



Trail of Tears National Historic Trail



Chiefs to Speak at Annual TOTA Conference in October

October 25 – 28, 2004, the Trail of Tears Association will hold its ninth annual conference and symposium in Catoosa, Oklahoma, at the newly renovated Cherokee Hills Resort and Casino. This year's conference promises to be full of activities and scholarly presentations on each of the five tribes' removals. This will be the first conference hosted by TOTA that will include speeches from four of the five tribes' chiefs at one conference.



Photo courtesy of the Cherokee Hills Resort & Casino
 This year's Trail of Tears Association conference will take place at the newly renovated Cherokee Hills Casino and Resort. Pictured is a rendering of what the property will look like after its planned completion in September.

In addition to the presentations, tours are scheduled to the Will Rogers Memorial in Claremore, to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Council House Museum in Okmulgee, and to the Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa.

2,000 electronic games. In addition, the property now has attached to it a 150-room hotel that includes an indoor/outdoor swimming pool, a conference center, a 24-hour restaurant, and the redesigned historic 18-hole Perry Maxwell golf course built in 1924.

houses the world's largest, most comprehensive collection of American Western art; an extensive collection of Native American art and artifacts; an exhibition high-lighting Mexico; and a distinguished collection of historical manuscripts, documents, and maps. Besides these exhibits on the American West, American Indian, and Mexico, Gilcrease also offers four other permanent exhibit galleries, including "American History in Art," "Plains Feather Bonnets," "The Taos Society of Artists and the Southwest," and "Eastern America." After touring the galleries, attendees will have dinner at the Museum, where Governor Bill Anoatubby from the Chickasaw Nation will speak.

The new casino facility in Catoosa, scheduled to open this summer, has been expanded to an amazing 80,000 square feet and features more than



Photo courtesy of Will Rogers Memorial
 A tour to the Will Rogers Memorial Museum is scheduled during the TOTA conference.

The conference will open with a tour at the Will Rogers Memorial Museum. This visit will include a guided tour of the legendary entertainer's intended retirement home site, which now houses a 16,652-square-foot, nine-gallery museum dedicated to depicting the life of the "Cherokee Kid." The Museum tells the life of Rogers through several media, including theaters, interactive TV, art, artifacts, and photographs.

Tuesday evening tour buses will transport conferees to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Council House Museum, where they will receive a guided tour. After the tour, a dinner will be provided, at which time Chief A.D. Ellis from the Creek Nation and Chief Ken Chambers from the Seminole Nation will speak to the attendees.

Presenters at this year's conference will speak on a variety of topics, including removals of the five tribes, the legality of removal, Moravian missionaries, and current research along



Photo courtesy of Will Rogers Memorial
 Will Rogers was a Cherokee cowboy who became a legendary figure in wild west shows and on the vaudeville stage.

The buses will load up again on Wednesday for a final trip to the Gilcrease Museum, where they will tour the galleries of the Museum and then enjoy a dinner. This museum

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- TOTA Conference..... 1, 3
- TOTA President's Message.....2
- NPS Superintendent's Message....2
- TOTA Board Meeting.....3
- TOTA/AICA Partnership..... 3
- Chapter News..... 5
- New Certification Agreement ... 6
- Interpretive Plan Finalized..... 6
- DAH Efforts..... 6

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

9th Annual TOTA Conference & Symposium

Tentative Schedule

T R A V E L	Monday, October 25th	Tuesday, October 26th	Wednesday, October 27th	Thursday, October 28th
	Morning 8:00 - Noon Registration at Hotel 8:30 - Noon Board Meeting Lunch Welcome Chief Chad Smith, Cherokee Nation	Morning 8:00 - Noon Registration at Hotel 8:30 - Noon Board Meeting Lunch Welcome Chief Chad Smith, Cherokee Nation	Morning 7:30 - 8:30 AM Continental Breakfast 8:30 - 9:30 AM General Assembly Research Update: Duane King 9:45 - 10:45 AM 1st Concurrent Sessions 11:00 AM - Noon 2nd Concurrent Sessions Lunch	Morning 7:30 - 8:30 AM Continental Breakfast 8:00 - 8:30 AM Business Meeting 8:30 - 9:30 AM General Assembly NPS Update 9:45 - 10:45 AM 4th Concurrent Sessions 11:00 AM - Noon 5th Concurrent Sessions Lunch Keynote: Jay Hannah
Afternoon Noon - 3:00 PM Registration at Hotel 3:30 - 5:30 PM Will Rogers Memorial Tour 6:30 - 8:00 PM Reception at Hotel	Afternoon 1:15 - 3: 30 PM General Assembly Legality of Removal: Tim Garrison, Robert Miller, & Lindsay Robertson 4:00 - 9:30 PM Creek Nation Tour Keynotes: Chief A.D. Ellis, Creek Nation, & Chief Ken Chambers, Seminole Nation	Afternoon 1:15 - 2:15 PM General Assembly Research Update: Dan Littlefield 2:30 - 3:30 PM 3rd Concurrent Sessions 4:30 - 8:00 PM Gilcrease Museum Tour Keynote: Governor Bill Anoatubby, Chickasaw Nation	Afternoon Free	Afternoon Free

Trail of Tears Association President's Message

We have many members all across the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail that are doing a great job in their local areas identifying and working to preserve trail segments. It is frequently easy to focus in on the local area and lose sight of the overall goals of the entire Trail. It is important that we focus on the National Historic Trail and view each project as part of the "whole." I see many of the local chapters, and even many of our national board members, thinking only of their own areas and not having a commitment to the National Trail.

One of the reasons for this has been a lack of imparting an overall action plan for the Trail on the part of the National Association. The completion of the Interpretive Plan for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail should enable all of us to focus on the overall goals and plans for the Trail. It is a document to which we should continually refer to ensure

that our projects fit into the Trail's plan. This plan identifies our priority actions as the following:

- Market the trail locally/nationally for the purpose of gaining support and understanding of the trail story.
- Develop and install signs with official logo on the Trail along its entire length.
- Develop research strategy/work plan.
- Identify sites for future certification.
- Develop and implement a Trail monitoring strategy.

It is important that we review all of our state and local projects and make sure that they fit into at least one of the actions identified in this plan. This will facilitate the Trail's



Jack Baker, President of the Trail of Tears Association

for their work in developing the Interpretive Plan, and especially, Sharon Brown of the NPS for all of her hard work in putting the document together in its final form. The entire Interpretive Plan may be viewed as one of the Management Documents on the website: www.nps.gov/trte.

Jack D. Baker

development so that its visitors will have an understanding of the significance of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail.

I would like to thank all of our partners and members

National Trails System Office Superintendent's Message

As you may know, Congress included a budget increase of \$500,000 for the National Trails System in this year's appropriations for the National Park Service (NPS). Part of that increase, \$55,000, has been provided for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. This is a base budget increase, and will continue in the future. At the same time, there were some small budget cuts for the Trail. However, our overall funding level has increased significantly, and we are delighted to be able to meet the full funding assistance request from the Trail of Tears Association for \$65,000. I have also approved the sale, by the Association, of lapel pins and embroidered patches with the official Trail logo.

Sales of these items will provide additional funding for Association to benefit the Trail. For many years, we have been seeking



Jere Krakow, Superintendent of the National Trails System Office - Intermountain Region

an interpretive film about the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. Funding for the film was initially included in the proposed funding for the exhibits at the Museum of the Cherokee Indian and the Cherokee Heritage Center, but it did not materialize. Funding was finally approved last year for the film. Our staff has been working with the NPS Harpers Ferry Center over the last several months to develop a project plan, budget, and contract for the film. The Harpers Ferry Design Center is the lead office for major NPS interpretive media and exhibit projects. The film will be made by a private contractor. Tim Radford, a film producer at Harpers Ferry will oversee the project for the NPS and will work with the contractor as the film is made. Because contract discussions are ongoing, I am not able to tell you more at this time, but I will have more news at the next symposium at Catoosa, Oklahoma, in October.

We are excited that the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail Interpretive Plan has been finalized. Along with the earlier Strategic Plan, this will provide a guide for the joint efforts

for the Trail by the Trail of Tears Association and the NPS. We hope to be able to discuss implementation strategies and priorities with the Association board at their next meeting. There have also been discussions of developing a brochure from the plans to help market the trail, though much work remains to be done. Our thanks to everyone who helped with this planning effort, and to the core team of Sharon Brown, Andrea Sharon, Aaron Mahr, Jerra Quinton, and Jack Baker.

The Trail of Tears National Historic Trail website at www.nps.gov/trte will be expanded in the future with new "In-Depth" pages. We will be working with Jerra to ensure that our Trail website and the Association website are well coordinated.

This is a new era for the Trail and the partnership between the Association and the National Park Service. We appreciate your support, and encourage you to let us know how we can help you.

Jere Krakow

TOTA Holds Board Meeting in Nashville

The Trail of Tears Association held a board of directors meeting on April 27, 2004, at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee. In addition to board members being present, Principal Chief Chad Smith from the Cherokee Nation attended the meeting in order to join discussion about a Memorandum of Understanding from the Cherokee Nation that states the Association will act on behalf of the tribe in matters dealing with the Trail of Tears. The board voted to approve the MOU,



Photo by Mary Riesberg
Second Chief Alfred Berryhill (left), from the Creek Nation, and Troy Wayne Potette (right), from the Cherokee Nation, each serve on the Association board as the representatives of their tribes.

after which Chief Smith thanked the board for their efforts. Also present at the board meeting was another tribal dignitary, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, the Creek Nation's newly appointed representative to the TOTA board.

Also joining the board meeting were Jere Krakow, John Conoboy, and Aaron Mahr—staff from the National Park Service's National Trails System Office - Santa Fe. Superintendent Krakow spoke to the board about the cooperative agreement submitted for this year by the Association. He assured the board that the Association's full request of \$65,000 will be awarded.

Several changes by the board to the bylaws will be presented to, and voted on by, the entire membership during the annual October meeting.

Last, President Jack Baker read aloud a letter from Richard Sheridan, a representative on the board from Alabama, in which Sheridan submits his resignation from the board.

Conference

(continued from page 1)

the Trail. Each current session time-slot will have three to four presentations.

Every presentation is planned to be presented twice, so conferees will have two opportunities to catch their favorite sessions.

Inside this newsletter you should find a registration form for the conference and a tentative schedule on the back page.



Photo courtesy of Creek Council House Museum

A tour to the Creek Council House Museum will be part of the festivities at the 2004 TOTA conference.

HOTEL INFORMATION
Cherokee Hills Resort & Casino
777 South Cherokee Street
Catoosa, OK 74015
Special Conference Room Rate
\$69.00 + tax
Deadline: September 25, 2004
Group Block: Trail of Tears
Call: 1-800-760-6700

American Indian Center Partners with Trail of Tears Association for 8th Year

So, have you ever wondered why, when you call the TOTA, the person answering says "American Indian Center"? Partnership, that's why. The American Indian Center of Arkansas (AICA) and the Trail of Tears Association have been partners for eight years, working together for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. In 1995, the Center was approached by the TOTA to enter into a contract to provide the association with management services. The AICA board was impressed with the Association's mission and its dedication to the Trail of Tears and agreed to become partners.

Through this partnership, the Center provides the Association with a full-time coordinator (Jerra), a part-time executive director (Paul), a part-time fiscal officer (Lois), and a part-time administrative assistant (Wanda).

The Center is a private, nonprofit organization with over 25 years of

experience in providing services to Native Americans. The Center is governed by a board of directors who meet regularly to set policy and direction for the Center.

What else does the AICA do, you might ask? Well, the Center is the U.S. Department of Labor grantee for the Section 166 of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) program for Native Americans in Arkansas and Tennessee. AICA has offices in Little Rock, Arkansas, and Nashville, Tennessee. Steve Partridge is our case manager for Arkansas, and our office in Nashville is staffed by the Tennessee coordinator, Kathy Atkins, and case manager, Turia Enlow.

Through the WIA program, the Center provides employment and training services for Native Americans in Arkansas and Tennessee. To be eligible, an applicant must be a resident of Arkansas or Tennessee, unemployed or low

income, and of documentable Indian descent from a federally recognized tribe. Once eligibility is determined, the client is assigned to a case manager who assists them with developing and implementing an "individual employment plan." This usually takes the form of job search, job placement, or job skill training. Our goal is to assist the client in achieving full time, unsubsidized, permanent employment.

In addition, the Center has an emergency assistance fund to provide non-federal assistance for those in need and awards an annual scholarship to a graduating high school senior.

Through this partnership the Trail of Tears Association and the American Indian Center of Arkansas are leading the efforts to make the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail a trail of which all Americans can be proud.

Trail of Tears
National Historic Trail



Trail News is produced by the partnership of the Trail of Tears Association and the National Park Service National Trails System Office - Santa Fe.

Managing Editor
Jerra Quinton

Contributors

Paul Austin, Jack Baker, Mark Christ, John Conoboy, Jere Krakow, Aaron Mahr, Jerra Quinton, Andrea Sharon, and the Trail of Tears Association state chapters.

Designer
Jerra Quinton

Editor
Jane Harvey

Photographers (unless otherwise noted)
Jerra Quinton, Andrea Sharon

Comments and/or Address Changes? Contact:

Jerra Quinton
Trail of Tears Association
1100 N. University, Suite 143
Little Rock, AR 72207-6344
TOTAJerra@aol.com

Website
www.nps.gov/trte

Trail of Tears
Association



The Trail of Tears Association has entered into a cooperative agreement with the National Park Service to promote and engage in the protection and preservation of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail resources; to promote awareness of the Trail's legacy, including the effects of the U.S. Government's Indian Removal Policy on the Cherokee and other tribes; and to perpetuate the management and development techniques that are consistent with the National Park Service's Trail plan.

Trail of Tears Association
1100 North University, Suite 143
Little Rock, Arkansas 72207

Phone
800-441-4513
501-666-9032

E-Mail
TOTAJerra@aol.com

Website
www.nationalTOTA.org

National Park Service
National Trails System
Office - Santa Fe



The National Trails System Office - Santa Fe administers the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail, the Santa Fe National Historic Trail, and the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program. El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail is administered jointly by the National Trails System Office-Santa Fe and the New Mexico State Office of the Bureau of Land Management.

These trail and corridor programs are administered in partnership with American Indian tribes; federal, state, and local agencies; non-government organizations; and private landowners.

National Trails System Office - Santa Fe
PO Box 728
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

Phone
505-988-6888

E-Mail
lodi_administration@nps.gov

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Trail of Tears Association State Chapter News

Georgia

Marvin Sowers, Membership Chairman, has designed a contest for all members and any interested parties to submit an essay on "Why should someone want to become a member of the Georgia chapter of the TOTA?" in 50 words or less. Very nice prizes are offered for first-, second-, and third-place winners.

Doug Mabry and J.B. Tate have worked hard on the research committee to pinpoint two of the fort sites in the Rome/Floyd County area. Fort Means, is the eastern part of Floyd County, while the other, Fort Scott, more commonly known as Fort Rome, is in the extreme western part of Floyd County. The Georgia chapter members attending the next regular membership meeting on July 10th will experience a special treat with a trip to each of these sites after the meeting. The meeting will be held at the Chieftain's Museum in Rome.

Our research committee is asking the chapter to reexamine and streamline its focus, planning, and direction in approaching its goals and objectives. The guidelines laid out in the interpretive plan will be used as a guide to provide planning and organization needed to achieve the chapter's mission. Mabry, Research Chairman, provided one opportunity to improve research achievements recently with a proposal he made to the Georgia Department of Transportation to partner with the chapter. The DOT is enthusiastically reviewing Mabry's proposal, and from their initial input, it appears this proposal will be accepted. Such a partnership would enhance research tremendously and provide great publicity and credibility. We are excited about the positives for both parties and look forward to an expedient agreement.

Oklahoma

The Oklahoma chapter held their spring meeting on April 24, 2004, at the First United Methodist Church in Fort Gibson, Oklahoma. Speakers and presenters for the meeting included David Fowler, Historical Interpreter from the Fort, speaking on the "Establishment and the Early Days of the Fort"; Dr. Brad Agnew, Professor of History at Northeastern

Oklahoma (continued)

State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, speaking on the "Pre- and Post-Civil War era at the Fort"; and Jack Baker, President of the national Trail of Tears Association, speaking on the "Latest Research on the Known Disembarkment Locations of Various Detachments of the Trail of Tears." Three members were elected to the board of directors. They are Marybelle Chase, Jerri Wood, and Curtis Rohr. The chapter appreciates their interest and willingness to serve. Leroy Hammer was appointed to serve out the term of vice-president for David Rabon, who resigned in order to participate in more family activities with his children. The board of directors elected officers for this year. They are Rohr, President; Chase, Vice-President; and Betty Barker, Secretary/Treasurer.

Final plans are being made for the national TOTA conference to be held October 25-28, 2004. The Oklahoma chapter will be hosting this conference at the new Cherokee Hills Resort and Casino in Catoosa.

The chapter honored Wiley Glover Thornton on March 20, 2004, at the Thorton Cemetery in Baron, Oklahoma. A bronze Trail of Tears plaque was placed on his gravestone, acknowledging him as a survivor of the Trail of Tears. Some 15- plus family members were present, including one from Long Island, New York. Arrangements were coordinated by descendent, Joe Scrapper.

Arkansas

In 2004, the Arkansas chapter is sponsoring public programs focusing on the Bengé Route across north Arkansas; water and land routes that converged at North Little Rock in central Arkansas; and the Memphis-to-Little Rock military road through the east Arkansas swamps.

Programs have also been presented at Arkansas Post Museum State Park by members Carolyn Kent, Dr. Daniel F. Littlefield, Jr., and Amanda L. Paige and at the Central Mississippi Valley Archeological Society at Arkansas State University by Littlefield. Other talks are scheduled for interested county historical societies.

Arkansas (continued)

Researchers with the American Native Press Archives at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock - Littlefield, Paige, and Fuller Bumpers - continue their *Indian Removal Through Arkansas* project and are now writing a book on Chickasaw Removal.

The chapter's spring program spotlighted the Bengé Route and drew about 70 people to the Baxter County Heritage Museum in Gassville on Saturday, May 15. The museum, on what is now U.S. Highway 412, is on the historic roadway traveled by this detachment. On display were maps provided by researcher Bill Woodiel of nearby Mountain Home, as well as photographs from the *Yokes on the Trail of Tears* traveling sculpture project that is being developed into a book by artist Pat Musick and photographer Jerry Carr. Making presentations were Woodiel, chapter president Kitty Sloan, and Joe Dillard from Congressman Marion Berry's district office. Berry has proposed legislation to help get the Bengé Route added to the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail.

The chapter's summer program is scheduled for Saturday, July 24, at the Main Library in Little Rock. It will focus on Indian Removal from and through Arkansas.

The fall meeting will be Saturday, September 11, at Village Creek State Park near Wynne. A significant remnant of the 19th-century military road survives in the park.

Kentucky

The Kentucky chapter had its first official meeting on July 21, 2004, at the Hopkinsville-Christian County Library. Passing of the bylaws and election of officers took place. More news will be available at the annual meeting in October in Catoosa.

Updates from the Trail of Tears Association state chapters will routinely appear in future issues of this newsletter. Contact Jerra Quinton, Trail of Tears Association coordinator, at (501) 666-9032, to submit information and photographs.

Are you a current member of TOTA?
If not, and you would like to continue receiving *Trail News*,
please join TOTA today!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

January - December



1100 N. University, Suite 143
Little Rock, AR 72207-6344

Membership in the
Trail of Tears Association
automatically includes
membership in one state
chapter. Additional state
memberships are \$10 each.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES \$25.00

Payments to the Trail of Tears Association
are tax deductible under section 501 (c)
(3) of the Internal Revenue code.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone (Day) _____ (Evening) _____
E-mail _____
State Chapter(s) _____

State Chapters: Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky,
Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee

Superintendent Approves a New Shortened Certification Agreement

There have been some new changes in the certification process for the Trail of Tears and other national historic trails that are administered by the Intermountain Region National Trails System Office. Superintendent Jere Krakow has approved a new short certification agreement, and a new brochure, *How to Certify Your National Historic Trail Property*, has replaced the former *Certification Guide*. A copy of the new certification brochure can be found at www.nps.gov/trte/pphtml/documents.html.

The new certification agreement is only one page long. Trail staff felt that the old three-to-four page form was too bureaucratic and that it interfered with developing a working partnership with some site owners because the key terms of the agreement were not being well understood. The new one-page form uses only those key terms.

Certification really remains the same. The agreement is still a completely voluntary agreement in which the site owner and the NPS agree to work together to protect trail resources and provide for appropriate visitor use of the site. The new agreement has been in use for a few months now on both the Trail of Tears and Santa Fe National Historic Trails and is being well received. It has greatly shortened the time needed to get an agreement approved. On the Santa Fe Trail, site owners who previously were not willing to have their sites certified have signed the new agreement.

The actual form includes a full-color header with the trail name and logo, site name, and owner name, and there are signature lines at the bottom for the site owner and trail superintendent. Here is the main text of the new certification agreement.

This agreement represents the Secretary of the Interior's certification, under subsection 3(a)(3) of the National Trails System Act [codified as amended at 16 U.S.C. subsection 1242(a)(3)], that the [name of site] located at [address] meets the national historic trail criteria established by the National Trails System Act and any supplemental criteria prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior.

The National Park Service and the [owner] agree voluntarily to strive to achieve the highest level of resource protection and visitor appreciation of trail resources and history at the site, as provided for in the Comprehensive Management and Use Plan for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail for "...the identification and protection of the historic route and its historic remnants and artifacts for public use and enjoyment." (National Trails System Act 16 U.S.C. - 1241, et seq. Section 3(a)(3))

Through this agreement, the National Park Service and the [owner] agree to work jointly on planning, interpretation, resource management, and other matters that relate to the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail at the site and to strive to meet the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Management and Use Plan for the Trail.

The [owner] retains all legal rights to the property, and nothing in this agreement is to be construed as granting any legal authority to the National Park Service over the property or any action by the [owner].

This agreement may be canceled by either party at any time by providing written notice to the

other party. The National Park Service and the [owner] agree, whenever possible, to identify issues or concerns to allow for resolution.

This agreement will remain in effect unless canceled by either party, or until the ownership of the property is transferred to another entity.

Interpretive Plan Finalized

The Trail of Tears National Historic Trail Interpretive Plan has been finalized. Thanks to the efforts of all the trail partners, the Trail of Tears Association membership and staff, and the National Park Service staff who crafted the document, we now have articulated the primary themes, and identified and prioritized action items that will guide our interpretive efforts for the next five to ten years. The final document can be viewed at: www.nps.gov/trte under the Management Doc section. At a future date, the formal plan layout will be condensed into a full-color folder with graphics to be used for marketing the trail.

DAH Works on Trail of Tears Efforts in Arkansas

The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (AHPP), an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage (DAH), will present a nomination of the Fort Smith to Jackson Road—Talbert's Ferry Segment to its State Review Board for consideration for possible listing on the National Register of Historic Places when the review board meets in August. The road segment was traversed by the Bege Detachment in 1838-1839. The AHPP also successfully nominated the Military Road—Cadron Segment to the National Register earlier this year; this section of road bed was used by the Bell Detachment of the Cherokee Trail of Tears but also was utilized in removing detachments of Choctaws, Chickasaws, Seminoles and Creeks.

DAH and the AHPP are continuing work with the National Trails System Office and Arkansas State Parks to place interpretive wayside exhibit panels at six Arkansas locations. These panels, funded through a Challenge Cost-Share with the National Trails System Office-Santa Fe, will provide site-specific Trail of Tears interpretation at Helena, Village Creek State Park, Cadron Settlement Park, Lake Dardanelle State Park, Pea Ridge National Military Park, and North Little Rock. The AHPP also has received grant funding from the Arkansas Humanities Council to place an additional panel at each of the six sites; this panel will provide information on federal Indian removal policy to establish context for the site-specific exhibits.

Vision Becoming Reality - Using Partnerships to Develop the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail

Despite this tragic event in our Nation's history, the Cherokee and other South-eastern tribes built successful communities that exist today. Old traces, historic buildings, and other sites are being preserved to commemorate the sorrowful journey.

A variety of local, state, and national efforts have commenced to preserve, develop, and interpret Trail resources. A growing awareness of this important story—and those of other removed tribes—has stimulated interest in nationally recognizing this chapter in our Nation's past. The Trail of Tears National Historic Trail tells of the Cherokees' ordeal—but many tribes can tell similar stories.

In 1987, Congress acknowledged the significance of the Trail by establishing the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. The National Park Service administers the Trail in cooperation with federal, state, and local agencies; the Cherokee Nation and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians; interested groups; and private landowners.

The Trail of Tears Association and the National Park Service National Trails System Office-Santa Fe have been working with Trail partners to increase visibility for the Trail and to develop it for visitor use. Additional sites have been certified and numerous on-the-ground projects have been completed, such as signing the route, visitor-use development, interpretive wayside exhibits, and interior museum exhibits at existing facilities.

Newly Certified Sites
Camppground Cemetery, IL
Mantle Rock, KY

Certified Sites
Audubon Acres, TN
Brainerd Mission Cemetery, TN
Browns Ferry Tavern, TN
Cherokee County Historical Museum, NC
Chieftain's Museum/Major Ridge Home, GA
Chattanooga Regional History Museum, TN
Cherokee Heritage Center, OK
City of North Little Rock Riverfront Park, AR
Gray's Inn, KY
Lake Dardanelle State Park, AR
Murrell Home, OK
Museum of the Cherokee Indian, NC
New Echota State Historic Site, GA
Red Clay State Historic Area, TN
Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, TN
Tennessee River Museum, TN
Trail of Tears Commemorative Park, KY
Vann House Historic Site, GA
Visitor Center, Moccasin Springs Road, and Nancy Hildebrand's gravesite in Trail of Tears State Park, MO

Pending Certifications
Coke Ovens Museum Trail Segments, TN
City of Chattanooga trail routes and historic sites, TN
City of Nashville trail routes, TN
Fort Gibson, OK

Federal Protection Components
Cherokee Removal Memorial Park - Blythe Ferry, TVA land, TN
Fort Smith National Historic Site, AR
Mark Twain National Forest, MO
Pea Ridge National Military Park, AR
Shawnee National Forest, MO

Trail of Tears Association State Chapter Contacts

Arkansas
Kitty Sloan
Phone: 870-932-4252

Georgia
Tommy Cox
Phone: 770-382-4012
E-mail: tc12@bellsouth.net

Illinois
Andrew West
Phone: 618-833-4910
E-mail: kawest@dnrmail.state.il.us

Kentucky
Beverly Baker
Phone: 270-886-9777 (day)

North Carolina
Jane Eastman
Phone: 828-227-3841
E-mail: jeastman@email.wcu.edu

Tennessee
Vicky Garland
Phone: 931-766-0827

Missouri
Hershel Price
Phone: 573-334-1711 (day)
E-mail: hprice@accessus.net

Oklahoma
Curtis Rohr
Phone: 918-341-4689
E-mail: cirfnr58@att.net

\$\$\$\$ Challenge Cost-Share Program - 2005 \$\$\$\$

Many of the projects accomplished along the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail are receiving funding from the National Park Service Challenge Cost-Share Program. Your project might qualify, too. Give us a call and we will send you a project proposal form and instructions. Projects should support the programs and goals of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail as set forth in the Comprehensive Management and Use Plan.

If you have a possible project, contact John Conoboy right away by mail or phone (505-988-6733).

Remember, Challenge Cost-Share funds are not a grant, but rather are funds for mutually-agreed-upon national historic trail projects.

Site-specific projects can generally only be funded for certified sites. Projects can be related to resource protection, manage-

ment, visitor use facilities, interpretation, education, or research. Projects require a 50/50 match of federal and nonfederal funding. However, the non-federal match can include the value of volunteer time and other in-kind services, donated equipment and supplies, and so forth. If you're not sure whether or not your project will qualify, call us anyway, and let's talk.

Project proposals should be received at the National Trails System Office - Santa Fe by March 15, 2005.