



## **Trail Tree Newsletter**

**July 2018**

This is Volume 41 of the Quarterly Trail Tree Project Newsletter. We hope the topics in this newsletter will be of interest to you. If you want us to report on other things, just let us know and we will be happy to do that. Below is all the latest news.

### **Trail Tree (TT) Database**

#### *Trail Tree Database*

I mentioned previously that articles continued to be published on the Marker Trees and tree submissions had become a major task of getting them researched and into the database. There are now over 2,425 Marker Trees in the database covering 43 states. I have about 15 ready to be put in the database so we will be closing in on 2,450 soon. The latest article on the Marker Trees was published in the Blue Ridge Country Magazine.

#### *Trees of Interest*

I've selected some of trees from all over the United States submitted in the winter of 2018 to show the extent of Marker Trees nationwide. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, we are learning more about interpreting the trees and learning to look for common configurations which help us to understand their purpose.

#### **KY Tree**

Gene found this tree in south central KY. Gene has also been helping us to locate Indian Sacred sites in KY which we visited earlier this year and was reported in the April Newsletter.



**KY Tree**

## VA Tree

Donna has been traveling the backroads of VA and NC searching for Marker Trees and has sent us a number of them. She found this one just 10 miles from a previous tree she located last year. This tree is identical to the other one which is TTP-3438.

## NC Tree

Andrew was hiking on a Cherokee Trail in NC near Highlands, NC and found the Marker Tree below marking the trail.

A second Marker tree was located near Columbus, NC. NC is a state where many Marker trees, primarily related to the Cherokee, are being located.



VA Tree



NC Cherokee Trail Marking Tree

## TN Tree

Tonya found this Marker Tree in TN. This tree is the second one that has been located near the Pinson Mounds in TN. The tree is on the next page.

## GA Tree

This remarkable tree was located in Middle GA. It unfortunately was toppled over by a major storm.

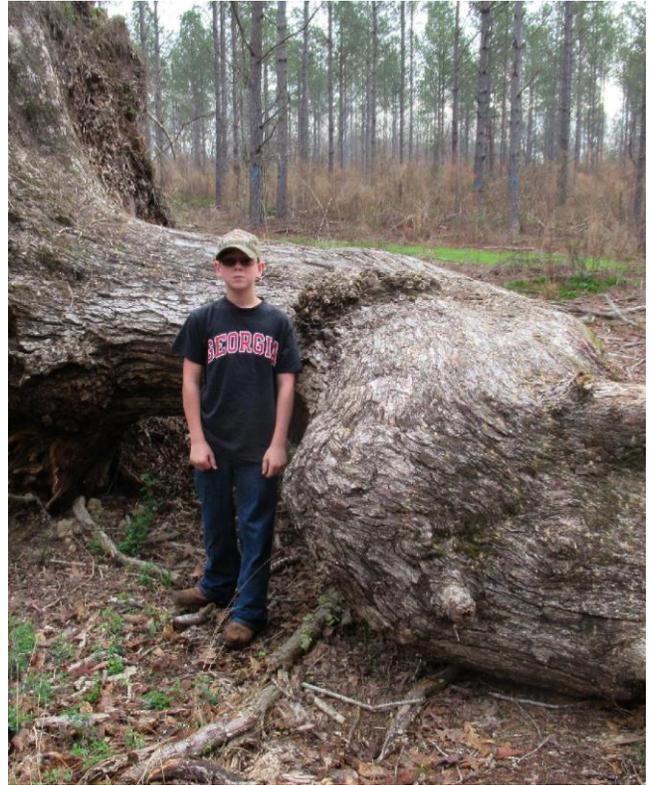


NC Tree

The GA tree is believed to have been a ceremonial tree marking a burial site. Our researcher Stan discovered the tree and got permission for us to visit it from the owner.



**TN Tree**



**GA Ceremonial Tree**

## **MO Tree**

Doug sent in this 42.7-inch diameter Marker Tree from MO. The tree marks a fresh water spring that is on Doug's ancestor's property that they first moved onto in the 1830's.

## **MI Tree**

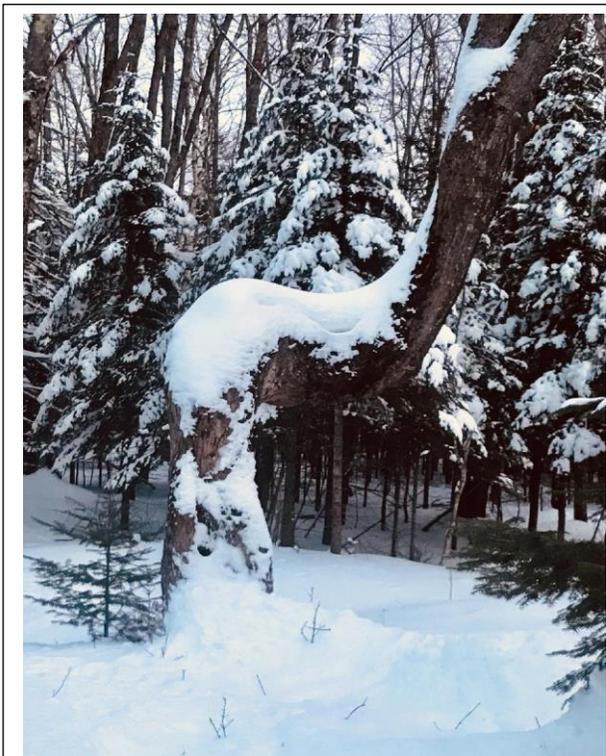
Aaron from MI sent in his tree that he discovered marking an old Indian Trail.

## **LA Tree**

Kelly found her tree near Ringgold, LA. Not many trees from LA yet but they are starting to be found.



**MO Tree**



**MI Tree**



**LA Tree**

### **AL Tree**

Tim located a Marker Tree in middle AL on his property.

### **NY Tree**

Kara has begun researching the Long Island area of NY and has been finding several Marker Trees in that area. It is remarkable they are still there after all the urban renewal and development. More of her trees will be shown in future editions of the Newsletter.

### **OK Tree**

Ron sent in his Marker Tree from OK. The tree points to water.



**AL Tree**



**NY Tree**



**OK Tree**

### **Indian Heritage Sites Mapping Program**

I mentioned in the last newsletter how we are now learning to use Native Science in our mapping of sacred sites. In the last newsletter, I showed some site artifacts that are associated with healing sites. We visited one more site after the last newsletter had been published. This one is in GA. The healing site in GA had the identical carved rock that we found in AL and KY.



**GA Healing Site Rock**

The rock at the GA site has a carved-out bowl shaped area for preparing the medicine and then the turkey's-foot carving like the other two sites. All the healing sites have an underground stream directly under the site and Earth Energy lines crossing directly over the sacred healing site.

In late July and early August, we will be traveling back to CO to do more research at sacred sites located in the mountains of CO and will be attending the Association of Native Sacred Trees and Places (NASTaP) first annual conference in Bailey, CO.

## ***Mystery of the Trees* Presentations and Book Signings**

We are now only doing a few presentations each year based on requests or invited conference presentations. We did attend the Annual Wilderness Wildlife Week Conference in Pigeon Forge in May and presented two lectures on our latest research results. We have sold out of the third printing of the *Mystery of the Trees* book so it is no longer available. We still have a number of the DVD's of the same title available. We dropped the price of that item to \$12.00 and will have it for sale until supplies are gone.

## **Filming**

One aspect of Native American culture that is in jeopardy of being lost is Native Medicine. Every tribe had several people who were trained to use the inherent properties of native plants to treat disease and medical ailments. Each medicine person knew 200-300 sacred formulas for treatment of medical issues. If you were sick, you didn't go to the doctor, you went to the medicine man to get healed. And it cost you very little for the prescribed treatment.

Today, the medical profession and big pharmaceutical companies have all but eliminated the native healers. In our years of working with tribal elders, we have known a few of those trained in native medicine such as Sam Proctor, the beloved elder of the Muscogee Creek Nation. Sam Curren, is another one. Sam was trained as a Choctaw medicine man and he has been sharing his life story with us. We have been capturing his story on film over the last eight months and just finished filming him demonstrating how to prepare numerous native plants for treatment of medical ailments. Our plan is to edit these hours of footage into a 30 minute YouTube video to share the story of Native Medicine before it is completely lost.

## **Facebook**

To stay in touch with our activities in between Newsletter issues, follow us on our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/mysterytrees](http://www.facebook.com/mysterytrees). This site provides a running account of our weekly activities. Please log on to the site and **LIKE** the page. This opens our information to a larger audience and helps educate folks about the program. Currently, we have over 1,750 followers. We are now striving for the 2,000 mark. A lot of dialog is now going on between the followers of the site who are sharing their findings across the nation.