

DEDICATION OF THE WALLOWA HOMELAND



On July 21, 2007 The Nez Perce Trail Foundation proudly dedicated a beautiful and enduring monument to the spirit of the Nez Perce who experienced the events of the Conflict of 1877. The dedication of a landscaped area with 2 interpretive signs, a metal art tableau, and a memorial poem engraved on stone was made even more significant because it coincided with the ground breaking ceremony for the Wallowa Band Nez Perce Trail Interpretive Center, Inc. and the Tamkaliks Celebration. These activities ensured large enthusiastic crowd who contributed to the spirit of the day.

This project achieved success because of the help from many individuals and agencies. The Foundation gratefully appreciates the contributions from first and foremost our Project Director, Dick Seymour, who provided the hands on, get things done, every day planning that made the rough spots smooth. He was instrumental in bringing this project to completion. Others to be thanked are the Wallowa Band Nez Perce Trail Interpretive Center, The Nez Perce National Historical Trail, the Nez Perce National Historic Park, the Monument Shop, Hurricane Creek Landscaping, and Steel and Ranch Supply (Salmon, Idaho). Funding was provided by the Oregon Community Foundation, the Nez Perce National Historical Trail and the Foundation.



NEZ PERCE TRAIL FOUNDATION YEAR IN REVIEW 2007

Note from Executive Director, Jim Evans

The year 2007 started out with a bleak future for the Foundation. The Federal Government had not approved a budget and all agencies were operating on a Continued Resolution, which meant the Nez Perce Trail Foundation was without a source of funds for its operations. So from October 2006 until April 2007 we were operating on our reserves. We cut back on our operational expenses as much as possible. The Executive Committee, under the leadership of our president, Charlie Moses, Jr., devised an emergency plan which consisted of dismissing the Executive Director effective January 31st 2007. I had worked during January at 1/2 salary and continued to work without salary until we received funding in April. I was reimbursed for the missed month, when we were funded. It took a lot of extra effort on behalf of the Executive Committee to continue operations, but we weathered the storm.

The efforts of the membership during 2007 let us accomplish the objectives that were set out in the \$52,000 Cost Share Agreement for 2007. Of the 11 objectives we had 100% completion on 10 of them. We were not able to get a corporate sponsor, but we did get several individual sponsors. Membership was increased from 105 to 135 during the year.

The high light of course, was the dedication of the metal sculpture in Wallowa, Oregon. The results, as with all our projects, are through the efforts of many. Outstanding contributors were the Oregon Community Foundation (now the Inland Northwest Community Foundation) for funding, individual members and Dick Seymour for his efforts and guidance in completing the project.

Our Treasurer, Lynn Fleming 's considerable time in revamping our accounting system was a big step forward in bringing our financial affairs in order and took a big work load off me. His development of a recording system for our volunteer hours will prove invaluable in the documentation of our efforts. Be sure you use them!



RESULTS OF OUR VOLUNTEER EFFORTS:

Hours:

FY '06 6,830 - **FY '07 8,250**

Dollar Value:

FY '06 \$132,256 - **FY '07 \$164,386**

Cost Share Agreement:

FY '06 \$37,130 - **FY '07 \$52,000**

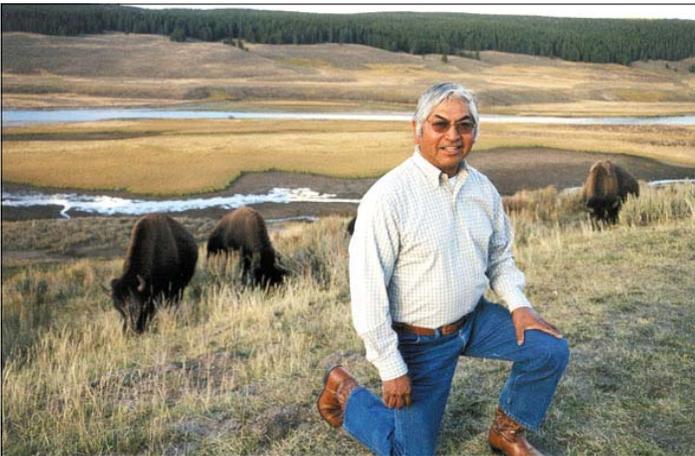
I am very proud of the efforts of all our members who helped make 2007 a successful year. A full report will be on the web site. Special thanks to Myrna Tovey, who was our champion membership recruiter, bringing in 7 members followed by Lili Pasture who recruited 5 (all from Europe). Thanks also to Senator Mike Crapo (R-ID) for introducing "Willing Seller/Willing Buyer" legislation, and Dan Strawn for the article in the national magazine "Trail Blazer". Enclosed you will find the new membership brochure which was the work of Carolynne Merrell, our Secretary. Thanks also to Carol Austin for her efforts in getting the 1st Chapter started in Cody, WY.

Without the efforts of our membership, the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee who donate their time and financial efforts, we could not have accomplished our outstanding success in 2007. My thanks to all of you for a great 2007 and looking forward to an even better 2008.



PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Charlie Moses, Jr.



This past year has been productive for the Nez Perce Trail Foundation (NPTF). Progress was made on several fronts to increase our ability to accomplish concrete benefits for the improvement of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT). A major step forward was the partnership agreement with the Forest Service who administers the Historic Trail thus resulting in a more effective working relationship.

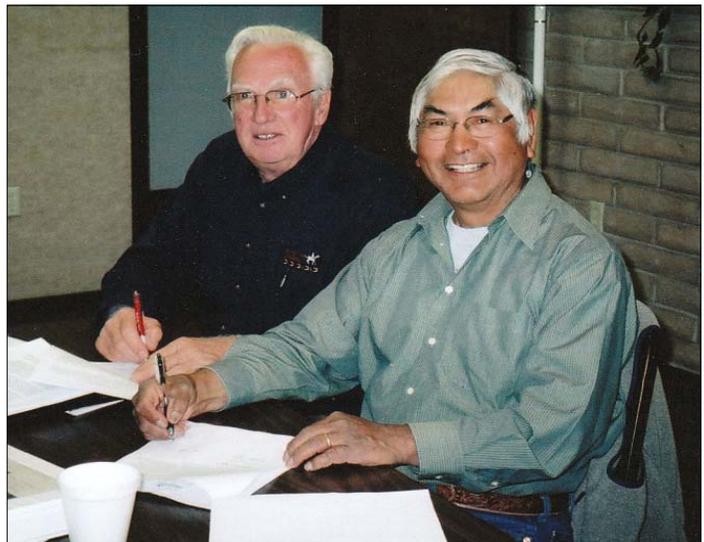
To me, the most significant accomplishment of the year was the completion and dedication of the memorial at Wallowa. A metal sculpture depicts a Nez Perce family being forced from their Wallowa homeland. This striking and emotional monument with interpretive narrative panels marks an important event in the history of the trail.

A notable organization change was the executive committee’s action in reorganizing the duties of the Executive Director and shifting more responsibility for day-to-day financial

tasks to the Treasurer. This was needed for improved oversight and better control of the Foundation’s financial operations and to enhance our credibility as we seek external funding for our work. The shift also frees the Executive Director for added effort on tasks more directly related to his job description.

Several other projects will be discussed later in this newsletter. I would like to thank the board members for attending far-reaching meetings and giving their support to make the Foundation a viable entity working for the lasting protection, preservation and promotion of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail.

As we look to the future, I have one important project I strongly encourage the Foundation to embrace. It is to work for the extension of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail to include the route of exile from the Bear Paw , Montana to Oklahoma and the return to the Northwest. Only when that is accomplished can the Historic Trail be considered complete.



Jim Evans and Charlie Moses at work.





FOUNDATION EVENTS OF 2007

(Details can be found on the NPTF web site)

January - Board of Directors Meeting in Nespelem, WA. This was our first meeting held via the use of a Conference Call System. On January 31st the Executive Committee gave notice to suspend contract with the Executive Director due to lack of funds. The director continued to serve as a volunteer.

February - Executive Director attended the 'Hike the Hill' event in Washington D.C. During this event all national trail groups meet to lobby for congressional trail support and attend related workshops.

March - Jim Evans and BOD member, Bob Swick, attended the Appaloosa horse Club's Nation Board of Directors meeting in Moscow Idaho. Discussions included developing a Memorandum of Understanding with the club, ways to provide programs of historical interest for the Chief Joseph Ride, and ways the Foundation can interface with the Museum.

April - Granted \$52,000 of National Trail money administered by the United States Forest Service for our operational budget to complete our programs.

May - Board of Directors Meeting in Salmon Idaho. Pleased to reinstate Jim Evans as Executive Director with a new personal service contract. Tour of Sacagawea Center and the official Foundation office. Saturday the group toured the Big Hole Battlefield.

June - Organized and participated in the Partnership Meeting for the Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT) in Missoula Montana. Announcement that Scott Eckberg from the National Park Service would serve as the acting Administrator of the Trail while

Sandy McFarland was on detail in Washington D.C.

July - Annual Meeting Held July 20-21 in Enterprise Oregon. This meeting was coordinated with the dedication of the interpretive signs and metal art pieces placed by the Foundation on the grounds of the Wallowa Band Nez Perce Trail Interpretive Center in Wallowa Oregon.

August - The foundation planned two evening programs for the Chief Joseph Trail ride, sponsored by the Appaloosa Horse Club. Carolynne Merrell discussed culturally peeled trees found along the trail and Nez Perce, Diana Mallickan and her son, talked about what the trail meant to their family.



Foundation Members Gene and Carolynne Merrell.



New Foundation Member Diana Mallickan.

September - Executive Director attended the annual meeting for Partnership for the National Trail System. This is a national meeting of training and informational sessions concerning the National Trail System.

October - The Fall Meeting of the Board of Directors was held at the Nez Perce National Historical Park, Spalding, Idaho. Gifts were presented to Scott Eckberg, acting trail administrator and Christine Bradbury, former NPNHT public relations person for their exceptional service and assistance provided to the Foundation. The meeting included a tour of the park archives and a luncheon with local Nez Perce Elders organized by Vera Sonic of the Nez Perce Tribal Cultural Office.

to discuss future plans for the NPNHT and how the Foundation can be instrumental in helping meet their goals and objectives.

December - Seasons Greetings from Foundation to members sent via regular mail and email.



Indian Post Office along the Lolo Trail.

IN THE WIND

These projects are still in the early stages of discussion or they are ones that will require a significant amount of inter agency negotiation to develop. Is there a project related to the Trail you would like to see the Foundation develop? Let us know.

Wallowa Bridge

The Foundation and the City of Wallowa will place a route and bridge to connect the school to the Wallowa Band Nez Perce Interpretive Center.

Marking the NPNHT through Private land

In one example, Executive Board member, Dick Seymour has been working in the Enterprise area with the Forest Service and public land owners to secure rights to allow public access to travel on the trail across private property. This has become a very involved process that raises liability issues and use of signage appropriate for this type of trail.

Extending the NPNHT

The Foundation is interesting in promoting the extension of the NPNHT to include the exile route to Oklahoma and the return to the Northwest. This trail extension will require an act of Congress.



Charlie Moses and Scott Eckberg.



Charlie Moses and Christine Bradbury.

November - The Executive Director met with Maureen McBride and Sandi McFarland at the Region One Forest Service office in Missoula



UPDATES FOR WORKS IN PROGRESS & PROJECT STATUS

Nespelem Visitors Center

The Foundation is committed to placing two interpretive signs here. The current status of this project is in the hands of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation. In March of 2007 we were informed that the rest area honoring Chief Joseph was approved.

Big Hole Battlefield

Hitching Rails and interpretive signs for west entrance to the Big Hole Battlefield. Project is **90% Completed!** This was a Foundation project with partners who provided interpretive signs, volunteer labor, and consultation. Those groups involved with this project included Robert West with the Big hole National Battlefield, the Salmon Back Country Horseman, the Wisdom Ranger District of the National Forest Service and the Beaverhead County Commissioners.

Birch Creek Valley Visitors Kiosk

This project has taken several arduous years of meetings with various groups including the Idaho Transportation Department, the city of Leadore, the Sacagawea By Way, Salmon Backcountry Horsemen, the Shoshone Bannock Tribe and the BLM to reach the point we are today. The six panel kiosk has been ordered, and the erection site on BLM land in a campsite area has been selected. We are currently waiting for approval from the state for this.

Clarks Fork Cody Wyoming

The Cody Chapter of the NPTF, the BLM, and the USFS will place the three sided interpretative signs on the highway east of the mouth of the Clarks Fork. In addition there will be an effort to mark the route from the top of the Clarks Fork to the mouth of the canyon.

Camus Meadows Project, west of Dubois Idaho

This is a new project for the Foundation. The Foundation will be the lead with the Clark County Economic Development Council for developing an interpretive Kiosk similar to the one planned for Birch Creek. Partners on this project include the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Idaho Department of Lands, the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the Dubois Historical Society the city of Dubois and other interested parties. A fire this past summer revealed the remains of nearly 26 rifle pits related to the events of 1877. The pits have been recorded via GPS by the BLM. This will provide valuable data as to actual site locations.



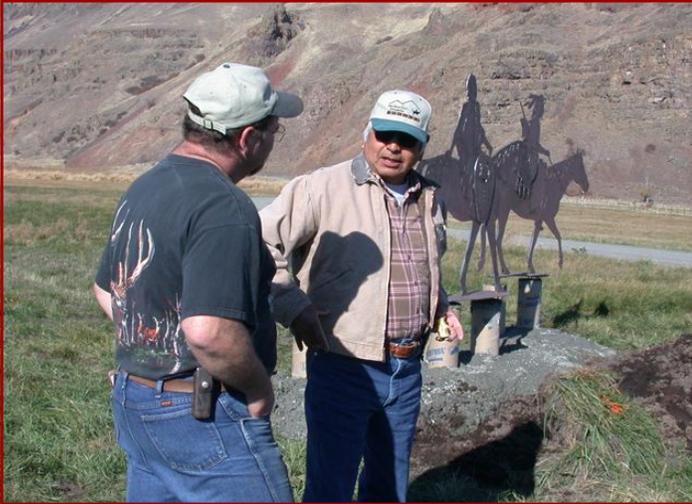
Camas Meadow GPS Crew Bethany Crenshaw, Jim Evans, Dick Hill, Stan McDonald, Brad Christensen.

Lewistown, Montana Rails to Trails Project Lewistown Montana

With the City of Lewistown, the BLM, The Montana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), The Lewistown Historic Resource Commission will place a three sided interpretative sign at the Kiwanis Rest Area (who will provide upkeep of the signs) located on the Nez Perce War Trail of 1877. The two standard Foundation signs, The war Trail and the Exile and Return will be joined by an interpretive sign about the Reed and Bowles trading post.

NOTE: Many of the projects are subject to funding approval from several funding agencies.

THE WALLOWA PROJECT



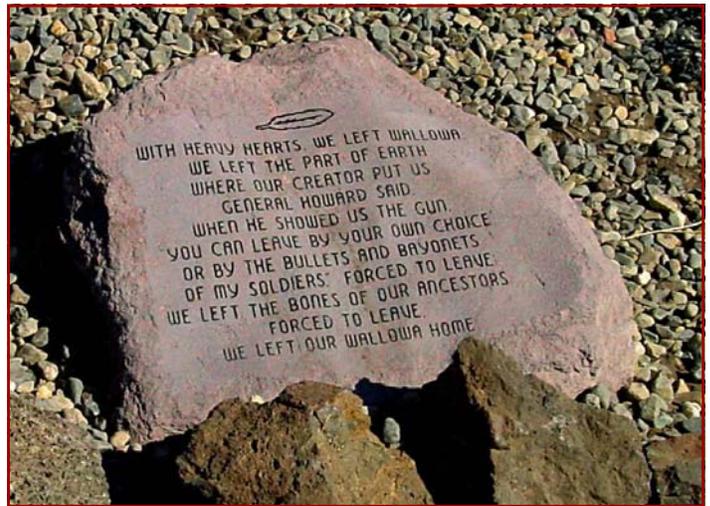
Dan Jones, metal art designer and Charlie Moses, Jr.



Representatives from the Nez Perce Trail Foundation.



Nez Perce who took part in the Dedication.



Nez Perce children reading sign.

THE POEM

With heavy hearts we left Wallowa
We left the part of earth
Where our creator put us
General Howard said
When he showed us the gun
"You can leave by your own choice
Or by the bullets and bayonets
Of my soldiers"
Forced to leave
We left the bones of our ancestors'
Forced to leave
We left our Wallowa home

IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP CURRENT?

Nez Perce Trail Foundation
194 Hwy 28
Salmon ID 83467

The Nez Perce Trail Foundation relies on membership fees to provide many valuable services to our members. With your continued financial support, the Nez Perce Trail Foundation is able to continue serving the community as an advocate for the Nez Perce National Historical Trail. Please take a few moments to check the status of your membership found on the address label.

To verify your membership expiration date, email Jim Evans at: executivedirector@nezperctrail.net.

To update your membership dues, send a check to: Nez Perce Trail Foundation; 194 Highway 28 Salmon, ID 83467.

Annual Dues:

Individual: \$30 Senior \$15 Family: \$50
Non Profit/Gov/Sponsor \$100
Corporate: \$500

NEZ PERCE TRAIL FOUNDATION OFFICERS

PRESIDENT Charlie Moses, Nespelem, WA
cmoses@cuonlinenow.com

1st VICE -PRESIDENT Carol Austin Cody, WY
superiorequinesires@gmail.com

2nd VICE PRESIDENT Dick Seymour Wallowa, OR
seymourspots@gmail.com

TREASURER: Lynn Fleming, Nampa, ID
lmfleming@overach.com

SECRETARYCarolynne Merrell, Moscow, ID
gamerrell@worldnet.att.net

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Jim Evans, Salmon, ID
executivedirector@nezperctrail.net

PAST PRESIDENT Paul Wapato, Spokane, WA
pwapato@comcast.net

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WEB SITES

Nez Perce Trail Foundation www.nezperctrail.net

Nez Perce National Historical Trail www.fs.us.gov/npnht

Nez Perce National Historical Park www.nps.gov/npnhp

Nez Perce Tribe www.nezperce.org

Wallowa Band Nez Perce www.wallowanezperce.com

Colville Reservation www.colvilletribes.com

See our web site at www.nezperctrail.net for more links.

OUR TRAIL CHAPTERS

If you are located near one of these locations please let the chapter representative know you are interested in participating in activities in your area.

Spokane Washington—Paul Wapato
email: pwapato@comcast.net

Cody Wyoming —Carol Austin
email: superiorequinesires@gmail.com

Clearwater Forest Area, Orofino Idaho—Gene & Mollie Eastman
email: mtnmorgans@orofino-id.com

Wallowa Oregon Area—Dick Seymour
email: seymourspots@gmail.com

Salmon Idaho—Jim Evans
email: horse@rockinez.com