

May 2015



CHIEFTAINS MUSEUM / MAJOR RIDGE HOME

The Ridge Report

“Shine in the Pines” Comes to Chieftains June 20th



Painting, copyright 2015 Ken Blacktop Gentle

Chieftains Museum/Major Ridge Home will host an evening of fun at the “Shine in the Pines” Moonshine Tasting event scheduled for Saturday, June 20th on the museum campus.

Guests at the event can enjoy tasting moonshine and hard cider on the banks of the Oostanaula River where

Cherokee leader Major Ridge once operated a 223-acre plantation that featured crops of corn and wheat, a fruit orchard and his own vineyard.

Doors open for the event at 5pm, which features a sampling of moonshine and hard cider, cash bar, and bluegrass music. In addition, food trucks and restaurants from Rome, including Lou-Cora’s, Speak Cheesy, and Fuddrucker’s, will be on-hand to make sure no guest goes hungry. Guests can also enjoy a tour of Chieftains Museum before the event closes at 9pm.

Tickets for the event cost \$20 in advance, \$25 at the gate and include entry to the event, five free samples of moonshine and/or hard cider, and a tour of the museum. You must be 21 years of age or older to purchase tickets and attend this event—valid I.D. will be checked at the gate.

Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased at the museum and the Last Stop Gift Shop at the Rome Visitors Center. Portions of each ticket sale are tax-deductible. The “Shine in the Pines” event is sponsored by Friends of Chieftains Museum with all proceeds benefiting the museum.

For more information, contact the museum at (706) 291-9494 or visit www.chieftainmuseum.org.



Mark your calendar today and
come visit the museum
for a night of “shine” by the river on June 20th!



Art Contest Winners Announced!

The second annual Chieftains Art Contest proved a great success with 78 entries from local 8th-12th grade students. Students were asked to create original artwork based around the theme of the Cherokee in the War of 1812. The top three submissions were chosen by the Chiaha Arts Guild and received cash prizes for their art. All students who submitted artwork received a certificate of recognition.

This year's winners include:

1st Place – Kiana Mata, Armuchee High School

2nd Place – Jamie Armstrong, Armuchee High School

3rd Place – Dylan Guzman, Cedartown High School

Artwork created for the contest will be on display in the museum throughout the summer and will rotate on a three-week schedule. For a list of student artwork currently on display, visit the museum's website.

Look for details on the 2016 Chieftains Art Contest in our newsletter and on the website this fall!



2nd place winner Jamie Armstrong, Teacher Michaela Flynn, and 1st place winner Kiana Mata pose at Armuchee High School.

New Garden Showcases Cherokee Agriculture



As part of the outdoor educational initiative at Chieftains, a new garden is on the rise behind the Grizzard Center. Master Gardeners Nelly Luthi and Carolyn Carpino have worked with Executive Director Heather Shores to create a “Three Sisters” garden, giving a peek inside the history of Cherokee legend and agriculture. The “Three Sisters” for the Cherokee and many other Native American tribes consist of corn, beans and squash, three staple crops in Cherokee agriculture and diet. These three crops work well together and support each other in the garden, with the corn acting as a support for the bean plants while the

squash prevents weeds from growing at the base of the other two plants. The legend behind this planting system explains that each plant, or “sister” suffered when it tried to be independent—to thrive, they need to work together, each providing for the others.

The “Three Sisters” behind the Grizzard Center are being cultivated in raised beds made from wheat straw bales, creating an organic garden on the museum grounds. For the first phase of the garden, corn seeds and seedlings have been planted to provide the base support for the other plants.

This garden provides the museum with a new educational opportunity for visitors to our campus this summer and you can look for other plantings on the campus this fall.

Be sure to come by and see how our garden grows!

Art Activity Area Provides Educational Fun for All Ages

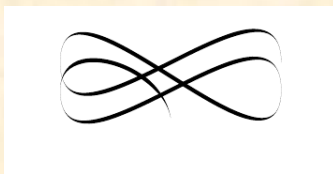
Opening in late June 2015, a new art activity area inside the museum will provide an opportunity for visitors ages 1–101 to learn more about Cherokee culture in a creative way. The “Haweis Mission School,” located on the screened porch inside the museum will offer different learning activities for visitors in a setting made to resemble a mission school in the Cherokee Nation in the 1830s. Several missionary groups traveled into Cherokee territory during the early 19th century, establishing churches and schools throughout the area.



Remains of the Taloney Mission in Georgia founded by Presbyterians in Pickens County along Talking Rock Creek.

These groups included Moravians, Baptists, Methodists and Presbyterian missionaries in northwest Georgia. “Haweis” was a mission school located twenty miles west of Rome established by Presbyterian missionaries in our area. Mission schools taught an average of 20 to 30 Cherokee students in a variety of subjects including English, History, Reading, Geography, weaving, sewing, and agricultural methods in an effort to assimilate them into American society.

The “Haweis Mission School” at Chieftains will not stress assimilation but education, with visitors invited to complete activities about the Cherokee language, pottery, and culture that they can take with them as a reminder of their experience at the museum. Come and visit the museum this summer when our “school” is in session!



Making a traditional corn husk doll will be one of the activities offered in the Haweis Mission School at the museum.

Collections Corner

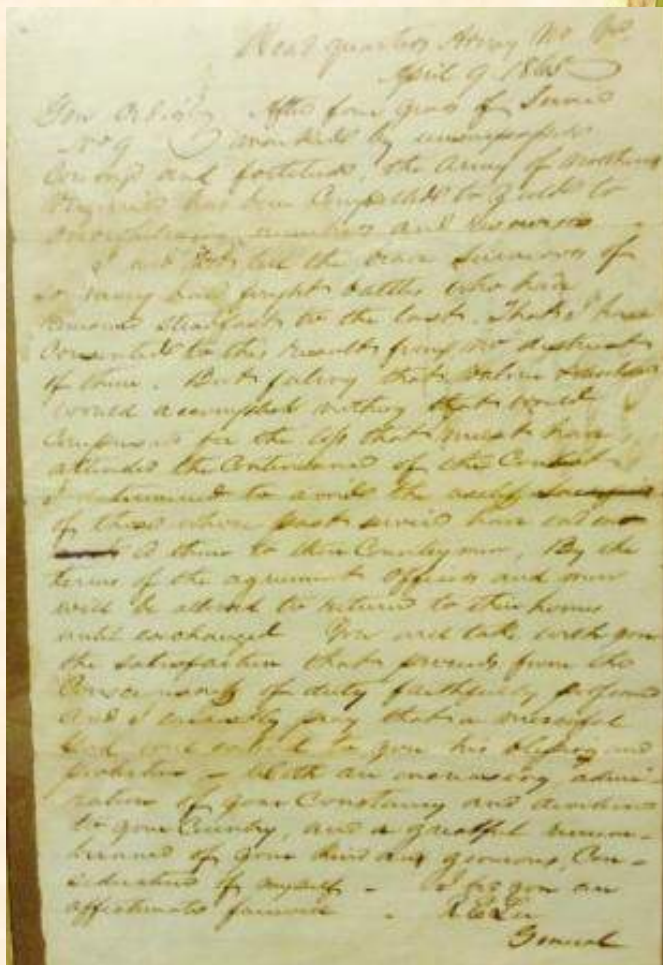
Robert E. Lee Surrender Order #9



General Robert E. Lee in uniform, 1863.

Robert Edward Lee is best known as the Commander-in-Chief of the Army of Northern Virginia during the Civil War. He declined Abraham Lincoln's request to serve in the Union Army and resigned from the United States Army in April 1861 after Virginia seceded from the Union.

The Addison Jones family lived in Shenandoah, Virginia, in proximity to the Lee family home until they moved to the Chieftains house in 1863. Addison and Susanna's son, Joseph, was a courier for General Lee during the Civil War who carried this authentic period copy of the original Surrender Order #9, chronicling the surrender of Lee's army at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865.



Lee's last message to the troops on April 9, 1865.

The letter, shown at right, and a letter concerning the fatal injury to Stonewall Jackson that was also carried by Joseph Jones, were passed down in the Jeffries family, descendants of the Jones family who lived in Chieftains for many years. Both letters were donated to the museum by Dean Jeffries.

Surrender Order #9 has recently completed a six month display period in honor of the 150th anniversary of the surrender and is now resting from exposure to the environment. The letter regarding Stonewall Jackson's injuries is currently on display at the museum in its place.

Both letters give a glimpse into the bloodiest conflict in U.S. history and illustrate the key moments in that history witnessed by those in the Chieftains house.



CHIEFTAINS MUSEUM/MAJOR RIDGE HOME

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We're on the Web!

Visit us at chieftainmuseum.org

Thank You to the Greater Rome Board of Realtors

Chieftains Museum would like to thank local realtor and Junior Service League member, Jennifer Hillegas, for organizing a fundraiser for the museum through the Greater Rome Board of Realtors. At a spring luncheon of the GRBR, Ms. Hillegas asked for donations from the group to help fund repainting of the kitchen ceiling inside the museum. As a result, Chieftains was presented with a check for \$213.00 from the Greater Rome Board of Realtors, which covers approximately half of the cost of the painting project.

Thank you for helping us preserve the past for the future at Chieftains!



Have You Renewed?

Be sure to renew your membership to the museum for 2015!

Memberships are good for January 1—December 31 each year and give you free admission to the museum, a 10% discount in our gift shop, and invitations to exclusive member events throughout the year.

Contact the museum to find out how you can continue to be a part of the excitement at Chieftains!

Upcoming Events

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| June 20th: | “Shine in the Pines” Moonshine Festival |
| July 18th: | Family Free Day |
| August 13th: | Annual Low Country Boil & Barbeque |