

- Dieman

Lennes

Please Help Save Cummins Falls

By Kathleen Williams and Jeanne Fitch

The rope is frayed, and I'm afraid as we approach the descent into the gorge of spectacular Cummins Falls. Slick mud and broken glass along the almost-perpendicular climb to the bottom add to the risk. But on this scorching 100-degree-day the urge for going is greater than the fear.

At the bottom, with legs trembling from trepidation and exertion, we climb over house-size boulders under the shade of towering bluffs and hemlock to the pool at the bottom of the great falls. Towering, roaring, frothing, everfalling...Cummins Falls. Such sweet relief to dip into its icy waters. Bring goggles and swim with the fish that abound here just below the surface. Come see.

The mission of Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation (TPGF) is to save Tennessee's natural treasures, and Cummins Falls is one of our finest. We have a one-time chance to save this waterfall for us and future generations.

The northeast side of Blackburn Fork River includes Cummins Falls and encompasses 186 acres that was sold at public auction in May. At the urging of the TPGF board of directors and volunteers, a Cookeville resident, Dr. Glenn Hall, purchased the property and generously agreed to give the foundation a one (1) year option to purchase in order to raise the money needed to buy the land. Our option expires June 16, 2011. We need your help.

Cummins Falls is the largest privately owned waterfall in Tennessee. Grand at 75 feet high, this waterfall is the eighth largest waterfall in Tennessee in magnitude. It is located in Jackson County close to the Putnam County line. Its formation on the Eastern Highland Rim creates unique, dramatic topography and rare ecosystems where wildlife thrives in this wet, lush, forested gorge.

Cummins Falls is the most significant geological and scenic feature located on the Blackburn Fork State Scenic River. This property protects nearly two miles of the north side along the most scenic stretch of river.

Cummins Falls is designated by the National Park Service as outstanding for scenic, recreational, geological and wildlife values. The Tennessee Rivers Assessment Project designated Blackburn Fork with its highest rating of "1" for natural and scenic qualities.

This land has been a priority for Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation for a decade.

Now you can receive your

Tennes-Sierran

via email

Subscribe simply by going to

http://tennessee.sierraelub.org/mtg/subscribe.htm

How does it work? Mustiby you will receive an enail satisfication and download link for your new Tenner-Sterean in a special enail olest. All you will have to do in clink on the link and prests, your Tenner-Sterean will appear in an Adobe Acrobat PDF format. Yow it, download it, sows it but whatever the case you will be soving trees, and freeing Tennessee Chapter clab knoting to week for other conservation effects. A double whatevery win situation?

So Join the Crowd

and Go Paperless Today!

We must raise a million dollars to conserve it, and Cummins Falls is worth it. We need your help to give and to join the committee. We are urging clubs and individuals to pledge to fund one acre at the cost of \$5,686.

Whatever you can do — we need your help.

What a gift to our future generations!

If you are interested in visiting the waterfall, we will host hikes on the first Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. **Pre-registration** is required. There will be a fundraising kickoff party on Saturday, September 25. Please bring friends and family to show your support for protecting this treasure. Call Dianne Naff at 615-386-3171 or Steve Walsh at 615-545-0195 for more information, or email projects@tenngreen.org.



Put the Public Back into TVA Power

(Editor's note: The following material came off a flyer submitted by Louise Gorenflo.)

Energy efficiency is a large, untapped and low-cost energy resource. Money saved from energy efficiency increases consumer purchasing power.

Energy efficiency pays for itself in lower electric bills. Large energy savings are available in existing homes and businesses. Saving a kilowatt hour through energy efficiency improvements is easily one-third less expensive than building a new energy supply.

Reducing the energy use per unit of production enhances economic competitiveness of Tennessee businesses.

Energy efficiency makes jobs in our community. It is labor intensive rather than capital intensive: HVAC, lighting, glazing, plumbing, masonry, roofers, carpentry, refrigeration, construction, auditors, building operations management, educators, non-governmental organizations, trainers, innovators, consultants, policy makers and more.

Energy efficiency aligns well with TVA's mission to provide reliable service at the lowest possible price.

TVA Needs to Move Forward with Energy Efficiency

While TVA has an aggressive peak load reduction program, it does not have an energy efficiency program to match. The TVA service area is missing the economic and environmental benefits that energy efficiency provides.

Tennessee homes use the most electricity in the nation. We use twice the national average.

More families have to choose between buying food and paying their electric bill. TVA needs to target these families to help them reduce their energy bills.

Surrounding states and states around the country are already on the energy efficiency path.

TVA needs to solve the barriers to unleashing the power of energy efficiency.

Energy efficiency expands the ability of our market to deliver energy-efficient goods and services.

Ask TVA to set an energy efficiency target to reduce electricity consumption by one percent annually.

Tennes-Sierran

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

SEND CHANGE OF ADDRESS TO:

*Email: address.changes@sierraclub.org

*Snail Mail: clip the Moving? coupon below and mail

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

SEND ARTICLES TO:

Email: lbaker@usw.org

Snail Mail: Lynne Baker, Tennes-Sierran Editor PO Box 1504, Antioch, TN 37011

(615) 831-6782

ARTICLE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

Submission DEADLINE is the 1st 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 ½ 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.

Deadline to Submit to Editor the Slate of Nominees, their Information and Ballot:

> **No Later Than Oct. 1**





With your help, we can clean up our water.

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

Keep our water safe. Join Sierra Club.

Name		
Address		
City		State
Zlp	Phone (
Email		

Join today and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!



Check enclosed. Please of Please charge my: Visa		
Cardholder Name	_	
Membership Categories Special Offer	Individual	Joint

Membership Categories	Individual	Joint
Special Offer	\$25	
Standard	□ \$39	□ \$49
Supporting	□ \$75	S100
Contributing	\$150	\$175
Life	_ \$1000	\$1250
Senior	1 \$25	11535
Student/I imited Income	□ \$25	□ \$35

Contributions, ofte and door to Sierre Club are not tan deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based actionary and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to Sierra magazine and 51 for your Chapter newsletters.

Enclose a check and mail to

Sierra Club, P.O. Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-6417.

F940 W 4300 1

New Design Footprints T-Shirts

Black print quotation: "The human spirit needs places where nature has not been rearranged by the hand of man." - Unknown Author on gray background.



r					
Size	Oty		Unit Price		Total
Small		х	\$16.00		
Medium		×	\$16.00		
Large		×	\$16.00		
D/Large		х	\$16.00		
2X-Large		×	\$16.00		
			Sub-Total		
Shipping - Enter					
Total # of T-Shirts		х	\$5.00		
i			Grand Total		
Please make checks psyable to: TN Chapter Sierre Club Mail Ta: T-Shirt Order Fullfillment P. O. 8xx 290306 - Neshville, TN 37229 OR					
Vistit us ce-line at:					
http://www.ternesses.sierroclub.org/etg/footprints.htm					
To pay by e-check or credit cord					
(sarry, credit cards only accepts via on-line orders)					
		,			

Sierra Club Officers

TENNESSEE CHAPTER:

Katherine Pendleton (615) 943-6877

Katibug1959@aol.com Vice Chair: Gloria Griffith (423) 727-4797

gla4797@embarqmail.com Bob Hill (865) 966-9435 Secretary:

Scott Kramer (423) 598-9516 Treasurer: TNChapSCTreas@gmail.com

Gary Bowers (615) 714-3185 Conservation: GB1Nature@aol.com

Judith Hammond (901) 276-2819 Outings: judithhammond@bellsouth.net Don Richardson (901) 276-1387 CCL Delegate:

donrich@juno.com Brian Paddock (931) 268-2938 CCL Alternate:

bpaddock@twlakes.net

TN LOCAL GROUPS: **Cherokee Group**

www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/cherokee

Elizabeth Tallman (423) 619-0379 Chair: eliza beth jamest all man@hot mail.comVice Chair: Jamie Brown (423) 255-3014

jdbrown5188@yahoo.com Barbara Hurst (423) 866-9503 Treasurer: barbaraduckhurst@hotmail.com

Conser. Chair: Dr. Henry Spratt (423) 425-4383 henry-spratt@utc.edu

Secretary: Barbara Kelly (423) 718-5009 rpyle@chattanooga.net Outings Co-Chairs: Jeremy Gazaway (423) 619-6548

gazaway_77@yahoo.com Denis Kiely (423) 881-3620 dkiely@bledsoe.net

Chickasaw Group - Memphis

www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/chickasaw

Nancy Brannnon (901) 829-4360 Chair:

brannon.n@gmail.com Vice Chair: Keith Hoover (901) 363-8299 hooverkw@yahoo.com

Emily Schwimmer (901) 240-5476 Secretary: eschwimm@gmail.com

Susan Routon (901) 413-3888 Treasurer: suestreasure@msn.com Conservation:

Keven Routon (901) 485-3960 kwratcs@mac.com

Tabling: Keith Hoover (901) 363-8299 hooverkw@yahoo.com Matt Farr 901-517-8879

Outings: matt.tennessierran@gmail.com

Membership: Keith Hoover (901) 363-8299 hooverkw@yahoo.com

TV Program: Judith Rutschman (901) 767-5916

jcrutchman@gmail.com

Harvey Broome Group - Knoxville/Oak Ridge

www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/broome Bob Hill (865) 966-9435 Chair:

robin.hill8@google.com

Vice-Chair: David Reister

Axel Ringe (865)387-1840 Conservation: onyxfarm@bellsouth.net Ron Shrieves (865) 922-3518 Outings:

ronaldshrieves@comcast.net

Middle Tennessee Group - Nashville

www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/mtg David Bordenkircher Chair:

dabordenkircher@mindspring.com

Vice Chair: Don Scharf, 615-896-8338

d.scharf@comcast.net Conservation: Dr. Cliff Cockerham

clifford.cockerham@mnps.org Membership: Betsy Garber, 615-668-1977

garberb@hotmail.com

Outings: Katherine Pendleton (615) 943-6877 Katibug1959@aol.com

Watauga Group - Carter, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi and Washington Counties

www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/watauga Gloria Griffith (423) 727-4797

Cnair: gla4797@embarqmail.com Vice Chair: Sandi Cranford 423-727-5044 sunshine@highcountryonline.net Conservation: Dean Whitworth (423) 727-7214

Webb Griffith (423) 727-4797 gla4797@earthlink.net

Upper Cumberland Group - Cookeville

www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/ucg

Outings:

Mary Mastin (931) 268-2938 zeblady@twlakes.net Josie McQuail (931) 372-6207 Vice-Chair: Jmcquail@tntech.edu

Ralph Bowden Treasurer: Secretary: Peggy Evans Conservation: Easton Evans Outings: Vacant

National Sierra Staff in Tennessee:

Rita Harris, Community Organizer

Environmental Justice Program (901) 324-7757

rita.harris@sierraclub.org

Bill McCabe, Central Appalachian EJ Organizer office - 423-944-3220 fax - 423-944-3221 (call first)

Please notify the Editor when changes are needed



(L-R) State Rep. Barbara Cooper (D) District 86; Rita Harris, Memphis EJ Organizer; and former State Rep. Rufus Jones of Memphis attended a July event that was in celebration of the funding that was received from the state to keep the T.O. Fuller State Park's golf course from being closed. State Rep. Barbara Cooper worked closely with the Friends of T.O. Fuller State Park and was instrumental in leading the fight in the legislature to acquire the necessary funds. The confirmed funding will save approximately 28 jobs in the park. T.O. Fuller State Park is only one of two Tennessee state parks that are named for an African American. Efforts are underway to better promote it and the increased use of the park and all its amenities. Rita Harris, who recently joined the Friends of T.O. Fuller State Park, joined the Friends group in presenting State Rep. Barbara Cooper an award. Photo: Don Richardson

Save the Date: November 5-6, 2010 Summit for a Sustainable Tennessee Cumberland University, Lebanon

Join over a hundred individuals and organizations at the fourth annual statewide gathering to develop an Agenda for a Sustainable Tennessee. Hear the latest of what's happening on the energy front. Discuss environmental policies that may help prevent or mitigate future environmental catastrophes such as the Nashville flood, the Gulf Oil spill, or the TVA coal ash disaster. There will be action items, strategies and tactics to implement the agenda.

The Tennessee Chapter has budgeted money to help Sierra Groups send members to the summit, so look out for further announcements and make your plans to attend.

To register or for more information, go to www.sustainabletn.org



October 22-24 • Pickett State Park Group Camp

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.

- Cost -\$40 for the weekend (Group lodging or car camping. Meals)
- Saturday meeting with meals \$20
- Children 15 and under free and first-time attendees 1/2 price
- Meals Provided

Breakfast Saturday and Sunday Dinner Saturday night and Friday night supper on your own (Maybe a group will go to a local restaurant)

- Hike Saturday morning 9 am New Trail at Historic Rugby Led by Katherine Pendleton
- Conservation meeting at 1 pm Saturday.
- Saturday evening program 7:30 pm Tn Parks & Greenways Save Cummins Falls
- Silent Auction Saturday night (Bring your goodies)
- Business meeting Sunday morning.

RSVP to Mary Mastin, marymastin@twlakes.net or 931-268-2938

Corner



The Chapter Chair Column will be on hiatus this summer. Look for it next autumn.

Tennessee has More Than One Episcopal Bishop

Dear Editor:

I read, with great interest, Josie McQuail's article (*July-August Tennes-Sierran*, *p*. 6) about the efforts to protect Cummins Falls and surrounding property.

Some information in the article about the Episcopal church in Tennessee needs correction. The Rt. Rev. John C. Bauerschmidt is the bishop of the Diocese of Tennessee, which includes the portion of the state stretching from the Cumberland Plateau on the east to the Tennessee River on the West.

The bishop of the Diocese of West Tennessee is the Rt. Rev. Don E. Johnson. That diocese stretches from the Tennessee River and a small portion of Hardin County across the river, on the east, to the Mississippi River and the state's boundary with Arkansas and Missouri, on the west.

The Rt. Rev. Charles G. von Rosenberg is the bishop of East Tennessee. The Diocese of East Tennessee extends from the Cumberland Plateau on the west to the Great Smoky Mountains on the east and includes a small portion of Georgia.

The theological ethos of the Episcopal Church is one that includes a consciousness of and a conscience about the environment, the Creation. The Diocese of East Tennessee, in recent years, has included in its deliberations at its annual convention resolutions about stewardship of the environment in East Tennessee. I would not be surprised to find similar activity afoot in the Diocese of West Tennessee. It's exciting to see the activity in Bishop Bauerschmidt's diocese.

Nick Wyman Research Services Special Collections John C. Hodges Library 1015 Volunteer Boulevard The University of Tennessee Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-1000 Ph. 865.974.4480

Take Action! Sign onto TENNESSEE-ALERTS Listserv

If you want to take action on the environment, join this TENNESSEE-ALERTS list-

To subscribe, send an email to: LIST-SERV@LISTS.SIERRACLUB.ORG

Put in the message area: SUBSCRIBE TENNESSEE-ALERTS

YourFirstName, YourLastName (Substitute your actual first and last name in the places indicated.)

You will receive a maximum of two alerts per month.

The Tennes-Sierran



HARVEY BROOME GROUP (Knoxville)

All programs will be held at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Church, 2931 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN and will start at 7:00 PM.

Sept. 14, 2010 Program: "The Ecology of Gardening."

Ms. Meredith Clebtsch will give an overview of issues that native plants might help solve. She will talk about the biology, natural history and gardening of these plants.

October 12, 2010 Program to be Finalized. Please refer to the Harvey Broome Group web page or Facebook page for information concerning the October program.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP (Nashville)

PROGRAM: Thursday, September 9, 7:00 p.m., at Radnor Lake Visitor Center, 1160 Otter Creek Road, Nashville.

Local birder Danny Shelton will show a film he and his daughter worked on for over 12 months. A Year With Birds is a glimpse into the lives of Tennessee's birds. The film shows over 60 beautiful bird species, and explains how birds change from season to season. With scenes from Dauphin Island, Alabama, it also explores the journeys of Neotropical birds that fly hundreds or even thousands of miles from other countries to visit Tennessee each year. Diverse habitats from the banks of the Mississippi River to the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains provide the backdrop for A Year With Birds.

The film began as a way for Danny to spend time with his daughter, combining his interests in birding and photography with her enthusiasm for film-making. During 2009, Danny traveled from one end of the state to the other filming birds. In all, he recorded 22 hours of video during hundreds of hours in the field observing birds, mammals, reptiles, and the varied features of Tennessee's terrain.

You will learn some bird identification tips and you will enjoy the stunning photography. DVD's of the film will be available after the question and answer period following the program.

PROGRAM: Thursday, October 14, 7:00 p.m., at Radnor Lake Visitor Center, 1160 Otter Creek

Mountaintop removal mining is an especially destructive means of mining coal and is an issue that we in Tennessee, especially those of us who care about preservation of our forests and our water, need to rally our forces against. In the Appalachians, coal companies blast as much as 600 feet off the top of the mountains, then dump the rock and debris into mountain streams. Over 300,000 acres of the most beautiful and productive hardwood forests in America have already been turned into barren grasslands.

Mountaintop removal mining increases flooding, contaminates drinking water supplies, cracks foundations of nearby homes, and showers towns with dust and noise from blasting.

The Middle Tennessee Group is honored to host the Mountaintop Removal Road Show, which includes a stunning 20-minute slide show about the impacts of mountaintop removal on coalfield residents, communities and the environment, and features traditional Appalachian mountain music and shocking aerial photos of decapitated mountains.

Our speakers will be Dave Cooper and Eric Blevins. Dave is a member of the Sierra Club and Mountain Justice, and currently works full time on environmental issues, especially mountaintop removal. He decided to devote his full

attention to environmental issues after seeing a mountaintop removal mine. Eric is a Tennessean and graduate of MTSU. He is a founding member of Tennessee Alumni and Students for Sustainable Campuses, and has worked with Mountain Justice and United Mountain Defense in the fight against mountaintop removal.

The Mountaintop Removal Road Show has been shown over 600 times in 22 states since 2003, including over 200 large and small universities plus many church, community and civic organizations. We hope to see you there!

STRATEGY MEETING: Third Mondays, September 20 and October 18, 6:30 p.m., at the United Steelworkers Union Building, 3340 Perimeter Hill Drive, Nashville, **Tennessee 37211.** Follow the signs to the conference area. If you arrive late, please ring the bell at the side door on the left, and someone will come down to let you in. 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. If you have problems finding or accessing the building, call Katherine Pendleton at 615-943-6877.

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)

Directions: GreenSpaces is located at 63 E. Main Street, Chattanooga. Going south on Market St. from downtown, take a left onto Main. Go slow, and look to your left -- 63 E. Main is a brick building at the end of the first block. If you get to the fire hall on the right -- you've gone too far! GreenSpaces is kiddy-corner across the street from the fire hall. (If you get to Central, you've gone way too far.) If you can't find it, call Barbara Kelly 423.718.5009 -- we don't want anybody to miss our meetings!

SEPTEMBER STRATEGY (Board Meeting): 2nd Wednesday, September 8, 6 p.m., at GreenSpaces, 63. E. Main Street, Chattanooga. All interested members are invited to the meeting where the plans for our conservation actions and the business of our Group gets done!

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM: Last Monday, September 27, 7 p.m., at GreenSpaces, 63 E. Main Street, Chattanooga. "Vision for a Sustainable Chattanooga." Presenter: David Crockett, Director of City of Chattanooga Sustainability Office.

You're invited to come meet the director of Chattanooga's Office of Sustainability. Hear the future of sustainability for Chattanooga. Ask questions. Bring your ideas!

David Crockett, Chattanooga's Green Frontiersman, is a three-term Chattanooga city councilman, former chairman of the council, and president of the Chattanooga Institute for Sustainability. He is well recognized in both governmental and green Chattanooga circles.

At our September meeting, Crockett, the first

director of Chattanooga's new Office of Sustainability, will present the audience with an overview of what challenges we face, what progress has been made, and what his vision is for a newer, greener Chattanooga. According to Crockett, "The issue of sustainability has become our central strategy for everything."

Sustainability steps: The major initiatives of the Office of Sustainability include establishing an energy office to audit and retrofit city buildings. The office plans to establish an advanced support center with software to support analysis of water, gas and electricity use for the entire county's residential, business, government and non-profit facilities. The office is also assessing storm water management and the correlation between water and energy management.

"These are permanent things that will get immediate savings," Crockett says. "In the future, we'll rely on these savings to help fund our office."

Another major project that Crockett will work on is the "No Roof Left Unused" initiative, which encourages companies to install green roofs, solar systems or micro wind turbines on rooftops. And that's just step one.

Plan to attend. Address your questions to Chattanooga's Green Frontiersman, asking about the goals, plans, and visions his office has for Chattanooga's sustainability. Bring your ideas, questions and comments!

OCTOBER STRATEGY (Board Meeting): 2nd Wednesday, October 13, 6 p.m., at GreenSpaces, 63 E. Main Street, Chattanooga. If you are interested in our plans or have an issue that concerns you, here's the place to come!

OCTOBER PROGRAM: Last Monday, October 25, 7 p.m., at GreenSpaces, 63 E. Main Street, Chattanooga. Randy Hedgepath, Tennessee's state parks naturalist, will be highlighting hiking opportunities in southeast Tennessee, outings within a short drive of Chattanooga. Get in on the ground floor and help pick our outings for the season, or find great places for your own adventures as we enjoy Randy's pictures of southeast Tennessee's great outdoors, which is in our own backyard!! Randy travels across the state leading hikes and exploring Tennessee's wild places. He is very knowledgeable about our parks and natural areas, flora and fauna, and is a tremendous resource. Come with your questions and trip planners! Be sure to bring friends—the public is always welcome at all our meetings. After the program we'll enjoy great refreshments too.

CHICKASAW GROUP (Memphis)

(Sign up for our monthly email events list on the calendar page http://tennessee.sierraclub.org/chickasaw/)

Thursday, September 2, 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm, Monthly First Thursday Gathering

Otherlands, 641 S. Cooper, Memphis, TN. Sierra Club members, activists and friends meet in a casual setting to talk about issues and interests. For more information, contact Keith Hoover at hooverkw@yahoo.com or (901) 363-8299.

Monday, September 13, 6:30 pm, Strategy Meeting, Panera Bread, 4530 Poplar Avenue, Suite 101, Memphis, TN. The Executive Committee meets on the second Monday of every month. This is a business meeting but members are welcome to attend. For more information or to place items on the agenda, contact Nancy Brannon at nthechair@gmail.com or (901) 829-4360. Agenda items must be submitted at least three



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 please http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/S ignInWaiver 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)

Sept 5 (Sun). Day hike, Ijams Nature Center. This protected area has been expanded to include a second quarry with several interesting features including a cave and overlooks. Learn about quarrying and its impact on the environment. Hike 3-4 miles including the boardwalk along the river. Rated easy and good for beginners. Drive 15 miles one easy. Please register with Linda Smithyman at lsmithymanhbg@yahoo.com or call at (865) 335-3559.

Sept 11 (Sat). Day hike, Cataloochee area of **GSNMP.** A 5.9 mile (requiring a car shuttle) hike on Pretty Hollow Gap trail to Little Cataloochee Trail in the Cataloochee area. Afterward we will do some elk viewing. This may be the weekend that the apple butter demonstration is usually held. This is rated easy to moderate for some elevation gain. Drive: 80 miles each way. Pre-register with Priscilla Watts: (865) 966-4142; sigmtngirl@earth-

Sept 18-19 (Sat-Sun). Gourmet Backpack, **Citico Wilderness.** 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 Crowder Place campsite, on the Crowder Branch trail in Citico. Seriously, this outing provides an opportunity to learn about eating well on backcountry adventures, but also about the "leave no trace" wilderness ethic that permits having a good time while protecting the wilderness experience for those that follow. We'll hike in to Crowder Place via the Fodderstack Trail, a hike of about 3.3 miles. The hike out is only 2.6 miles down the Crowder Branch trail, but there are other possibilities if we opt for a longer hike out. Rated easy. Drive: 65 mi each way. Pre-register with Ron Shrieves: phone (865) 922-3518; email ronaldshrieves@comcast.net (email preferred).

Sept 25 (Sat). Volunteer event, Public Lands **Day.** Hands-on volunteer work to restore a natural area to a more natural state. Learn how to do actual conservation work in the field and make your own impact on nature. Location to be decided. Please register with Linda Smithyman at Ismithymanhbg@yahoo.com or call at (865) 335-3559.

Oct 2-3 (Sat-Sun). Backpack, Upper Bald River Loop of the Cherokee National Forest. The premier new area being supported by the Sierra Club and the Tennessee Wild coalition for wilderness designation in the Cherokee National Forest is the Upper Bald River area, which the US Forest Service has recommended for wilderness protection. We are going to explore the heart of this potential new 9,112-acre wilderness (we've done this loop during two prior years) and will hopefully gain some new proponents for its wilderness designation. Our route is up the Brookshire Creek Trail, across the mountains at the head of the watershed on the State Line Trail, and returning on the Kirkland Creek Trail. Hiking distance is about 17.5 miles total, and it is rated difficult. Drive: 90 miles each way. Pre-register with Will Skelton: H) 865-523-2272; Cell) 865-742-7327; email whshome@bellsouth.net.

Oct 10 (Sun). Wildflower Day hike, Frozen **Head State Natural area.** This hike is likely less than six miles on the Panther Branch trails, including two waterfalls and the South Old Mac and Judge Branch Loop trails. We'll learn why this is called a state natural area as many fall wildflowers will be seen, and this is an extension of our spring hikes. Rated easy. Drive 80 miles roundtrip. Please register with Linda Smithyman at Ismithymanhbg@yahoo.com or call at 865-335-3559.

Meetings (continued)

days (preferably five) before the meeting.

Thursday, September 23, 6:30 pm, Networking & Snacks; 7:00 pm, Program Presentation: TBA, Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library, 3030 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, TN. Details to be announced at a later date. For more information or to suggest a future presentation, contact Susan Routon at susan.routon@gmail.com or (901) 413-3888.

Thursday, October 7, 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm, First Thursday Gathering Otherlands, 641 S. Cooper, Memphis, TN. Sierra Club members, activists and friends meet in a casual setting to talk about issues and interests. For more information, contact Keith Hoover at hooverkw@vahoo.com or (901) 363-8299.

Monday, October 11, 6:30 pm, Strategy Meeting, Panera Bread, 4530 Poplar Avenue, Suite 101, Memphis, TN. The Executive Committee meets on the second Monday of every month. This is a business meeting but members are welcome to attend. For more information or to place items on the agenda, contact Nancy Brannon at nthechair@gmail.com or (901) 829-4360. Agenda items must be submitted at least three days (preferably five) before the meeting.

Thursday, October 28, 6:30 Networking & Snacks; 7:00 pm, Program Presentation: TBA, Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library, 3030 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, TN. Details to be announced at a later date. For more information or to suggest a future presentation, contact Susan Routon at susan.routon@gmail.com or (901) 413-3888.

"Nature of Conservation" Chickasaw Group Cable TV Show on WYPL-TV 18 (Comcast). Days and times vary -- see http://www.memphislibrary.org/tlc18/schedule/ (or the Comcast on-screen guide) for the latest schedule. Topic changes every month. For more information, or if anyone has an idea for a future program, contact Judith Rutschman jcrutschman@gmail.com or (901) 767-5916.

Chickasaw Group is now on Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/Chickasaw.Group/

This is a forum for public discussion, so please feel free to post comments, raise issues, and express environmental concerns.

WATAUGA GROUP (Northeastern 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.

Ten Essentials for Hiking



- 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)
- 7. Knife
- 8. Flashlight
- 9. Extra food, water
- 10. The tenth essential: You decide
- what is the most important thing to

Oct 23 (Sat). Day hike, Lawson Mountain **Section, Cumberland Trail.** This will be the first group to hike the brand-new Lawson Mountain Section, just completed in June by the Cumberland Trail Conference. The hike, 9.8 miles in length, is entirely within the North Cumberland Wildlife Management Area in Scott County. From its northern terminus on Norma Road, the trail crosses the New River and ascends 1,200 feet in just over 3 miles to reach the top of Lawson Mountain. The scenic traverse of the ridge is followed by a 600-foot descent to Bowling Branch. A pleasant, fairly level stroll precedes the second major climb of the section—an ascent of nearly 900 feet to a rocky spine dividing two major watersheds. After another level traverse, the trail descends toward remote Cave Branch, then works its way southeast to the Smoky Creek Road trailhead. Highlights of this section include a vast hardwood forest affording great fall colors; stands of large, healthy hemlock; countless tumbling creeks (in season); farreaching views from Lawson Mountain; walking in the presence of wild elk; and splendid isolation. After meeting at the Norma Road trailhead, there will be a 5-mile car shuttle. Pre-register with Warren or Carol Devine, (865) 483-7894 or wdevine@bellsouth.net.

Nov 7 (Sun). Mystery day hike. Where would you like to go within a 50-mile radius? (All suggestions are welcome.) The hike will likely be less than six miles. Rated easy/moderate. Please register with Linda Smithyman at lsmithymanhbg@yahoo.com or call at 865-335-3559.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP (Nashville)

October 16 (Sat.), Radnor Lake Sunrise Owl Prowl, 6:00 a.m. This will be a sunrise hike in search of Barred, Eastern Screech or Great Horned Owls and other awakening fine furry friends that stand out against the autumn changing fauna. We'll meet in the Nature Center parking lot at 6:00 a.m. and stroll around the Lake Trail and up to the Ganier Ridge Trail identifying as many trees as we can. Once we reach the top of the hill we'll stop to enjoy hot coffee or chai tea and organic breakfast treats, which will be served by your trip leader. Hiking distance will be approximately 4.5 miles with some strenuous, but short climbs. For more venue information visit: http://www.radnorlake.org/welcome.html. Preregistration is required by contacting Rachel Floyd at rfloyd557@bellsouth.net or 615-406-9204.

CHEROKEE GROUP (Chattanooga)

Jeremy Gazaway, outings chair for the local Cherokee Sierra Group, leads outings and hikes at least one or two weekends per month. Our activities are always open to the public. To register, or for more information, contact Jeremy at 423.619.6548 or gazawaypainting@gmail.com

Saturday, September 18: Elsie Holmes Nature Park, 10 am. Come explore South

Tennessee Wild to Lead Hikes to Proposed Wilderness Areas in Cherokee National Forest

By Tennessee Wild

On June 9, Senator Lamar Alexander introduced the Tennessee Wilderness Act of 2010 on the floor of the US Senate. The legislation is co-sponsored by Senator Bob Corker. This bill will designate nearly 20,000 acres of the Cherokee National Forest as federally protected wilderness.

Tennessee Wild will be leading a series of outings to all of the areas represented in the Tennessee Wilderness Act. These trips are free, open to the public, and vary in difficulty.

"We are hoping to get Tennesseans out onto their public lands to see these great places that Senators Alexander and Corker have proposed for protection," stated Jeff Hunter of Tennessee Wild. "Senator Alexander has stated that this is a good bill for Tennessee families. We couldn't agree more, and we're hoping some families will join us as we explore these beautiful areas."

Here is the schedule of activities:

Saturday, September 11, Day Hike into the Sampson Mountain Wilderness. This moderately strenuous 7-mile hike will explore the existing wilderness area. The hike will include the scenic Turkey Pen Cove and Middle Spring Trails.

Saturday, September 25, Wilderness

Photography Class. Bill and Laura Hodge will lead this one-day photography class in the Tellico Ranger District near their home in Coker Creek, Tennessee. The day will include discussion of digital photography techniques, in-the-field shooting and highlight the Upper Bald River Wilderness Study Area.

Saturday, October 4, Day Hike to Whigg Meadow. This 3.2 mile round-trip hike is suitable for families with young children. We will hike from the Cherohala Skyway (near Tellico Plains, TN) where we will have lunch (not provided) and play in the meadow.

Sunday, October 10, Day Hike of Upper Bald River Wilderness Study Area. This easy 4-mile hike along the Brookshire Creek Trail will take participants to a beautiful waterfall where we will enjoy lunch (not provided). A ford of the Bald River is required, but should be no deeper than mid-calf. The trail is an old rail grade, so no steep climbs are involved. This is another great family hike.

October 16-17, Two Rivers Backpack. This strenuous 17-mile backpack will start at the Ocoee River and follow the Benton MacKaye Trail north. Along the way we will hike through the Little Frog NW Wilderness addition, pass through areas rich in wildlife, and follow beautiful Lost Creek. The hike con-

cludes at the Hiwassee River. Participants must provide their own gear for this overnight trip.

October 22-24, Appalachian Trail Backpack - Big Laurel Branch Wilderness. This strenuous three-day, 17-mile trip will take participants along the ridges of Iron Mountain where we will explore the Appalachian National Scenic Trail. Participants must provide their own gear.

All hikes are free and open to the public. Registration is required and space is limited on each hike. For additional information or to register, please contact Jeff Hunter at 423-322-7866 or jeff@safc.org. Additional information can also be found at TNWild.org.

Tennessee Wild is dedicated to protecting wilderness in the Cherokee National Forest for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future generations. We aim to educate the public about the benefits of wilderness, and promote volunteerism and the sound stewardship of Tennessee's wild places.

booth, please contact Keith Hoover at hooverkw@yahoo.com or (901) 363-8299.

Sunday, October 10, 1 pm to 7 pm, "Save Randolph Bluffs" Fall Sunset Picnic, Ballard Slough Road near Needham Road, Randolph, TN. Google Map: http://tinyurl.com/oaula5. Join the Sierra Club and the Tennessee Parks & Greenways Foundation as we explore, enjoy, and help protect this beautiful riverfront property for a future state park. The site is the last non-privately owned bluff along with the Memphis Riverfront, and offers one of the most spectacular views of a long bend in the Mississippi River. Tours of the riverfront landing, an adjacent wooded natural area and spring, and a nearby rare, preserved underground Civil War powder magazine will be conducted at various times throughout the day. Food and beverages will be provided, but you are more than welcome to bring your own and picnic on the bluff or riverfront. For more information on Randolph Bluffs, see http://tenngreen.org/currentprojects.htm. For directions or more information about the picnic, see our Facebook page or contact Keith Hoover at hooverkw@yahoo.com or (901) 363-8299, or Don Richardson at (901) 276-1387.

Saturday, October 16, South Cumberland Plateau Autumn Hikes. Join the Sierra Club as we explore the nooks and crannies of the South Cumberland Plateau. These outings provide opportunities for experienced and inexperienced hikers as two Sierra Club outings leaders will be conducting simultaneous excursions in the region.

Sewanee Perimeter Trail—Intermediate Hikers Only.

Join Matt Farr, a Sewanee alumnus and Chickasaw Group outings chair, on a very special autumnal hike that circumscribes Sewanee's 13,000 acre domain. Sewanee was recently named the #1 Most Beautiful Campus in America by U.S. News and World Report, and Matt has self-appointed the Outings Committee to verify this claim firsthand. The trail, which follows the bluff line for over 20 miles, provides stunning vistas, a number of upland lakes, significant geological features, and a great deal of history. Space is very limited. Contact Matt for more details: 901-517-8879 or by email at matt.tennessierran@gmail.com.

South Cumberland Day Hikes—All Levels. Join Sue Williams, an established and highly knowledgeable Chickasaw Group outings leader, on a series of short hikes that will visit the South Cumberland's more unique and awe-inspiring features. Distance and difficulty will be accessible by hikers at any experience level. Contact Sue Williams at (901) 274-0524. Both outings require reservations and must be confirmed prior to leaving Memphis.

Outings (continued)

Chickamauga Creek with us, and meet Mark the box turtle. A great outing for families and kids! In the East Brainerd Ooltewah-Ringgold Road area. Please register for this event by calling Jeremy at 423.619.6548.

Saturday & Sunday, September 25-26: National Public Lands Day event (NPLD). Volunteers are needed to help with bridge and trail repair in the Tennessee River Gorge segment of the Cumberland Trail. Volunteers will meet at 8:00am ET at the Signal Mountain parking lot. Please register with the CTC for this event, cumberland-trail@rocketmail.com, http://www.cumberland-trail.org or 931-456-6259.

Sunday, October 3: Racoon Mountain Day Hike. Easy day hike, close to Chattanooga, great views of the valley! For meeting place and further details, contact Jeremy Gazaway at 423.619.6548 or gazawaypainting@gmail.com. Keep your fingers crossed for cooler fall temperatures!

Saturday, October 9: The River (Corn) Maze near Ocoee. Simply a fantastic fun outing for all ages! We'll be going to the corn maze in the Ocoee River Valley. This year's theme is "Ocoee Really Rocks!" with nine acres of corn and about two miles of paths for us to explore! For details and to register call Jeremy at 423.619.6548 or gazawaypainting@gmail.com. Sierrans from across Tennessee are urged to join us this weekend for a fun get together. There's loads of camping nearby.

FIRST AID TRAINING and Outings Leader Training. We're looking for a few good women and men who are willing to become outings leaders! We are working on setting up a first aid class and a short required training in the Sierra Club's procedures and history so we can add additional outings leaders. Are you interested? You do not have to be an avid hiker/backpacker, just willing to take people to explore or do something interesting. An outing could be a morning walk on the Brainerd Levee, or an evening bike/picnic in Chickamauga Park, or a trip to pick-your-ownblueberries. We need people certified so we can get more fun activities going and not completely tire out our only two certified leaders, Jeremy and Elizabeth! Contact Jeremy at 423.619.6548 or gazawaypainting@gmail.com or Barbara Kelly,

423.718.5009 or rpyle@chattanooga.net. Please say you'll do this!

CHICKASAW GROUP (Memphis)

Saturday, September 18, 9:00 am to 7:00 pm (Rain date is Sept. 19) Tabling Event: Cooper-Young Festival, Cooper Street & Young Avenue, Memphis, TN. Over 85,000 guests will enjoy an appealing mix of art, music and crafts presented by over 380 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 #A63 on the west side of Cooper St. between Evelyn & Nelson Avenues). To volunteer to help staff the booth, please contact Keith Hoover at hooverkw@yahoo.com or (901) 363-8299.

Sunday, September 19, 5:30 pm to 7:20 pm, Sunset on the Bluff Walk. Meet at Union Ave and Riverside Dr at the trolley stop. Free parking at meters on Wagner on weekends. Bring your own water is suggested. No pets please. Walk up to three miles on the Riverwalk/Bluffwalk with stairs possible part of the walk depending on the time frame. We'll go to dinner downtown afterward. Contact Sue Williams at (901) 274-0524.

Friday-Sunday, September 24-26, Fort Pillow State Park. Car camping at Ft Pillow State Park, on the Chickasaw Bluff next to the Mississippi River. Fees for campground, but we will try to share a site. Hiking and bird watching. Reservations required and must be confirmed before departure Friday. Contact Sue Williams at (901) 274-0524.

Saturday, September 25, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, Tabling Event: "Wolf River Day: It's Cool To Go Green!" V&E Greenline, 620 Avalon, Memphis, TN. This expo will include interactive green exhibits, the annual Forest Faire, arts and crafts, and talks by gardening, nature and greenway experts. Food vendors, live music, kids' games and entertainment, politicians' stump, community garden displays, and wildlife and bird exhibitors are just some of the activities planned for the day. The Chickasaw Group will have a booth at this event. To volunteer to help staff the

Nominations Sought for Tennessee Sierra Club Offices

Tennessee Chapter Calls for Nominations for At-large Delegates

The Tennessee Chapter will elect three (3) atlarge delegates for a term beginning January 1, 2011 and ending December 31, 2012. Chapter members are requested to give serious consideration to running for these important offices in the Chapter Executive Committee, which manages the fiscal, legislative, environmental and other appropriate responsibilities for our Chapter.

Requirements of the office of at-large delegate are as follows:

Commit to attend the four chapter Executive Committee (ExCom) meetings each year. These meetings require an at-large delegate's presence for a two-day meeting each quarter. Commit, for the term of office, to voting electronically on issues that require a Chapter Executive Committee vote. Serve on ExCom committees when appointed and as needed for the term of office. If you are interested in being considered for nomination to the office of at-large delegate, please notify the Nominating Committee Chairman Robin Hill by email at robin.hill8@gmail.com, or by US mail— 11504 Mountain View Road, Knoxville, TN 37934 or by phone at 865-607-4542. The office of at-large delegate provides an opportunity to play an important role in the Chapter management of a large grassroots environmental organization having more than 6,000 members in Tennessee.

Harvey Broome Group Seeks nominations for Executive Committee

The nominating committee for the Harvey Broome Group (HBG) is seeking nominees to fill six (6) two-year terms on the Group Executive Committee (ExCom). The committee is composed of Mac Post, Ron Shrieves and Will Skelton, and will function from August 1, 2010 to October 1, 2010.

HBG members wanting to serve on the ExCom should contact Ron Shrieves at ronaldshrieves@comcast.net or by phone at 865-922-3518 or by US mail at 7812 Ember Crest Trail, Knoxville, TN 37838. Any HBG member may nominate another provided the member to be nominated approves.

The ExCom is the governing body for our group. It manages our finances, our environmental objectives, represents the HBG to the public when required and provides grassroots environmental leadership for the fulfillment of our objectives. It does not require experience in anything other than a commitment to work on grassroots environmental issues in the 19-county area of East Tennessee. The job requirements are simple.

ExCom members are expected to attend the monthly ExCom meeting on the 4th Tuesday of each month. This meeting lasts 1.5 to 2.0 hours and is run using an agenda, which is emailed in advance of the meeting. Members are expected to accept some committee assignments that are of interest to them.

We also do fun things like hiking and canoeing as it suits your interests.

Please respond positively to this call and become a candidate for election to the ExCom. We need your help!

Robin Hill, HBG Chairman

Members Sought for Middle Tennessee ExCom

The Middle Tennessee Group is looking for a few good volunteers to serve on the 2011 Executive Committee (ExCom) for a two-year term. Our ExCom meets monthly at the Sierra Club office in Nashville to plan and implement

programs, outings and conservation programs in middle Tennessee. The election will be in November and the ballots will be in the November issue of the Tennes-Sierran.

If you are interested in serving on the Middle Tennessee Group Executive Committee or if you would like to nominate someone else, please contact Dave Bordenkircher at dabordenkircher@mindspring.com or 615.333.3377 or John Pigg at j.t.pigg@comcast.net or 615.851.1192.

Help the Sierra Club stay active and grow in Tennessee.

Call for Nominations for Cherokee Group Executive Committee

It's time for nominations for the election of members to our Group's Executive Committee, the voting board of our Group. Half the members are elected every year for a two-year term.

Candidates should be interested in promoting environmental issues, willing to learn and develop action plans within Sierra Club policy, participate in Group activities and attend strategy and program meetings regularly.

If you are interested, or know someone who should be, please contact Nominating Committee Chair Scott Kramer, at

TnChapSCTreas@gmail.com or 423.598.9516. Our elections will take place by ballot in the Nov./Dec. issue of the Tennes-Sierran, with terms to begin in January.

Watauga Group Calls for Executive Committee Nominations

A total of five Executive Committee (ExCom) members, each serving two-year terms, will be elected. Successful candidates will join returning ExCom members Rita Cowan, Sandi Cranford, Mary Gale and Louise Shoen.

The following members constitute the Watauga Group Nominating Committee and Election Committee for the 2010 ExCom election cycle:

Catherine Murray, 1-423-929-8163 Rita Cowan, 1-423-727-6497 Sandi Cranford, 1-423-727-5044 Mike Wiles, 1-423-727-2791

Any Watauga Group member may self nominate by contacting any Nominating Committee member before Sept 14.

The Nominating Committee reports nominees to the Executive Committee on Sept 14.

The deadline to submit candidate petitions is Sept 28 via file document email at brunobmw@me.com or mail to Dennis Shekinah, 900 Miningtown Rd, Mountain City, TN 37683.

TVA Region's Largest Solar Power Plant Comes Online

Utility executives, business leaders, and federal, state and local officials inaugurated in mid-August a new one megawatt (1 MW) solar power system, the largest in Tennessee and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) Region.

Now online, the system is comprised of 4,608 Sharp® ND-224UC1 solar modules made in Sharp Solar Energy Solutions Group's Memphis plant and was developed, designed and constructed by Natural Energy Group in conjunction with Efficient Energy of Tennessee, LLC (EETN), its integrator arm based in Powell, Tenn. EETN will also maintain the facility.

"This one megawatt solar project exemplifies Tennessee's leadership in deploying solar power and developing clean energy technology solutions that will create good jobs and foster greater energy independence for our country," said Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen. "I'm pleased to see continued investments like the one being celebrated in Knoxville today that are helping us create the clean energy economy of tomorrow."

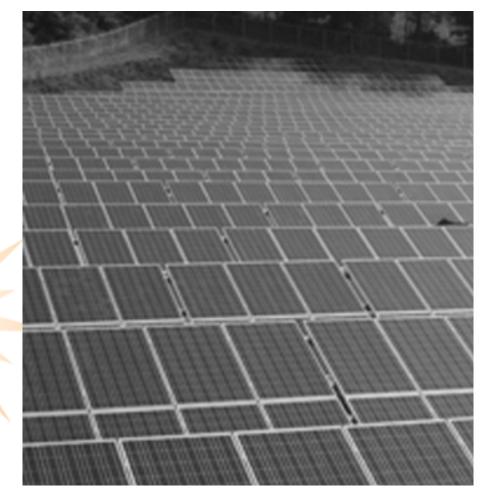
It is anticipated this solar power array will generate 1,198,920 kWh of clean, emission-free solar energy annually for the Knoxville Utility Board (KUB) grid. This represents the equivalent energy to power more than 120 average-sized American homes. The solar array will eliminate the CO2 / greenhouse gases that would otherwise be emitted by the consumption of 2,000 barrels of oil. In addition, the design, construction and maintenance of this system helped create dozens of new clean tech jobs in Knoxville, in addition to the factory jobs that Sharp created at its Memphis plant.

"The City of Knoxville seeks to substantially increase the deployment of solar power in the area. Knoxville's 'Solar America Cities' effort

underscores our progress in working toward a sustainable solar infrastructure," said Knoxville Mayor Bill Haslam. "This initiative furthers our goal of bringing solar power into the mainstream."

An existing building on the site will be converted to an education center that will include displays of real-time production data, design and installation information, mounting displays (helical piers, etc) and other educational items

for public viewing. System construction began in May 2010, and was completed in July; it will be maintained by Efficient Energy of Tennessee, LLC.



Watauga Lake Cleanup Yields Unusual Catch of the Day

By Gloria Griffith

The 1st Annual Watauga Lake Cleanup (WLC) attracted 260 residents from Carter and Johnson County, Tenn., who gathered 500 bags of litter and 100 vehicle tires.

Over 4,000 pounds of trash was extracted by community volunteer hands in less than five hours. As an example, the Big Dry Run Fire Department landed seven boat loads of trash. At day's end, two huge construction debris trailers were loaded to the gills with the WLC "Catch of the Day."

Starting out early from Fish Springs Marina near Hampton, Tenn., Webb Griffith and Dean Whitworth piloted a 16' jon boat they dubbed the "Watauga Queen." They hauled out a TV set and car tire complete w/rim and hubcap in addition to the more typical debris like tennis balls, fishing lures, mono line, drink cans, bottles, Styrofoam and bobbers. Their heaviest item was an institutional size oxygen bottle labeled "Statesville, NC" and the most unusual find was a coconut!

Other Watauga Group members Ron Rairigh and Joanne Nelson gathered trash aboard a pon-

toon boat while Marilyn and George Hall walked the eastern shoreline gathering debris.

"Atta boys" go to hundreds of participants, numerous supporters and civic organizations represented. A big shout out goes to event leader Mary Salter, Sugar Grove Baptist Church and community and business leader sponsors like Johnson County Mayor Larry Potter and Fish Springs Marina.

(L to R) Webb Griffith holds the coconut and Dean Whitworth puts a hand on the oxygen bottle that they retrieved from cleaning up Watauga Lake.

Photo: Gloria Griffith



energy corner

energy corner | Score One For Livability

By Steven Sondheim

Senator Dodd's Livable Communities Act passed the US Senate Banking Committee. Known as a "smart growth planning" bill, it would integrate transportation with housing and economic development.

This provides \$4 billion in competitive grants for projects that integrate transportation, housing, and economic development with environmental planning. It establishes a new Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities in the Department of Housing and Urban Development to coordinate federal policies that foster sustainability.

After the Senate returns from August recess, Senator Dodd hopes to pass this bill. So we'll have more work to do convincing our senators to support this good legislation and get it passed.

Senator Chris Dodd stated, "There is great demand for the kind of integrated planning and 'location-efficient' investments that the Livable Communities Act makes possible. This is demonstrated by the fact that hundreds of communities from all 50 states have submitted expressions of interest in applying for HUD's Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant program."

Urge your senators to pass bills on and write letters to the editor on these issues: energy efficiency, coal ash, livability and HomeStar.

SAVE THE DATE: October 8-9

Tennessee Green Jobs Conference in Nashville

This conference brings together green businesses, educa-

Moving?	Attach mailing address label, or fill in current name, address & Membership ID#
	Current Address:
	Member ID#
	My new address is:
	NameAddress
	City/St/Zip
	Mail to: Sierra Club, P.O. Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-6417.

The Sierra Club-Middle TN Group Tennes -Sierran

3340 Perimeter Hill Drive Nashville, Tennessee 37211 Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Nashville, Tennessee
Permit No. 3225

Bimonthly Newsletter for the TN Chapter Sierra Club Vol. 41, No. 5 - September, 2010 tors, activists from labor, the environment and economic justice for two packed days of workshops, strategizing, networking, films, and music. http://www.taptn.org/

SAVE THE DATE: November 5-6

2010 Sustainable Tennessee Summit, Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tenn.

Come hear great speakers, see the green exhibit area, and continue the exciting work on the 2011 Sustainability Agenda. http://www.sustainabletn.org/media.php

Public Hearings and Feedback on TVA's Integrated Resource Plan

The Stakeholder Review Group met August 26. At that meeting, we expect to learn the details of the public commenting process. The Tennessee Chapter will send out an alert to its members with this information. Contact Louise Gorenflo lgorenflo@gmail.com for information on how to comment.

Urge your legislators to pass the Energy Star bill encouraging purchases of energy efficient equipment with rebates available.

Generation Partners Update and Kit

Now is the time to try to set up showings of the TVA film on its alternative energy incentive program, Generation Partners. (It is quite good and runs about 15 minutes.)

You may have seen the public flap about TVA changing the program. We've been assured that the program will stay the same for all users for the near future and for a longer period of time for smaller than 1 megawatt residential users.

Please plan to arrange viewings in the last two weeks of September or first week of October to be in conjunction with the National Solar Tour date. Contact Mary Mastin at marymastin@twlakes.net to arrange for viewings. See http://nationalsolartour.org/

Coal Ash—Please Take Action

Help protect our soil, land, air and water quality and public health against all toxic coal combustion residuals, and help set strong, federally enforceable safeguards on toxic coal ash.

Please write to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (e-mail: rcra-docket@epa.gov) and remember to include this subject: Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-RCRA-2009-0640). Tell the EPA:

Please regulate Coal Combustion Residuals (CCRs), including those destined for commerce as beneficial-use (i.e. bottom ash, fly ash, mercury adsorbed sorbents etc.)! Please remove the present "1989 Bevil exemption on CCRs." Solar Valley Coalition and Sierra's 1% Energy Efficiency

Urge TVA to commit to a plan for 1% energy efficiency for five years.

We are asking city councils and county commissions all over the state to pass resolutions asking TVA to do this. Recently both the Memphis City Council and the Shelby County Commission passed these resolutions. Work is in progress to have Nashville, Chattanooga, Knoxville and the TriCities pass resolutions. If you would like to work on this project to urge your local politicians to support this, please contact Louise Gorenflo at lgorenflo@gmail.com.