

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thank you for your rapid response to my request and for the Spring copy of "Talking Leaves". I was delighted to be updated on the activities and plans of the council. Please accept my sincere congratulations on the very fine presentation you have produced. I know everyone appreciates your effort. I particularly enjoyed the article regarding our PA Earth band. Chief Buffy Red Feather is phenomenal.

Brenda Laughing Waters, Philadelphia, PA.

The Cherokees and other Native peoples recognized these special times and often scheduled important ceremonies during the equinoxes. The Cherokees, for example, had their First New Moon Of Spring ceremony around the time of the Vernal Equinox. Also the Great New Moon festival occurred near the time of the Autumnal Equinox. Other important times for ceremony among many peoples world-wide have been the Winter Solstice and the Summer Solstice.

As we pass through the Autumnal Equinox this year, we can all take advantage of this "time of balance" to achieve greater balance in our own lives. Attending the Great New Moon festivities with your local band or at our National Grounds in Ochlocknee, Georgia, is an excellent way to become more grounded and balanced.

At any rate, we can all be aware that achieving balance is an important principle of the universe and in our own personal lives. To walk in balance is to walk in beauty.

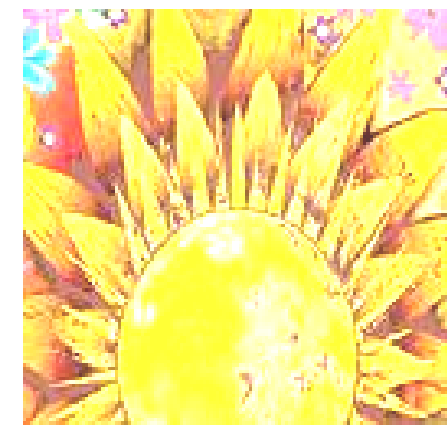
this newly formatted website, but it is in the works. As in the past, we wish for the general public to be able to view the latest and former editions of our newsletter that is printed twice a year.

Principal Chief Vivian Panther Lawson has made a clear statement on the home page of this new website exactly what the nature and scope of our organization is. All are invited to view the new website simply by entering "SeCCI" into the search engines of their personal computers.

In her welcome message to the general public, Chief Panther says the following:

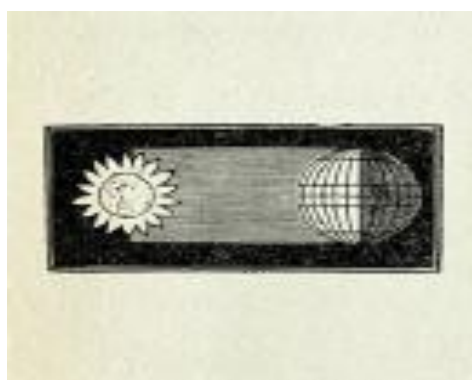
*Our goals are to perpetuate the culture, history, tradition and religion of the Cherokee people and all Native Americans. To protect and care for Mother Earth and All Creations. To educate not only our descendants, but others who have a desire to learn the Cherokee way and Native American culture. To protect and repatriate the remains of Ancient Native Americans so they may continue their journey in peace. To set an example for all to see, of what a Cherokee really is and what it means to walk the Red Road. With the hope and prayer ion our heart that one day, all Native Americans will come together as one for the common good of all.*

## The Autumnal Equinox



There are two times a year when all Nature tries to come into a state of balance. This kind of balance is ordered by the movement of the earth in relationship to the sun.

For example, at the beginning of Fall, around the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September, the Earth is in a certain alignment with the sun that results in there being equal hours of daylight and darkness, achieving a kind of "balance" between light and dark. This phenomenon is known as the "Autumnal Equinox". A similar time of balance comes around March 21<sup>st</sup> and is called the Vernal Equinox.



### NEW SECCI WEB SITE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

The Southeastern Cherokee Council is in the process of constructing a new and updated Web site. It is a work in progress. But one can already see a very attractive format of what is already finished and now viewable on the Internet.

As of this writing, the Cherokee Talking Leaves is not yet able to be viewed on

