2016 Remember the Removal Riders are shown in this photo. For news on this year’s Riders see our story on page 5.

Giving Society Established for TOTA pg. 3
Illinois Chapter Takes Top Honors pg. 6

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22nd Annual Trail of Tears Conference & Symposium page 11
On October 6, a groundbreaking ceremony was held in Charleston for a National Historic Trail to mark the location of Fort Cass, considered to be the primary point of departure for the Trail of Tears.

Hosted by the Hiwassee River Heritage Center with about 100 people in attendance, Darlene Goins, executive director of the Heritage Center and Melissa Woody, vice president of Tourism Development for the Cleveland/Bradley County Chamber of Commerce presided over the luncheon and program.

Participants included Troy Wayne Poteete, TOTA Executive Director; Jack Baker, TOTA President; Aaron Mahr, Supervisor of National Trails for the National Park Service; Melissa Mortimer Historic Preservation Planner for the Southeast Tennessee Development District; Bradley County, Charleston, and Calhoun officials; and Charleston-Calhoun-Hiwassee Historical Society representatives.

Goins and Woody introduced representatives of supportive organizations, including Jonathan Cantrell of Charleston’s Caldwell Paving, which provided the matching portion of a $250,000 National Trails grant to fund the project.

As Aaron Mahr pointed out, there are signs all along the 780 miles of the Trail, from Fort Cass at Charleston to Woodhall’s Depot at Westville, Oklahoma, “but, it is very special to have a sign here at Point Zero,” he said. “We can now bring people here to the departure point of the Trail of Tears in Charleston, and we can tell them what happened those many years ago.”

Describing his personal connection with the area, Jack Baker said, “This is a very important site for our people”, adding that his ancestors lived near Cleveland.

“The perception of how the Cherokee people face this very sad story, of the Cherokee Removal to Oklahoma, is very widely held. But, we don’t want to put our people in the role of victims, although they were mistreated,” Troy Wayne explained to those gathered at the sentimental site. “They overcame, they survived, and each succeeding generation of the Cherokee has drawn inspiration from that experience. No one alive today is to blame for that episode”, he added, “and now this is an opportunity to tell a larger story.”

To go deeper into the process I worked with Lawrence and Giles County to get signs up. In addition to that, I worked with Coreen Kolisko Donnelly with the National Park Service to get them approved by NTOTA and the NPS and then signs ordered. The signs are actually made in a prison in Utah and after completion they are shipped to where they will be used.

We work with the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) and once Ms. Donelly gets done she sends the waivers that we have to get signed by the City, County and State. Then she send us the estimate of the cost of making the signs and how many and what size. Then we get TDOT to give us the estimate of what the post and hardware will cost to get them installed. Then we had to find that amount of money to pay for that part of the project. Then we had to go through a Non Profit to pay for the post and hardware for us. Then that organization would send the money to the Money person with TDOT and then once that was done then the Signs are shipped to the TDOT facility that will install them. Ours here is in Nashville. Then when they are in the area where the signs go up then they install some of the signs.

That is how it works. I hope that sheds some light on the projects.

~ Vicky Garland
Tennessee Chapter of the Trail of Tears Association
The Benge Detachment passed through the present community of Grove Oak in northeast Alabama in the fall of 1838. A few years ago the Alabama Chapter of the Trail of Tears Association, under the guidance of Gail King, placed a sign in this small Sand Mountain community, marking the original path taken by more than 1,000 Cherokees. Unfortunately, someone stole the sign, much to the disappointment of Jamie Godwin, who owns the Grove Oak Store nearby.

Ms. Godwin, an artist and author, couldn't wait for another sign to be erected, so she painted a large replica on the side of her building. Also a preservationist, her store is near Buck's Pocket State Park, a pristine area in Marshall, DeKalb, and Jackson Counties. Due to a lack of funding for park staffing, some vandalism has occurred there, including some damage to what is known as Cherokee Cave. Ms. Godwin is leading an effort to protect the cave from further damage, and to prevent dumping and vandalism.

Buck's Pocket contains a large rugged gorge that served as a haven for some of the Cherokees who managed to escape removal. It remains as one of Alabama's most scenic and virtuously unspoiled areas.

Story by Laurie Brockman
**2017 TOTA UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Georgia Chapter Meeting**
May 13th, 2017 at 10:30am
Bartow County Library, Cartersville, GA
Presentation by Wanda Patterson: John Rollin Ridge—The First Native American Novelist

**Remember the Cherokee Removal Commemoration**
May 20th-21st, 2017
Trail of Tears City Park, Battlefield, MO
for info call Mayor Hickey at 417-343-2551

**Choctaw Nation Trail of Tears Walk**
May 20th, 2017
Tvshka Homma (Tuskahoma), OK
800-522-6170 or www.choctawnation.com

**Alabama Chapter hosts Wayside Marker Dedication**
May 21st, 2017
Rhodes Ferry Park, Decatur, GA
details TBA via TOTA Facebook and website

**Remember the Removal Bike Rider Event**
June 5th, 2017
Cherokee Removal Memorial Park
6800 Blyth Ferry Lane, Birchwood, TN 37308

**Remember the Removal Bike Rider Event**
Morning of Friday June 9th, 2017
Nashville Toll Bridge Abutment
Fort Nashborough, Downtown, Nashville, TN

**Missouri Chapter Works with Potosi District of Mark Twain National Forest**

Deloris Gray Wood, President, Missouri Chapter; Becky Ewing, Ranger, Mark Twain National Forest Potosi District; Bill Bodimer, MTNF Customer Service Representative; and Bill Ambrose, Mo Chapter board member, look at the Salem-Potosi Ranger District Forest map. Photo by Jennifer Falkey, MTNF Non-native Invasive species Coordinator.

A devastating fire destroyed one of the few remaining witness houses in Alabama in March of 2015. All that remains of the house built by missionary Milo Hoyt near the Willstown Mission is the well. Milo Hoyt’s valuation proved him to be one of the most successful of all the New England missionaries who came South to work for the Cherokees. His total valuation was put at $3,456.25, and included land in both Tennessee and Alabama. Located on his properties were several houses, outbuildings, and a water powered mill.

The valuation describes his well as “1 good well 32 feet deep with good windows walled up with some stone 3 1/2 in diameter, iron chain & good bucket,” and valued at $30. This reveals that the well was enclosed by a structure with windows. Measurements taken by Larry Benefeld in October of last year fall within the parameters of the valuation.

Located on top of the well is a millstone, ostensibly from Hoyt’s water mill. His valuation lists a mill house and a pair of good millstones 3 feet in diameter. This corresponds to the millstone on top of the well. It is probable that the water mill was located a few miles away on Big Wills Creek. It had a log dam 30 feet long.

The millstone was obviously placed on top of the well for security reasons.

It may have been placed there by Jesse Beeson, thought to have been the first owner of the Hoyt property after removal, or by the Crow family, subsequent owners of the property. Olivia Cox of Landmarks of DeKalb County said the millstone was placed on top of the well as early as 1923. How Milo Hoyt managed to acquire so much property and wealth remains a mystery, since he received no compensation working as a missionary and teacher for the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. His entire valuation can be found on the website Galileo: Southeastern Native Americans. It is listed as “Miloe Hoit Improvements at Wills Town, Alabama.”

Photos and story by Larry Smith
The Cherokee Nation selected 10 cyclists for its 2017 Remember the Removal Bike Ride this June. The ride allows young Cherokees to retrace the northern route of the Trail of Tears by bicycle.

The 10 cyclists, ages 16-24, started training in February for the 950-mile journey that spans Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma.

Students were selected based on essays, interviews and a physical to ensure they are up for the grueling challenge.

They travel an average of 60 miles a day, mirroring in part the hardships of their Cherokee ancestors who made the same trek on foot. Of the estimated 16,000 Cherokees who were forced to make the journey to Indian Territory, 4,000 died due to exposure, starvation and disease, giving credence to the name Trail of Tears.

The 2017 Remember the Removal Bike Ride cyclists include the following:

From Adair County: Trey Pritchett, 19, Stilwell; KenLea Henson, 23, Proctor; Susie Worley-Means, 24, Stilwell; From Cherokee County: Brian Barlow, 22, Tahlequah; Hunter Scott, 16, Bunch; Ellic Miller, 23, Tahlequah, (alternate); Macie Sullateskee, 19, Tahlequah, (alternate); From Mayes County: Skylar Vann, 23, Locust Grove; Gaya Pickup, 21, Salina; From Muskogee County: Shelby Deal, 19, Porum; From Sequoyah County: Raven Girty, 20, Gore; Will Chavez, 50, Marble City, Mentor Rider; From Tulsa County: Breanna Anderson, 21, Sand Springs.

The Cherokee Nation cyclists will be joined by cyclists from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in North Carolina and start the ride in New Echota, Georgia, on June 4.
**ILLINOIS CHAPTER TAKES TOP HONORS FOR GIS RESEARCH**

Trail of Tears research in southern Illinois was recently highlighted at the annual To Bridge a Gap Conference held in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Illinois Chapter partners, the Shawnee National Forest and the Center for Archaeological Investigations - Southern Illinois University (CAI-SIU) took top honors for their presentations about the Trail. The purpose of the conference is to bring together Native American tribes and federal agencies in order to provide a forum to discuss issues, management activities, and consult in a government to government setting. In addition, the conference provides an opportunity for tribes and their partners to share knowledge with each other in order to form stronger relationships.  

Ayla Amadio of the CAI-SIU won first prize for her poster illustrating GIS research on the Trail of Tears in Missouri and Illinois, while the Shawnee received second place for a poster highlighting the overnight environmental education camp that is hosted by the Forest. This camp has been supported by the Eastern Region the last three years and helps to bring native children from removed tribes, back to their ancestral homelands to learn about the resources and landscape. In addition, the Shawnee National Forest was also recognized with an honorable mention for a poster on the Shawnee Conservation Corps, a resident Tribal Youth Conservation Corps supported by the Eastern Region and the Washington Office of the Forest Service. 

**MISSOURI**

House of Representative office, Monday, February 13, 2017. Rocky is the only Cherokee Citizen serving in the Missouri House. Dr. Bill and Rocky are Missouri Chapter Board Members. The meeting focused on the possible restoration and preservation of the Snelson-Brinker Cabin on the Northern Route in Crawford County. The Snelson-Brinker Campsite was Certified as a National Park Service Certified site by Aaron Mahr in October 2006. 

Russell ‘Rusty’ Wiseman, MoDOT Historical Preservation Officer, and MO TOTA Vice President, has been working and doing research on the Hildebrand Route on Highway 72 at the Stouts Creek bridge at Lake Kalarney. The Bridge is identified for replacement as Iron (County) 72, J9P3058. A public meeting was held in Ironton on March 21, and also a Virtual Meeting on-line where MoDOT took comments for 21 days from the public. Officials were present to answer questions regarding Section 106 and Section 4(f) compliance, and to make the public aware of the historic bridge, granite walls that lines part of the roadway, and the historic roadway/traces. 

Members of the Dent County Historical Society were out on the Hildebrand Route starting at Marcot Tower in the Mark Twain National Forest in Reynolds County where the 31.7 miles of Original Route NPS Trail Signs on County roads ended at Highway 72. The group walked the trail into Dent County on January 2 and again February 18. Tom Botkins who was the Trail leader showing the members what to look for like pull-outs, old buildings along the Trail on the Old Centerville Road located on the Salem Portion of the Ozark Plateau. William Tolson. an intern with the City of Rolla. is working under Rolla City Administrator John Butz who has asked William to work on a Trail of Tears project across Phelps County to
preserve the history and culture that the trail represents. William is a student at Missouri S&T University. Missouri Chapter President Deloris Gray Wood and Board Members Dr. Bill Ambrose has supplied maps, diaries and helpful research to assist in the project. William will first start identifying the Trail across the City of Rolla. Deloris and Dr. Bill are also working on the project in Phelps County and have been busy in locating the Trail on the Northern Route from Potosi in Washington County to Rolla in Phelps County. Along the Trail it includes Crawford County (Snelson Brinker Cabin) and Maramec Spring/Massie Iron Works/Maramec Cemetery and Pine Hill Cemetery (Phelps County) and Pine Hill Cemetery.

NORTH CAROLINA

The NCTOTA’s winter meeting, held November 19 at the Macon County Public Library, featured guest speaker JD Arch, Eastern Band Veterans Service Officer and Remember the Removal Legacy Rider.

The NCTOTA Board of Directors met in January in Sylva at the Jackson County Public Library to develop our Chapter Strategic Plan (still in the planning stages) and to review/update our bylaws.

Continuing work on the Chapter website http://www.nctrailoftears.org/, Alan Keith, John Wible, Sue and Doc Abram have been logging miles in western NC to develop auto tours. Those interested in various 1-2 hr. tours to sites and exhibits along the Trail can use these alongside our NPS brochure.

NCTOTA offers congratulations to Dr. Andrew Denson on the release of his book Monuments to Absence: Cherokee Removal and the Contest over Southern Identity. Others promoting recognition of the Trail of Tears include Anne Rogers, Tom Belt, and Brett Riggs. Anne spoke at East Carolina University and North Carolina State University, while UNC-TV’s “My Home” featured Tom and Brett discussing Judacullah Rock. Anita Finger-Smith recently spoke at Red Clay State Historic Site in Tennessee, as well as in Oklahoma.

The Spring NCTOTA meeting is Saturday, April 8 at the Swain Center of Southwestern Community College in Almond. Artist and EBCI member Jeff Marley, Heritage Arts Director for the Nantahala Arts Center, will give a tour of the art facilities and demonstrate a Sequoyan printing press.

Upcoming events include the 2017 Remember the Removal Rider send-off in June and a symposium next spring co-sponsored with Western Carolina University as part of their campus-wide Cherokee theme for 2017-18. The NCTOTA Summer Chapter meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 22 in Hayesville, followed by a tour of Spike Buck Mound and a recreated early Cherokee Homestead.

Sue Abram
NCTOTA President

OKLAHOMA

On Saturday, October 15, 2016, descendants of Margaret “Peggy” Easky Dick and members of the Oklahoma Chapter attended a luncheon on the grounds of the Cherokee Heritage Center at Tahlequah, Oklahoma. At 2:00 p.m. a memorial marking was held for Margaret “Peggy” Easky Dick, a survivor of the forced removal. Descendants and Oklahoma Chapter members gathered at the Tahlequah City Cemetery at the grave of Mrs. Dick where Oklahoma Chapter President Curtis Rohr welcomed everyone. Robin Stand, a descendant, read her great-great grandmother’s biography and remarks were made by several of the descendants and also by Troy Poteete, Executive Director of the TOTA.

A bronze plaque had been placed on the monument of Margaret “Peggy” Easky Dick. This plaque indicates that she was a survivor of the Trail of Tears. Booklets compiled by David Hampton providing the biographical and genealogical information of the honoree were given to all the participants.

The Oklahoma Chapter held their fall meeting November 5, 2016 at the Cherokee Casino, West Siloam Springs, Oklahoma. National TOTA President, Jack Baker introduced the program

Oklahoma Chapter continued on next page
UPCOMING EVENTS (continued)

**Tennessee Chapter Annual Membership Meeting**
June 24th, 2017
Tellico Plains, TN
details TBA on TN Chapter Facebook Page and via e-mail

**North Carolina Chapter Summer Meeting**
Tour of Spike Buck Mound
July 22nd, 2017
Hayesville, NC

**Wayside Exhibit Dedication**
October 15th, 2017 at 2:00pm
Battle of Webbers Falls Park
Webbers Falls, OK

**Anita Finger-Smith Presentation on**
Genesis of the Eastern Bank of Cherokee Indians
October 15th, 2017 at 3:30pm
Webbers Falls Historical Society Museum
Downtown Webbers Falls, OK

**Trial of Tears Association Board of Directors Meeting**
October 16th, 2017 at 9:00am
Choctaw Casino Hotel, Pocola, OK

**22nd Annual Trail of Tears Conference and Symposium**
October 16th-18th, 2017
Choctaw Casino Hotel, Pocola, OK
Conference begins at Lunchtime

**14th Annual Trail of Tears Memorial Walk**
November 4th, 2017 at 9:00am
David Crockett State Park, Shelter #1
1400 West Gaines St, Lawrenceburg, TN
For more info contact Vicky Garland at 931-766-0827 or visit our events page at www.facebook.com/events/533441340199793

*Event Dates are Subject to change.

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**OKLAHOMA (continued)**

speaker, Dr. Duane King, director of the Helmerich Center for American Research located at the Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Dr. King’s talk was “Killing David Vann 1800-63.” Following the meeting, Dr. King and several members of the Oklahoma Chapter travelled to near Locust Grove, Oklahoma, to the Haner-Adair Cemetery where David Vann is buried.

The spring meeting of the Oklahoma Chapter will be Saturday, April 22, 2017 at the ballroom behind the Cherokee Restaurant in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. The speaker will be Marybelle Chase, vice-president of the Oklahoma Chapter.

**TENNESSEE (continued)**

The Bell Route signage project continues to make progress. In March, Floyd Ayers and Franklin County Historical Society President David Moore met to discuss Doris Trevino provided Shawn Pitts with copies of vouchers for the Bell Route to assist in mapping the route through Selmer and McNairy. The Bell Route crossed the Tennessee River at Ross’s Landing and travelled by land following a route that largely parallels today’s U.S. 64.

On October 16, Main Street in Calhoun, Tennessee was designated as an Original Route segment of the route from Fort Butler, now Murphy, North Carolina, to Fort Cass at Charleston, Tennessee. During the ceremony, hosted by the Charleston-Calhoun-Hiwassee Historical Society and the City of Calhoun, TNTOTA representative Shirley Lawrence dedicated new signage and Historical Society President Joe Bryan read excerpts from a journal account of the Fort Cass approach.

On November 12, members of TNTOTA participated in a memorial walk at the Cherokee Removal Memorial Park at Blythe Ferry in remembrance of the departure of the Peter Hildebrand detachment, the final detachment to leave from Blythe Ferry. An Original Route Trail sign was unveiled by Shirley Lawrence and Lee Trevino with Carolyn Jones and Wally Leary reading memorials.

Several TNTOTA members participated in educational activities this year including Shirley Lawrence and Laura Spann who provided TOTA educational information at the International Cowpea Festival in Charleston in September and Vicki Rozema, Ph.D., who gave a presentation on the Trail of Tears in January at the McMinn County Historical Society. TNTOTA members also helped host, gave talks, or attended the annual symposium at Red Clay State Park and the Tennessee to Texas Sam Houston tour.

Finally, TNTOTA is pleased to announce its new Facebook page: TN Trail of Tears Association.

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Shirley Lawrence dedicating Original Route signage in Calhoun, TN on October 16.
Photo by Bruce Hari.
SPRING BOARD MEETING

The spring board meeting was held on April 3rd at the Choctaw Casino and Resort in Pocola, OK. This will also be the location of the National Conference on October 16-18, 2017. We had a full agenda for the day, including financial, Executive Director, and Presidential reports. We looked at the financials as we change over from a state fiscal year to a federal fiscal year. We also got a financial summary from the 2016 National Conference that was in Georgia.

We got a brief rundown of what is in store for the National Conference this year from The President of the Arkansas Chapter, Bethany Henry Rosenbaum. The conference is shaping up nicely and is on track to be yet another wonderful event. We had some discussion on the dates for the 2018 Conference in Decatur, AL and the 2019 conference was left undecided for now.

There was discussion about the Remember the Removal Bike Riders and the grant they received. They will be planning some public events along the route. The events will tentatively be at Blythe Ferry, Nashville Bridge Abutment, and Pea Ridge. The riders for this year have been chosen and have been in training all year. The riders have also attended history classes. They will be leaving out to begin their journey the day after Memorial Day. They do have a Remember the Removal Bike Ride page on Facebook, so you can follow them along the way. https://www.facebook.com/removal.ride

Committees met and presented their work and their new ideas. The Education committee has been checking in to the Trail of Tears curriculum for each state and looking at what each chapter sees as needs for education. The Research Committee is looking at the possibility of a Historic Preservation Officer for each chapter, to act as a point of contact and to coordinate with state Historic Preservation Officers. The chapter preservation officer would also look at what research needs are, create research guides, and possibly a digital repository for research. The Collaboration Committee has been looking at the interpretive media development process and creating a media kit checklist. Finally, the Fundraising and Sustainability Committee had proposed a “giving society.” There will be different levels of the society, based on the amount of the donating made. They are planning the have a reception to be held during the 2017 conference at Pocola.

The meeting was well attended. Everyone had a chance to taste the food fare, as lunch was provided at the Choctaw Casino, it gave everyone a peek into what they might expect in the fall. As this was my first board meeting, as a member of the board, it was a lot to take in, there was a lot of information covered. I especially appreciated the update from the National Park Service, on how things are looking on their end and how things may be changing going forward. I am eager to serve on the board and the Arkansas Chapter. I think the National Conference will be great and I am looking forward to it.

Sasha Bowles
Vice President of the Arkansas Chapter of the Trail of Tears

REMOVAL ERA KEY FOUND AT GEORGIA’S FORT BUFFINGTON SIMILAR TO ONE FOUND AT ALABAMA CABIN SITE

John Latty gave an interesting program at one of the TOTA conference sessions in Dalton, GA last October that included a photo that really got our attention. The photo is of a key that has been passed down through about five generations of the Latty family. It came from Fort Buffington, a removal facility in Georgia, and is very similar to the key that was excavated at the Cabin Site in Fort Payne, Alabama.

John Latty’s g-g-g-grandfather, whose name was also John, served as a private in Captain Buffington’s Mounted Militia Company during removal. Upon his return from service, he brought back the key, which came from Fort Buffington, and it has been a treasured family heirloom. It is thought that both keys were to locks safeguarding provisions or arms and munitions.

Fort Buffington was built in the 1830’s by local militia and was located near Canton, GA. A historical marker for Fort Buffington was erected in 1992 by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources on Cumming Highway. A photo of the marker and more information may be obtained from the internet by Googling Fort Buffington, Georgia.

John W. Latty is the author of the 2011 book titled, Carrying off the Cherokee History of Buffington’s Company of Georgia Mounted Militia.

Story by Larry Smith
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 Homesite, KY
Big Spring, KY
Brainerd Mission Cemetery, TN
Browns Ferry Tavern, TN
Campground Church and 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
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
Mammoth 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
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, 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
Toler Farm Trail Segment, IL
Trail of Tears Commemorative Park, KY
Trail of Tears State Park, MO
Trail of Tears State Forest, IL
Tuscaloosa 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 Post National Memorial, AR
Cadron Settlement Park, AR
Cherokee National Park, Blythe Ferry, TN
Fort Smith National Historic Site, AR
Great Smoky Mountains National Park, TN
Mark Twain National Forest, MO
Moccasin Bend, TN
Pea Ridge National Military Park, AR
Shawnee National Forest, MO
Stones River National Battlefield, TN

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ARKANSAS CHAPTER AND CHOCTAW NATION CO-HOST 22ND ANNUAL TRAIL OF TEARS CONFERENCE & SYMPOSIUM ON THE BORDER

This year’s conference features a field trip to Pea Ridge Battlefield and historic Cane Hill on the Cherokee Nation/AR Border and a Cultural Day at Ft. Smith National Historic site featuring a traditional Cherokee hog fry, an exhibition of the traditional Cherokee marble game, and a Choctaw exhibition game between local stickball teams. The day will include guided tours of the Ft. Smith National Historic site which includes a Trail Tears exhibit, the jail, and Hanging Judge Parker’s Courtroom.

A lecture by Cherokee citizen Stacy Leeds, Dean of the Univ. of AR Fayetteville School of Law about the legal and political situations which gave rise to the lawlessness which necessitated Judge Parker’s court is scheduled immediately preceding the events at the Ft. Smith National Historic Site.

The Conference will feature several other speakers. Also, please note the upcoming events section for before and after events scheduled for the benefit of conference attendees by local organizations.

Please visit our web site at www.nationaltota.com and our Facebook pages for more details on time and and presentations which will be announced as the conference schedule is frmed up.

HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION
Choctaw Casino Hotel
3400 Choctaw Rd. • Pocola, OK 74902
Room Block: Trail of Tears
Reservations: 800-590-5825

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Name ________________________________
Email ________________________________
Address ________________________________
City, State, Zip ________________________________
Phone ________________________________

How would you prefer to register for the conference?

☐ Mail  ☐ Online
Return to: P .O. Box 329, Webbers Falls, OK 74470

or nationaltota@gmail.com

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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P.O. Box 329
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918-464-2258
nationaltota@gmail.com
www.NationalTOTA.com

National Park Service
National Trails Intermountain Region, Santa Fe

The National Trails Intermountain Region administers the Trail of Tears NHT, the Santa Fe NHT, El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT, and the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program. El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT and Old Spanish NHT are administered jointly by the National Trails Intermountain Region 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; nongovernment organizations; and private landowners.

National Trails Intermountain Region
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lodi_administration@nps.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 Intermountain Region, Santa Fe.

Editor Troy Wayne Poteete


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www.nps.gov/trte

May 2017 • Trail of Tears National Historic Trail News 11
The Trail of Tears Association
would like to thank the following for their generous membership support:

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<td>Eastern Band of Cherokees</td>
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<td>Diana Threadgill - $175</td>
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<td>Donna Haley - $150</td>
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