

# Tennesse-Sierran

The monthly state newsletter for the Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club

Volume 38, Number 11 - November/December, 2007

## Praise for Gore and IPCC For Nobel Peace Prize - World Leaders Must Follow Their Example

### Statement of Carl Pope, Sierra Club Executive Director

October 12, 2007 - "The Sierra Club congratulates Vice President Al Gore and the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change for winning this year's Nobel Peace Prize. Their victory underscores the need for more of our leaders to take a stand and meet the challenge of global warming head-on. The IPCC has shown there is global consensus on the causes and impacts of global warming--Vice President Gore has brought the issue home for millions of people.

"Vice President Gore is, quite simply, the indispensable player in the drama of mankind's encounter with the possibility of destroying the climactic balance within which our civilization emerged and developed. Once, when I was particularly frustrated by challenges I faced in my job, Gore heard me out and replied, 'Never, ever give up.' That would seem to be his motto, as reflected in the thousands of speeches he has delivered, the Live Earth concert he built from scratch, the nay-saying he has endured, the movement he inspired.

"In the Nobel committee's words upon awarding the 2004 Peace prize to Kenyan environmental activist Wangari Maathai: 'Peace on earth depends on our ability to secure our living environment.' The committee clearly sees the work of Gore and the IPCC in a similar light, as those who work staving off the conflicts by uniting strange bedfellows behind the common cause of protecting humanity's only home.

"Between his earliest political career in 1976 as a representative of Tennessee's Fourth District, and his two-term vice presidency beginning in 1993, Gore helped set the political and popular stages for prime-time environmentalism. He was one of the first politicians to grasp the seriousness of climate change and to call for a reduction in emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. He held the first congressional hearings on the subject in the late 1970s.

"Since then, he has presented the science behind global warming and its predicted catastrophic effects more than 1,000 times. His message finally reached the broad public consciousness with the 2006 documentary, *An Inconvenient Truth*. The film has won numerous awards, including two Academy Awards. His paperback book of the same name also reached number one on the New York Times Best Seller list.

"Last month the Vice President accepted the Sierra Club's top honor, the John Muir Award. Sierra Club President, Robert Cox said at the ceremony, 'Al Gore is the embodiment of the principles for which John Muir passionately devoted his life: to protect a place for its



own sake, for our sake, and even in spite of us; a place we call Earth."

"The Sierra Club has also long praised the work of the IPCC, whose work lays to rest the notion that the alarming and increasingly rapid increase in the earth's temperature is due to anything other than human activity. Today we can already understand the effects of global warming all around us because of their efforts. Their reports point to the extremely troubling and dire consequences on the horizon if we don't act soon and begin to dramatically lower our carbon emissions.

"The vast majority of the American people understand that global warming is real, is serious, and needs to be addressed. Mayors, governors, and state legislatures are taking the lead and implementing policies that protect our environment, create jobs, and fight global warming and our dangerous dependence on oil. Even major corporations are calling for action. The market stands poised to provide the solutions. The time has come for our national leaders to listen to the IPCC and follow Al Gore's lead."

For more information contact:  
The Sierra Club - David Willett 202-675-6698



## Celebrating an Earth-Friendly Thanksgiving

By Diana Artemis,  
Sierra Club Sustainable Consumption  
Committee (SCC)

For information on the SCC True Cost of Food Campaign, visit: [http://www.sierraclub.org/sustainable\\_consumption/](http://www.sierraclub.org/sustainable_consumption/)

It's the holiday season once again. In the overstressed times we live in can we pause and do better to put thanks and love back into our holiday celebrations? The Sustainable Consumption Committee (SCC)'s True Cost of Food Campaign makes it clear that our choice of food, now more than ever during the holiday season, affects our earth, our health and what we leave as a legacy to our children and our children's children. Let's pause and think about where the food we eat came from and at what cost to the environment.

### What is Eco-Cuisine?

In his book, *Eco-Cuisine: An Ecological Approach to Gourmet Vegetarian Cooking*, Author Ron Picarski writes, "Ecology is an awareness of the interrelationships between living organisms and their environment. Eco-Cuisine is about the human diet and its relationship to our personal health and the natural environment. We must begin to look at food as a route back to nature and a way to understand our connections with natural cycles. We need to live in harmony with nature and within our biological boundaries that are part of that natural system."

### During This Holiday Season Let's Think About Our Health, Our Children's Health And The Health Of Our Planet

A delicious cooked meal, especially if it's shared with friends and family, provides nourishment for the spirit as well as the body. Food that is locally grown by organic farmers is healthy for our communities and local economy. Respecting the earth and its animals when producing and eating food creates the harmony that we seek in relating to each other and our planet and allows us truly to celebrate in a way that honors our earth and each other. Historically, food was a celebration of life: Growing, preparing and eating the fruits of the field were once one of the strangest ties to community spirit.

Continued on page 3

## Tennes-Sierran

The monthly newsletter of the  
Tennessee Chapter of the Sierra Club.

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\*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:

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Snail Mail: Rachel Floyd, Tennes-Sierran Interim Editor  
3223 Caldwell Road - Ashland City, TN 37015  
(615) 792-2590

ARTICLE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

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

1. Email and email attached files are preferred. Send to [rfloyd557@bellsouth.net](mailto:rfloyd557@bellsouth.net) either with embedded text messages, or attached files in PC-based formats. Mac users should embed text in body of an email message only.
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 3 1/2 diskette or CD Rom. Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you would like your diskette 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.



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

## All Creatures Great and Small



"Every good thing, great and small, needs defense"

- John Muir

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## Celebrating an Earth-Friendly Thanksgiving

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As Sierra Club members,  
we can lead the way. This  
year invite your friends,  
neighbors and family mem-  
bers to a low impact,  
cruelty free

Thanksgiving Day meal

that is mindful of its origins and the connections  
that bind us all to a sustainable planet.

### Eco-Friendly Recipe Ideas

If you choose to offer a turkey to your family and guests, please ensure your grocer only stocks animal products with the "Certified Humane Raised and Handled" seal. For more information visit:  
<http://www.certifiedhumane.com/index.html>

#### Tofu "Turkey" with Stuffing

##### Turkey:

- 5 pounds of firm tofu
- 1 pound of tofu for the "drumsticks" - optional

##### Stuffing:

- 2 tablespoons toasted sesame oil
- 1 large onion, chopped fine
- 1 and 1/3 cup celery, diced (about 4 stalks)
- 1 cup mushrooms, finely chopped
- 3 to 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/4 cup sage (may use 1/8)
- 2 teaspoons marjoram
- 2 teaspoons thyme
- 1 teaspoon winter or summer savory
- salt and pepper to taste
- 1 teaspoon rosemary
- 2 teaspoons celery seed
- 1/4 cup soy sauce or tamari
- 3 cups Pepperidge Farm Herb Stuffing

##### Basting mixture:

- 1/2 cup toasted sesame oil
- 1/4 to 1/3 cup soy sauce or tamari
- 2 tablespoons miso
- 2 tablespoons orange juice
- 1 teaspoon vegan mustard of choice

**Directions:** Mash tofu or mix well with hands. Be sure that all of the lumps are out. Line a 12" colander with wet cheesecloth over lapping the sides. Add the mashed tofu to the cloth covered colander, press down and cover with the overlapping sides. Place the whole thing in a large bowl. Cover the cheesecloth with a plate that fits inside the colander and place a 5 pound weight on the plate. Refrigerate and let sit for 2 to 3 hours.

When time is up, start the stuffing. Saute' the onions, celery and mushrooms in the 2 tablespoons sesame oil. When soft, add the garlic and all the rest of the stuffing ingredients, except stuffing, mixing well. Stir and cook for 5 minutes. Add herb stuffing and mix well.

Remove tofu from fridge and take off weight, plate and top of cheesecloth. Hollow out tofu to within 1 inch of the sides and bottom, placing the tofu in a bowl. Place the stuffing inside the shell and pack in firmly. Cover with the remaining tofu and pat down firmly. Turn stuffed tofu onto a greased baking sheet, flat side down. Gently press on sides of "turkey" to achieve a more oval shape. If desired at this point, you may mold "drumsticks" out of one pound of tofu, and place on each side of the "turkey".

Mix up the basting mixture and baste tofu "turkey" with half of it. Cover the "turkey" with foil, and bake at 400 degrees for about 1 hour.

Remove foil, baste with all the remaining mixture except a few tablespoons and return to oven for 1

hour more, or until the "turkey" is golden. Remove from oven and use rest of basting mix. Using at least 2 large spatulas, move to a large plate. Serve with the gravy of your choice, if you wish, and cranberry sauce.

Serves 8

#### Zesty Cranberry Sauce

- 2 cups fresh or frozen cranberries
- 1/2 cup undiluted orange juice concentrate
- 2 ripe pears, finely chopped
- 1 medium apple, finely chopped
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon grated orange rind
- 1/2 cup raw sugar or other sweetener

**Directions:** Combine all ingredients except sweetener in a saucepan, and bring to a simmer over medium heat. Continue cooking, uncovered, until cranberry skins pop and mixture thickens slightly, about 10 minutes. Add sweetener to taste if desired. Serve hot or cold.

#### Harvest Veggie Pie

- 3 large potatoes
- 1 sweet potato (or yam)
- 2 tablespoon soymilk (maybe more, maybe less)
- 1 tablespoon soy non-hydrogenated margarine
- 1 1/2 cups of stock
- 2 cups of assorted fresh veggies
- spices (basil, salt and pepper to taste)

**Directions:** Basically, this is a "pie" with no crust and a mashed potato topping. Preheat oven to 375 degrees (F) Cook and mash potatoes adding soy milk and soy margarine to make it creamy and salt and pepper to taste. I also like to add lots of garlic!

Make the "gravy" by boiling 1 1/2 cups of water and adding 3 veggie bouillon cubes and boil again for 10 minutes uncovered (this makes it thick and gravy like).

Chop and clean the veggies (I like to use carrots, broccoli, asparagus, snow peas, corn, and peas). Put chopped veggies in a round shallow baking dish (I like to use a ceramic type, I find it cooks better than metal). Pour "gravy" mixture on top and spread mashed potatoes so that all the veggies are covered by a mashed potato "cap". Bake for 20 to 30 minutes (or until the top of the mashed potato becomes crisp and golden). Cool and serve. Serves: 4

#### Apple Stuffed Acorn Squash

- 1 acorn squash
- 2-3 apples
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 1 pat of non-hydrogenated margarine
- dash of nutmeg
- dash of salt, optional

**Directions:** Slice the acorn squash in half, and scrape out the seeds and the strings. Place face down in casserole pan filled with 1/2 inch of water and place in a 350 degree oven for about 10-15 minutes. While the squash is steaming there, peel and slice the apples and mix in the brown sugar. Take the squash out of the oven, place face up, and fill the cavities with the apple mixture, add a pat of margarine to each and top with a shake or two of nutmeg as taste dictates. Cover very lightly with foil, and bake until the apples and the squash are soft and cooked, approximately another 1/2 hour. Serves: 3-4.

#### Bulgar Pilaf

- 2 Cups Bulgar Wheat
- 1/2 Cup Raw Sunflower Seeds
- 2 1/2 Cups Vegetable Broth
- 8 Cloves Garlic chopped fine
- 1 Bunch Scallions/Green Onions chopped fine (or 1 head leek chopped fine)
- 1 Tbs Thyme
- 1 Red Bell Pepper chopped fine
- 2 Tbs Cold pressed Olive Oil
- Sea Salt & Cayenne Pepper to Taste

**Directions:** In a deep covered saucepan bring the vegetable broth to a boil, add the bulgar and sunflower seeds, let boil covered for 5 minutes. Add the remaining ingredients, turn burner off. Cover and let sit for 20 minutes or until the liquid is absorbed and the bulgar is soft. Serves 5

#### Corn Chowder

- 1 tablespoon oil
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 cups water
- 2 stalks celery and 2 carrots, chopped
- 2 17-ounce cans vegan creamed corn
- 1 cup soymilk
- 1 potato, chopped
- 1-1/2 teaspoons garlic powder
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
- salt and pepper to taste

**Directions:** Sauté onion in oil over medium-high heat until soft. Add water and chopped celery and carrots. Cook 10 minutes. Add creamed corn, soymilk, chopped potato, and spices. Continue cooking for another 10 minutes. Serve hot. Serves 5

#### Cheesy Potato Boats

- 4 large baking potatoes
- 1/2 small butternut squash
- 1/2 cup soy non-hydrogenated margarine
- sea salt and pepper

**Directions:** These potatoes really taste like they have cheese in them!! And the color of the squash makes it look like it, too! Place baked potatoes in preheated 450\* oven. Do not wrap in foil, you want the skin to be tough. Bake for one hour. While potatoes are cooking, steam or boil the butternut squash until tender (steamed is better). Drain the squash.

Remove the spuds from the oven and cut in half. Scoop the guts out and put into a big bowl. Make sure that you leave about a 1/4" of potato attached to the skin. Add the cooked squash and margarine and a little sea salt, if you like. Mash it all together until you get the consistency of lumpy mashed potatoes. Place skin halves on baking sheet and scoop mixture back inside each skin. Place bake in oven for 10 minutes. For crispy tops, coat top with melted soy margarine and place under broiler for 3-5 minutes. Serves: 4-8

#### Pumpkin Tofu Pie

- 1 29oz canned pumpkin
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- 1 16oz silken tofu (firm)
- 2 unbaked 9 inch pie shells

**Directions:** Mix together the pumpkin, salt, sugar, and pie spice. Blend or food process the tofu until smooth. Stir into the pumpkin mixture, and pour into the pie shells. Bake in preheated oven at 425 degrees for 15 minutes. Turn down the temperature to 375 and continue to bake for 45 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the middle comes out clean. Makes: 2 pies

#### Sweet Potato Pie

- 1 1/2 large baked sweet potato
- 1 cup soft tofu
- 1 Tbs agar or 2 Tbs whole grain flour
- 1/2 - 1 Cup sucanat
- 3 Tbs Olive Oil
- 1 Tsp powdered ginger
- 1 Tsp Vanilla Essence
- 1 Tsp nutmeg
- 1 Tsp cinnamon or cardamom
- 1 Tsp cloves
- Pinch of Sea Salt

**Directions:** Peel the sweet potatoes, place in a food processor and puree until smooth. Add the tofu and process until smooth. There should be no lumps. Add the remaining ingredients and mix well. Spoon pie mixture into a large pie dish, (Optional - top with crust) and bake in a preheated 350 degree oven for 40 minutes. Do not allow crust to burn. You can Easily Substitute the potatoes with pumpkin to have pumpkin pie.

**For more Thanksgiving Recipes, visit these informative sites:**

[www.gentlethanksgiving.org/about.htm](http://www.gentlethanksgiving.org/about.htm)  
<http://vegweb.com/food/events/index-thanksgiving.shtml>  
[www.pcrm.org/health/Recipes/thanksgiving.html](http://www.pcrm.org/health/Recipes/thanksgiving.html)  
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[www.tazarat.com/thanksgiving.html](http://www.tazarat.com/thanksgiving.html)

# Meetings

## HARVEY BROOME GROUP (Knoxville)

**NOVEMBER PROGRAM MEETING: Tuesday, November 13, 7:30 p.m.**, Tennessee Valley Unitarian-Universalist Church, 2931 Kingston Pike. - Beverly Smith, John Dunlap, Kim Robinette, and Will Skelton will present a PowerPoint of their 17-day tour last year of the "Highlights" of China. They saw not only such major attractions as the Great Wall, Temple of Heaven, Yangtze River, terra cotta soldiers, Li River, etc., but enough places off the beaten-path to get "a decent feel" for what China is like. That nation is obviously a "rising tiger" that is going to have a much bigger role in the world's future, but it also has incredible problems, especially political (a dictatorship with a capitalist economy) and environmental (they're running out of water and suffer from pervasive pollution). Everyone is welcome. For information call John Finger at 865-573-5908.



**DECEMBER HOLIDAY PROGRAM AND SOCIAL!: Tuesday, December 11, 7:30 p.m.**, Tennessee Valley Unitarian-Universalist Church, 2931 Kingston Pike. - Bring some of your favorite edibles to share and join us for lots of fun! We're asking HBG members and friends to show

favorite recent photos of travel, outings, the environment, or other things of interest to our group. Please, no more than ten minutes per person, including your commentary. Ron Shrieves, our Outings Chair, will coordinate the presentations, so contact him in advance regarding technical details, etc., at 922-3518 or ronaldshrieves@comcast.net. No photos? No problem! Come anyway and share the goodies and socializing. All welcome.

## MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP (Nashville)

**NOVEMBER PROGRAM MEETING: Thursday, November 8, 7:00 p.m.** at Radnor Lake Visitor Center, 1160 Otter Creek Road, Nashville. - What a meeting this will be! If you haven't (or even if you have) seen the original slide show "An Inconvenient Truth" as presented by our own Al Gore, you must see it when Tami Coleman presents it for our group. Tami's approach is not only to present the visuals, but to go a step further and discuss what various communities are already doing to reduce their "carbon footprints". Did you know, for example, that Publix and most grocery chains now carry canvas bags that you may purchase for less than \$1.50 to use instead of plastic? That's just a small idea and she has lots more.

Tami is the coordinator of Project CENTS (Conservation Education Now for Tennessee Students), which is a joint project of the Tennessee Department of Education and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) that works to encourage and facilitate education experienced by K-12 students across the state.

We invite you to come to the slide show "An Inconvenient Truth" at a convenient time and place. Visitors are always welcome. Please call Martha Wilson at 376-2535 more information or directions

**NOVEMBER STRATEGY MEETING: Tuesday, November 27 at 6:30 p.m.** in the old St. Bernard's Academy Building, 2021 21st Avenue South, 4th floor. Conservation issues are first on the agenda. All members are invited to attend this conservation and administrative meeting to get the news on what's happening in our Middle Tennessee Group. We welcome you to be with us to learn about the group's conservation initiatives and community activities. For conservation issues or additions to the conservation agenda, contact Diane Perschbacher at 615-895-1236 or email Diane@Propson.com. For additions to the administrative agenda or for more information regarding the meetings, send a message to Rachel Floyd at rfloyd557@bellsouth.net or call 792-2590.

**DECEMBER HOLIDAY PARTY: Saturday, December 15, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.** - In December there will be no program meeting, but we will have our traditional Potluck Dinner Holiday Party instead. EVERYONE is invited, of course! Our hosts this year will be Betsy Garber and Steve Vining. The place will be at 1327 Otter Creek Road (between Granny White Pike and Hillsboro Pike). Call Betsy Garber to RSVP (although you can just drop by if you like) or for more information at 615-370-9454. See you there!



**DECEMBER STRATEGY MEETING:** December's strategy meeting falls on Christmas Day this year, therefore, this month's

will be held on **Thursday,**

**January 3, at 6:30 p.m.** Same location in the old St. Bernard's Academy Building, 2021 21st Avenue South, 4th floor. Conservation issues are first on the agenda. All members are invited to attend this conservation and

administrative meeting to get the news on what's happening in our Middle Tennessee Group. We welcome you to be with us to learn about the group's conservation initiatives and community activities. For conservation issues or additions to the conservation agenda, contact Diane Perschbacher at 615-895-1236 or email Diane@Propson.com. For additions to the administrative agenda or for more information regarding the meetings, send a message to Rachel Floyd at rfloyd557@bellsouth.net or call 792-2590.

**JANUARY PROGRAM PREVIEW: On the second Thursday of the month, January 10 at 7:00 p.m.** we will have a wonderful presentation showing some of the lush landscapes preserved forever by the Land Trust for Tennessee. Please plan to come and see what great things this group has accomplished!

**JANUARY STRATEGY MEETING: Tuesday, January 22 at 6:30 p.m.** in the old St. Bernard's Academy Building, 2021 21st Avenue South, 4th floor. Conservation issues are first on the agenda. All members are invited to attend this conservation and administrative meeting to get the news on what's happening in our Middle Tennessee Group. We welcome you to be with us to learn about the group's conservation initiatives and community activities. For conservation issues or additions to the conservation agenda, contact Diane Perschbacher at 615-895-1236 or email Diane@Propson.com. For additions to the administrative agenda or for more information regarding the meetings, send a message to Rachel Floyd at rfloyd557@bellsouth.net or call 792-2590.

## STATE OF FRANKLIN GROUP (Tri-Cities)

**NOVEMBER MEETING: Wednesday, November 7.** Starting 6:30 p.m. (Strategy Meeting) and at 7:30 p.m. (Program Meeting). Join us for our regular Excom strategy meeting followed by a program presentation on Sierra Club's Cool Cities. Holston Valley Unitarian Universalist Church in Gray, TN - 136 Bob Jobe Road, off Exit 10 (Eastern Star) I-26. Contact Vincent Whitright at cleanenery@excite.com or 423-747-1967 for more information.

**DECEMBER MEETING/HOLIDAY PARTY: Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.** Starting 6:30 p.m. (Strategy Meeting) and at 7:30 p.m. (Holiday Party). The evening will begin with



our regular Excom strategy meeting followed by multiple short presentations by miscellaneous speakers and our Holiday Potluck Party! Holston Valley Unitarian Universalist Church in Gray, TN - 136 Bob Jobe Road, off Exit 10 (Eastern Star) I-26. Contact Vincent Whitright at cleanenery@excite.com or 423-747-1967 for more information.

**JANUARY MEETING: Wednesday, January 2.** Starting 6:30 p.m. (Strategy Meeting) and at 7:30 p.m. (Program Meeting). Holston Valley Unitarian Universalist Church in Gray, TN - 136 Bob Jobe Road, off Exit 10 (Eastern Star) I-26. Contact Vincent Whitright at cleanenery@excite.com or 423-747-1967 for more information.

## WATAUA GROUP

**PROGRAM MEETINGS:** Every second Tuesday at 7 p.m.. Please contact Gloria Griffith at gla4797@earthlink.net or 423-727-4797 for more information.

## UPPER CUMBERLAND GROUP (Cookeville)

**PROGRAM MEETINGS: The fourth Thursday at 7:00 p.m.** (four times a year at a minimum) in the lower level meeting room of the Putnam County Public Library. Please contact Peggy Evans at 931-432-6680 or maevas@TWWLakes.net for more information.

## CHEROKEE GROUP (Chattanooga)

For information on upcoming outings visit our web site at <http://www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/cherokee/index.htm>

## CHICKASAW GROUP (Memphis)

**NOVEMBER MONTHLY FIRST THURSDAY MEMBERS GATHERINGS: November 1, December 6, &**

**January 3, 5:30-7:00 p.m.** - 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. Anyone interested in learning about the Sierra Club is invited. For more information, contact Juliet Jones, Vice Chair, at (901) 374-0582 or juliet101@comcast.net.

**FALL ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE: November 3, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.** - At LeMoyne-Owen College, Free and open to the public! Pre-registration required. Come at 8:30 for coffee! Topic: "Protecting Where We Live, Work, and Play! What Can YOU Do?" Keynote speaker, 12:30-2:00 p.m.: Leslie G. Fields, National Environmental Justice Director, Sierra Club. Morning workshops start at 10:15 and 11:30. Afternoon workshop starts at 2:30 p.m.. For more information, contact Sierra Club Environmental Justice Organizer Rita Harris at (901) 324-7757 or rita.harris@sierraclub.org.

This conference is a "Step It Up 2007" event. November 3 is the organization's "National Day of Climate Action," and Rita has some special climate-related announcements to make. To find out more about the organization, visit [www.stepitup2007.org/](http://www.stepitup2007.org/)

**NOVEMBER STRATEGY MEETING: November 12, December 10, & January 14, 6:30 p.m.** - 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 Tom Lawrence by November 9 (November meeting), December 7 (December meeting), or January 11 (January meeting) to place items on the agenda: (901) 237-4819 or bus@thecave.com

**NOVEMBER PROGRAM MEETING: Wednesday, November 28, 7:00 p.m.** - Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library, 3030 Poplar, Memphis, TN. Come at 6:30 p.m. for social time! Program meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.. The public is invited. Special guest Shannon K. Hornsby, Executive Director of Walk/Bike Nashville, will discuss Nashville's successful program to provide walk and bike paths, safety programs, and public education. Walking, bicycling, and other forms of non-motorized travel improve the health and well-being of participating Nashvillians. Planning and design, public education and enforcement thus make Nashville's streets and neighborhoods safer and more functional for all modes of travel. For more information, contact Steven Sondheim at (901) 761-1793 or stevensondheim@yahoo.com.

**DECEMBER CHICKASAW GROUP HOLIDAY PARTY (in place of December program meeting):** Friday, December 14, 7:00 p.m. - Burch, Porter, Johnson Law Firm, 130 North Court Avenue. Non-members are welcome! Celebrate the season with the Chickasaw Group of the Sierra Club. Bring your favorite dish and join us for a time to have fun and honor the group's accomplishments. Cash bar, prizes, and more. For more information, contact (901) 320-7191, [tsullivan24@comcast.net](mailto:tsullivan24@comcast.net).



## DEFENDERS OF TENNESSEE MAILING PARTY

**WHEN: Tuesday, November 6, 7:00 p.m.**  
**WHERE: 4641 Villa Green Drive, Nashville**

**WHY:** For any who do not know, the Tennessee Chapter of the Sierra Club has an active and successful lobbying and advocacy program, funded through an annual campaign known as the Defenders of Tennessee. Through this important program we are able to retain the services of a lobbyist to represent the Club on Capitol Hill, with many environmental victories under our belt. Since we send letters to those who have already joined the Defenders in the past rather than to all Tennessee members, there will not be an overwhelming amount of work to be done, but more than we want to do by ourselves.

It is important for us to get the letter in the mail early in November. We need people to help for a couple of hours folding, stuffing, labeling, and stamping. We'll provide the beer, sodas, and snacks if you'll lend us a hand.



Please call Adelle or Bill at 615 665-1010 for more information. Thanks!

# Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club Election 2007

## Election Ballot for At-Large Delegates For the 2008-2009 Tennessee Chapter Executive Committee

Please vote for three (3) of the following candidates.

Membership Type  
Single Dual

- Clark A. Buchner  
  Catherine Murray  
  Axel Ringe  
  Keith Romig

Only Current members can vote. Please put your membership number (found on the mailing label of the Tennes-Sierran) on the outside of the envelope. Place that envelope inside another envelope and mail by close of business, Monday, December 3, 2007 to:

**Robert M. Hill**  
Election Committee Chair  
11504 Mountain View Road  
Knoxville TN 37934

Candidate Statements: (Also posted on the Chapter Web page)

### CLARK A. BUCHNER

I have been a Sierra Club member since 1976, and have served as Chair for the Chickasaw Group and for the Tennessee Chapter as well as Delegate to the Council of Club Leaders (CCL). Currently I am acting Co-Chair of Global Warming and Energy Committee and as Award's Chair for the Chapter. At the national level of the club, I chair the Sustainable Planet Strategy Team, and am a member of the CCL Ex-Com. I would like very much to continue my connection to the Tennessee Chapter as a member of the Chapter Executive Committee, and urges you to please vote for me as a Delegate at Large

### CATHERINE MURRAY

I have been a Sierra member since 1992 of State of Franklin Group and since 2004 a member of Watauga Group. For SOFG she has served as Water Committee Chair, Conservation Chair and National Forest Committee Chair.

I served on the Tennessee Chapter Executive Committee 1998 – 2007, At Large Delegate 2005-2007; the Wild Legacy committee and is the National Forest Sub-Committee Chair; as delegate on the Southern Appalachian Highlands Ero-region Task force 2002- 2007 and the TN Chapter Sierra Club Environmental Justice lead volunteer of the Central Appalachian (coal mining environmental issues) project 2001-07.

I work for the protection of our water, recreation opportunities, biodiversity, wild places and healthy communities surrounding the forest. I work for restoration and protection of biodiversity through improving protection of fish, wildlife, plant, soil and water and forest resources. I



**Your vote counts here and at the Group level, so don't forget to vote for your Group candidates too!!**

advocate the availability of nature oriented recreation with work towards the protection of our wild places. I highly value the scenic values of our nation forests.

I have been honored to receive the Sierra Club Tennessee Chapter Mack Prichard award for contributions to the preservation of our environment in 2003 and the Sara Hines Award for conservation in 2006.

### AXEL RINGE

I have been a member of the Sierra Club for 11 years, have served on the Harvey Broome Group ExCom since 2001, and have served as Group Chair since 2004. I am semi-retired from government service in Oak Ridge and have the time and energy to devote to moving the Chapter forward in protecting and enhancing the environment in our region. My particular passions are water quality, surface coal mining, forests, and biodiversity, and I actively advocate for those issues. I am currently serving on the TN Chapter ExCom and am the chair of the Wildlife Legacy Super-committee, the Water Quality Committee and the Biodiversity committee. The Tennessee Chapter ExCom needs to build up its cadre of active, committed members who will undertake the advocacy and organizational challenges that lie before us. I will work actively to see that happen. I would like to continue to serve the Chapter by being elected to the Chapter ExCom as an At Large Delegate.

### KEITH ROMIG

I earned a doctorate in chemical engineering at the University of Colorado and, not wishing to be beholden to the corporate world, took a career detour into the labor movement. After stints in Denver, Washington, and New Jersey, I came to Tennessee 16 years ago to work for the Paperworkers union. Through a series of mergers, I have served as information officer, communications director, and international affairs director and now work for the United Steelworkers as a strategic issues representative.

Since 2006 I have been fundraising chair of our Chapter, and have raised well over \$20,000 to support our Club's activities. Environmental issues such as global warming, energy conservation, the continuing spread of toxic substances, and the degradation of our natural heritage, both in the United States and worldwide grow increasingly urgent. It will require all our efforts to change things for the better. That's why I have been moved to step up and increase my own activities. When we work together we will make a difference!

# Chickasaw Group ExCom Ballot

You may vote for up to nine (9) candidates for the Chickasaw Group ExCom. Enclose your marked ballot in a plain envelope and place it inside a second envelope for mailing. Write your membership number (found on the label of your Tennes-Sierran) on the outer envelope with your return address. Envelopes without a membership number cannot be counted so please follow these instructions carefully!

Mail your ballot to:  
Chickasaw Group  
Attn: Election Committee  
PO Box 111094  
Memphis, TN 38111

All ballots must be postmarked before Sunday, December 16, 2007. Please vote!

## MEMBERSHIP TYPE

SINGLE DUAL

_____	_____	Gary Bridgman
_____	_____	Jessica Gibbons
_____	_____	David George
_____	_____	Tricia Higgins
_____	_____	Keith Hoover
_____	_____	Ed Jones
_____	_____	Nancy Ream
_____	_____	Steven Sondheim
_____	_____	Paul Stasz
_____	_____	Amy Stewart-Banbury

## Chickasaw Group Candidate Statements

### GARY BRIDGMAN

Gary Bridgman is co-chair of the recently formed Creation Care Ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of West Tennessee, whose mission is: "Connecting to God's sacred creation in West Tennessee for service, advocacy, justice, and celebration." Related to this work, he teaches a youth Sunday school class at St. Mary's Episcopal Cathedral entitled "Heaven and Nature." He was a very active board member of the Wolf River Conservancy from 1996-2002 and served as the group's president from 2002-2004. He also served on the AgriCenter board during 2002-2003. Gary has been a Memphis resident since 1968 (when he was 4) and currently lives in Vollintine-Evergreen with his wife and son. A writer and editor by trade, he is a marketing-communications manager with Smith & Nephew.

### JESSICA GIBBONS

Jessica Gibbons is a junior at the University of Memphis majoring in International Studies with a focus on environmental studies and feminist theory. She is a founding member of the U of M Environmental Action Club (EAC) and was a core leader in the EAC's Green Power Campaign. As a result of her and her classmates' efforts, the U of M now purchases 10% of its energy from renewable sources, and this is just the beginning. She has served on the Cool Counties/Cities committee since summer of 2006, and is looking to begin working on environmental justice issues. She is a dedicated and energetic organizer, and is hoping to bring her experiences and energy to the Chickasaw Group's ExCom.

### DAVID GEORGE

David has a keen interest in protecting wild places and making our urban environments cleaner and greener. David works as a graphic designer and is renovating a home in midtown with his wife and their children.

### TRICIA HIGGINS

Tricia Higgins and her partner are recent residents of Memphis because their daughter now lives in Memphis. Tricia retired from Verizon Wireless in 2004 and has previously

lived in Georgia, California and North Carolina. She joined the Sierra Club while in Georgia and is an environmental advocate, birdwatcher, avid reader and new babysitter. She enjoys recycling, being an animal advocate (wild and domestic), providing funds and volunteer help to parks and wildlife, and of course being a good environmentalist.

### KEITH HOOVER

For over twenty years, Keith Hoover has worked as a scientist providing laboratory services for governments, industries, consultants, citizens, and non-profit organizations, including the Sierra Club's Water Sentinels program. His concern for the environment and his love of nature has led to his involvement with the Sierra Club by participating in group outings and volunteering for special events. Keith enjoys walking or hiking in scenic places, visiting historic sites, and attending living history events. Due to his love of both history and nature, Keith is an advocate for preserving all historic and scenic areas.

### ED JONES

Ed Jones grew up enjoying the outdoors in Ohio and Canada and wants to give back a little so there will be some outdoors for his four children and five grandchildren to enjoy. Ed is new to the environmental movement but looks forward to participating in Sierra Club activities and learning the ropes. Ed is interested in recycling, simplifying life style, and hazardous waste disposal. He has served as newsletter editor for several organizations as well as president of a private community where he resided for two years. Ed is a pharmacist who practices in the hospice environment. His principal recreation is bicycling (and swimming in the summertime). He is married to Juliet Jones who is currently serving on the ExCom.

### NANCY REAM

I have always been an outdoor person. I am married and have raised two daughters in 8 states and one foreign country. My daughters both work in conservation jobs in Seattle and Denver. I believe it is the responsibility of each person to care for the environment in the best way that he or she can. Each of us can make a difference in this world and working together we will succeed! The Sierra Club allows people to find their interest and work in that area. My particular interest is getting people outdoors to enjoy nature. We need open spaces to walk, hike, bike, see the hawks fly and watch the animals go about their lives. We need these places to be accessible to all people. That is what I am working to do.

### STEVEN SONDHEIM

An environmental advocate who's served as Chickasaw Conservation Chair and Chapter Vice-Chair. Currently Chapter Delegate, Co-Chair Energy Super-Committee, and Chair Chapter Cool Cities. Interests: Parks/Greenways, Bike/Ped, Smart Growth, integrating transportation with land use, Smart Energy Solutions and Climate Change. Past board member of Friends of Shelby Farms, instrumental in encouraging use of the Context Sensitive Design process for a reduced and more sensible design of Shelby Farms Parkway. Coordinator of the Citizens of Transportation Reform, Steve works with local and state planners on smart transportation planning committees. Steve works to build coalitions of Memphis environmental/community groups including Greater Memphis Greenline (rail to trail), GGM, Coalition for Livable Communities, etc. As BEC Co-Chair, he is working to increase volunteerism, activism and citizen involvement.

### PAUL STASZ

Paul Stasz has been active in environmental issues since planting seedlings on his family's tree farms in western Massachusetts. Prior environmental activism includes helping stop construction of a sewage treatment plant on the St. Lawrence River, NY. He provided research data to stop plans for opening the Great Lakes to year-round navigation. While working directly with the Commissioner of the NY State DEC to preserve small-parcel private wetlands in the Adirondacks, he successfully remediated several shoreline underground fuel storage tanks. At International Paper, he argued for, then helped close the company's oil wells in Louisiana. And he has a giant redwood tree (Sequoiadendron) growing successfully in his back yard in Cordova.

### AMY STEWART-BANBURY

Amy Stewart-Banbury is a native Memphian whose natural interests include native and medicinal plants, wild foods, weed foraging, and hiking. She and her family reside in midtown where they do their best to live a sustainable lifestyle. Amy is also a member of the Tennessee Native Plant Society, a Girl Scout leader, and part owner of Trillium WomanCare and The Kitchen Kauldron.

S J  
**JOSIE McQUAIL**  
[ ] [ ]

Josie has been a member of U.C. Sierra Club almost from its beginning in 1994. She is currently vice-chair of our Group. Josie is an English professor at TTU and the mother of three children. She is especially interested in global warming issues. She has written several articles for the Tennes-Sierran. Josie is an avid reader and writer on environmental issues.

\_\_\_\_\_  
WRITE IN CANDIDATE

## PLEASE RETURN YOUR BALLOTS BY DECEMBER 1, 2007 TO:

**Margaret Olson**  
**P.O. BOX 256**  
**Pleasant Hill TN 38578**

Only current members may vote. Please record your membership number on the outside of your envelope. Membership numbers are above your name in the addressed part of every newsletter.

# UPPER CUMBERLAND GROUP BALLOT 2007

Please vote for TWO.  
S = Single membership  
J = Joint Membership

S J  
**PEGGY EVANS**  
[ ] [ ]

Peggy has been chair of the Group since 2002. She is a homemaker and activist in several groups, including SOCM (Save Our Cumberland Mountains), Citizens for Transportation Reform, and CARA (Cookeville Area Residents Association). She is currently chair of the Cookeville Tree Board. Peggy is the web mistress for the Group and sends out periodic Action Alerts to members online.

\_\_\_\_\_  
WRITE IN CANDIDATE

## Harvey Broome Group Election Ballot For the 2008-2009 Executive Committee

Please vote for five (5) of the following candidates. Each will serve a 2 year term if elected.

### MEMBERSHIP TYPE SINGLE DUAL

John Finger  
  Allan (Al) Miller  
  Ray Payne  
  Axel Ringe  
  Ron Shrieves

Only Current members may so please put your membership number (found on the mailing label of this Tennes-Sierran) on the outside of the envelope.

Clip and send this ballot by December 3, 2007 to:

Robert M. Hill  
11504 Mountain View Road  
Knoxville TN. 37934

**Please remember to vote also on the Chapter At large Delegate Ballot found in this issue of the Tennes-Sierran**

Following is a brief resume for each nominee:

#### JOHN FINGER

John Finger is a professor emeritus in the history department of the University of Tennessee, and from 1997 until his retirement in 2000 he was head of the department. He also served on the executive committee of UT Faculty Senate and chaired that body's committee overseeing the university's intercollegiate athletics. A member of the Harvey Broome Group since 1982, he has served as chair of the group as well as on the executive committee. His major outdoor activities include hiking, backpacking, and pursuing the wily trout.

## MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP (MTG) ELECTION BALLOT

**FOR YOUR VOTE TO COUNT**, you must enclose your marked ballot in an envelope marked "Ballot" on the outside. Place that envelope in another envelope for mailing. Write your membership number, which can be found on the address label of your newsletter, on the outer envelope with your return address. **ENVELOPES WITHOUT A MEMBERSHIP NUMBER CANNOT BE COUNTED.** Mail your ballot to Adelle Wood - 4641 Villa Green Drive - Nashville, TN 37215. The deadline for submitting your ballot is December 1.

**PLEASE VOTE!** A low turnout means that the election is decided by very few votes, sometimes only one or two. We need and invite your participation.

**VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN THREE NOMINEES:**

### MEMBERSHIP TYPE SINGLE DUAL

DAVE BORDENKIRCHER  
  CARL LEATHERS  
  KATHERINE PENDLETON  
  DIANE PERSCHBACHER

**Please remember to vote also on the Chapter At large Delegate Ballot found in this issue of the Tennes-Sierran**

Following is a brief resume for each nominee:

#### DAVE BORDENKIRCHER

I joined the Sierra Club in 1982 to be a part of the Club's effort to amend the US Clean Air Act. I was active in the Chattanooga group before moving to Nashville. In 1988 I served as a delegate to the Tennessee Chapter Executive Committee and soon got involved with the effort in Nashville to increase recycling of solid waste. Sierra Club helped to bring the recycling that Nashville has today. I have served on the Board of Directors of Recycle!Nashville, an organization that was formed to promote recycling. In 2003 I was appointed to be volunteer coordinator for the Recycle drop off site in Nashville that Sierra Club sponsors. I was active in the lobbying effort of the Sierra Club and other groups to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from proposed oil exploration. I served on the Middle Tennessee Group's Executive Committee in 2005 and 2006. From July 2005 to the end of 2006 I served as chairman of MTG. I am now a delegate to the Tennessee Chapter Executive Committee and serve as secretary to MTG. For the past two years when the Tennessee General Assembly was in session, I have attended the weekly meetings of Tennessee Conservation Voters, where I have helped decide which legislation to focus on. I am a member of the Smart Growth/Land Use Planning Committee and Global Warming/Energy Committee that are parts of the Energy Super Committee of the Tennessee Chapter. I work in the Local Planning Assistance Office, a division of State government that advises Planning Commissions of small towns.

#### ALLAN (AL) MILLER

I am a graduate of the University of Tennessee and a resident of Knoxville. I have been a member of Sierra Club since 2000 and I am active in the Harvey Broome Group (HBG). I am co-founder and co-owner of the "/\*Disk\*/ Exchange", a business, now in its 20th year, that sells new and used CD's and DVD's in two Knoxville locations. My priorities for HBG include increasing the number of HBG members and improving the financial strength of the HBG. I am also interested increasing the involvement of our members in HBG activities and environmental issues within the HBG boundaries. I believe that enlarging and activating the membership and strengthening our finances will position the HBG to be more influential in making our views known on environmental and other related issues that are important to us.

#### RAY PAYNE

Ray Payne is a long-time member since 1967. His is a former Chapter Chair, Chapter Vice Chair, Chapter Conservation Chair, HBG delegate on the Chapter ExCom for several years, member of the HBG ExCom for several years, and HBG Conservation Chair. He currently chairs the Chapter's Smokies Committee and HBG's Smokies Committee. He loves to hike, backpack, and canoe local and distant mountains, rivers, and canyons.

#### AXEL RINGE

I have been a member of the Sierra Club for 11 years, have served on the Harvey Broome Group ExCom since 2001, and have served as Group Chair since 2004. I am semi-retired from government service in Oak Ridge and have the time and energy to devote to moving the HBG forward in protecting and enhancing the environment in our region. My particular passions are water quality, surface coal mining, forests, and biodiversity, and I actively advocate for those issues. I am currently serving as HBG Group Chair and on the TN Chapter ExCom, I am the chair of the Wildlife Legacy Super-Committee, the Water Quality Committee and the Biodiversity committee. The HBG needs to build up its cadre of active, committed members who will undertake the advocacy and organizational challenges that lie before us. I will work actively to see that happen. I would like to continue to serve the Group and Chapter by being re-elected to the HBG ExCom.

#### RON SHRIEVES

I have lived in Knoxville for 35 years, and am a retired professor of Finance at the University of Tennessee. I am married (Ginger), with two grown children. I have been a member of the Sierra Club since 1988, and of the Nature Conservancy since 2000. I have been involved in outings since joining the Club, and a member of the Executive Committee for almost four years, and served as HBG Outing Chair for the past three years. I am used to committee work, and to working in a team setting, and feel that I can contribute to the critical work of the executive committee. I also feel obligated to contribute in a meaningful way to the environmental goals that the Sierra Club has articulated so well.

#### CARL LEATHERS

I have been active in the Sierra Club group and Chapter for 3 decades, serving as group chair, secretary, treasurer, conservation chair, membership chair, and outings leader. I have been a delegate to the Chapter for several terms and currently serve as Chapter secretary. My major concern is reviving a weakened environmental community to the level of activity experienced in the 1970's, when most of our environmental laws were created. Presently I serve as chair of the Environmental Education Committee and the Population Committee of the Tennessee Chapter.

My projects for 2008-09 are to print 500 copies of the Population Committee's brochure on population as an environmental dilemma and to hold a series of "conversations" or forums on environmental history and evolution

#### KATHERINE PENDLETON

My name is Katherine Pendleton. I joined the Sierra Club in 1993 largely because I was interested in backpacking with people who have an appreciation for the outdoors. In 2002 I became active with the Middle Tennessee Group in Nashville as an outings leader and shortly thereafter was asked to become the group outings chair. As the needs of the group changed I served as membership chair, program chair, and eventually group chair. I am currently serving Middle TN Group as the Outings Chair, coordinating group outings as well as leading at least one outing per month and conducting monthly Outings Leader Training.

Currently I am serving the Tennessee Chapter as chapter chair and CCL alternate. I served the chapter as chapter outings chair from 2004-2007 and chapter treasurer from 2005-2007. I currently am serving on two national Sierra Club committees including the Nominating Committee for the Board of Directors Election and the Local Outings Support Committee. I attended the Sierra Summit in 2005 as a chapter delegate and led one of the outings there during that week.

Your support will be appreciated. I promise to continue serving the Middle Tennessee Group in such ways to support the grassroots efforts of our Club in fighting global warming.

#### DIANE PERSCHBACHER

I have been a member of Sierra Club for over 15 years, becoming quite active since moving to Tennessee. Over the course of the past four years, I have tried to espouse the three arms of Sierra: love of nature through recreation, conservation and political activism. As an outings leader, I have taken many to the historic and beautiful places of Tennessee, as well as assisted with training of outings leaders through Wilderness First Aid classes. I currently serve as MTG treasurer. As the group's conservation chair, I try to keep abreast of issues brought to my attention as well as initiate public educational activities. Part of conservation is also political activism, where I've started to become active through partnership development and meeting with local representatives. I have also assisted Sierra in an administrative capacity, to facilitate the running of both the local group and chapter. Two of my goals, moving forward, will be to facilitate the development of more conservation partnerships within Tennessee and to reach out to members when conservation issues such as renewable energy generation need a legislative boost.

## State of Franklin Group Election Ballot For the 2008-2009 Executive Committee

Please vote for five (5) of the following candidates. The 2 candidates with the most votes, or the top 2, will serve a 2 year term, and the remaining 3, or the bottom 3, will serve a one 1 year term.

### MEMBERSHIP TYPE

SINGLE    DUAL

\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ JOANNA SIMMONS

\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ VINCENT WHITRIGHT

\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ JANICE KASTEN

\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ TOM MOZEN

\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ MARY GAVLIK

Only Current members may vote so please put your membership number (found on the mailing label of this Tennes-Sierran) on the outside of the envelope.

Clip and send this ballot by December 3, 2007 to:

**Powell Foster**  
**491 1st Street South Unit 312**  
**Saint Petersburg, Florida 33701**

Please remember to vote also on the Chapter At large Delegate Ballot found in this issue of the Tennes-Sierran

Following is a brief resume for each SOFG nominee:

### JOANNA SIMMONS

Joanna currently occupies the position of Interim Group Secretary for SOFG. She states; "I have always enjoyed hiking, mountain biking, and just being out in nature. I would like to continue as the Group Secretary because I want to make sure there is structure and continuity within the group, and I feel it will help me to allow others to experience the outdoors".

### VINCENT WHITRIGHT

Vincent currently occupies the position of Interim Group Chair of SOFG. He says' "Spreading the ideas and concepts of the Sierra Club is something I find as a necessity for our area, and I wish to make sure the message of the Sierra Club flourishes in the region I live in. I also hope to make an impact on the future by encouraging clean ways of producing and using energy".

### JANICE KASTEN

Janice currently occupies the position of Interim Group Treasurer. Janice states; "I want to contribute in preserving this world for future generations to enjoy. I believe that the Sierra Club is one of the most effective organizations for safeguarding our physical environment".

### TOM MOZEN

I'm an architect/builder involved in "green building" and ecological design. A member of the Sierra Club for over 10 years and other environmental organizations, I would like to see the group grow and expand in many different areas.

### MARY GAVLIK

Having held the Vice Chair position in the Sierra Club State of Franklin Group, I believe that I can benefit the group through holding the Membership Chair position.

## Watauga Group EXCOM Ballot

Please vote for no more than four (4) of the following candidates. Each will serve a 2 year term if elected.

### MEMBERSHIP TYPE

SINGLE    DUAL

\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ Ann Austin

\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ Rick Foster

\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ Gordon Mowrey

\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ Louise Shoen

Only Current members may vote so please put your membership number (found on the mailing label of this Tennes-Sierran) on the outside of the envelope.

Clip and send this ballot by December 3, 2007 to:

Gloria Griffith  
Watauga Group Sierra Club  
5907 Hwy 421 South  
Mountain City, TN 37683

EXCOM nomination bios for 2008 Election cycle:

### ANN AUSTIN

Member of the Sierra Club since 2004. Marine biologist by degree, a wildlife enthusiast, perennial gardener and photographer by inclination. Active in membership & fundraising drives, water issues and current member of WG EXCOM.

### RICK FOSTER

In fourteen years of involvement with environmental issues and community issues having environmental relevance, I've seen some amazing ways that people can bumble environmental issues by just not bothering to know what they're doing, and, in some grievous occasions, not wanting to know what they're doing. Recognizing the need for more attention to observable reality, I got degrees of Bachelor of Science in Resource & Environmental Management and a Master of Science in Biology for researching invasive

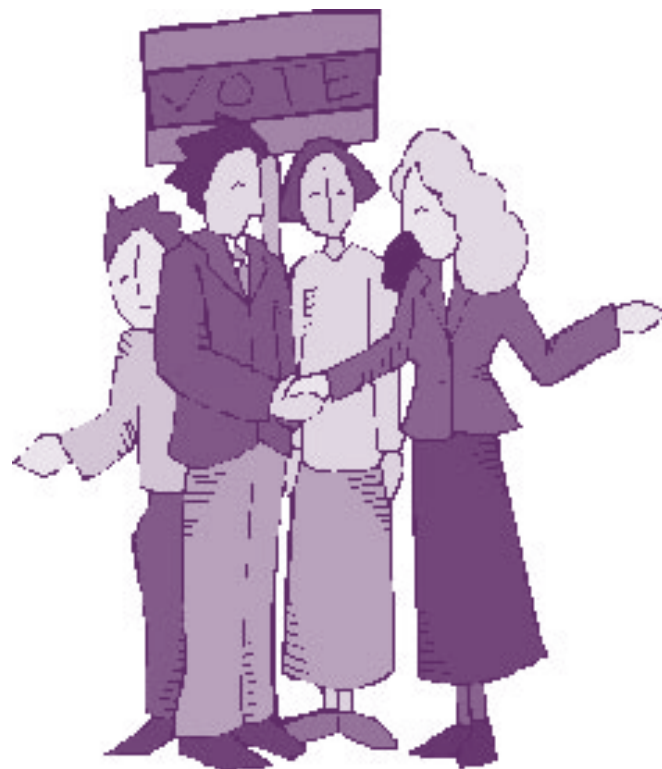
species control in a wetland mitigation bank, in the process changing a destructive grounds policy in U of MI's School of Natural Resources & Environment and creating recommendations for native species reestablishment and invasive species exclusion in Shady Valley preserves. Since then I've had jobs including volunteer seed collections, monitoring protected species, plus writing a habitat stewardship plan to jointly manage a lakeshore marsh preserve for diverse migrating bird species, breeding bald eagles, a protected snake, and the hunting & fishing club that originally donated the land for tax purposes. Vote for me because I'm different and diversity is an advantage.

### GORDON MOWREY

Lived in Alaska for a lifetime then moved home to Mountain City, TN. Avid gardener and reader of good books. Active on road cleanups, fundraisers, membership drives and always ready to go on WG outings.

### LOUISE SHOEN

Real Estate broker for 26 years and proud grandmother of 8. Current WG EXCOM member, active on Safe & Healthy Community issues, fundraising committee, phone tree coordinator, and membership committee.





# Public Lands in Public Hands Day

## - Reflections of Re-Organizing SOFG Attendees

Submitted by Vincent Whitright,  
Interim Group Chair

Vincent Whitright and Joanna Simmons of the State of Franklin Group attended the national Public Lands in Public Hands Day event which was held in New Orleans, Louisiana on September 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>.

The first day was spent cleaning and establishing a path to the levee. This project was a joint partnership between the Sierra Club and the Holy Cross Neighborhood Association. This path leads to the Bayou Bienvenu in the Lower 9<sup>th</sup> Ward and was destroyed in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. This path is in the midst of controversy because special interests want to turn Florida Avenue into another "bridge to nowhere". The work that Whitright and Simmons did with the Sierra Club established a "path to somewhere", this future somewhere being a beautiful deck extending over the Bayou for the public to enjoy fishing, bird watching, and nature. See the link: [http://www.helpholycross.org/2007/04/bridge\\_to\\_nowhe.html](http://www.helpholycross.org/2007/04/bridge_to_nowhe.html) to find out more about the bridge to nowhere.

On Saturday evening members of the Sierra Club held a spaghetti dinner together with some of the residents in the Holy Cross neighborhood. The president of the Holy Cross Neighborhood, Charles Allen was in attendance as well as John Koeferl and others concerned with the environment in the neighborhoods destroyed by the storm. In addition the group was serenaded with a trumpet and tuba duet featuring traditional songs heard in New Orleans.

The second day entailed eradicating invasive species in the Pearl River National Wildlife Refuge. This was a joint partnership between the Sierra Club and the National Wildlife Federation. The Refuge consists of 37,500 acres of wildlife habitat including swamp rabbits, raccoons, turkeys, several species of woodpeckers, and other forms of wildlife. The project was to eradicate the Chinese Tallow trees that are so prevalent in the Refuge. Pre-Katrina there were approximately 1,000 tallow trees in the park. Post-Katrina there are over 20,000 trees in the park.

Witnessing the amount of devastation the area has suffered the two State of Franklin members returned to New Orleans and assisted the Holy Cross Neighborhood once again. Joanna Simmons assisted in painting the interior of a resident's home, and Vincent Whitright fixed some of the plumbing leaks within her house. His main focus was actually clearing out a local park for the local children to use. It took him two full days to clear the playground and make it accessible for children and families. It was amazing to see the results of just two volunteers. Remember you too can make an impact! If you wish to help make an impact, visit the Holy Cross website at: <http://www.helpholycross.org>.



Top Right - Joanna takes a peek over the Bayou Bienvenu Levee

Top Left - Joanna Simmons with New Orleans Fire Dept at the just cleared levee path

2nd Left - Vinnie and the conquered Delery Park

2nd Right - Beautifully cleared park after 2 days of hard work

Bottom Left - Vinnie - SOFG Interim Chair, Charles Allen - President of the Holy Cross Neighborhood Association, and Leslie March - Delta Chapter Chair of the Sierra Club



Bottom Right - Vinnie and Joanna ham it up for Yuki Takagi, Sierra Club in Nevada, who snapped the photo. The pack on Vinnie's back was used for spraying the Chinese Tallow trees in the Pearl River National Wildlife Refuge. Joanna hacked the larger trees by hand with her machete. No humans were hurt during the taking of this picture



All photos by Vincent Whitright and Joanna Simmons except where stated otherwise

# Outings

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/SignIn-Waiver.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.

## HARVEY BROOME GROUP (Knoxville)

All HBG outings may be accessed at this website: <http://www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/broome/>

**November 11. Dayhike, Rock Creek Day Hike (Cumberland Trail)** - The Cumberland Trail Association is in the process of developing what promises to be a truly outstanding long distance trail in Tennessee. Extending from Kentucky to Georgia, it is called the Cumberland Trail. One of the newest sections is in Rock Creek Gorge just north of Chattanooga. This 7.2 miles trail section follows Rock Creek and its deep pools, with several gorge overlooks, three natural

bridges, and numerous other rock features. It was constructed as part of the CTA's 2003 "Big Dig" and "BreakAway" trail construction events, with one bridge and some trailhead paving remaining to be completed this year. Rated Moderate. Drive: approximately 180 miles round trip. Pre-register with Will Skelton: Home 523-2272, Cell 742-7327; email [whshome@bellsouth.net](mailto:whshome@bellsouth.net).

**November 17-18. Backpack, Pickett State Park - Hidden Passage Trail** - Arches, waterfalls, and rock-houses add to the visual interest of this relatively easy backpack into Pickett State Park. Though not very long as the crow flies, the constantly twisting and turning trail makes this a 10 mile loop. We'll camp near a waterfall and probably have time to take a short side trip through an old railroad tunnel. Total distance, 10 miles, rated easy. Driving distance/time about 115 miles/2 hours, 15 minutes each way. Pre-register with Ron Shrieves: phone 922-3518; email [ronaldshrieves@comcast.net](mailto:ronaldshrieves@comcast.net).

**December 8. Dayhike, GSMNP - Spence Field** - Let's hope for clear skies for this great hike up the Anthony Creek and Bote Mountain trails to Spence Field. Time permitting, we'll do a side trip out to Rocky Top before proceeding out to Russell field and down the Russell Field and Anthony Creek Trails to complete the loop. This will be over 13 miles with significant elevation gain, rated difficult. Driving distance/ time about 40 miles/one hour each way. Preregister with Ron Shrieves: phone 922-3518; email [ronaldshrieves@comcast.net](mailto:ronaldshrieves@comcast.net).

## MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP (Nashville)

**November 10 Beaman Park Hike** - Beaman Park Creekside Trail. 12 miles NW of Nashville, experience the serenity of this 1500 acre treasure in Nashville's park system. With its deep hollows, forested slopes and pristine streams you will feel transported far from the big city. Trail approximately 2 miles. Contact Joy Mayfield at [joy.mayfield@comcast.net](mailto:joy.mayfield@comcast.net) for additional information and to pre-register. Rated moderate. (Conservation)

**November 10 - Hike/Bike Cumberland River Bicentennial Trail** - Join Penny and Diane on this leisurely 4 mile bike ride on Ashland City's Rails to Trails paved pathway, followed by lunch and a 3 mile stroll on the unpaved portion. You'll see many scenic views of the river, eagle nests and possibly an eagle, if we're lucky! We will return via the same route, picking up our bikes to peddle the rest of the way. To learn additional history of this rail to trails path, look up <http://www.cumberlandrivertrail.org>. Contact Diane Peraschbacher at [Diane@propson.com](mailto:Diane@propson.com) or 615-895-1236 for additional information and to register for this trip.

**November 22-24 - Thanksgiving Smokey Mountains Backpack** - Celebrate Thanksgiving outdoors as we hike one of the most scenic loop trails in the Smokey Mountains. We will begin our hike at Cosby Campground taking the Low Gap Trail to the AT and stay the first night at Cosby Shelter. Day two we will hike the AT going North stopping off at Mt. Cammerer Fire Tower to enjoy the 360 degree views there. We will proceed from Mt. Cammerer on the AT to the Lower Mt. Cammerer Trail and camp the second night at Campsite 35. Trip limited to 8 participants. Rated strenuous. For additional information and to pre-register contact Katherine Pendleton at 615-943-6877 or email [Katibug1959@aol.com](mailto:Katibug1959@aol.com). (Education, Conservation)

**December 1 - Day Hike to Prentice Cooper State Forest** - I've been told that late fall is the best time to visit Prentice Cooper State Forest, as you can see the Tennessee River Gorge and Suck Creek from the trail. Tour some of the old favorites in the Signal Mountain/Chattanooga area while hiking trails around the forest, including portions of the Cumberland Trail.

We'll see Lockhart's Arch, Edwards Point and Mushroom Rock on this day long 6.5 mile hike from Rainbow Lake to Shackleford Ridge Park. Pack a lunch! Rated moderately strenuous, as we will be climbing in and out of a gorge, plus moving at a moderate pace. (We will stay on the east side of Suck Creek) Contact Diane Perschbacher at [Diane@propson.com](mailto:Diane@propson.com) or 615-895-1236 for additional information and to register for this trip.

**December 4 - Bike Ride on Stones River Greenway** - Meet at the Percy Priest Dam Trailhead of the Stones River Greenway at 10:00 AM. We will ride our bikes 6-8 miles. Moderate to strenuous since there are several hills on this trail! Contact Katherine Pendleton at [Katibug1959@aol.com](mailto:Katibug1959@aol.com) or 615-943-6877 for additional information and to let her know you are planning on participating.

**March 1-8, 2007 Clair Tappaan Lodge Ski Trip** - Make your reservation now to go with Middle Tennessee Group to Sierra Club's Clair Tappaan Lodge for a week that you will never forget! Several TN Chapter members traveled to Clair Tappaan in February, 2007 for a ski trip with the Kentucky Chapter and had a memorable experience. Clair Tappaan Lodge is located 7000 feet in California's Sierra Nevada 45 minutes West of Reno, Nevada. Activities planned for our week at Clair Tappaan include cross country skiing and a guided overnight snowshoeing trip to Peter Grub Ski Hut. Skiing classes are available at the lodge. Accommodations are in bunk beds equipped with mattresses. Bring your own bedding and towel. Restroom and shower facilities are shared with two men's and two women's bathrooms. Meals are served family style. Price for the trip is \$499 per person and includes lodging, all meals from supper on March 1 thru breakfast on March 8, overnight snowshoeing trek, and transportation from airport to lodge and back to airport. Trip price does not include airfare, ski rental, ski lessons, ski fees, incidentals, breakfast and lunch on March 1 and lunch and supper on March 8. Reservations are limited to 9 participants. Non-refundable deposit of \$100 is due by

December 1, 2007 made to TN Chapter Sierra Club Outings, P.O. Box 290306, Nashville, TN 37229. Complete information regarding equipment rental rates, cross country skiing activities planned, accommodations, and any other inquiries may be directed to Katherine Pendleton at 615-943-6877 or Katherine.pendleton@sierraclub.org. (Educational, Conservation)

## CHEROKEE GROUP (Chattanooga)

For information on upcoming outings visit our web site at <http://www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/cherokee/index.htm>

## CHICKASAW GROUP (Memphis)

**Sierra Club/Park Friends Second Saturday Hike - Saturday, November 10, 10:00-12:00pm** (also second Saturday in December and January) - The Old Forest Trail, Overton Park, Memphis, Tennessee. The Old Forest Hike. Hike the trail through the only urban forest of its type in the region. Located in Overton Park, this moderate hike includes portions of the Old Forest Arboretum. Identify wildflowers, native trees, and learn Memphis History from its original landscape. The hike is co-sponsored by the Park Friends. Meet on the bridge at the end of the Old Forest Lane. For additional information, contact Don Richardson at (901) 276-1387 or [donrich@juno.com](mailto:donrich@juno.com).

**TELEVISION PROGRAM: WPYL - Channel 18, Memphis, Tennessee** - "The Nature of Conservation" is the Sierra Club's Chickasaw Group TV Program on cable channel 18. For the complete "Nature of Conservation" schedule on cable channel 18, please see the website: [www.memphislibrary.org/tlc/schedule](http://www.memphislibrary.org/tlc/schedule). For more information, or if any groups or individuals in the community have a special concern and would like to see a program on it, please contact Judith Rutschman at (901) 767-5916 or [rutschman@rhodes.edu](mailto:rutschman@rhodes.edu)



## 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!

## Appalachian Voices GALA Hosts RFK, Jr

By Gloria Griffith

Celebrating Appalachian Voices first decade as an advocate for the mountains a reception was held at the Blowing Rock, NC residence of Leigh and Pamela Dunston. The evening featured a musical performance by Brenda Boozer, Metropolitan Opera soloist and a "RiverKeeper and the Environment" dialogue by RFK, Jr.

Robert F Kennedy urged the 150 person crowd to actively support Appalachian Voice's recently authorized RiverKeeper project for the upper portion of the Watauga River Watershed, starting at its headwaters on Grandfather Mountain and extending to the dam at Watauga Lake in Tennessee.

Riverkeeper's is a program developed through the Waterkeeper Alliance; a national, non-profit organization headed by Robert Kennedy, Jr.. Riverkeeper's work alongside regulatory agencies to enforce existing environmental laws and regulations, and may pursue legal action against polluters.

At dusk a rehabilitated hawk was released back to the wild by Robert F Kennedy and the Blue Ridge Wildlife Institute staff from Lees McRae College.

Watauga Group Sierra Club members in attendance included Catherine Murray, director of Cherokee Forest Voices; Kristine and Steve Ferguson, recent past president of the Watauga Watershed Alliance; Wilbert and Gloria Griffith, Vice Chair TN Chapter; Rick Foster, wetlands consultant; and Dean Whitworth, BOD Appalachian Voices.



# Chickasaw Group News –

Contributed by various members

Environmental Justice at the Chickasaw Group's Program Meeting - Rita Harris, the Sierra Club's Environmental Justice organizer in Memphis, gave a presentation at the Chickasaw Group's September 26 program meeting at the Central Library. She answered the question "What is environmental justice?" Some communities are disproportionately burdened by pollution. One of the Sierra Club's basic principles is to support the right to a clean and healthful environment for all people. "All people" must include those who have been typically under-represented and under-served. By forming neighborhood coalitions such people, who tend to be low-income, can assert their right to a better quality of life. Rita told some success stories from her work in Memphis. Buried military waste and the proposed incineration of radioactive materials were among the successes. Rita also promoted her conference on November 3, entitled "Protecting Where We Live, Work, and Play: What Can YOU Do?" The conference will be at LeMoyné-Owen College in Memphis. For more information, contact Rita at (901) 324-7757 or rita.harris@sierraclub.org.

Chickasaw Group at the Cooper-Young Festival - The September 15 Cooper-Young Festival in Memphis attracted 60,000 people! A dry, sunny day—not too hot, not too cold—made for the outstanding turn-out. In addition to live music and fun food, visitors could buy craft items from hundreds of vendors, and even find out about the Sierra Club's important work! The Chickasaw Group had a booth staffed with knowledgeable volunteers to answer everybody's questions about the environment. Many visitors got a Sierra Club t-shirt or an EarthBall globe in exchange for a donation!

Greening Greater Memphis Volunteer Expo - The September 27 Volunteer Expo at the Memphis Botanic Garden was an exciting way for environmentally-minded Memphians to establish contact with each other. Drawing on the enormous success of the Greening Greater Memphis event on February 8 (where over 1000 people came out to hear nationally-known park planner Alex Garvin), the Volunteer Expo provided 36 tables and had about 300 visitors. There was a steady stream of people at the Sierra Club table, and many of them filled out surveys expressing their interest in volunteering for the Chickasaw Group's activities. After the Expo about 50 local environmental leaders met to discuss the day's events and plan for the future.

Sierra Club at the Bartlett Celebration - The Chickasaw Group hosted a table at the Bartlett Celebration on Saturday, September 29 in W. J. Freeman Park. T-shirts and calendars were sold, and over 50 new contacts with environmentally concerned visitors were made. Families enjoyed the many informative booths, as well as the rides and the food. There was a vintage car show as well! Perfect weather contributed to the Celebration's success.

New Members Party in Memphis! - A party for new members was held October 7th at the Memphis home of Ed and Juliet Jones. Several new members were in attendance as well as some "old" members. The purpose of the event was to provide an opportunity for members to get acquainted with Chickasaw group programs, activities, and current members and to become involved in the group's activities.

**3rd - Setting up the Sierra Club booth at Cooper-Young**

**4th - The Chickasaw Group's Steve Sondheim chats with people at the Volunteer Expo at the Memphis Botanic Garden**

**Bottom - Photo courtesy of Juliet Jones (second from left) and Tom Lawrence (far right) at Juliet's party for new members**

**All photos by David Carter excepting where stated.**



**Top - Nancy Ream talks with a visitor to the Chickasaw Group's table at the Bartlett Celebration.**

**2nd - Festival-goers at Cooper-Young 2007 in Memphis**

## Short Mountain Watershed Summit - A report on proceedings

Submitted by  
Jennifer Thompson

A Watershed Summit on Short Mountain was held September 14-16 at Short Mountain Bible Camp near Woodbury. Short Mountain, at 2,076 feet above sea level is the highest point in Middle Tennessee. Attendees were treated to breath-taking views from the mountaintop while discussing watershed and stream-related issues.

Approximately 70 people attended; including representatives from government and private organizations as well as local land owners. The event was sponsored by the Stones River Watershed Association (SRWA) in cooperation with the Caney Fork Watershed Association (CFWA) and grant support from the World Wildlife Fund.

Topics discussed included a history of Short Mountain and land protection efforts by Mack Prichard, Tennessee State Naturalist; the State Scenic Rivers Act by Brian Bowen with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, State Natural Areas Program; an update on regulations on wetland delineation presented by Chris Jones, an attorney representing Bullock, Fly & Hornsby Esq. and a presentation on the Tennessee Conservation Voters by Daniel Boone with Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association. A session on educational strategies for using GIS technology was moderated by John Harwood with CFWA.

John McFadden with the Tennessee Environmental Council, John Harwood and Randle Branch with SRWA moderated sessions on interagency networking, which included a wide variety of topics such as river clean-ups and Boat Days, paddling activities and canoe schools, public environmental awareness events, stream bank restoration,

Continued on page 8

# Legislative Skills Workshop

The legislature is where it all happens. Legislators determine what laws are passed and how they shall be enforced. The legislature's impact upon the environment and our lives is just stupendous. That is why every interest group has to hire a lobbyist to represent them down at Legislative Plaza. That is why the Sierra Club does.

But, the lobbyist cannot accomplish the group's goals without help from the hinterlands. Citizens and voters from the districts are vitally important. The citizen must step in and help out the professional lobbyist, particularly in contacting their individual legislator. Many times five to ten letters on a specific issue can turn a legislator around. And then, there are personal visits to the legislator or a visit to Legislative Plaza to do "volunteer" lobbying. The importance of this cannot be over emphasized.

So, in order to help Sierra Club activists with legislative contacts, we are sponsoring a LEGISLATIVE SKILLS WORKSHOP. It will be conducted at the January 25-27, 2008 winter meeting of the chapter executive committee at Cedars of Lebanon State Park.

Stewart Clifton, the noted lobbyist for Tennessee Conservation Voters and other non-profits and former Sierra Club lobbyist, will conduct the workshop starting at 4:30 PM on Saturday, January 26 2008. It will last for one hour or so and will have ample injections of Stewart Clifton wit. Stewart will address:

- Ten tips for the occasional lobbyist;
- The Tennessee Legislature in under 350 words;
- How to act like you were raised right when at the Legislature!

**So, how can you fail to attend?  
Be there!**

# Lake Watauga Conservation Tour

- They Explored Enjoyed & Will Protect

Submitted by: Gloria Griffith

Surrounded by the Cherokee National Forest (CNF), Lake Watauga Conservation Tour participants received an up close and personal look at the reasons both CNF and the head waters of TN, deserve to be sheltered with the utmost care. This second annual Fall Conservation Tour focused on protection goals for the Upper Watauga watershed during this outing on Lake Watauga on Wednesday, October 10, 2007.



The six hour pontoon boat ride was attended by special guests, David Roberts, Missouri Water Sentinel and Scott Dye, director of the SC Water Sentinels program.

On board, Rick Foster, WG wetlands consultant, pointed out the creeks and springs feeding this TVA Lake and the pollution pressures industry, inappropriately sited on tributaries, like Doe Creek will cause.

Catherine Murray, director of Cherokee Forest Voices, offered her CNF experience explaining how forest management practices impact the Watauga Watershed.

Dean Whitworth, WG Conservation Chair, informed attendees about the tools and resources the Upper Watauga RiverKeeper, (unanimously approved by the BOD of the WaterKeeper Alliance in late SEPT), will afford this upland watershed. Wilbert 'Webb' Griffith, WG Outings Chair noted, "A full-time RiverKeeper's eyes and advocacy will improve the quality of TN waters, down stream, from Mountain City to Memphis".

Dennis Shekinah, WG secretary, photo and graphics specialist, recorded the Lake Watauga tour with pictures highlighted by early fall leaf color and blue skies.

Other attendees included Louise Shoen, Gordon Mowrey, Rita Cowan, Gloria and Webb Griffith, and Cindy and Bob Johnson.

## Short Mountain Watershed Summit

Continued from page 7

exotic invasive vegetation control, and volunteer stream monitoring.

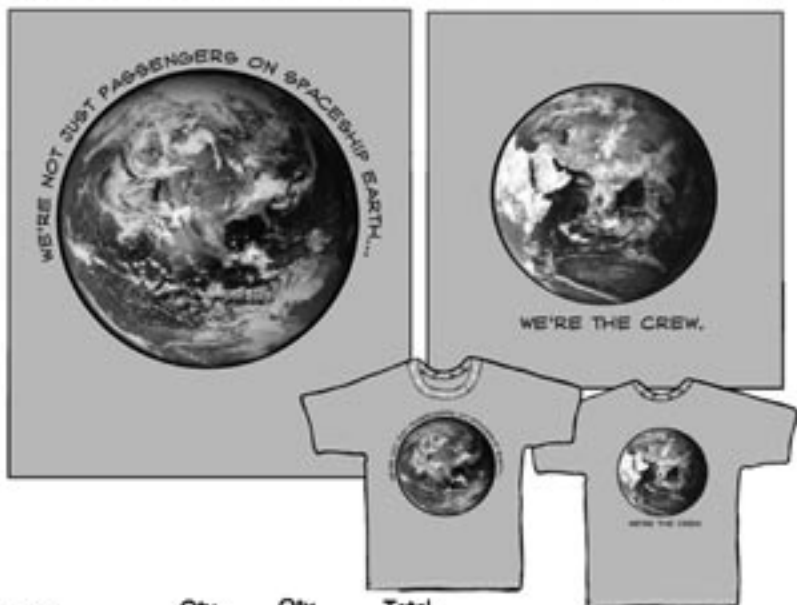
The summit was an excellent networking opportunity for individuals and organizations with an interest in protecting, preserving and enjoying the natural beauty of their local watersheds. The watershed summit on Short Mountain was informative, enjoyable and successful. A plan of action has been developed for next year and a second event is in the works.

For more information contact Jennifer at [Jennifer.Thompson@state.tn.us](mailto:Jennifer.Thompson@state.tn.us)

## The Summit for a Sustainable Tennessee November 15 thru 17, 2007 Lipscomb University - Nashville, TN

Registration begins at 11 a.m. on Thursday, November 15. For complete information contact Heather Langford at Tennessee Environmental Council at 615-248-6500. Sierra Club volunteers planning to attend this summit need to contact TN Chapter Conservation Chair, Gary Bowers at [GB1NATURE@aol.com](mailto:GB1NATURE@aol.com) before registering for the summit.

## Spaceship Earth T-Shirts



Size	Qty Blue	Qty Natural	Total Qty	
Small	_____	_____	_____	X \$16/Shirt = \$ _____
Medium	_____	_____	_____	X \$16/Shirt = \$ _____
Large	_____	_____	_____	X \$16/Shirt = \$ _____
X-Large	_____	_____	_____	X \$16/Shirt = \$ _____
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## The Chair's Corner

Dear Tennessee Sierra Club Members,

Many thanks to the Harvey Broome Group for a fantastic fall chapter meeting! It was great seeing so many new faces during this meeting. If you missed out on the fall chapter meeting I encourage you to make plans now to attend our winter chapter meeting at Cedars of Lebanon State Park January 25-27, 2008.

It's not too late to reserve your space at the Georgia Chapter Retreat. Several Tennessee Chapter members are planning on attending this fun filled weekend at Epworth by the Sea on Saint Simons Island Georgia November 9-11, 2007. Greg Haegele, National Sierra Club Conservation Director, will be the key note speaker during the Saturday night banquet. For information and to register, contact Genie Strickland at 404-607-1262; ext. 221.

Don't forget about the Summit for a Sustainable Tennessee being held November 15-17 in Nashville at Lipscomb University. For more information and to find out how you can participate as a Sierra Club volunteer, contact Tennessee Chapter Conservation Chair, Gary Bowers at 615-353-5886 or [GB1NATURE@aol.com](mailto:GB1NATURE@aol.com).

In this issue of the Tennes-Sierran you will find ballots for your group executive committee and Tennessee Chapter At-Large Delegate elections. Please take a moment of your time to vote! The Sierra Club needs input from all of its members and your help will be greatly appreciated through taking the time to cast your vote.

During the month of December, I will be visiting groups for your holiday parties including State of Franklin Group on December 5, Upper Cumberland Group on December 8, Harvey Broome Group on December 11, Chickasaw Group on December 14, Middle TN Group on December 15, and Watauga Group on December 18. I look forward to meeting you and discussing issues related to various parts of our chapter.

As always, I am available for your questions, comments, and concerns and may be reached at 615-943-6877 or [Katibug1959@aol.com](mailto:Katibug1959@aol.com).

Katherine Pendleton  
 Chair, Sierra Club Tennessee Chapter

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