

Tennesse-Sierran

The monthly state newsletter for the Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club

Volume 40, Number 5 - September/October, 2009

Sunset Picnic Promotes Effort to Save Randolph Bluff

By Keith Hoover and Don Richardson

Tennessee Chapter's State Parks Committee hosted a public gathering on June 20 to promote state conservation partner Tennessee Parks and Greenways' efforts to create a new Tennessee state park.

Locally organized and funded by Chickasaw Group and community partner, Friends for Our Riverfront, the "Save Randolph Bluff Sunset Picnic" drew over 60 people to this beautiful bluff top property in Tipton County, approximately 32 miles north of Memphis.

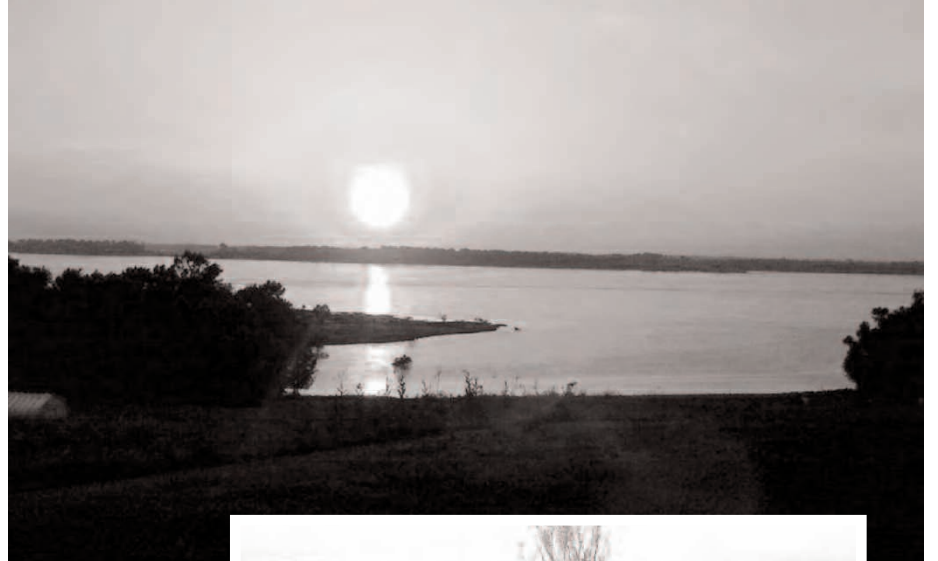
The site is situated on the second Chickasaw Bluff, and features unique geology, history, archeology, ecology, and natural beauty. The last non-privately owned bluff along the Mississippi riverfront, it offers a spectacular view of one of the most scenic long bends on the Mississippi River. From the top of the bluff one can view the big turn called "The Devil's Elbow," known for having the deepest pool along the entire Mississippi and once proposed as a national monument before World War II preempted the effort.

From a grassy natural viewing area, the bluff descends over three terraces to the edge of Old Man River. Until the mid-1830's this shoreline hosted the busy river town of Randolph Landing, which rivaled Memphis for supremacy as the primary port of the middle Mississippi region until the river changed course and submerged the landing's location and adjacent saloons, stores, and warehouses. South of the terraces is a wooded natural area and a spring once used by neighboring Native American tribes. Trails are now maintained that lead to these areas.

The 18.9 acre property has a 4-bedroom dwelling that could serve as a future museum, and on this day provided attendees with a comfortable place to eat and discuss the many period maps and artwork displayed featuring the site and adjoining area. Tipton County historian David Gwinn conducted two tours of a rare, preserved, underground Civil War powder magazine used during the Bluff's tenure as Fort Wright, and shared stories about early river commerce and the bluff top town of Randolph's final demise in 1865.

"To realize this is the only publicly accessible location to enjoy this unobstructed viewscape in a non-urban area along the entire west coast of Tennessee drives home how important this site is to all Tennesseans to be preserved as parkland," said co-organizer Keith Hoover.

Due to popular demand, an encore event will be held on Saturday, October 17 (see details on the Chickasaw Group web page). For more information about the Randolph Bluff effort and other land protection projects across the state by Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation, please visit <http://tenngreen.org/currentprojects.htm>



Top Photo: The Bluff at Randolph at Sunset. Bottom Photo: Lilies at sunset on the bluff at Randolph, Tennessee. Photos by Ruth Brucker.

Take Incremental Steps to Home Energy Efficiency

By Steven Tyree

Wouldn't it be great if we could buy a car that got 100 mpg? Think of the money we'd save, not to mention saving the earth!

It's so hard to make a more efficient car that there is an X-prize with a \$10-million-dollar purse for those who succeed. Competing teams are pouring millions into R&D in an effort to double or triple automobile efficiency.

There's another way, though, for ordinary people to save energy. In fact, people like you and I can save the equivalent of a 100 mpg car, a 1,000 mpg car, even a car that makes all its own energy, and we don't have to spend millions to do it. All we have to do is focus on the efficiency of our homes.

By taking an incremental approach to home energy efficiency, environmentally-minded citizens can save big on carbon footprints and the high cost of energy. To make a super energy efficient home, we need to super insulate it, stop unwanted air infiltration, and use high efficiency appliances and lighting. Once we've done those things, it becomes feasible to supply our dramatically reduced energy needs with renewables such as solar thermal, photovoltaics, and wind energy.

Take the following actions to lower your heating and cooling bills, which account for about

43% of a home's energy use:

Insulation: Every surface that separates conditioned air from the outside should be carefully insulated, without voids or gaps. R-11 wall and R-30 ceiling insulation should be considered the minimum. Floors should either be insulated to R-19, or the crawl space should be sealed, insulated, and conditioned, turning it into a "mini basement."

Air infiltration: Air barriers should cover all six sides of insulation cavities wherever possible, keeping down convective losses. Holes where wiring, plumbing, lighting, and HVAC ductwork punch through the home's envelope should all be sealed with spray foam or caulk. This is one of the biggest energy wasters in modern construction. For example, most bathtubs have a 6" x 8" hole underneath them. Recessed lights should be of sealed construction and rated to be covered with insulation.

Stick framing creates a great many holes and intersections in the building envelope. This is why homes using Structural Insulated Panels (SIP) are so energy efficient." SIPs have tighter connection details, reliably controlling air infiltration.

HVAC ductwork is notoriously leaky. Ductwork that's outside the building envelope

ends up pumping conditioned air out of the house. The best way to seal ductwork is with mastic made for the purpose.

Moisture control: Moisture in homes comes from people, cooking, bathing, and outside infiltration. A four-square-inch hole in the building envelope will allow 30 times more moisture in than a 100-square-foot wall. Most of the air that invades a home comes from the crawlspace, which gets its air from the outside. Hot, humid, summer air from outside cools down under the house, which makes it even more humid and can lead to mold, rot, and health problems. Sealing up and conditioning the crawlspace is the most robust defense against this.

Once a house is tightened up to about 1/3 of an air change per hour, it's time to think about putting in a heat recovery ventilator (HRV) and energy recovery ventilator (ERV). They exchange outside air with inside air, while recovering most of the heat (for HRVs) and humidity (for ERVs) in the process, thus saving energy and keeping the indoor air quality high.

We now have certified energy experts known as Home Energy Raters that can evaluate your home's energy usage and provide recommended energy improvements using sophisticated diagnostic equipment.

Tennes-Sierran

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

SEND CHANGE OF ADDRESS TO:

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*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: lbaker@usw.org
Snail Mail: Lynne Baker, Tennes-Sierran Editor
108 Pepper Ridge Circle, Antioch, TN 37013
(615) 831-6782

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 lbaker@usw.org either with embedded text messages, or attached files in PC-based formats. Attached files are preferred. Mac users should embed text in body of an email message only.

2. Photographs should be scanned in a .jpg or .tif file format 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.

Nominations Wanted: Cherokee Group Executive Committee

If you are interested in serving on the Cherokee Group's executive committee, our nominating committee will soon be forming to present nominees for election at the end of the year for several 2-year terms. The committee is the decision-making body for our group and meets monthly. Contact Chairman Elizabeth Tallman at 423-619-0379, elizabethjamestallman@hotmail.com, if you are interested or for more information.



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



With your help, we can clean up our water.

Over the last 30 years, we've made great progress cleaning up our water. But the Bush Administration is threatening that progress, proposing that "isolated" small streams, ponds and wetlands no longer be covered under the Clean Water Act. Work with us to strengthen the Clean Water Act and its enforcement. Together we can leave our children a legacy of clean water, air and wild lands.

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Contributions, gifts and dues to 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 for your Chapter newsletters.

Enclose a check and mail to: Sierra Club,
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Outings: Vacant

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Volunteer for Economic Stimulus Tracking Project

By Don Scharf

In late March the Tennessee chapter joined 12 other Sierra Club chapters around the country on a project to track and influence how federal economic stimulus funds are spent.

One of the details of the economic stimulus bill, or American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), is a block grant program to fund energy efficiency and conservation projects at the state and local levels. As a result of this program Tennessee will receive over \$42 million from the US Department of Energy (DOE). Our goal is to evaluate the block grants made in Tennessee for how much energy is saved, how much money is saved, and how many green jobs are created.

About \$28 million is available to 17 cities and 10 counties in Tennessee which have submitted grant applications to the DOE. The cities are Bartlett, Brentwood, Chattanooga, Clarksville, Cleveland, Collierville, Franklin,

Germantown, Hendersonville, Jackson, Johnson City, Kingsport, Knoxville, Memphis, Nashville, Murfreesboro, and Smyrna. The counties are Blount, Hamilton, Knox, Maury, Rutherford, Sevier, Shelby, Sullivan, Sumner, and Wilson. All other local governments in Tennessee can submit grant applications to the Tennessee Energy Office for a share of almost \$14 million.

If anyone in the Tennessee Sierra Club would like to join us on this project, please contact Don Scharf at 615-896-8338 or d.scharf@comcast.net. Volunteers are still needed to contact their local government and find out how their block grant will be spent. Each month we have a conference call with all the volunteers in Tennessee to share updates from the DOE and local communities all over the state.

This is an exciting chance to help your community do what's best for both the environment and the economy.



Summit for a Sustainable Tennessee November 13-14, 2009

The Summit for a Sustainable Tennessee is a two-day conference for citizens, conservation groups, environmental policy experts, elected officials and local business leaders.

- **Attend seminars focusing on the economics of rural forests, farms & fun (recreation).**
- **Meet local green businesses and organizations and learn about their successes and solutions.**
- **Collaborate with conservation leaders to develop and implement a statewide Sustainability Agenda.**
- **Summit will take place at Ward Agricultural Center, Lebanon, TN.**

November 13

- Seminars on the economics of rural forests, farms & fun
- Green exhibits
- Seminars on water issues and watersheds
- Celebration and tour of high performing green home

November 14

- Seminars focusing on the economics of forests, farms & fun
- Green exhibits
- Conservation groups work on Sustainability Agenda
- Proposed Gubernatorial Debate



Tennessee Environmental Council

www.sustainabletn.org

Corner

The Chair's

Dear Tennessee Chapter Members,

Many thanks to everyone who attended the summer chapter meeting at DuBose Conference Center in Monteagle, Tenn. Special thanks to Randy Hedgepath, Tennessee state naturalist, for leading nature interpretive hikes during the weekend. Thanks also to Steve Tyree for his energy efficiency seminar.

Mark your calendar for our fall chapter meeting at Pickett State Park, October 23-25, with Watauga Group hosting. You won't want to miss the good eats provided by Webb Griffith and his culinary team!

My travels this summer took me to Sierra Club's Clair Tappaan Lodge in the Sierra Nevada Mountains near Truckee, Calif. I was there for the 75th anniversary celebration of the lodge. Allison Chin, Sierra Club president, attended the celebration and was the keynote speaker during the festivities. Check out photos taken during the anniversary gala at <http://sierraclubatdonner-summit.shutterfly.com/>. Clair Tappaan Lodge is an affordable vacation destination for year-round activities. I encourage you to consider making a trip to the lodge at least once in your lifetime. It is a place where the heritage of the Sierra Club comes to life!

There are two upcoming retreats that I am planning on attending on behalf of our chapter. Everyone is also encouraged to attend. I am heading to Pocahontas State Park, south of Richmond, Va., on Sept. 18-20 for the Virginia chapter's annual retreat. Allison Chin will be there and delivering the keynote speech during the Saturday night dinner. Many outings are planned for this weekend. I'll be traveling to south Georgia on Oct. 30-Nov. 1 for the Georgia chapter's annual fall retreat at Okefenokee State Park. If you are interested in attending either retreat, please contact me at katibug1959@aol.com.

It is that time of year again when the groups and chapter nominating committees are searching for members to run for group executive committee members and chapter at-large delegates. If you are contacted to run for either type of position or if you are interested in running for one of these positions, please do so. Our groups and chapter need more involvement by non-active members. If you do not know who to contact in your area, please contact me and I will direct you to the appropriate contact person.

Thanks for all you are doing to keep up the work of protecting our planet.

**Best wishes for an enjoyable autumn.
Katherine Pendleton, Chair
Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club**

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Meetings

HARVEY BROOME GROUP (Knoxville)

PROGRAM MEETING: Tuesday, September 8, 2009, 7:00 p.m., Tennessee Valley Unitarian-Universalist Church, 2931 Kingston Pike. Carol Evans, executive director of the Legacy Parks Project, will discuss the project's ongoing activities, especially those concerning the 1,000 acre Urban Wilderness and Historic Corridor paralleling the South Knoxville Waterfront Development. That area "will contain three Civil War forts, historic settlement sites, and diverse ecological features and recreational amenities."

Founded in 2005, Legacy Parks is a non-profit organization which works with the city and county to ensure that our community will enjoy exceptional recreational opportunities, natural beauty, and open spaces for generations to come. Its areas of focus are: preserving our ridges and views; connecting our greenways; maintaining the health of--and access to--our waterways; creating recreational opportunities for the underserved; and exceeding the national average for public parks and green space.

PROGRAM MEETING: Tuesday, October 13, 2009, 7:00 p.m., Tennessee Valley Unitarian-Universalist Church, 2931 Kingston Pike. Ed Clebsch, noted botanist and ecologist, will present a program on Tennessee wildflowers. A native Tennessean, Ed earned his Ph.D. at Duke and then joined the faculty at the Univ. of Tenn.-Knoxville, where his career spanned decades and included work in the Smokies, Pacific Northwest, Aleutian Islands and Arctic Alaska, Mexico, and other countries. Ed has remained an active consultant since his retirement from UTK and is currently a staff member of the Foothills Land Conservancy. Ed's interest in wildflowers is most evident in his longtime association with the Gatlinburg Annual Wildflower Pilgrimage, founded in 1951.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP (Nashville)

PROGRAM MEETING: Thursday, September 10, 7:00 p.m. at Radnor Lake Visitor Center, 1160 Otter Creek Road, Nashville. From the Arctic to Zero Footprint with Jeff Barrie: Beyond Kilowatt Ours

When he pedaled his bicycle into Nashville in the spring of 2000 for the first time, Jeff Barrie found an instant liking to the good vibes here. Little did he know Nashville would become his new home. He moved to Nashville that summer, after completing his 4,600 mile bike ride from L.A. to D.C. Since then Barrie, an environmental filmmaker, activist and visionary, has led a number of environmental advocacy campaigns. He helped save the Arctic Refuge from oil drilling, reform the Tennessee Department of Transportation, and make energy conservation a priority for our state and region.

There is one common thread weaving through Barrie's award-winning and influential work — support from the Sierra Club. Please join Jeff Barrie and the Middle Tennessee Group as Jeff shares pictures and tales from his environmental adventures in Tennessee, and reminisces about nine years of advocacy alongside the Tennessee Chapter. It's a tale of friendship, love, hopes and fears, and fighting for the values of stewardship.

Bonus: find out what's next in Barrie's game plan.
PROGRAM MEETING: Thursday, October 8, 7:00p.m. at Radnor Lake Visitor Center, 1160 Otter Creek Road, Nashville. Melinda Welton, Cerulean Warbler Migration in Northern Central America

Migration is a very important part in the annual cycle of nearly half the birds nesting in Tennessee. Not only does it take a substantial amount of time to travel between breeding and wintering grounds, but as much as 89% of annual mortality may occur en route. Between 2004 and 2008, Melinda Welton coordinated a research project that included simultaneous surveys in Belize, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Chiapas, Mexico. The objective was to identify the habitats that the rapidly declining Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*) requires to complete its spring migration between South American and its breeding grounds in North America. This had never been done for any migratory bird before. She will present some of the results of this research.

Melinda Welton is a research associate of the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory. Her work with the Cerulean Warbler both on the breeding grounds in Tennessee and in northern Central America has been done in collaboration with the State of Tennessee, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the US Forest Service, The Nature Conservancy, Cornell University, and the University of Tennessee.

Melinda has a Masters in Zoology from the University of Connecticut, and has worked for state wildlife agencies in Florida, New Jersey, and North Carolina. She is currently an independent consultant.

STRATEGY MEETING: Third Mondays, September 21 and October 19, 6:30p.m. at the United Steel Worker Union Building at 340 Perimeter Hill Drive, Nashville, Tennessee 37211. Follow the signs to the conference area. Conservation issues are first on the agenda, and 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 more information regarding the meetings, send a message to Rachel Floyd at rfloyd557@bellsouth.net or call 406-9204. If you have problems finding or accessing the building, call Rachel's cell at 406-9204.

STATE OF FRANKLIN GROUP (Tri-Cities)

STRATEGY/PROGRAM MONTHLY MEETING: 6:00 p.m. at the "The Acoustic Coffee House-Next Door" at 450 West Walnut in Ole Town Johnson City. Contact Tom Mozen at mozenetc@yahoo.com or 423-232-0827 for the date and more information.

UPPER CUMBERLAND GROUP (Cookeville)

MONTHLY MEETING: Every 4th Thursday at 7 p.m. in the downstairs meeting room of the Putnam County Library. Alternating program meeting with planning meetings every other month. For more information, contact Mary Mastin at marymastin@twlakes.net or (931) 268-2938.

CHEROKEE GROUP (Chattanooga)

PROGRAM MEETING: Monday, September 28, 7:00 p.m. at Green|Spaces, 63 E. Main Street, Chattanooga. Tennessee Clean Water Network Executive Director Victoria Rene Hoyos will talk about important upcoming water legislation and give an update on the Kingston Ash Spill. Originally scheduled to talk to us in March, she was called to testify before several congressional committees at that time and had to reschedule. Come with your questions about water issues and the spill! Free and open to the public; refreshments served after the program.

PROGRAM MEETING: Monday, October 26, 7:00 p.m. at Green|Spaces, 63 E. Main Street, Chattanooga. October is for outings -- local, chapter and national. We'll view slides of outings near and far, of members' trips on national outings and of the fantastic nature close by. There will be a special feature of the upcoming outings planned by our group for the fall/winter. Free and open to the public; refreshments served after the program. Bring your friends!"

STRATEGY MEETINGS: Second Wednesday of each month, September 9 and October 14, 6:00 p.m. at Green|Spaces, 63 E. Main Street, Chattanooga. All members are invited to get the news on what's happening in our Cherokee Group. We welcome you to participate in setting the conservation initiatives and activities of our group. Come and bring a friend!

CONSERVATION DISCUSSION MEETINGS: Last Mondays, September 28 and October 26, 6:00-6:45 p.m. at Green|Spaces, 63 E. Main Street, Chattanooga. Conservation, legislation and political topics facing our group are up for discussion before our program meeting each month. Come early before the program to talk with our conservation committee!

NEWSLETTER ALERT: We will soon add an e-mail Cherokee Group Newsletter!!! The kinks are still being worked out, but we will soon have it up and zapping over the Internet to you if you have given your e-mail address to the national Sierra Club. We will also have links to it up on our web page (www.tennessee.sierra-club.org/cherokee) so you can subscribe to it. It will also announce our meetings and outings, and we hope to send it monthly. This should cut down on our list-serve traffic!

CHICKASAW GROUP (Memphis)

Monthly First Thursday Members Gathering: September 3 & October 1, 5:30-7:00pm -- Otherlands, 641 South Cooper, Memphis, TN -- 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 Keith Hoover at hooverkw@yahoo.com or (901) 363-8299.

Chickasaw Group Strategy Meeting, September 14 & October 12, 6:30pm - Prescott Memorial Baptist Church, 961 Getwell. This meeting of the executive committee is open also to all members of the Sierra Club. Contact Nancy Ream by September 11 (September meeting) or October 9 (October meeting) to place items on the agenda: (901) 759-9416 or njream@aol.com.

Sierra Club Chickasaw Group Program Meeting – Topic TBA Thursday, September 24, 7:00pm., Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library, 3030 Poplar Avenue. The program meeting starts at 7:00pm. Come at 6:30 pm for social time! For more information contact Tom Lawrence at bus@thecave.com

Sierra Club Chickasaw Group Program Meeting – Topic TBA Thursday, October 22, 7:00pm., Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library, 3030 Poplar Avenue. The program meeting starts at 7:00pm. Come at 6:30 pm for social time! For more information contact Tom Lawrence at bus@thecave.com

Cooper-Young Festival Sierra Club Booth, Cooper Street and Young Avenue, Saturday, September 19, 9:00am to 7:00pm (Rain date is September 20) The Cooper-Young Festival, hosted by the Cooper-Young Business Association (CYBA), is Memphis's most anticipated outdoor celebration. Held in Memphis's largest historic district, the Cooper-Young festival is scheduled for September 19 (rain date is September 20). In its 22nd year, this event has grown tremendously and is one of Memphis's most highly attended festivals. This year over 85,000 guests will enjoy an appealing mix of art, music, and crafts presented by over 370 artisans from around the country. This festival is a true celebration of the arts, people, culture, and Memphis heritage. PLEASE NOTE: NO PETS ALLOWED AT THIS EVENT. The Chickasaw Group will have a booth at this event (Booth #A72 on the west side of Cooper Street between Evelyn and Nelson Avenues). To volunteer to help staff the booth, please contact Keith Hoover at hooverkw@yahoo.com or (901) 363-8299.

Bartlett Festival and Car Show Sierra Club Booth, W. J. Freeman Park, Bartlett, TN, Saturday, September 26, 9:00am to 5:00pm. Events include an amateur BBQ cooking contest, musical stages, rides, arts and crafts, a car show, children's activities, food, and much more. FREE ADMISSION and FREE Shuttle Bus service from 8:45am to 6:00pm at two parking locations: Stage Centre (corner of Stage Road and Kirby-Whitten) and behind the McDonald's restaurant located at 6048 Stage Road. The Chickasaw Group will have a booth at this event. To volunteer to help staff the booth, please contact Keith Hoover at hooverkw@yahoo.com or (901) 363-8299.

TELEVISION PROGRAM: WPYL - Channel 18, Memphis, Tennessee, - Mondays at 1:30am, 8:30am, 3:00pm, Tuesdays at 3:30am and 10:00pm, Wednesdays at 8:00pm, Thursdays at 5:30am and noon, Fridays at 3:00am and 11:30pm, and Sundays at 2:00am and 11:00pm. "The Nature of Conservation" is the Sierra Club's Chickasaw Group TV Program on cable channel 18. For complete schedule listings on cable channel 18, please see the website: www.memphislibrary.org/tlc18/schedule. For more information about "The Nature of Conservation," 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 jcrutschman@gmail.com A Yahoo Group for the Sierra Club

Chickasaw Group and Friends is a Yahoo group for members and friends of the Chickasaw Group (Memphis/West TN). It is an announcement-only email list to send notices of upcoming events and other "green" information of local interest. All announcements are accessible to the public, so you can look up the latest posts anytime! To view and/or join the Yahoo group, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sierra-club-chickasaw/>.

WATAUGA GROUP (North Eastern TN)

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

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/SignInWaiverPDF>, 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)

September 12-13 (Sat-Sun). Backpack, Elkmont Section, GSMNP. We'll hike the Little River Trail to Campsite 30. We planned this one last year but it was cancelled due to cold weather in November that made the stream fords unrealistic. We'll try again this year and will hike the entire Little River Trail, about 6.2 miles (some guidebooks say 5.2 miles, but the gate has been moved further down the creek) from its beginning in the Elkmont area to its southern terminus at Three Forks Backcountry Campsite. Hiking distance is about 12.4 miles total and it is rated Easy. Drive: 50 mi each way. Pre-register with Will Skelton: H 523-2272; Cell 742-7327; whshome@bellsouth.net.

September 18-20 (Fri-Sun). Car camp, Cataloochee Section, GSMNP.

We'll drive up on Friday afternoon for a two-night car camp in the group campsite at Cataloochee. This is prime elk viewing season, but there are other sights to see. Quoting from the Park Service website: "Cataloochee Valley is nestled among some of the most rugged mountains in the southeastern United States. Surrounded by 6000-foot peaks, this isolated valley was the largest and most prosperous settlement in what is now the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Once known for its farms and orchards, today Cataloochee is one of the most picturesque areas of the park." You may want to bring your bike, join the day hike listed below, or enjoy driving/walking along the valley floor to see as many elk as possible. Bring your cameras! Drive: 95 mi each way. Pre-register with Priscilla Watts: 966-4142; email sigmtngirl@earthlink.net.

September 19 (Sat). Day hike, Cataloochee Section, GSMNP. Whether you can make it for the car camp (previous listing) or not, consider joining us on this 6.6-mile loop hike in Cataloochee. We'll start at the Cataloochee road end of the Caldwell Fork trail and hike up to its junction with the Boogerman trail, then take the Boogerman trail to its other junction with the Caldwell Fork trail, and complete the loop back to our cars on Cataloochee road. Starting time will be late enough for those driving from Knoxville on Saturday morning to join up with those doing the car camp. After the hike, there should be ample time for elk viewing along Cataloochee road before heading back to Knoxville or joining the car campers for the night. Rated moderate, with about 1,300 feet of elevation gain/loss. Pre-register with Linda Smithyman at lsmithymanhbg@yahoo.com or 865-335-3559.

September 26 (Sat). Public Lands Day. Volunteer work. Location to be decided. Pre-register with Linda Smithyman at lsmithymanhbg@yahoo.com or 865-335-3559.

October 3 (Sat). Full moon night hike. The location of this hike is to yet be decided, but will likely be on a local greenway. Rated easy. Pre-register with Linda Smithyman at lsmithymanhbg@yahoo.com or 865-335-3559.

October 10-11 (Sat-Sun). Gourmet Backpack, Pickett State Park. This fall trip has become a Harvey Broome Group tradition, with everyone trying to make the most outrageous, non-backpacking type food that one can imagine. If you can dream it up, you can cook it in the backcountry. Frozen margaritas, Caesar salad, roasted Cornish game hens, seafood Newburg, hot fudge ice cream sundaes, cheesecake, blueberry pancakes. The venue for the gastronomic experience is the Hidden Passage Trail in Pickett State Park. Arches, waterfalls, and rock houses add to the visual interest of this relatively easy backpack of 4.5 miles. We'll camp in an expansive site near a small waterfall. We'll return via the same route. Rated easy. Drive: 115 mi each way. Pre-register with Ron Shrieves: phone 922-3518; email ronaldshrieves@comcast.net (email preferred).

October 17 (Sat). Day hike, Indian Camp Branch (Off-trail). Starting from Metcalf Bottoms in the GSMNP, this short off-trail hike passes through a hollow that was home to several families before the creation of the park. The head of the hollow connects with the Round Top trail that will take

us to the road connecting Wear Cove to Metcalf Bottoms. We'll hike back down the road to the Metcalf Bottoms picnic area, looking for several old homesites along the way. We'll start early enough to finish with a picnic lunch (sorry -- you'll have to provide your own lunch). Drive: 43 mi each way. Rated moderate due to blow-downs that have to be negotiated. Pre-register with Ron Shrieves: phone 922-3518; email ronaldshrieves@comcast.net (email preferred).

October 25 (Sun). Day hike, Rocky Fork/Bald Mountain Ridge Scenic Area (Cherokee National Forest). The 6,696 acre Bald Mountain Ridge Scenic Area near Greenville features a host of trails and scenic views. It's also part of the three-prong protected area that was completed during 2008 with the acquisition (for \$40 million dollars) of the 9,624 acre Rocky Fork area by the US Forest Service and The Conservation Fund. Rocky Fork, Bald Mountain and the 7,992-acre Sampson Mountain Wilderness now protect a huge area through the middle of which runs the Appalachian Trail. We'll hike up to the Appalachian Trail on the Poplar Cove and Sarvis Cove Trails, hike out to Big Butt for a view of the new Rocky Fork acquisition, and descend off the mountain on the dirt FS 94 (Coldspring Mountain Road). Hiking distance will be about 8.8 miles total. Rated moderate. Drive: 90 mi each way. Pre-register with Will Skelton: H 523-2272; Cell 72-7327; whshome@bellsouth.net.

November 7-8 (Sat-Sun). Back pack, Deep Creek Section, GSMNP. We'll park at Galbraith Creek Road, then hike parts of the Thomas Divide trail, Indian Creek motor trail, and Deeplow Gap trail to the intersection of Deeplow Gap trail with Indian Creek trail. We'll then backtrack past the intersection of Deeplow Gap with Indian Creek Motor trail to overnight at new campsite #51 (5.9 miles). (This route allows folks working on their Smokies map to complete the Deeplow Gap trail.) The next day, we'll follow Deeplow Gap trail eastward to the Thomas Divide trail, then head south on the Thomas Divide trail back to the cars at Galbraith Road (7.3 miles). Total miles: 13.2. Rated moderate. Drive: 100 mi one-way. Pre-register with Steve Harvey: email sharvey86@aol.com; phone 865-271-7227.

STATE OF FRANKLIN GROUP (Tri-Cities)

Contact Tom Mozen, SOF Group chair, at (423) 232-0827 or mozenetc@yahoo.com about any outings.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP (Nashville)

September 11-13, Foster Falls Backpack. MTG will join Cherokee Group for a weekend of beginning backpacking and hiking at Foster Falls TVA area near Tracy City, Tennessee. We will backpack a half mile from the Foster Falls parking area to Father Abrams Campsite on Friday evening. Saturday and Sunday we will explore the area with some hiking. Rated easy to moderate. Each participant responsible for their own gear and food. No dogs please. For additional information contact Katherine Pendleton at katibug1959@aol.com or 615-943-6877.

CHEROKEE GROUP (Chattanooga)

For details and to register for these outings, contact Outings Co-Chair Jeremy Gazaway at 423-619-6548 or via e-mail at gazaway_77@yahoo.com.

September 12 -13, Overnight at Foster Falls. The Cherokee Group will be having its first overnigher, and it is expected to be a blast. We will be meeting at Foster Falls around 4:00-4:30 under the gazebo. There are free camping sites along the Fiery Gizzard trail. We will be staying at the Father Abrams Campsite, which is somewhat near the falls. Everyone is asked to bring camping equipment, such as tents and sleeping bags, extra clothes, plenty of water, bug spray, food for breakfast, lunch for the first and second days, and dinner for the first day. We will also be going over the leave-no-trace guidelines and heavily enforce them. Everyone will be leaving out Sunday around 4 or 5 p.m.

September 26, Reflection Riding @ 3:00 p.m. Afternoon Walk. Unless you are already a Nature Center member, the cost of admission to Reflection Riding is \$6 per car, so carpooling is advised. For details regarding the trails and scenery, visit www.reflectionriding.org. Bring plenty of water and wear comfortable shoes. Reflection Riding is located just 10 minutes from downtown Chattanooga. Take I-24 west toward Nashville/Birmingham. Exit at

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!

Brown's Ferry Road (Exit 175) and make a left at the traffic light (toward Lookout Mountain). At the next traffic light, (Cummings Highway) turn left. Proceed a little less than a mile and take the first right, following the signs for Reflection Riding.

October 21, Picnic at Renaissance Park @ 6:00 p.m. We will be enjoying a wonderful picnic by the river. Please bring your own food and drinks. Also, please bring any tree or plant identification books you may have, as we will be studying our local plant life.

October 31 - Wilderness Workshop, 10 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Chattanooga Nature Center. Tennessee Wild will host a wilderness workshop at the Chattanooga Nature Center, 400 Garden Road, Chattanooga, TN from 10 am to 2 pm. This fun and interactive workshop will teach volunteers how they can expand wilderness protection in Tennessee's Cherokee National Forest. (Our Tennessee Chapter is a member of the Tenn. Wild Coalition.) The session will be led by Sierra Club member Jeff Hunter; Jeff is the Tennessee field organizer for the Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition. Carrie Sandstedt, from Campaign for America's Wilderness, and Brent Martin, from the Wilderness Society, will also be in attendance. There is no cost for this workshop. Lunch is included, and daycare will be provided free of charge. For more information, or to register, contact Jeff Hunter at 423-322-7866 or jeff@safo.org.

Outings REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS Wanted! Contact our outings co-chairs with your ideas about places to go, things to see and for information on becoming an outings leader! Denis Keily (423.881.3620) or Jeremy Gazaway (423.619.6548).

CHICKASAW GROUP (Memphis)

Hummingbird Migration Celebration, Strawberry Plains Audubon Center, Holly Springs, MS, Saturday, September 12, 9:00am to 5:00pm. One of the largest nature festivals in the nation, the annual Hummingbird Migration Celebration features the spectacular fall migration of the ruby-throated hummingbird, thousands of which move daily through the fields and woods of Strawberry Plains Audubon Center, Audubon Mississippi's flagship educational facility near Holly Springs.

Expert naturalists from the Hummer/Bird Study Group will be on hand to interpret the life of the ruby-throated hummingbird. Look close and learn while these tiny birds are caught and banded right before your eyes. You may even be lucky enough to release one back into the wild.

The event also features lectures and demonstrations with live bats and other wildlife, bird viewing in the historic Davis House sunroom, a nature trade show, tours of native plant gardens, children's activities, food, and much more.

Admission: Ages 13-64: \$10; Ages 65+: \$7; Ages 4-12: \$5; children under 4: free. No pets are allowed at this event. Food and beverages are available for purchase, but you may also bring your own lunch, snacks, and/or water. For more detailed information, including all festival dates and the schedule of events, see: <http://ms.audubon.org/news-events/hummingbird-migration-celebration-1>.

To join the Sierra Club Chickasaw Group outing, meet at 9:00am and depart at 9:15am at the Starbucks at 897 W. Poplar Avenue in Collierville (just west of Byhalia Road). This is an all-day event, so anyone who wants to leave midday can carpool separately. For more information, contact Keith Hoover at hooverkw@yahoo.com or (901) 363-8299.

Cookeville Rain Barrel Festival a Success

By Mary Mastin

The Upper Cumberland Group sponsored the successful Rain Barrel Festival in Cookeville April 25. We had wonderful April weather, fun music by Warren Gently, a welcome by Mayor Sam Sallee and a lot of folks assembled in the city's Dogwood Park. The highlight was viewing/bidding on 85 very varied, creative barrels painted by local artists ranging from professional ArtProwl artists, Tennessee Tech art majors, Pacesetters artists and county middle and high schoolers.

There were water conservation educational materials and an informative presentation by our festival partner, Tracy Meggs, a UCG member and engineer with the city's storm water program. Another festival co-sponsor, the Caney Fork Watershed Association, held a popular rain barrel workshop.

Other sponsoring organizations were the City Leisure Services and the Rotary Club. Coca-Cola donated the 55-gallon syrup drums that UCG members cleaned and plumbed for rain barrels. Several local churches and civic organizations contributed with donations to help with the cost of art supplies, or painted their own barrels and had display tables at the festival.

For a week before the festival, the painted barrels were on display at the Art Upstairs Gallery on the Courthouse Square in

Cookeville, thanks to the work of UCG members Ralph Bowden and Merritt Ireland. The idea for the festival came from former UCG chair, John Harwood, after he visited a similar festival in Berea, Ky., last year.

Right: ArtProwl artist Pam Pate completed the first barrel and it was used for our promotion of the art show and festival. Photo by Ralph Bowden

Below: Here's the model rain barrel, with gutter set-up, we had on display at the festival. This barrel was painted by the Cookeville Friends Meeting. Photo by Brian Paddock.



**TN Chapter Autumn Retreat
OCT 23-25, 2009**

Situated in a remote section of the upper Cumberland Plateau, Pickett CCC Memorial State Park is known for its geological, botanical, and scenic wonders. The park lies within the 19,200 acre Pickett State Forest, and adjacent to the massive 120,000 acre Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, both areas containing prime wilderness country.

Bunk house style sleeping accommodations at the Group Lodge and Saturday and Sunday breakfasts plus Saturday dinner is provided. Fee is \$40.00 for adults or \$20.00 for children (5-12 yrs). Bring your own lunches, toiletries, towels and sleeping bag.

Pickett State Park, 4605 Pickett Park Highway, Jamestown, TN 38556
Directions: Take I-40 to Exit 317 and take Hwy. 127 north for 46 miles. Turn right on Hwy. 154 and travel another 12 miles to the park entrance.

Additional Pickett State Park information found at <http://state.tn.us/environment/parks/Pickett/>
Defenders Fall Silent Auction. Bring donations!

Reservations: Contact Gloria Griffith at Gl4797@embarqmail.com or 423-727-4797 and please specify vegetarian or omnivore meals before Monday October 19 to assure your preference is available.

Tell TVA: Improve the Integrated Resource Plan

By Brian Paddock and Steven Sondheim

Tell the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to: Redo power projections based on less usage due to the economy, energy costs, climate change and efficiency; consider all supply options (large power plants and distributed power generation); consider all demand options (energy efficiency, cogeneration, peak load reduction, renewable energy); and lower overall costs and environmental impacts that might result from considering only the supply side.

Tell the TVA to consider all power and energy efficiency options on a level playing field. TVA has a large commitment to coal and nuclear power, offering only token energy efficiency programs despite earlier promises. TVA and its distributors have not embraced energy efficiency because reduced power sales means reduced revenue.

Ask TVA to stop building nuclear plants, gradually shut down the dirtiest coal plants, reduce energy consumption, and develop local renewable sources.

Costs should be minimized for all stakeholders. Energy efficiency programs reduce how much electricity we use (reducing our costs) rather than just having utility programs to reduce peak use (reducing the costs for TVA). TVA's failure to account for the environmental costs and life-cycle costs of its power production activities places the burden on future gener-

ations to pay for them. TVA in the past had a lifeline rate, a reduced rate for low consuming ratepayers, which rewarded the energy efficient and assisted lower income customers.

TVA should address uncertainties and risks, including environmental costs, reliability concerns, and financial risks. It should consider full life cycle costs of supply and demand side options, true cost accounting of the environmental impacts, and financial risks incurred. TVA does not have a track record in assessing costs of environmental protection as demonstrated by its continuing resistance to reduce its air pollution or to repair the coal ash dikes that eventually collapsed.

TVA should allow for open-decision making processes and involvement of all stakeholders. The Integrated Resource Plan itself will be conducted largely in-house with the engagement of a group of handpicked "stakeholders." The public should have had the opportunity to weigh in on the model design and the inputs into that model. All data and studies upon which decisions are made should be made publicly available. The current TVA scoping process is inadequate for true stakeholder involvement. TVA intends to have the draft plan ready for public comment in early 2010, a too short time frame for true public deliberation.

Hold TVA and the utilities accountable for implementation. Unlike other utilities, TVA cur-

rently does not have accountability for the implementation of the Integrated Resource Plan. TVA has a long track record of setting goals and then ignoring them. The TVA board has unfettered discretion to disregard the Integrated Resource Plan in future resource decisions. We need some way to require TVA to keep its promises. President Obama will soon nominate four new TVA board members. Tell TVA to wait until it has its new members so they can participate.

Congress will pass new climate protection legislation this year. Tell TVA to wait until it knows what it must do to reduce greenhouse emissions.

EPA will determine whether to designate coal ash as a hazardous waste. Tell TVA to wait until it knows its responsibilities for managing its coal ash.

TVA has handpicked individuals to fill environmental slots on an Integrated Resource Plan stakeholder group without asking for recommendations from the environmental communities (air, water, land), the energy communities (coal, nuclear, energy efficiency, demand side management, and renewables), and consumer advocates.

Tell TVA to ask public interest communities to select their own representatives.

Send comments to IRP@tva.gov.

Middle Tennessee Group's Garden Pilot Project

Gary Bowers and Katherine Pendleton have coordinated an organic garden pilot project on land owned by Beth and Eric Lewis in west Nashville. They supplied their own seeds, plants, and organic fertilizers. The garden plot was made ready and planting began April 25.

Vegetables grown have included several varieties of tomatoes, bell peppers, jalapeno peppers, banana peppers, cayenne peppers, corn, beets, radishes, cucumbers, squash, cantaloupes, carrots, okra, winter squash, and sunflowers.

A planning meeting for next year's garden took place on August 10. If you are interested in participating in the garden project next year, contact Katherine Pendleton at 615-360-3481.



Sustainability Sounds Good to Tennessee

The Tennessee Environmental Education Association is seeking presenters for its Sept 25-27 conference entitled

"Sustainability Sounds Good to Tennessee!"

The participants will be teachers and non-formal educators from across the state of Tennessee. Some are very new to the exciting field of environmental education; many will be seasoned and experienced in EE.

Sessions will be from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m., 9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 26, 2009 at the Scarritt-Bennett Center in Nashville.

For more information, including 33 enviro-education topics being considered, click on: <http://bit.ly/18U9RL>.

Middle Tennessee Group Executive Committee Election Nominations Wanted

Three 2-year positions are open.

Executive committee member responsibilities are: understand and promote the mission of the Sierra Club; attend executive committee meetings and general meetings; lead and provide educational training and/or conservation opportunities to the general membership; promote the outings program; participate in long range planning; actively assist in fundraising activities or contribute financially; ensure financial stability and solvency; modify and allocate resources—must be consistent with the opportunities, abilities and commitment of the chapter/group; monitor, question and evaluate club activities; provide leadership and vision within the chapter/group; and contribute a sense of camaraderie and teamwork.

If you are interested in running, please call or email Lynne Baker by Oct. 1 at (o) 615-831-6782, lbaker59@aol.com.

Tennessee Water Sentinels Outreach to Outdoor Enthusiasts

By James H. Baker

The Tennessee Water Sentinels conducted hunter - angler outreach at the Mid-South Hunting and Fishing Extravaganza in Memphis, which was organized by the Tennessee Wildlife Federation. Hosting an information table at a hunting show exposed Chickasaw Group volunteers to a different audience than the usual information table venues.

Occasionally, when discussing issues with visitors to our table, we had to work hard to overcome skepticism and distrust when we heard comments that the Sierra Club opposes hunting and fishing and supports gun control. We tried to counter those arguments with positive responses; however, some of those people still walked away skeptical of our organization.

For me, the highlight and most positive

experience of the entire three days was when a wheelchair bound man asked me if I knew anything about "Project Healing Waters." Tim Guilfoile of the Northern Kentucky Water Sentinels knew more and spoke with him. The man and I talked a bit, and when I thanked him for his service in the first Gulf War and shook his hand, he smiled wide, grew misty-eyed and spoke with a catch in his voice. This more than made up for some negative comments we heard during the weekend. For more on Project Healing Waters, see: <http://www.projecthealingwaters.org/>.

For more information on the Sierra Sportsmen Network and the Club's outreach to hunters and anglers go to <http://www.sierraclub.org/sierrasportsmen/>

10th Annual Healthy Food, Local Farms Conference:

"Growing Community Through Food"

November 6-7, 2009 Louisville, Kentucky

"School Gardens and Food in Our Schools," Nov. 6, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., University of Louisville, Belknap Campus. Special guests: Slow Foods Josh Vietril and youth activists Sam Levin. This program is especially for school teachers, administrators, dietitians, and students. Lunch is provided. Work in the onsite garden. There isn't a charge, but advance registration is required.

"Harvest Celebration," Nov. 6, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m., Seelbach Hotel, Grand Ballroom, \$35. Advance reservations are required. Local farmers and chefs team for a tasting of seasonal, sustainably grown Kentucky food. Hosted by the Greater Louisville Sierra Club Group and Slow Food Bluegrass.

"10th annual Healthy Foods, Local Farms Conference," Nov. 7, 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., University of Louisville Strickler Hall, Belknap Campus, Louisville. The cost is \$40.00/person and advance registration is required. Registration and breakfast is at 8 a.m., and the conference begins at 9 a.m. You must have an advance reservation with a food preference. All food is local and sustainably grown. Speakers include Wendell Berry, student activist Sam Levin, Slow Foods Josh Viertel, writer/activist Nicolette Hahn Niman and more. Conference scholarships are available.

To register, go to www.healthyfoodslocalfarmsconference.org/. For more information call Aloma Dew at (270) 685-2034.

Experience Fiery Gizzard Trail, Foster Falls

By Keven Routon

The Fiery Gizzard Trail is located just minutes from Tracy City, Tenn., atop the beautiful Cumberland Plateau. The origin of the creek's name, which the trail shares, has been lost to time. Colorful tales abound and our guide, Tennessee state naturalist, ranger Randy Hedgepath, had several versions to share. Did Davy Crockett really bite into a hot gizzard here? No one knows for sure.

One certainty is that this area will exceed expectations for those desiring to trek some of the most beautiful trails in Tennessee, cool off in the clear pools, challenge the sheer bluffs, or camp out a few days and do it all. You will be glad you came.

Our guided tour explored a few miles beginning from the north trailhead at Grundy Forest State Natural Area on the first day and experienced the other end of the 17-mile trail from Foster Falls the following day.

Foster Falls drops about 60 feet and the pool is a popular swimming area. After a few hours on the trail, we all wished we had packed to partake in the clean cool waters.

A short hike from Foster Falls provides some great opportunities for rock climbers to sharpen their skills.

I hope that others will share my excitement and explore the Fiery Gizzard Trail and other beautiful trails across Tennessee.

Additional information can be found at: <http://www.friendsofscsra.org/aboutthepark.htm>



Ranger Randy Hedgepath shares a story with hikers Mary Margaret Ware, Nancy Ream and others. Photo by: Keven Routon.

energy corner

Energy Matters

Speak Out and Let Your Voice Be Heard



By Steven Sondheim

State energy conference calls-First Wednesdays 7:30 pm CST. We'll familiarize and train you. Contact Gloria Griffith 423-727-4797 gla4797@embarqmail.com for instructions.

National Energy Campaign: Steven Sondheim 901/761-1793 stevensondheim@yahoo.com E-mail your legislators to strengthen clean energy and support climate legislation. <http://action.sierraclub.org/aces>

Sign up as climate leaders-Phone Bank. Write Op-Eds.

www.sierraclub.org/climateleaders

Sign petitions regarding EPA rules on coal mining, missions, etc. www.sierraclub.org/bigpicture

National Energy Activists: We have twice monthly calls/regular updates regarding federal climate and energy work. To sign up contact christina.yagjian@sierraclub.org

Nuclear--Bill Reynolds, 423-624 6821 CIsland@aol.com

For help on comments www.nirs.org or www.solarvalleycoalition.net Click Nuclear Waste and look for Public Comment Deadlines

Tennessee Again #1 Radioactive Waste Volunteer State Several of

Tennessee's municipal landfill dumps have long been piling up so-called "low level radioactive wastes."

ACTION: Let TDEC Directors Jim Fyke c/o asktdec@tn.gov Paul Sloan Paul.Sloan@state.tn.us and Gov Bredesen phil.bredesen@state.tn.gov know whether you support or oppose more radioactive incineration in TN. Demand a public hearing. Info: <http://bredl.org/stopincineration/index.htm>

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Radioactive Import and Export **COMMENTS DUE** by Sept 8 **At least 2 Department of Energy (DOE) contractor proposals** have Comment Deadlines in September 2009

1. Processing mixed hazardous and radioactive waste from the nuclear weapons complex. **ACTION:** COMMENT by Sept 28, 2009 mllwtreatment@emcbc.doe.gov

CC: comments to Inés Triay ines.triay@em.doe.gov DOE Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management in charge of Requests for Proposals and Congressman Bart Gordon via his website http://gordon.house.gov/contact/contact_form.shtml

2. DOE Radioactive Waste Radioactive Metal Recycling **COMMENTS DUE TO DOE** by SEPT 15, 2009

Success on the Nuclear Power Front: The NRC licensing process has been put on hold apparently in response to our petitions filed through the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League. "In the summer of 2009, the NRC delayed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on Units 3 and 4 until at least 2011, citing the need for TVA to decide if it will proceed with Units 1 and 2." In the meantime, we will continue attempts to intervene as TVA seeks NRC permission to move forward with re-starting construction on the antiquated Bellefonte Units 1 & 2.

TVA and Solar Valley Coalition: Bimonthly calls regarding TVA, state energy plans and legislation.

Louise Gorenflo, 931/484-2633 lgorenflo@gmail.com

Tennessee's upcoming building code hearings-Oct 8-UT Knoxville, Oct 9-Chattanooga, Oct 13-Jackson, Oct 15 Nashville **Transportation:**

Brian Paddock 931/268-2938 bpaddock@twlakes.net

Clean-TEA is a bill added on to the energy bill that holds the Dept of Transportation responsible for its contribution to energy use, greenhouse gas, and climate change. The focus concerns funding for lower vehicle miles traveled, better land use and transit. Join the ongoing work by the Sierra Club and its partners: www.t4America.org and www.smartgrowthamerica.org

See www.t4america.org/transitcuts and www.movingcooler.info

Global Warming, Energy, and Cool Cities <http://coolcities.us> Contact Mary Mastin, 931-268-2938 marymastin@twlakes.net

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) is a block grant program to fund energy efficiency and conservation projects at the state and local levels.

Contact Don Scharf 615-896-8338 d.scharf@comcast.net

Moving?



Attach mailing address label, or fill in current name, address & Membership ID#

Current Address: _____

Member ID# _____

My new address is:

Name _____

Address _____

City/St/Zip _____

Mail to:

Sierra Club

P.O. Box 52968 Boulder, CO 80322-2968

The Sierra Club-Middle TN Group

Tennes-Sierran

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