**The Legend of Cottaquilla**

Long ago the Indian chief Cottaquilla crossed the hills into the quiet peaceful valley. This land was once the land of the Creeks. Chief Cottaquilla’s daughter, Walahea had fallen in love with a Creek named Onatonda. So Cottaquilla came here to prevent the marriage. This action by her father caused Walahea to be very unhappy. Even though he came here in anger, Cottaquilla found the valley surrounded by majestic hills to be very beautiful, and decided to remain here. This did not cheer up Walahea; she cried constantly with a broken heart. Over the years a large hole was dug to be filled by the tears of the beautiful maiden, Walahea. Cottaquilla was so distressed over his daughter, he decided he might have made the wrong decision. He consented to the marriage of Walahea and Onatonda. The couple built a huge wigwam on the hill overlooking the lake where our lodge now stands. Walahea and Onatonda lived happily forever in the beautiful land of Cottaquilla.

