assessment Survey

Hou' (Thank you) to everyone who returned a Community Assessment Survey last month. Thanks to you the Tribe was able to submit our survey results to the Center for Disease control which will allow the Tribe to request funding for Community Health and Wellness and Tobacco Cessation programs. Without the completion of the community assessment we would not have even been eligible to apply. We would also like to congratulate J. Michael Earhart the winner of the \$500 Walmart gift card drawing. The drawing was held at the weekly elder's luncheon August 26, 2015.

Elders Lunch and Bingo

Elders please join us every Wednesday from 12-1 pm for lunch and Bingo.

Table Bluff Reservation Transportation schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 st Week		Fortuna UIHS 1 PM	Clothing Closet 1 pm -4 pm	Fortuna UIHS 10 am	No Appointments
2 nd Week		Fortuna UIHS 1 PM	2 nd Week Dental Potawot 10-11 am	Fortuna UIHS 10 am	No Appointments
3 rd Week		Fortuna UIHS 1 PM	WIC Appointments Fortuna	Fortuna UIHS 10 am	No Appointments
4 th Week		Fortuna UIHS 1 PM	4 th Week Dental Potawot 10-11 am	Fortuna UIHS 10 am Loleta Food Pantry 2:30 pm	No Appointments

**When making a Dental Appointment at Potawot or Medical Appointments at the Fortuna UIHS clinic you must let them know that you are receiving tribal transportation to get the appropriate time. We are partnering with Potawot to be able to serve higher number of clients. Please respect UIHS and Wiyot Tribal Transportation by canceling appointments 24 hours or more in advance, failure to do so will result in loss of service.*

**** In order to receive Transportation services you must be an enrolled Tribal member, Spouse, Child or Authorized Representative (attending with Tribal Member) and*

live on or within 5 miles of Table Bluff.

Introducing Merris Obbie, 2015/16 MSW Intern

My name is Merris Obie. I am an enrolled member of the Yurok Tribe and am of Karuk decent. I was born and raised on the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation. My life is dedicated to improving the life of Native American communities of California and the social systems of the County, State, Federal and/or tribal systems that serve these communities. I have worked for the Hoopa Valley, Yurok and Bear River Wiyot Indian Tribes of Humboldt County. I have worked primarily with Native American youth and women in the areas of drug, alcohol and violence prevention.

To date, I have raised over \$5,000,000 in Federal grant funds

for Native American programs. These grants for which I was directly responsible for obtaining provide ongoing operational funding. They include Hoopa AmeriCorps on Native Lands program, Hoopa Tribal Civilian Community Corps, Office of Juvenile

Justice and Delinquency program, Corporation for Public Broadcasting Tribal Radio and Department of Labor Workforce Investment Act.

I am proud of the fact that these funds and my work allowed for the creation of at least 60 new jobs annually in the Hoopa community and surrounding areas. In the Hoopa community, as in most tribal communities, there are few opportunities for youth to further their education and employment skills. These programs have been instrumental in reducing the devastating effects of poverty and social problems.

I was directly responsible for the creation of the Hoopa Tribal Civilian Community youth to obtain job and life skills and to earn a stipend that can be used to further their higher education. This is now the only existing Tribal youth program of its kind in the Nation. Additionally, I was honored with the recognition as the outstanding tribal manager by First Lady Hillary Clinton. I was invited to the White House for the honoring of indigenous women of America and the unveiling of the Sacagawea dollar coin.

In 1996, I was one of ten in the State of California to receive an Outstanding Community Service Award in the amount of \$50,000 from the California Wellness Foundation. I was honored and recognized for my community grass roots organizing endeavors and for reducing drug, alcohol and violence in the Tribal community. The money was to be used to improve the quality of my life so that I could better serve the Tribal community. As a result of this award, I was able to obtain an Associate of Arts Degree from College of the Redwoods and a Chemical Dependency Certificate through California State College Hayward.

For two years, the California Wellness Foundation taught me how to community organize, community asset map, grant writing skills, set up a non-profit organization, approach foundations for funding, how to obtain media coverage for community events or concerns, and most importantly how to reduce chemical dependency and violence in my community. These skills further prepared

Corps which was the first program of its kind in Indian country. This program is a me to create, implement and manage tribal programs.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the Tribal leaders who supported the decision to do my one year internship here at the Wiyot Tribal community. I am in the Humboldt State University Master's Social Work Program and will graduate in May, 2016. I am honored and privileged to spend this time with your Tribal community. I will be working with Michelle Vassel as an Intern for the Health and Human Services Department and Indian Child Welfare Program. Please come by my office and say hello!

Middletown Rancheria Request for Help after Devastating Fires

Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California has many Tribal Members as well as employees of Twin Pine Casino & Hotel and Mt. St. Helena Brewing Company that is owned and operated by the Tribe were victims of the fires devastation, losing everything they owned to the Valley Fire. The last confirmed count of Tribal Members and Casino/Mt. St. Helena Brewery Employees that have suffered the loss of their family's home is at 38, which may increase with many more that are still evacuated and do not know the fate that awaits them when the mandatory evacuation order is lifted and they are able to return to their home and an unknown future. We are optimistic that no more of our extended family member's names will be added to this list.

residential community service program that allows native

It has been a week since the Valley Fire started its devastation of Southern Lake County and Middletown in Northern California and as this letter is being written, the fire continues to burn. It has decimated 888 family homes and threatened 7,253 residential structures. Sadly this number is expected to increase before the flames are extinguished. Thousands of residents in Middletown and the surrounding communities were evacuated with little time to gather their families, pets, and irreplaceable belongings. Although the fire still burns, a united community now faces the long road of recovery together. Efforts have begun to rebuild what has been lost. The music of live performances in the Twin Pine Event Center have been silenced and replaced with the sounds of coping families and the innocence of children's laughter. The Tribe mobilized into action and with the collaboration of the Red Cross they have converted the Event Center into the Red Cross central location disaster relief center for the community. The time line is unknown as to how long the Event Center will remain a temporary home but our doors are open to the community and will remain that way.

The Middletown Rancheria is looking for support in the form of monetary donations. An account has been set up and 100% of all donations will go directly to where they are needed most, to the victims of Valley Fire for Tribal Members, Tribal Employees and Community Members. We are thankful for the support we have received but it is only the

beginning of what is needed to rebuild the lives of those that have lost everything.

Donations can be made by sending relief funds directly to Routing No. 121140218 Account No. 0537459919. The Middletown Rancheria of the Pomo Indians is a federally recognized tribe and 100% of your support is tax exempt.

We cannot emphasize how much your help is needed and we are so grateful and thankful for any and all support we receive.

Sincerely,

The Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California Tribal Council

Save the date:

- Wiyot Parent Committee November 7th at 11 am
- Mending the Basket Wellness in Indian Country Conference October 20-21
- Table Bluff Youth Activity Halloween October 30th
- American Indian College Motivation Day, November 5th
- Northwest Intertribal Gathering November 14th
- Table Bluff Community Thanks Giving November 21st
- Table Bluff Community Christmas with Santa December 19th