

April Brings Flower Power to Chieftains

Spring 2018

With spring in full swing, the Rome/Floyd County community will have three events to “grow” their knowledge about native plants with Chieftains Museum.

The first event takes place on April 3rd at 7pm with a lecture entitled, “If Plants Could Talk: A Cherokee Relationship” by Mr. Tony Harris at the McAllister Auditorium on the Berry College campus.

Tony Harris is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation and was born and raised in Muskogee, Oklahoma. He graduated from Northeastern State University, originally the Cherokee University located in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Mr. Harris is an active member of both the Cobb County Master Gardeners and the Georgia Native Plant Society. He also serves as the current President of the Georgia Trail of Tears Association. He was one of two keynote speakers at the 2012 National Cherokee Ethnobotany Conference in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. In 2013, he was the recipient of the Conservation Award from the Daughters of the American Revolution. Mr. Harris also maintains an educational website at mycherokeegarden.com. The lecture on April 3rd is free and open to the public and is co-sponsored by Chieftains along with the Environmental Studies program and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Berry College.



Then on April 14th-15th, it’s time to dust off your gardening gloves and dig in the dirt again! Eagerly anticipated by area gardeners, the Chieftains Herb and Plant Sale will be held this year on Saturday, April 14th and Sunday, April 15th in the Community Building at the Coosa Valley Fairgrounds, rain or shine. Sale hours are 8am to 4pm on Saturday and 12pm to 3pm on Sunday.



April ends with the 2018 “Rome in Bloom” Garden Tour sponsored by the Junior Service League of Rome. The tour takes place on April 28th and features beautiful area gardens, including the Major Ridge Demonstration Garden at Chieftains. A patron’s party for the tour will be held the evening before, April 27th at “Skyhaven,” the home of Jeb Arp and Luke Chaffin. Tickets for the tour are \$25

each, with tickets for the party and tour priced at \$60 each or \$100 for a pair. Tickets are on sale at the Junior Service League website at www.jslofrome.com or at Chieftains Museum.

Be sure to mark your calendar for all of these April events!



CHIEFTAINS MUSEUM / MAJOR RIDGE HOME

THE RIDGE REPORT

Annual Herb & Plant Sale

The Chieftains Herb and Plant Sale will be held this year on Saturday, April 14th and Sunday, April 15th in the Community Building at the Coosa Valley Fairgrounds, rain or shine. Sale hours are 8am to 4pm on Saturday and 12pm to 3pm on Sunday.

Sale Chairperson Susan Hortman will once again lead a dedicated group of volunteers who help to make the sale a big success each year. As expected, they have selected the finest plants suitable for growing in our area from several well-known regional nurseries. All plants are healthy and fresh—they're delivered the day before the sale.

The sale will feature over 30 + varieties of herbs, native, and unique heirloom plants. New this year will be an even bigger selection of organic vegetables to grow in time to serve on your summer table. Plenty of annuals and perennials will be available, allowing customers a chance to refresh their sun or shade plants after the harsh winter. Knowledgeable volunteers and Master Gardeners will be on hand to help you select the right herbs and plants for your garden.

Shoppers may also purchase beautiful containers at the sale or bring their own clean pots for our team of volunteers to design and plant on-site.

Chieftains is also offering a plant sale preview for current 2018 members on Friday, April 13th from 5:30-7:30pm. Renew your membership today to come and buy your

plants before the morning rush on Saturday!

Credit and debit cards will be accepted in addition to checks and cash. All proceeds benefit Chieftains Museum/Major Ridge Home. The Herb & Plant Sale is sponsored by Friends of Chieftains Museum, Inc.



Ring in the New Year

The museum started the year with a bang with three successful events to educate and inspire the community.

On February 10th, Chieftains was the host site for the Fifth Annual Floyd County Seed Swap co-sponsored by the museum along with the Berry College Environmental Studies Program, Keep Rome Floyd Beautiful, Action Ministries Rome, the Rome Federated Garden Club, and Rome Master Gardeners.



Dr. Brian Campbell speaks to the crowd at the Seed Swap event.

The purpose of the Seed Swap is to encourage the production and protection of heirloom seeds and plant varieties that are at risk of being lost in order to provide a sustainable and diverse landscape in our community. Seed saving was particularly important to Cherokees like Major Ridge in order to sustain his family through the winter months and provide crops for the spring and summer. The Seed Swap drew 129 people to the museum campus to learn more about protecting heritage plants.

Ringling in the New Year, cont.



In honor of the 180th Anniversary of the Trail of Tears, Chieftains Museum/Major Ridge Home was honored to co-sponsor a lecture, “Duyuk’ dv’ I: The Correct Way in Cherokee,” by Mr. Tom Belt on March 6th on the Berry College campus.

Tom Belt is the Western Carolina University Cherokee Language Program Coordinator and is working to create a state-of-the-art Cherokee language program at the university level. A citizen of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, Belt is a fluent Cherokee speaker and he works closely with speakers from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians to produce culturally-based Cherokee language learning material.

As a verb-centered language, in Cherokee the term “duyuk’ dv’ I” can be used in many instances referring to different perspectives, according to Tom Belt. “It also can mean the straight way, point A to point B, or if I were to tell you Sylva is three miles away as the crow flies, I would say ‘duyuk’ dv’ I,” Belt said. “But, I could also use it as a way to describe how one should live life. Not about things we don’t have. ‘Duyuk’ dv’ I’ is to do things in life that matter, that are large, with forethought.” Mr. Belt also discussed his views on Major Ridge and how his actions in signing the Treaty of New Echota went against the concept of “Duyuk’ dv’ I.”

The presentation on “Duyuk’ dv’ I” was co-sponsored by Chieftains Museum along with the Environmental Studies program in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology & the Department of Religion & Philosophy at Berry College as part of the Chieftains Lecture Series at Berry College.

Late March provided an opportunity for garden enthusiasts to learn about protecting pollinators in our area. On March 24th, 41 people joined the Floyd County Master Gardeners and the Floyd County Extension Office for a Designing Gardens for Pollinators Workshop at the museum.

An important part of our ecosystem, pollinators provide a means of fertilizing plants. In addition to their job in the ecosystem, pollinators are also a delight in any garden. Participants in this free workshop learned methods that will attract birds, bees, and butterflies year-round in their gardens.



The museum would like to thank all of our co-sponsors for these wonderful events!

Local Students “Dig” Archaeology Field Trips at Chieftains

The month of March was a busy one for staff and volunteers at the museum with local field trips centered on the field of archaeology.

The museum hosted 268 K-5th students from the Kaleidoscope program in Floyd County Schools for an interactive experience that challenged them to be an archaeologist for the day. Students rotated through four different activities at the museum, including a “research” scavenger hunt, artifact analysis, creating an inventory, and a mock dig on the property where they discovered “artifacts” created from modern materials.



Activities for these field trips were designed by Chieftains Museum intern Roy Palmer, a graduate student at the University of West Georgia who specializes in archaeology. All field trip activities were created to meet Georgia state standards for grades K-5.

The museum received great feedback from teachers leading the field trips and hopes to include these activities as a choice for our regular field trip curriculum in the next academic year.

Collections Corner

Stone Marbles



The stone marbles that are currently on display at the museum

Di-ga-da-yo-s-di or **Marbles** is a popular Cherokee game and can be played in tournaments. The marble game dates back to approximately 800AD., and is a complex game of skill and strategy played by adults on a five-hole outdoor course. The "marbles" were carved from stone until the early 20th century. While many types of marbles look like the ones seen here, the traditional Cherokee game called for larger, round stones. There are still a few traditional marble makers, but today most people use billiard balls to play this game.

Coming Soon: Riverquest 2018



CHIEFTAINS MUSEUM/MAJOR RIDGE HOME

501 Riverside Parkway
Rome, GA 30161

Phone: 706.291.9494
Email: chmuseum@bellsouth.net



We're on the Web!
Visit us at chieftainmuseum.org

Chieftains Museum is proud to announce a new partnership with the ECO Center to bring education and fun to families in Rome and Floyd County during the summer of 2018.

Riverquest will be a new joint venture for the two organizations that brings families to both locations to learn about the importance of rivers and their history in Rome and Floyd County. Visitors will be able to participate in Riverquest on two separate Saturdays in summer, June 16th and July 14th. While still in the planning phase, look for more information for this event on the Chieftains Museum website at www.chieftainmuseum.org.



Renew Your Membership Today!

Remember that our membership year at Chieftains ends on December 31, 2018. Take advantage of the Herb & Plant Sale Membership Preview on Friday, April 13th from 5:30-7:30pm to purchase or renew a membership while getting a head start on choosing plants for your garden. You can also renew your membership anytime by contacting the museum at (706) 291-9494.

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| April 3rd: | Tony Harris Lecture at Berry College |
| April 14th-15th: | Herb & Plant Sale |
| April 28th: | JSL Garden Tour |