



Trail News

Wamp Introduces Legislation for Inclusion of Additional Routes

by Aaron Mahr and Jerra Quinton

On Friday, February 8, 2008, U. S. Rep. Zach Wamp of Tennessee introduced legislation (H.R. 5335) that would add 2,800 miles to the existing Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. The proposed additions are the Beng

In November, the National Park Service National Trails System office completed the feasibility study and environmental assessment for the additional routes of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. As of early

Wamp had 20 co-sponsors for the bill, including: Robert Aderholt and Robert Cramer of Alabama; Marion Berry, John Boozman, and Vic Snyder of Arkansas; Nathan Deal, Phil Gingrey, and Tom Price of Georgia; Ed Whitfield of Kentucky; Jo Ann Emerson of Missouri; Heath Shuler of North Carolina; Dan Boren, Tom Cole,



Photo courtesy of Duane King

Trail of Tears Association board members Duane King (second from left) and Troy Poteete (second from right) and staff members Jerra Quinton (far left) and Paul Austin (far right) meet with Congressman Zach Wamp (center) in Washington, D.C., on February 12, 2008, to talk about the Trail of Tears legislation he just introduced, which would add 2800 miles to the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail.

January, the study was under review by the NPS Director's office. After that is completed, the Department of Interior and the Office of Management and Budget must approve it before it is submitted to Congress for consideration.

The feasibility study, which is actually an amendment to the original 1986 Trail of Tears Feasibility Study, addressed the desirability and feasibility of designating

and Bell Routes; the land components of the designated water routes in Alabama, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Tennessee; the routes from the collection forts in Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, and Tennessee to the emigration depots; and the related campgrounds located along these routes and land components. In addition, the bill has extensive private property rights protections. The bill has been referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and Congressman Wamp's office is pushing for enactment of the bill by this summer.

the Bell Route, the Bengé Route, the land components of the water detachment routes, the roundup routes, the disbandment routes, and associated camp sites, as part of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. The study concluded that all of the above components met the criteria of the national Trails System Act and that there was public support and interest in them. Ultimately, it will be up to Congress to determine whether they will become part of the National Historic Trail. Keep tuned! For more information visit www.nps.gov/trte and link to the Additional Routes Feasibility Study.

“Through this legislation, we will honor the historic footsteps taken by the Cherokee, document their courage and highlight their character as a great tribe of strong people.”

Mary Fallin, Frank Lucas, and John Sullivan of Oklahoma; and Stephen Cohen, Lincoln Davis, John Duncan, and John Tanner of Tennessee.

During the week of February 11, 2008, Trail of Tears Association board members Troy Poteete and Duane King and staff Paul Austin and Jerra Quinton met with

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Trail of Tears Association President's Message

On behalf of the National Association, I would like to express our appreciation to the Georgia chapter and particularly the conference planning committee for making our Annual Conference and Symposium a great success. All of your hard work was apparent from planning the receptions and trips to the abundance of great door prizes. Thanks for a great conference!

This year should be a great year for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. All of the chapters have been working diligently to locate and preserve Trail sites. Many of the projects are beginning to come to fruition. I believe that this year there will be a great deal of progress made in the development of sites all along the Trail. This will include additional signage, development of Trail segments and more wayside exhibits. All of

these efforts will make for a much more meaningful experience for all visitors to the Trail. Further, this may well be the year that the Trail routes are expanded by Congress!

It is with regret that we accept the resignation of Paul Austin as our Executive Director. Much of the advancement that the Trail has seen in the last few years is a direct result of Paul's work and leadership. Paul was instrumental in the organization of the Trail of Tears Association in 1993. It was his willingness to accept the responsibility of housing the Association's office at the American Indian Center that enabled the Association to grow. Without their maintaining our financial and membership records it would have been very difficult for the Association to function. Even more important, his dedication to the Association



Photo courtesy of Cherokee Nation
Jack Baker, President of the Trail of Tears Association

are not saying goodbye, however, as we expect to see you, Paul, at many of our meetings and look forward to your continuing support of the organization.

Jack D. Baker

has been an impetus for many of us to increase our commitment to the Trail. We wish him the very best in his new position as director of the Arkansas Humanities Council. We

National Trails System Office Superintendent's Message

We're in a time of significant change in the National Trails System office in Santa Fe. As all of you know, Superintendent Jere Krakow ended his long and distinguished career in the National Park Service in early January of 2007. Following Jere's departure, John Conoboy assumed the reigns of Acting Superintendent until I was chosen as Jere's successor and became

Superintendent in April. I faced many challenges in my new position, but none was as great as making the transition from a member of the team to leader. I anticipated a time of awkwardness and difficulty as my colleagues and I became familiar with the new working relationship in our office. However, I was greatly humbled by the sup-



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

port, kindness, and decency the staff has shown, and my thanks go out to each of them.

Other significant challenges have occurred in the last eight months. In the fall, John Conoboy announced his retirement after a 32-year career in the National Park Service. John has been part of the Long Distance Trails and National Trails System offices since 1989. These were critical years in the development of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail and the National Trails System. I'm sure all of you will join me in thanking John for his years of dedicated service to the development of the trail and wish him well as he begins this new and exciting stage of life. Happy tunes John!

Other staffing changes have occurred since John's departure. Dr. Sharon Brown, whom some of you may remember led the Trail of Tears Interpretive Plan workshop in Memphis in 2002, will replace John as my management assistant. Sharon has been my colleague in the trails office since 2001. I know her to be a dedicated, intelligent, compassionate, and modest professional

and someone who possesses all the qualities I believe will make her a superb trail partner and leader. Dr. Frank Norris, a regional historian in the NPS office in Anchorage, Alaska, has accepted the position of historian in the trails office. Frank joined our staff in mid-January and you'll learn more about him in the next newsletter. He will be spending a good portion of his time, as I did (and do), on the Trail of Tears. And Otis Halfmoon has also accepted a position in the trails office as tribal liaison expert. Otis will be dividing his time between the planning activities we're involved in across the trails system, and coordinating tribal consultation activities related to the numerous development projects we're doing along the trails. In the coming months, I hope you all have the opportunity to meet and greet Sharon, Frank, and Otis and welcome them to the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. Big changes, but big opportunities too! Thanks to all of you for your continued support, and I'm looking forward to seeing you on the trail!

Aaron Mahr

Trail of Tears Association State Chapter News

Georgia

The Georgia chapter has a new leadership team with Jeff Bishop and Leslie Thomas taking office as president and vice-president, respectively. Bishop, an award-winning journalist, served as vice-president of the Georgia chapter last year and just finished a Challenge Cost-Share report on the John Ross House for the National Park Service. Thomas has been in charge of the chapter's newsletter, *Moccasin Tracks*, for the past several years as Publicity Chair. She also serves as president of the Gilmer County Historical Society.

Big projects for 2008 include:

- "TOTAbase," an online cooperative research database for chapter members. The online database, to which members will regularly contribute, will include period maps, photographs, plats, valuations, newspaper clippings, and other documents to assist in the documentation and NPS certification of Removal-related sites and routes.
- A February 16th research workshop at New Echota.
- The opening of wayside exhibits at a Cedartown public park, the former site of a Removal camp.
- An NPS Challenge Cost-Share to perform archaeology on the Removal fort and camp sites researched by Sarah Hill, Ph.D., in 2005, so that they can be interpreted and certified.
- A publishing program, which will include the possible reprinting of out-of-print books related to the Removal in Georgia, the publication of new works, and a book for Georgia school children.
- Chapter planning projects, such as a policies and procedures manual, a chapter budget, a chapter bylaws revision, and the formation of a new Outreach Committee to forge alliances with historical societies, museums, and institutions.
- A project with a dendrochronologist from the University of West Georgia to definitively date possible Cherokee-built structures in Georgia.

For more information regarding the Georgia chapter and its activities, contact Jeff Bishop at wjeffbishop@yahoo.com.

Kentucky

The Radford Farm certification was received by owners in October 2007 and announced at the annual TOTA conference in Rome, Georgia, by John Conoboy of the National Trails System – Santa Fe office of the NPS. The Kentucky chapter wishes John the best in his retirement.

A follow-up planning meeting on Mantle Rock public use was held on January 29th, in Paducah. Among those in attendance were NPS staff Aaron Mahr, Steve Burns and Andrea Sharon. Also participating were David Pollock and Tressa Brown of the Kentucky Heritage Council and Kentucky chapter members Beverly Baker, Ann Day, Carla Hildebrand, Alice Murphree, Ann Read, and Shelly Morris, also a representative for the Nature Conservancy, which owns the Mantle Rock property.



National Park Service, Nature Conservancy, and Kentucky Heritage Commission staff recently visited the Mantle Rock site to begin site planning for development of visitor facilities. Together with the TOTA Kentucky chapter, they started planning for a retracement experience along the Salem to Golconda Road at the site that would include hiking and retracement trails, parking, signing and development of wayside interpretive exhibits.

Research by chapter members will be centered this spring in the Livingston County area, centering on John Berry, owner of Berry's Ferry, and his land holdings there at the Ohio River, as well as the road from Salem to the river. Ann Day, who was born and raised in the area, is proving to be very helpful on this project. Chapter members Beverly Baker, Alice Murphree, and Darrell Latch met late in 2007 to work on the Hopkinsville to Salem route. Of concern is the proposed road-widening along part of the route around Fredonia.

The Kentucky chapter bids a very fond farewell to TOTA Executive Director Paul Austin. Paul, you will be sorely missed, and you leave behind some HUGE shoes to fill.

North Carolina

The North Carolina chapter met on October 6th and on January 12th. The October meeting was held at the Cherokee Historical Association building in Cherokee and was scheduled to coincide with the annual Cherokee Fall Fair. The program was presented by Dr. Hartwell Francis, a linguist with the Cherokee Studies program at Western Carolina University. His presentation focused on the Cherokee language revitalization projects in North Carolina.

The January meeting was held in Murphy, with a presentation by Dr. David Cozzo on the revitalization of traditional Cherokee arts and crafts. Dr. Cozzo, an ethnobotanist, is working with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians to promote resource preservation used in traditional basket and carving production. Among these resources are river cane, white oak, and blood root.

The chapter continues to be involved in the production and placement of signs which indicate sites involved in the 1838 removal. This project has been directed and executed by Brett Riggs, Ph.D., of the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill. Rodney Snedeker, archaeologist for the National Forests in North Carolina, has been helpful in arranging for signs to be placed along sections of the Trail located within the Nantahala National Forest. Diane Wells, vice-president of the North Carolina chapter, is working with the state's Department of Transportation to arrange for placement in other areas. Russell Townsend, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Eastern Band, has designated a place for a sign on the Qualla Boundary. Support for construction of signs was provided by the Cherokee Preservation Foundation.

The next chapter meeting will be held at the Terrace Hotel at the Lake Junaluska Assembly Grounds in Waynesville. The meeting is tentatively scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. Barbara Duncan, Education Director of the Museum of the Cherokee Indian, will present on the Cherokee clothing styles of the late 1700s and early 1800s.

More [Chapter News](#), pages 4 & 5

Trail of Tears Association State Chapter News

Oklahoma

With the new year, the Oklahoma chapter has hopes that the legislation introduced in Congress for the extension of the Trail of Tears will be signed into law. This accomplishment would extend the National Historic Trail to include the internment camps, roads, and forts of the Removal. Also, we look forward to the certification of the Woodall/Bushyhead depot and Mrs. Webber's depot. The chapter continues to search for the other depot sites.

Many Removal documents were researched and copied by an Oklahoma chapter research team on two trips to the National Archives in Washington, D. C., last year. These documents have now been given to Dan Littlefield, Ph.D., at the Sequoyah Research Center in Little Rock, Arkansas. They are to be made available for research by all TOTA members. At least one more trip is planned to complete the research. The chapter thanks Ed and Gwen Henshaw, Jack Baker, Marybelle Chase, Curtis Rohr, Dan Littlefield, and David Hampton for their time and dedication to this project. The chapter greatly appreciates Marybelle Chase for organizing the vast amount of document copies and David Hampton for scanning them for back-up purposes. The chapter's deepest appreciation goes to Dr. Littlefield whose help and direction made the research possible and successful. The chapter feels he is one of the greatest researchers and assets of TOTA. The chapter also thanks Jerra Quinton, Paul Austin, and Anna Smith for helping with research during the last trip.

The next chapter meeting will be held on April 19, 2008, in the ballroom behind the Restaurant of the Cherokees in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be Dan Littlefield. A break for lunch will divide the meeting into two sessions. Lunch will be on your own.

Updates from the Trail of Tears Association state chapters and their partners will routinely appear in future issues of this newsletter. Contact Jerra Quinton, TOTA Associate Director, at TOTAjerra@aol.com, or at (501) 666-9032, to submit information and photographs.

Illinois

The Illinois chapter held a site-certification ceremony on Tuesday, January 8th, at the Crabb-Abbott Farm near Grantsburg, Illinois, with local dignitaries, the entire Illinois chapter board of directors, National Park Service landscape architect Steve Burns Chavez, and a crowd of close to 100



Photo by Cheryl Jett

The sign is unveiled at the Crabb-Abbott Farm site certification ceremony.

people in attendance. Also present were reporters and cameramen from television stations affiliated with the three main broadcast networks – NBC, CBS, and ABC. Newspaper coverage both before and after the event came from various newspapers including the *Southern Illinoisan*. Trail segments on the Crabb-Abbott Farm were researched and identified last fall during a visit to the farm by TOTA President Jack Baker and Steve Burns Chavez. A day of rain did not deter the crowd, and the new NPS sign was unveiled during a moving ceremony. Chapter president Sandra Boaz had researched in *Buttrick's Journal* to find that on January 8, 1839, similar weather — mild temperatures with rain — had prevailed. *Buttrick* wrote of the heavy rain forming streams of water that found their way through the tents.

Mark your calendars for the spring general membership meeting at 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 29th, at the Saline County Museum in Harrisburg, Illinois. The Museum is located at 1600 Feazel Street, just 0.2 miles north of U.S. Route 45 South in Harrisburg. This will be another oral history collection meeting continuing the Illinois Trail of Tears Oral History Project, which the chapter began last April with a kick-off event at

Illinois (continued)

Camp Ground Church in Union County. Videotaping, copying, and scanning services will all be available at the Saline County Museum event to record people's stories, pictures, and documents. For more information or directions, please contact Joe Crabb at joethel@shawneelink.net or 618-949-3355.

Arkansas

The Arkansas chapter's 2008 schedule includes major events to which all TOTA members and others are invited:

- **May 3, Little Rock** – We celebrate Arkansas Heritage Month with a 1 p.m. program at Old State House Museum, 300 W. Markham. Amanda Paige will discuss early Arkansas governors and Indian Removal.
- **July 19, Van Buren** – Our 1 p.m. summer program at the Crawford County Extension office, 105 Pointer Trail West, will focus on river and road routes through western Arkansas. We especially hope TOTA members from Oklahoma and Missouri will join us. One topic will be the University of Arkansas' efforts to restore the Van Buren home of Indian agent John Drennen.
- **September 21-25, Little Rock** – A pre-conference research day at UALR's Sequoyah Research Center will kick off TOTA's 13th annual Conference & Symposium. Under Dan Littlefield's leadership, SRC has amassed the largest collection of Indian Removal documents outside of the National Archives. Little Rock's location on routes used by all southeast tribes promises a diverse program. Area sites to see include Mount Holly Cemetery where Quatie Ross is buried.

Of related interest, Little Rock will host the Sequoyah Research Center Symposium October 16-18 and the National Trails Symposium November 15-18.

Missouri

Norman Brown was the guest speaker at the spring Missouri chapter meeting on March 1, 2008, in the conference room of the Department of Natural Resources

Trail of Tears Association State Chapter News

Missouri (continued)

Division of Geology and Land Survey, in Rolla, Missouri. Mr. Brown, who is now retired from the Division of Geology and Land Survey, assisted the NPS with land survey archives for use in developing the Missouri trail segments for the original 1991 Trail of Tears National Historic Trail Comprehensive Management and Use Plan. The Division of Geology and Land Survey office is located just a mile off I-44 at exit 184, about a mile north of the Rolla Visitor's Center where the Northern Route of the Trail of Tears went through the area. Mr. Brown spoke about the land surveys and the Northern Route and took questions from the audience. Rolla is located between Missouri's newest Trail of Tears National Historic Trail certified sites along the Northern Route. The three sites are all located a few miles off I-44 — Waynesville/Roubidoux Springs to the west about 25 miles, and Maramec Spring/ Massey Iron Works and the Snelson Brinker Cabin to the east about 25 miles.

The summer Missouri chapter meeting will be held at the Trail of Tears State Park in Jackson, Missouri, at 1p.m. on July 21, 2008.

For more information on either meeting or the Missouri chapter, contact either Deloris Gray Wood at (573) 729-2545, lostgeneration@embarqmail.com, or Denise Dowling at (573) 290-5268, trail.of.tears.state.park@dnr.mo.gov.

Alabama

There was a board meeting and membership meeting at Tuscumbia Landing on August 18th. Those attending from the Sheffield community expressed their interest and support for the upcoming dedication of Tuscumbia Landing. On December 1st, a meeting was held in Fort Payne. The board voted to hold the **2009 TOTA Conference in Alabama**. Sharon Freeman and Larry Smith presented the program on potential sites to be certified. Those attending from the Fort Payne area were especially interested in hearing about the future of the "chimney site" owned by Landmarks of DeKalb County. After the meeting, several

Alabama (continued)

chapter members went on a tour of Old Turkeytown near Gadsden, Alabama, led by Etowah Historical Society members Danny Crownover and Jerry Jones.

On September 8th, Tuscumbia Landing was officially dedicated. Otis Halfmoon represented the National Park Service, and there were representatives from the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma, the Creek Nation of Oklahoma, the Poarch Creek of Alabama, and several American Indian institutions and organizations. Representatives from the Alabama Historical Commission and the Alabama Department of Transportation, and many local officials were in attendance. Total attendance reached over 150.

On Friday, December 7th, Sharon Freeman, chapter board member and archaeologist with the Office of Archaeological Research at the University of Alabama, with the help of chapter members Larry Benefield, Gail King, Marty King, Ellen Mussleman, and Larry Smith, as well as many volunteers from the Fort Payne community, set up the "chimney site" in downtown Fort Payne for a Phase I survey. Shovel tests were conducted around the chimney site (oral history states that it was the military fort, more likely the military headquarters). A 22-foot deep well, lined with rocks hand-placed in a perfect circle, was the highlight of the two days spent at the site. A great deal of gratitude goes to Landmarks for fencing the site. The chapter will be returning in February to finish the survey.

Tennessee

The Tennessee chapter now has active members from east to west Tennessee working to inform people of the removal and the chapter's efforts to document and preserve sites and segments of the trail. At Knoxville we have Vickie Rozema at the University of Tennessee, at Decatur Shirley Lawrence with the Cherokee Removal Memorial Park, on the Cumberland Plateau Agnes and Bill Jones with segments along the Mountain route, at Monteagle Doris Trevinoon the Bell Route, at Winchester Floyd Ayers on the Bell Route, at Pulaski

Tennessee (continued)

Anne Story with the Giles County Trail of Tears Memorial Park on both the Bells and Bengie Route, at Lawrenceburg Vicky Garland on the Bell Route, and at Memphis Graydon Swisher on the Bell and other routes. We are also privileged to have the assistance of Bob Richards, the new trails coordinator of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation. Mr. Richards has applied for grants to redo the signage along the auto tour route.

The Huber Cooperation has committed to donate 4.5 miles of the Northern Route in

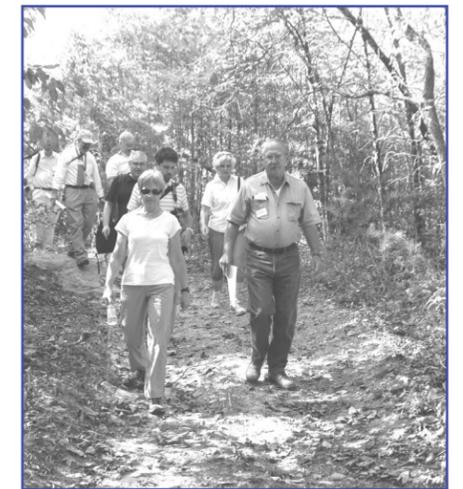


Photo courtesy of Agnes Jones

Tennessee First Lady Andrea Conte and Tennessee Chapter President Bill Jones lead chapter members on a hike of the Trail of Tears site, the Rocky River Crossing in Van Buren County, which was recently placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Van Buren County to the people of Tennessee this fall, and the information center at the removal memorial park at Blythe's Ferry should be completed by August.

The following are the Tennessee chapter meetings for 2008:

- **June 28, Chapel Hill** – 11 a.m. Central Time, Henry Horton State Park, located 40 miles south of Nashville on US 31A between Chapel Hill and Lewisburg.
- **August 9, Birchwood** – 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time, Blythe Ferry, located just off Hwy. 60 at the Tennessee River, between Dayton and Georgetown.
- **November 1, Lawrenceburg** – 11:00 a.m. Central Time, location to be determined.

Conoboy Retires from National Park Service

John Conoboy, chief of interpretation and resource management, retired on January 3rd after 32 years with the NPS.

John received a bachelor's degree in geology from Case-Western Reserve University in 1967 and did graduate work in geology and paleontology at California Institute of Technology and the University of California at Davis. While living in California, John took up hiking, camping, and rock climbing, spending considerable time in Yosemite and other parks, and like many, would wonder every time he saw a park ranger – "How do I get a job like that?"

The answer came while teaching science and photography at Sandy Spring Friends School in Maryland in 1975 when John got his first NPS job as a seasonal interpreter/park technician at C&O Canal National Historical Park. In July of 1976, he accepted a permanent position at the C & O Canal as part of the river safety team.

In February of 1977, he transferred to Mount Rainier NP as a visitor protection/climbing ranger at Paradise. It was, he says, a quintessential ranger job, as it included emergency medical services, search and rescue, mountaineering, back-country skiing, avalanche prediction/rescue, interpretation, law enforcement, and shoveling exceptionally large quantities of snow. When daughter Heather started school, he became the Nisqually area ranger at the Longmire District and was in charge of fee collection, campground operations, road patrol, and area backcountry. He also served on a detail as a protection ranger at Crater Lake National Park in the winter of 1980, where he further honed his ranger skills and snow shoveling technique. For several years, John was also a reserve police officer for the city of Buckley, Washington.

John became chief ranger at Cedar Breaks National Monument in June 1982, with responsibility for all day-to-day operations in the monument. These included protection, interpretation, fee collection, resource management and maintenance, with addi-

tional ranger duties in the Kolob Canyon section of Zion National Park. From August to November 1986, he served as acting superintendent at Cedar Breaks and for several years was a member and then a team leader for one of the Rocky Mountain Region SET teams. Outside of work, he served as a volunteer EMT on the Cedar City ambulance and was a National Ski Patrol senior patroller at nearby Brian Head Ski Area.

John transferred to the Southwest Regional Office Planning Division in August 1989 as an outdoor recreation planner for the newly established Branch of Long Distance Trails, working on the Santa Fe National Historic Trail. The office soon took over responsibility for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail and in 1995 the trail office split from the regional office to become a field area under a superintendent with John as chief of interpretation and resource management. The trail office has since grown, with the addition of responsibility for three more national historic trails, the Route 66 corridor preservation program, national trail feasibility studies and plans, and the NPS Old Santa Fe Trail Building.

From early January to mid-April 2007, John served as acting superintendent for the Intermountain Region trail offices in Santa Fe and Salt Lake City. John says it has been an exciting opportunity to participate in a period of rapid development of the National Trails System, completing numerous projects with hundreds of trail partners, making many friends for the National Park Service beyond traditional NPS units, and helping develop policies and procedures for administering national trails.

John and his wife Carol, a teacher in Bernalillo, New Mexico, will continue to reside in Corrales, where he will devote time to playing Irish music, continuing to serve on the board of directors of Zoukfest (a Santa Fe-based world music camp), reading, traveling, trying to control almost two acres of tumbleweeds, and other interests. John can be reached at jcon@swcp.com.



For almost two decades, John Conoboy (right) worked in the National Trails System - Santa Fe office. His work in preserving and developing the national historic trails through partnerships will have a positive effect on the trail system for many decades to come.

LEGISLATION

Continued from page 1

Congressman Wamp about the legislation. The Congressman was very enthusiastic about the bill. He stated, "The real human side of the Cherokee removal still needs to be told. While the existing Trail of Tears National Historic Trail routes include trails from the collection forts to where the Army marched them in Oklahoma, the additional trails would show where the original villages, camps and emigration depots of the Cherokee once lay to enhance public understanding of American history. Our greatness as a nation is our ability to look at our own history objectively, and in proper perspective, being mindful of the errors of the past in order not to repeat them. Through this legislation, we will honor the historic footsteps taken by the Cherokee, document their courage and highlight their character as a great tribe of strong people. The Trail of Tears is a tragic story, but properly told and interpreted, it represents the development of strong character and determination by the Cherokee people." Poteete, Austin, and Quinton met with 3 co-sponsors of the bill, as well, during their week in Washington—Marion Berry of Arkansas, Phil Gingrey of Georgia, and Dan Boren of Oklahoma. All three were very supportive of the Trail and of the Association.

To see the exact language of the bill Congressman Wamp introduced, visit <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and type in the bill number (H.R. 5335) in the search engine.

Sequoyah Research Center, Arkansas Chapter to Offer Pre-conference Research Day

by Kitty Sloan

A research day at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock's Sequoyah Research Center will kick-off the September 22-25, 2008, conference of the Trail of Tears Association.

Sponsored by TOTA's Arkansas chapter, the schedule at SRC that Monday, September 22, will include Cherokee Trail of Tears presentations with new information on the people of the Bengé Detachment and on the route of the Bell Detachment as clarified by military journals from Muscogee Removal. There will also be opportunities for researchers to exchange information about the many removal routes traveled by southeast tribes. Details will be provided

with the conference schedule. Workshop sessions are free, but pre-registration will be required.

Throughout the TOTA conference, SRC will be open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and, by then, will be located in new quarters in Suite 500 of University Plaza at the northeast corner of Asher and University avenues, now part of the UALR campus.

SRC has amassed the largest collection of primary Indian Removal documents outside of the National Archives. The collection includes microfilm, photocopies, transcriptions, and site reports as well as TOTA's

archives. Some of the most recent additions were located by members of the Oklahoma chapter during two 2007 research trips to Washington, D.C., funded by the National Park Service's Challenge Cost Share program. An every-name index of all non-microfilm Cherokee Removal documents currently at SRC will be ready by the conference.

At its new location SRC will also have a gallery to display selections from the Dr. J.W. Wiggins Native American Art Collection.

Watch for more details to be posted at www.ualr.edu/sequoyahcenter.

Passport to Your National Parks Trail of Tears 2008 Site Participants

by Andrea Sharon

Following is a list of Trail of Tears certified sites that are currently participating in the Passport to Your National Parks Program. If you are a certified TRTE site with a staffed visitor facility (visitor center, museum, etc.) and post regularly scheduled hours of operation, you may be able to participate in this program. Contact Andrea Sharon at (505) 988-6842 for further details.

Alabama

- Little River Canyon National Preserve
- Russell Cave National Monument

Arkansas

- Lake Dardanelle State Park
- Mount Nebo State Park
- Petit Jean State Park
- Pinnacle Mountain State Park
- Fort Smith National Historic Site
- Pea Ridge National Military Park
- Arkansas Post National Historic Site

Georgia

- New Echota State Historic Site
- Chieftains Museum/Major Ridge Home
- Vann House Historic Site
- Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park

Illinois

- Trail of Tears State Forest

Kentucky

- Trail of Tears Commemorative Park

Missouri

- Mark Twain National Forest-Potosi Ranger Station
- Visitor Center/Moccasin Springs Road/Nancy Hildebrand's Gravesite in Trail of Tears State Park
- Maramec Spring Park

North Carolina

- Museum of the Cherokee Indian
- Cherokee County Historical Museum
- Junaluska Memorial and Museum
- Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Oklahoma

- Cherokee Heritage Center
- Murrell Home

Tennessee

- Red Clay State Historic Site
- Sequoyah Birthplace Museum
- Audubon Acres
- Tennessee River Museum
- Chattanooga Regional History Museum
- Stones River National Battlefield
- Great Smoky Mountains National Park

All TRTE States

- National Trails System - Santa Fe office
- Trail of Tears Association National Office, Little Rock, AR

PNTS to Host Historic Trails Workshop

by Jerra Quinton

The Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) is hosting a Historic Trails Workshop in Phoenix, Arizona, May 6 - 8, 2008. The three-day meeting will take place at the Bureau of Land Management's Training Center and at the Sonoran Desert National Monument. The theme for the workshop will be "Historic Trails Preservation." Items that will be discussed, among others, are strategies, essential tools, applicable laws and regulations, and MET techniques (mapping, classification, etc.) for trail preservation.

If you are interested in attending this workshop, contact Jerra Quinton at the National TOTA office at (501) 666-9032. TOTA chapters are especially encouraged to send *at least* one representative from their chapter, preferably someone who is interested in trail preservation. PNTS will have some funds available for assistance in getting people to the event, so please contact Jerra if your chapter cannot afford the cost for someone to go. Registration for the event is expected to be under \$100.

The PNTS has reserved rooms at a special room rate of \$122 at the Four Points by Sheraton Phoenix Metrocenter, which is only a few blocks from the BLM Training Center. To make your room reservation, call (602) 997-5900 by the **deadline of April 14, 2008**, and ask for the "PNTS Historic Trails Workshop" room block.

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



MEMBERSHIP FORM
January - December

Trail of Tears Association
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Little Rock, AR 72207-6344

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

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

Basic Individual – \$25
Sponsor – \$100
Patron – \$500
Benefactor – \$1000
Student – \$10 copy of college student ID or (for minors) birth certificate must be enclosed

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

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
- VC/Moccasin Springs Road/Nancy Hildebrand's Gravesite-Trail of Tears State Park, MO
- Waynesville Cherokee Encampment, 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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IMLS Accepting Grant Applications to NANH Museum Services Program

Application Deadline: April 1, 2008

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) is accepting grant applications to the Native American/Native Hawaiian (NANH) Museum Services program. NANH promotes enhanced learning and innovation within museums and museum-related organizations, such as cultural centers. The program provides opportunities for Native American tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge through strengthened museum services in the areas of programming, professional development, and enhancement of museum services. Projects will benefit their communities and audiences by connecting people to ideas, information, and learning experiences.

Grant funding ranges from \$5,000-\$50,000, and is available under the following three categories: (1) *Programming*: Services and activities that support the educational mission of museums and museum-related organizations; (2) *Professional development*: Education or training that builds skills,

knowledge, or other professional capacity for staff—either paid or volunteer—who provide or manage museum service activities; (3) *Enhancement of museum services*: Support for activities that enable and improve museum services.

Applicants must apply online through Grants.gov. Awards will be announced in September 2008. For more information, including guidelines and application, go to: www.imls.gov/applicants/grants/nativeServices.shtm.

IMLS has scheduled an audio-conference call to give prospective applicants an opportunity to ask IMLS staff questions pertaining to the Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services program. Participants will need the information below to participate:

Date: Wednesday, February 27
Time: 3:00 PM EST
Dial-In Number: 800-603-9527
Conference ID: 25779593

Applicants are encouraged to contact program staff with their questions:

Sandra Narva, Senior Program Officer
Phone: 202/653-4634
E-mail: snarva@imls.gov

Reagan Furrow, Program Specialist
Phone: 202/653-4637
E-mail: rfurrow@imls.gov

Robert Trio, Program Specialist
Phone: 202/653-4689
E-mail: rtrio@imls.gov

About the Institute of Museum and Library Services

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 122,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. The Institute works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development. To learn more about the Institute, please visit www.imls.gov.

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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Website
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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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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 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.

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

Phone
505-988-6888

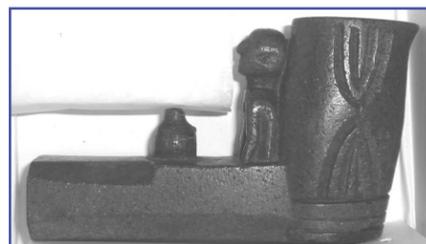
E-Mail
lodi_administration@nps.gov

TOTA Board Members, Staff Visit Smithsonian Facilities

Story & Photos by Duane King

On April 13, 2008, while in Washington for the Partnership for the Trails System's "Hike the Hill" week, Paul Austin, Jerra Quinton, Troy Poteete and Duane King toured the collection facilities of the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History and the National Museum of the American Indian in Suitland, Maryland. The two museums together hold the finest assemblage of Native American material in the world. Of particular interest to friends of the Trail of Tears Association is the 19th century Cherokee material. The National Anthropological Archives has an outstanding collection of historical photographs including hundreds taken by James Mooney, a Smithsonian ethnologist, who regularly visited the Qualla Boundary between 1887 and 1912, and published the classic works, *Cherokee Sacred Formulas*, in 1891 and the *Myths of the Cherokee*, in 1900. He photographed ball games, dances, and individuals that he met. He also collected items associated with ball games, ceremonies and everyday life. The items in the Smithsonian collections brought back by Mooney include dance masks, eagle wands, water drums, rattles, ball sticks, steatite smoking pipes, pottery and basketry. This material is housed at Natural History's Museum Support Center which is next door to the Cultural Resources Center of the National Museum of the American Indian. The NMAI collection consists of more than 110,000 historic photographs and more than 800,000 objects related to Native Americans. The collection contains a large number of 19th century photographs of Cherokee people in North Carolina and Oklahoma, including some of visiting dele-

gations to Washington. NMAI's object collection includes several early-to-mid 19th century Cherokee hunting coats made from deerskin. One memorable item is an elaborately beaded bandolier bag. It is believed to be Cherokee and dates to before the removal. The words "For Genl. Jackson from Sam Houston" are embroidered under the flap. In retrospect, the visit provided an insightful glimpse of Cherokee treasures held in our national museums that can be used to enhance the public understanding of Cherokee culture and history.



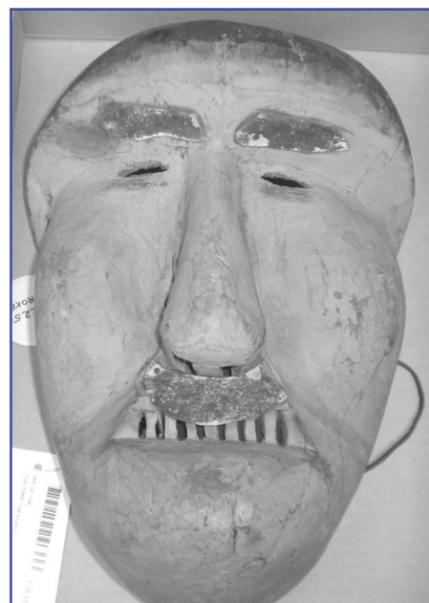
Steatite smoking pipe



Moccasins



Dance mask



Dance mask



Kanuga (scratcher made from turkey bone)



Deerskin beaded hunting coat

TOTA to Hold September Conference in Little Rock

by Jerra Quinton

The 13th Annual Trail of Tears Association Conference & Symposium will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in downtown Little Rock, Arkansas, September 22-25, 2008. The Sequoyah Research Center will also host a research day on that Monday (see article, page 7).

Anticipated presentations include: the first Creek removal in the 1820s; conservation/preservation; Little Rock Office of Removal and Subsistence; Chickasaw removal; Cherokee removal in northwest Arkansas and the disbandment depots in eastern Oklahoma; Removal interpretation sensitivity; and Arkansas Indian removals of the Quapaw, Osage, and Caddo tribes. In addition, a field trip on the Arkansas River is being coordinated. Two receptions are

being planned—an opening reception, which will kick-off the start of the conference, on Monday night at Historic Arkansas Museum, and a second one on Tuesday night at the Old State House Museum where there will also be a book signing.

TOTA has reserved rooms for the nights of September 21–24, for a special room rate of \$76 for single occupancy (\$10 per additional occupant). To make your room reservations, call 1-800-222-TREE (8733) or (501) 372-4371. Be sure to ask for the "Trail of Tears" room block in order to get this special rate.

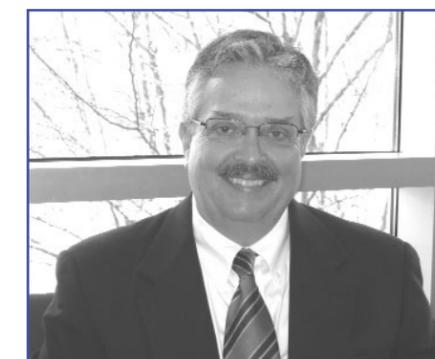
Look for registration materials in the mail and online at nationalTOTA.org later this summer.

Austin Takes New Position with AR Humanities Council

March 14, 2008 will be Paul Austin's last day with the American Indian Center of Arkansas and the Trail of Tears Association. Paul has been appointed executive director of the Arkansas Humanities Council.

Paul has served as executive director of AICA for 24 years, and for the last 12 years he has also served as executive director of TOTA. During his tenure, TOTA has grown from an idea of the advisory council into the important organization it is today—one that has established chapters in each of the nine states; successfully lobbied Congress to increase the budget for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail; developed true partnerships with the Cherokee Nation, the Eastern Band of Cherokees and the National Park Service; created the successful and popular annual Trail of Tears Conference and Symposium; and created an exciting and useful web page and newsletter for members and the public.

Upon reflection, Paul says, "It has truly been a joy to work with all the wonderful people involved with the Trail of Tears Association. I have made many lifelong friends, and I know that I will always be a part of the Association and committed to its good work. Looking back over the past 12 years, I am amazed by what has been



After 24 years with the American Indian Center of Arkansas, Paul Austin will begin his new position as executive director of the Arkansas Humanities Council on March 17, 2008.

accomplished by so few with so little resources, with only their passion for the story of the Trail of Tears and a commitment that the story will be told correctly and never be forgotten. I want particularly to thank the boards of Trail of Tears Association and the American Indian Center of Arkansas for all their support over the years. It has been an honor to work for such great people."

Paul's first day at the Arkansas Humanities Council will be March 17, 2008. If you would like to stay in touch with Paul, his new work number will be 501-221-0091, and his email address will remain AICPaul@aol.com for a while to come.

Trail Calendar

March 29

Illinois Chapter Meeting, 1 pm
Saline County Museum, Harrisburg, IL

April 5

Alabama Chapter Meeting, 10 am
Guntersville State Park Lodge, Guntersville, IL

April 19

Oklahoma Chapter Meeting, 10 am - 2 pm
Ballroom behind Restaurant of the Cherokees, Tahlequah, OK

North Carolina Chapter Meeting, 2 pm
Terrace Hotel, Lake Junaluska Assembly Grounds, Waynesville, NC

May 3

Arkansas Chapter Meeting, 1pm
Old State House Museum, Little Rock, AR

May 6 - 8

PNTS Historic Trails Workshop
BLM Training Center, Phoenix, AZ

May 10

Georgia Chapter Meeting & Picnic, 10:30 am
Big Spring Park, Cedartown, GA

June 28

Tennessee Chapter Meeting, 11 am
Central Henry Horton State Park, Chapel Hill, TN

July 12

Georgia Chapter Meeting, 10:30 am
Clinton Preserve or Sweetwater Creek Park, Douglas County, GA

July 19

Arkansas Chapter Meeting, 1:00 pm
Crawford County Extension Office, Van Buren, AR

July 21

Missouri Chapter Meeting, 1:00 pm
Trail of Tears State Park, Jackson, MO

August 9

Tennessee Chapter Meeting, 11 am
Eastern Blythe's Ferry, Birchwood, TN

September 13

Georgia Chapter Meeting, 2 pm
Etowah Mounds, Cartersville, GA

September 21

Pre-conference Research Day, Time TBD
Sequoyah Research Center, Little Rock, AR

September 22-25

13th Annual TOTA Conference & Symposium
DoubleTree Hotel, Little Rock, AR
Look for info at nationaltota.org/general-info/conf-info/

November 15 - 18

Sequoyah Research Center Symposium, Little Rock, AR



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