



Tennessee Trail of Tears Association

SEPTEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

TNTOTA MEMBER MEETING, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 3 PM EASTERN, 2 PM CENTRAL, RED CLAY STATE PARK VISITOR CENTER, CLEVELAND, TN

THE DIRTY LITTLE SECRET OF THE CHEROKEE REMOVAL: MOVING MONEY

Our program will be presented by Stephen Neal Dennis, a graduate of The Baylor School in Chattanooga and The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He has a law degree from Duke Law School. After a career focused on legal issues involving historic buildings, he has written three books, the most recent one *A Proud Little Town: a History of La Fayette, Georgia, 1835-1885*. While researching this book, he discovered the military accounting records for the Cherokee Removal in the Treasury Department records at the National Archives.

Stephen will bring several old maps for us to see including an 1833 English map of Georgia, an 1833 map of the Southern States showing Murray County, GA, before Walker County was cut off, and an 1862 map of Kentucky and Tennessee that shows portions of Georgia with 1832 Land Lottery Section numbers. He will also bring an early regional heart pine desk on tapering legs, hinged slant top, and simple compartment inside, similar to the one the quartermaster at Fort Cumming bought for \$4 from a local cabinetmaker. That desk was later sold as federal surplus in July 1838.

Snacks will be served.

TENNESSEE CHAPTER UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat., October 8, 3-7 PM Eastern

Blessing of the Buffalo

TNTOTA will have an informational table.

Greg Vital Farm, 8220 TN-60 (Georgetown Rd.), Georgetown, TN

Sat. October 15, 2:00 PM Central, 3:00 PM Eastern

Trail of Tears Presentation and Story Telling.

Includes Trail of Tears movie made at New Echota at the 175-year memorial of the forced removal.

Adams Memorial Library, 212 College Street, Woodbury, TN. 37190

Sun., October 16, 12:30 PM Central, 1:30 PM Eastern

Commemorative “Trail of Tears” Walk

Gather at First Woodbury United Methodists Church parking lot at 502 W High St. in Woodbury. Walk to the Cannon County Court House for a program of remembrance. Woodbury, TN

Mon. October 17, 7-8 PM Eastern

“The Ethnogenesis of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians”

Part II of the 2022 Moccasin Bend Lecture Series presented by the National Park Partners TOTA National Board Member and TNTOTA member Anita Finger-Smith will cover five circumstances during the early 19th Century that contributed to the nucleus of Cherokee Indians who remained in the Southeast after the forced Removal of most Cherokee to Indian Territory. Many people still believe the only reason the Eastern Band of the Cherokee are in the East today is because they “hid out in the mountains.” Although this was true for some, the majority are there for other reasons.

TNTOTA is a co-sponsor for this program and we will have an informational table at the event. Tennessee Aquarium IMAX Theatre, 201 Chestnut Street, Chattanooga

Sat., October 22

Winchester Trail of Tears Commemorative Walk

Winchester, TN

The walk will begin at 200 Wilson Street, Winchester. There will be a blessing before the walk begins. The walkers, horseback riders, and wagons will depart at 11:45 am and travel .8 miles to the Franklin County Library for food, displays, demonstrations, live flute music and activities. Cherokee storyteller Fred Bradley will be the guest speaker at 1 pm. There will also be some authors tables with books on Cherokee history.

For more information, contact Kathy Pack at katpac56@aol.com.

Sat., October 22

Cherohala Skyway Festival

TNTOTA will have an informational table.

Charles Hall Museum and Heritage Center, Tellico Plains, TN

Sat. & Sun., November 12-13

Red Clay State Park Cherokee Cultural Fair

TNTOTA will have an informational table.

Red Clay State Park, Cleveland, TN

TNTOTA MEMBER MEETING, SUNDAY, AUG. 21, 2022

The Charleston-Calhoun-Hiwassee Historical Society invited TNTOTA members to their quarterly meeting at the Hiwassee River Heritage Center in Charleston. The guest speaker was Kathi Littlejohn, a Cherokee Storyteller, who is an enrolled member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Kathi spoke about her research on the 1802 Meigs survey line, the Meigs family and their ties to Bradley County, and the Cherokee Language Speaker’s Consortium. She ended her presentation telling Cherokee Stories.



Left: Kathi Littlejohn discusses Return J. Meigs, agent to the Cherokees, and the survey of the Meigs Line. Right: TNTOTA officers Darlene Goins and Cleata Townsend speaking with Kathi Littlejohn after her presentation. In the background, in the checkered shirt, is Joe Bryan, President of the Charleston-Calhoun-Hiwassee Historical Society which invited us to the joint meeting.

TNTOTA TABLES AT FAIRS & FESTIVALS IN AUGUST & EARLY SEPTEMBER

Members of TNTOTA recently set up tables at several fall events. Shirley Lawrence and Gloria Schoggins hosted a TNTOTA information table at the Meigs County Fair in Decatur, TN on August 16 – 20. Shirley reported that the fair did not have a huge attendance, unfortunately. Laura Spann and Darlene Goins set up a table for TNTOTA at the International Cowpea Festival and Cook-off on Sat., September 10. Fortunately, the rain cleared out in the morning for the festival at Charleston City Park. Sequoyah Birthplace Museum personnel provided a table and chairs for TNTOTA to set up an information display at their fall festival on Sat. & Sun., September 10 & 11. Vicki Rozema hosted the table this year. The festival was very busy and quite a few people stopped by to see our display and to pick up TOT maps. Thank you to all the festival volunteers, museum personnel, and TNTOTA members who made these opportunities happen.



LEFT: The first day of the Sequoyah Fall Festival was rainy and overcast, but Sunday the sun came out. RIGHT: Vicki and grandson Otis Rozema in front of the TNTOTA table inside the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum. Unfortunately, we don't have photos from the Meigs County Fair and the Cowpea Festival.

WARNING: Scammers try to email our members from time to time, while pretending they are a TOTA or TNTOTA officer. They ask that you send them money in the form of gift cards. Because our contact info is publicly available, this happens often. This is a scam and a phishing expedition, so **DO NOT ANSWER THEM OR CLICK ON THEIR LINKS.**

To submit news for the TNTOTA Newsletter, please send it to VickiRozema@Comcast.net.