

Summer 2018

Chieftains Museum to Host Annual Low Country Boil Event on August 3rd



CHIEFTAINS MUSEUM / MAJOR RIDGE HOME

THE RIDGE REPORT

Friends of Chieftains Museum



Low Country Boil & Barbeque

Chieftains Museum/Major Ridge Home will host an evening of food and fun at the annual Low Country Boil & Barbeque event scheduled for Friday, August 3rd at the Rome Civic Center.

Doors open for the event at 7pm, which features an open bar and an all-you-can-eat buffet of low country boil and barbeque provided by Two Can Do Catering served at 7:45pm.

Attendees will be able to choose from a variety of live auction items and take their chances in a cash raffle to win \$500. In addition, beautifully potted plant centerpieces will be available for sale again this year.

Tickets for the event are \$75 for individuals, with tables for 8 available at \$600, and tables for 10 available at \$750. Portions of each ticket sale are tax-deductible. The Low Country Boil & Barbeque is sponsored by the Friends of Chieftains Museum with all proceeds benefiting the museum.

Credit and debit cards will be accepted in addition to checks and cash.

To purchase tickets or for more information, contact the museum at (706) 291-9494 or visit our website at www.chieftainmuseum.org.

So mark your calendar for August 3rd and come to the Chieftains
Low Country Boil & Barbeque!

Successful River Quest Event to Return July 14th



Chieftains Museum/Major Ridge Home is partnering with the Rome-Floyd ECO Center and the Rome Braves to bring the community another day of family fun and river discovery from 8am-12pm on Saturday, July 14th.

“River Quest” is a unique one-day program that allows participants to learn about river ecology and local history by completing a scavenger hunt booklet at both Chieftains Museum and the Rome-Floyd ECO Center. Each family or group can work together to complete the activity and turn in their scavenger hunt booklet for a voucher good for two free Rome Braves tickets and a chance to win a door prize. In addition, your ticket to “River Quest” includes a boat ride on the Roman Holiday to discover the beauty of our river system first-hand.

Tickets for “River Quest” cost \$5 per person and can be purchased at either the Rome-Floyd ECO Center or online at www.freshtix.com/events/river-quest-july. There are only 80 spots available for the program. After purchasing your tickets, pick up your scavenger hunt booklet and boat passes the week before the event at the Rome-Floyd ECO Center. Boat departures are at 9:30 and 10:30am and start at Ridge Ferry Park.

The first “River Quest” date in June booked 75 reservations and tickets are already selling for the July event.

For more information on this event, contact the museum at (706) 291-9494 or visit the museum’s website at www.chieftainmuseum.org or contact the Rome-Floyd ECO Center at (706) 622-6435.

Ridge’s Ferry Rides Again

The museum would like to thank Eagle Scout candidate Eli Mayes of local Boy Scout Troop 113 and his family for a wonderful new addition to the campus—a replica of Major Ridge’s ferry. Mayes approached Chieftains last year for a possible project to help him earn his Eagle Scout rank and the 15-year-old Darlington student was excited to meet the challenge of re-creating what Ridge’s ferry might have looked like.

Using museum sources and other research, Mayes completed the 1/3 size replica ferry in late May. This beautiful new feature to the campus will provide visitors with a chance to learn how important ferries like the one owned by Major Ridge were to local transportation prior to the building of our area bridges.

The museum is currently working on interpretive signage to accompany the replica ferry, which also provides a great photo opportunity for those coming to the campus.



The finished replica ferry.

Chieftains Honored with Visit from the Cherokee Nation



Executive Director Heather Shores is presented with a blanket from Cherokee Secretary of State Chuck Hoskins, Jr. and Cherokee musician Tommy Wildcat.

A delegation from the Cherokee Nation in Oklahoma attended a reception in their honor at Chieftains Museum the evening of June 8th.

The group, consisting of around 15 members, included Cherokee Secretary of State Chuck Hoskins, Jr. as well as cultural outreach officers, special program coordinators and other representatives. The visit to Chieftains marked the first time many of these tribal members have visited Georgia to see pieces of their past.

The delegation marked another first the next day when they issued updated tribal membership information and identifications to registered Cherokees at a meeting in Marietta. According to Cherokee Nation Special Projects Coordinator Kevin Stretch, 2/3 of the members of the modern tribe live outside of tribal jurisdiction with approximately 360,000 total registered members in the United States.

Secretary Hoskins thanked Chieftains Museum for welcoming the delegation to Georgia, adding that they hold a great appreciation for organizations like the museum that have preserved their heritage through the years when they were unable to do so themselves.

Secretary Hoskins presented Chieftains Museum with two gifts—a set of stickball sticks handmade by a descendant of Major Ridge, and a wool blanket designed by Cherokee Nation Lead Graphic Designer Dan Mink. The blanket includes a patch signed by Principal Chief Bill John Baker that reads,

“The One Fire flame represents the strength of the Cherokee Nation over the course of time—from our beginnings in our ancestral eastern homelands before the Trail of Tears to today. This fire symbolizes the unity of our people, our history, our culture and our sovereign government. We all come from ONE FIRE.”



Cherokee Secretary of State Chuck Hoskins, Jr. speaks to the crowd during the event.

The museum hopes to continue to work with the Cherokee Nation as well as the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians to preserve their heritage in the east for generations to come.

Collections Corner



CHIEFTAINS MUSEUM/MAJOR RIDGE HOME

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We're on the Web!

Visit us at chieftainmuseum.org

Modern-day Stickball Sticks made by a Ridge descendant



Dawni Squirrel presented these sticks to the museum when a delegation from the Cherokee Nation in Oklahoma attended a reception at the museum on June 8th. These modern-day sticks were handmade from hickory by a descendant of Major Ridge.

Stickball resembles the modern European game of lacrosse. A small ball, made of deer hair and hide, is tossed into the air and the male players use a pair of the sticks while the female players use their bare hands.

In earlier times, only the men with the greatest athletic ability played the game. The game was oftentimes played to settle disputes. Seven points are scored when the ball strikes a wooden fish or ball that sits on the top of a 28 foot pole and two points are awarded when the ball strikes the pole.

It is also played as a recreational sport between community teams. There are also intertribal teams made up of players from Cherokee, Muscogee (Creek), Yuchi, Natchez, and other area communities.

Get Your Membership Today!

Remember that our membership year at Chieftains ends on December 31, 2018. You can renew your membership anytime by contacting the museum at (706) 291-9494.

Upcoming Events

July 14th:

River Quest

August 3rd:

Low Country Boil & Barbeque

September 29th:

Festive Flowers—Decorating for the Holidays Workshop