



The Talking Leaves

Newsletter of the Florida Tribe of Cherokee Indians



December 2009

Volume 1 Issue 9

News Flash

The Florida Tribe of Cherokee Indians would like to welcome our newest member-citizens:

Janet Ann Brock Linda Arlene Johnson
Emily Anne Wallace Joseph William Wallace
Alexia Mae Bevans Brenda Louise Bazzelle

Our tribe has really been growing. We have almost one hundred members now.

COOKBOOKS

The cookbooks have been selling like hotcakes. (shameless pun), and we can't make them as fast as they are selling. Thanks to everyone who has purchased one. This has been a great fund raiser for the tribe. Our thanks to Toshana Johnson for suggesting it and for getting the recipes and putting it together.

DEATH

Our sympathies go out to Sandra Maddox and her family over the loss of her daughter, Rhonda McCurley.

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Our Christmas Party

Submitted by: Betty "Mountain Woman" Brock

Hi Everyone,

We had a great time at our "pot-luck" Christmas Party which was held on December 12 at the First Assembly of God church on Dogwood Dr. in Milton. Pat Easterwood's brother, Richard, and his wife entertained everyone with Karaoke. Richard and his wife were especially gracious to come out to our party since Richard had back surgery just five weeks ago. They both displayed their lovely voices by singing a few songs for us. The food was awesome as usual. Those Cherokee men and women can cook some excellent food.

We have all been concerned about Lee Johnson, Chief Ken Johnson's dad. He had been hospitalized in I.C.U., but was discharged from the hospital and came straight to the party. He wore his red Cherokee ribbon shirt which someone brought to the party for him. In answer to our prayers, God has spared Lee further misery and he is doing much better.

We had a display of our lovely cookbooks which we put together for sale as a fund-raiser for our tribe. We all appreciate the tireless work by Ken's lovely wife, Tosha, who collected and organized all the recipes for the book. We also want to express out appreciation to the tribe members who contributed recipes for the cookbook. It is a beautiful book, full of Cherokee stories which were submitted by our chief, Ken. And, last of all, we thank Jim and Betty Brock for the copy work and binding of the cookbooks. This was a good example of "team-work". The books are on sale for \$ 7.00 plus 2.50 for shipping. To reserve your copy, send your name and phone number to office@floridacherokee.com. The books contain a variety of Cherokee and other types of recipes. There is something for everyone included in this cookbook.

After our dinner, some singing and good conversation, we were treated to a special and important "naming ceremony" during which, 6 of our new members received their Cherokee names. The ceremony was performed by our chief, Ken "Soaring Eagle" Johnson.

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The party started to dwindle down after the ceremony. Some of our members had traveled long distances to be present and needed to leave early for the long trip home.

Some of our members were unable to attend due to deaths in their families for which we offer our deepest sympathy. As we end one year and advance toward the new year, we wish all of you a very pleasant holiday season and a great year in 2010 !

Cycle of the Seasons

This graphic represents the Four Seasons within the Four Directions. In Cherokee mythology each season was a time for specific rituals and ceremonies.



Winter *go-la*

Winter belongs to the North. The color for North is Blue which represents sadness, defeat. It is a season of survival and waiting. The Cherokee word for North means "cold" *u-yv-tlv*.

Spring *gi-la-go-ge*

The color for East is Red which represents victory, power. Spring is the re-awakening after a long sleep - victory over winter; the power of new life. The Cherokee word for East is *ka-lv-gv*

Summer *go-ga*

The color for South is White which represents peace, happiness, serenity. Summer is a time of plenty. The Cherokee word for South means "warm" *u-ga-no-wa*.

Autumn *u-la-go-hv-s-di*

The color for West is Black which represents death. Autumn is the final harvest; the end of Life's Cycle. The Cherokee word for West is *wu-de-li-gv*.

Cherokee Myths and Legends:

Why the turkey gobbles

The Grouse used to have a fine voice and a good halloo in the ballplay. All the animals and birds used to play ball in those days and were just as proud of a loud halloo as the ball players of today.

The Turkey had not a good voice, so he asked the Grouse to give him lessons. The Grouse agreed to teach him, but wanted pay for his trouble, and the Turkey promised to give him some feathers to make himself a collar. That is how the Grouse got his collar of turkey feathers.

They began the lessons and the Turkey learned very fast until the Grouse thought it was time to try his voice. "Now," said the Grouse, "I'll stand on this hollow log, and when I give the signal by tapping on it, you must halloo as loudly as you can." So he got upon the log ready to tap on it, as a Grouse does, but when he gave the signal the Turkey was so eager and excited that he could not raise his voice for a shout, but only gobbled, and ever since then he gobbles whenever he hears a noise.

Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services Registration # CH29301

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Donate Today!!!

Help the Florida Tribe of Cherokee Indians by clipping out this ad and sending in your tax deductible donation today.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: (____) ____ - _____

E-MAIL: _____

\$ _____

Make Checks Payable & Send Payment To:

Florida Tribe of Cherokee Indians

PO Box 263

Milton, FL 32572-0263

Submitted by Tosha Johnson

An estimated 84 million cookies will be left out for Santa Claus this year.* That is a lot of cookies! To make your house stand out, take a little help from the grocery store to make some Cherokee-inspired confections.

Cherokee-Inspired Strawberry Jam Filled Cookies

1 roll frozen sugar cookie dough from the grocery store
1/3 cup self-rising flour
1 pinch sea salt
1 jar strawberry jam

Defrost cookie dough and squirt it out of its plastic tubing into a large mixing bowl. Add flour and salt. Mix ingredients together. On a board, roll out the dough into logs that were about the same diameter as the original cookie packaging, wrap in plastic wrap or parchment paper, and let rest in a refrigerator for 15 minutes. Take rolls out of the refrigerator and let them firm up in the freezer for 15 minutes. Preheat oven to 350F. Cut cookies in 1/2 inch rounds and lay onto an oil sprayed or non-stick cookie sheet. Take a 1/8 teaspoon scooped measuring spoon, or a small melon baller, and make little divots into the cookies. Using a similar sized, rounded utensil dip out the jam and place a slightly heaping dollop into the divots. Bake for 15-20 minutes or until done. Remove cookies to a cooling rack for 35-40 minutes before serving.

Want to learn more about the Cherokee story of the strawberry? Want some awesome Cherokee-inspired recipes for your Christmas dinner table? You're in luck! The Florida Tribe of Cherokee Indians has put together a cookbook that will be out just in time for Christmas. We are not selling these but taking donations. The recommended donation is \$7 per book. To reserve your copy, send your name and phone number to office@floridacherokee.com. Checks and money orders can be mailed to: Florida Tribe of Cherokee Indians, Inc., 7675 Old Hickory Hammock Road, Milton, FL 32583.

*Source: *Woman's Day Magazine*, December 2009 Issue

Happy New Year !!!

a-li-he-li-s-di i-tse u-de-ti-
yv-sa-di-sv-i

Pronounced:

ah lee hay lee sss day tee
yuh saw dee suh ee

Joke of the Month:

A man asked an American Indian what was his wife's name.

He replied, "She called Four Horses".

The man said, "That's an unusual name for your wife. What does it mean?"

The Old Indian answered, "It old Indian Name. It mean,

Nag nag nag nag!

A few helpful links:

Language Resources:

public.csusm.edu/raven/ Cherokee.dir/cherlexi.html

We will be utilizing this site to learn and practice, as a group, our Cherokee language. I will be adding words and phrases that we will use in our meetings.

Cherokee Museum Online:

www.cherokeemuseum.org/html/archives_faq.html

Cherokee Heritage Center:

www.cherokeeheritage.org/index.html

GoodSearch.com

www.goodsearch.com

To keep updated on the progress of donations earned please visit:

<http://www.goodsearch.com/nonprofit/florida-tribe-of-cherokee-indians.aspx>

GoodShop.com

www.goodshop.com

Check out this page on our website dedicated solely to helpful links for research and fun. Here is the link:

<http://www.floridacherokee.com/?action=links>

THE EDITOR REQUESTS:

Please forward submissions and/or ideas for the newsletter no later than the last day of the month preceding publication.

Jamesbrock@comcast.net

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WARNING: 2010 Census

Cautions from the Better Business Bureau.

Be Cautious About Giving Info to Census Workers!

With the U.S. Census process beginning, the Better Business Bureau (BBB) advises people to be cooperative, but cautious, so as not to become a victim of fraud or identity theft. The first phase of the 2010 U.S. Census is under way as workers have begun verifying the addresses of households across the country. Eventually, more than 140,000 U.S. Census workers will count every person in the United States and will gather information about every person living at each address including name, age, gender, race, and other relevant data.

The big question is - how do you tell the difference between a U.S. Census worker and a con artist?

BBB offers the following advice:

** If a U.S. Census worker knocks on your door, he/she will have a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag, and a confidentiality notice. Ask to see their identification and their badge before answering their questions. However, you should never invite anyone you don't know into your home.

** Census workers are currently only knocking on doors to verify address information. Do not give your Social Security number, credit card or banking information to anyone, even if they claim they need it for the U.S. Census.

REMEMBER, NO MATTER WHAT THEY ASK, YOU REALLY ONLY NEED TO TELL THEM HOW MANY PEOPLE LIVE AT YOUR ADDRESS.

While the Census Bureau might ask for basic financial information, such as a salary range, **YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER ANYTHING AT ALL ABOUT YOUR FINANCIAL SITUATION.** The Census Bureau will not ask for Social Security, bank account, or credit card numbers, nor will employees solicit donations. Any one asking for that information is **NOT** with the Census Bureau.

AND REMEMBER, THE CENSUS BUREAU HAS DECIDED NOT TO WORK WITH ACORN ON GATHERING THIS INFORMATION. No Acorn worker should approach you saying he/she is with the Census Bureau.

Eventually, Census workers may contact you by telephone, mail, or in person at home. However, the Census Bureau will not contact you by Email, so be on the lookout for Email scams impersonating the Census. Never click on a link or open any attachments in an Email that are supposedly from the U.S. Census Bureau.

For more advice on avoiding identity theft and fraud, visit:

www.bbb.org

PLEASE SHARE THIS INFO WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

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