

September 2017



## October Means Fall Fun at Chieftains Museum

Although the weather is still hot, Chieftains Museum is prepared to kick off the fall with fun events for all ages in October!

We start the month with our Fall Plant Sale, now in its third year. A perfect way to plant trees, shrubs, and perennials for a spectacular spring, the Fall Plant Sale provides a variety of ways to refresh your lawn or garden. New to the sale this year are pansies and violas in a variety of colors, included because the Network Day Services Center will not hold a pansy sale of their own this year. All plants for the Fall Plant Sale must be pre-ordered and paid for between September 27th and October 13th. Plants can be picked up at the museum on Friday, October 20th. Visit the museum website at [www.chieftainmuseum.org](http://www.chieftainmuseum.org) to view the plants offered this year and download an order form.



The museum will once again be a destination for those attending “Going Caching,” a geo-caching mega-event taking in place in Rome from October 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>. The theme of the event this year is “Spy Games,” and will take participants on an espionage-filled adventure to find geocaches all over the city, including the museum. This event drew over 700 visitors to the museum in 2015, the last time it took place in Rome. We are excited to be included this year, but shhh!—it’s a “Spy Games” secret...

Chieftains is also proud to host archaeologist Pat Garrow for a special evening lecture entitled, “What We Learned from Archaeology at Chieftains,” on Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the museum. Mr. Garrow has had a 51-year career in archaeology, of which 40 years have been spent in cultural resource management and has worked all over the United States as well as the Caribbean. He has published nine books or monographs and over 50 articles. Although he retired in 2016, he is currently writing two books and several articles. He served as the lead archaeologist on the original digs at Chieftains in the late 1960s and early 1970s with the help of local students and volunteers. Chieftains was the first major archaeological excavation he directed on his own, and has remained a special project for him ever since. We hope you will join us on October 12<sup>th</sup> for this special look at our past.



Our October events end with the annual Chiaha Harvest Fair, October 28-29. Chieftains will once again be featured in the non-profit tent making Halloween masks with fairgoers throughout the weekend. Last year, over 300 children and their families visited the Chieftains table, helping the museum spread the word about Cherokee history in our community.

We hope to see you at some of our October events as we welcome Fall 2017!

CHIEFTAINS MUSEUM / MAJOR RIDGE HOME

THE RIDGE REPORT

## Museum to Partner with the Rome International Film Festival



The museum is excited to partner with the Rome International Film Festival to bring Cherokee history and culture to an international audience November 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. The festival has chosen the biopic “Mankiller” as the opening film for this year’s event. The film chronicles the life of Wilma Mankiller, the first woman to be elected Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation.

With funding provided by the Georgia Humanities Council, Chieftains will bring Cherokee musician and cultural educator Tommy Wildcat to perform prior to the opening screening of the film on Thursday November 9<sup>th</sup> in downtown Rome, then again on Saturday November 12<sup>th</sup> for a free day event celebrating Native American Heritage Month at the museum.

Be sure to mark your calendars and check for updates for more details for this event on the museum website, [www.chieftainmuseum.org](http://www.chieftainmuseum.org).



*Tommy Wildcat.*

## Boy Scout Project Creates New Accessibility Feature for Museum



The museum was honored to have Boy Scout Garrett Parker work on campus improvements for an Eagle Scout project this summer. Mr. Parker worked diligently over the summer to design, fundraise, and construct a new staircase to lead visitors from the museum down to the Oostanaula Riverwalk.

This new staircase replaced an older staircase that was worn and had been damaged over time. By building this new feature, Mr. Parker has provided increased accessibility to the museum and grounds, giving visitors a chance to experience the entire campus.

Chieftains would like to extend our sincere thanks to Garrett Parker for his help!

## Museum Day Live! Brings Visitors to the Museum to Experience the Past



Chieftains Museum hosted the Museum Day Live! free event sponsored by Smithsonian Magazine on Saturday September 23<sup>rd</sup> on the museum campus. The theme for this year's event was "Pioneer Living," and featured an 1860s chuckwagon with equipment and cooking demonstrations by Gregg Allen of Grumpy's Grub, living history demonstrations by retired teacher Richard Riggs, 19<sup>th</sup> century outdoor games, and free tours inside the museum.

The free event brought 122 visitors to the Chieftains campus to experience "Pioneer Living," a great audience for a great time on the 23<sup>rd</sup>!



*Visitors enjoy demonstrations by the Grumpy's Grub chuck wagon during the free day.*

## Collections Corner



*Ceramic pieces of a dish that were found by boy scouts during the rehabilitation of the stairs behind the museum that lead to the Riverwalk.*

What started out as an eagle scout project has yielded insight into the history of Chieftains. Garrett Parker's eagle scout project was building a set of stairs that would make the museum grounds more accessible to the city's Riverwalk. During the process of constructing the stairs, Garrett and his helpers discovered several white ceramic pieces.

The boy scouts collected these and other artifacts that add history to what is suspected to be the Jeffries period of occupancy (1900-1918). The most telling of these artifacts was a ceramic sherd with a partial makers mark that had the date (190-) stamped on it. Of the artifacts that Garrett's project unearthed, the most impressive was this hand painted white wear dish with a rose motif. These artifacts show that Chieftains Museum and its grounds are still yielding new insights into the lives of the past occupants of this historic home.

## Introducing our New Mascot— Ruby!



**CHIEFTAINS MUSEUM/MAJOR RIDGE HOME**

501 Riverside Parkway  
Rome, GA 30161

Phone: 706.291.9494  
Email: [chmuseum@bellsouth.net](mailto:chmuseum@bellsouth.net)



**We're on the Web!**

Visit us at [chieftainmuseum.org](http://chieftainmuseum.org)

The results of our naming contest are in and we would like to introduce you to Ruby the Red-Tailed Hawk. Becca Chin submitted the winning name entry that brought our mascot to life inside the museum.



Visitors to the museum will get to meet our mascot as they enter the exhibit, where they are instructed to look for her in various places throughout the museum for additional historical information, activities, and fun crafts.

Be sure to come and see Ruby and let her take you on an adventure throughout Chieftains Museum!

## Upcoming Events

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>Sept. 28th-Oct. 13th:</b> | Fall Plant Sale (Online)  |
| <b>October 4th-8th:</b>      | “Going Caching”—Spy Games   |
| <b>October 12th:</b>         | “What We Learned from Archaeology at Chieftains”<br>Lecture by Pat Garrow at 7:00pm                   |
| <b>October 28th-29th:</b>    | Chiaha Harvest Fair   |
| <b>November 11th:</b>        | Native American Heritage Month Free Day featuring<br>Tommy Wildcat and the Mudball Seed Bomb Workshop |