

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO OUR SENIOR GAMES & SILVERARTS FAMILY!

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Here's wishing for you good health, happiness and a wonderful New Year! As you may know, the purpose of Senior Games is to encourage our 50+ adults to stay active, engaged and connected to each other and to their communities while showcasing their talents and celebrating healthy, vibrant living. We are looking forward to having you join us again in 2026. There is something for everyone whether it be sports, games, Visual, Heritage or Literary arts and of course, don't forget the Performing arts! We are looking forward to another great Senior Games year in 2026 so tell your friends and together come and join us this year.

In this JANUARY 2026 newsletter –

2026 IMPORTANT SENIOR GAMES DATES
PRE-GAMES ACTIVITIES
EVENTS REMOVED IN 2026
VOLUNTEER PROGRAM 2026
OUR WEBSITE, FACEBOOK and CONTACT INFO

2026 IMPORTANT SENIOR GAMES DATES

Planning for 2026 is well underway and almost all of the venues have been confirmed and we expect to have the final schedule completed and published shortly. For now, here are some of the important dates for 2026 along with other information.

REGISTRATION DATES

Early registration (\$10) period:	MONDAY, MARCH 9 through 16
Normal registration (\$15) opens	MONDAY, MARCH 17

REGISTRATION & SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Cornhole, Air Rifle and Pickleball:	FRIDAY, APRIL 17
All other events	24 HOURS BEFORE GAMETIME
Visual, Heritage Arts:	MONDAY, APRIL 27
Literary Arts submission deadline:	MONDAY, APRIL 27
Performing Art Acts:	FRIDAY, MAY 22

IMPORTANT GAME DATES

Opening Day Kick-off:

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

Closing Banquet & Follies

at HAYESVILLE REC CENTER

SATURDAY, MAY 30

at Tri-County Community College.

SILVERARTS INFO

The Heritage Arts display will be at the Cherokee County Arts Council (CCAC).

The Visual Arts display will be held at the MAC.

The SilverArts Awards Ceremony will be at the Cherokee County Arts Council.

Visual Arts Drop-off: **THURSDAY, MAY 7 at the MAC from 10am – 1pm**

Heritage Arts Drop-off: **THURSDAY, MAY 7 at the CCAC from 10am – 1pm**

SilverArts Awards Ceremony: **FRIDAY, MAY 8 at the CCAC at 4pm**

Visual Arts Pick-up: **MONDAY, MAY 18 at the MAC from 10am – 1pm**

Heritage Arts Pick-up: **MONDAY, MAY 18 at the CCAC from 10am – 1pm**

PRE-GAMES ACTIVITIES

We are looking to do at least 3 activities this Winter and Spring before the Senior Games events start although the dates are not set yet.

The first one on the list will be an Air Rifle Target Shooting event in February. In the Spring, be looking for a Beginner/Novice Pickleball tournament and a Bocce Ball learn/play. We will send out an email in the next week or two once we get the dates confirmed so be looking for that.

For those who are interested in getting in a little workout, how about playing some basketball? Some of the guys are still meeting every Monday morning at the Rock Gym for a shoot-around. We conducted our first 3 on 3 Basketball half-court tournament last year and are looking for a few more participants to round out the teams for this year.

EVENTS REMOVED IN 2026

After reviewing the participation in our events over the last few years, we have decided to discontinue 4 SilverArts categories in 2026 due to lack of interest/participation.

The first 3 are ALCOHOL INK, COLORED PENCIL and ART MARKERS.

The category RUGS will now be subsumed into the Fiber Arts category.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM 2026

Our volunteer program has been updated for 2026 as follows:

For anyone who volunteers 8 hours or more to assist us with the Senior

Games will receive one of the following:

1. If they qualify at the Local Games AND participate in the **State Finals** in the Fall, they will receive a stipend of \$50 per day for a maximum of 3 days (\$150.00) to assist with expenses travelling to Raleigh.
2. If they DO NOT participate in the **State Finals** in the Fall, they will receive a Certificate good for a free registration in the following year's local Senior Games.

Anyone who qualifies at the State Finals and then participates in the **National Senior Games** will receive a stipend of \$50 per day for a maximum of 3 days (\$150.00) to assist with expenses. (whether they volunteered the 8 hours or not).

OUR WEBSITE, FACEBOOK and CONTACT INFO

Don't forget to check out our website occasionally - [Cherokee/Clay SG website](#) - as well follow us on our Facebook page - [Cherokee/Clay Facebook](#). You can find most of the information you might be looking for there as well as the current news. If you have any questions, I can be contacted at 727-470-7947.

Stay healthy, keep moving!

Terence