Becky Hobbs to Perform at Outdoor Concert Near Host Hotel & Much More

The 23rd Annual Trail of Tears Association Conference & Symposium, scheduled for October 26 – 28, 2018, at the Doubletree Hotel in Decatur, Alabama will be the first TOTA conference held over a weekend.

Conference registrants enjoy a special group rate at the Doubletree Hotel for reservation made before September 27th (or until the room block is full). Ask for the Trail of Tears Conference room block by dialing (256) 355-3150. Online registration for the conference, or a downloadable form are available at nationalTOTA.org. A Tentative Conf. schedule is also available at the website. And, there is also a conference registration form included in this newsletter which can be mailed.

The Alabama Bicentennial Commission has made this year’s conference an Official Bicentennial Event. The Conference also coincides with the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System and is an official part of that celebration as well. Because it is part of these commemorations this year some conference activities will be open to the public. More information on the 50th Anniversary can be found at trails50.org, which includes the TOTA conference on its event map. The TOTA board will convene at the Doubletree Hotel on Friday morning. The Conference officially begins when the registration tables open at 4:00 pm and hotel check-in begins. A barbeque at 5 p.m. in Rhodes Ferry Park, a short walk from the hotel, is the first official event. Following dinner conference registrants can enjoy a Decatur Walking Tour hosted by Muscles Shoals National Heritage Area. Experts in local history will staff the several historic sites and witness structures.

LAST CHANCE TO BECOME A CHARTER MEMBER OF THE PHOENIX GIVING SOCIETY

The first evening ends with a reception for donors at the hotel hosted by the Phoenix Society of TOTA. The Phoenix Giving Society is a group within the Trail of Tears Association formed to collect donations for Association projects. The current emphasis is to raise funds for trail signage. The first year of charter membership is due to expire at the conference. If you’d like to become a charter member of the Phoenix Society, be sure to do so before the end of the conference. Learn more about the Phoenix Society on page 18.

TOUR OF HISTORIC TUSSCUMIA LANDING IN SHEFFIELD, AL

Saturday will include a field trip to Spring Park in Tuscumbia, AL and a trip by trolley to Tusculumia Landing, in nearby Sheffield, AL. Archaeologists will be on hand to discuss the site. Special arrangements have been made for those with mobility challenges to hear a special presentation by John McWilliams entitled “The Story of Tusculumia Landing,” which will include images from the site as an alternative to the challenge of walking about the yet undeveloped site. Lunch will be sponsored by Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area and hosted by the Oka Kapassa Festival Board and will include a welcome by Tuscumbia Mayor Kenny Underwood and remarks from Cherokee Nation Sec. of State Chuck Hoskin, Jr. Saturday also includes a tour for participating youth about a graduate degree in public history at the University of North Alabama campus hosted by Dr. Jeff Bibbee Chair of the History Dept.

Cherokee citizens in the North AL area, and those attending the Conference, are invited to meet with Cherokee Nation Secretary of State Chuck Hoskin, Jr., and his staff at the hotel following the lunch in Spring Park, Tuscumbia.

A short stop at Historic Courtland, AL where an amazing number of ante-bellum structures are preserved is planned during the return trip.

ALABAMA BICENTENNIAL EVENT & NATIONAL TRAIL SYSTEM 50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION

Saturday evening events commemorate Alabama’s Bicentennial and the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System. Food trucks offering a wide and rather exotic variety will be available near Daikin Amphitheater in Founders Park in downtown Decatur.

Local dignitaries including Decatur Mayor Tab Bowling and will be on hand to say a few words. Aaron Mahr of the National Park Service, and Cherokee Nation Secretary of State Chuck Hoskin, Jr. will make remarks.

Following good words from the officials, Cherokee citizen Becky Hobbs and her band will perform. Becky will share selections from her musical Nanyehi – Beloved Woman of the Cherokee – Beloved Woman of the Cherokee, perform hymns in the Cherokee language, and hits she has written for herself and others.
The evening will conclude with a screening of the Missouri Humanities Council film of the Snelson Brinker Cabin and Cherokee Removal (see page 4 for more information on this film).

UPCOMING TOTA EVENTS

September 23rd, 2018
Tennessee Chapter Membership Meeting
1:30pm - Red Clay State Park, TN

African American Experience During the Removal
Dr. Daniel Littlefield
3pm - Red Clay State Park, TN

September 29th, 2018
NC Chapter TOTA Membership Meeting
11am - Mission Farms
Murphy, NC

October 20th, 2018
Oklahoma Chapter Grave Marking Ceremony
2pm - Hungry Mountain Cemetery
Hwy 100 West of Stilwell, OK

October 24th, 2018
MO Humanities Council Annual Awards
6pm - MO History Museum
St. Louis, MO

October 26th-28th, 2018*
23rd Annual Trail of Tears Conf. & Symposium
Doubletree Hotel & Convention Center
Decatur, AL

October 26th, 2018
MO Humanities Council Film - Snelson Brinker Cabin and Cherokee Removal (see page 4 for more information on this film).

October 29th, 2018
Sign Dedication
North Carolina TOTA Chapter
3pm - Nantahala Outdoor Center Campus
(Near Bryson City, NC)

GEOGRAPHICAL LECTURES ON SUNDAY BEGIN WITH TALKS ABOUT MISSIONARIES

Sunday morning presentations include Laurie Brockman and Larry Smith (Mission Schools in North Alabama) and Mike Wren (The Methodists and the Cherokee in Alabama). At lunch time Claudio Saunt will lecture on (Financing Indian Removal); Session speakers include Chris Haveman (Creek Removal); James Pate (Cherokee Newspapers; Chickamauga Cherokees). Also presenting are); Ben Hoksbergen (Archaeology on Redstone Arsenal); Sharon Freeman (Alabama Removal Forts); Chris Dunn (Using GIS Technology and Mapping for Trail of Tears Routes); Monty Dobson (Missouri Humanities Council Film – Snelson Brinker Cabin and Cherokee Removal – Q & A); and Yvette Collins (The Role of the Horse During Removal). reports from TOTA chapters and the National Park Service

- - - POST CONFERENCE EVENTS - - -

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP HOSTED BY AL CHAPTER

On Monday, October 29th, following the conference, a genealogy workshop will be hosted by the Alabama Chapter from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. Registration at the door will be $10. One-on-one sessions with Cherokee genealogists will be made available by appointment from 11:30 – 4:00 p.m., for a $25 fee. These individual sessions require gathering information and completing questionnaire beforehand. Info will be available at the TOTA website. See related schedule with descriptions on page 15.

SIGN DEDICATION HOSTED BY NC CHAPTER

The NC Chapter will host a sign dedication on Tuesday afternoon Oct. 30 at 3 p.m ET. The event will be at Wesser, on Hwy 19 at the Nantahala Outdoor Center campus, near Bryson City, NC.

The recognition as a Cherokee Elder was also in recognition of Patsy’s long time service as a member of the Cherokee National Historical Society Board of Directors. Cherokee Nation Sec. of State Chuck Hoskin Jr. presented the award in Atlanta on June 9th at at the initial meeting of the Georgia At-Large Community group.

Patsy Edgar and her husband John live in on the banks of the Chestatee River near Dahlonegah in the old Cherokee homelands of north GA.
The Missouri Humanities Council is funding the rescue of the Snelson-Brinker property and arranged for all the activity to revolve around saving the chimney to be filmed on three separate cameras by professional videographers. The Trail of Tears Association expresses its appreciation to the Missouri Humanities Council for the strong support provided for this important project—besides funding, but also boots on the ground. Thank you!

The film will be shown at the upcoming Trail of Tears Association Conference in Decatur, Alabama.

The Steelville City Park and Recreation Area officially became a certified site along the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail by the National Park Service on June 2, 2018. A certification ceremony, planned and led by Missouri Chapter President Deloris Gray Wood, took place that day in Steelville, MO, and was part of a larger National Trails System 50th anniversary event.

This site was the location of the Henry E. Davis homestead. In 1837, Davis sold supplies to Lt. B. B. Cannon for the 365 Cherokees in Cannon’s detachment. More than 10,000 Cherokee passed by this site. At the time of Removal, the site was located where the Ste. Genevieve-to-Massey Iron Works crossed Mill Creek, now Whittenburg Creek, and within a mile of Steelville. Land is now all that remains of the old homestead.

**Certified Site: The Snelson-Brinker Cabin Loss – An Opportunity?**

The mandate of the National Trails System Act is the “protection of the historic route and its historic remnants and artifacts for public use and enjoyment.” The Trail of Tears Association with a new funding and project partner, the Missouri Humanities Council, was in the process of pursuing that mandate for a landmark “historic remnant” on the Northern Route of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail in Central Missouri when it was torched by vandals and burned on the morning of the Fourth of July, 2017. The Snelson-Brinker Cabin was located in Crawford County between Steelville and St. James on Highway 8 and was a certified site on the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. Questions of ownership, maintenance, and protection were being considered at the time the fire occurred.

For the volunteer team planning a preservation agenda for the cabin, the loss was devastating. The historic building had burned to the ground save the crumbling chimney. It was a witness structure for 10 detachments that trudged past the structure in the forced removal of the Cherokee. Diary and receipt records confirm the detachments bought supplies there.

The Missouri Humanities Council is funding the rescue of the Snelson-Brinker property and arranged for all the activity revolved around saving the chimney to be filmed on three separate cameras by professional videographers. The Trail of Tears Association expresses its appreciation to the Missouri Humanities Council for the strong support provided for this important project—not just funding but also boots on the ground. Thank you!

The film will be shown at the upcoming Trail of Tears Association Conference in Decatur, Alabama.
Norris also said that Steelville will be added to maps and that it will qualify for potential interpretation and signage.

Jenni Kaul Riegel attended on behalf of U.S. Representative Jason Smith of the 8th Congressional District of Missouri. Her children, Kaylee and Max, led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. Steelville City Park President Dana Richter welcomed everyone to Steelville. Crawford County Commissioner Rob Cummings also spoke, and the local Chamber of Commerce furnished a cake and water for guests.

With content provided by Wood, Coreen Donnley designed the event program, and Dr. William "Bill" Ambrose provided a map display.

In August, Missouri Chapter President Deloris Gray Wood was honored by ESPN’s Mid-Missouri 107.3 FM Wild at Heart radio show with an “Everyday Hero’s Award.” As part of the award, local NPR radio voice John Francis interviewed Wood on-air at the radio station in Rolla, MO. Francis’ questions were mainly about the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail in Missouri.

Deloris Gray Wood presented certificate for 50 hours of volunteer service in Commemoration of 50th Anniversary of the of the Trail System by Frank Norris National Parks Intermountain Region Historian.

Deloris Gray Wood shared a Trail of Tears lapel pin with local NPR radio personality John Francis of ESPN's Mid-Missouri 107.3 FM

Missouri Chapter’s Gray-Wood Honored with Award

Dr. Yvette Running Horse Collin received her doctorate in Indigenous Studies from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks in May 2017 where she graduated with Honors (Phi Kappa Phi and Golden Key.) Her research focused on the historical, cultural, and spiritual relationship between the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas and the horse.

Dr. Running Horse Collin is one of the Founders of Sacred Way Sanctuary and the Native American Horse Trail.

She is currently the Executive Director of Sacred Healing Circle, a non-profit organization that focuses on healing Native communities. Dr. Collin also proudly serves as part of the Administrative Team for the Black Hills Sioux Nation Council of Elders. Dr. Running Horse Collin is the daughter of Loretta Afraid of Bear-Cook.

She will bring a pair of Cherokee/Choctaw horses to Spring Park in Tusculum, AL for visitation with the Conference attendees during the lunch on Saturday during the field trip. She’ll lecture about the horses on The Role of the Horse in Removal on Sunday afternoon.

Prof. Claudio Saunt Financing Indian Removal follows the money, so audiences can see that removal, though associated closely with the southern states, was in fact national and international in scope. We think of Indian Removal as a political and military enterprise, but it was also a financial venture, funded by bankers in New York and London. Using financial instruments such as stocks and bonds, investors poured millions of dollars into the dispossession of southeastern Indians in the 1830s.

Professor Claudio Saunt teaches and writes about Native American history at the University of Georgia, where he is the Richard B. Russell Professor of American History and a Distinguished Research Professor. He is currently at work on a book entitled Aboriginia: Mass Deportation and the Road to Indian Territory, which is due out with W.W. Norton & Co. in 2019. He is also the author of three other books: West of the Revolution: An Uncommon History of 1776; Black, White, and Indian: Race and the Unmaking of an American Family; and A New Order of Things: Property, Power, and the Transformation of the Creek Indians, 1733-1816.

September 2018 • Trail of Tears National Historic Trail News
Arkansas (continued)

On June 10th, President Bethany Rosenbaum and Project Coordinator John McClarty presented at the Washington County Historical Society Annual Statehood Day program on national trails and heritage tourism particularly emphasizing the economic role of preserving historic trails and partnership opportunities.

Chapter members met with the Wake Forest University Trail of Tears student course at Shiloh Museum where they learned about the removal through Northwest Arkansas and the work of preservation groups and partners.

The response to the questionnaire was good and interest in the project is high. The project is facilitating communication, interaction and cooperation between TOTA members who might not otherwise know each other and is providing a way to learn of the research interests of our members and what research has already been done by individuals in our organization. Thanks to all of you who took the time to return the questionnaire. Some primary source materials have already been exchanged by several TOTA members. One participant is offering to look up information in libraries and archives in her area upon request. For more information about what materials TOTA members possess and are willing to share contact Laurie Brockman at Gendiscover@gmail.com.

Arkansas (continued)

ARTOTA hosted a spring board meeting and public program on March 31, 2018 at the Shiloh Museum of Ozark History in Springdale with Dr. Justin Nolan, Chair of Anthropology at the University of Arkansas, as the guest speaker on “Southwest Woodland Plant Food Traditions:

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The Museum of the Native American (MONAH) was formally certified as a site, and the Holla Bend National Wildlife Refuge, managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, was added as a Federal Component in August. A number of additional sites are eligible for certification thanks to a $21,000 NPS Connect Trails to Parks Grant received by the Arkansas US Army Corp of Engineers and Arkansas State Parks. The grant will install 9 interpretive panels and 11 water route signs along existing public sites on the Arkansas River where four of the seventeen Cherokee detachments followed the water route 1,226 miles west to Indian Territory. The sites to receive a wayside panel and water route sign are Arkansas Post National Memorial, Pendleton Bend Park, Regional Park in Pine Bluff, Tar Camp Park at Redfield, Willow Beach Park at Scott, Riverfront Park at North Little Rock, Murray Park at Little Rock, Toad Suck Park and Cadron Settlement at Conway, Cherokee Park at Morrilton, Dwight Mission at Lake Dardanelle, and Trail of Tears Overlook at Fort Smith National Historic Site.

The Annual Membership Meeting was held on August 25th at Lake Dardanelle State Park in Russellville with thirty-one in attendance. Guest speaker Ryan Smith, Choctaw Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Office presented on GIS tracing the Trail of Tears and the Choctaw removal through Dardanelle. We welcomed new faces to the Board including Jason Irby as Secretary; Dr. Stuart Towns as a Regional Representative; Kaushik Sampath as Educational Representative; Glenn Jones as Chapter Recruitment and Liaison; and Aaron Boswell, US Army Corp, as an Advisory Board member. As recommended by NPS Trails Office Superintendent, Aaron Mahr, the Research Coordinator position has transitioned to the Historic Preservation Officer. Bethany Rosenbaum as President and National Representative; Sasha Bowles as Vice President and National Representative; Nancy Feroe as Secretary; John McClarty as Past President and Project Coordinator; Carolyn Kent as Historic Preservation Officer; Susan Young as Regional Representative; Bill Carroll as Regional Representative were also re-elected to serve for the Jan 2019-Dec 2020 term.

The Board continues to build chapter capacity by developing an ARTOTA banner for conferences, public programs and events, updating the membership list and contact methods, updating the website with Board member bios and photos and more frequent social media posts, and a membership blitz through email and mailed letters to past and new members. Bethany Rosenbaum is conducting an administrative history of the Arkansas Chapter to add to institutional knowledge of the history and progress of trail work. With the help of Amy Kostine, Trail of Tears Director MTU, the chapter is developing a revised and updated list of witness structures and their current condition to plan for continued preservation. The chapter is developing a comprehensive county-by-county list of detachments, tribes, sites, structures, and existing conditions in order to develop a priority list of preservation and interpretation. The Research Team continues to work on preparing the nomination for the Mountain Top Road Site, Washington County, for addition to the TOT route as a National Register site. Research Coordinator, Carolyn Kent, researched and compiled a study on Crawford County that was traveled by Muscogee (Creeks) and Cherokee parties to determine sites suitable for markers. She is assisting with the National Register nomination of Peeweehouse Rd and Cemetery in Van Buren where numerous Muscogee (Creek) detachments and the Drane and Whitely groups passed. Carolyn is also aiding the Choctaw Nation with primary document materials in their proposal to add the Choctaw Trail of Tears as part of the federally recognized trail system. Additionally, the Research Team is working on material related to Arkansas Post and the Arkansas Post Cadron Road, as well as pursuing Natural Dam (Ozark-St. Francis National Forest) certification as a federal protected component of the trail.

During the annual Partnership for the National Trails System conference in Vancouver, WA October 22-24, National Board Member, Bethany Rosenbaum will present a program entitled “From Historic Trails to Pathways Forward: Best Practices in Tribal Consultation and Resource Management” on the evolution of management of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail and tribal partnerships.

The “buzz word” for the Georgia Chapter has always been education and that is why we chose to present a five part series on the history of the Trail of Tears for our year-long observance. Walter Knapp, chapter Vice-President, designed the lectures to be presented at our five general meetings. Our only regret is the fact that we did not have the forethought to video tape our outstanding lecture series. These presentations were very well received by the public. All of our general meetings are open to the public and publicized with the local media. In the presentations the 50th Anniversary of the National Trail System has been highlighted.

- March 10, 2018 “Myths and Realities of Removal” Walter J. Knapp (Roswell, GA)

Walter Knapp is an educator, historian, author who has spent a life time researching Native American History and Culture.
NEWLY DISCOVERED PHOTO OF WITNESS SITE FOUND IN ILLINOIS

As many researchers know, every once in a while a needle in the haystack finds its way to you, most often when you least expect it. Earlier this year, Dr. Mark Wagner, a member of our Board, received an email from the research staff at Morris Library at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois. They had found a poorly labeled box in the library basement that was full of photographs. One of them had “Bridges Tavern” written on the back. Fortunately, the staff there knew that the Bridges Tavern in Johnson County, Illinois was associated with the Trail of Tears because of prior research done at the facility and contacted Dr. Wagner.

John Bridges and his family migrated to southern Illinois from North Carolina in the early 1800s. By the early 1830s they established a tavern and wayside store that supplied both locals and travelers with lodging, meals, and other sundry items. Not surprisingly, their businesses were located adjacent to the main east-west travel corridor, the Golconda-Cape Girardeau road, that was later used by the Cherokee. Unfortunately the tavern burned in 1940 and only exists now as an archaeological site. The store however is still present, enveloped inside the footprint of a larger barn that was erected in the 1890s. The Bridges Wayside Store is one of Illinois’s few Witness Structures. Currently there is no documentary evidence that links the Cherokee to the Bridges, or either of their establishments, but several oral histories from the 1930s recount that the Cherokee did business at the store as they passed by on the Trail.

The box in the library basement was eventually linked to George Washington Smith, a professor of History at SIU-C from 1890-1935. In the 1930s, Mr. Smith had worked closely with John Mulcaster, a local history enthusiast to research and document the Trail of Tears in order to commemorate the event that had occurred a century ago. This picture was likely a product of that effort, which had been buried in a box of papers and was until now unknown to modern researchers.

MISSOURI

On March 16, 2018, several researchers working on the Partnership in the Humanities Award from the Missouri Humanities Council (see more on page 4) to the Missouri chapter presented about their work at the 60th Annual Missouri Conference on History in Jefferson City. Mark Spangler of the Lebanon–Laclede County Library and Laclede County Historical Society, Eva Dunn of the Bollinger County Library, and Missouri Chapter President Deloris Gray Wood, also of the Dent County Historical Society, each talked about sites and stories from the Northern Route in their respective counties. Dr. William Steve Belko nominated the three to give presentations and served as chair of the concurrent session. TOTA Executive Director Troy Wayne Poteete served as moderator. Christopher Dunn of GeoVelo Mapping Company in Columbia, MO, served as presentation technician. Dr. Bill Ambrose provided the map display, and Russell Weisman attended to assist Dunn with her research.

Several chapter members met with staff and administrators of the Lebanon/ Laclede County Library on June 11th to discuss recent discoveries and local Trail of Tears history. Mark Spangler, a MoTOTA board member and curator of the Route 66 Museum housed in the Library, led the discussion concerning exciting discoveries across the several-county area. The Library staff, including Director Cathy Dame, is fully engaged in bringing a Trail of Tears Museum into fruition as a companion to the 66 housed in the
Friday, October 26th

9:00am-12:00pm  - TOTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

2:30pm  - TOTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

- With Local Partners for Tuscumbia Landing Update

4:00pm  - HOTEL CHECK-IN

- Registration Tables Located in the Atrium

---CONFERENCE OFFICIALLY OPENS---

5:00pm  - CONFERENCE KICK-OFF AT RHODES FERRY PARK PAVILION

- Dinner in the pavilion at the location where Trail of Tears detachments landed.

- Wayside exhibit and witness structure, walking tour narrated by Muscle Shoals National Historic Area Employee Seth Armstrong

8:00pm  - PHOENIX SOCIETY COCKTAIL HOUR

- Donors & local partners celebrating the 50th Anniversary of National Historic Trails Legislation
### 2018 TOTA Conference - TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (Continued)

**Saturday, October 27th**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00am-9:00am</td>
<td>BREAKFAST BUFFET</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30am</td>
<td>BOARD BUSES FOR TUSCUMBIA LANDING VISIT</td>
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<td>- Archaeologists will be on hand to discuss site.</td>
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<td>- Buses will unload in Spring Park, Tuscumbia, AL</td>
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<td>- Restrooms will be available</td>
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<tr>
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<td>- Trolley’s will shuttle folks to Tuscumbia Landing in Sheffield, AL</td>
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<td><strong>FOR THOSE WITH MOBILITY CHALLENGES:</strong></td>
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<td>A special presentation by John McWilliams will tell “The Story of Tuscumbia Landing” complete with a power point images of the site as an alternative to the challenge of walking about the yet undeveloped site. Presentation will be in the Spring Park Pavilion.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>LUNCH AT SPRING PARK HOSTED BY OKA KAPASSA FESTIVAL BOARD</td>
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<td>- Welcome by Mayor Kerry Underwood of Tuscumbiaa</td>
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<td>- Cherokee/Choctaw horses from Sacred Way Sanctuary will be on hand.</td>
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<td><strong>REMARKS:</strong></td>
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<td>Ian Sanford, Mayor of Sheffield, AL</td>
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<td>Cherokee Nation Sec. of State Chuck Hoskin, Jr.</td>
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<td>Dr. Jeff Bibbee, University of N. AL History Dept. Chairman</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Other local officials and dignitaries</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30</td>
<td>UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA CAMPUS TOUR</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Dr. Jeff Bibbee will host tour and provide information about a Graduate Degree in Public History for participating youth. Afterwards they will return to Decatur for dinner and the Daikin Amphitheater Program.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30</td>
<td>BOARD BUSES TO HOTEL</td>
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<td>- Stop at historic Courtland, AL (Where a multitude of ante-bellum homes are in good repair.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30</td>
<td>CHEROKEE CITIZENS MEETING</td>
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<td>- with Sec. of State Chuck Hoskin, Jr. and his staff at Double Tree Hotel</td>
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</tbody>
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**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR CONFERENCE SPONSORS**
2018 TOTA Conference - TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (Continued)

Saturday, October 27th (Continued)

5:00pm-8:00pm - Food Truck Dinner in Founders Park and Concert in Daikin
  - Amphitheater in Historical Downtown Decatur, Alabama

  - Comments on Significance of the Trail Systems Anniversary - Aaron Mahr - Supt.
    National Trails Intermountain Region, National Park Service

  - Comments on the AL Bicentennial Celebration

  - Welcome: Tab Bowling - Mayor of Decatur

REMARKS:
  Shannon Keith-Pres. AL Chapter
  Jack D. Baker-Pres. National Trail of Tears Association
  Cherokee Nation Sec. of State-Chuck Hoskin, Jr.

- BECKY HOBBS PERFORMANCE
  - Becky Hobbs will perform with her full band.
  - She’ll do selections from her musical Nanyehi – Beloved Woman of the Cherokee, Cherokee Hymns, hits she has written for other artists, as well as her own honky-tonk hits.

8:00pm - Screening of MO Humanities Council’s “Snelson Brinker Cabin and Cherokee Removal”

Sunday, October 28th

7:00am-9:00am - BREAKFAST BUFFET

8:30am-9:00am - TOTA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & CHAPTER REPORTS

9:00am-9:50am - NPS REPORT
  - NPS Superintendent Aaron Mahr and Staff

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR CONFERENCE SPONSORS
Sunday, October 28th (Continued)

**MORNING CONCURRENT SESSIONS BEGIN**
45 minute talks with 15 minutes between

10:00am  
A) Mission Schools in North Alabama-Laurie Brockman and Larry Smith  
B) Archaeology on Redstone Arsenal-Ben Hoksbergen

11:00am  
A) The Methodists and the Cherokee in AL-Mike Wren  
C) Creek Removal-Chris Haveman

11:50am-12:30pm  
- BOOK SIGNING WITH AUTHORS; Exhibitor and Vendor Tables Open

12:30pm  
- LUNCH (Buffet Style)  
  - Financing Indian Removal-Claudio Saunt

**AFTERNOON CONCURRENT SESSIONS BEGIN**
45 minute talks with 15 minutes between

2:00pm  
A) Chickamauga Cherokees-James Pate  
B) Alabama Removal Forts-Sharon Freeman

3:00pm  
A) Using GIS technology and mapping for Trail of Tears Routes-Chris Dunn  
B) Creek Removal-Chris Haveman

4:00pm  
A) Cherokee Newspapers-James Pate  
  - Followed by Cherokee Newspapers booksigning  
B) MO Humanities Council Film-Snelson Brinker Cabin and Cherokee Removal  
  - Q & A with Film Director-Monty Dobson  
C) The Role of the Horse During Removal and various treatments by tribes.-Yvette Collins

5:30pm  
- WRAP UP BUFFET DINNER  
  - Evening is free to Visit/roam/check out/break down in work groups

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**POST-CONFERENCE EVENTS**
Oct. 29th, 2018

Creekside Genealogy Workshop  
Sponsored by the Alabama TOTA Chapter  
Doubletree Hotel, Decatur, AL  
(For more information and schedule turn to page 15)

* Before meeting with Genealogist, questionnaire must be filled out. For a printable questionnaire form go to www.nationaltota.com and click the “Genealogy Seminar Consultative Session” button or scan the QR code.
## REGISTRATION FORM
(One form per Registrant Please)

### Contact Information

1. Name (as wanted on name badge):

2. Organization Representing (if applicable):

3. Mailing Address:

4. City:

5. State:

6. Telephone: ( ) —

7. Telephone: ( ) —

8. Fax: ( ) —

9. Email:

### Registration

#### 10. Regular Registration

- □ TOTA 2018 Member: $125
- □ Non-member: 175*

*Non-member registration includes TOTA membership through 2019.

#### 11. On-Site Registration

- □ TOTA 2018 Member: $225*
- □ Non-member: $275*

*Non-Member Registration includes TOTA membership through 2019.

Registrations made after Oct 16th are subject to a $100 "Late Registration" Fee

### Field Trip Saturday, October 27th

12. □ I will ride bus for Sat. Field Trip Tour

13. □ I will attend lecture for those with mobility issues rather than visit Tuscumbia Landing

#### Breakfast will be provided on the morning of Oct. Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th

14. After Conference Event:

   On Monday, Oct. 29th, do you plan on attending the Cherokee Genealogy Seminar sponsored by the AL Chapter TOTA?

   □ Yes      □ No      □ Not Sure

   $10 Registration Fee at Door

### Guest Meals

I need to register my guest, ________________________________, for the following meals:

- Fri. Dinner $25 □
- Sat. Breakfast - $20 □ / Sat. Field Trip Lunch - $25 □

Guest Meal Total: $_____

### TOTAL FEES:

| 16. Registration Fee from Line 10 or 11 | = $_____
| 17. Guest Meal Fees from Line 15 | = $_____
| 18. Registration for Sunday only ($95) | = $_____
| 19. Late Registration after 10/16 ($100) | = $_____
| 20. TOTAL AMOUNT DUE (Add lines 16-19) | = $_____ |

Field Trip Waiver, Cancellation Policy, Mailing Information and Hotel Information is all available on page 2 of this Registration Form. If you do not have page 2 or if you have any other questions, please call us at 918-464-2258 for assistance.
Field Trip Waiver

Please sign this liability waiver if you plan to participate in the field trip.

The undersigned hereby agrees that neither the Trail of Tears Association (TOTA), its chapters, directors, officers, employees, and agents, nor to the extent legally permissible any private or public (state or federal or instrumentality of either), landowner or tenant or licensee in possession of any land or over which any tour, field trip, or outing takes place, or through which it travels, in connection with or as a part of any meeting or convention of TOTA shall have any responsibility or liability, in whole or in part for any loss, damage, injury to person or property, delays and delayed departure or arrival, missed carrier connections, cancellations, changes in schedules, program, or itinerary, or mechanical defect or failures, or for any negligent act or omissions of any nature whatsoever which results from, or arises out of, occurs at or during any activities, programs, tours, field trip, or outing thereat, or part of any of the foregoing. All persons registering at or attending any such meeting or convention shall be bound by the foregoing and deemed to have consented and agreed to the same by such registration or attendance.

Sign ______________________________________________________ Date ___________________________

Cancellation Policy

A written and signed notice of cancellation must be submitted to the Trail of Tears Association, 412 N Hwy 100 Suite “B”, PO Box 329, Webbers Falls, OK 74470, fax number (501) 666-5875, in order to receive a refund. A 50% refund will be granted if notice is received by October 5, 2017. NO refunds will be granted after October 5, 2018.

Mail Your Registration

Make Check or Money Order Payable to: Trail of Tears Association

Send to: Trail of Tears Association
         PO Box 329
         Webbers Falls, Oklahoma 74470

Hotel Information

Double Tree Hotel
1101 6th Ave. NE
Decatur, AL 35601

Room Block Closes Oct 2nd, or when sold out.
MONDAY
29 OCTOBER 2018

GENEALOGY SEMINAR

SCHEDULE AND DESCRIPTION

Double Tree Hotel ♦ 1101 6th Ave NE ♦ Decatur, Alabama

8:00 – 9:00 Registration - $10.00 for the morning session, $25.00 for the afternoon session - $35.00 for both sessions.

9:00 – 9:15 Welcome, introductory remarks, and announcements

9:15 – 10:30 “Rooted to the Earth: The Basics of Cherokee Genealogy”
Discover how Cherokee genealogical research can separate fact from fiction; learn about getting started, tribal enrollment protocol, membership into the First Families of the Cherokee Nation organization, and the resources available for document a Cherokee ancestor.

10:30 – 11:00 Questions & Answers and Door Prizes
(Q&A relevant to the preceding session only! Questions regarding specific individuals will be addressed during the afternoon consultative sessions.)

11:00 – 12:00 Lunch & Afternoon Registration - several restaurants can be found within easy walking distance of the conference center.

12:00 – 5:00 “Consultation with a Cherokee Genealogist”
Come and participate in an exciting and fun program. Bring your “brick wall” research questions, relevant to Cherokee genealogy and you will have an opportunity to ask an expert. You will only have a limited time, therefore don’t squander it with far-fetched myths! Planning is the key, so be clear and specific with your questions. Your session will conclude when the timer dings!

Completion of prerequisite forms are required for the “Consultation with a Cherokee Genealogist,” one-on-one sessions scheduled in the afternoon.
Deloris Gray Wood, serving as hosts.

Remember the Removal bike riders arrived in Waynesville, Missouri, on a very hot afternoon on June 14th. Their first stop was Roubidoux Creek, where most took a dip to cool off. Afterward, the group gathered around three Cherokee interpretive panels located on the site and introduced themselves. Waynesville Mayor Luge Harman and Missouri State Representative Steve Lynch welcomed the bikers. This was Lynch’s fifth straight year to welcome the riders to Missouri. The Missouri chapter provided dinner to the group at a local restaurant, with Mayor Luge Harman and Missouri State Historic Sites Board, Steve Bodenhamer, Dr. Steve Belko and Kelly Ervin of the Missouri Humanities Council, Jackie Warfel of the Greene County Historic Sites Board, Steve Bodenhamer of the City of Strafford, Mayor Debra Hickey of Battlefield, Lowell Fay and Eula Gray.

Deloris Gray Wood, president of the Missouri chapter, gave a presentation to the Route 66 Association of Missouri in Steelville, MO, about the Trail of Tears in Missouri, specifically highlighting sites along the Northern Route that goes through the Steelville area. The Trail of Tears runs alongside, in the viewshed, or below Route 66 for 115 miles in Missouri. The Missouri Chapter of the Trail of Tears Association will hold its annual membership meeting October 26, 2018, at the Conference hotel after the membership meeting October 26, 2018, at the Conference hotel after the business meeting.

The NCTOTA continues to work with Mainspring, St. John’s Episcopal Church, and the Cherokee Snowbird and Cherokee County Communities to design signs (grant through Cherokee Preservation Foundation) to recognize post-Removal communities. Some wayside exhibits erected ten years ago need attention. NCTOTA plans to replace some of these. Member Dianne Wells, who watches over the Valleytown Baptist Mission and Aquoohe District Courthouse signs, saw to the replacement of landscape timbers, mulch, and the painting of benches and posts. Thanks, Dianne!

The NCTOTA’s symposium, “Cherokee Challenges & Tribulations: Exploring Scholarship, Memory, & Commemoration,” on April 11, at Western Carolina University (WCU) was well received with approximately 200 attendees!

The NCTOTA’s summer meeting at the Murphy Public Library was held on July 21. Following the business meeting, Dr. Andrew Denson, a NCTOTA Board Member and professor at WCU, spoke on the creation of the National Trails System Act.

Plans to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System Act continue, partnering with hiking clubs and Appalachian Trail Conservancy, along with the Nantahala Outdoor Center, to mark the juncture of the scenic Appalachian Trail and the historic Trail of Tears in North Carolina. A sign dedication and activities are scheduled for Tuesday, October 30 (TBA).

The NCTOTA’s fall meeting at Mission Farms in Murphy is scheduled for 11 a.m., Sept. 29. Bring a covered dish for a pitch-in lunch, followed by Secretary Paige Tester’s presentation on “GIS-Based Approaches to Documenting the Trail of Tears: Mapping the Unicoi Turnpike.” Chapter election results will follow the business meeting.
OKLAHOMA

The OK Chapter will have a marking ceremony Saturday, October 20, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at Hungry Mountain Cemetery on Hwy 100 west of Stilwell, Oklahoma. James Bigby Sr., Catherine Foreman Bigby, and Jackson Christie will be honored as survivors of the Trail of Tears.

TENNESSEE

The Tennessee Chapter has been busy with educational projects during 2018. Chapter President Debbie Moore made educational presentations to seven organizations including local historical societies, Wilderness Wildlife Week of the Smokies, the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, and Pellissippi State. In April, we joined forces with Cleveland State Community College to hold an Educational Symposium to commemorate the 180th year anniversary of the forced removal.

In June, the Remember the Removal TOT bike riders made their way through Tennessee with stops that included Red Clay State Park, Charleston Municipal Park, Blythe Ferry, and Woodbury, where TNTOTA members helped host the riders.

The Tennessee Chapter will have a membership meeting at 1:30pm EST on September 23, 2018 at Red Clay State Park followed by a program by Dr. Daniel Littlefield at 3:00pm. Upcoming events include the Blessing of the Buffalo in Georgetown, attending the grand opening of new exhibits at the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, and walking the trail in Woodbury. In October, many members will attend the National TOTA meeting in Decatur, Alabama.

Attended by over 200 people, the speakers were Troy Wayne Poteete, National TOT Executive Director; Brett Riggs, Sequoyah Distinguished Professor of Cherokee Studies at Western Carolina University, and Joe Guy, Historian and Sheriff of McMinn County, TN. The Chapter also set up educational booths at the symposium, Wilderness Wildlife Week of the Smokies, Cherokee Cultural Days at Red Clay State Park, the International Cow Pea Festival, and the Rivertown Festival.

The chapter is excited to be hosting a visit from Cherokee Nation Chief Bill John Baker to Blythe’s Ferry Cherokee Memorial Removal Park in Birchwood in November. While in the area, the Chief and his family will visit many sites related to the Removal.

Progress continues on the Franklin County TOTNHT sign project, a joint project of TNTOTA and the Franklin County Historical Society. TDOT has completed installation of 35 signs on US Hwy’s 41A & 64 from Monteagle west to the Lincoln County line. The National Park Service furnished the signs and the Franklin County Government provided the posts.

UPCOMING EVENT:
The Tennessee Chapter will have a membership meeting at 1:30pm EDST on September 23, 2018 at Red Clay State Park followed by a program by Dr. Daniel Littlefield at 3:00pm. Littlefield will be speaking on the African American experience during the Removal.

Melba Checote Eads and Shirley Lawrence in the TNTOTA tent at Red Clay State Park Cherokee Cultural Days in August. (Photo credit: Debbie Moore)
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.

Current members are encouraged to renew their commitment of giving to the society at the fall meeting.
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 Intermountain Region, 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
Andrew Ross House, AL
Arcadia Valley Campground, MO
Audubon Acres, TN
Berry’s Ferry and John Berry Homestead, KY
Big Spring, KY
Brainerd Mission Cemetery, TN
Browns Ferry Tavern, TN
Campground Cemetery, IL
Cedartown Cherokee Removal Camp, GA
 Chattanooga Regional History Museum, TN
Cherokee County Historical Museum, NC
Cherokee Garden at Green Meadows, GA
Cherokee Heritage Center, OK
Chieftains Museum/Major Ridge Home, GA
City of North Little Rock Riverfront Park, AR
Columbus-Belmont State Park, KY
Crabb-Abbot Farm, IL
Crider Tavern Complex, KY
David Crockett State Park Trail Segment, TN
Delta Cultural Center, AR
Fitzgerald Station and Farmstead, AR
Fort Gibson, OK
Fort Payne Cabin Site, AL
Funk Heritage Center, GA
Giles Co. Trail of Tears Interpretive Center, TN
Green County Trail Segments, MO
Golconda Riverfront, IL
Gray’s Inn, KY
Hair Conrad Cabin, TN
Hamburger Hill, IL
The Hermitage, TN
Historic Road from Ross to Ridge’s, GA
Hiwassee River Heritage Center, TN

James Brown Cherokee Plantation, TN
Jentel Farm Trail Segment, IL
John Martin House, TN
John Ross House, GA
Junaluska Memorial and Museum, NC
Lake Dardanelle State Park, AR
La Petite Roche, AR
Laughlin Park, MO
Mantle Rock, KY
Maramec Spring Park/Massey Iron Works, MO
McGinnis Cemetery Trail Segment, IL
Mount Nebo State Park, AR
Murrell Home, OK
Museum of the Cherokee Indian, NC
Museum of the Native American, AR
New Echota State Historic Site, GA
Paducah Waterfront, KY
Petit Jean State Park, AR
Pinnacle Mountain State Park, AR
Port Royal State Park, TN
Radford Farm, KY
Red Clay State Historic Area, TN
Rockdale Plantation/George Adair Home, GA
Running Waters, John Ridge Home, GA
Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, TN
Snelson-Brinker Cabin, MO
Star City Ranch Trail Segment, MO
Tennessee River Museum, TN
Toliver Farm Trail Segment, IL
Trail of Tears Commemorative Park, KY
Trail of Tears State Park, MO
Trail of Tears State Forest, IL
Tuscumbia Landing, AL
Vann Cherokee Cabin, GA
Vann House Historic Site, GA
Village Creek State Park, AR
Wagner Farm Trail Segment, IL
Wayside Store and Bridges Tavern Site, IL
Waterloo Landing, AL
Willstown Mission Cemetery, AL

Federal Protection Components and Interpretive Sites
Arkansas River Visitors Center/Old Post Road Park, Russellville, AR
Arkansas Post National Memorial, AR
Cadron Settlement Park, AR
Cherokee Memorial Park, Blythe Ferry, TN
Fort Smith National Historic Site, AR
Great Smoky Mountains National Park, TN
Holla Bend Nat. Wildlife Refuge, Dardanelle, AR
Mark Twain National Forest, MO
Mocassin Bend, TN
Pea Ridge National Military Park, AR
Shawnee National Forest, MO
Stones River National Battlefield, TN

DIGITAL CONTENT AVAILABLE:
CERTIFIED SITES WITH LINKS
SCAN QR CODE

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The Trail of Tears Association
would like to thank the following for their generous upgraded membership support:

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Phoenix Giving Society
To find out about more about the Phoenix Giving Society go to page 18