



Trail News

Special Map Insert

NPS Conducts Public Scoping Meetings for Extension of Trail

by John Conoboy

Between July 10 and July 19, National Trails System – Santa Fe Superintendent Aaron Mahr and Chief of Interpretation and Resource Management John Conoboy conducted public scoping meetings for the feasibility study to determine if the additional routes of Cherokee Removal can be added to the existing Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. After many years of effort,



Photo by Marty King

This NPS public hearing in Fort Payne, Alabama, was the largest meeting of the 12 held across the states that would be affected by the additions to the Trail.

legislation authorizing the study was passed by Congress last fall with support from the Trail of Tears Association, Cherokee Nation, and Eastern Band of Cherokee.

Meetings were held in Murphy, North Carolina; Chattanooga, Pulaski, and Memphis, Tennessee; Calhoun, Georgia; Fort Payne and Sheffield, Alabama; Mayfield, Kentucky; Poplar Bluff, Missouri; Batesville and Little Rock, Arkansas; and

Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Attendance at the meetings was much higher than usual for this type of event, which indicates the strong interest in the trail. A number of staff from Congressional offices attended, as did the mayors of several towns. Many Trail of Tears Association members helped with meeting arrangements and attendance at the meetings by Association members was very good. We were very pleased to have Vice Chief Larry Blythe from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians at the meeting in Murphy and Deputy Chief Joe Grayson and several tribal council members in Tahlequah.

During the meetings, we explained that we have been looking at these routes for many years and, along with the earlier study, we believe that they meet most of the criteria for designation in the National Trails System Act. What we cannot know without public input is whether or not this is something that the public feels is desirable and suitable, and we need to evaluate the possible affects of designation on the environment.

Support for the addition of the new routes to the national historic trail was strong at all meetings. No one spoke in opposition. Frequent issues were the need to tell the whole story of removal, the need to educate children about the trail, the need to preserve the places where events happen so the history is not forgotten, and the need for the public to learn the true story of this part of American history.

Comments will be accepted until August 9th. You can comment online by going to www.nps.gov/trte or parkplanning.nps.gov and following links to the comment page.

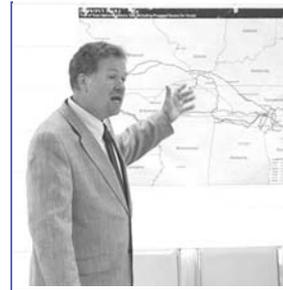


Photo by Marty King

NPS National Trails System Office Superintendent Aaron Mahr refers to a map detailing to proposed additions to the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail.

Or you can email john_conoboy@nps.gov or call 505-988-6733.

We hope to have a draft of the study available for public review by October, and if there are no major issues or problems, the study will be finalized in early November and transmitted to Congress.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- TOTA President's Message..... 2
- NPS Superintendent's Message..... 2
- TOTA Chapter News..... 3-5
- Report from Sequoyah Research Center..... 7
- Cherokee National Historical Society Membership..... 7
- Trail Calendar..... 7

Trail of Tears Association President's Message

The twelve public hearings on Public Law 109-378, which requires the National Park Service (NPS) to study the feasibility and suitability of adding certain routes and segments to the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail, have been concluded. I appreciate everyone who attended these hearings and their positive comments on expanding the Trail. The NPS stated that there were no negative comments in any of the hearings.

I attended the final hearing which was held in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, on July 19th. There were roughly forty-plus attendees including the Deputy Chief of the Cherokee Nation, Joe Grayson, and the Cherokee Nation's First Lady, Bobbie Smith. (The Principal Chief was out of town.) Also attending were several individuals from North Carolina who were in Tahlequah for meetings with the Cherokee Nation. These persons had not been able to attend the

hearing in North Carolina, and I appreciate their taking time out to attend the hearing in Oklahoma. There were many positive comments made in this hearing.

I also want to express my appreciation to the Superintendent of the National Trails System - Intermountain Region, Aaron Mahr, and the Deputy Superintendent, John Conoboy, for all of their hard work on these meetings. It was a rough schedule for them - twelve meetings in eight states in ten days! Thanks, guys! Too often we forget to recognize the employees of the National Trails System for



Jack Baker, President of the Trail of Tears Association

all of their work on the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. We owe much of our progress on the Trail to their efforts.

Also, congratulations to Aaron for being named as Superintendent. We look forward to continuing our work with you. We certainly appreciate all of the hard work that his predecessor, Jere Krakow, put into the development of the Trail. As a side-note, Jere seems to be enjoying his retirement. It was my pleasure in early July to meet Jere and his wife, Jan, in Tahlequah for dinner and for the evening performance of *Under the Cherokee Moon* at the Cherokee Heritage Center.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our annual conference on November 5 - 8 in Rome, Georgia!

Jack D. Baker

National Trails System Office Superintendent's Message

Hello to all of you on the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail! It's an honor and privilege to be greeting you as the



Aaron Mahr, Superintendent of the National Trails System - Intermountain Region

Superintendent of the National Park Service's National Trails System Office - Intermountain Region. The breadth of my new responsibilities are humbling and challenging. Out of our offices in Santa Fe, New

Mexico, and Salt Lake City, Utah, the staff is responsible for administering nine of our nation's national historic trails, including the Trail of Tears, and managing the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program. Our office also manages the Old Santa Fe Trail Building, a beautiful Civilian Conservation Corps constructed adobe office building and National Historic Landmark property that is also home to our Santa Fe office.

One of my greatest challenges will be to maintain the high level of professionalism, dedication, and good will established by my

predecessor, Jere Krakow, who retired from the NPS in January. I think most of you will agree that Jere's common sense approach, combined with his extensive knowledge and experience, restored and strengthened the partnership that exists today between the NPS and its many partners along the Trail of Tears, including your association. I hope to have many opportunities in the future to elaborate on what my vision is for Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. At this point though, I want to assure all of you that my goal is that the outstanding staff of the National Trails System Office will continue to provide the highest level of customer service to all of you as you work to reach your goals for the development of the trail. My efforts will go towards making sure that all of us are proud and satisfied with the great relationship between the National Park Service and the Trail of Tears Association.

The NPS is involved in several significant issues along the trail right now. Most important is the completion of the Feasibility Study Amendment which will evaluate the feasibility and suitability of

adding additional routes to the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. You can read more about that process on page 1. Also, we are currently in the process of evaluating applicants for the historian's position in the office—my old job! If all goes well, we should have a new historian by the fall, and he or she should be able to attend the symposium in Rome, Georgia, in November. Other noteworthy projects include the completion of the Ridge Home/Chieftains Museum Cultural Landscape/Historic Structure Report, and the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the NPS and the Governor of Tennessee. All of us are anxiously monitoring the development of the Trail of Tears interpretive video. As of this writing, a script has been approved, and the filmmakers are developing a production schedule. We are anticipating a completion date of fall 2008.

I look forward to continuing to work with all of you and hope to see you or talk to you soon. If you're in Santa Fe, be sure to stop in and say hello!

Aaron Mahr

Trail of Tears Association State Chapter News

Oklahoma

The Oklahoma chapter recently completed a week of research at the National Archives in College Park, Maryland. Among the members on the project were Marybelle Chase, Ed and Gwen Henshaw, Jack Baker, and Curtis Rohr. They were joined at the archives by Patsy and John Edgar, Paul Austin, Jerra Quinton, and Anna Smith. Patsy is on the national board of the Trail of Tears Association, and Anna is president of the Moravian Cherokee Historical Society in Salem, North Carolina. This research project began last year under the leadership of Dr. Dan Littlefield of the Sequoyah Research Center in Little Rock, Arkansas. The project consisted of researching the treasury and payroll records housed in the National Archives at College Park to gain information pertaining to the forced removal of the Indians from the eastern United States to Oklahoma/Indian Territory. Many documents and records copied will be organized, scanned, and forwarded to the Sequoyah Research Center so that others may access this information.

The Oklahoma chapter held the spring meeting on March 31, 2007, at Dwight Mission near Sallisaw, Oklahoma. Some 50-plus members were in attendance. The special speaker was Warren Schaub whose father had been the director of the mission and school in 1911.

The chapter met with Andrea Sharon of the National Park Service on June 8, 2007, in Tahlequah. At this time, we visited the Woodall/Bushyhead Depot site near Westville, Oklahoma, and the Mrs. Webbers/Colonel Adair Depot site at Stillwell, Oklahoma. Both are in the process of being designated as Trail of Tears National Historic Trail certified sites.

We hope to see many of you at the national conference in Rome, Georgia, in November.

Tennessee

"Postcards," a short segment about Trail sites in Tennessee, was aired on Channel 2 out of Nashville and several chapter members were involved with the project. CDs

Tennessee (continued)

were given to the participants, and everyone was anxious to see the locations and how chapter members participated in helping with this project. Hats off to all that took part.

The chapter would like to thank Clea Townsend for hosting the meeting at Audubon Acres in Chattanooga. The chapter held a general membership meeting on July 28th, in McMinnville, Tennessee, at the Chamber of Commerce. Chapter member, James Dillon, a Warren County historian, spoke at the meeting.

The chapter thanks all who attended the public scoping meetings for the National Historic Trail Feasibility Study, as well as NPS staff Aaron Mahr and John Conoboy for their job well done through the state of Tennessee. Participation was very good.

Indian Summer Days will take place on October 4 - 7, 2007, at the Chattanooga Audubon Society, 900 N. Sanctuary Road, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The chapter will have a tent and need help manning it. If you would like to volunteer, contact Bill or Agnes Jones at 931-946-7486.



Photo courtesy of Agnes Jones

Individuals from Tennessee gather at the Chattanooga public scoping meeting held by the NPS. (L-R) Front Row: Shelley Andrews, Shirley Lawrence, Jonathan Smith, Agnes Jones, and Bill Jones. Back Row: John Conoboy, Clea Townsend, Carlos Wilson, Tammera Hicks, Lawrence Alexander, Wally Leary, and Aaron Mahr.

Illinois

The Illinois chapter held their Oral History Project kickoff April 14th with a general membership meeting at Camp Ground Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Union County. Fifty-five people attended with

Illinois (continued)

close to a dozen being interviewed on-camera to tell their family stories. Media coverage included a major article in the *Centralia Sentinel* and a news feature on WSIU-TV Carbondale. Other individuals wishing to be interviewed have contacted board members since the event. Additional oral history meetings are being scheduled. Board member Gary Hacker was interviewed about the Trail by a reporter from WGN-TV Chicago and the feature aired on their evening news.

On June 9th, the Illinois chapter presented a symposium at the Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois' annual convention at John A. Logan College in Marion, Illinois. President Sandra Boaz and board members Joe Crabb, Sue Glasco, and Gary Hacker spoke on the formation of the Trail of Tears Association and the Illinois chapter and on the Trail across Illinois. Board member Harvey Henson gave a presentation on the remote sensing project he is directing at Camp Ground Cemetery. The summer general membership meeting was held June 23rd at the Newberry Library in Chicago, with Raymond Fogelson, anthropology professor at University of Chicago, presenting the program.

On September 8th and 9th, for the third year in a row, we will have a membership and information booth at the Cahokia Mounds Pow Wow at Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site in Collinsville, Illinois.

Mark your calendars for the fall meeting on October 6th at the Methodist Church in Golconda, Illinois. Tony Gerard, historical re-enactor, will present an inspiring program. For more information or directions please contact Sandra Boaz at popeun@midwest.net or 618-833-8216, or Joe Crabb at joethel@shawneelink.net or 618-949-3355.

An article on the garnering of state awareness and support of the Trail through Illinois, written by board member Cheryl Jett, will appear in the fall issue of the *Forum Journal*, a publication of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

More Chapter News, pages 4 & 5

Trail of Tears Association State Chapter News

Kentucky

Radford Farm Site in Todd County was submitted to the National Park Service for certification in early fall of 2006. The chapter is anxiously awaiting information on this site mentioned in Daniel Buttrick's journal. Dr. Darrell Latch assisted researchers on this project.

A general membership meeting was held in Paducah in May at the McCracken County Public Library. The program included guest speaker Penny Fields who talked on genealogy. A discussion was held on the removal water routes and incidents focusing on Paducah. The chapter would like to thank Dr. Dan Littlefield of the Sequoyah Research Center in Little Rock, Arkansas, for his assistance in providing much of the information for this program.

A scoping meeting was held by the NPS at Mayfield, Kentucky, on July 16th, regarding the feasibility study of adding additional routes and segments to the Trail of Tears National Historic rail. A number of TOTA members and other interested individuals attended.

Chapter board members serving for another year are Beverly Baker, President; Carla Hildebrand, Vice President; Tammy Winters, Secretary/Treasurer; and board members Ann Day, Ann Read, Shelly Morris, and Alice Murphree.

The fall general membership meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 20, 2007, at 11:00 a.m., and is set for Columbus-Belmont State Park on the Mississippi River at the site of the Bengue Route river crossing. The focus of the meeting will be the Bengue Route.

Arkansas

The National Park Service held two public meetings in Arkansas regarding the proposed National Historic Trail expansion. The meetings were attended by approximately 90 people. A follow-up meeting will be held in Batesville at the Old Independence Museum, September 15th, at 10:00 a.m.

Arkansas (continued)

The chapter will be erecting two interpretive panels at Historic Washington State Park. The panels are funded, in part, by the National Endowment for the Humanities and Arkansas Humanities Council. The panels will depict Choctaw removal through Washington, Arkansas, in 1831-1834.



Attendees at an Arkansas chapter meeting at the Shiloh Museum look at Cross Hollow maps and overlays.

The city of Morrilton is developing a new park on the Arkansas River, Lewisburg Park, which will include Trail of Tears interpretation. The Whiteley and Drane parties of Cherokee camped here in 1838.

The chapter's Northwest Arkansas research team is working with the current owners of Fitzgerald's farmstead toward certification on the Northern Route. A site report is being developed by the research team. Fitzgerald's is specifically mentioned in the diary of William I. Morrow, a physician with the Richard Taylor detachment. The NWA research team is currently focusing on three additional sites mentioned in the Morrow diary: Cross Hollow (near Lowell), Cunningham's (near Mt. Comfort) and Thommasson's (near Old Cincinnati).

The board of the Arkansas chapter met at the Shiloh Museum of Ozark History on April 14th. The board discussed newly researched segments of the Trail in the Northwest part of the state. It was discovered that a segment of the Trail coincides with the property of the Shiloh Museum.

On July 21st, Lake Dardanelle State Park hosted a chapter meeting. The program included a flute concert by Will Lang, a site report from Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission, and a new trail map of the Charleston area by Dusty Helbling.

Arkansas (continued)

The Arkansas chapter would like to introduce Glenn Jones as our new national board member and Dr. Dan Littlefield as research coordinator for the chapter.

Missouri

Aaron Mahr and John Conoboy of the National Park Service hosted a public scoping meeting at the Popular Bluff Chamber of Commerce meeting room at 5:30 p.m., July 16th. The crowd contributed a good discussion about the Bengue Route and contributed information for the Congressional mandated feasibility study.

Trail of Tears State Park was the site of the July 28th meeting. Denise Dowling and Hershel Price gave an overview of the National Historic Trail that goes through the park and the National Historic site in the park and a tour of the trail and the site. Deloris Gray Wood facilitated a strategic plan on the Bengue Route identifying places and resources along the route.

Snelson-Brinker, the newest certified site along the Northern Route of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail, got a new facelift after a workday held June 16th after another workday was scheduled that was rained out April 14. Trees were trimmed so the graveyard is visible to visitors to the cabin and from Highway 8.

North Carolina

The North Carolina chapter of the Trail of Tears Association met on the afternoon of June 23 in Robbinsville, North Carolina. The meeting was held at the Graham County Public Library. Several of the members participated in a walk that took place on the actual Trail that morning. The walk, which began at Tatham Gap and covered seven miles, was led by Shirley Oswalt, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. This is an annual event. Among the North Carolina chapter members who participated were Chief Michell Hicks and Tribal Council Member Marie Junaluska.

Following the business meeting, Brett Riggs showed the group the text and drawings that

Trail of Tears Association State Chapter News

North Carolina (continued)

will make up the signs that will soon be placed at sites along the route of the Trail. These are very impressive and will help to tell the story of the Removal of the Cherokee people to travelers throughout the area as well as to those who presently live there.

The program was presented by T. J. Holland, an Eastern Band member and Director and Curator of the Junaluska Memorial Museum. He spoke on the life and legacy of Junaluska. This was especially appropriate, as the Graham County Library is situated on property that once belonged to Junaluska.

The fall meeting of North Carolina chapter is scheduled to be held in Cherokee on October 6, 2007. The place and time are yet to be determined, but members will be notified well in advance. October 6th is the final day of the annual Cherokee Fall Fair, and those who attend the meeting may want to visit the Fair as well. There is also a Trail of Tears exhibit on display at the Museum of the Cherokee Indian.

Georgia

The Georgia chapter is busy planning for the annual conference in November in Rome, Georgia. Rome's history and attractions will interest all who visit. There is something for everyone, including Chieftains Museum/Major Ridge Home, the road between the Major Ridge home and the John Ross home, Barnsley Gardens, antique shopping in nearby Cave Springs where David Vann built a beautiful plantation home, Berry College (largest campus in the world and Martha Berry's historic home), scenic downtown Rome with its many shops, parks and rivers, and many other interesting sites within a short drive of Rome. Come and enjoy the hospitality of this beautiful and colorful city.

At present the chapter is planning a dedication service on the afternoon of Monday, November 5th, which is the first day of the conference. The National Parks Service, with the assistance of local officials and the GA chapter, plans to erect two signs to commemorate a collection site in Cedartown,

Georgia (continued)

Georgia. This is the first collection site recognition by the NPS in the state of Georgia.

Our chapter holds bi-monthly meetings at various locations around North Georgia to accommodate our membership located around this area. The last meeting was held in Dahlonega, Georgia, the site of the 1830's gold rush. Dr. Sarah Hill provided an interesting and informative program on the removal of Georgia Cherokees. Her presentation dealt with many questions surrounding the removal and documentation information recently discovered in her ongoing research. Our next membership meeting will be on September 8th in Cartersville, Georgia, with a program about the local history of Bartow County.

We look forward to hosting the national conference and offer anyone needing any information for their visits here to contact Tommy Cox at tc_tota_ga@bellsouth.net, Linda Baker at badnl@alltel.net, or Dola Davis at wddavis1937@alltel.net.



Two Georgia chapter members, Linda Turner (right) and Doris Blaylock, sell plants to raise money for the chapter.

Alabama

The Alabama chapter met on February 24th at the Birmingham Museum of Art. The program focused on preliminary information on research of the Cherokee roundup in Alabama, internment camps and forts, and the route from Fort Payne taken by the Bengue Detachment. On June 17th members met again at the Museum. The program concentrated on road, ferries, and sites of the Cherokee forced removal in Alabama.

On April 15th, Tuscumbia Landing in northwest Alabama was the first site to be

Alabama (continued)

placed on the National Historic Trail in Alabama. Chapter member Ellen Musselman's nomination of the site was at last a reality. Chapter members Gail King and Robert Thrower supported Ellen's nomination by utilizing every opportunity to communicate their concerns about the nomination with the National Park Service and the city of Sheffield. Tuscumbia Landing is a nearly pristine site because it is part of a park in the city of Sheffield that has been closed for several years. A dedication ceremony is being planned by the city in conjunction with the NPS, the city of Tuscumbia, tribal representatives, persons involved with the Landing over the years, and the Alabama chapter. The ceremony is scheduled for the morning of September 8th, immediately followed by a walk along the route used to take the Cherokee, Creek, and Chickasaw to Tuscumbia Landing to put them on steamboats or keelboats; however, this time the walk will be in reverse to signify the return of those who were removed from Alabama.

NPS public scoping meetings took place on July 12th in the cities of Fort Payne and Sheffield, Alabama. The turnout in Fort Payne was over 80 people. The meeting in Sheffield was attended by approximately 38 people. Thank you to all chapter members who attended the meetings.

Please take a moment to write and thank your congressmen for co-sponsoring the bills for the feasibility study.

Senators:

Tom Coburn [OK] - Sponsor
Lamar Alexander [TN]
Bill Frist [TN]

Representatives:

Zach Wamp [TN-3] - Sponsor
Robert Aderholt [AL-4] Frank Lucas [OK-3]
Marion Berry [AR-1] Charles Norwood [GA-9]
John Boozman [AR-3] Charles Taylor [NC-11]
Dan Boren [OK-2] Vic Snyder [AR-2]
Tom Cole [OK-4] John Sullivan [OK-1]
Robert Cramer, Jr. [AL-5] Ed Whitfield [KY-1]
Lincoln Davis [TN-4]
Nathan Deal [GA-10]
John Duncan, Jr. [TN-2]
Jo Ann Emerson [MO-8]
Harold Ford, Jr. [TN-9]
Phil Gingrey [GA-11]
John Linder [GA-7]

**Are you a current member of TOTA?
If not, please join TOTA today!**



Trail of Tears Association
1100 N. University, Suite 143
Little Rock, AR 72207-6344

MEMBERSHIP FORM
January - December

**ANNUAL
MEMBERSHIP DUES**

\$25.00

Membership includes one (1) state chapter membership. Please send \$10 for each additional state chapter you would like to join.

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

Name Mr. Mrs. Ms. _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (Day) _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

State Chapter(s) (Circle): Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee

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

In 1987, Congress acknowledged the significance of this tragic event in our Nation's history 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. Old traces, historic buildings, and other resources are being preserved. Many sites have been certified and numerous on-the-ground projects have been completed, such as route signing, visitor use development, interpretive wayside exhibits, and interior museum exhibits at existing facilities.

Certified Sites

Audubon Acres, TN
Brainerd Mission Cemetery, TN
Browns Ferry Tavern, TN
Campground Cemetery, IL
Chattanooga Regional History Museum, TN
Cherokee County Historical Museum, NC
Cherokee Heritage Center, OK
Chieftains Museum/Major Ridge Home, GA
City of Nashville trail routes, TN
City of North Little Rock Riverfront Park, AR
Coke Ovens Museum Trail Segments, TN
Delta Cultural Center, AR
Fort Gibson, OK
Gray's Inn, KY
The Hermitage, TN
Historic Road from Ross to Ridge's, GA

James Brown Cherokee Plantation, TN
John Ross House, GA
Junaluska Memorial and Museum, NC
Lake Dardanelle State Park, AR
Major Ridge Ferry Site and Farm Fields, GA
Mantle Rock, KY
Maramec Spring Park—Massey Iron Works, MO
Mount Nebo State Park, AR
Murrell Home, OK
Museum of the Cherokee Indian, NC
New Echota State Historic Site, GA
Petit Jean State Park, AR
Pinnacle Mountain State Park, AR
Port Royal State Park, TN
Red Clay State Historic Area, TN
Running Waters John Ridge Property, GA
Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, TN
Snelson-Brinker Cabin, MO
Star City Ranch Trail Segment, MO
Tennessee River Museum, TN
Trail of Tears Commemorative Park, KY
Trail of Tears State Forest, IL
Vann House Historic Site, GA
VCMoccasin Springs Road/Nancy Hildebrand's Gravesite-Trail of Tears State Park, MO
Waynesville Cherokee Encampment, MO
Roubidoux Spring, Waynesville, MO

Federal Protection Components and Interpretive Sites

Arkansas Post National Memorial, AR
Berry Ferry, KY
Cadron Settlement Park, AR
Cherokee Memorial Park-Blythe Ferry, TN
Fort Smith National Historic Site, AR
Great Smoky Mountains National Park, TN
Mark Twain National Forest, MO
Mocassin Bend, TN
Pea Ridge National Military Park, AR
Shawnee National Forest, MO
Stones River National Battlefield, TN

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Trail Calendar

August 18
Alabama Chapter Meetings
Tuscumbia Landing, Park West, Sheffield, AL
10:00 a.m. Board Meeting
10:30 a.m. Membership Meeting
Program: Significance of Tuscumbia Landing

September 7-9
Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site Pow-Wow
Collinsville, Illinois

September 7-11
Conference on Nat'l Scenic & Historic Trails Partnership for the National Trails System
Duluth, MN
Register at nationaltrailspartnership.org

September 8
Tuscumbia Landing Dedication, Sheffield, AL
8:00 a.m. Tour of Tuscumbia Landing
9:00 a.m. Dedication Ceremony
10:30 a.m. Commemorative Walk

September 15
Arkansas Chapter Meeting
Old Independence Museum, Batesville, AR
10:00 a.m.

October 2-6
Cherokee Indian Fair, Cherokee, NC

October 6
North Carolina Chapter Meeting
Cherokee, NC
Place & Time TBD

Illinois Chapter Meeting
Methodist Church, Golconda, IL
1:30 p.m.

October 18-20, 2007
Sequoyah Research Center Symposium
DoubleTree Hotel, Little Rock, AR
Information & registration enclosed

October 20
Kentucky Chapter Meeting
Columbus-Belmont State Park, Columbus, KY
11:00 a.m.
Program: Bengé Route

November 5-8, 2007
TOTA Conference & Symposium, Rome, GA
Registration & info at nationalTOTA.org

November 17, 2007
Tennessee Chapter Meeting
Martin Methodist College, Upperman Room
Pulaski, TN
11:00 a.m.

November 10, 2007
American Indian Heritage Day
Funk Heritage Center, Waleska, GA
10:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. Trail of Tears Film
10:00 a.m. - Noon Lectures
More at reinhardt.edu/funkheritage

Report from Sequoyah Research Center

by Daniel Littlefield, Ph.D.

The first meeting of the City of Little Rock's committee to develop a plan to make the Junction Bridge a pedestrian river crossing was held on Thursday, July 12. The committee, consisting of Little Rock officials, interested citizens, and others laid groundwork for the development of the former railroad bridge that connects the River Market district of downtown Little Rock and downtown North Little Rock. Because the bridge is footed in the historic Little Rock, the group engaged historians in the process to include interpretation of the rock's history. Daniel Littlefield of the Sequoyah Research Center represented the Arkansas Chapter of the Trail of Tears Association in the planning process. The work must be done within the next ten months. This will be a good opportunity to work toward certifying Little Rock as a site on the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail.

The new space will contain a gallery for rotation of exhibits from the Dr. J. W. Wiggins Native American Art Collection as well as provide about three times as much storage and work space as the Center now occupies. The Center will post regular gallery hours for the convenience of the public. Extensive parking area is available, practically at the front door.

Thanks to grant funding, a student intern has been assigned to the Indian Removal Research Collection that the Sequoyah Center has amassed during the past two years. His task will be to work with Director Daniel Littlefield to organize the collection and index the content, particularly the hundreds of receipts that have been retrieved from the National Archives. The project will begin in late this summer.

Carolyn Kent, an Arkansas chapter member, has written a site report for the Little Rock Site. Carolyn has also written a fine report on Van Buren on the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. Jamie Metrailler has completed a report on Menifee and is completing reports on Norristown and Morrison's Bluff. Dusty Helbling has done a nice research report on McLean's Bottom (Roseville) and the route from there to McCoy's at Sallisaw.

Access to the Cherokee Phoenix can be found on the Center's website, anpa.ualr.edu. From the homepage, go to "Indexes" on the menu, then on the letter of the alphabet they want to search, and scroll the index. If you find an entry of interest, click on the date. That will take you to the digital image of the page in the Phoenix. Once the image opens, click on the little magnifying glass with a + in the middle to enlarge the image. This is just another service the SRC provides to the Trail of Tears Association.

The Sequoyah Research Center has been given Suite 500 of the University Plaza as well as money for renovation and expects to move within the ensuing few months.

The Sequoyah Research Center is the official archives of the Trail of Tears Association and is located at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Daniel Littlefield, the director of SRC, is also a former TOTA national board member.

Membership Available with Cherokee National Historical Society

by Patsy Edgar

You are invited to join the Cherokee National Historical Society, a private non-profit corporation designed to preserve the history and culture of the Cherokee people - past, present and future. The Cherokee Heritage Center includes a wonderful museum and museum store, the Ancient Village depicting pre-contact Cherokee lifeways, and the Adams Corner Rural Village depicting 19th century Cherokee

life. Membership begins at \$40 (\$25 for students and those over 55) and includes a quarterly newsletter, The Columns, a 10% museum store discount, free admission to the Cherokee Heritage Center, invitations to all Society events, genealogy services at a reduced rate, and use of the archives. See www.cherokeeheritage.org for more information.



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**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.

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**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 NHT 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 NPS's Trail plan.

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**National Park Service
National Trails System
Office - Santa Fe** 

The National Trails System Office - Santa Fe administers the Trail of Tears NHT, the Santa Fe NHT, and the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program. El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT 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.

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