



NATIONAL LONGHOUSE DRUM BEATS

THE NATIONAL NEWSLETTER OF NATIVE SONS & DAUGHTERS PROGRAMS



Harvest Moon
(Fall) 2013 Edition

Welcome to the National Longhouse Drum Beats, a new national newsletter for Native Sons & Daughters Programs. The purpose of this newsletter is to broadcast news and information, both fun and important, to the membership in all Longhouses across this great program of ours. Be proud in knowing that you belong to a growing program that is coast-to-coast across our great country.

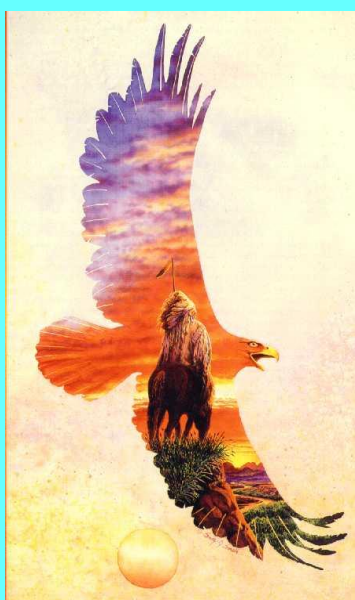
From the National Chief

Greetings Native Sons & Daughters Members! It has been a busy year for our program. We added several new Longhouses this year from California. I would like to welcome all new members and welcome back all returning membership and encourage you all to take full advantage of what this program can offer. I commend you for committing to spending quality time with your child through this wonderful program.

When you joined the Native Sons & Daughters Program you took a giant step in ensuring that you and your child will build memories and a strong parent/child bond. I encourage you to actively participate not only with your individual tribal gatherings, but also to become active at all levels, local Longhouse, Regional Longhouse and the National Longhouse.

As many of you know, I have been a part of this program since 1994. I have been involved with my sons Donny and Matthew and daughters Rebecca and Emily. The memories we have made from being in the program are priceless. It may sound like a cliché, but believe me when I say:

"The memories you are creating with your children today, will last a lifetime!"



I hope you enjoy the program and please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you again for joining the Native Sons & Daughters Program. As your National Chief I hope you and your child find yourselves on the "Great Spirit's" path to being "Pals Forever" and "Friends Always".

NUMWAY!!

Don "Brave Eagle" Bittala

NationalChief@Nationallonghouse.org



Highlights In This Issue:

- National News
- GLRAL Meeting Announcer
- Community Service Project & 2012/13 Summary
- Welcome to our new Longhouses for 2013
- NLL/NSD Heritage
- NSD Craft Corner

A Mighty Welcome to New NSD Longhouses !!

NLL is proud to welcome the New Longhouses joining NSD in 2013-2014.

- ▶ **Naranja Nation** of Orange County, California
- ▶ **Orange Spirit Longhouse** of Irvine, California
- ▶ **Riverside**, from the Riverside and Corona area, has joined forces with **Broken Lance Nation**

See all the Longhouse names and website links on the National Longhouse Website

<http://nationallonghouse.org/>

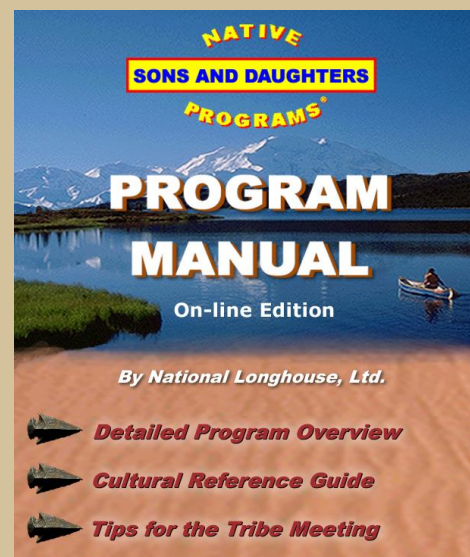
The NSD Program Manual

On-Line Edition

A vast resource of helpful materials for all membership.

Program history, National Longhouse structure, Tribes, Awards, Campouts, Native American Program Theme,

<http://nationallonghouse.org/manual/covers/cover.php>



Calling on Program Elders as National Volunteers:

Like your Local Longhouse, National Longhouse is sustained through dedicated volunteers. Anyone who might wish to contribute at this level would be warmly welcomed. Please consider serving and contributing to the mission.

This is a perfect place for program elders to get involved in this honorable mission. Pay it forward!!

For more information, email NationalChief@Nationallonghouse.org

NATIONAL LONGHOUSE

Community Service Project

A NATIONAL SERVICE WORKS PROJECT FOR NATIVE SONS & DAUGHTERS PROGRAMS



Project Purpose & Highlights

- Earn National recognition and awards for your project
- Teach & learn the value of service to community in the spirit of the Six Aims
- Create community awareness for your Local Longhouse

Established 2012



The National Longhouse Community Service Project Award Patch

Fully embroidered, 3.6" x 2.6"

The eagle is viewed as a messenger in the Native American culture. Our message is that we give service to our community as well as having fun as parent & child. Also, the eagle feather is a very high honor of distinction in the Native American culture. For these reasons, the eagle feather was chosen as a simple and honored way to recognize

The Community Service Project open period is under way for 2013-2014.

Organize to perform your service project for this program year and submit your reports for national recognition.

Final reports are due by March 1st, 2014.

Awards distributed by April 15, 2014

See the full brochure, project detail and reporting form on the NLL website
<http://nationallonghouse.org>

With the late release of the project in the 2012-2013 program year, the time period for the Community Service Project was limited. Still, we had tribes from 3 Longhouses (and one entire Longhouse) that participated in the CSP.

National Longhouse invites all Longhouses and tribes to participate in this worthy program-wide event. We are certain that many Longhouses are performing various service works in their communities. Report on these service works and be recognized!

Community Service Project

Works Summary - 2012-2013

Crooked River Longhouse: Entire Longhouse event.

- Fall yard clean ups were performed for local senior citizens. Raking up leaves and placing them along the curbs for removal by a city crew.

Orange Blossom Longhouse: Cheyenne & Macatawa Tribes.

- The fathers and daughters of these tribes came together to create unique creative works of art during the first part of the day. Each tribe selected a charity to raise funds for. The works of art created by the daughters are mounted and displayed in a similar fashion to an fine art show in a fine art gallery setting. In the evening, entire families, including mothers, siblings, and even grandparents and aunts and uncles attend a fine art showing of the works of art. During the evening gala, a silent auction of the works of art is performed and the ensuing bids are completely donated to the tribe's charity of choice. Total raised between both tribes was \$2175.
- The Macatawa donated their portion to a local food bank and also took a tour of the facility to see how their efforts pay off in service to the community.

Timucuan Federation: Kickapoo & Lake Tribes.

- **Lake Tribe:** Cleaned up a local park that is used for a Farmers Market and used heavily by the community. This is an annual project 7 years running. Additionally the tribe makes Holiday cards and Valentine cards for the U.S. Troops along with working at the local food bank.
- **Kickapoo Tribe:** Participated in a local Food Drive in which children passed out fliers in local neighborhoods then collected canned & boxed food to help stock a local food bank just before Thanksgiving. The tribe collected the most for the entire federation and also was recognized in a local publication for their efforts.



Participation summary for reported projects 2012-2013

Total numbers of Participants	106
Adults	48
Children	58

These participants were the first to be honored with the Community Service Award patch and a personalized Certificate of Recognition for parent & child.







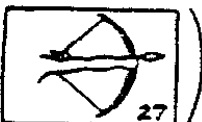
**TAKE PRIDE IN KNOWING THAT YOUR WORK IS
PLEASING TO THE EYE OF THE GREAT SPIRIT!**

NSD HERITAGE - LEGACY RITUALS:

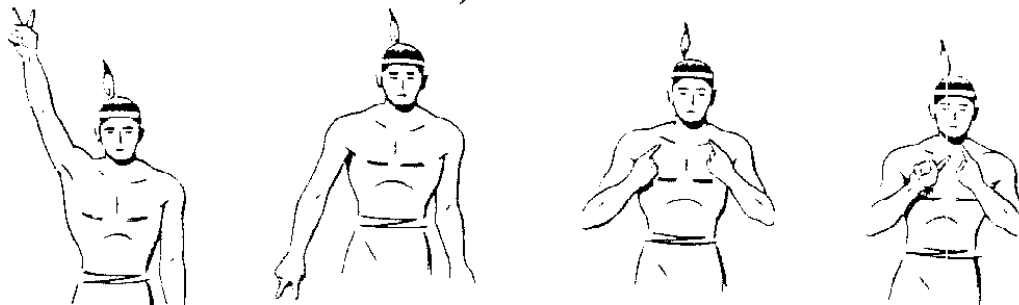
This simple spoken & sign language prayer has been used for many moons as a closing at tribe meetings, officer gatherings, Council fires, etc.

BENEDICTION OR CLOSING PRAYERS

BENEDICTION IN SIGN LANGUAGE *

And now (finger pointing to the ground  21), may the Great Spirit (fingers circling up, imitating smoke  22), of all good spirits (arms outstretched  23), be with (arms in close  24), you (finger pointing across the circle  25) now (fingers pointing down  26), and forever more (action of shooting bow and arrow  27)

(Significance of symbols should be explained in advance; the prayer to be completed in silence and with reverence)



May the Great Spirit (sign of V with right hand up and forward from shoulder) look down upon us (the V fingers bent forward and down, and wrist bent forward, so that the V fingers "look down") while we are absent (two index fingers held before body, about a foot apart, then drawn together) for a little while (index fingers drawn apart, the left forward, the right backwards, for about a six-inch space).

NSD 10th Anniversary Patch *Still Available*

The NSD 10th Anniversary Patch, full color embroidered 3 x 4 " cloth patch is still available for order through the Patch Store at:

<http://www.thepatchstore.com/>



Attention Great Lakes Regional Advisory Lodge Longhouses of Ohio, Michigan & Indiana

Acting GLRAL Chief Mike Ivan invites you to sign up for the Great Lakes Regional Advisory Lodge Fall Meeting, November 9th, 2013. Please click on the link below to view the online sign-up sheet. This meeting is open to all adult leadership and membership. A minimum of 2 representatives from each Longhouse should attend but there is no limit. This is a great sharing experience and an important opportunity for your Longhouses to network within the GLRAL.

Questions? Contact michael_ivan@hotmail.com

To sign up, go to:

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0D4CA5AE2AAAFD0-2013/12760027



Florida Regional Advisory Lodge Holds its Innaugural Meeting

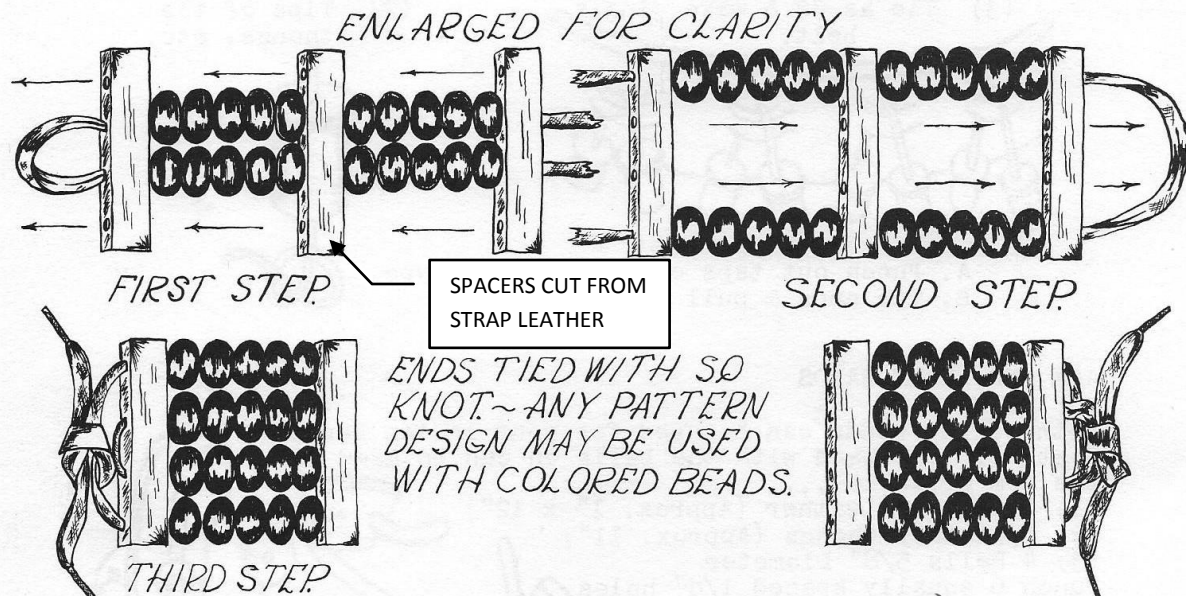
Leadership from the Florida Longhouses Timucuan and Great Sun met on October 12th, 2013 mid-state in Sanford, FL at Blue Springs State Park to conduct the first ever Florida Regional Advisory Lodge meeting for Native Sons & Daughters Programs. This historic meeting was primarily to set an agenda and a mission for future work. Discussions included Recruitment, Brand Awareness, Reusable Signage for Promotion, Websites, State RAL Logo and Succession Planning. An ongoing goal of theirs is to gain additional Florida Longhouses into Native Sons & Daughters Programs. Brian Quirk (Timucuan) was elected as the first State RAL Chief and Stuart Borie (Great Sun) was elected as State RAL Assistant Chief.

NSD Craft Corner

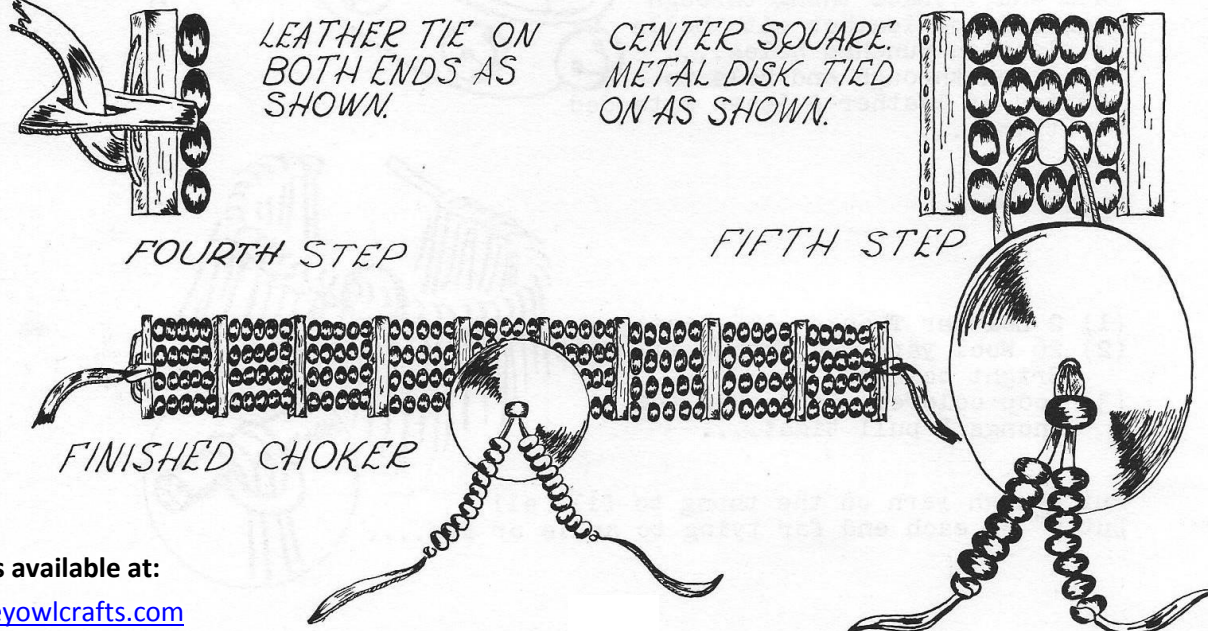
Fun Craft Projects, recycled from the historical archives of National Longhouse.
Great as Parent & Child activities together or as an entire Tribe craft project.

A GREAT ADDITION TO YOUR REGALIA!!

Native Indian Choker Craft



SUBSTITUTE OR ALTERNATE BONE HAIR PIPE, METAL BEADS, TUBE BEADS, FANCY BEADS



Materials available at:

www.Greyowlcrafts.com

www.CraftKits.com

www.crazycrow.com

The History of Native American Bone Chokers

Choker necklaces were originally made mostly from natural materials, often the bones of small animals. These animals were given honor for their gift to the Indian. Each choker was made of parts with special meaning to the person who wore it. Chokers were made to give protection to the throat from physical harm and also as a spiritual protection for the voice. Because most birds are noted for the sounds they make or for their singing quality, the spirit of the bird could be invoked to protect the person's voice from ailments or fatigue. There is also a cultural saying for men... "You become a man when you can speak your heart to the people, clearly and without fear, honor, bravery and victory are yours."