

Tennes-Sierran

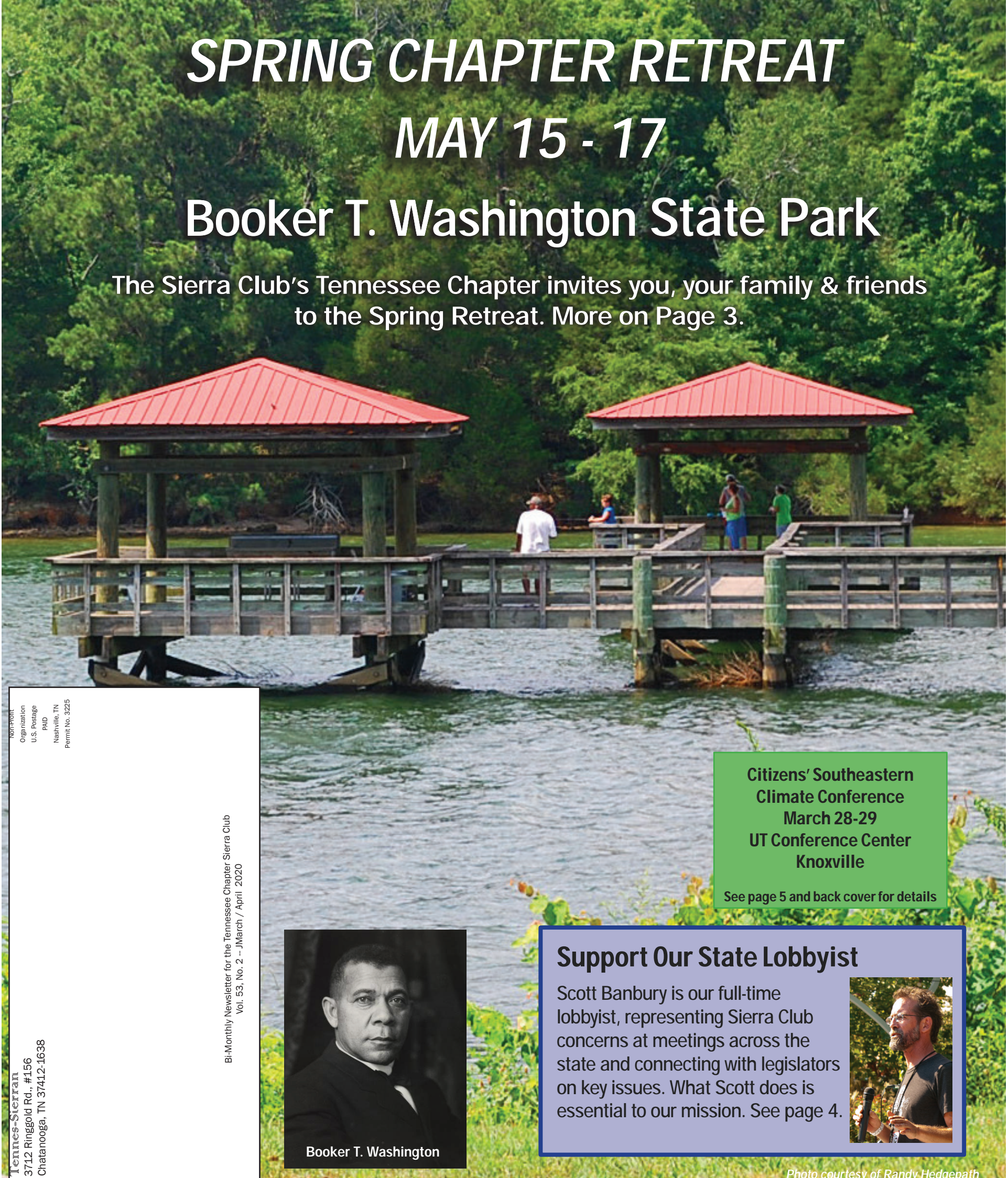
The bi-monthly state newsletter for the Tennessee Chapter of the Sierra Club

Volume 53, Number 2 - March / April 2020

SPRING CHAPTER RETREAT MAY 15 - 17

Booker T. Washington State Park

The Sierra Club's Tennessee Chapter invites you, your family & friends to the Spring Retreat. More on Page 3.

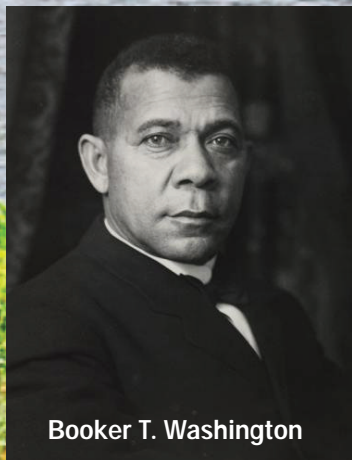


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Bi-Monthly Newsletter for the Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club
Vol. 53, No. 2 -- JMarch / April 2020

**Citizens' Southeastern
Climate Conference
March 28-29
UT Conference Center
Knoxville**
See page 5 and back cover for details



Booker T. Washington

Support Our State Lobbyist

Scott Banbury is our full-time lobbyist, representing Sierra Club concerns at meetings across the state and connecting with legislators on key issues. What Scott does is essential to our mission. See page 4.



Photo courtesy of Randy Hedgepath

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: Mail your new address AND the mailing label on page 1 to: Sierra Club, P.O. Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041

*Address changes are processed much faster if you include your mailing label.

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 (wranglerSCTN@gmail.com) by the deadline.
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 Deadlines

May / June Issue of *The Tennes-Sierran*:
March 31

April Issue of the Chapter E-newsletter:
March 27

Send submissions to
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and small, needs defense”

- John Muir

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Enclose a check and mail to Sierra Club,
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or visit our website www.sierraclub.org

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RETREAT SCHEDULE

	LOCATION	DATES
Spring 2020	Booker T. Washington State Park	May 15-17
Fall 2020	Pickett State Park	October 23-25
Winter 2021	Cedar of Lebanon State Park	January 29-31
Spring 2021	To Be Determined	March 13-15



Time to gear up for the Spring retreat at a new venue for Sierra Club TN members and friends! The Cherokee Group invites all of us to Booker T. Washington State Park just 11 miles outside of beautiful Chattanooga. On the shore of Chickamauga Lake, the park boasts not only the usual hiking trails, but also fishing (there's a dock), birding (129 species sighted including bald eagles and ospreys), basketball courts, and a six-mile loop trail for mountain biking!

State Naturalist Randy Hedgepath will lead group hikes Saturday and Sunday, but you are free to venture out on your own if you prefer. Training workshops are also in the planning stage if you would like to further develop your activist chops.

Booker T. Washington: The Man and the Park



"I pity the man or woman," Booker T. Washington wrote, "who has never learned to enjoy nature and to get strength and inspiration out of it" in his acclaimed autobiography *Up From Slavery*. For Washington, the man for whom Booker T. Washington State Park is named, the site of our Spring Retreat this May, these words celebrate the uplifting experience of the great outdoors. Born into slavery

around 1856, Washington was freed at the age of about nine under the Emancipation Proclamation. His mother was a slave and his father, whom he never knew, a white plantation owner. Washington worked his way through school and went on to become the founder and director of Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. In his role as a leader of former slaves and a dominant national leader of African Americans, he encouraged them to develop vocational and agricultural skills rather than fight directly against the oppressive Jim Crow laws. In this position, he found himself at odds with other prominent African-American intellectuals, such as W.E.B. DuBois.

Established in conjunction with the nearby and much larger Harrison Bay project, Booker T. Washington State Park is one of two Tennessee state parks originally built for use by African Americans only. And it was African-American units of the Civilian Conservation Corps that began to clear land for the Park in 1938; however, World War II prevented any facilities from being built on the cleared land and plans were downsized due to post-war inflation. When the park was finally dedicated in 1950, it featured a swimming pool, bathhouses, picnic tables and shelters, camp sites, ball fields, and an area for fishing. State parks were desegregated as a result of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The Oaks Group Camp where we will gather was added later and then completely renovated in 2014.

Don't forget the Spring Silent Auction—it's a great opportunity to declutter by engaging in a fund-fun-raiser that bulks up the coffers of the Defenders Fund (see page 4). If you haven't experienced an auction, do participate! Rowdy whoops, carefree cajoling, and reckless but sweet abandon rules the evening's enterprise. Much more fun if you bring something to add to the auction table. Get your junk out of your cupboards and closets and onto the auction tables! Trader Joe's wine always an acceptable offering, too.

We will gather in the dining hall for meals and meetings and sleep in the Oaks Group Camp bunkhouses. You are also welcome to bring a tent and sleep under the stars, or glamp at the campground down the road.

So, grab your binoculars, biking shorts, fishing poles, basketball, sunscreen, bug spray, best friend, love of nature, passion to protect our wee planet, and hiking shoes, and get this retreat on your calendar.



REGISTRATION

Register (by May 8 to receive Early Bird Discount):

Online: http://bit.ly/TN_Chapter_Spring_2020_Retreat_Register

OR contact: Barbara Hurst, Cherokee Group Treasurer
423 - 886 - 9503 / barbaraduckhurst@hotmail.com

RATES / SCHOLARSHIPS

Adult registration fee (16 years & older) covers dorm lodging, 2 breakfasts, & Saturday dinner. Pay with cash or check only when you check in. Early Bird Discount (register by May 8) - \$50

- Late registration (after MAY 8) - \$60
- First Chapter retreat attendees - \$25
- Students - \$15
- Saturday Only (registration, dinner) - \$30
- Sunday Only - (registration, breakfast, no lodging) - \$10
- Youth under 16 – No Charge

Scholarships Are Available! Contact:

Barbara Hurst, Cherokee Group Treasurer
barbaraduckhurst@hotmail.com / 423-886-9503.

LEGAL STUFF

The Chapter retreat will begin at 4 PM on Friday and end 2 PM on Sunday. All Tennessee Chapter Retreat participants are required to sign the standard Sierra Club outings liability waiver at check-in:

<http://bit.ly/SierraClubOutingWaiver>

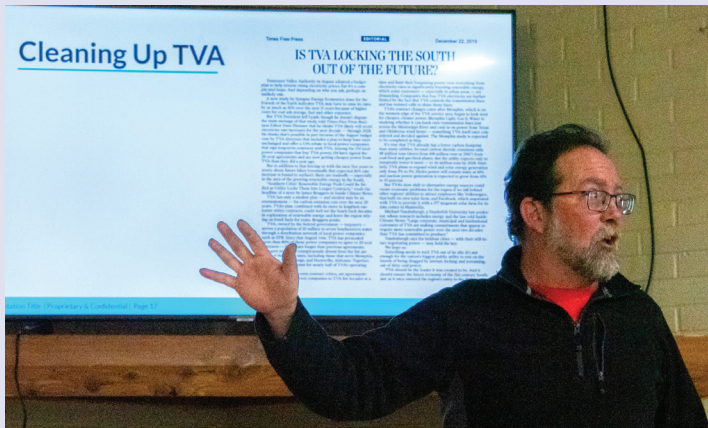
Any attendee under the age of 18 not accompanied by parent or legal guardian must have a signed liability waiver and medical authorization form upon arrival. To review or print this waiver visit:

<http://bit.ly/SierraClubMinorRelease>

For more information: Cherokee Group Chair Barbara Hurst at
423 - 886 - 9503 / barbaraduckhurst@hotmail.com

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. Your monetary support is critical for its continuation. 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 all spend time in Nashville, but our lobbyist is there to speak for us. It is imperative that we have a presence on Capitol Hill to represent us. Having a lobbyist to spearhead our fight for the environment at the General Assembly is a crucial part of the Defenders' program, and it's up to us to fund his salary.

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 assisted 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.

Our need for an environmental lobbyist has increased significantly over the past twenty years. With your help, we will 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 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.

Patty and Steve Ghertner—Emily Ellis—Meg Robertson—Cynthia Rohrbach—Ken Brame and Judy Matlox
Karen Bourg—Richard and Sherry Loller—Larry Dunn—Gary Bowers—Karen Cisler—Hunter Oppenheimer
Tom Cullen—Frank Chalona—James Drummond, Jr. —Ruth Griffin—Elizabeth Cunningham
Sharon Boyce—Alan Fister—Erica White—Dorothy Hamer—Jesse McCabe—Peg Duthie
Bill and Dorothy DeVan—Don Scharf and Teri Davis—Stewart Clifton—Mary Buckner
Helen Stewart —Todd Waterman—Jane Norris—Don Getty—*Your Name Here!*

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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.



Photo courtesy of Todd Waterman.

Winter Retreat Was Productive and Fun

At the Winter Retreat in Cedars of Lebanon State Park, the Tennessee Chapter held open committee meetings, discussed issues, hiked, ate well, and connected. State Lobbyist Scott Banbury gave a review of our 2019 wins and losses on environmental and legislative issues, including Bull Run and Kingston coal ash and resisting TVA's renewables-killing 20-year contracts for local power companies.

And on Sunday, the newly-elected 2020 Executive Committee (ExCom) chose most of its new officers and committee chairs (see article below) and then immediately got to work on our behalf.

Chapter to Table at Southeastern Climate Education Conference

The Tennessee Chapter of the Sierra Club will staff a booth at the Citizens' Climate Education Southeast Conference sponsored by the Citizens Climate Education March 28-29 at the UT Conference Center in downtown Knoxville. Members of the Harvey Broome Group are teaming with the Citizens' Climate Lobby in this tabling opportunity to offer information about our mission and encourage new memberships. This educational conference will build a stronger network in Tennessee and the southeast region for combatting climate change.

If you would like to volunteer or request additional information about the Chapter's participation, contact Chet Hunt (chunt51@comcast.net). For more information and registration, visit the link:

<https://2020cclse.eventbrite.com/>

Look for the Conference poster on the back of this newsletter.

Tennessee Chapter Executive Committee for 2020

By Mac Post, Tennessee Chapter Chair

The last weekend in January 2020, the Tennessee Chapter greeted the new members of its Executive Committee (ExCom) at the Winter Retreat in the Cedars Of Lebanon State Park Group Lodge. Many were familiar faces of people who have served the Chapter and its Groups for many years. The 11 member ExCom includes seven at-large members who are elected by Sierra Club members across the state. Each member serves a two-year term. These terms are staggered so that this year four members were elected to serve – Mac Post (Knoxville), Axel Ringe (Jefferson City), Bill Moll (Chattanooga), and Charlie High (Nashville). They join Alice Demetreon (Coalmont), Cris Corley (Lebanon), and Marquita Bradshaw (Memphis) who were elected last year.

Each of the Groups within the state also contributes a delegate to serve on the ExCom. Jerry Thornton represents the Harvey Broome Group, Gary Bowers represents the Middle Tennessee Group, Kate Anthony represents the Cherokee Group and Jessica Branch represents the Chickasaw Group.

There were three candidates for the at-large positions that were not elected. They are all busy, fortunately, with other

important positions in the Chapter. Andre Porter is the Chapter Treasurer, Tony Cernosek is a Chickasaw Group co-Chair, and Kent Minault is the Political Chair for the Harvey Broome Group.

Chapter officers were also selected at the January ExCom meeting:

Chair – Mac Post
 Vice-Chair – Cris Corley
 Treasurer – Andre Porter
 Secretary – Kate Anthony



Mac Post upon learning he was re-elected as Chapter Chair. Photo courtesy of Todd Waterman.

While filling these positions is important, it is even more important that all Chapter Sierra Club members contribute by working together with leaders at the Chapter, Group, and Conservation Committee levels through organizing, direct actions, and reporting our work in our newsletters, press releases, and letters to editors.

State Committee Chair Appointments for 2020

- Staff Manager – Bill Moll
- Communications Coordinator – Gary Bowers
- Budget Committee Chair – Andre Porter
- Litigation Committee Chair – Axel Ringe
- Fundraising Committee Chair – Barbara Kelly, Mac Post
- Legislative Committee Chair – David Bordenkircher
- Outing Committee Chair – Ron Shrieves
- Nominating Committee Chair – Charlie High
- Election Committee Chair – vacant
- Personnel Committee Chair – Mac Post
- Parliamentarian – Charlie High
- Compliance Office – David Bordenkircher
- Council of Club Leaders (CCL) Delegate – Mac Post
- Alternate CCL Delegate – Cris Corley
- By-Laws & Standing Rules Committee Chair – Alice Demetreon

Lessons from the Trail by Joan Tomlinson

If I Could Choose . . .



A United Nations (UN) report published in May of last year indicated that one million species of plants and animals are threatened with extinction, and that extinction is a direct result of human activity. I have thought about that report and that number a lot. One million, erased at the hands of humankind. I thought, well, if I could choose a few, I

would choose ticks, fleas, poison ivy, and biting flies. Perhaps I would throw in a few deadly viruses, for good measure. But I can't pick and choose which will go. How would I feel if the extinction list included the monarch butterfly, blue jays, polar bears, or humpback whales? How would I feel if the list included black snakes like the one I saw thumping its tail on a rock to mimic a rattle snake? What if the list included moose like the three I saw submerged to their necks on the far side of a pond in Maine or the ducks those "moose" turned out to be? How would I feel to lose forever pink lady's slippers or dutchman's breeches? What if I had a hand in their extinction?

I thru-hiked the Appalachian Trail (AT) in 2014 and completed a hike of the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) in 2018. My months spent hiking in the wilderness on these trails showed me it is all connected out there. People smarter and wiser than me have said this for years. The UN report restates that. Have you experienced it yet? Have you seen the connections and felt a part of it? I remember an owl flying with me as I hiked through an old growth forest, trees showing me their energy as they unfolded themselves in the spring, leaves playing delicate symphonies in the wind, and birds' nests woven into trees. I remember the rotting trees giving themselves to the forest floor, the rain and snow melt feeding streams on which all of us forest travelers depended, the bullfrogs and beavers, the giant trees

and the mountain meadows. Which could be removed without diminishing the whole? To me, it feels like an intricately woven tapestry.

I can't choose what's on the extinction list, nor would I want to. But I am not without choices. The UN report gives me hope that there is still time to change this extinction trend. I can choose to be a part of the solution by what I buy and by what I choose not to buy. I can choose the temperature setting on my thermostat and on my clothes washer, which organizations I support, and to reduce single use plastics. I can choose what I eat depending on how it is grown or raised. I can be vocal when companies and organizations cause harm to places these million species call home. I can speak for at-risk species without a voice. We, as individuals, and the leaders of the world, can choose to lessen our impact on the biodiversity of this planet. I have to have hope that we not only can, but we will. So, I also must choose to work to put leaders into high places who understand that losing one million species just feels wrong and who acknowledge the challenges we face as we interact with our changing planet.



One example of the many endangered species: the Hawksbill sea turtle. Photograph by Joel Sartore, National Geographic Photo Ark.

I'm proud to stand with the Sierra Club and to support its mission to explore, enjoy, and protect the planet. I'm glad I have choices, and I proudly act in small and large ways on those choices. When I hear of a species hugely at risk because of human activities, I will not say "Goodbye." I will, with my actions, say "Please stay!"

Blue Jay may be contacted at BlueJayAT@gmail.com

Meet Kate Anthony: New Cherokee Group Chair



Let's welcome Kate Anthony as the Cherokee Group's new Chair. A life-long activist for peace and justice causes, in retirement Kate has focussed on environmental and conservation issues. Kate is a

Quaker pacifist and Quaker principles have always informed her work as a psychotherapist and activist.

She has practiced civil disobedience since the Viet Nam war days and was arrested four times in 2018 with the Poor People's Campaign. She grew up in Southern California and has many fond memories of backpacking in the High Sierra. She stays in touch with her love for California by doing Sierra Club Service Outings in California wilderness areas including Joshua National Park and the Tahoe area. Service Outings have included trail building and trail maintenance, brush clearing, and "eradication of invasive

species" (i.e. weeding!) in National Parks. She has been a Sierra Club member since the 1990's. When she moved from Ohio to the Chattanooga area in 2015, the first thing she did was find the Sierra Club and start volunteering. She has served as secretary and social media person for Cherokee Group since 2015 and now is the incoming chairperson.

Kate has a Masters degree in clinical social work from the University of Louisville and a Doctorate in psychology from Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. Her career was as a psychotherapist, mostly in community mental health centers and psychiatric emergency rooms. She is Clerk of Chattanooga Friends Meeting, the closest the Quakers come to having a leader. She has held leadership positions in her work in mental health and in a number of organizations.

One of Kate's avocations is as an avid organic, natural gardener, working on sustainability and developing skills for self sufficiency. She and her lesbian partner of 28 years have a suburban half acre just over the line in north Georgia. Their all-electric home is powered by solar roof panels. They have a mini-orchard of apricots, peaches, figs, apples, grow strawberries, blueberries, elderberries, about 500 square feet of vegetable gardens, plus herb gardens and native wildflowers, and have seven laying hens.

Harvey Broome Group's New Political Committee, Part 2: Climate Champions Win in Knoxville

by Kent Minault, Political Chair, Harvey Broome Group



Kent Minault with newly elected Knoxville Mayor Indya Kincannon, one of the candidates endorsed by the Sierra Club.

We last left Knoxville's new Political Committee with a set of endorsements for the November 5th election and under a month to get the word out. At our Oct. 6th meeting, we quickly decided to go all out to get our candidates elected.

Indya Kincannon's campaign office was nearby. I found her at a desk making calls, so I chatted briefly with Sarah Barklin, her campaign manager. When Indya hung up, we talked about the book *Reinventing Fire* which I'd shared with her. Then I presented her with the endorsement. She leaped up and told Sarah to grab her phone. "We gotta get this on Facebook." We struck a pose and Sarah snapped the photo.

Next I met City Council candidate Amy Midis' manager, handed her our endorsement, then went to the Birdhouse, a local community center, to meet David Hayes and family. David, excited about his endorsement, talked about bringing the Sierra Club closer to the economic justice movement in East Knoxville.

Council candidate Charles Thomas works at Union Avenue Bookstore and had us drop his endorsement there. I missed the chance to hand it to him directly and develop our connection. I'd built a strong personal rapport with Indya and David and wanted that with all the endorsees.

The HBG Political Committee (Maggie Longmire, Axel Ringe, and I) got together at KBrew on Broadway to strategize. Scott Banbury had suggested we create a meme for each candidate with an attention-grabbing picture and blurb, telling why this election is important and getting members in touch with campaigns to volunteer. We split up the candidates and set to work, but before finishing, I had to leave for the Community Voices Forum on Gun Violence at East Knoxville's Honey Rock Church. I ran into David again and handed out a list of our endorsements, without pictures or blurbs. On the way home, my daughter texted me that my picture with Indya was up on Facebook.

We worked carefully on the copy, exchanging drafts and editing each other's work. When the document with pictures and words was finished, we sent it to Todd Waterman to put on the HBG Facebook page. Candidates made a good case for a strong climate response in Knoxville. They spoke of climate change as an existential threat and went beyond the usual pieties about reducing emissions so long as it doesn't hurt business.

After we'd gotten our endorsements on social media and on the HBG webpage, we notified our allies. I handed out endorsement sheets to students planning the Green New Deal Town Hall at UT and to folks gathered at the Southside Garage for Green Drinks. But

I knew we'd eventually have to use the movement's most powerful and annoying tool – phone banking. The Club's Political Committee rules didn't let us phone the general public, but we could certainly phone our members. Mary Headrick, Membership Committee Chair, quickly got us the lists and we culled out all who lived in Knoxville zip codes. We divided those into 17 groups of 41 members. We snagged nine volunteers. With the three of us on the Political Committee, that made 12 – a bit short of a full 17, but I typed out a script and we started. Callers commented on how kindly they were treated by Club members. Even if they differed with the endorsements, members were generally glad to be called and learn that HBG was getting active politically.

Finally, we hit the ground with the candidates. We'd gotten candidate contact information to all our members and urged them to connect and volunteer. I went by Indya's office to phone bank with her volunteers, many from Sunrise. Our allies at Southern Alliance for Clean Energy (SACE) set up precinct walks for Indya, and I did one in the Inskip area. It was easy using the MiniVan phone app which directed me to generally Democratic voters. East Tennessee hospitality kept all the visits friendly, even when I spoke with Republicans, and some of the reception was downright enthusiastic. One young man was an appointment setter for a solar installation company, and when he read Indya's renewable energy policy, he eagerly committed to vote for her. David Hayes' campaign had phone lists on a website that made for faster calling. We put in two weeks of campaigning and formed strong connections with candidates' volunteer groups, as well as Sunrise, SACE, Citizen's Climate Lobby, Statewide Organizing for Community eMpowerment, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Socially Equal Energy Efficient Development.

We campaigned right up to election day. That evening, Nov. 5th, I dropped by The Press Box on Broadway to Indya's victory party. The crowd chatted nervously as Eddie Mannis, Indya's opponent, took an initial lead with the smaller, rural precincts. But shortly Indya grabbed the lead and soon took the stage to announce that Eddie had called and conceded! That was quick! The room erupted in applause, and Indya brought her family to the stage to share the congratulations. She'd gotten 52.4% of the votes in a clean and civil campaign. The numbers suggested we'd made a difference.

I offered congratulations, hugged friends, then headed to the Xtreme Bar & Grill on Magnolia for the City Council Movement Victory Party. Of the Movement's three candidates, only Amelia Parker had won, but David Hayes and Charles Al-Bawi were as excited as if they'd won as well. East Knoxville now had a smart, articulate African American woman on City Council.

And three of our five candidates won. We were sad to see David lose. He voiced the strongest environmental positions of anyone. Still we felt victorious. Indya had pledged to form a Mayor's Climate Council which would include the Sierra Club. And the new city government intends to take serious action on the environment in a way that's inclusive and fair. We're eager to work with them.



Amelia Parker, endorsed by the Sierra Club, was elected to Knoxville City Council.



Citizens' Climate Education

Southeast Climate Conference

From Climate Crisis to Climate Opportunity

Learn, Inspire, Advocate:

- Build your climate advocacy toolbox, acquire new skills and plan next steps for moving our country toward climate solutions.
- What are climate scientists saying about the crisis?
- What are engineers saying about our energy future?
- How can we take collective action to save our world?

March 28-29, 2020 University of Tennessee Conference Center
600 Henley St. Knoxville, TN 37902

For registration visit <https://2020ccle.eventbrite.com>

Thank you to our **GOLD** sponsor, Kroger:



JOIN US!

Upcoming Cherokee Group Programs

Programs happen at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga, 3224 Navajo Drive.

March 23 at 7:00 pm - Protecting Our Federal Lands

Davis Mounger will discuss the ongoing fight to protect our federal lands. We'll have a lively presentation and discussion about the current work to control logging in the Cherokee National Forest and to avoid the often-hidden past mismanagement of the forest. The presentation will also cover changes to public participation in decision making about our national forests. Davis is the National Forests Chair of the Tennessee Chapter of the Sierra Club and the Cofounder and Director of Tennessee Heartwood.

April 27 at 7:00 pm - Citizen Observers Campaign

Does a construction site have muddy water flowing into the creek? Dump trucks hauling to a place that isn't a landfill? Sewer geyser coming out of a manhole? Dead fish in the Tennessee River? What should you do? The Citizen Observers Campaign will provide the methods by which you can file complaints with federal, state and local authorities to initiate investigative or enforcement actions. Learn to be an active part in preserving the health of our environment.

Tennessee State Chapter Endorsements for the Sierra Club's National Board of Directors

The 2020 Sierra Club Board election will be held beginning at the end of February/first of March. Sierra Club rules require a 5% participation for a valid Board election. The Tennessee Chapter recommends a vote for Ramon Cruz, Rita Harris and Igor Tregub in the upcoming election for the Sierra Club's Board of Directors.

New Plans for MTG Monthly Gatherings

"Sierra Social and New Member Welcome" will now happen at 6:00 pm just before the MTG monthly program on the 2nd Thursday of each month with snacks and lively conversation. The program presentation will follow from 7:00-8:00 pm with informative, interesting guest speaker presentations each month. Join fellow MTG members each month at 1160 Otter Creek Road in Oak Hill.

And stay tuned...in March (when daylight saving time ends) for a Sierra guided hike around Radnor lake each month before the Social. Weather permitting, we'll meet in front of the Visitor Center at 5:00pm.

Group Business Meetings

Group	Date	Location	Time
Cherokee (Chattanooga)	Mon 3/2, 4/6, 5/4	Pilgrim Congregational Church, 400 Glenwood Dr., Chattanooga	6:30 PM
Chickasaw (Memphis)	Wed 3/4, 4/1, 5/6	Cheffies Cafe, 483 High Point Terrace, Memphis	6:30 PM
Harvey Broome (Knoxville)	Tue 3/24, 4/28, 5/26	The Church of the Savior, 934 N. Weisgarber Rd. Knoxville	7:00 PM
Middle TN (Nashville)	Mon 3/16, 4/20, 5/18	House of Kabob, 216 Thompson Lane, Nashville	6:30 PM

Group Program Meetings

Group	Date	Location	Time
Cherokee (Chattanooga)	Mon 3/23, 4/27	Unitarian Universalist Church, 3224 Navajo Dr., Chattanooga	7:00 PM
Chickasaw (Memphis)	Tue 3/19, 4/16, 5/21	No program meeting in May	6:30 PM
Harvey Broome (Knoxville)	Tue 3/10, 4/14, 5/12	Benjamin Hooks Public Library, 3030 Poplar Ave, Memphis	7:00 PM
Middle TN (Nashville)	Thu 3/12, 4/9, 5/14	Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church, 2931 Kingston Pike	7:00 PM
		Radnor Lake Nature Center, 1160 Otter Creek RD, Nashville	7:00 PM

Regional Conservation Committee Business Meetings

Committee	Date	Location	Time
Clarksville	Tue 3/17, 4/21, 5/19	Clarksville-Montgomery County Public Library, 350 Pageant Ln, Clarksville	6:00 PM
CareNET (Rogersville)	Thu 3/5, 4/2, 5/7	St. Henry Catholic Church, 114 Highway 70 North, Rogersville	6:00 PM
Tipton County	Thu 3/12, 4/9, 5/14	Ward Law Firm, 99 Doctors Drive Suite 300, Munford	6:00 PM
Watauga (Mountain City)	Tue 3/10, 4/14, 5/12	Loft 5902 Highway 421 South, Mountain City	5:00 PM