

Tennes=Sierran

The bi-monthly state newsletter for the Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club

Volume 52, Number 6 - November / December 2019

TENNESSEE CHAPTER WINTER RETREAT

January 24 - 26

Cedars of Lebanon State Park

See Page 3

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Bi-Monthly Newsletter for the TN Chapter Sierra Club
Vol. 52, No. 5 - November / December 2019

SPECIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS ISSUE

You Can Now Vote Online. Details on Page 3.

OR Find the Paper Ballot on Pages 4 - 8.

**OPEN BURNING AT
HOLSTON ARMY
AMMUNITIONS PLANT
PAGE 11**

Explore, Enjoy, and Protect

Tennes-Sierran

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

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Email: address.changes@sierraclub.org

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The Tennes-Sierran is available online in pdf format at: <https://www.sierraclub.org/tennessee>

CONTENT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. Send all submissions as email attachments to news wrangler Rita Bullinger by the deadline at: wranglerSCTN@gmail.com.
2. Articles should be in Word or Notepad format and single spaced. Images should be in jpg or tif format.
3. Limit submissions to no more than 900 words.
4. Single space between paragraphs. Include a two-space indent at the beginning of each paragraph.
5. Spell out names of organizations, universities, etc., the first time they appear, with the initials in parentheses afterwards. Thereafter, use only the initials.
6. Submissions will be considered for publication based on the order received and at the editor's discretion.
7. Please direct any questions about submissions to the news wrangler.

**Submission Deadline
for the January / February Issue
November 30, 2019**
Send submissions to
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wranglerSCTN@gmail.com

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Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

All Creatures Great and Small



“Every good thing, great
and small, needs defense”

- John Muir

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Enclose a check and mail to Sierra Club,
P.O. Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32141-6417
or visit our website www.sierraclub.org

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<http://www.sierraclub.org/tennessee>

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Chickasaw Group - Memphis

<https://www.sierraclub.org/tennessee/chickasaw>

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Middle Tennessee Group - Nashville

<https://www.sierraclub.org/tennessee/middle-tennessee>

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MEETING SCHEDULE

Chapter Retreat	Location	Dates
Winter	Cedars of Lebanon State Park	January 24-26
Spring	Booker T. Washington State Park	May 15-17
Fall	Pickett State Park	October 23-25



ELECTION OF STATE AND GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Now You Can Vote Either Electronically OR with the Traditional Paper Ballot.

This issue of *The Tennes-Sierran* contains ballots for the State At-Large Executive Committee (ExCom) and the four Tennessee group committees. Members have the option to vote on paper or electronically for the first time. Here's what you need to know.

How does the electronic voting process work?

In early November an email will be sent with an invitation to vote electronically. This email will contain a link to the Sierra Club ballot website keyed to your Sierra Club membership number. All ballots will be the same, including Chapter and Group information all on the same form. Members will be able to select their Group from a drop-down list and only their Group's ballot will be presented.

How do I vote with a paper ballot?

To use the paper ballot, complete page 4 of this newsletter and complete one page from page 5 to page 8, depending on which group you are a part of. You will find further instructions on the ballots.

Can I vote both on paper and electronically?

Vote either electronically OR on the paper ballots. Not both. Voting both ways will complicate the vote counting process. The Election Committee has to verify that for each paper ballot received an electronic vote has not also been submitted. Please vote using one method only.

Will both members in a joint membership be able to vote?

Yes. Both members in a joint membership (2 people with the same membership number) will be able to vote.

How can I learn about the candidates?

Candidate biographies are included on the ballots in this issue of *The Tennes-Sierran* (pages 4 to 8). The email about electronic voting will have a link to the biographies on the Chapter Website.

How can I be sure I will receive the email about voting electronically?

To receive this email invitation that enables you to vote electronically, you must: (1) have a valid email address on file with the Sierra Club linked to your membership number; and (2) NOT have opted out of receiving emails from the Sierra Club. If you are unsure about either of these, you should immediately contact Member Care:

member.care@sierraclub.org or (415) 557-1100

(When contacting Member Care it is faster if you provide your Sierra Club member number. If you don't know your member number, look to the left of your name on the mailing label of this newsletter.)

ACROSS TENNESSEE

National Drive Electric Week Events

Joe Ozegovich of the Chickasaw group hosted two National Drive Electric Week (NDEW) events: one in Memphis, September 19, during the Chickasaw Group's program and one in Millington, September 21, for the Millington First United Methodist Church's Creation Care group. About 50 people attended both events, and one person purchased a Nissan Leaf.

The presentation focused on how to change the paradigm and look at electric vehicles differently. Ozegovich drove home the point that one's next vehicle need not have a tailpipe.

Encouraged by the positive response, Ozegovich presented to the St. Luke Methodist Church on September 22. He plans to continue with his mission to encourage others to make the transition to electric vehicles with similar presentations at Muslim and Jewish places of worship.

NDEW is sponsored by Nissan, the Sierra Club, Electric Auto Association, and Plug-In America.

Energy Democracy Tour

by JoAnn McIntosh, Sierra Club Clarksville-Montgomery County

The Energy Democracy Tour made a stop in Clarksville as well as 10 other Tennessee Valley cities during August and September, educating and engaging community members in discussion about their connection to TVA and their local power companies (LPCs). Led by the dynamic Brianna Knisley, the Tour was created in partnership with Appalachian Voices and Sunrise Cinema, and was co-hosted in many cities by local Sierra Club groups and committees along with allies such as Indivisible, Tennessee Interfaith Power & Light, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, Sunrise Movement, and others.

The program began with pizza and film clips from *The Electric Valley*, an historical perspective of TVA's origin and initial impact on

A Preview of the Winter Retreat

Mark your calendars now for the Winter Retreat the weekend of January 24 to 26 in the Group Lodge of Cedars of Lebanon State Park, just north of Murfreesboro. Come for training, hiking, relaxing close to nature, and the company of good friends, old and new, from across the state.

Join others for organized hikes and nature walks or venture out on your own. Groups will elect their officers. Participate in as much or as little as you wish—walking a short trail or sitting by the fire may be what appeals to you the most and that's okay!

Registration for the full weekend before January 18 is \$50 and includes bunkhouse lodging (women's & men's dorms), two breakfasts and Saturday dinner. Registration for Saturday only includes dinner and is \$30. Please pack your own lunch for Saturday. If it's your first retreat, you will enjoy half off! Children 15 and younger attend for free. Plan to pay when you check in.

Register online: http://bit.ly/Winter_2020_Retreat
Or contact Dennis Lynch at ChickasawSierra@gmail.com
for more information and to register.

Look for more details in the next issue of *The Tennes-Sierran*.
The Chickasaw Group looks forward to hosting you all!

residents. From there, a 20-foot timeline was displayed for attendees to attach their own experiences with TVA, followed by breakout groups digging into the power structure of TVA and the LPCs. Different issues were brought to light in different communities, including ratepayers ability to influence the future of electricity production, coal ash pollution, coal plant closures, high electric bills, energy insecurity, and lack of options for renewable energy sources such as solar and wind. All input from the tour stops will be assimilated and formally presented to TVA in the coming months. The point was driven home that TVA is a public utility and that the public has the power to direct its energy future. For more information about the Tour and its individual stops, see <http://bit.ly/TVenergytour>

Election Ballot for At-Large Delegates

Tennessee Chapter Executive Committee 2020 - 2021 Term

Vote for the election of four (4) members of the Tennessee Chapter Executive Committee (ExCom), each having a two-year term beginning Jan 1, 2020, — Dec 31, 2021. Successful candidates will join other ExCom Members in managing our fiscal, legislative, environmental, outings and other responsibilities for our Chapter. Single Members or each Joint Member should vote for no more than four (4) candidates. The order of candidates on the ballot was determined by drawing names at random.

VOTE HERE FOR TENNESSEE CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CANDIDATES:

TN At-Large Candidates	Single Member or First Joint Member	Second Joint Member
	- Max 4 votes -	- Max 4 votes -
Andre Porter	_____	_____
Bill Moll	_____	_____
Charlie High	_____	_____
Kent Minault	_____	_____
Tony Cernosek	_____	_____
Mac Post	_____	_____
Axel Ringe	_____	_____

How to Submit Your Ballot: Place both Group and At Large ballots in the same envelope, seal and write "Ballot" on the envelope. Place this "Ballot" envelope in a second envelope for mailing.

Write your name, address, and Sierra Club membership number in the upper left hand corner of the mailing envelope. Your membership number is located to the left of your name on the mailing label of your Tennes-Sierran.

Envelopes without name, address, and membership number cannot be counted.

Ballots must be received no later than December 11, 2019 to be valid.-
Mail Promptly to:

Paula Lennon
713 Hillbrook Dr.
Mt. Juliet TN 37122-2123

TENNESSEE CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES:

Andre Porter — Andre Porter was born in Los Angeles and spent his early childhood there, at Clovis AFB NM, and in Millington Naval Air Station, TN, before spending his pre-teen and teen years at Naval Air Station Meridian, MS. Both his father (U.S. Air Force) and step-father (U.S. Navy) are Vietnam veterans. Andre went to Southern Miss but earned his bachelor's at California State University, Hayward, and in December 2019 will earn the Master of Professional Studies in Healthcare Administration with a Healthcare Informatics Certificate from Tennessee Tech. Andre is also an international admissions counselor at Tennessee Tech. Mentoring and uplifting youth are his passions. He serves on the board of Stronger Than My Father, Inc. in Antioch, TN, supporting youth and families through quality pre- and after-school care, including a Christian-principles-based leadership academy. Porter's interest in the environment springs from family beach and horseback riding trips in California. 1970s L.A. summers required beach or mountain escapes to fresh air away from major smog and pollution issues. After the Navy transferred his family to Tennessee, and then Mississippi, hunting, fishing, and camping became a regular part of life and culture. Andre enjoys the outdoors through backpacking, camping, hiking, and trail running.

Bill Moll — Bill has been a Sierra Club member for many years - way back in 1973 he helped stop clear-cutting in the Cherokee Forest. He has been the Cherokee Group representative on the Chapter excom since 2017 and is the current Chapter Political Committee Chair, Conservation Chair, and Conservation Education Day (CED) coordinator. For many years, conservation policy has been set primarily in Washington, D.C., so most Sierra Club members joined to support the Sierra Club's work at the national level and haven't appreciated the work done by the Chapters and Groups at the local level. That has changed dramatically in recent years. This year, national Sierra Club staff have taken a keen interest in our chapters' conservation efforts, since that is where much of the work to support the Sierra Club Mission must now occur. My primary goal on the ExCom will be to expand the participation of our ~8,000 members in state and local conservation action. Along with other Chapter leaders, we will conduct listening and organizing meetings around the state to extend the Sierra Club influence beyond the 7 or 8 localities with active Groups or Committees. We will continue to expand CED activities to the entire year.

Charlie High — I have been a member of Sierra Club for thirty years. I joined Sierra Club to learn about environmental issues. I am a retired attorney. I devote many hours to the Sierra Club. As Co-chair of Inspiring Connections Outdoors, the Sierra Club program that conducts outings for children, I organize and conduct a summer program that takes school children camping, hiking, canoeing, kayaking, rafting and cave exploring. We conducted more than twenty days of outings in June and July of 2019. I started a program in 2019 called River Kids that trains kids 12 years and older to safely and effectively use kayaks. We plan to continue the successful program in 2020. I have been Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary of the Middle Tennessee Group. I am currently Treasurer of the Group. I have been Compliance Officer for the Tennessee Chapter of Sierra Club since 2007. I consult with the Political Committee to assure compliance with campaign finance laws and regulations. I was Group Delegate to the State Executive Committee. I have prepared by-laws and standing rules for the Tennessee Chapter. I want the Sierra Club to continue to lead the country and the world in protecting the natural world.

Kent Minault — Kent Minault started out acting, touring with the award-winning San Francisco Mime Troupe. He joined the Diggers, organizing street rallies and serving daily free food in the park. They organized the first Haight Ashbury Free Medical Clinic, a version of which is still there. In the '70s, he worked as an Actor/Organizer for the SF Art Commission. An acting career followed, which moved him to the top theaters in San Francisco and then to LA in 1987. He expanded into television and film, but also taught English for the LA Unified School District. He successfully organized with his adult students to preserve adult education and worked with his union to defeat anti-union ballot measures. He volunteered with the Sierra Club's Beyond Coal campaign. After victory getting LA off coal, he joined the LA County Electric Bus Coalition and within a year got LA Metro to transition to electric buses by 2030. He organized three EV events in Watts and helped found the Watts Clean Air Committee, installing rooftop solar and helping residents enter union apprenticeship programs. He organized an EV event in East Knoxville in collaboration with SEEED, a prominent environmental justice organization. He's on the Harvey Broome Group's ExCom.

Tony Cernosek — A native Memphian, I was a spelling bee contestant, a straight-A student, and always an avid reader with a passion for science. I studied chemistry at Christian Brothers College, and electronics in the USAF. I was a computer programmer and I.T. manager, managed an email database, designed marketing, and wrote the company newsletter and training material. I always loved the outdoors and was an Eagle Scout. In 1990 I built a passive solar cabin. I retired in 2016, and began developing a nature preserve near Sardis. In 2018 I became more focused on global warming news, taking extensive notes. In January 2019, inspired by Greta Thunberg, I created a global warming presentation. On Earth Day, I met Joe Ozegovich and joined Sierra. I then set up my display at Olive Branch Library, where the director said "Very well designed." I met many smart, dedicated Sierra people at Fall Creek, and later met Dennis Lynch and Duffy Marie of Climate Reality. Both gave me material to use. Duffy is using mine. I actively supported the Youth Climate Strike. I'm now focusing my display for maximum effect, and developing systems for rapid, widespread distribution. I wish to continue this within Sierra and independently.

Mac Post — I became a Sierra Club member while a graduate student in Ecology at the University of Tennessee about 45 years ago. I am a lifetime Sierra Club member. The Sierra Club continues to be the most significant conservation organization in the U.S. The Tennessee Chapter is growing and becoming an important voice in Tennessee for wilderness protection, environmentally sound land-use, environmental protection regulations, and education about the importance of natural ecosystems, especially wilderness. I have become very active in the Harvey Broome Group and the Tennessee Chapter. I am an outings leader, leading 10 hikes each year with a focus on understanding the importance of the rich biodiversity of East Tennessee. I am the HBG Program Chair coordinating monthly program meetings. My favorite involvement is being Chair of the Knoxville Inspiring Connections Outdoors (Knoxville ICO) group. The Knoxville ICO partners with 6 agencies that serve inner-city youth and we conduct over 50 outings a year including summer day camp, bike rides, day hikes, overnight camping, and whitewater rafting. I currently serve as the Chapter Chair and am on the Fundraising Committee and Budget Committee. If elected I will continue to serve the Tennessee Chapter in ways the Executive Committee decides is appropriate.

Axel Ringe — I would like to be re-elected as an At-large Delegate to the Chapter ExCom. I have served as Conservation Chair, Conservation Vice-Chair, and Wild Legacy Super-committee Chair. I currently Chair the Water Quality Committee, the Population Committee, and the Biodiversity Committee. I also Chair the Chapter Litigation Committee and have been a committed activist for 20 years. I am active in the TN Beyond Coal Campaign, and collaborate with the Beyond Coal Campaign TN organizer. If elected, I will continue to work for the protection of Tennessee's environment on behalf of the Tennessee Chapter and to contribute to the governance of the Chapter.

Election Ballot for Cherokee Group Executive Committee 2020 - 2021 Term

You are in the Cherokee Group if you live in one of these counties: Bledsoe, Bradley, Coffee, Franklin, Grundy, Jackson, Hamilton, Marion, McMinn, Meigs, Monroe, Overton, Polk, Putnam, Rhea, Sequatchie, Van Buren, Warren or White.

Please vote for the election of four (4) members of the Cherokee Group Executive Committee (ExCom), each having a two-year term beginning January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021. Successful candidates will join our other ExCom Members in guiding our Group's actions. Only current members as of November 1, 2019 may vote. Joint members must use the same ballot. Single Members or each Joint Member should vote for no more than four (4) candidates. The order of candidates on the ballot was determined by drawing names at random.

VOTE HERE FOR CHEROKEE GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CANDIDATES:

Cherokee Group Candidates	Single Member or First Joint Member	Second Joint Member
	- Max 4 votes -	- Max 4 votes -
David Hoot	_____	_____
Theresa Underwood	_____	_____
Alyssa Matas	_____	_____
Rose Ann Copeland	_____	_____
Mark Peach	_____	_____
Kate Anthony	_____	_____

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Mail Promptly to:

Paula Lennon
713 Hillbrook Dr.
Mt. Juliet TN 37122-2123

CHEROKEE GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES:

David Hoot

David was born in Michigan, a long way from the "Sunny South." He grew up hiking, camping, swimming in the Great Lakes, and enjoying snow and all the winter sports. His family had a very environmentally conscious upbringing, as well as always having a large organic garden. When they moved south, he lived next to Cloudland Canyon and spent much time hiking over and through the park. Active in the St. Elmore Neighborhood Association, he works as a contractor doing building and remodeling. David also serves on the board of the St. Elmo affiliate of Rebuilding Together, a national nonprofit organization that assists low-income homeowners with repairs. His main concern is the climate crisis, and hates to see humans spoiling the Earth for all its creatures.

Theresa Underwood

Theresa spent her childhood in the hardwood swamps of rural Southern Mississippi, where she developed a love of nature. She has volunteered on various environmental issues since college, including her most memorable: a successful campaign in Maryland to protect 600 acres of privately owned Old Growth Forest called Belt Woods. Since moving to Chattanooga, she and her husband have hiked the Big and Little Frog Wilderness areas of the Cherokee National Forest and currently do volunteer work in the Bankhead National Forest in Northern Alabama. She has been active in Wild South and the Wilderness Society. Her primary concerns are national forest issues including increasing wilderness acreage and protecting unique habitats and how to live an environmental-sustainable lifestyle. Theresa has been serving as the Cherokee Group's Program Chair.

Alyssa Matas

Alyssa, originally from Arizona, graduated from the University of Alabama with degrees in management information systems and advertising. She works for a local insurance company, and especially enjoys their Days of Caring -- most recently doing work for the Lookout Mountain Conservancy where they cleared overgrown paths, cleaned up trail areas, improved Boulder Park, installed trail signs and more, with the aim to connect the Lookout trails to the Riverwalk. Alyssa is passionate about nature, spending time outside hiking, camping and taking her dog out. She sees the overarching need to curb climate change. Currently Alyssa serves as our Webmaster and our Newsletter Editor.

Rose Ann Copeland

Rose Ann, a native Chattanooga and long-time Sierran, has been to all 50 states, hiking, camping and shooting photos in all of them. She began her lifetime in photography working at the local Camera & Craft photography stores. Along with her professional photographer husband, Robert Copeland, she leads photographic workshops throughout our National Parks and Europe as well as traveling to a variety of Arts festivals to display and market their work. She volunteers often -- Nature Center plant sales, WUTC fund drives, etc. etc. and can be found doing the hard work in the background. She is also a Red Cross volunteer, and been called on to assist overseas during natural disasters. Her main concern for the environment is climate change and the current regression of our environmental policies and laws which serve to protect us.

Mark Peach

Mark is a seventeen-year Sierra Club member with an abiding interest in our National Parks. As honors director at Southern Adventist University, he has sent students to nearly a dozen Partners in the Parks (sponsored by collaboration between National Park Service and the National Collegiate Honors Council) to Great Smoky Mountains, Glacier, Rainier, Hawaii Volcanoes, and Harpers Ferry National Parks. He is an Appalachian Trail section hiker and recently took up kayak touring. Mark is also developing a college course in North American environmental history.

Kate Anthony

Kate is a retired psychologist. She grew up in Southern California, and spent her young adult years backpacking in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. An environmentalist of long standing, she's done four different National Sierra Club service outings, and participated in the People's Climate March in NYC in 2015. She completed the Climate Reality Leadership training. Besides the Sierra Club, she serves for Quaker Earthcare Witness and is active in Tennessee Interfaith Power and Light. Her main focus is climate change. She is currently serving as Vice-Chair and Secretary of the Cherokee Group.

**Remind other members to vote.
Deadline is December 11th, 2019!**

Election Ballot for Chickasaw Group Executive Committee

2020 - 2021 Term

You are in the Chickasaw Group if you live in one of these west Tennessee counties: Benton, Carroll, Chester, Crockett, Decatur, Dyer, Fayette, Gibson, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Henry, Lake, Lauderdale, Madison; McNairy, Obion, Shelby, Tipton or Weakley.

Please vote for the election of four (4) members of the Cherokee Group Executive Committee (ExCom), each having a two-year term beginning January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021. Successful candidates will join our other ExCom Members in guiding our Group's actions. Only current members as of November 1, 2019 may vote. Joint members must use the same ballot. Single Members or each Joint Member should vote for no more than four (4) candidates. The order of candidates on the ballot was determined by drawing names at random.

VOTE HERE FOR CHICKASAW GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CANDIDATES:

Chickasaw Group Candidates	Single Member or First Joint Member	Second Joint Member
	- Max 4 votes -	- Max 4 votes -
Jessica Branch	_____	_____
Ramie Bell	_____	_____
Charles Belenky	_____	_____
Carla A. Meier	_____	_____
Jessica Buttermore	_____	_____
Tony Cernosek	_____	_____

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Mt. Juliet TN 37122-2123

CHICKASAW GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES:

Jessica Branch

As my work and research has evolved it has always centered on issues of environmental stewardship. My aim as an anthropologist and teacher has continued to discover the impact of humans and their environments. It would be my honor and my greatest interest to sit on the Executive Committee for the Sierra Club to continue to promote the concerns of our organization and the ideals of conservation and preservation of our natural habitat and environmental justice of our communities.

Ramie Bell

Ramie Bell is a Civil Engineering student at the University of Memphis. Her interests are clean water and waste management innovations. Ramie's commitment to the environment blossomed during a high school summer trail crew in the Allegheny National Forest with the Student Conservation Association, which spurred her to join forces with the Sierra Club and the Tennessee Youth Environmental Network (TennYEN). In high school she tabled for the Sierra Club and was a board member for TennYEN, where she developed skills in youth and community outreach, planned days of action, and organized two youth environmental summits. At Warren Wilson College, Ramie supported the successful divestment campaign, spent school breaks volunteering at the Mountain Justice Convergence and at climate change marches, and constructed an industry level compost system on the renovations work crew. This past year, Ramie served on the Chickasaw Executive Committee. She hopes to support the Chickasaw Sierra Club this year in efforts to develop the Recycling Working Group and the Outings Program.

Charles Belenky

I was at the first Earth Day in 1970. I went to jail in 1978 protesting nuclear power. I've been active in the local chapter and on the Ex-Com on and off for the last 2 years.

Carla A. Meier

Young, involved University of Memphis student who loves nature and animals. Currently studying Civil Engineering with a concentration in Environmental Science. Wants to create environmentally-friendly public structures that not only solve day to day problems but can be used for a variety of beneficial outcomes.

Jessica Buttermore

I hold a master of city and regional planning from the University of Memphis where I work as a research associate for the UofM Design Collaborative (UMDC). In this capacity, I help in the design and implementation of projects spanning the fields of design, public health, mobility, sustainability, equity, and planning. Growing up in rural Ohio, I moved to Memphis in my adolescence. In this time period, I spent extensive time in nature on day hikes with my family or outback backpack trips with my Explorer Post. More recently I have served on the board of Citizens to Preserve Overton Park where I led their second Saturday Old Forest Nature Hikes for three years.

Tony Cernosek

A native Memphian, I was a spelling bee contestant, a straight-A student, and always an avid reader with a passion for science. I studied chemistry at Christian Brothers College, and electronics in the USAF. I was a computer programmer and I.T. manager, managed an email database, designed marketing, and wrote the company newsletter and training material. I always loved the outdoors and was an Eagle Scout. In 1990 I built a passive solar cabin. I retired in 2016, and began developing a nature preserve near Sardis. In 2018 I became more focused on global warming news, taking extensive notes. In January 2019, inspired by Greta Thunberg, I created a global warming presentation. On Earth Day, I met Joe Ozegovich and joined Sierra. I then set up my display at Olive Branch Library, where the director said "Very well designed." I met many smart, dedicated Sierra people at Fall Creek, and later met Dennis Lynch and Duffy Marie of Climate Reality. Both gave me material to use. Duffy is using mine. I actively supported the Youth Climate Strike. I'm now focusing my display for maximum effect, and developing systems for rapid, widespread distribution. I wish to continue this within Sierra and independently.

Voting Matters. Deadline is December 11th, 2019!

Election Ballot for Harvey Broome Group Executive Committee 2020 - 2021 Term

You are in the Harvey Broome Group if you live in one of these counties: Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Claiborne, Cocke, Cumberland, Fentress, Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson, Knox, Loudon, Morgan, Pickett, Roane, Scott, Sevier, or Union.

Please vote for the election of four (4) members of the Cherokee Group Executive Committee (ExCom), each having a two-year term beginning January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021. Successful candidates will join our other ExCom Members in guiding our Group's actions. Only current members as of November 1, 2019 may vote. Joint members must use the same ballot. Single Members or each Joint Member should vote for no more than four (4) candidates. The order of candidates on the ballot was determined by drawing names at random.

VOTE HERE FOR HARVEY BROOME GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CANDIDATES:

Harvey Broome Group <u>Candidates</u>	Single Member or <u>First Joint Member</u>	<u>Second Joint Member</u>
	- Max 6 votes -	- Max 6 votes -
Kristine Johnson	_____	_____
Axel Ringe	_____	_____
Tom Ponder	_____	_____
Joanne Logan	_____	_____
Dan Terpstra	_____	_____
Martie Ulmer	_____	_____

How to Submit Your Ballot: Place both Group and At Large ballots in the same envelope, seal and write "Ballot" on the envelope. Place this "Ballot" envelope in a second envelope for mailing.

Write your name, address, and Sierra Club membership number in the upper left hand corner of the mailing envelope. Your membership number is located to the left of your name on the mailing label of your Tennes-Sierran.

Envelopes without name, address, and membership number cannot be counted.

Ballots must be received no later than December 11, 2019 to be valid.-
Mail Promptly to:

Paula Lennon
713 Hillbrook Dr.
Mt. Juliet TN 37122-2123

HARVEY BROOME GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES:

Kristine Johnson

I grew up on the Hiwassee River, exploring the Cherokee National Forest with my Sierra Club parents and five siblings. I graduated from UT with a BA in philosophy and an MS in Forestry, and my 38-year career with the National Park Service has included Chickamauga Battlefield, Blue Ridge Parkway and my current position as Supervisory Forester at Great Smoky Mountains National Park. My professional training includes environmental compliance, planning, leadership, and structured decision making. I am a longtime member of Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, Wilderness Society, the Knoxville chapter of TN Ornithological Society, and Board of Directors for TN Invasive Plant Council, serving as president for two terms. I am a resident of Pittman Center, where I am a member of the Planning Commission, Zoning Board, Tree Board and Firewise Committee. I would like to help the Harvey Broome Group advocate for clean air and water, work locally to control climate change, encourage public agencies to manage according to their mandates and policies, include diverse populations, and enjoy and protect our wonderful natural areas.

Axel Ringe

I would like to be re-elected to the Harvey Broome Group ExCom. I have served on the ExCom continuously since 2001 and have held the position of Group Chair (for four years) and currently serve as Conservation Chair. In addition I hold or have held several positions in the TN Chapter ExCom, including Conservation Chair, Legal Chair, Water Quality Committee Chair, and Biodiversity Committee Chair. I consider myself to be a committed activist, and believe I can continue to be an asset to the Harvey Broome Group.

Thomas (Tom) Ponder

Thomas Ponder's parents came to the Smokies on their honeymoon and eventually brought the family to Cullowhee, NC. Thomas was a Boy Scout and has camped, canoed, and hiked in many of the famous places on the North Carolina side of the Great Smokies. Thomas earned a BA in Economics from UNC-Chapel Hill and a BS in Electrical Engineering from Auburn University. He has visited 43 states and lived in nine of them. He has enjoyed a long engineering career, starting in the computer industry. While he has also worked as a government contractor, most of his career has been in the automotive industry. He is currently a quality engineer for cast engine parts included in the some of the most popular vehicles sold in the US. Thomas has served in a variety of volunteer roles including: board member of North Alabama Habitat for Humanity, American Red Cross blood donor (40 blood donations), church deacon, and middle and high school FIRST robotics mentor. The environment is changing globally and I feel now is an important time to work to protect it. Serving on the ExCom is a way I can contribute to this important cause.

Joanne Logan

Joanne Logan is an associate professor at the University of Tennessee, where she directs the undergraduate program in Environmental Science. She also teaches several courses including a lower division class in Water Resources and an upper division class in Climate Change. She has been an active member of the Campus Committee on the Environment, and served many years as co-advisor of the student environmental club. She is currently serving her second 2-year term as a group ExCom member, her 2nd year as Vice Chair, and her first year as delegate and Secretary in the Tennessee chapter. She has volunteered with many outreach activities such as Earth Day, and has helped with the group newsletter for the past two years. She is an avid outdoor enthusiast and environmentalist, and thoroughly enjoys being in a leadership role in our group.

Dan Terpstra

Dan retired from the Innovative Computing Laboratory at UTK in 2013, where he managed a project to optimize software performance on supercomputers at ORNL and around the world. Over the last 30+ years, Dan and his family have enjoyed opportunities to explore the natural riches of East Tennessee and beyond, with the many camping and hiking experiences it afforded to a growing family. Dan is a founding member of Tennessee Interfaith Power and Light, Knoxville Citizens Climate Lobby, and FossilFreePCUSA (Presbyterian Church). He has built parts of the Cumberland Trail, and coordinated a bus to the 2017 Climate March with Sierra Club's sponsorship. Dan's major area of concern is the existential threat of climate change, especially as it relates to future generations – his kids and grandkids. He's heartened by Sierra Club's increasing engagement on this issue and wants to work to promote further collaboration with other groups such as Sunrise, TIPL, CCL and more to foster synergies that can make a difference for the future of our kids. When not passionately involved in climate change related issues, Dan enjoys spending time with his wife, Peggy, camping in their tiny teardrop camper and paddling in their tandem kayak.

Martie Ulmer

If you've been driving down Kingston Pike in Knoxville around 7:30 a.m., chances are you've seen me, coffee in hand picking up litter. I'm the bag lady of Bearden. And every day my bag is full of trash. This is something I do to clean up my little part of the world. The added advantage is that we sometimes find money as we walk...\$49.37 was our total for last year! I've been involved in leadership positions in past years with the Knoxville Track Club, Forest Heights Neighborhood Association, and Knox County Schools as a school social worker. Recently, I was certified as a volunteer with IOC and helped with the Natures Explorers Camp at Lonsdale Elementary School. I would be delighted to be a member of the ExCom of the Harvey Broome Group!

Election Ballot for Middle Tennessee Group Executive Committee 2020 - 2021 Term

You are in the Middle Tennessee Group if you live in one of these middle Tennessee counties: Bedford, Cannon, Cheatham, Clay, Davidson, DeKalb, Dickson, Giles, Hickman, Houston, Humphreys, Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln, Macon, Marshall, Maury, Montgomery, Moore, Perry, Robertson, Rutherford, Smith, Stewart, Sumner, Trousdale, Wayne, Williamson or Wilson.

Please vote for the election of four (4) members of the Cherokee Group Executive Committee (ExCom), each having a two-year term beginning January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021. Successful candidates will join our other ExCom Members in guiding our Group's actions. Only current members as of November 1, 2019 may vote. Joint members must use the same ballot. Single Members or each Joint Member should vote for no more than four (4) candidates. The order of candidates on the ballot was determined by drawing names at random.

VOTE HERE FOR MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CANDIDATES:

Middle TN Group Candidates	Single Member or First Joint Member	Second Joint Member	
	- Max 4 votes -	- Max 4 votes -	How to Submit Your Ballot: Place both Group and At Large ballots in the same envelope, seal and write "Ballot" on the envelope. Place this "Ballot" envelope in a second envelope for mailing.
Madeline Stevens	_____	_____	Write your <u>name</u> , <u>address</u> , and <u>Sierra Club membership number</u> in the upper left hand corner of the mailing envelope. Your membership number is located to the left of your name on the mailing label of your Tennes-Sierran.
Nancy McFadden	_____	_____	
Charlie High	_____	_____	Envelopes without name, address, and membership number cannot be counted.
Grace Stranch	_____	_____	
John Behn	_____	_____	Ballots must be received no later than December 11, 2019 to be valid.- Mail Promptly to:

Paula Lennon
713 Hillbrook Dr.
Mt. Juliet TN 37122-2123

MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES:

Madeline Stevens

My love of the outdoors began in my early childhood. Growing up, my family spent a lot of time hiking and camping in the national parks. These experiences gave me a passion for environmentalism and sustainability and they led me to travel to places like Patagonia, Easter Island, and the Atacama desert where I fell even deeper in love with our planet. I recently spent an entire summer in Yellowstone, living and working within the national park and learning about its preservation. As a student at Lipscomb University, I have studied sustainability and environmental hazards within Nashville. In April of 2019, I won division VI of Lipscomb's Student Scholars Symposium with my research project titled, "Environmental Privileges and Hazards Faced by Different Ethnic Groups in Nashville, Tennessee." I have experience volunteering with nonprofits in the Nashville area including Nashville Food Project, Nashville International Center for Empowerment, and Second Harvest Nashville. I am an experienced writer and communicator and a new, young, and enthusiastic Sierra Club member. Sierra Club drew my interest because of its work in environmental justice and the preservation of Earth's natural resources. During my time with the Sierra Club, my goal is to raise awareness and support for the Sierra Club from my peers and bring new ideas to the table. I would appreciate your vote so that I can serve on the Middle Tennessee Group Executive Committee. Thank you.

Nancy McFadden

I have been a member of the Baha'i Faith since 1969. One of the most important teachings is the oneness of humanity. "The best beloved of all things is justice," is another teaching I love. These principles guide me. In the early 1990s, I worked with a group called BURNT. There was cooperative work with Sierra Club and others. I was secretary for a few years. I worked with others on fundraising. We worked against incinerators and hazardous waste treatment plants. We promoted recycling. We worked on pesticide reform locally and statewide. Through our efforts, Metro Schools bought into not using dangerous pesticides. Improved indoor air quality helped everyone. We worked with several Sierra Club members on a statewide integrated pest management blitz. It helped change Memphis schools and others. I have put some time working against nuclear power. I am 100% in agreement with Sierra Club - no nukes. I belong to the League of Women Voters and I attend the meetings of Tennessee Interfaith Power and Light and Climate Nashville. I would appreciate your vote.

Charlie High

I have been a member of Sierra Club for thirty years. I joined Sierra Club to learn about environmental issues. I am a retired attorney. I devote many hours to the Sierra Club. As Co-chair of Inspiring Connections Outdoors, the Sierra Club program that conducts outings for children, I organize and conduct a summer program that takes school children camping, hiking, canoeing, kayaking, rafting and cave exploring. We conducted more than twenty days of outings in June and July of 2019. I started a program in 2019 called River Kids that trains kids 12 years and older to safely and effectively use kayaks. We plan to continue the successful program in 2020. I have been Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary of the Middle Tennessee Group. I am currently Treasurer of the Group. I have been Compliance Officer for the Tennessee Chapter of Sierra Club since 2007. I consult with the Political Committee to assure compliance with campaign finance laws and regulations. I was Group Delegate to the State Executive Committee. I have prepared by-laws and standing rules for the Tennessee Chapter. I want the Sierra Club to continue to lead the country and the world in protecting the natural world.

Grace Stranch

Grace is an experienced environmental activist from Nashville who has led or assisted in organizing the Appalachian Public Interest Environmental Law Conference for nine years. She has been Chair of the Middle Tennessee Sierra Club executive committee for almost two terms. For the Tennessee Chapter of the Sierra Club, Grace has led or assisted in organizing counting of the election ballots for two election cycles and has served as an alternate delegate. As an attorney, her practice focuses on class actions and labor and employment. Specifically, she was one of the plaintiff attorneys representing consumers against Volkswagen related to its use of a defeat device. She has been honored by the Tennessee Supreme Court as an Attorney for Justice for her commitment to pro bono work. The Tennessee Bar Association has spotlighted her achievements as a young attorney and the Nashville Bar Association recently chose her as one of the incoming attorneys for its Leadership Forum program. She has considerable organizing experience and has completed grassroots organizational training in Memphis, lobbying training in D.C., and worked on a rural political campaign in West Tennessee.

John Behn

For the past two years I have served as Webmaster of the Middle Tennessee Group and as Digital Strategies Lead for the Tennessee Chapter as well as tech support for all the Groups in Tennessee. I work with Sierra Club National Digital Support participating in implementing new membership and information systems for the Tennessee Chapter and for the Middle Tennessee Group. As an engineer and former consultant with IBM and SAP, I feel my experience can help MTG reach out, expand and drive stronger community involvement to protect our environment. I was elected to the MTG Executive Committee in 2019 filling an unexpired position vacated by another member.

When is an election not an election? When people don't vote.

Dear Eartha: Advice from An Eco-Guru

Dear Eartha,

I recently listened to a National Public Radio report on an environmental activist group called Extinction Rebellion. Then, the NYTimes reported they staged a death-in-rebel action near the Stock Exchange on Wall Street, dousing the bull statue with fake blood, and non-violently courting possible arrest. Can you tell me more about this group and how I can get involved? Do they just exist in the UK? Do I have to live in NYC or London to participate in their rebellion? What's their story?

– Still Questioning Authority in Appalachia

Dear Still Q-ing,

Right arm! Yeah, questioning and questing gets us out of our recliners, off our bean bags, and into the streets – or at least into our front yards. Maybe even talking to people. Asking questions begins the revolution every time, and always.

So, I, too have been curious about Extinction Rebellion (XR). David Wallace-Wells, author of *The Uninhabitable Earth*, in an interview on the *PBS Newshour*, commented that while recycling and solar panels are important, the truly significant impact on climate change will occur through systemic policies enacted by governments. According to *Wikipedia*, “Extinction Rebellion is a non-political movement with the stated aim of using civil disobedience to compel government action on climate breakdown, biodiversity loss, and the risk of social and ecological collapse.”

Extinction Rebellion has a very smart basis of political action theory. From their website: <https://rebellion.earth> here's what they say: Conventional approaches of voting, lobbying, petitions and protest have failed because powerful political and economic interests prevent change. Our strategy is therefore one of non-violent, disruptive civil disobedience – a rebellion.

They cite “historical evidence” to suggest that 3.5% of any given population must participate in change in order for it to stick. In the US that amounts to 115 million people actively protesting. Citizens of a democracy, XR says, have the right to protest; it's part of our legacy and historically has changed the hearts and minds of masses of people who influence their leaders to enact change. It's not always swift, can be painful, even deadly, but eventually it's been proven to work.

I reached out to them at press@risingup.org.uk to find out about XR's presence in the American South. No XR protests are planned in the southern US. But lots of local protests targeting specific areas of activism are always popping up.

Environmentalists from John Muir to Greta Thunberg have spoken truth to pow-

Earthling

by Janet McAdams

That winter, that warm winter, no one wanted to be ordinary. We sat on a pile of plastic, threatened as a farm where the dog is tied up barking.

Land, we meant to say sorry

–we are so sorry–

to the red dirt of your body.

We meant to say meat or dirty water.

We meant to say before our bones became lace

before we had to lean forward to swallow.

You remember how the story goes: We came in peace.

But tell that to a drop of water trying to linger.

Reprinted with permission of the author

er—through direct action. So, Still Questioning, my advice, since you asked, is that since there is no XR group in the south, yet, go online, buy one of the many cool environmental tee-shirts (What Greta Said, There is No Planet B, Extinction Rebellion) and find a protest group you respect. Sierra Club Tennessee has all sorts of ways to practice activism. Just check out this newsletter! Or, start your own XR action. The most important thing is to act. Now. And, Still, when you show up, look around. I'll be right out there with you.

Your Very Own Eco-Guru,

Eartha

Watauga Lake Clean-up Weighs in at Two and a Half Tons

by Gloria Griffith, Watauga Conservation Committee



One catch of the day at the annual Watauga Lake clean up was a fiberglass John boat.

environmental and economic impacts, harms wildlife and people, and degrades the quality of the recreational lands and waters that make Tennessee a special place to live, work, and play.

By land and on the water, 87 enthusiastic volunteers hunted down and retrieved litter out of tributaries, coves, camping sites and from under the Butler Bridge. Armed with gloves, bags, picker uppers, gaffing hooks, trash giggers and scoop nets the volunteers paddled kayaks, crewed pontoon boats, and drove personal vehicles to collect Styrofoam, tents, containers, chairs, nets, line, lures, and assorted plastics and glass. Pride-of-place inspired each delivery to the dumpsters, gathered at a rate of 1000 pounds per hour. Lugging in a grand total of 2.5 tons in five hours. Catches of the Day included some Monster Dual Tires, an American Chestnut (pre-blight) nine-section hen-nesting box, and a fiberglass john boat (sunk and silt filled).

Many entities came together to make this a successful clean sweep: Watauga Watershed Alliance partnering with Watauga Conservation Committee of the Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club, Watauga Sailing Club, in cooperation with Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA), Carter County and Johnson County Waste Management, Keep Tennessee Beautiful, Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT), civic groups, businesses and individual citizens.

<https://www.facebook.com/wataugalakecleanup/>

Litter isn't only unattractive. Litter has significant

Open Burning at Holston Army Ammunition Plant—When Will It End?

by Bobbi Smith, Care NET Community Conservation Committee of Tennessee Sierra Club



An open burning at the Holston Army Ammunition Plant containing an estimated 85% plastic materials (March 26, 2019)

On December 12, 2018, representatives from the U.S. Army and BAE Systems, which operates the Holston Army Ammunition Plant (HSAAP), held a public hearing in Kingsport, Tennessee, to outline their plan to reduce reliance on open burning of munitions waste at the plant by 2024. At that sparsely attended meeting, HSAAP Environmental Engineer Laura Peters reassured those present that HSAAP has been open burning waste from explosives manufactured since the munitions plant began production during World War II, and had never had an explosion.

Twenty-two days later, on January 3, 2019, a major explosion and fire occurred, sending shockwaves through the Kingsport neighborhood, and a smoke plume that could be seen for miles around. The building containing munitions where the explosion occurred was allowed to burn to the ground, as there was a risk of further explosions endangering firefighting personnel.

Lifelong Kingsport residents Mark and Connie Toohey moved into their current home adjacent to HSAAP in 1996. They started looking into open-burning there on December 14, 2011, when acrid smoke from a four-days-long burn came into their home, exacerbating Connie's asthma. Connie called the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) and lodged a complaint. Mark phoned HSAAP and was told that open burning was the only way that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) would allow them to treat the explosive waste.

The Tooheys then began a years-long odyssey to address—and hopefully end—open burning at HSAAP that would take them to other munitions plants around the country and to Washington D.C. to address a National Academy of Science Committee. Mark joined the Cease Fire Campaign steering committee along with others from Louisiana, Kentucky, and California. Cease Fire's mission statement is “to protect human health and the environment by calling for the immediate implementation of safer alternatives to open air burning, detonation and non-closed loop incineration/combustion of military munitions.”

Through their efforts and those of other individuals and grassroots groups around the country, the National Defense Authorization Act (2017) which requires the Army to collaborate with the National Academy of Science to identify alternatives to open burning and open detonation of explosives was introduced by Tammy Baldwin, D-Wisconsin, and passed unanimously in Congress. According to a 2018 Army memo, the Army has identified a variety of safe, sustainable, and currently available technologies. The memo also states that by 2024, open burning will be prohibited by the Department of Defense.

On April 11, 2019, at HSAAP's second public meeting to address open burning, BAE and Army personnel identified three types of explosive wastes and have recommended alternatives to open burning for two of those types. One method proposed is a flash or “car bottom” furnace, to burn so-called “cage waste”—anything that may have come into contact with explosive dust, such as clothing, furniture, packaging and a variety of other materials. This method treats any emissions, reducing air pollution. Cage waste comprises 65% of explosives waste generated at the plant. The second method proposed is known as a “moving bed reactor.” HSAAP does not yet have permission from the Department of Defense (DoD) to begin implementation of this alternative, which is designed to burn unused raw explosive materials, about 30% of the waste generated at the site. That leaves 5% of the waste subject to continued open burning, unless/until an alternative is found.

Open burning at Holston has resulted in violations of state and federal emissions standards. In 2012, BAE Systems received a letter of violation from TDEC Environmental Field Office Manager Vera T. Davis. According to TDEC, BAE violated condition E26-7, which limits the open burning of triamino-trinitro-benzene waste to 36 pounds per month during non-mobilized times. 3,346 pounds were burned that day. In March, 2016, BAE Systems received a letter from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency outlining their agreement to cease open burning of materials containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

At a third HSAAP public meeting held on July 18 in Kingsport, BAE and Army personnel reported that they are on track to accept a bid and award a contract for the car-bottom furnace in early 2020, with site design to be completed by December 2021, and construction to begin when environmental and siting requirements are met.

BAE and Army personnel also reported that they are already engaged in identifying waste that can be disposed of in an on-site landfill. They are currently diverting 25% of plastic liners, and 95% of debris from specific building sites, to the landfill. Mark Toohey has questioned Army and BAE personnel about an alternative option to dispose of waste known as Supercritical Water Oxidation, a viable option according to the US Army Corps of Engineers Research and Development Center, but not currently under consideration.

Mark and Connie Toohey are continuing their campaign to educate the public and push for a complete end to open burning at munitions plants around the country through their local organization, Volunteers for Environmental Health and Justice. The next public meeting with U.S. Army HSAAP/BAE is scheduled for January, 2020, at the ETSU Allendale Campus in Kingsport.



Ceasefire Members in Washington D.C.: (l-r) Frances Kelley, Louisiana; Mark Toohey, Tennessee; Craig Williams, Kentucky; and Jane Williams, California

MIDDLE TENNESSEE SIERRA CLUB SOCIALS!

Join the Middle Tennessee Group of the Sierra Club

Happy Hour

Tuesday: November 26, 6:00 – 8:00 PM

HiFi Clyde's, 1700 Church St, Nashville

Plenty of Free Parking * All Ages Welcome

This will be our last Tuesday Happy Hour until January.

http://bit.ly/TNSCMTG_ProgramsSocial

<http://facebook.com/sierraclubmiddletennessee>

or email: paulalennon615@gmail.com



Holiday Party

Tuesday: December 14, 3:30 – 8:30 PM

1247 General George Patton Road, Nashville

Bring a friend and a dish to share

Turkey, the trimmings & liquid cheer provided

Live music by popular Nashville songwriters

Don't miss it—last year was a smashing success!

Holiday, festive casual - Plenty of free parking

For more information (615) 498-2778

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PDF EDITOR NEEDED

Can you help edit the PDF version of *The Tennes-Sierran*? We offer a PDF copy of each issue on our website and we are planning to email it on request.

The printed version contains links to websites that can be typed in a browser. In the PDF version those become "hyperlinks" you click to open. They don't always translate correctly from print to PDF copy.

If you know how to edit PDF documents and are willing to help us, we need your skills. Once every two months we need you to test those links and fix the ones that fail. It takes a couple of hours or less each time and our Digital Strategies Team can help.

Please call John Behn at 615-390-8079 for more information.

Group and Conservation Committee Meetings

Below are regular meetings for groups and conservation committees.

For program descriptions, outings & other gatherings, check your Sierra Club group's website!

Group Business Meetings

Group	Date	Location	Time
Cherokee (Chattanooga)	Mon 11/4, 12/2	Pilgrim Congregational Church, 400 Glenwood Dr., Chattanooga	6:30 PM
	1/5	Meeting Combined with Annual Welcome New Year Potluck at Audubon Acres	4:30 PM
Chickasaw (Memphis)	Wed 11/6, 12/4, 1/8	Cheffies Cafe, 483 High Point Terrace, Memphis	6:30 PM
Harvey Broome (Knoxville)	Tue 11/26, 1/23	The Church of the Savior, 934 N. Weisgarber Rd. Knoxville	7:00 PM
	Sat 1/22	Annual Planning Meeting - Location TBA	TBA
Middle TN (Nashville)	Mon 11/18, 12/16, 1/20	House of Kabob, 216 Thompson Lane, Nashville	6:30 PM

Group Program Meetings

Group	Date	Location	Time
Cherokee (Chattanooga)	Mon 11/25, 1/27	Unitarian Universalist Church, 3224 Navajo Dr., Chattanooga	7:00 PM
	Mon 12/23	No Meeting - Spend Time with Nature Outdoors	---
Chickasaw (Memphis)	Thu 11/21, 1/16	Benjamin Hooks Public Library, 3030 Poplar Ave, Memphis	6:30 PM
	Fri 12/6	Holiday Party	7:00 PM
Harvey Broome (Knoxville)	Tue 11/12, 12/10, 1/14	Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church, 2931 Kingston Pike	7:00 PM
Middle TN (Nashville)	Thu 11/14, 1/9	Radnor Lake Nature Center, 1160 Otter Creek RD, Nashville	7:00 PM
	Fri 12/14	Holiday Party - 1247 General George Patton Road, Nashville	3:30 PM

Regional Conservation Committee Business Meetings

Committee	Date	Location	Time
Clarksville	Tue 11/19, 12/17, 1/21	Clarksville-Montgomery County Public Library, 350 Pageant Ln, Clarksville	6:00 PM
CareNET (Rogersville)	Thu 11/7, 12/5, 1/2	St. Henry Catholic Church, 114 Highway 70 North, Rogersville	6:00 PM
Tipton County	Thu 11/14, 12/9, 1/9	Ward Law Firm, 99 Doctors Drive Suite 300, Munford	6:00 PM
Watauga (Mountain City)	Tue 11/12	Harvest Dinner - Watauga Lake Winery 6952 Big Dry Run Rd. Butler	5:00 PM
	Tue 12/10	Holiday Dinner - Prospect Hill B&B 801 West Main St. Mountain City	5:00 PM
	Tues 1/14	ExCom Annual Planning 5902 Highway 421 South, Mountain City	5:00 PM

Let's ALL Support the Critical Work of Our Lobbyist

by Sherry Loller, Chair, Defenders Fund



The Defenders of Tennessee is the lobbying arm of our Tennessee chapter, and your monetary support is critical for the continuation of this program. As a member of the Sierra Club, you are aware of the enormous environmental destruction that lax laws have fostered in our state, our country, and abroad. We cannot sit back and do nothing to lessen the blow on future generations. It is imperative that we have a presence on Capitol Hill to represent us. Hiring a lobbyist to spearhead our fight for the environment at the General Assembly is a crucial part of the Defenders' program, and his salary needs to be funded.

During the last legislative session our lobbyist Scott Banbury met with legislators, analyzed bills, kept us informed about the progress of important bills so that we could contact our representatives, and helped with our very successful Conservation Day on the Hill. After the session was over Scott traveled across the state organizing communities and working with the media to help strengthen local and state environmental laws.

Though our need for an environmental lobbyist has increased significantly over the past twenty years, the donations for this program have steadily declined. With your help, we will turn this around so that we can continue to have a strong voice for the environment in Tennessee government. This is essential if we

are to counter our state's well-funded, corrupt political machine that has a wanton disregard for the impacts of pollution. Please use the form below to donate to the Defenders today. Let's keep our beautiful Tennessee clean and green!



Thanks to These Generous Donors in Support of the Defenders Fund.

Alan Fister — Erica White — Dorothy Hamer — Jesse McCabe — Peg Duthie — Your Name Here!

TAKE ACTION TODAY — SEND THIS FORM WITH A DONATION TO SUPPORT OUR LOBBYIST!

\$25 \$50 \$150 \$250 \$1000 \$ _____ Surprise us!

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

Please select a method of payment. Make checks payable to Sierra Club Tennessee Chapter with "Defenders" on the memo line, or use your credit card. Mastercard Visa Discover

Credit card number _____ Expiration date (mm/yy) _____

Name on card _____ Signature _____

- Receive email alerts when there is a critical vote and the Sierra Club needs you to contact your State legislators.
- Receive weekly email updates from Tennessee Conservation Voters during the legislative session.

Email address _____

May we publish your name in the Tennes-Sierran as a donor? Yes No

I do not need an acknowledgment letter. Please save Defenders funds for program purposes.

As a politically active group, the Defenders is a 501(c)(4) organization and donations are not income-tax deductible.

Mail to: Sherry Loller, Sierra Club Defenders, 2313 Pennington Bend Road, Nashville TN 37214. Thank you!

Special Offer!!!

Upon request, a free 3-night stay at VRBO #979779 (value \$966) will be given to donors of \$1000 or more.

To view this property online, go to <http://vrbo.com/979779>. Call Sherry at 615-889-2968 for details.