

Tennes-Sierran

The monthly state newsletter for the Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club

Volume 36, Number 9 - September, 2005

How much COAL did you BURN today?

The True Cost of Electricity

By Gary Bowers
Conservation Chair – TN Chapter

Did you know the average Tennessee home consumes more than 1,300 kilowatt hours of electricity every month? That amounts to more than 8 tons of coal burned per Tennessee home every year to generate electricity. If you prefer to break it down in “per day consumption,” that’s about 44 pounds per household per day; slightly less than the biggest bag of dog food at the grocery store.

Tennessee is the highest consumer of electricity on a per household basis in America. What better place to begin an ambitious energy conservation campaign? One in which you can make a difference.

Documentary filmmaker Jeff Barrie is taking his new documentary Kilowatt Ours on a tour of cities throughout the Southeast this Fall with a special focus on screenings in Tennessee. This tour is part of the Southern Energy Conservation Initiative which seeks to significantly reduce the energy consumption of homes, businesses and schools in the Southeastern United States. On average, Southeastern states consume 25% more electricity per home compared to the national average.

The causes for the Southeast’s high consumption are debatable, but the consequences are not: a recent American Lung Association report listed Memphis, Nashville, Chattanooga and Knoxville among America’s most polluted cities, and a primary culprit is coal-fired power plants. Mountain top removal coal mining is spreading into Tennessee, and the effects of

global warming are becoming evident.

Barrie’s film, which opens with a compelling sequence connecting these problems to our light switches, then goes on to quote vice president Dick Cheney calling for the construction of nearly 2000 new power plants by 2020. The film explores the big picture consequences of our current energy production: nuclear waste, global warming, haze in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park, high rates of childhood asthma, mercury contamination of children... all tied to our light switches and air conditioners.

Perhaps the most compelling feature of Kilowatt Ours is the second half of the film. Barrie takes viewers on an inspiring, hopeful and humorous search for solutions to seemingly overwhelming problems, highlighting many outstanding examples of green power and energy efficiency programs at work in Tennessee and across the Southeast. These case studies show that we can dramatically reduce energy consumption while improving our quality of lives and strengthening our economy.

Kilowatt Ours has received rave reviews as a result of preliminary screenings and film festivals. It has been selected to screen in the 2005 Artivist Film festival (L.A.) the 2005 Freedom Cinema Festival (Park City Utah), and the 2005 Wine Country Film Festival (Napa California). Don’t miss this opportunity to see the film that is creating a conservation movement across the Southeast.

As this issue of the Tennes-Sierran goes to press, the following cities and dates below are confirmed. Some venues and times are yet to be nailed down.

Nashville, TN • Tuesday, September 20th
Belcourt Theater, 7 PM

Jackson, TN • Friday, September 23rd
Ned McWherter West TN Cultural Arts Ctr, 7 PM
314 E Main St • Suggested donation \$6

Memphis, TN • Saturday, September 24th
Digital Media Theatre at First Congregational Church
6:30 PM • 1000 S Cooper St • Suggested donation \$5

Cookeville, TN • Monday, Sept. 26th
Derryberry Auditorium at Tennessee Tech
University

Asheville, NC • Sunday, October 3rd
Brew and View Theater, time TBA

Atlanta, GA • Thursday, October 6th TBA

Atlanta, GA • Friday, October 7th
Sustainable Atlanta Roundtable, AM TBA

Atlanta, GA • Friday, October 7th
TBA for evening screening

Athens, GA • Saturday, October 8th TBA

Savannah, GA • Sunday, October 9th TBA

As details for the TBA (to be announced) venues and times are finalized they will be posted on the www.KilowattOurs.org and <http://tennessee.sierraclub.org/> web sites. As the additional Southeast cities venues and dates are finalized they, too, will be posted on both web sites. Other tentative cities currently include Raleigh-Durham, NC, Charlotte, NC, Knoxville, TN, Johnson City, TN, Kingsport, TN, and Charlottesville, VA



Explore, Enjoy and protect the planet

Tennes-Sierran
The monthly newsletter of the
Tennessee Chapter of the Sierra Club.

SEND CHANGE OF ADDRESS TO:

*Email: address.changes@sierraclub.org
*Snail Mail: clip the Moving? coupon below and mail

*Address changes are processed much faster if you include your Sierra Club membership number. To find your membership number, look on the address label of this newsletter.

SEND ARTICLES TO:

Email: tn.sierra@gmail.com
or street address: Shanna Petersen, Tennes-Sierran Editor
2703 Adobe Hills Place
Thompson Station, TN 37179

ARTICLE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

Submission DEADLINE is the 10th of the month preceding the new month's issue.

1. Email text submissions, or PDFs are preferred. Send to tn.sierra@gmail.com either with embedded text messages, or attached files.
2. Photographs should be scanned in a .jpg or .tif file format, whenever possible, then either attached to email or mailed via US Postal Service (USPS) on a CD Rom. Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you would like your disk or photo prints returned.
3. Hard-copy handwritten or typewritten articles may be accepted; however, pre-approval from the Editor is required.
4. Any materials submitted via USPS mail cannot be returned unless a stamped, self-addressed envelope is provided.

The opinions expressed in the Tennes-Sierran are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the Tennessee Chapter, or the Sierra Club.

**A special thanks
from The Tennes-Sierran to
Rachel Floyd
for her dedication and volunteer spirit
over the past 6 1/2 years as the
Newsletter Editor for
The Tennessee Chapter of the Sierra Club
Best wishes Rachel!**

Sierra Club Officers

(List in Transition for 2005)

Tennessee Chapter:

Chair: Don Richardson (901) 276-1387
donrich@juno.com
Vice Chair: Catherine Murray (423) 929-8163
Cfvcatherine@worldnet.att.net
Secretary: Position Available
Treasurer: Katherine Pendleton (615) 943-6877
Katibug1959@aol.com
Conservation: Gary Bowers (615) 366-4738
GB1Nature@aol.com
Membership: Dick Mochow (901) 274-1510
dinimo@earthlink.net

TN Local Groups:

Cherokee Group - Chattanooga
www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/cherokee
Chair: Terry Miller (423) 842-5053
trmcha@comcast.net
Vice Chair: Henry Spratt, Ph.D.
Henry-Spratt@utc.edu
Conservation: Rick Gehrke (423) 843-9625
rick.gehrke@comcast.net
Outings: Chris O'Connor (423) 867-4957
chris_o77@yahoo.com

Chickasaw Group - Memphis
www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/chickasaw
Chair: Charlie Rond (901) 452-8150
chasrond@bellsouth.net
Vice Chair: Carolyn Pierce (901) 755-5635
cedpierce2000@yahoo.com
Conservation: James Baker (901) 826-2448
kimo_aubrey@yahoo.com
Outings: Judith Hammond (901) 276-2819

Harvey Broome Group - Knoxville/Oak Ridge
www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/broome
Chair: Axel Ringe (865) 397-1840
onyxfarm@bellsouth.net
Vice-Chair: Beverly Smith (865) 531-8480
Blsmith1300@comcast.net
Conservation: David Reister (865) 670-8991
dreister@bellsouth.net
Outings: Ron Shrieves (865) 922-3518
rshrieve@utk.edu

Middle Tennessee Group - Nashville
www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/chapters/tn/mtg
Chair: David Bordenkircher (615) 333-3377
dabordenkircher@mindspring.com
Vice Chair: Jeremy Doochin
Doochers87@aol.com
Conservation: Diane Perschbacher (615) 895-1236
Diane@Propson.com
Outings: Katherine Pendleton (615) 943-6877
Katibug1959@aol.com

State of Franklin Group
- Bristol/Johnson City/Kingsport
www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/sofg
Chair: Linda C. Modica (423) 753-9697
lcmmodica@aol.com
Conservation: Catherine Murray (423) 929-8163
Cfvcatherine@worldnet.att.net

Upper Cumberland Group - Cookeville
www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/ucg
Chair: Peggy Evans (931) 432-6680
maevans@twlakes.net
Vice-Chair: Josie McQuail (931) 372-6142
Jmcquail@tntech.edu
Conservation: Mary Mastin (931) 268-2938
zeblady@twlakes.net
Outings: John Harwood (931) 528-6395
jharwood@tntech.edu

Tennessee Sierra Staff:

Rita Harris, Community Organizer
Environmental Justice Program (901) 324-7757
rita.harris@sierraclub.org

Please notify the Editor
when changes are needed

Moving?



My new address is:

Name _____

Address _____

City/St/Zip _____

Mail to:
Sierra Club
P.O. Box 52968
Boulder, Colorado
80322-2968

or Email to:
address.changes@sierraclub.org
(be sure to include your member ID#)

Attach mailing address label in this box, or
fill in current name, address & Membership
ID#
Current Address:

Member ID# _____



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INTRODUCTORY	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	
REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$47
SUPPORTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
CONTRIBUTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
SENIOR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
STUDENT/LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32

Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to Sierra magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

Enclose check and mail to: Sierra Club,
P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968

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Call for Nominations

Tennessee Chapter Executive Committee

Deadline for petitions is September 25, 2005

The Tennessee Chapter Nominating Committee urges you to nominate potential candidates for two-year At Large positions on the Chapter Executive Committee.

Candidates should be:

- Dedicated to the purposes and goals of the Sierra Club;
- Willing and able to accept the legal and fiduciary responsibilities of a Chapter delegate;
- Able to listen and communicate effectively and work in a team environment;
- Able and willing to dedicate sufficient personal time to Executive Committee duties;
- Able to think and plan strategically and politically;
- Knowledgeable regarding critical environmental and political issues;
- Knowledgeable of the structure and operation of the Chapter and Club;
- Able and willing to travel to and attend quarterly Chapter meetings;
- Experienced as a Chapter leader; and
- Able and willing to deal with the broad range of issues that comes before the Executive Committee.

The Nominating Committee will consider all potential candidates and recommend candidates based on the criteria. Please verify that the potential candidate is willing to serve and state why this potential candidate would make a good At Large delegate. Candidates may also qualify to run by petition. Petitions require the signatures of 15 members in good standing. Nominations should be returned to the Nominating Committee Chair, Shelli Dimarco, (greenveggie@comcast.net; 615-260-0030). Petitions should be mailed to Shelli Dimarco at PO Box 3011, Brentwood, TN 37024. All nominations and petitions must be received by September 25, 2005.

Middle Tennessee Group Call for Nominations

The Nominating Committee of the Middle Tennessee Group needs nominations to the Executive Committee for a two year term beginning January 2006. It is seeking members who care about environmental issues and who are willing to accept the responsibilities of the office. The Executive Committee meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month, except for November and December; and it meets the first Wednesday of December and January. You should be willing to attend and participate in these meetings. The Nominating committee also ask you to participate by working on or chairing one of our committees. These include the Program, Outings, Conservation, Membership, and Legislative/Political Committees.

This year, the terms of 3 current members expire. This means its a good opportunity to get involved. Training and guidance can be provided to the new committee members. The Group is always in need of new perspectives and input.

Please consider running for a seat on the Executive Committee. Volunteers are needed to do the work of protecting our environment. The Nominating Committee will consider all candidates. Candidates may also qualify by petition. Send nominations to Sierra Club Office, 2021 21st Ave. S., Suite 436, Nashville, TN 37212 or email to dabor-denkircher@mindspring.com. or email to adelleintn@comcast.net.

The deadline for nominations is September 25.

Harvey Broome Group Call for Nominations

The Harvey Broome Group would like to invite Sierra Club members to submit names for the Executive Committee.

Each nomination should contain the following information from the Candidate: Name, Address, Membership number, and a 10-line biography.

Members can nominate themselves.

Nominations should be sent before midnight on September 25 to: David Reister, DReister@BellSouth.net, 10366 Rather Road, Knoxville, TN 37931.

Chickasaw Group Executive Committee

The Nominating Committee for the Chickasaw Group urges you to nominate potential candidates for the Executive Committee members for a two-year term beginning in January 2006. We seek candidates for the election who are:

- 1) Sierra Club member in good standing;
- 2) Dedicated to the purposes and goals of the Sierra Club;
- 3) Willing and able to accept the legal and financial responsibilities of a Group Executive Committee member;
- 4) Able to listen and communicate effectively and work in a team environment;
- 5) Able and willing to dedicate sufficient personal time for Executive Committee duties. This would be approximately 10 hours per month, as broken down below:
Attend the monthly Executive Committee meeting. (2 to 3 hours/month).
Willingness to attend two of the monthly outreach gatherings in a calendar year. (4 hours/year)
Willingness to attend the monthly "Fourth Wednesday" program meeting. (2 hours/month)
Willingness to be one of the two Group Delegates to the TN-Chapter. The TN-Chapter meets four (4) times per year – travel is required, or consider being one of the three Group Alternate Delegates to the TN-Chapter (including travel – Friday to Sunday).
Under the leadership and training of the Conservation Chair – take on a personal Conservation Focus and be willing to dedicate a minimum of five (5) hours per month to that focus.
- 6) Able to think and plan strategically and politically;
- 7) Knowledgeable regarding critical environmental and political issues;

- 8) Knowledgeable of the structure and operations of the Group, Chapter and National Club;
- 9) Experienced as a Group leader; and
- 10) Able and willing to deal with the broad range of issues that comes before the Executive Committee.

Executive Committee members approve supporting proposed local and state legislation, appropriate Group funds, and endorse political candidates, in addition to other tasks. The Group Executive Committee is composed of thirteen members and the term of office is two years with half of the Committee's terms expiring each year.

The Nominating Committee will consider all potential candidates and recommend qualified candidates to the Executive Committee based on the above criteria. Send nominations and petitions to: Nominating Committee-Chickasaw Group, Sierra Club, P.O. Box 111094, Memphis, TN 38111 or e-mail to Judith Rutschman at rutschman@rhodes.edu or James Baker at kimo_aubrey@yahoo.com.

The deadline for nominations is September 20, 2005.

The deadline for members to be eligible for the election by the petition process is September 25. To be eligible to run for election by the petition process, the willing candidate must submit a petition to the above mailing address with the names of at least twenty-five (25) Chickasaw Group members in good standing.

Please verify that the potential candidate is willing to serve and state why this potential candidate would make a good member of the Chickasaw Group Executive Committee.

Now Help the Environment... ...and Raise Money for the Sierra Club!!

Who: The Middle Tennessee Sierra Club and You

What: Inkjet, Toner and Old Cell Phone Fundraising Program

When: Anytime you run out of ink/toner in your printer or copier or need to recycle your phone. This is an ongoing-fundraiser to help the Sierra Club and the environment!

How: Put your empty ink cartridge or old cell phone in a pre-addressed & pre-stamped bag, seal it, and drop it in your mailbox!

For every Ink-jet recycled the Sierra Club will receive money!

Order Now: Order your recycling bags now! The bags are free of charge & will be delivered directly to your door. Just place the bag in the mail w/ your ink-jet or cell phone. Send bags to schools or use them in your office! Help save the environment & earn money for the Sierra Club! To order please call: Better Futures Inc. @ 1-877-Ink-ABC' or www.betterfutures.org Remember to mention the Tennessee Sierra Club when you order!

Meetings

HARVEY BROOME GROUP (Knoxville)

PROGRAM MEETING: Second Tuesday of every month, 7:30 pm, Tennessee Valley Unitarian Church, 2931 Kingston Pike, Knoxville. Liz Dixon, local Sierra Club member and scuba enthusiast will present a program on her 9 day dive in the Andaman Sea off the coasts of Thailand and Burma waters last Christmas during the time of the tsunami. She will show us how the sea life is different in the Pacific and give some firsthand accounts of being on a dive boat when the tsunami passed through. She will show slides and give her account of the dive and the tsunami aftermath in the area. Any questions call me at 966-4142.

STRATEGY MEETING: September 27, 7:30 pm, Tennessee Valley Unitarian Church, 2931 Kingston Pike, Knoxville. Interested in becoming more involved in the Sierra Club, then attend this meeting. Call Axel Ringe at 865-966-1840 for more information.

STATE OF FRANKLIN GROUP (Tri-Cities)

STRATEGY MEETING: Second Monday of every month, 7pm, Holston Valley Unitarian Universalist Church. These Executive Committee/Conservation meetings are open to everyone interested in helping to protect upper east TN's air, water, forests & family farms. To place an item on the agenda, or for directions to the Church, please contact Linda Modica, Group Chair, (423) 753-9697, lmodica@aol.com.

PROGRAM MEETING: Fourth Monday of every month, 7pm, Holston Valley Unitarian Universalist Church. Programs on environmental issues, travel, nature photography are among the many topics featured at SOFG program meetings. FMI: Mary Gavlik, Vice Chair, (423) 434-9535, mlgav@yahoo.com.

CHEROKEE GROUP (Chattanooga)

PROGRAM MEETING: For additional information, contact Rick Gehrke 423-843-9625 or email rick.gehrke@comcast.net

MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP (Nashville)

PROGRAM MEETING: Thursday, (September 8), 7:00 p.m. at Radnor Lake Visitor Center in Nashville. Linda Smithyman will present a whitewater rafting slide show. Linda is known for being an avid whitewater rafting enthusiast and will share her slides of rafting on class IV and V rapids on the Gauley and New Rivers in West Virginia and some from easier rivers in Pennsylvania as well.

Light refreshments will be served; please feel free to bring your favorite reusable cup and napkin. For more information on this program, contact Shelli Dimarco at (615) 260-0030. (Enter the Radnor Lake area on Otter Creek Road, accessible only from Granny White Pike.) Non-members are always welcome!

UPPER CUMBERLAND GROUP (Knoxville)

PROGRAM MEETING: Contact Peggy Evans at 931-432-6680 or maevans@TWLakes.net for more information on program meeting dates and times.

CHICKASAW GROUP (Memphis)

MONTHLY MEMBERS GATHERING: Thursday, September 1, 2005, 6:00 - 8:00pm, Otherlands, 641 South Cooper, Memphis, Tennessee. Join us for Chickasaw Group's "FIRST THURSDAY" monthly gathering where Sierra Club members, activists and friends can meet in a casual setting to talk about issues and interests. Contact Membership Chair Jill Johnston at (901) 278-2713 for more information.

STRATEGY MEETING: Monday, September 12, 2005 - 6:30pm, Prescott Memorial Baptist Church, 961 Getwell, Memphis, Tennessee. This meeting of the Executive Committee is open also to all members of the Sierra Club. Contact Group Chair Charlie Rond (by September 9 to place items on the agenda) at (901) 409-8150.

MONTHLY THIRD TUESDAY: Tuesday, September 20, 2005, 6:00 - 8:00pm, Cafe Francisco, 400 North Main, Memphis, Tennessee. Join us for Chickasaw Group's "Third Tuesday" monthly gatherings where Sierra Club members, activists and friends can meet in a casual setting to talk about issues and interests. For more information, contact Membership Chair Jill Johnston at (901) 278-2713.

PROGRAM MEETING: Wednesday, September 28, 2005, 6:00 pm - Memphis Public Library and Information Center, 3030 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee. The September meeting will be led by Sierra Club Environmental Justice Coordinator Rita Harris and will deal with the "low-level nuclear waste" plans and operations of Radiological Assistance, Consulting and Engineering, a company which calls itself R.A.C.E. The R.A.C.E. operations are opposed by a number of groups, including the Riverview Neighborhood Collaborative, an organization called "Memphis Truth", and the Chickasaw Group of the Sierra Club. For more information, contact Judith Rutschman at (901) 767-5916 or Charlie Rond at (901) 452-8150.

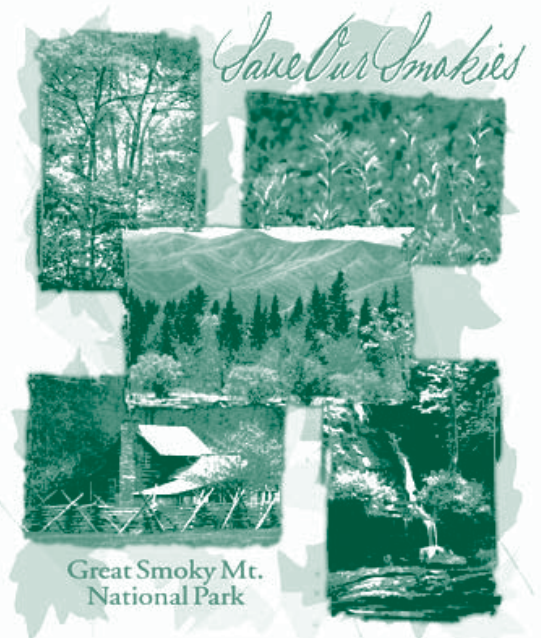
TELEVISION PROGRAM Mondays 1:30 pm; Tuesdays 4:00 pm and Wednesday 11:30am, Wednesday 11:00pm, Thursday 7:00am WPYL-Channel 18 - "The Nature of Conservation," is the Sierra Club's Chickasaw Group TV Program hosted by Judith Rutschman. In August Sierra Club Environmental Justice Coordinator Rita Harris will again review the so-called "low-level nuclear waste" disposal plans of the Radiological Assistance, Consulting and Engineering company which calls itself R.A.C.E. For the July program Judith interviewed Allan Lummus who discussed the issue of Framing: Politics, Values and Communication. Lummus, a research specialist with the Department of Preventive Medicine, in the UT College of Medicine, defined framing and its importance in communicating with the general public. He used the concept of smart growth as an example of how environmentalists can frame the concept to achieve goals. A different program is aired, usually each month, with the program repeating every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday throughout the month. If any groups or individuals in the community have a special problem or concern, or would like to see a program on a special issue or subject, please contact Judith Rutschman at (901) 767-5916.

CHARLESTON, SC MAYOR JOE RILEY TO SPEAK IN MEMPHIS: Wednesday, September 21, 2005, 12:00 Noon at Bridges Inc. at 477 N. Fifth Street, Memphis, TN. Widely considered one of the most visionary and highly effective governmental

leaders in America, Joe Riley has served as Mayor of Charleston, S. C. for 30 years. Under his leadership, Charleston has focused on the beauty of its city and the quality of life for every resident. Mayor Riley, co-founder of the Mayor's Institute on City Design, has received the Presidential Award for Design Excellence for public housing, the Urban Land Institute J. C. Nichols Prize for Visionaries in Urban Development, and the American Architectural Foundation Keystone Award for exemplary leadership in using architecture to transform a community. Mayor Riley will be speaking at a luncheon in Memphis at Bridges Inc. at 477 N. Fifth Street to tell us what he did, how, why, and the results. Tickets are \$20 and may be purchased at 529-9828 or at www.friendsforourriverfront.org. Mayor Riley's visit is part of Architecture Month and is sponsored by the American Institute of Architects, Friends for Our Riverfront, and Memphis Heritage. The link for the form is: http://www.friendsforourriverfront.org/Riley_ticket_order_form_rev.pdf When you fill out the form, please state that you want to sit with James Baker and the other members of the Chickasaw Group.

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If you would like to be active in the Save
Our Smokies campaign, please
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blsmith1300@comcast.com
Your help would be greatly appreciated!

Summer 2005 Tennessee Chapter Meeting

Sterchi Lodge 2005



Photo courtesy of: Allan Miller

Submitted by
James Baker, Chickasaw Group

In late July, the Tennessee Chapter conducted its Summer Retreat and Meeting at Sterchi Lodge in the Appalachian Mountains on the North Carolina - Tennessee border.

Great weather and an inviting deck

allowed both sessions of the meeting to be conducted out-of-doors. In addition, aerial entertainment was provided by many Ruby-Throated Hummingbirds that were attracted to several feeders located below the second-story deck. On more than one occasion, meeting attendees would duck when two or more hummingbirds - locked in aerial combat -

would zoom past their heads at full throttle.

If you missed the Summer Retreat, you missed a great chance to get away from the city, and partake of food and fellowship with your fellow Tennessee Chapter members.

There is still one more chance in 2005. Please attend the Fall Chapter Retreat at Pickett State Park, October 28-30, 2005.

Tennessee State Parks Announces Town Hall Meeting Schedule

The Division of State Parks is hosting a series of Town Hall meetings around the state. In addition to those with a special interest in our State's parks, someone from each organization and division of the state should go.

Have a say in the future of your state park system!

Are you a camper, hiker, cyclist, paddler, RVer or outdoor enthusiast? Or do you just

love your local Tennessee State Park? We're starting to plan for the next 10 years of state parks management and this is your chance to tell us what you'd like to see.

**We hope
to see you at a
Town Hall Meeting
in your area!**

Meeting participants will hear a brief presentation about state parks and then be able to share ideas and ask questions of park staff. Can't make the Town Hall Meeting? We would still like to hear from you. Please take a look at the Tennessee State Parks Strategic Direction document at www.tennessee.gov/environment/parks/StrategicDirect.pdf and email us your comments at ask.tnstateparks@state.tn.us

Your voice matters to us as we plan for the next 10 years. This planning effort is undertaken to provide direction and focus on the challenges and opportunities facing Tennessee State Parks.

Memphis • Tuesday, August 30, 2005 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Rhodes College, 2000 North Parkway, Buckman Hall, Blount Auditorium

Martin • Monday, September 12, 2005 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
University of Tennessee at Martin, Boling University Center, Wayne Fisher Drive

Jackson • Tuesday, September 13, 2005 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
TDOT, Region 4 Office Building, 300 Benchmark Place

Columbia • Thursday, September 15, 2005 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
TDEC Columbia Field Office, 2484 Park Plus Drive

Knoxville Area • Monday, September 19, 2005 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Norris Dam State Park, Tea Room, 125 Village Green Circle, Lake City

Cookeville • Tuesday, September 20, 2005 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Cookeville Community Center, 240 Carlen Drive

Chattanooga Area • Thursday, September 22, 2005 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Harrison Bay State Park, Rec Lodge, 8411 Harrison Bay Road, Harrison

Kingsport • Monday, September 26, 2005 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Warriors Path State Park, Recreation Building, 490 Hemlock Road

Nashville • Thursday, September 29, 2005 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Adventure Science Center, Jack Wood Hall, 800 Fort Negley Blvd.

For more information about the town hall meetings contact State Parks Planning Manager Nancy Dorman at 615-532-0039 or nancy.dorman@state.tn.us.

Outings

HARVEY BROOME GROUP (Knoxville)

Sept 10-11, 2005 (Sat-Sun). Car camp - Cataloochee. Enjoy their annual apple butter making along with the elk bugling and short hikes or bikes in the valley. Pre-register with Priscilla Watts, 865-966-4142.

Sept 17, 2005 (Sat). Dayhike - John Muir Trail, Cherokee National Forest. Hike the John Muir Trail in the Hiwassee Ranger District. The trail follows the bank of the Hiwassee River, an easy path along a beautiful river. We will hike past the Big Bend canoe access. Approximately 8 mile round trip. pre-register with, Ed Soler, 690-4780(H).

Sept 24-25, 2005 (Sat-Sun). Backpack - Laurel Fork, Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area. Laurel Fork is one of the prettiest

streams in the BSF, and has the benefit of being a hiker-only route. We'll start upstream, at the Middle Creek Trailhead, and make our way 13.1 miles downstream to the Big South Fork River and the Station Camp area, where a stashed canoe will be used to get everyone across the river. There will be lots of creek fords, and wonderful Cumberland Plateau scenery, from rock cliffs to pools and waterfalls. Rated Moderate. Pre-register with Will Skelton: Home 523-2272, Work 521-0363; email whshome@bellsouth.net.

CHEROKEE GROUP (Chattanooga)

For information on upcoming outings, contact Chris O'Connor at chris_o77@yahoo.com or visit our web site at <http://www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/cherokee/index.htm>

MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP (Nashville)

Sat.-Mon. September 3-5 Labor Day Weekend Backpack For those of you who enjoy getting away from the crowds in the Smokies, this trip is for you! We'll meet at Clingman's Dome on Saturday morning and hike to Andrews Bald. From there, we'll continue down the Forney Ridge Trail and camp at #71. On Sunday, we'll hike the Forney Creek Trail spending the night at campsite #68. Monday we'll complete our loop hike at the Clingman's Dome parking lot. Rated strenuous for distance and elevation gain. Trip size limited to 8 people. Contact Katherine by September 1 if interested in participating in this trip. For information and to register contact Katherine Pendleton at 615-360-3481 or email at katibug1959@aol.com.

Saturday, September 10 Beaman Park

Volunteers are needed to do some trail work at Beaman Park, located in NW Davidson County. Start at 8:00 AM. Bring your own gloves, tools, and refreshments. You will get dirty! Register with Linda Smithyman at 615-822-1979 or email at lsmithymanhbg@yahoo.com.

Thursday, September 15 Dyer Observatory

Join us for public viewing night at Dyer Observatory near Radnor Lake. It may be crowded but this is a free visit to view the stars with other Sierra Club folks. Register with Linda Smithyman at 615-822-1979 or email at lsmithymanhbg@yahoo.com

Saturday, September 17 Full Moon Hike

Join Linda as she leads about a relatively easy 4 mile full moon hike at Beaman Park in NW Davidson County. Meet at 7:00 PM in the upper parking lot. Prior registration is a must! Bring your own flashlight with extra batteries! We will be out about 9 PM. Register with Linda Smithyman at 615-822-1979 or email at lsmithymanhbg@yahoo.com

Thursday, September 22 After Work Hike-Mossy Ridge

Come out and celebrate the first day of Autumn as we shake off the cares of the day hiking the Mossy Ridge Trail in Edwin Warner Park. This is a moderate to strenuous 4.5 mile hike. Wear hiking shoes and bring water. Pre-register by September 21 with Katherine Pendleton at 615-360-3481 or email Katibug1959@aol.com.

Saturday, September 24 Wetland Tour

Come on out for an educational wetland tour at 8:00 AM taught by Jane Bilbring at USN in NW Davidson County. The Conservation Committee is working on a wetland project and this tour is of significant importance to us! Register with Linda Smithyman at 615-822-1979 or email at lsmithymanhbg@yahoo.com

CHICKASAW GROUP (Memphis)

Saturday, September 10, 2005, 8:30am -

Strawberry Plains Hummingbird Festival and Hike, Holly Springs Mississippi. Plan to attend a hummingbird banding, festival and Chickasaw Group table at Strawberry Plains, now the home to the Audubon Society of Mississippi. This is the hummingbird migration season and there will be lots of chances to view the birds and watch as they are banded and released. There are interpretive speakers, Nature Fair, & food vendors. Bring lunch or buy it at the Center for a group picnic. The Society cooks up hotdogs and hamburgers. Parking is \$5.00/car. Our plan is to ride together and share the cost of parking. For more information go to www.msaudubon.com. Meet at the Starbucks coffee shop in Collierville. Judith Hammond 901-276-2819.

Saturday, September 10, 2005, 10:00 am - The Old Forest Trail,

Overton Park, Memphis, Tennessee. "Second Saturday Hikes" Explore the only urban old growth forest of its kind in America. Learn about the forest's history, identify big trees and wildflowers and observe firsthand the impact of natural and human forces on forests in an urban setting. Meet at the bridge next to the parking lot at the end of Old Forest Lane in the center of Overton Park. The informative and entertaining trail map to the self-guided mile-and-a-quarter mile loop hike with seasonal bird watching and wildflower-viewing guides is available for free at the Golf House in Overton Park at all other times. For additional information, contact Don Richardson at (901) 276-1387. Sponsored by Park Friends.

Saturday, September 24, 2005 - 10:00am -

Mississippi River Walk and Museum, Tunica, Mississippi. Carolyn Pierce will lead a joint Sierra Club and Tennessee Trails Association hike along the Mississippi River Walk located at Tunica, south of Memphis, Tennessee. Meet the group at 10am in the parking lot at the Tunica River Park. From there follow a two-mile "eco-trail" that winds through a wetland forest, which is part of the \$25 million development. Price for the Museum is \$5 per person. Unlike Memphis, the trail is directly along side the river rather than down a bluff. It is a distinctly different experience from a Memphis view of the river and there is an abundance of wildlife along the trail. For more information contact Carolyn Pierce at (901) 755-5635.

Friday - Sunday, September 30-October 2, 2005 - Sierra Club Outings/Leadership Conference,

Cedars of Lebanon State Park, Lebanon, Tennessee. The Sierra Club will host an Outings and Leadership Conference, open to all members, at Cedars of Lebanon State Park. If you are a Sierra Club outings leader, or you want to become one, this interactive and educational workshop is for you. Space is limited, so sign-up soon. This training event is sponsored by the National Outdoor Activities Training Program and is the ONLY outings leader training workshop in the region this year. Check-in is at 4pm on Friday, Sep. 30 and ends with a lunch and raffle Sunday, Oct. 2. Cost of \$45 entitles you to the training, all meals, snacks, lodging, materials, raffle entry and an Outings T-shirt. For more information contact Judith Hammond at (901) 276-2819.

All participants in Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver before you participate, please refer to: <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/SignInWaiver.PDF>, or call 415-977-5630, for a printed version.

Transportation to the outing, including carpooling, ride sharing or anything similar, is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.

Ten Essentials for Hiking

Sierra Club Outings offer a variety of wilderness and near-wilderness experiences. It is important to realize that while all trips are guided by a leader, it is ultimately the responsibility of the individual to operate in a safe manner. To this end, the following is a list of essential items, which should be modified according to the particular type of outing. These are:

1. Adequate map
2. First aid kit
3. Compass
4. Rain gear
5. Extra clothing (it is a good idea to always have a wool hat)
6. Matches
7. Knife
8. Flashlight
9. Extra food, water
10. The tenth essential. You decide what is the most important thing to bring!



Outings Leader Training Workshop

Where: The Group Lodge at the Cedars of Lebanon State Park in Lebanon, TN

When: September 30-October 2, 2005

FRIDAY ♦ Check-in begins at 4pm. Dinner served at 6pm

♦ Opening Program – 7:30 (official start)

SATURDAY Programming all day and early evening

SUNDAY Workshop ends with lunch and raffle at 1:15pm

Cost: \$45 All meals, snacks, lodging (bunk style), materials, raffle entry, and Outings t-shirt.

If you're a Sierra Club outings leader or you want to become one, this interactive and educational workshop is for you. Space is limited, so sign up soon!

Leader training is a never-ending process, so whether you're an old hand or have never led before, you're invited to attend a weekend of interactive learning, networking with leaders from all outing programs, and of course, lots of fun.

This training event is brought to you by the Outdoor Activities Training Program (OATP), managed in the Outings Department of the National office. This is the only Outings Leader Training workshop in the region this year.

REGISTRATION INFO

- Online at <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/training/> (includes plenty of other information too)
- 3 other ways to register (Include name(s), address, telephone #, email, membership #, and workshop # **05997A**)

MAIL check or money order for \$45

Sierra Club Outings
85 Second Street, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

CALL - credit card only:

415-977-5588
Monday-Friday, 8:30-5, PST

FAX - credit card only:

415-977-5795
Include Card Number, Expiration
Date and Signature

Limited to 50 people - first come, first served. Questions? Contact the Sierra Club Outdoor Activities Training Manager at outings.training@sierraclub.org or at (415) 977-5711

WHAT'S THIS WORKSHOP ALL ABOUT ANYWAY?

- The goals of this weekend workshop are to learn and enhance leadership skills, to bring people and programs together to share and exchange ideas, to welcome new outdoor leaders, to learn what it takes to lead for other outings programs of the Sierra Club, and once again, to have a lot of *fun*.
- The purpose of the workshop is to bring together new and seasoned leaders from ICO (Inner City Outings), GCO (Group & Chapter Outings), and NO (National Outings). The agenda for the workshop will encompass an extensive array of leadership topics presented in both group and breakout formats.

"Trying to learn to be a leader by using your intellectual skills only - by sticking to hard-edged, quantifiable stuff - is like owning a TV that tunes to only one channel: there's no way you can get the full range of information and insights you need. Making the head/heart connection not only provides information and insights that will make your trips safer and more likely to reach their goals, it also provides richer, fuller, and more personal experiences for everybody involved." - John Graham, author of *Outdoor Leadership*

Sign Up Today for the 2005 GEORGIA ANNUAL GATHERING

This year's Annual Gathering will be held at the Cohutta Springs Conference Center in Crandall, Georgia, near the Tennessee state border.

Activities will include a hayride, pontoon boat, canoeing, hiking, Oconee River whitewater rafting, horseback riding, caving, ropes course, archery, gold panning, mountain bike trails and more.

Beat the crowd -- sign up today for a fun-filled weekend!

Place: Cohutta Springs Conference Center. Date: October 21-23, 2005.

Download the registration form and mail with check to:

Georgia Chapter Sierra Club, 1401 Peachtree St., Suite 345, Atlanta, GA 30309.

If you have questions, please call Genie Strickland at 404-607-1262 Ext. 221 or email genie.strickland@sierraclub.org

What would you find if you traced the wires from your light switch to the energy source?

Mountain top removal, global warming, childhood asthma... or hope?

***** ON TOUR IN TENNESSEE *****

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Dave Pelton, Clean Cities Director



Follow filmmaker Jeff Barrie on a search for solutions to the most urgent environmental problems of our day: *mountain top removal, global warming, childhood asthma and mercury contamination.*

THE ANSWERS ARE EASIER THAN YOU THINK AND THE SOLUTION CAN SAVE YOU MONEY!

Come to these exciting events and you will:

- Discover a new vision for American energy usage
- Meet the filmmaker
- Learn how to dramatically reduce your energy bills
- Find out how to use power from the wind and the sun

TOUR DATES

September 20 - **Nashville**
September 23 - **Jackson**
September 24 - **Memphis**
September 26 - **Cookeville**

If you would like to help bring Kilowatt Ours to your community, please send an email to info@KilowattOurs.org



KILOWATTOURS.ORG

Volunteer Opportunity!

To help the Middle Tennessee Group, to help our senior and disabled recyclers, to have fun and to meet other Sierrans, please consider volunteering at our recycling site at the Elysian Fields Kroger in Nashville. The site is open Saturday mornings from 9:00 to 12:00. You will have at least one other person working with you, and you can choose to volunteer only when it is convenient for you, whether that is just one time, monthly, quarterly, or every few months. Please call Recycling Coordinator David Bordenkircher at 333-3377 (H) or 741-1597, or e-mail him at dabordenkircher@mindspring.com.

The Sierra Club-Middle TN Group
Tennes-Sierran
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Nashville, Tennessee 37212

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