



NATIONAL LONGHOUSE DRUM BEATS

THE NATIONAL NEWSLETTER OF NATIVE SONS & DAUGHTERS PROGRAMS



May 2017
Blossom Moon
Waabigwani-giizis (Oibwa)

Welcome to the latest edition of National Longhouse Drum Beats, the national newsletter of 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 Teepee of your National Chief

Big How!

I hope everyone had a great spring camp out. I know the kids are looking forward to their summer break. Dads, how many summers do you have left with your children?

I was sitting in the Jacksonville coliseum watching my middle daughter Bryanna graduate from high school this week. It was an emotional event for me. She went from my little girl that would hold my hand at campout fire walks to a young beautiful women. I was sitting there as they were calling all the other kids names (588 of them). Thinking about all the fun stuff we did when she was younger. I then started thinking did I spend as much time with her as I could have?

Did I teach her enough for her to go out into the world on her own? Will she be successful in life going forward? All I can tell you is that I want her to be happy with whatever she decides to do in life. Unfortunately my 18 summers are over with Bryanna. There are times that I regret not spending more time with her when I could have. I can tell you that we never missed a camp out in the 6 years we were in the program together.

We will always have those memories that we can talk about when she is older with kids of her own. I can tell you as I sit here typing this letter in tears, spending time with your kids is a valuable thing that will bring you great love and joy in your life. So ask yourself, how many summers do you have left? Will you have great memories to talk about when your kids are older? Will you have any regrets?



"At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents."



Bryan "Big Wolf" Davis

N&D National Chief
nationalchief@nationallonghouse.org

Highlights In This Issue

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National Longhouse

National Council of Officers

These are your 2016-18 National Council of Officers.
These Great Chiefs have stepped up to fill these important national positions.

Name	Position	Email
Bryan "Big Wolf" Davis	National Chief	nationalchief@nationallonghouse.org
Michael "Wild Eagle" Ryan	Nat'l Assistant Chief	nationalassistant@nationallonghouse.org
Aaron "Fishing Bear" Olson	Nat'l Wampum Bearer	nationalwampumbearer@nationallonghouse.org
Stuart "Chupacabra" Borie	Nat'l Talley Keeper	nationaltalleykeeper@nationallonghouse.org
Scott "Iron Wolf" Klueppel	Nat'l Web Spinner	nationalwebspinner@nationallonghouse.org
Don "Brave Eagle" Bittala	National Sachem	nationalsachem@nationallonghouse.org

Please feel free to contact them with matters that concern your Longhouse

At the recent 2017 National Longhouse Annual Meeting, Aaron Olson was inducted as the the new National Wampum Bearer. Aaron stepped up to volunteer to fill this critical position in mid-term.

Left to Right:(Back) Aaron Olson, Don Bittala, Bryan Davis. (Front) Mike Ryan.



Visit the National Longhouse Website and Facebook Page

Check out the National Longhouse website for beneficial resources and information. <http://www.nationallonghouse.org>

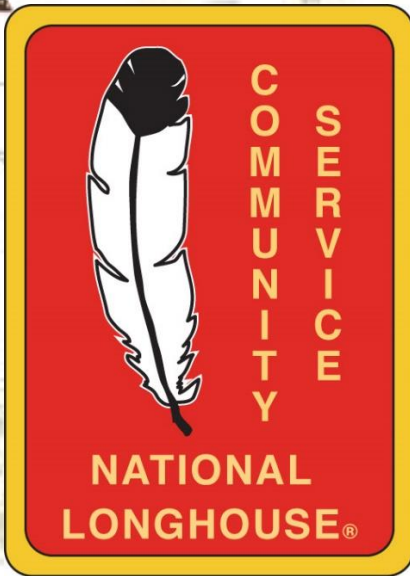
Find us on Facebook! Go to <https://www.facebook.com/nationallonghouse> and "like" our page to get frequent updates from National Longhouse and featured articles about our program's activity nationwide.



2018 National Meeting Dates Announced

The next National Longhouse Annual Meeting will be June 8th – 10th, 2018.

Longhouses & RAL's, please place this important date on your calendars and plan to send a representative to this all-important annual national meeting. For further information on this meeting, contact your RAL Chiefs or National Chief Bryan Davis.



NLL Community Service Project

The process for submitting reports and receiving awards has been changed and improved...

- Project reports can now be submitted at any time.
- Project reports are now submitted online with an "easy-to-use" form.
- Awards will be processed and distributed at that time.
- YEAR BARS NOW AWARDED FOR 2ND, 3RD & 4TH YEAR PARTICIPANTS. SEE THE EXAMPLES BELOW

See the full brochure, project detail and reporting form at...

<http://www.nationallonghouse.org/community-service->

National Longhouse invites all Longhouses and tribes to participate in this worthy program-wide project. We are certain that many Longhouses are performing various service works in their communities.

Report on your service works and be recognized!

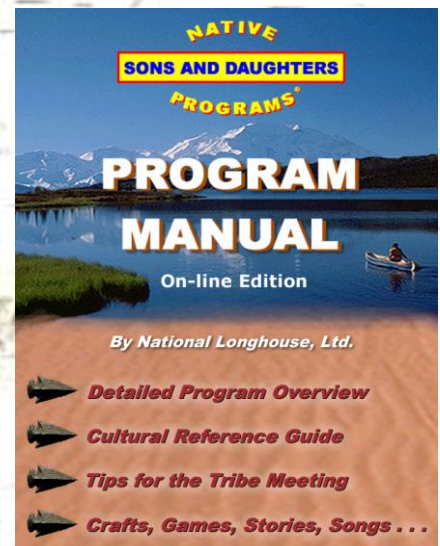


NSD PROGRAM MANUAL

Download it from the NSD website.

Click on the Program Manual tab.

A vast resource of helpful materials for all membership. Program history, National Longhouse structure, Tribes, Awards, Campouts, Native American Program Theme, Culture, Crafts, Games, Stories, Songs, etc. View and/or print as you like!



2017 NLL Annual Meeting

May 5th-7th, 2017, Desoto State Park Lodge,
Fort Payne, Alabama

The National Longhouse Annual meeting was recently held at in the historic Lodge at picturesque Desoto State Park in Ft. Payne, Alabama. National Longhouse Council Chiefs and Elders as well as representation from the Regional Advisory Lodges and Longhouses gathered to share in this important annual event. Those that arrived on Friday got to share in a fun time having a great meal together. The main meeting took place all day Saturday. Many current national projects and support programs were discussed. Presentations were given by each region on the state of their Longhouses. Longhouse representation in attendance also got to report directly on the state of their Longhouses. Representatives from Western Reserve, the newest Local Longhouse from Northeast Ohio was welcomed

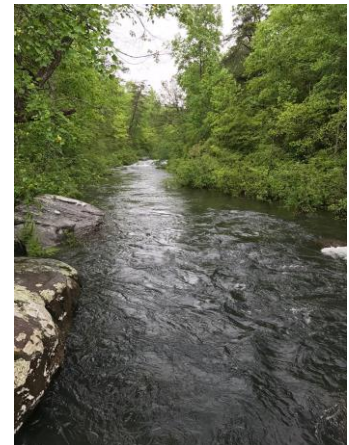
by all. Much information was shared, gathered and learned by all. All

those that attended felt that the time was well spent and of direct benefit to their Longhouses.



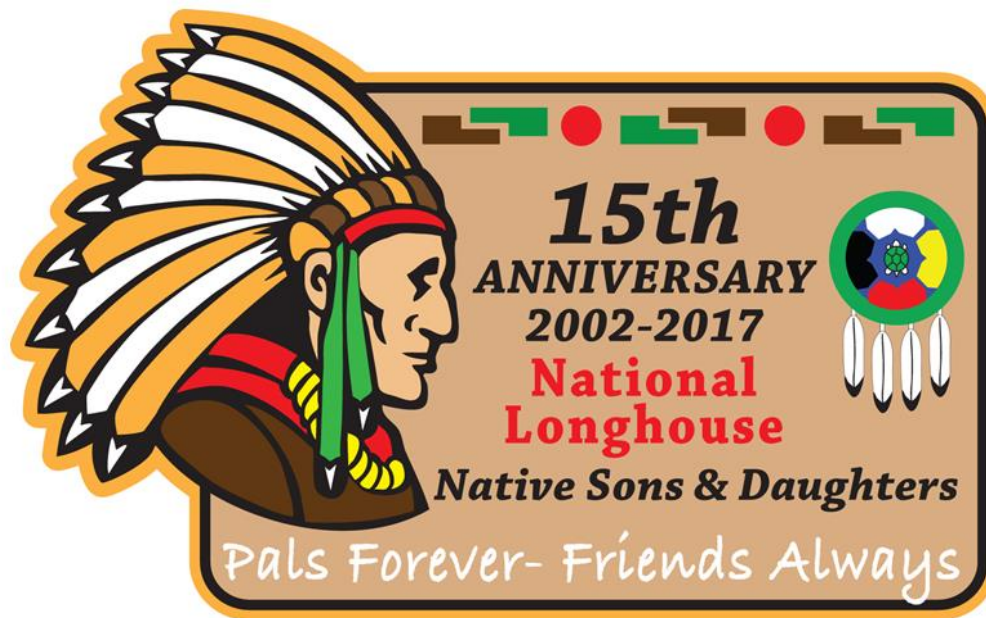


On Saturday evening following the annual meeting, members of Alabama Longhouse performed some of their customary ceremonies for the attendees. Alabama Longhouse participants included David (Spirit Warrior) Pumpelly, Andrew (Thundering Fire) Pumpelly, Matt (Tender Foot) Callahan, and Megan (Shining Sun) Callahan. Ceremonies included the Corn Ceremony for new members, Many Moons Ceremony for members phasing out, and council fire closing prayers. After the ceremony, attendees compared and contrasted ceremonies used in other longhouses.



ANNOUNCING!

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Great Lakes Regional Advisory Lodge News

Representing the Longhouses of Ohio, Michigan & Indiana

Submitted by: Mike "Growling Bear" Ivan, GLRAL Chief

February 25th, 2017 In-Person Meeting Report

The Great Lakes Regional Advisory Lodge hosted their annual (early) Spring meeting on Saturday, February 25th in the Edison Room of the Hampton Inn and Suites in Milan, Ohio. There were 14 total representatives from the Big Walnut, Chagrin Valley, Crooked River, Cuyahoga Valley, Three Fires, Two Feathers and Toledo Longhouses. Not able to make it were Hillcrest, Kitchinodin, Lakeshore, Tarhe and Western Reserve. These longhouses make up the 12 that are part of the Great Lakes Region. In addition, we had the Great Lakes Chief, Assistant Chief, and one National Elder participate. Prior to the meeting, we sampled some donuts and coffee and provided introductions.

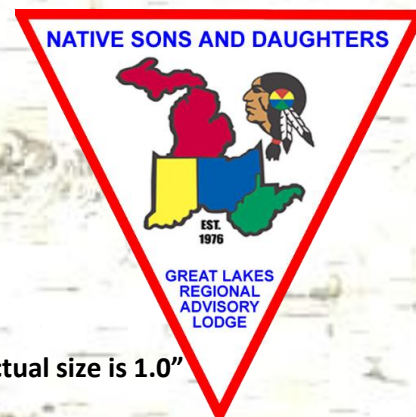
Like prior years, every longhouse had an opportunity to provide an update as to the "State of Their Longhouse" and ask any questions to the other members to help strengthen their longhouse. Many discussion focused on recruiting efforts, event planning and general longhouse health.

Other highlights from the Great Lakes Region Include:

- Gathering of Nations – Kalahari Waterpark Event.
- Creation of a Google Drive document repository where information about events or ceremonies can be shared across all longhouses.
- Creation of GLRAL Facebook Page – facebook.com/GLRAL/
- Updated GLRAL logo which incorporates the Native Sons and Daughters branding.
- Target next Gathering for the Summer of 2018.
- Continuing quarterly conference calls (May 18th, Aug 17th and Nov 16th)
- **Next in-person meeting is February 24, 2018. MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Thanks to everyone that attended the meeting and contributes to the Great Lakes Region and Native Sons and Daughters. As a reminder, the current GLRAL Chief, Assistant Chief and Wampum positions will be open and we will hold elections for these positions at the next meeting in February 2018. The positions are two year terms and the existing officers were last elected in 2016. If you are interested in holding a position at the Great Lakes Region, please reach out to Mike Ivan at glralchief@nationallonghouse.org.

THE GLRAL HAS THIS CUSTOM ENAMELED PIN FOR SALE @ \$5.00 EACH. THEY WOULD GO GREAT ON YOUR HATS OR VESTS. CONTACT GLRAL CHIEF MIKE IVAN. glralchief@nationallonghouse.org



Actual size is 1.0"

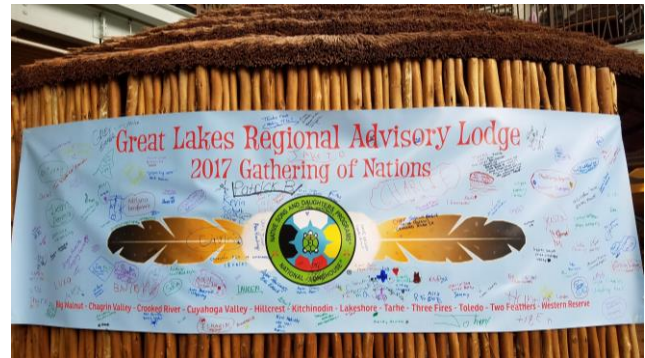


Great Lakes Regional Advisory Lodge

Recap of Spring 2017 Regional "Gathering of Nations"

Submitted by: Mike "Growling Bear" Ivan, GLRAL Chief

On April 21st and 22nd, the Great Lakes RAL hosted the first Gathering of Nations Event in many years at the Kalahari Water Park in Sandusky, Ohio. The location was selected since it was a midpoint between the Longhouses serviced by the RAL (Cleveland, Columbus, Toledo and Detroit areas). In total we had eight of the twelve longhouses participate with **almost 500 people in attendance.**



On Friday evening everyone was invited to gather in a private conference room at the resort for an indoor council fire presentation. During the council fire, each of the Longhouses had an opportunity to come forward to introduce their Longhouse to the regional

members. We were also treated to a great story by Grey Goose from the Chagrin Valley Nation. All kids received a goodie bag with temporary tattoos in the shape of the Great Lake Region logo, rubber wristbands to wear in the park and some Native American word search puzzles. We also created a new Great Lakes Region banner and asked each of the members to sign it as a memory of the event.



On Saturday, everyone was invited to stay at the waterpark all day and enjoy everything that the water park had to offer. A cabana within the park was reserved for the Great Lakes Members where we hosted a few fun games like

"most laps in the lazy river", "longest surfboard ride", and a competition where you had to participate in five parent/child activities. The activities concluded with a split the pot raffle drawing where the winner received over \$200 and their Longhouse received \$50. Great times were had by all.

Thanks to everyone that participated and a very special thank you to everyone that volunteered their time to make this successful. Be on the lookout for next regional event in 2018. Don't forget to like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GLRAL or search for "Great Lakes Regional Advisory Lodge".



National Longhouse & Florida RAL 2017 Sunshine State Pow-Wow

Submitted by: Don "Brave Eagle" Bittala, NLL Elder

Once again, this year the National Longhouse was represented at the Florida State Pow Wow which this year was held at the Westgate River Ranch. We provided a fun booth where the kids could do a craft and then have their pictures taken against a Native American backdrop. We printed the pictures on the spot so they could take the picture home with them, thus creating a memory that will last a lifetime!



The Florida State Pow Wow is held each year and brings together all the parent/child organizations in the state of Florida. Our goal of attending is to reach out to the other parent/child organizations and promote our Native Sons & Daughters program. We spoke with many organizations and the names of those interested in our program have been forwarded to Brian "Flaming Arrow" Quirk, Florida State Regional Chief for follow up. We have had great success growing our program through this event.

Working the booth this year was Don "Brave Eagle" Bittala, Chairman NBE Board, Bryan "Big Wolf" Davis, NSD Chief and Mike

"Crazy Wolf" Morando, NBE Board Elder. The weather was beautiful and a good time was had by all.



Florida Regional Advisory Lodge

ATTENTION ALL FLORIDA LONGHOUSES

THE FLORIDA RAL IS LOOKING FOR NEW LEADERSHIP TO STEP UP. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR INTEREST, PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE CURRENT FLORIDA RAL OFFICERS BELOW.

Florida Regional Lodge Contact Information:

FLRAL Chief: Brian "Flaming Arrow" Quirk, 904-382-5960, flamingarrow2008@bellsouth.net

FLRAL Assistant Chief: Stuart "Chupacabra" Borie, 954-232-4859, seborie@bellsouth.net



“Share the Stories, Spread the Spirit”

In the National Longhouse Drum Beats Newsletter

Does your Longhouse or Tribe have a great story to share? Share the news and pictures of your special events with all of Native Sons & Daughters membership.

Send your stories to:

NSDNewsletter@nationallonghouse.org



Find Past Issues of National Longhouse Drum Beats:
<http://nationallonghouse.org/> - use the Nat'l Drum Beats tab

Next Edition – Fall 2017

Longhouse Special Events

Western Reserve Longhouse (NE Ohio) Native Sons Awards Banquet & Joe Friday Award

Submitted by: JJ "Howling Wolf" Sutphin, Longhouse Wampum

The Western Reserve Native Sons (Northeast Ohio) held their annual awards banquet on November 15, 2016. New "little braves" were presented first year patches and existing little braves were presented gifts representing each year they've been a part of the group. This year we acknowledged one big brave for his 11 years with his Tribe!

This year's Western Reserve Native Sons Joe Friday Award winner is Brian Lieberth. Here's a little bit about Brian:

- "Brian has been many things to the Indian Guides/Native Sons Program over his 11 + years: He's served on the Longhouse level as well as being Tribe Chief.
- He has always given of himself to those around him; he's even been known to attend events when his son couldn't make it.
- He became a mentor to many of the dads, inspiring several of them to seek out leadership positions of their own.
- He led by example by always making sure he had one-on-one time with his son.

A fellow tribe member had this to say of Brian...

"He is a silent Giant! Very mild mannered and very dedicated. For all that he has done a lot went unnoticed because he doesn't do it for the recognition. He does everything for the benefit of the Son's Dads and the organization. He is an unsung hero!! When I was in the Indian Guides some years back with my son, our Tribe won many Tribe of the Year awards. Many times the margin of winning was very close with other Tribes. If it wasn't for Brian and his son's 100% participation every year we probably wouldn't have won!!"

Congratulations Brian!

Western Reserve Native Dads & Sons



Longhouse Special Events

Great Sun Longhouse (Boca Raton, FL)

January-May 2017 Events Recap

Submitted by: Stuart "Chupacabra" Borie

The Great Sun Nation (Boca Raton, southwest FL) have a busy camping season from January thru May. We started off the year with our biggest campout at Circle F Dude Ranch. We had great weather all weekend. The kids had a great time riding horses, shooting arrows and BB guns, Tug of War, and mastering the rock wall and zip-line. Saturday night's fire ceremony was capped off by an amazing fireworks display put on by the Walla Walla tribe.

February found the Great Sun Nation at a new campground - Caloosahatchee Regional Park. This was one of the most beautiful campgrounds we have ever stayed at. The highlight of the weekend was the mountain biking. This park had trails for the beginner all the way to the crazy experts. There was a trail for everybody. We capped the evening off with our first ever 'Light Up Bike Parade'. Once nightfall came, over 30 kids wrapped their bicycles in glow sticks, LED lights and all kinds of decorations. We did a parade around the big loop of the campground for all to see. Awards were given to the best decorated bikes.

March saw the Great Sun Nation return to the Peace River. Our campout started out a little rocky with two kids breaking their arms on a rope swing (which we cut down). After coming back from the hospital, neither kid wanted to go home. On Saturday, over 250 campers took to the river on canoes in search of fossilized shark teeth. Hundreds of shark teeth were found. We debuted our new Tipi at the Broken Arrow ceremony where we said goodbye to 8 children that we watched grow up since they were in kindergarten. The next weekend we went to the BallPark of the Palm Beaches to see pre-season baseball with the Florida Nationals taking on the Houston Astros at the brand new ball park.



We finished up our camping season with a trip to Fiesta Key - located at Mile Marker 70 in the Florida Keys. The weekend started out nice with everyone enjoying the water and seeing the marine life - Manatees, all kinds of fish and turtles. On Saturday night, a monster storm came and drowned out the fun along with a lot of the campsite. Some packed up and left and others braved the storm. I think they are still drying out their tents ☺.



We finished up our year in May with a return to Xtreme Action Park. We spent the evening roller skating, bouncing in trampoline park, bowling, testing our skills on the ropes course and finally racing go-karts until we couldn't stay up any longer.



Longhouse Special Events

Crooked River Longhouse: Supports Local Camp with Fundraising Donation

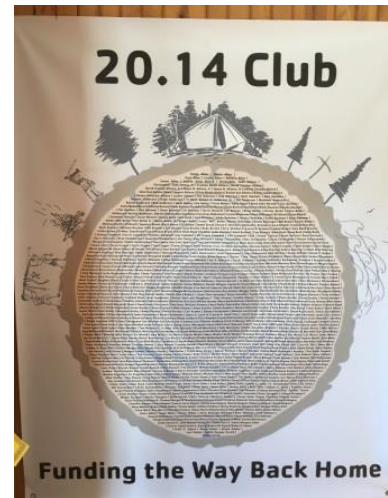
Submitted by: Michael Rossini, Longhouse Chief

Crooked River Longhouse is one of the Native Sons and Daughters programs based in Ohio that is part of the Great Lakes Region. Geographically you can find it covering the southwest suburbs of Berea, Middleburg Heights, Olmsted Falls / Township, and Strongsville in the Greater Cleveland area. At 100+ families strong, the Longhouse maintains a busy activity schedule year-round for its members and families alike.

One specific activity for the Longhouse, winter camp, has become a yearly tradition. Over the President's Day weekend, Crooked River Longhouse travels into Pennsylvania to attend Camp Fitch. Crooked River, as well as several other Longhouses in the NE Ohio area, enjoys a rich history with this regional YMCA camp located in Western Pennsylvania. The site is one of several YMCA camps around the Cleveland - Pittsburgh area still in existence and open year round. The camp has a lot of the standard activities like ga-ga ball, rock wall climbing, canoeing, archery... but it also boasts a .22 range, nature center, multi-million dollar equestrian complex, and seasonal sports like sledding, tubing, and cross-country skiing.

In 2014 the Camp celebrated a major milestone - its 100 Year Anniversary. Crooked River Longhouse took to heart that special occasion and the camp's tie to the NSD program's 6th Aim - "To seek and preserve the beauty of the Great Spirit's work in forest, field, and stream". To help insure that this wonderful camp is around for many more of our Native Sons & Daughters, Crooked River contributed to the special 100 year celebration fundraising event, and is now part of a special banner that commemorates the anniversary.

h Fletcher | Andy Foerster | Kim Foerster | Gayle Fournier | ... | Gert" Friend | Howard B. "Howdy" Friend
rench | Alison Friend | Cathi Friend | Chris Friend | Ellen G. "Gert" Friend | Howard B. "Howdy" Friend
ott Friend | Sue Friend | Frank "Paison" Gaetano | Luke Galloway | Steven Garrett | In Mem. Doroth
er | William S. Gillenwater | Katie Gillespie | Jason Gillette | Dennis Gilligan | Sarah B. Friend Gilligan
Joyce Gottron | Maggie Guglielmo | Maddie Harper | Iva Harrell | Warren Harrell | Beth Harrison | Chr
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lover | Hot Dog Peanut Butter | Marla Hum | Robert J. Hum | Rick Hunneke | Steve Hunneke | Swede
| Crooked River Local Longhouse | Native Sons and Daughters | "Pals Forever, Friends Always" | Se
Timothy Jamison | Janice JanJanin | David Jay | Eric Jay | William Terome | Mary Smith Johnson | Mathew Jo
ret Jones | Owen Jones | Pat Jones | Tom Jones | Michael Kammer | April Kelly | Dave Kelly | Deana Keily | J
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garet Kollay | Annie Kondas | Phillip Kondas | Carl Kramer | Edward Kuchcinski | Julianne Kuchcinski | J
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Native American Lore

The Eagle and the Lakota People

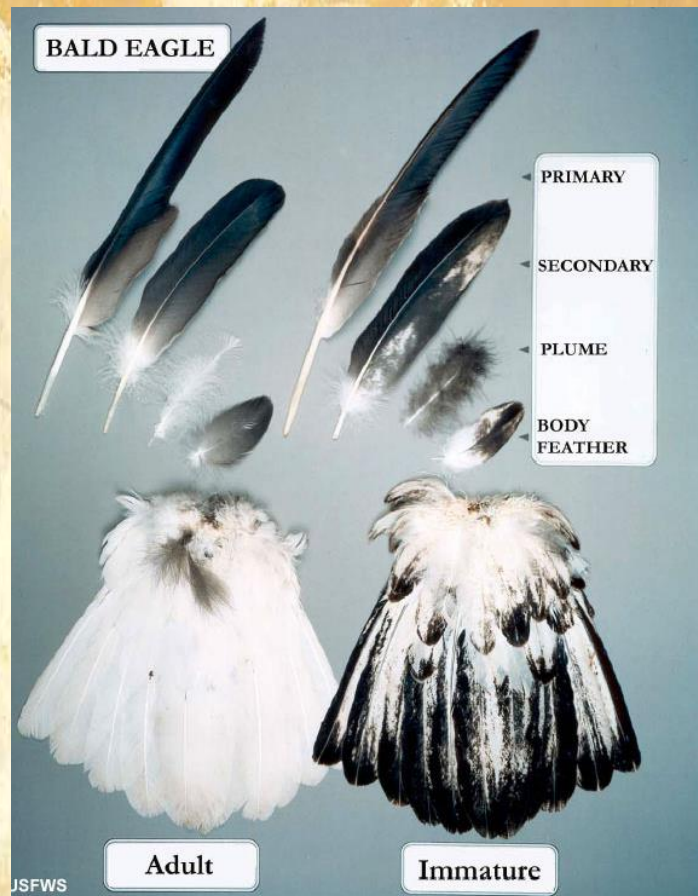


The majestic Eagle is the only living creature rising up to the place of the Great Spirit-Wakan Tanka. Flying in a circle of beauty, the eagle reminds all the Lakota about the great circle of life, death and life again.

To the Lakota, the eagle-with its promise of strength and power- also brings light to the Morning Star. Held in reverence, the eagle's feathers symbolize everything that is strong, brave and holy. The feathers are to be worn always with honor, dignity and pride.

The eagle feather is the winged symbol of the Lakota people. When eagle feathers are held over someone's head, it means that the person is brave or is wished bravery and happiness. To wave it over everyone means that everyone is wished peace, prosperity and happiness.

When an eagle feather is dropped during a powwow, a special ceremony is performed to pick it up, and the owner is careful never to drop it again.



The Lakóta people; also known as Teton, ("prairie dwellers"), and Teton Sioux are part of a confederation of seven related Sioux tribes, the Očhéthi Šakówiŋ or seven council fires, and as such one of the Indigenous peoples of the Great Plains of North America. They speak the Lakota language, the westernmost of the three Siouan language groups, occupying lands in both North and South Dakota.

