



## Trail News

### Enthusiastic Groups Attend Preservation Workshops

Large groups and enthusiastic participation characterized two recently-held Trail of Tears National Historic Trail (NHT) preservation workshops. The first took place in Cleveland, Tennessee, on July 8 and 9, while the second took place on July 12 and 13 in Fayetteville, Arkansas. More than 80 Trail of Tears Association (TOTA) members and friends attended the workshops, which took place as a result of the combined efforts of the Trail of Tears Association, the National Park Service (NPS), and Middle Tennessee State University in Murphreesboro.

The workshops had several purposes: to provide information about historic sites along the trail, to help members in their efforts to preserve and monitor these

properties, to seek help in identifying previously unknown historic buildings along the trail routes, and to set priorities among chapter members for actions to be taken related toward historic site identification and preservation.

To assist association members in expanding the number of known historic sites along the trail, the NPS has been working for the past year with the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University. Two staff members from the center, Amy Kostine and Katie Randall, were on hand at both workshops, and each shared information on what had been learned about newly-discovered trail properties.

Conference participants gained

valuable preservation expertise from representatives of three State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs). Mark Christ and Tony Feaster spoke on behalf of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, and Lynda Ozan—who also attended the Fayetteville meeting—represented the Oklahoma SHPO. At the Cleveland meeting, Peggy Nickell represented the Tennessee SHPO. TOTA President Jack Baker, recently elected to the Cherokee Nation’s Tribal Council, played a key leadership role at both workshops.

Representatives of both the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations were also in attendance. Georgia chapter member Jeff Bishop, who helped organize the conference, gave a presentation illustrating case studies (battles both won and lost) involving Trail of Tears-related houses, taverns, and other historic properties.

A highlight of both workshops was a field trip to area historic sites. The Cleveland workshop, led by Jeff Bishop, took participants to the James Brown House in Ooltewah, Tennessee, where all were greeted by the owner Mrs. Jonathan Smith, after which everyone took part in a preservation documentation exercise. The bus then headed to the John Ross House in Rossville, Georgia, where Larry Rose was on hand to speak about the building’s history and preservation concerns. A brief visit was made to the Hair Conrad Cabin, with excellent narration along the way provided by Tennessee Chapter member (and local resident) Debbie Moore.



TOTA President Jack Baker welcomes participants to the preservation workshop in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

See WORKSHOPS, page 2

Attendees at the Fayetteville workshop were treated to visits to the John Fitzgerald property in Springdale, followed by an excursion up the Old Wire Road (on or near the Trail of Tears route) to Cross Hollow, with outstanding narration provided by Arkansas chapter members John McLarty and Glenn Jones. The last stop was at Pea Ridge National Military Park, just south of the Missouri state line, where park employee Kevin Eads showed participants a signed Trail of Tears NHT



John McClarty addresses the group during a field trip with National Trails Intermountain Region's Michael Taylor (left) and Frank Norris (right).

segment. Eads also covered Elkhorn Tavern, where the Ruddick family witnessed the passage of thousands of migrating Cherokee during the winter of 1838-39.

TOTA's executive director Jerra Quinton played an important role in the workshops' success as the behind-the-scenes coordinator. Members of the Tennessee and Arkansas chapters served as valuable, if unheralded, people for their local arrangements work. Shirley Lawrence, Debbie Moore, Cleata Townsend, Melissa Woody, and Darlene Goins were remarkably helpful in organizing the Cleveland workshop, while John McLarty, Glenn Jones, and Susan Young were enormously helpful in arrangements at the Fayetteville workshop.

For more information on preservation and National Register nominations, contact National Trails Intermountain Region, 505-988-6098.

## Ten on the Trail

By Carolyn Kent

The Arkansas chapter is completing a major project that has been in the works for several years. We have located sites and placed ten, two-by-three foot, interpretive panels around the state depicting the removal of the five major southeastern tribes.

The "Ten on the Trail" project was funded by a grant from one-time appropriations of the 86th Arkansas General Assembly and was administrated by the Arkansas Department of Heritage. Chapter project and research coordinator Carolyn Kent designed and researched the panels. The communities selected for the panels had to agree to be responsible for installing the panels and also to help the chapter arrange a dedication ceremony.

Panel one was dedicated at Lavaca where members of all five tribes passed on one of the land routes. Panel two was installed at Point Chicot, one of the landing places for the Choctaws as they crossed the Mississippi River; and panel three was erected at Camden, a Choctaw land route to Indian Territory. Ruby Bolding, an employee of the Choctaw Nation, painted an original painting of Choctaws getting off a ferry boat for the Point Chicot and Camden panels. She used current members of the Choctaw Nation for her models.

Panel four went up at Benton where the Choctaws, Chickasaws, and Quapaws passed along the Southwest Trail to their



The Fayetteville workshop included a field trip to Pea Ridge National Military Park.

new homes. Panel five was dedicated at Old Austin where members of the Choctaws and Muscogee Creeks traveled on the Arkansas Post to Cadron Road. Panel six was installed and dedicated at Morrilton for the old town of Lewisburg where all the parties traveling the water route passed on their journey and where the Whiteley and Drane parties of Cherokee were stranded for several days.

The seventh panel was placed at Evansville where the Bell party of Cherokees disbanded and at least two other parties passed. The panel prompted the people of Evansville to further study their history. With the help of chapter Vice President Glenn Jones, members of the Evansville community have been researching original parts of the route and the Latta House, where the Bell party disbanded. Oral interviews have been conducted with area residents.

Panel eight was placed on the water route at Old Post Road Park and the Arkansas River Visitor Center in Russellville. All five tribes traveling the water route passed here. Members of the Choctaw and Chickasaw tribes crossed the Arkansas River at the ferry on their journey west. Panels nine and ten cover the Cherokee Bengé Route. One was installed and dedicated at Maynard and the other is to be installed and dedicated at Carrollton, marking the completion of this major chapter project.



Small group discussion at the Fayetteville preservation workshop.

## 18th Annual Trail of Tears Association Conference and Symposium

It's that time of year - make your plans to attend the 18th annual conference and symposium in Hopkinsville, Kentucky!

### Registration

Registration will be \$175 with a \$50 discount for members.

TOTA has contracted with two host hotels for special room rates—the Holiday Inn and Fairfield Inn and Suites.

Reserve now and take advantage of lower room rates!



James E. Bruce Convention Center, Hopkinsville, Kentucky

### Conference Scholarships

Any youth (high schoolers and college students) interested in attending the conference - send email to Jerra Quinton Baker at:

TOTA@arindianctr.org

The Trail of Tears Association has funds to pay for travel and hotel stay.

### Confirmed Presentations

MTSU/NPS Site Identification Project

—Amy Kostine

Report on Retracement Bike Rides

—Eastern Band, Cherokee Nation, Creek Nation, and Choctaw Nation

Illinois Site Identification Project

—Mark Wagner, Kayleigh Sharop, and Frank Norris

Cave Spring, Georgia, Projects

—Jeff Bishop

Water Route Retracement by Kayak

—Dale Stewart

North Carolina Cherokee Emigrant Route through Eastern Tennessee on the way to Fort Cass (including Fort Armistead)

—Brett Riggs

Marking the Trail, NPS Sign Planning

—NPS, Coreen Kolisko

Chickasaw Treaties and Kentucky Homeland

—Chickasaw Representative

**HOLIDAY INN**

\$94.95/night + tax - Includes full hot breakfast buffet for two  
Reservations: (270) 886-4413 ~ Request Trail of Tears Association rate  
Deadline for special rate: Sept. 16  
Location for Mon. afternoon board meeting & Mon. evening reception  
2.8 miles from Bruce Convention Center

Hotel Amenities:  
Restaurant & Lounge  
Indoor Pool, Whirlpool, Sauna, Fitness Center  
Free Internet  
Pet Friendly (deposit required)

---

**FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES**

\$89/night + tax - Includes continental breakfast with hot items  
Reservations: (270) 886-5151 ~ Request Trail of Tears special rate  
Deadline for special rate: Sept. 16  
1.8 miles from Bruce Convention Center

Hotel Amenities:  
Indoor Pool, Spa Tub, Fitness Center  
Free Internet

## State Brochures on a Shelf Near You

by Jeff Bishop

In the past year, two Trail of Tears' state brochures were initiated, designed, and produced. Middle State Tennessee University and the National Park Service partnered to develop the first statewide brochure for Tennessee. In August, the University of West Georgia and the National Park Service partnered to produce a state brochure for Georgia.

Both brochures follow the template developed for the Trail of Tears Official Map and Guide that was distributed in the fall of 2012. They are the same size. The layout is similar with the interpretive story on the front and an orientation map on the back.

The Tennessee story focuses on Cherokee life before removal, why the tribe was forced to leave their homelands, and the hardships they encountered as they traveled through Tennessee.

The Georgia story focuses on Cherokee efforts to assimilate, Georgia assertion of power, and the round up. The orientation side includes a map with up-to-date trail routes and details on sites to see along the trail today.

The Tennessee brochure will be available for distribution within the next couple of weeks. For more information, contact

Amy Kostine at Amy.Kostine@mtsu.edu. The first printing of 3,000 Georgia brochures has been distributed! And a second printing is underway. For more information, contact Jeff Bishop at wjeffbishop@yahoo.com



## 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 Cemetery, IL  
Cedartown Cherokee Removal Camp, GA  
Chattanooga Regional History Museum, TN  
Cherokee County Historical Museum, NC  
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  
Delta Cultural Center, AR  
Fitzgerald Station and Farmstead, AR  
Fort Gibson, OK  
Fort Payne Cabin Site, AL  
Green County Trail Segments, MO  
Golconda Riverfront, IL  
Gray's Inn, KY  
Hair Conrad Cabin, TN  
The Hermitage, TN  
Historic Road from Ross to Ridge's, GA  
James Brown Cherokee Plantation, TN

John Martin House, TN  
John Ross House, GA  
Junaluska Memorial and Museum, NC  
Lake Dardanelle State Park, 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  
New Echota State Historic Site, GA  
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  
Toler Farm Trail Segment, IL  
Trail of Tears Commemorative Park, KY  
Trail of Tears State Park, MO  
Trail of Tears State Forest, IL  
Tusculumbia Landing, AL  
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 Memorial Park, Blythe Ferry, TN  
Fort Smith National Historic Site, AR  
Great Smoky Mountains National Park, TN  
Mark Twain National Forest, MO  
Mocassin Bend, TN  
Pea Ridge National Military Park, AR  
Shawnee National Forest, MO  
Stones River National Battlefield, TN

### TOTA State Chapter Contacts

**Alabama**  
Marty King  
Phone: 205-672-2074  
Email: marty-king@hotmail.com

**Arkansas**  
John McLarty  
Phone: 479-751-7125  
Email: jmclarty@nwarpc.com

**Georgia**  
Jeff Bishop  
Phone: 706-766-1309  
Email: wjeffbishop@yahoo.com

**Illinois**  
Sandy Boaz  
Phone: 618-833-8216  
Email: skboaz@yahoo.com

**Kentucky**  
Alice Murphree  
Phone: 270-886-5375  
Email: amurphree1139@bellsouth.net

**Missouri**  
Deloris Gray Wood  
Phone: 573-729-2545  
Email: lostgeneration@embarqmail.com

**North Carolina**  
Anne Rogers  
Phone: 828-227-2443  
Email: rogers@email.wcu.edu

**Oklahoma**  
Curtis Rohr  
Phone: 918-341-4689  
Email: clrfnr58@yahoo.com

**Tennessee**  
Shirley Lawrence  
Phone: 423-334-3923  
Email: shirleyclawrence@aol.com

## Trail of Tears Association State Chapter News

### ARKANSAS

The Arkansas chapter (ARTOTA) hosted the Preservation Workshop for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail held jointly by the National Trail of Tears Association and the National Park Service on July 12 and 13, 2013 in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Thirty-three participants attended the event held on the Fayetteville town square. Workshop presenters included Jack Baker, Frank Norris, Mike Taylor, Amy Kostine, Katie Randall, Mark Christ, Tony Feaster, John McLarty, and Jeff Bishop. The workshop included a field trip to the Pea Ridge National Military Park and other historic sites. Glenn Jones, John McLarty, Kevin Eads, and Troy Banzhaf provided commentary on the field trip. Everyone seemed to enjoy both the workshop and the field trip. A lengthy newspaper article was published covering the event in the local paper.

The ARTOTA annual meeting will be held August 17, in Morrilton, Arkansas. After the 1:00 p.m. business meeting, the chapter will host an afternoon of free programs from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Rialto Community Arts Center in Morrilton. Morrilton was first known as Lewisburg, a settlement and steamboat landing on the Arkansas River. During the 1830s, hundreds of American Indians from several tribes passed through Lewisburg during their forced removal from eastern homelands to Indian Territory. Programs include:

“Stranded at Lewisburg,” by ARTOTA research coordinator Carolyn Kent. Kent will discuss the experiences of two detachments of Cherokees—some 1300 people in all—who were traveling by steamboats up the Arkansas River and became stranded at Lewisburg in 1838.

“Water Trail: My Journey Retracing the Trail of Tears Water Route,” by explorer Dale Stewart of Asheville, North Carolina. In June 2012, Stewart began a solo journey to retrace the Trail of Tears water route in a custom-built “canack” – part canoe, part kayak. Starting at Ross’s Landing in Chattanooga, Tennessee, Stewart paddled 1,226 miles on the Tennessee, Ohio, Mississippi, and Arkansas rivers before reaching his final destination of Fort Gibson, Oklahoma, in August 2012.

### ARKANSAS (continued)

The Arkansas chapter will also host an event commemorating the 175th Anniversary of the Trail of Tears at the Pea Ridge National Military Park on September 28, 2013. The event will start at 1:00 p.m. The full program is still in development, but it has been confirmed that the Cherokee National Youth Choir will be able to participate.

Please check our web page at [www.artota.org](http://www.artota.org) for current information.

### GEORGIA

It’s been a busy first half of the year for the Georgia chapter of the Trail of Tears Association, and things don’t look to be slowing down for the second half!

Registration for the National Park Service/TOTA “capacity building” workshop in Cleveland, Tennessee surpassed everyone’s expectations. There too many registrants for the room we had reserved! Staff members from the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University, NPS staff, and others shared valuable information and gave tours of the Brown Plantation, Chief John Ross House in Rossville, and Pea Ridge National Military Park and Fitzgerald Station in Arkansas.

### NORTH CAROLINA

The North Carolina chapter held its June meeting at the Graham County Public Library in Robbinsville on Saturday, June 22. This meeting was held on the day of the annual walk on the Trail of Tear in this area. The walk raises scholarship funds for Cherokee students from the Snowbird community. Several members participated in this walk.

Following the business meeting, we sponsored a mini-symposium on “175 Years: Cherokee Trail of Tears (1838-2013).” This symposium was organized by Anita Finger-Smith.

### NORTH CAROLINA (continued)

Participants in the symposium included the following:

Tom Belt is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation and the Cherokee language program coordinator at Western Carolina University. Tom spoke about the long-lasting effects of the removal on the Cherokee people residing in Oklahoma.

T.J. Holland is the cultural resources supervisor for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and a member of the Eastern Band. He lives in the Snowbird community. He spoke on the effect of removal on various towns in western North Carolina.

Tyler Howe is the tribal historic preservation specialist for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians’ Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO). He spoke on the role of the THPO in preserving the history of the Cherokee people throughout the area.

Dale Stewart, an explorer and naturalist, spoke on his experiences traveling the water route of the Trail of Tears. Dale has written a book titled Four Rivers, which documents his experiences, and has spoken widely about his travels. He provided information about the various sites he visited along the trail and about the difficulties encountered by those who were being removed to Oklahoma.

The chapter provided funds to support one of the Eastern Band riders on the Remember the Removal bike ride. We also participated in the send-off for the riders and plan to honor them at our next meeting. This meeting will be held at Mission Farm on September 14 at 12-noon and will include lunch. Our speaker at this meeting will be Dr. Benjamin Steere, who has done extensive research on the Cherokee towns that existed in the area at the time of the removal.

We are planning a two-day symposium to be held in the fall that will focus on the removal and its consequences. We will make this available to high schools students at Cherokee High School as well as to the general public. More information will follow as plans are finalized.

### 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.

#### Managing Editor/Designer

Jerra Quinton

**Editor**  
Lynne Mager

#### Contributors

Jeff Bishop, Marybelle Chase, Mark Christ, David Eslick, Bethany Henry, Glenn Jones, Marty King, Lynne Mager, Rowena McClinton, Larry Smith, Jackie Warfel, Amy Wilkinson, and TOTA state chapters.

#### Comments/Address Changes?

**Contact:** Jerra Quinton  
Trail of Tears Association  
1100 N. University, Suite 143  
Little Rock, AR 72207-6344  
TOTA@ARindianctr.org

**Website**  
[www.nps.gov/trte](http://www.nps.gov/trte)

### 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.

**Trail of Tears Association**  
1100 North University, Suite 143  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72207

**Phone**  
800-441-4513  
501-666-9032

**Email**  
TOTA@arindianctr.org

**Website**  
[www.NationalTOTA.org](http://www.NationalTOTA.org)

### 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**  
PO Box 728  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

**Phone**  
505-988-6098

**Email**  
lodi\_administration@nps.gov



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

### MEMBERSHIP FORM

January - December 2013

All levels of membership  
include one (1) state chapter affiliation.  
Please send \$10 for each additional  
state chapter you would like to join.

Name Mr. Mrs. Ms. \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ I want to join the following state chapter(s): AL AR GA IL KY MO NC OK TN

#### Membership Levels

Basic Individual: \$25 to \$99 Patron: \$500 to \$999 Student: \$10 (enclose ID)  
Sponsor: \$100 to \$499 Benefactor: \$1000+

**Note:** Sponsors, patrons, & benefactors are listed prominently in two issues of the newsletter *Trail News* and on the TOTA website.

#### PLEASE FILL OUT

MEMBERSHIP: \$25 + \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (this amount determines your membership level)  
(optional donation)\*

# of additional chapters \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED = \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

\*Of this optional donation, please give \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to TOTA, and  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ state chapter.

*Trail  
of  
Tears*

*Association*

1100 N. University, Suite 143  
Little Rock, AR 72207-6344



**EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA**

## The Trail of Tears Association

would like to thank the following for their generous upgraded membership support:

### Patrons \$500 - \$1,000

Dorothy Horner - \$500

### Sponsors \$100 - \$499

Ken Blankenship — \$125  
Riley Bock — \$100  
Chris Boyd — \$100  
Terence Brennan — \$135  
Gilles Carter — \$100  
Cindi Crane — \$100  
Andrew Denson — \$200  
Patricia Edgar — \$180  
Sue Folsom — \$100  
Barbara Heffington — \$125

Don Higgenson — \$100  
Sarah Hill — \$230  
Glenn Jones — \$180  
KY Mississippi River  
Parkway Commission — \$150  
Rowena McClinton — \$130  
W. Neil Morton — \$100  
Jerry Muskrat — \$100  
Billie Napolitano — \$135  
Becky Nelson — \$100

John O'Dell — \$110  
Gary Payne — \$100  
Troy Poteete — \$105  
Maxwell Ramsey — \$125  
Bob Richards — \$100  
Kathy Robinson — \$100  
Laweremce Simmons — \$140  
Robbin Skinner — \$100  
Anna Smith — \$120  
Eddie Tullis — \$100  
Gary Werner — \$100