

Bryan V. Brewer -- Bio

Bryan V. Brewer was sworn in as President of the Oglala Sioux Tribe on December 4, 2013. President Brewer was born in Pine Ridge, South Dakota on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and is an enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe.

President Brewer proudly served as a United States Navy SeaBee during the Vietnam War. He served two tours of duty and was honorably discharged. He is a combat veteran. He attended Black Hills State University and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Secondary Education.

President Brewer has held many positions in education throughout his 33-year professional career. He has held positions at Rocky Boy, Montana, Pine Ridge, Red Cloud, and Shannon County. Throughout his professional career, he has served as a teacher, coach, principal, athletic director and Dean of Students.

President Brewer was the original founder and continues as Director of the Lakota Nation Invitational. The Lakota Nation Invitational is one of the most prestigious and eagerly anticipated events in South Dakota. He has been the driving force in overseeing the growth of this huge event. It has grown from a basketball tournament to include other athletic, academic and cultural activities, as well. His success in promoting this event is evident through the 2006 Sports Illustrated magazine feature.

President Brewer has served as a member of the Board of Directors for the South Dakota High School Activities Association from 2004-2009. He is the first Native American to hold a position on this board. During his term on the board, he brought to light many of the issues that plague Native American students in this state. As a result of his commitment to bringing about positive change, a new awareness and perspective into the rich culture of South Dakota's Native Americans has been brought to the forefront. Racism issues are now open for discussion and there have been some positive changes for South Dakota's Native American athletes.

President Brewer's commitment to Lakota life is demonstrated through

his craftsmanship and following traditional spiritual practices and ceremonies. He is an avid traditional dancer; attending powwows frequently. His regalia is designed and constructed by him.

President Brewer has worked tirelessly and remains committed to improving the lives of Oglala Sioux tribal members and native peoples across the country. His efforts will focus upon improving health outcomes, increasing economic development, improving living conditions through accessible housing, Lakota language revitalization, and improving educational outcomes. He continues to bring to light the effects of alcohol on our tribal members through his continued fight against White Clay.