Our department is currently preparing for our summer program. We will once again be working with grades K-6. The bake sale fundraiser for our summer program did well and we are thankful for all the support. Be on the lookout for more info in the upcoming issues of the Gae:wanöhgeh’e.

We are also getting ready to host our After School Language program kids throughout the week of community fair. The After School kids will help run the community fair social on Monday April 10th. We look forward to showing the progress our students have made. Be sure to come out and support our kids at the Social, starting at 6pm.

Our community class offerings now include a Friday evening language class with Jacky Snyder and Lee Jimerson facilitating the root word method. Come down and join the fun, the class starts at 6:30pm and run until about 8:30pm.

Sign-ups are currently being taken for the beaded cuff/bracelet class taught by Samantha Jacobs. The class will start on April 19th and run until May 10th. To register, call: 716-532-8161.

Please feel free to contact the Onöndowa’ga:’ Gawë:nö’ Nadö:diyeö:je’ koh Department if you have any comments or questions at (716) 532-8162. We will be happy to assist you in any way we can.

Gawë:nö’ lesson: I wish I were a rabbit song

This classic children’s song can be found in the Seneca Song Book created by Alberta Austin in 1986. This particular song is sung to the tune “Did you ever see a Lassie.”

In Ganyo’ö:ka’-
1. I wish I were a rabbit, I were a rabbit, I were a rabbit.
2. I wish I were a rabbit.
3. I’d be hoping along.
4. This way, that way; this way, that way.
5. I wish I were a rabbit. 
6. I’d be hopping along.

In Onöndowa’ga’-
1. Agajë:gwah Te’égewa’yö’:, Te’égewa’yö’:, Te’égewa’yö’:
2. Agajë:gwah Te’égewa’yö’:
3. Da’wagëno’sgö:je’.
5. Agajë:gwah Te’égewa’yö’:
6. Da’wagëno’sgö:je’.

Gawë:nö’ lesson: I wish I were a rabbit song
Heritage Day
June 3rd
11am - 5pm
Seneca Iroquois National Museum
Storytelling - 11am & 1pm
Atlatl Competition - 1pm
Historic Seneca Fashion Show - 4pm
Silent Auction, Art Demos, Traditional food
For more info, call: 716-945-1760

Beaded Cuff / Bracelet Class
Wednesdays:
April 19th - May 10th
5pm - 7pm
Stanley “Sully” Huff
Heritage Center
Pre-registration required
To register, call: 716-532-8161

17th & 18th Century Senecas
By Kurt Jordan
6pm
April 27th
Seneca Iroquois National Museum
As part of the SINM Spring Lecture series
For more info, call: 716-945-1760

“Following Our Ancestors”
Opening reception
April 7th
7pm
125 Art collective tattoo studio,
125 Elmwood Ave, Buffalo, NY
For more info: https://125artcollective.com/

Spring Vendor Day
April 28th
10:30am - 3pm
Café, William Seneca Building
SNI Cattaraugus Territory
Call to sign up for a vendor space.
For more info, call: Leslie Cooke at 716-532-4900

Kids Baking Class
Mondays, April 17th - May 8th
6pm - 9pm
Allegany Community Center
Open to ages: 6 - 12
10 spots available
$5 material fee
To sign up, call: Karlene at 716-945-8119 ext, 3706
Ahsoh Nödaeyawëhse:'

Basket lecture
by Ed Jolie
April 20th
6pm
Seneca Iroquois National Museum
As part of the SINM Spring Lecture series
For more info, call: 716-945-1760

Allegany Beading Circle
April 13th & 27th
6pm - 8pm
TV room, 44 Seneca St.
Bring your projects down and join the beading circle.
For more info, call: Jonie at 716-945-1104

Iroquois Flute History lecture
by Dan Hill
April 13th
6pm
Seneca Iroquois National Museum
As part of the SINM Spring Lecture series
For more info, call: 716-945-1760

Beading Class
Wednesdays, May 3rd - May 24th
6pm - 8pm
Multi Purpose Room, Allegany Community Center
Instructor: Keona George
10 spots available
To sign up, call: Karlene at 716-945-8119 ext. 3706

Buffalo Native Youth Gathering
3rd Wednesday very month
6pm - 8pm
135 Delaware Ave., Suite 300, Buffalo, NY 14202
Open to Native youth 10 - 17
Express yourself, share ideas
For more info, call: 716-845-6304

Seed: The Untold Story
April 22nd
1:30pm - 4pm
Seneca Art & Culture Center at Ganondagan
Film screen & program
Cost: $10
For more info: www.ganondagan.org

Gadeyësta’ - I am learning, Agwadeyë:sta’ - We are learning, Jagwadeyë:sta’ - Where we are learning
Community Class updates

By Samantha Jacobs

I have been working with a group of ladies over at A.O.A. for a couple of months. The first project we started on was a small velvet brooch. The ladies were given the velveteen blanks with a set design. We worked with a classic white and clear color palette. Each was able to customize theirs through unique leaf and edge designs. Several of the ladies made multiple brooches. Audrey even made one of hers into a pendant hanging on a beaded braid necklace. All the ladies did a great job on their projects.

We have since moved on to earrings. We have just started this project. Each was given black velveteen blanks and were able to choose their own designs. Everyone also chose their own color palette. It’s always interesting to see everyone’s projects come to life as they steadily work on their projects. The group consists of both new and experienced beaders and crafters. I enjoy working with the group and look forward to continuing to work with them. Photos by Ashely Henhawk
This is a Creek/Muscogee story as Retold by S.E. Schlosser

Now Rabbit had a favorite place on the river where he always went to drink water. It was on a bend in the river, and two Snakes lived there, one on the upper side of the bend and one on the lower. Rabbit soon learned that neither of the Snakes knew that the other Snake lived there.

Ho, ho, ho, thought Rabbit. I am going to have a bit of fun!

Rabbit went to the Snake that lived on the upper bend of the river. "I am a very strong Rabbit," he told the Snake. "I bet I can pull you right out of the water."

"I bet you can't!" said the Snake, who was very strong indeed.

"I will get a grape vine," said Rabbit. "You will pull one end and I will pull the other. "If I pull you out of the water, I win the contest. If you pull me into the water, then I win."

The Snake on the upper bend agreed. Then Rabbit went to the Snake on the lower bend and made the same deal. He told both Snakes that he would be standing out of sight on top of the river bank and would give a whoop when he was in place and ready to start the contest. Both Snakes were pleased with the arrangement. They were sure they would win against such a feeble little Rabbit.

Rabbit took a long grape vine and strung it across the wide bend in the river. He held one end to the first Snake and the other end to the second Snake. Then he gave a loud whoop from the middle of the river bank and the two Snakes started tugging and pulling with all their might.

"That Rabbit is really strong," thought the Snake on the upper bank. He would tug and tug and the vine would come a little closer to him and then he would nearly be pulled out of the water.

"Oh my, Rabbit is much stronger than he appears," thought the Snake on the lower bank after he was almost hurled out of the water by an extra strong pull from up the river.

Rabbit sat on the bank above both Snakes and laughed and laughed. The Snakes heard him laughing and realized that they had been fooled. Letting go of the rope, they swam to the middle of the bend and met each other for the first time.

Both Snakes were angry with Rabbit for making them look foolish. They agreed that Rabbit could no longer drink from his favorite place on the river bend where they lived. In spite of his protests, they sent Rabbit away and would not let him come down to the riverbank anymore. So whenever Rabbit grew thirsty, he had to turn himself into a fawn in order to get a drink from the river.

After that, Rabbit decided not to play any more jokes on Snakes.

Story from: http://americanfolklore.net/folklore/2010/07/rabbit_plays_tugofwar.html

**Mentor Moments: March Update**

By Chris Tallchief & Marty Jimerson

This month with Norm we went over what we do in our longhouse and reviewed the ceremonies. We focused on our Maple and Ohki:weh ceremonies, especially the procedures.

Marty was asked to gather some of the veteran singers to sing and pass the drum for a fellow well respected veteran singer, one of the Original Newtown Singers.

We’ve also had Aksod Helen and Edgar stop by and help us translate some old recording we’ve listened to. Focusing on proper wording.

We were also able to visit the Ohiyo’ longhouse and culture program at the Lehman “Dar” Dowdy Living Culture Center. We witnessed and participated in what they do on a daily basis. We helped out however we could.

Then we checked out the carving room. Jon Redeye was working on several items. We seen ceremonial items, wall hangings and water drums.

Overall the visit was good and we hope to visit again in near future.

We also participated in the grand opening of the new legion post #1587 building. We did several social dances for the assembled crowd. There was also a small contingent of several hoop dancers.

We are currently preparing for several school presentations in the coming weeks.

Being able to work with Norman allows us the opportunity to learn ceremonial knowledge while becoming better leaders and being involved with community activities. We’re thankful because it is both beneficial and rewarding.
Gakö:ni:h Ganö′ja′- Lemon Blueberry Layer Cake*

From: Sallysbakingaddiction.com*

Ingredients:
1 cup unsalted butter, room temp.
1 ¼ cup granulated sugar
⅛ cup packed light brown sugar
4 large eggs, at room temp.
1 tablespoon vanilla extract
1 tablespoon baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
1 cup buttermilk
Zest & juice of 3 medium lemons
1 ½ cups blueberries
1 tablespoon all-purpose flour

Frosting ingredients:
8 oz. cream cheese, room temp.
½ cup unsalted butter, room temp.
3 ½ cups confectioners sugar
1-2 tablespoons heavy cream
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
Pinch of salt

Directions:
1. Preheat the oven to 350°. Grease and lightly flour three 9x2 inch cake pans with nonstick spray. Set aside.
2. Make the cake: Using a handheld or stand mixer with a paddle attachment, beat the butter on high until creamy—about 1 minute. Add granulated and brown sugars and beat on medium-high speed until creamed, about 2-3 minutes. Add eggs and vanilla. Beat on medium speed until everything is completely combined, about 2 full minutes. Scrape down the sides and bottom of the bowl as needed. Set aside.
3. In a large sized bowl, toss together the flour, baking powder, and salt. Slowly add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients. Beat on low speed for 5 seconds, then add the milk, lemon zest, and lemon juice. Remove from the mixer and stir lightly until everything is just combined. Toss the blueberries in 1 tablespoon of flour and fold into the batter. Batter is extremely thick. Do not overmix at any point. Overmixing will lend a tough, dense textured crumb.
4. Spoon batter evenly into 3 prepared cake pans. If only using 2 cake pans, your baking time will be longer. Bake the three layers for about 21-26 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Mine took 21 minutes. Remove from the oven and allow to cool completely before frosting.
5. Frosting: Using a handheld or stand mixer with a paddle attachment, beat cream cheese and butter together on medium speed until no lumps remain, about 3 minutes. Add confectioners sugar, 1 tablespoon cream, vanilla extract, and salt with the mixer running on low. Increase to high speed, beat for 3 minutes. Add 1 more tablespoon of cream to the thin out, if needed.

Interesting Easter Facts:
- Some people believe the word Easter comes from the Pagan holiday honoring Eostre, the pagan goddess of Spring which symbolized rebirth.
- Exchanging painted eggs started in ancient civilizations with people such as Egyptians and Persians. They would exchange eggs as a symbol of fertility and new life.
- Rabbits and hares were also symbols of fertility.
- The idea of the Easter Bunny originates in Germany.
- The first edible Easter Bunnies were made in the early 1800s and were made of pastry & sugar.
- 90 million chocolate Easter bunnies are made for Easter.
- Easter is the second largest candy consuming holiday.
- Jellybeans became an Easter tradition in the 1930s.
- The first Easter Egg Hunt or Roll at the White house was in 1878.