The 8th Annual Trail of Tears Association Conference and Symposium is being held this year at the Holiday Inn, in Cherokee, North Carolina, October 6 – 9, 2003—the same time that the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians is holding its annual Fall Festival. With both events happening at the same time, in the same place, conferees will never be without something fun to do!

The conference will commence Monday night, October 6, with a reception/book signing at the Museum of the Cherokee Indian, and will continue through Thursday, October 9, with scholarly presentations and two exciting, historical tours. Among the conference presentations will be topics dealing with the removal exemption of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, the Trail of Tears in North Carolina, the cultural landscape of Cherokee removal, intermarriage between Europeans and Indians in the eighteenth-century South, Creek removal, land conservation strategies of The Trust for Public Land, trail preservation, and Moravian missionaries. Updates on the National Park Service's efforts and Trail of Tears research will be provided.

Two field trips are scheduled—the Driving Tour and the Museum and Mound Tour—both led by Dr. Brett Riggs. Dr. Riggs is a research archaeologist and adjunct assistant professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is co-author of the recently published book Cherokee Heritage Trail Guidebook (2003) and author of a forthcoming book on Cherokee life in North Carolina at the time of removal. The Driving Tour will include visits to:

• Gideon Morris and John Welch Farms – Situagi was the conductor of a forthcoming book on Cherokee life in North Carolina at the time of removal. In 1763, Situagi was the conductor of a forthcoming book on Cherokee life in North Carolina at the time of removal. The two Cherokees helped keep other Cherokees fed and hidden in the mountains during removal. The conference presentations will be topics dealing with the removal exemption of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, the Trail of Tears in North Carolina, the cultural landscape of Cherokee removal, intermarriage between Europeans and Indians in the eighteenth-century South, Creek removal, land conservation strategies of The Trust for Public Land, trail preservation, and Moravian missionaries. Updates on the National Park Service's efforts and Trail of Tears research will be provided.

• John C. Campbell Folk School – This school overlooks Little Brasstown Creek, a Cherokee community during the removal era.

• Cherokee County Historical Museum – This museum, located in the town of Murphy, is a newly certified site of the national historic trail.

• The Museum and Mound Tour will include visits to the:
  • Junaluska Memorial Museum – Junaluska was a leader of the Cherokee people at the time of removal.
  • Kituwah Mound – The traditional place of origin for the Cherokee people.

For more information and to register for the conference, see the insert and the last page of this newsletter.
A Message from the Trail of Tears Association President

In the last newsletter I gave my vision for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. In this one I will give my vision for the Trail of Tears Association. I would like to see nine strong state chapters with the support of the National Association, closely with the National Park Service, and with all of the other state chapters, and with the National Park Service. This will ensure that our shared vision for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail will come to pass.

With the formation of the Illinois State Chapter in the last few weeks, this state without a chapter is Kentucky. A Kentucky chapter should be established later this year. This will complete the goal of the Association as stated in the Comprehensive Management Plan for the Trail to have a state chapter in each of the states through which the Trail of Tears passed!

Our focus now must be on strengthening our chapters. It is important that each Chapter be in compliance with their bylaws and National bylaws. Nominations and election of officers be held as specified by the bylaws. The minutes and treasurer’s reports should be submitted to the National Association as required.

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A Message from the Trail of Tears Association Office

Since May, the Association office has been occupied with several projects, namely the board of directors meeting in June, website design, the Illinois chapter formation, conference planning, and preparation for a bylaws committee meeting.

The board of directors met in Knoxville, Tennessee, on June 4, 2003, for their bi-annual meeting (more details on page 7). After hearing a report on the design possibilities and costs, the board decided to go forward with the creation of the website. A result of this action by the board, Association staff met with Aristotle, Inc., the company chosen to create the website, to discuss in more detail what items should be included in the design. The Association office is still working with Aristotle to design the site and to create the website, to discuss in more detail what items should be included in the design. The Association office is still working with Aristotle to design the site and to create the website.

On August 12, the bylaws committee met to edit both the national and chapter bylaws. The chapter bylaws and national bylaws are now more uniform and consistent with one another. Look for more details in the next issue of Trail News.

The conference planning committee has been busy preparing for the annual conference. Remember to mark your calendar for the 8th Annual TOTR Conference and Symposium. This year’s event will be held October 6 – 9, 2003, in Cherokee, North Carolina. More details are on page 7 and page 1 and a registration form has been inserted. If you have any questions about the conference, please contact me by phone at 800-441-4513 or by email at TOTRJerra@ Toll.com.

Jerra M. Quinton
Association Coordinator

NPS Shares Cash Award with Trail of Tears Association and Santa Fe Trail Association

The National Trails System Office – Santa Fe was recently awarded the Intermountain Region Garrison Gold Award. This is an internal National Park Service award for the best overall interpretation program. Competing with over 800 other NPS areas in the region, the nomination was based on the total program for both the Trail of Tears and Santa Fe National Historic Trails. In addition to receiving a pottery storyteller figure by Mary and Leonard Trujillo from Cochiti Pueblo, New Mexico—$2,000 was added to the Santa Fe office’s interpretation budget! John Conosby, Chief of Interpretation and Resource Management, said, “The Garrison Gold award recognizes the accomplishments and the maturing of the interpretive program for the Trail of Tears and Santa Fe National Historic Trails. This would not have happened without the strength that comes from partnerships, especially with the Trail of Tears Association and Santa Fe Trail Association. We feel it is very appropriate to recognize this partnership by sharing the cash award and giving each association $1,000 from the award. Former trail office interpretive specialists Cherry Payne and former superintendent David Gaines also deserve credit for their contributions to both trails interpretive programs.”

John Conosby (right), Chief of Interpretation and Resource Management, and Andrea Sharon, Interpretation Specialist, display the Cochiti Pueblo storyteller figure they received as part of the NPS Intermountain Region Garrison Gold Award.

Certified Sites

Chattanooga Regional History Museum, TN
Cherokee Heritage Center, OK
Lake Dallas State Park, AR
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
Trail of Tears State Park, MO
Vann House Historic Site, GA

Pending Certifications

Coke Ovens Museum Trail Segments, TN
City of Chattanooga trail routes and historic sites, TN
City of Nashville trail routes, TN
City of North Little Rock trail routes, sites, AR
Gray’s Inn, KY

Federal Protection Components

Cherokee Removal Memorial Park - Bryte Ferry, TN, land
Fort Smith National Historic Site, AR
Mark Twain National Forest, MO
Pea Ridge National Military Park, AR
Shawnee National Forest, MO

Trail of Tears National Historic Trail.
The Trail of Tears National Historic Trail is a National Park System Site – Santa Fe was recently awarded the Intermountain Region Garrison Gold Award. This is an internal National Park Service award for the best overall interpretation program. Competing with over 800 other NPS areas in the region, the nomination was based on the total program for both the Trail of Tears and Santa Fe National Historic Trails. In addition to receiving a pottery storyteller figure by Mary and Leonard Trujillo from Cochiti Pueblo, New Mexico—$2,000 was added to the Santa Fe office’s interpretation budget! John Conosby, Chief of Interpretation and Resource Management, said, “The Garrison Gold award recognizes the accomplishments and the maturing of the interpretive program for the Trail of Tears and Santa Fe National Historic Trails. This would not have happened without the strength that comes from partnerships, especially with the Trail of Tears Association and Santa Fe Trail Association. We feel it is very appropriate to recognize this partnership by sharing the cash award and giving each association $1,000 from the award. Former trail office interpretive specialists Cherry Payne and former superintendent David Gaines also deserve credit for their contributions to both trails interpretive programs.”

John Conosby (right), Chief of Interpretation and Resource Management, and Andrea Sharon, Interpretation Specialist, display the Cochiti Pueblo storyteller figure they received as part of the NPS Intermountain Region Garrison Gold Award.
Arkansas

The chapter met in January at the Museum of Prehistory and History on the campus of Arkansas Tech University at Russellville. The museum features a hand-hewn pine cupboard from the original Dwight Mission and a new exhibit spotlighting four women con-
nected to the Arkansas Cherokee communi-
ty, 1809-1828. Dr. Dan Littlefield, director of the American Native Press Archives, dis-
tributed a list of 14 major removal journe-
gents that traveled through the Russellville area along the Arkansas River Valley between 1813 and 1858, and included all five of the affected tribes.

In April, the chapter pagebucked its meet-
ing with the annual conference of the Arka-
sas Chapter. Members were represented at the University of Arkansas at Monticello. The conference theme was Arkansas in the Era of the Louisiana Purchase, and several of the presentations addressed Indian Removal, including a featured talk by chapter presi-
dent Dan Littlefield. A TOTA table display helped generate additional interest.

In July, the chapter met at the Historic Arkansas Museum in Little Rock. Museum director Bill Worthen offered a fascinating report on the myths and mystery surround-
ing the burial of Quatie Ross, who died near Little Rock on February 1, 1839. Her long-
lost original memorial stone, thought to have been placed at the old city cemetery by Little Rock leaders, is being conserved in the museum. A later stone was placed at Mount Holly Cemetery in the 1930s. Also, Mark Christ of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program provided an update on the state's activities related to the National Register and proposed wayside interpretation. And Dr. Littlefield, with his students Fuller Bumgarner and Amanda Faug,
summarized their report on the North Little Rock site through which 40,000 removes

TOTA membership continued to grow as we added new members during the year. And, we held our annual TOTA Council meeting in Knoxville where various TOTA spe-
cial interest groups announced their projects. The council also discussed the NPS' Comprehensive Interpretive Planning session, held in Memphis in April. In addition, elections were held for the vacant board positions. Denise Dowling was elected to the national board replacing the late Dr. Donald Lance. Bob Fridh, Bob Clevenger were elected to board chair positions.

The last TOTA meeting was held at Fort Davidson State Historic Site: Site in Pilot Knob, Missouri, on April 12, 2003. It was held in conjunction with the Scottish Games Festival – Brigadoon in the Valley. Chief John Ross was a descendant of the Scottish clan Ross. The chapter set up a booth at the games with maps and information about the Trail of Tears. Many visi-
tors stopped by and took information.

At the chapter meeting, Lynn Morrow from the State Archives discussed the contents of the Archives and how to access it. He highlighted the state road map database and showed the type of information that could be gained from it. He also discussed other papers that have been included in the database.

Missouri

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The chapter also held a board meeting. Discussing included the NPS Comprehensive Interpretive Planning session, held in Memphis in April. In addition, elections were held for the vacant board positions. Denise Dowling was elected to the national board replacing the late Dr. Donald Lance. Bob Fridh, Bob Clevenger were elected to board chair positions.

The next scheduled chapter meeting will be October 12, 2003, at the Scottish Festival in Forest Park in St. Louis, Missouri. The chapter will also have a booth at the festival.

Georgia

Certified Trail of Tears site Chiefman's Museum-Majord Home has opened a newly renovated building, the Cherokee Studies Center. Chiefmans is also sponsoring the Cherokee Nation history course from the Cherokee Nation. The four-day course will be taught in Rome, Georgia, at

The chapter continued to attend and participate in numerous conferences and sites. On April 12, 2003, following the chapter's fall membership meeting, a memorial tribute was held at the Cherokee National Cemetery in Fort Gibson. Those honored were George Osceola Sanders, William Pettit, Elizabeth Alabama Schirmohr Bushhey, Sarah Walker Starr Mayfield, Catherine Gunter Ross, Minerva Jane Foreman Vann, and Elizabeth McIntosh Casey. On April 26, 2003, Moses Chuculate was hon-
ored at the Potawatomi Cemetery in Sullivan. On June 21, 2003, Samuel Still was honored at the Foreman Cemetery, and Nancy Dry Stuckler was honored at the Green Cemetery, both in Westville. These mark-
ings brought the total survivors honored by the Oklahoma chapter to 82. Our memorial committee continues to research and verify other requests as they are received.

Plans are being made by a considerable number of our members to attend the national TOTA conference in North Carolina in October. We will have the 1815 Cherokee Census books available for sale at the conference for $28.00. The Native American TOTA journal will also be available for $12.00.

Betty Bakar and Curtis Rohr attended the June 4, 2003, national TOTA board of directors meeting as our two chapter represen-
tatives. We appreciate all who are dedi-
cated to preserving our Cherokee heritage and history and perpetuating it into the future. Thanks again to the national Association folks for their dedication and great work.

Georgia chapter nominations are underway to fill upcoming vacancies of several Georgia chapter board positions. One of the most significant is the position of presi-
dent. With President Patsy Edgar having served out the maximum length of her term, we are looking for the next president to carry the Georgia chapter forward. Although she will continue to be an active member in many ways, Patsy and her lead-
ship will be missed. We thank Patsy for her dedication, enthusiasm and loyalty to the chapter these past years.

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

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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 have deductible under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
Brainerd Mission Cemetery Becomes Trail of Tear's Newest Certified Site

The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions developed the Brainerd Mission originally within the Cherokee Nation. The property, buildings, and improvements were purchased from John McDonald, the grandfather of Cherokee Chief John Ross. The mission was the principal mission among other, smaller ones within the Cherokee Nation, and served as a training ground for the American Board. On August 18, 1838, the last church service was held at the Brainerd Mission near the cemetery. The mission subsequently closed.

On June 11, 2003, a signing ceremony was held at the Brainerd Mission Cemetery in Chattanooga to officially certify the site as the newest certified site on the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. Pat Reed, Superintendent of Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park stood in for the National Trails System Office and presented the newly developed certificates of certification. Brainerd Mission is the first certified site to receive these attractive new certificates that in the near future will hopefully be provided to all certified sites. Future plans at the cemetery anticipate development of new wayside exhibits, development of a site bulletin, and new national historic trail sign. For more information on this newly certified site, please visit the Trail of Tears NHT website at www.nps.gov/trte.

8th Annual TOTA Conference & Symposium Information

Holiday Inn
Hwy. 19 South
Cherokee, NC 28719
(828) 497-9191

• Make check out to and mail to:
Trail of Tears Association
1100 N. University, Ste 143
Little Rock, AR 72207

Special Rate
$149.00 + tax (7%)
Cut-off date: September 6, 2003

REGISTRATION
Includes 2 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 1 inch, and 1 reception.

EARLY-BIRD REGISTRATION
RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE September 15, 2003
Member - $37.00
Non-member - $100.00 (includes membership)

LATER REGISTRATION
RECEIVED AFTER September 15, 2003 or ON-SITE
Member - $125.00
Non-member - $150.00 (includes membership)

TOURS (Deadline to register is September 1, 2003)

Touring Drive (Tuesday, 1:30 – 7:30 pm)
FEE: $20.00 (Includes transportation & museum fee)

Museum & Mound Tour (Thursday, 1:30 – 4:30 pm)
FEE: $20.00 (Includes transportation & museum fee)

Thomason and Associates, responsible for the completion of the MPDF, is again under contract with the NPS, this time to complete nominations that represent every resource type identified in the MPDF.

Through a cost-share agreement with the NPS, the Office of Archeological Research of the University of Alabama is developing National Register nominations or nomination updates for Tuscumbia Landing, Gunter’s Landing, Fort Likens, and Fort Payne.

In Tennesee, the Center for Historic Preservation (CHP) at Middle Tennessee State University has entered into a cost-share agreement with the NPS to prepare nomination updates for Brainerd Mission Cemetery, Ross’ Landing, Bybee Ferry, the Hair Condab Cabin, and the Fort Royal Historic District; nominations for Fort Hill Cemetery, Elkton Turnpike, Rock River Road and Crossing, Higgins Farm Trail Trane, and Rock Martin House.

The NPS has also entered into a cost-share agreement with the University of North Carolina to assess for National Register eligibility the Stigui House site, the Valleytowns Baptist Mission, the John Christie House and Cabin site, the Old State road, Pile Ridge Road, Burnt Stand, the Unicoi Turnpike, and Fort Butler.

For more information contact Aaron Mahr at the National Trails Office-Santa Fe.