Georgia’s Official Frontier and Southeastern Indian Interpretive Center

Perdido Bay Creek Tribe Visits Heritage Center
We were honored to greet our first delegation of Creek tribal members on Saturday, July 23, 2011. Members from the Perdido Bay Tribe of the Miscoe Creeks, led by Mico (Chief) Bobby Johns Bearheart, visited from their homes in Florida, Georgia and Tennessee. John Bennett, Chair of the Heritage Center’s Advisory Board, presented an award to Chief Bearheart recognizing his contributions to the preservation of Native American culture. He commented that this was an important opportunity to link the Creek Indians to the work of the Center. The Center’s Bennett History Museum interprets the story of the Southeastern Indians, including those tribes who were part of the great Creek Confederacy. Chief Bearheart grew up in rural Georgia in the 1930s and 1940s and lived in Augusta where he worked for the Department of the Army. The Perdido Bay Tribe is centered in Pensacola, Florida. Chief Bearheart makes his home there and has developed an interpretive center in the area. Chief Bearheart also inspired a book written by Georgia’s Official Frontier and Southeastern Indian Interpretive Center

Georgia History Timeline
October 12, 13 & 14
Our 8th annual curriculum-based school field trip allows students to learn through “living history” as they visit with historical characters who are portrayed by re-enactors. This annual October school field trip is held in our Appalachian Settlement. Native American interpreter Jim Sawgrass will return and set up his camp. Students will visit with Turtle Woman, Sequoyah de Soto and General James Oglethorpe. Also, Mary Musgrove is an addition to our program and Abraham Lincoln will attend all three days this year.

Children will see what life was like during the 1840s when pioneers moved into their log cabins. A blacksmith and a woodworker will be on hand to demonstrate early crafts. The admission for students and adults for this program is still $10. One adult is free per 20 students.

Educators appreciate our dedication to planning quality educational field trips for nominal fees. Home school groups are welcome to attend as well. All presentations are contingent upon re-enactor’s availability and special circumstances. This is a rain or shine event. For more information and reservations, call Barbara Starr at 770-720-5967.

SPECIAL EVENTS
Funk Book Club
Second Tuesday
Each month
2:00 - 3:30 p.m.
Enter Our Photo Contest
See page 3 for details
Submit photos by Sept. 30
Boy Scout Merit Badge Day
September 17
See page 3 for details
Smithsonian Magazine
School Field Trip
October 12, 13 & 14
Our annual October school field trip is held based on the program and allows students to tour the Center and learn through “living history.”

Our 8th annual curriculum

Each month, enactors present educational programs for middle and high school students. These tours are focused on historical events and characters that played a significant role in Appalachian history. Students are encouraged to participate in hands-on activities and learn about the different aspects of daily life during the early 19th century.

Funk Heritage Center has hosted more than 121,000 visitors since opening November 16, 1999.

Funk Heritage Center
7300 Reinhardt Circle
Waleska, GA 30183-2981

Phone: 770-720-5970
Fax: 770-720-5965
E-mail: heritagecenter@reinhardt.edu
Website: www.reinhardt.edu/funkheritage

Address Service Requested

If you are not already a member...
ENROLL NOW: FUNK HERITAGE CENTER ONE-YEAR MEMBERSHIP

Please PRINT member name(s): _______________________________ Today’s date: _______________________________

Individual Membership: $25.00
- free admission for one year
- semi-annual newsletter
- preferred pricing for special events
- half price admission for up to four guests per visit

Family Membership: $50.00
- free admission for one year (immediate family incl. children under 18)
- semi-annual newsletter
- preferred pricing for special events
- half price admission for up to four guests per family per visit

Please PRINT member name(s): _______________________________ Today’s date: _______________________________

member # 1: _______________________________ member # 2: _______________________________

card #: _______________________________ exp. date: _______________________________
signature: _______________________________

Form of payment: check (make payable to Reinhardt University): ck #: _______________________________ amt: _______________________________

MasterCard or VISA (circle one): card #: _______________________________ exp. date: _______________________________ signature: _______________________________

Please mail this form to: Funk Heritage Center, 7300 Reinhardt Circle, Waleska, GA 30183-2981

FUNK HERITAGE CENTER OF REINHARDT UNIVERSITY
7300 Reinhardt Circle
Waleska, GA 30183-2981

Phone: 770-720-5970
Fax: 770-720-5965
E-mail: heritagecenter@reinhardt.edu
Website: www.reinhardt.edu/funkheritage

Address Service Requested
Laura Tuttle—Our New Volunteer

Laura Tuttle heard about the Funk Heritage Center from a friend. Being of Cherokee heritage, she learned that the museum and soon became a volunteer storyteller. During our summer field trips, Laura read Native American stories to children in our recent passed Warluskee’s Corner. She said “Storytelling is a vital tool used for centuries. Stories enrich the lives of countless people, and it is my hope they gain an appreciation of stories.”

Laura will portray Mary Musgrove during our Georgia History Timeline. Musgrove, known as Coosaponakeesa, was born into the Creek Indians, was born about 1700 in Koweta, the major town at that time of the Lower Creeks of Georgia. She was the daughter of a white South Carolina trader, Edward Griffin. Her mother was a sister of Binnen, a chief and member of the powerful Wind Clan. Mary was raised by her mother but when she was about ten, she was sent to South Carolina where she learned to speak English, read and write. Mary also spoke her native Creek language, her linguistic ability and knowledge of native culture would lead her to become a central figure in early Georgia history. She played a vital part in the founding of Georgia as a translator for General James Oglethorpe, Georgia’s founder. Her uncle, Creek Headman Tomochichi, greeted General Oglethorpe, and the colonists when they arrived in 1733. He negotiated land agreements allowing settlers to begin farming and ranching. Without her help, there might not have been a Georgia colony.

School Activities Coordinator Jayne Hunter said “Laura has a passion for her heritage that is revealed in everything she does. Her enthusiasm for keeping this history alive brings a sense of excitement and adventure to all her interactions with our young visitors. Even as an adult, I find myself caught up and swept away while listening to her Native American legends.”

meet our summer intern kevin spears

It has been our pleasure to work with Kevin Spears this summer. He graduated from Kennesaw State University on August 2 with a BS in anthropology, and a minor in Spanish and Native American studies. Kevin said, “Since choosing to do my internship at the Heritage Center, my time has been full of exciting activities. My favorite was helping with our summer ecology camp and I think I had more fun than the campers.” He completed an exhibit on methods of archaeology which is located in the Hall of the Ancients and worked on other interesting projects. We appreciate his help this summer and wish him the best. We will miss him!

The Funk Heritage Center relies on volunteers who contribute thousands of hours of service each year. Volunteer docents give tours to children and adults. Gardeners and carpenters help with museum landscaping and improvements. Living history volunteers provide programs in our Appalachian Settlement!

Director’s Corner

We have been working on several programs this summer including our new children’s interpretive area, Warluskee’s Corner. With lots of things to see and touch, animal pelts are the favorite of young visitors. Pelts of deer and other game played a key role in the fur trade between Native Americans and European fur traders. It was a trade that affected people on Georgia’s frontier. This area offers some good insights into how natural habitats supported abundant wildlife and affected settlers and Native people alike. It is complete with our case displays of items exchanged in the deer-skin trade and showing the objects they replaced in native life.

We enjoyed our visit with members of the Perdido Bay Tribe on July 23. The visit resulted as a result of our efforts, this one-of-a-kind event has received outstanding comments from educators who bring their classes from Cherokee and surrounding counties. Teachers began making reservations last spring for this fall program.

The Georgia Performance Standards for grade two includes learning about Georgia’s Southeastern Indians, both the Cherokee and the Creeks. It’s safe to say that most Georgians have no idea how ethnically diverse the native population of Georgia was, or how profound was the relationship with these people, most of whom later became part of the great Creek Confederation. This fall, we are adding more information about the Creeks in our Hall of the Ancients area for many reasons. Coosaponakeesa and her uncle Tomochichi were crucial to General Oglethorpe’s efforts in founding the colony of Georgia. We continue to try and meet the curriculum needs of the school children who visit the Center.

Each year, Reinhardt University focuses on another place for the “Year of study and celebration.” The 2011-2012 school year will be the University’s “Year of Ireland” celebration. Programs on Ireland open to the public are being planned and the Heritage Center will be involved. If you are interested in Ireland, go to our website at www.reinhardt.edu/funkheritage and then go to “Link Partners” where you will find information on the Ulster-Scots and Ireland.

Boy Scouts Merit Badge Day

Saturday, September 17

Boy Scouts can earn merit badges in many areas at this all day event. FHC staff will offer the Indian Lore badge. Other badges include American Heritage, Environmental Science, Fly Fishing, Geocaching, Photography and Pioneering. The cost is $10 and lunch is available from BSA Troop 125 for $3. Scouts should register on-line at the FHC website www.reinhardt.edu/funkheritage. Checks will be accepted upon check-in and should be made out to BSA Troop 125. All classes are full day sessions and each Scout should have a merit badge application (blue card) in his possession. Check-in will be between 8 and 8:45 a.m.

The mission of the Funk Heritage Center is to tell the story of the early Appalachian Indians and Southeastern Indians through educational programming and the collection, care and exhibition of art and artifacts.

Cherokee Master Gardeners tended to our Native Garden again this year. Thanks to Jane Shelton and Marvin Colton (top) and Steve Scott and Tom Connolly (r-bottom) for all of their help.

Native American Day

Saturday, November 5

Join us for our annual tribute to Native Americans from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. This free public event is a great day for Scouts to visit the museum. We will have tours in the Hall of the Ancients looked to the Creeks at 10 a.m. and noon. Enjoy Native American stories, a flint knotting demonstration and more.

At 1 p.m., we will have a special screening of Black Indians: An American Story. This film is narrated by James Earl Jones. It explains the cultural and racial fusion of Native and African Americans. The award winning film by Native American production company Rich-Heape Films, explores what brought the two groups together and the challenges they continue to face today. Hot dogs and drinks will be for sale or you can bring a picnic lunch. Last year, many Cub Scouts, Webelos, Brownies, and Girl Scouts attended and visited of all ages enjoyed the event. Scouts in uniform will receive a free hot dog and drink. This is a perfect opportunity for families to attend this family event.

Funk Book Club

Meetings, second Tuesday 2:30–3:30 p.m.

Book Club Selections

September 13, The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot

October 11, Friday’s Daughter by Patricia Sprinkle

November 8, The Homecoming of Samuel Lake: A Novel by Steve Scott

The public is welcome to attend Book Club meetings.