

**Monthly report
Cherokee Heritage Center
Dr. Charles Gourd**

The month of September saw the closing of the summer exhibit "The Earth Shakers: the Influence of Cherokee Women" and the Homecoming Art Show and Sale. The fall/winter exhibit "American Indians in Professional Baseball: 1897-1947" opened. Diligwa village has had visitors from 35 states and 22 foreign countries. The long range planning for the exhibit next summer will be one on Traditional and Native Foods in Partnership with the Cherokee Nation Healthy Living initiative and CDC; the USDA Farm to School Project with Pam Kingfisher; the Heirloom Seed Program by Mr. Pat Gwin; and, Ms. Tamara Walkingstick, a retired Cherokee with whom I served on the Forest Resource Coordinating Committee of the US Forest Service, she teaches Wild and Native Recipes of Cherokee origin.

THE ARCHIVES:

Submitted a grant application to the National Archives and Records Administration for digitization capacity building. A large fire/water proof vault was secured. A total of nine patrons utilized the services of the archives.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Classes:

Trade Cloth
Humanities Classes
Finger weaving

EVENTS:

Ancient Cherokee Days – 1500 students from 35 area schools
Co-Curator of the American Indians in Baseball: 1897-1947 exhibit
Oklahoma Museum Association Convention
Host to Cherokee Nation Council for orientation

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT:

1. Falling Dead Trees In and Around the Grounds, Cutting Dead Trees into Firewood
2. Trimming Limbs from Existing Trees to an Acceptable Level
3. Removing Dead/Disposing Limbs from Trees on the Entire Grounds
4. Blowing Away Leaves/Debris from Sidewalks/Plaza
5. Removing and Disposing of Trash in Receptacles
6. Mowing/Weed Eating/Edging Sidewalks Entire Grounds
7. Tear-Down of Canopies/Tables/Chairs, Fencing and Signs (Cherokee Holiday)
8. Set-Up/Picked-Up/Stored Tables and Chairs for Board/Council Member Luncheon
9. Getting Estimates on Tools/Equipment at Various Local Retailers
10. Taking CHC's Vehicles in for Maintenance and Tire Installation
11. Picking Up Materials/Building Entrance Columns for Baseball Exhibit
12. Picking-Up Roofing Materials for Echota Pavilion
13. Removing Rocks/Filling-In Holes Echota Grounds
14. Performing Preventative Maintenance on Mowers

15. Installing/Replacing Bulbs in Main Museum Area and Chapel
16. Picking-Up Materials/Constructing Entry for Baseball Exhibit
17. Setting-Up/Tearing-Down/Storing Canopies, Tables and Chairs for Cherokee Speakers Gathering

OUTREACH PROGRAM:

Year to Date: 10,199 total students

September students: 874

Outreach begins to get busy in September. Schools are back in the swing of things after being gone all summer and they're ready for cultural activities. This month Outreach visited 3 schools, a major cultural event in Oklahoma City at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, and attended the Oklahoma Museum Association Conference in Durant, OK.

The Cherokee Celebration Day at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum went very well. This is the second year that CHC and NCWHM have partnered to present this event to the public and it was hugely successful this year. With the help of the Cherokee Nation JOM Office, as well as Cherokee Nation Education personnel, we were able to provide cultural demonstrations and activities to 804 students from schools in and around Oklahoma City. We hope that this is a program that can be sustained throughout the coming years, as it is very beneficial to reach students in this area that might not otherwise have a chance to learn about Cherokee history and culture.

Also, this month the Outreach program received confirmation that we will receive the Oklahoma Humanities Council Major grant, as well as the matching funds to receive the full grant amount, allowing the Outreach program to provide cultural services to area schools for another year.

GROUP TOURS:

Total of 11 group tours for a total of 1,389 individuals

DEVELOPMENT OFFICE:

We have a new Development Officer, Mr. Paul Buckner who has already completed three grant applications and is preparing two more for submission. In addition, he is conducting research on additional funding sources for CHC.

CURATOR:

Outreach activities: OKC event at Cowboy Hall of Fame

FAMILY RESEARCH CENTER:

Numbers:

- Total numbers for the month—884
(Includes: research requests, mail outs, outreach, visitors, calls & emails)
(YTD-2019-8,324 vs YTD 2018-38,111= -29,787 down (no RootsTech# 2019))

Breakdown:

- 532 emails
- 18 Mail Outs
- 4 Response letters
- 142 phone calls
- 17 research requests
- 171 visitors

DILIGWAY VILLAGE:

Visitors from 35 states and 18 foreign countries.