

Townsend Two Thousand Eight

No. 2, June, 2008

CHEROKEE PRINT SHOP AND PRESS SUBJECT OF BANQUET TALK

Charles Rhodarmer, Director of the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, in Vonore, Tennessee, is the featured speaker for our closing banquet at the 133rd NAPA convention, Thursday, July 17. He will give an illustrated talk about the printing establishment in which the Cherokees published their newspaper, *The Cherokee Phoenix*. The



Charles Rhodarmer, Director, Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, Vonore, Tenn.

press was a casualty of the forced removal of the Cherokees to what is now Oklahoma, as ordered by President Andrew Jackson, and which became known as "The Trail of Tears." Charlie will describe what is known or deduced about the history and fate of that press, and the role of Sequoyah in its origins.

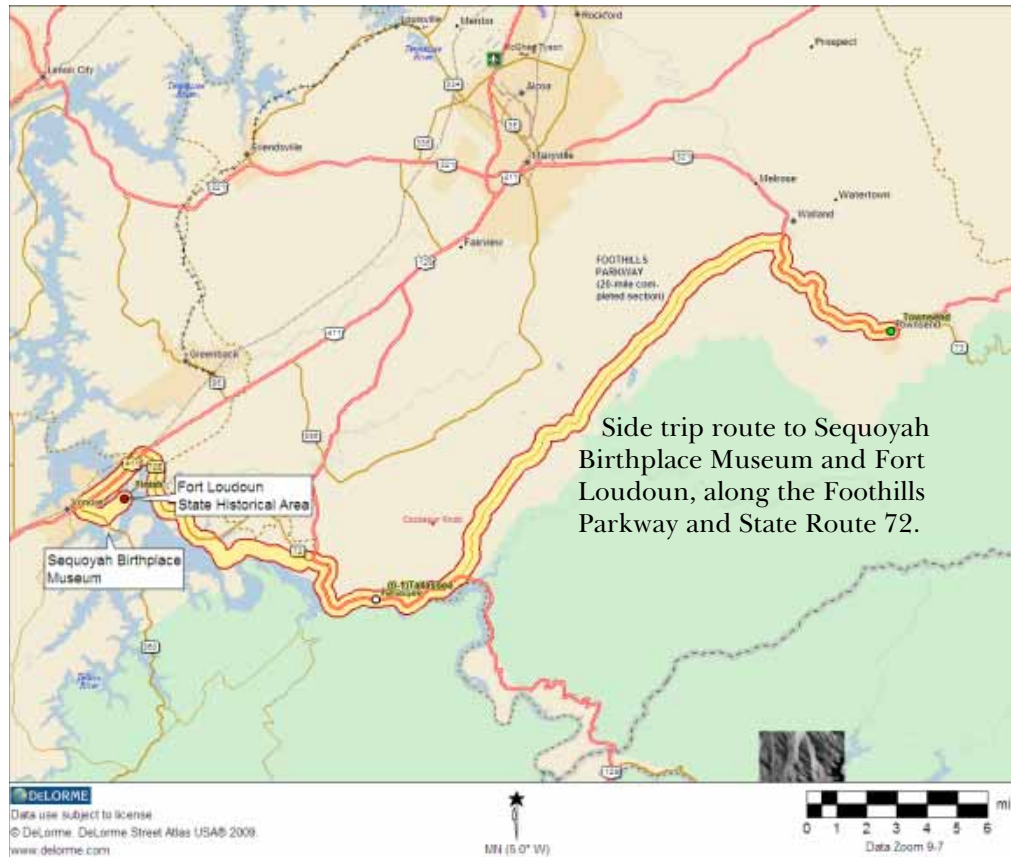
Charlie began working at the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum in 2000. He had eleven years' experience in museums before that, in the

Mountain Heritage Center at Western Carolina University, at the Scottish Tartans Museum in Highlands, North Carolina, the JFK Special Forces Warfare Museum at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, and the National Scouting Museum in Murray, Kentucky.

Charlie was raised in Haywood Co., North Carolina. He is an Eagle Scout and he served in the 82nd Airborne Division. He is a graduate of Haywood County Community College (A.A. in Criminal Justice) and of Western Carolina University (B.S. also in Criminal Justice).

Side trip to Sequoyah Birthplace Museum and Fort Loudoun State Historical Area

An hour's drive will take you to the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, and very nearby is Fort Loudoun, a



Side trip route to Sequoyah Birthplace Museum and Fort Loudoun, along the Foothills Parkway and State Route 72.

fine reconstruction of a colonial-era fort maintained briefly by the British.

This could make a nice side trip. The most scenic route is along the Foothills Parkway. It provides beautiful vistas of the northwestern edge of the Smokies, including Thunderhead Mountain, highest peak in the Park's western half. Many of its south facing overlooks peer over Happy Valley, into the Smokies, and beyond. Its north facing views oversee Maryville, Knoxville, and the Great Valley.

Halfway along the parkway, a trail leads to the Look Rock Tower. It is a third of a mile from the road. The trail climbs moderately. The

tower provides a 360-degree panorama, and a platform for scientific research such as air quality.

A slightly faster (saving maybe fifteen minutes) would be to take U.S. Route 321 back to Maryville, then south on U.S. 411 to Vonore.

Back roads tour of Pigeon Forge includes craft village and Dolly Parton anecdotes

Ruth and I took the two-hour Mountain Memories guided tour out of Pigeon Forge, and were very pleased at the hospitality and local knowledge of our tour guide and our hostess. (The hostess, Lyn Wofford, just happens to be a former

member of a congregation I served, but we hadn't seen her in over ten years.) If we can get a group of eight persons together, either on Tuesday afternoon (July 15) or Thursday afternoon (July 17), the cost would be \$25 per person, otherwise individual arrangements can be made at the usual \$30 rate.

If you would be interested, please contact me and tell me which of those two time slots would suit you best.

June 15 registration reminder

Just a reminder that our convention deadline is June 15th. (\$79.50 per night plus 4% tax.) Reservations can be made by calling 800-213-9462 toll free, or 865-448-2211. Mention that you are booking for the NAPA Convention.

Q.: What if I call *after* June 15th?

A.: If space is available, you will be accommodated at the same rate. If they are full, you may try any of the other motels in Townsend. Now that summer is here, they are sometimes full up. (As a backup the Highland Manor Inn recommends the Talley Ho Motel, phone (865) 448-2465. It is located at 8314 E. Lamar Alexander Pkwy., and is about 1½ miles from Highland Manor Inn.)

Change in ranger-guided hayride in Cades Cove

These hayrides, I just learned, will only be offered on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays, and only at 6 p.m. That rules Wednesday

afternoon out. However, those who arrive on Monday, July 14, may wish to avail themselves of this opportunity. The cost is \$8. If you are interested, let me know in advance and I will make reservations, or you can just take your chance upon arrival to see if they still have room. (The number is (865) 448-6286, which is the number at the Cades Cove Stables, but the hayride is tractor-powered, not horse-powered.)

Hayrides *without* a park ranger guide are available every day at 10, 12, 2 and 4 p.m. The same phone number applies.

One night's lodging free for first- and second-time attendees

This is an offer unprecedented in our entire 133 year history. A fund has been created to boost convention attendance by making it more affordable for people that have never, or only once, come to a NAPA convention, and we hope you will take advantage of it, so that you can meet and get to know in person some of the people whose journals you read in the bundles.

Who's coming? (Registrations as of June 6)

Eleven rooms, representing 22 persons, have already been reserved for the convention: the Abells, Gary Bossler, the Boyeses, Arnie Koelewyn, Louise Lincoln, the Millers, the Schraders, the Segals, Harold Shive, Jack Visser, the Volkarts, and all the Warners

Six added as “Convention Boosters”

I'm happy to acknowledge six other members “boosting the convention” with special contributions: Anonymous, Robert Bierman, Sonya Davids, William Gordon, Robert S. Nelson, and Gussie & Harold Segal.

Their contributions bring the total in the fund to \$1,200.00.

Can you still contribute? Sure. Just send me your donation, and let me know whether I may list your name in the convention program, or whether you prefer “Anonymous.”

(I'd really be glad to have more first- and second-time attendees come and take advantage of the free lodging for one night. So far we have only two.)

Recent recruiting successes panel

Jake Warner and I will talk about one of our perennial topics – recruiting new members – and the modest success we have had in speaking to writers groups.

Stan Oliner, unfortunately, will not be able to attend the convention due to health reasons, so cannot personally take part in the reporting, but I hope we may have a summary of his efforts to enrich the discussion.

Special fun events

Ranger-guided afternoon hayride in Cades Cove

See the article above about the change in this event.

Wine, cheese and sausage tasting

Highland Manor Winery (no relation to our convention inn, although the names are similar) will put on a wine tasting of Tennessee wines for us, along with Tennessee cheeses and sausages, Wednesday evening at 5:30 p.m.

Airport shuttle information

Flying in to Knoxville? Let me know your airline name, flight number and scheduled arrival time, and I (or someone) will meet you at the airport.

If you prefer to take one of the airport taxi services, expect to pay about \$50 one way. Priced as of June 6, 2008, the cheapest ones are:

A Better Cab Co., 560-0200

A Plus Taxi, 970-0016

Adventure Taxi, 936-3356

Odyssey Airport Taxi, 577-6767

By prior arrangement, I (or someone) will also shuttle you back to the airport after the convention or after the picnic if you are staying for that.



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