

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dennis Chastain will host a presentation titled “**Cherokee of the Carolinas**” at the Pickens County Museum on Friday, November 17th beginning at 7:00 pm.

Hagood Mill Historic Site and the Pickens County Museum of Art & History invite you to attend this one-night-only, not-to-be-missed, presentation given in honor of Native American Heritage Month.

Those with even a passing interest in the rich history of the South Carolina Upcountry will be fascinated by a slide show presentation which offers insight into local Native American life as it was when this area was still known as the Cherokee Territory. Award winning outdoor writer, historian, and interpretive naturalist, Dennis Chastain, will offer his highly popular presentation of maps and vintage aerial photographs of the known locations of Cherokee towns, villages and hamlets along with details of Cherokee life during South Carolina’s Colonial Period. Ranging from the native plants that were important to Cherokee culture to the types of structures in their communities, this is the story of an inventive and enduring people that includes profiles of important Cherokee headmen such as Attakullakulla, Oconostota and Dragging Canoe.

Dennis Chastain and his wife, Jane, live on his family’s homeplace in the shadow of Table Rock where his ancestors have been deeply rooted since 1796. He is no newcomer here and has roamed the mountains and valleys of the Blue Ridge escarpment since boyhood. Once described by the *Greenville News* as a “modern day Daniel Boone,” he has spent most of his adult life exploring, photographing, and writing about the area now known as the Jocassee Gorges. Along the way he has made a number of important discoveries, including wildflowers never recorded

in Pickens County, the remnants of long forgotten roads and Native-American trails, and numerous prehistoric rock carvings on Pinnacle and Table Rock Mountains that he and archaeologist Tommy Charles first documented before the turn of the 21st Century. Dennis Chastain is the Blue Wall Vice President of the Pickens County Historical Society.

The Pickens County Museum of Art & History is located at 307 Johnson Street in uptown Pickens. **This is a free event; however donations are requested to help support this type of programming.**

For additional information please contact Hagood Mill at (864)898-2936 or email BillyC@Co.Pickens.SC.Us

Pickens County is an equal opportunity provider and employer.