

Tennesse-Sierran

The monthly state newsletter for the Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club

Volume 35, Number 11 - November, 2004

CAFTA Trade Agreement Proposition of a Major Threat to the Environment

By James Ch'ng,
Nashville Peace and Justice Center

The Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) is expected to come up for a vote in Congress soon after the November elections, during the lame-duck period. CAFTA would extend the model of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) to 5 Central American countries: El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica.

CAFTA THREATENS THE ENVIRONMENT

During the past ten years, NAFTA has proven to be a major threat to the environment, because it contains rules allowing foreign investors to sue national governments over any government action that they perceive as hurting their profits, including possible future profits. The lawsuits are arbitrated outside the country's own court system in international special tribunals. The proceedings are completely closed to the public, and un-elected trade representatives arbitrate the cases. Investors have used these rules to attack environmental and public health legislation, claiming that they are "barriers to trade." For example, The Canadian Methanex corporation is currently suing the US Government for over \$900 million, because the state of California banned their product MTBE, a fuel additive that was found to be carcinogenic and contaminated water supplies.

CAFTA would make it possible for corporations to sue the previously mentioned Central American countries in a similar way. Many of these countries can't afford such costly lawsuits, and the mere threat of such suits may discourage them from passing any new environmental or public health legislation or from even enforcing existing laws.

CAFTA even goes beyond NAFTA by containing additional rules regarding services and resource extraction. CAFTA rules on services prohibit setting limits on the amount of service operations, including in sectors that are closely tied to the environment, such as tourism, mining, water, and transportation. It also allows foreign investors to challenge governments over agreements on natural resources such as offshore oil contracts or gas and mineral leases, so that multinationals would be able to challenge contract requirements and royalty payments in special arbitration tribunals, avoiding national courts.

CAFTA THREATENS LABOR AND HUMAN RIGHTS

NAFTA has also made it easier for corporations to send U.S. jobs abroad. In the years since NAFTA was implemented, the number of maquiladoras (sweatshop factories along the US-Mexico border) has doubled. In the maquila towns where the sweatshop workers live, a mixture of overcrowding, insufficient sanitation, contaminated water, and industrial chemicals has created an environment that has led to disease, cancer, and birth defects. This sort of environmental racism is legalized by NAFTA, and CAFTA will expose all of Central America to it, creating a "race-to-the-bottom" in both environmental standards and workers rights, while sucking more jobs out of the US.

CAFTA PAVES THE WAY FOR THE FTAA

Such threats on the environment and workers rights don't even end with CAFTA. If CAFTA is passed, the next step in the works is the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), which would extend the free trade model to the entire western hemisphere, except for Cuba. This means putting the Amazon rainforest, the continental shelves of two continents, and many other precious ecosystems at the tender mercies of unregulated multinationals. CAFTA's passage would serve as an approval referendum on the NAFTA model, indicating approval and a "go ahead" for the FTAA.

WHY HAVEN'T WE HEARD ABOUT THIS?

Despite the importance and imminence of CAFTA, it has received minimal coverage in the media. This is something that can't be allowed to slip under the radar, due to its importance not only with regard to the environment, but also to workers rights, human rights, food security, and farmers.

TAKE ACTION

You can take action now by asking your House Representative to vote "no" on CAFTA. Call senators Frist and Alexander and urge them to reconsider their pro-CAFTA stances. Tell them that what we need is a trade agreement that promotes trade but at the same time protects the people and the environment and not just the investors and the profits.

Tennessee Senators:

Alexander, Lamar.....202-224-4944
Frist, Bill.....202-224-3344

House Representatives for Tennessee:

Blackburn, Marsha, Tennessee 7th.....202-225-2811
Cooper, Jim, Tennessee, 5th.....202-225-4311
Davis, Lincoln, Tennessee, 4th.....202-225-6831
Duncan Jr., John J., Tennessee, 2nd.....202-225-5435
Ford, Harold, Tennessee, 9th.....202-225-3265
Gordon, Bart, Tennessee, 6th.....202-225-4231
Jenkins, William L., Tennessee, 1st.....202-225-6356
Tanner, John, Tennessee, 8th.....202-225-4714
Wamp, Zach, Tennessee, 3rd.....202-225-3271

For more information, visit:

Citizens Trade Campaign @
<http://www.citizenstrade.org/caftaactionkit.php>
Public Citizens Global Trade Watch @
<http://www.citizen.org/trade/>
Sierra Club Responsible Trade web site @
<http://www.sierraclub.org/trade/cafta/>



How Would You Change Transportation in Tennessee?

TDOT Seeks Your Input

Take a moment and do a simple exercise. Close your eyes and envision what type of Tennessee you would like to see in 5, 10 or 25 years. Would you like more sprawling development, air pollution, traffic congestion, loss of farmland?

OR...

Would you prefer strong economic development driven by a clean, energy-efficient, environmentally and fiscally sound transportation network that includes passenger rail, world class public transportation, more bike-able and walk-able communities, and smoother drives on our premiere roadway network? The Tennessee Department of Transportation seeks your input. TDOT's long range planning process will result in a 25-year vision for our state, to be unveiled next summer, and TDOT wants to hear your views. Please don't pass up this historic, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Register your comments TODAY on the internet at:

www.mplan.teamtdot.us/commentform/survey.aspx

And PLEASE ATTEND one of TDOT's upcoming public input meetings in November:

Monday, November 15, 2004, 6-8pm

Memphis: Central Station
Nashville: Adventure Science Center
Knoxville: The Candy Factory

Tuesday, November 16, 2004, 6-8pm

Milan: West Tennessee Agricultural Museum
Columbia: Columbia State Community College
Kingsport: Kingsport Civic Auditorium

Thursday, November 18, 2004, 6-8pm

Jackson: TDOT Region 4 Office
Cookeville: Tennessee Tech University
Chattanooga: UT Chattanooga

For more information about TDOT's long range plan, or to receive a public comment form in the mail, please contact TDOT:
1-866-389-8443
www.tennessee.gov/tdot

Tennes-Sierran

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

SEND ARTICLES TO:

Email: TennesSierran@aol.com
Snail Mail: Rachel Floyd, Tennes-Sierran Chief Editor
3223 Caldwell Road - Ashland City, TN 37015
(615) 792-2590

ARTICLE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

Submission DEADLINE is the 5th of the month preceding the new month's issue.

1. Email and email attached files are preferred. Send to TennesSierran@aol.com either with embedded text messages, or attached files in PC-based formats. Mac users should embed text in body of an email message only.
2. Photographs should be scanned in a .jpg or .tif file format, whenever possible, then either attached to email or mailed via US Postal Service (USPS) on a 3 1/2 diskette or CD Rom. Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you would like your diskette or photo prints returned.
3. Hard-copy handwritten or typewritten articles may be accepted; however, pre-approval from the Editor is required.
4. Any materials submitted via USPS mail cannot be returned unless a stamped, self-addressed envelope is provided.

The opinions expressed in the Tennes-Sierran are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the Tennessee Chapter, or the Sierra Club.

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TN Local Groups:

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www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/cherokee

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www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/chickasaw

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jhammond@tnpro.sdps.org

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www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/broome

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Katibug1959@aol.com
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State of Franklin Group

- Bristol/Johnson City/Kingsport

www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/sofg

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Cfvcatherine@worldnet.att.net

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www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/ucg

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Please notify the Editor
when changes are needed

A SOUTHERN RIVERS WORKSHOP...

GULF COAST REGIONAL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETS IN ARKANSAS

By James H. Baker - GCRCC Delegate, with assistance from Tom Douglas - Texas GCRCC Delegate

In early October, the GCRCC met in the Ozark town of Mountain View. Our headquarters at the Ozark Folk Center provided excellent meeting facilities and convenient access to Blanchard Springs Caverns and the Buffalo National River. In our spare moments, we enjoyed traditional crafts demonstrations and the Herb Harvest Fall Festival right on the Folk Center grounds, and lots of music on the court house square in the nearby town of Mountain View. On the web, see <http://www.ozarkfolkcenter.com>.

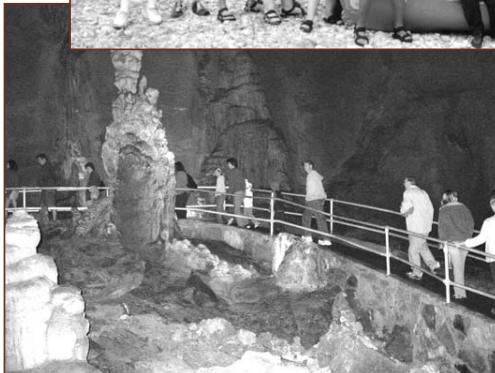
Many thanks to John Hill, of the Arkansas Chapter, who headed up the planning for this conference, with assistance from Don Richardson and James Baker, Tennessee's delegates.

From its origins in the Ozark Mountains of northern Arkansas and southern Missouri, the White River flows south and east, eventually emptying into the Arkansas River, and then into the Mississippi. On Thursday evening, three representatives from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers explained the design of five projects in the White River system, how these projects have altered the riverine ecosystems of the White River. The Corps personnel explained how their projects are operated for the multiple goals of flood control, hydropower generation, navigation, recreation, and fish and wildlife. On the web, see <http://www.swl.usace.army.mil/planning/wrminflows.html>.

On Friday, we canoed a section of the Buffalo National River. Under the leadership of Ranger Mark Robinson, we collected aquatic macro-invertebrates and learned how they can serve as indicators of water quality. The Buffalo River represents a true landmark in Arkansas environmental history. Proposals to construct two dams on this free-flowing river caused a huge public outcry, eventually resulting in congressional designation of the Buffalo River as the first National River in 1972. On the web, see <http://www.nps.gov/buff> and <http://data2.itc.nps.gov/parks/buff/pppMaps/BUFFmap%2Epdf>.

On Saturday morning, Gene Dunaway, president of the Friends of the North Fork and White Rivers, Inc., described the formation of his group and its numerous projects to foster public awareness about river issues. Several focus issues of the group are the practices of removing vegetation from riverbanks and in-stream gravel mining. To handle legal issues, a second organization, the Arkansas Nature Alliance, was formed. On the web, see <http://www.friendsofthenorthforkandwhiterivers.com>.

Also on Saturday, Joe Krystofik, of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office, described the White River National Wildlife Refuge, which encompasses some 160,000 acres of land along 90 miles of the lower White River. This refuge protects the largest contiguous area of intact bottomland hardwood forest in any tributary of the Mississippi River. It has been designated as a Ramsar Wetland of International Importance. A major challenge has been presented by the straightening of the channel of the Mississippi River, which has caused it to scour out its riverbed, also known



as "down-cutting". This has set off a chain reaction of erosion or "head-cutting" on the upstream tributaries of the White River as they adjust their channels to match the changed conditions. On the web, see <http://whiteriver.fws.gov/>.

After a tour of the upper levels of Blanchard Springs Caverns on Saturday afternoon, we heard a talk by John David McFarland, who is Lead Geologist of the Arkansas Geological Commission. He explained karst geology, when rainwater containing dissolved carbon dioxide soaks into the ground, causing the underlying limestone to dissolve and form caverns and sinkholes. Karst is vulnerable to improperly disposed trash, inadequate septic systems, and improperly applied animal manure. These contaminants can quickly spread in the groundwater for miles through these underground "pipes" without being significantly purified. Thinking back to the presentation by Gene Dunaway, we remembered that the town of Mountain View disposes of its treated wastewater into Sylamore Creek – only to withdraw its drinking water supply two miles farther downstream. Returning to the surface, we traveled a short distance down the mountain to observe Blanchard Springs, where water flowing out of the caverns tumbles from a limestone wall. On the web, see <http://www.fs.fed.us/oof/ozark/recreation/caverns.html> and <http://www.virginiacaves.org/lok/page1.htm>.

On Sunday morning, we heard from Angel Kruzen, Program Director for the Missouri Water Sentinel Program. The state of Missouri currently has some 2,750 stream teams, with sponsorship from families, schools, clubs, and other organizations. Team activities include projects such as stream inventories and monitoring, litter pick-ups, environmentally friendly bank stabilization, and educational presentations. To their surprise, Don and James learned that Tennessee is starting a Stream Team program. However, James Baker's contacts at TDEC state they no

nothing about this program. James is making further inquiries. On the web, see <http://www.mostreamteam.org>.

Peggie Griffin, Associate Regional Representative for the Southwestern Region of the Sierra Club, (in person) and Dr. Bryan Burgess (by telephone) described the American Environmental Geographic Information System (AEGIS), which was developed by Jacksonville State University and Friends of Rural Alabama to provide maps and environmental data to anyone who has internet capabilities. The advanced, multi-layered mapping capabilities of the system that was developed for Alabama (ALEGIS) have made it possible to document the close link between the locations of concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) and the locations of impaired stream segments. Incorporating photographic data from satellites, aircraft, and ground observers, this system is a powerful tool for both education and advocacy. On the web, see <http://www-geography.jstu.edu>. Please note that this web-site works best on a high-speed internet connection.

Top - Buffalo Float- Tired GCRCC delegates rest after floating (and portaging) for seven miles along the Buffalo National River. . – Photo by Ranger Mark Robinson

Middle Left -Blanchard Caverns- GCRCC delegates in a tour of Blanchard Springs Caverns – Photo by James H. Baker

Middle Right -Blanchard Springs - Despite the area's lack of significant rains since August 20th, Blanchard Springs still discharges. . – Photo by James H. Baker

Bottom-Field Burning in AR - Air pollution from the burning of rice stubble clouds the air. Don and James noted many such plumes between Wynne and Augusta, AR. – Photo by James H. Baker

Meetings

HARVEY BROOME GROUP (Knoxville)

PROGRAM MEETING: Tuesday, November 9, 7:30 p.m., Tennessee Valley Unitarian Church, 2931 Kingston Pike, Knoxville. **PROGRAM TOPIC:** "Cherokees in a Changing Environment: A Historical Perspective". Join us at the November meeting to hear Dr. John Finger, Professor Emeritus and former head of the Department of History, Univ. of TN and HBG member, speak about the changing environment of the Cherokee from a historical perspective. Dr. Finger is the author of several books and a number of articles on the Cherokees and the Tennessee frontier. For more information or directions to the church, contact Priscilla Watts at 966-4142 or check our web site <http://www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/broome/calendar.htm>. Everyone is welcome!

STRATEGY MEETING: Tuesday November 23, 7:30 p.m., Tennessee Valley Unitarian Church, 2931 Kingston Pike, Knoxville. If you're interested in getting more involved or in finding out about what drives the Sierra Club in this area, this is the meeting to attend. Call Axel Ringa at 865-397-1840 for more information.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP (Nashville)

PROGRAM MEETING: Thursday, (November 11) at 7:00 p.m. at Radnor Lake Visitor Center in Nashville. Maine 100 Mile Wilderness. Join us for a slide show presentation of Katherine Pendleton's August 2004 backpacking trip to the Maine 100 Mile Wilderness section of the Appalachian Trail. Light refreshments will be served; please feel free to bring your favorite reusable cup. For more information on this program, contact Shelli Dimarco at globalpeace04@hotmail.com or leave a message at (615) 260-0030. (Enter the Radnor Lake area on Otter Creek Road, accessible only from Granny White Pike.) Everyone is always welcome!

STRATEGY MEETING: Wednesday, (December 1) at 6:30 p.m. Conservation issues are first on the agenda! Bring your re-usable cup and sack dinner, or snack on refreshments provided by our group and get the news on what's happening in our Middle Tennessee Group. All members are invited to attend our conservation

and administrative meeting at 2021 21st Avenue South (the old St. Bernard Academy Building). We meet on the 4th floor. We welcome you to be with us to learn of the group's conservation initiatives and community activities. For additions to the agenda or for more information regarding the meetings, send a message to Katherine Pendleton at Katibug1959@aol.com or call 943-6877.

UPPER CUMBERLAND GROUP (Cookeville)

PROGRAM MEETING: Contact Peggy Evans at 931-432-6680 or maevans@TWLakes.net for more information on program meeting dates and times.

STATE OF FRANKLIN GROUP (Tri-Cities)

POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS: First Monday of every month, 7pm, Holston Valley Unitarian Universalist Church. All SOFG members are encouraged to get active now to help us organize for environmental victory in November! FMI: Dan Grace, Pol.Com. Chair, (423) 926-7035, dangrace@worldnet.att.net.

STRATEGY MEETINGS: Second Monday of every month, 7pm, Holston Valley Unitarian Universalist Church. These Executive Committee/Conservation meetings are open to everyone interested in helping to protect upper east TN's air, water, forests & family farms. To place an item on the agenda, or for directions to the Church, please contact Linda Modica, Group Chair, (423) 753-9697, lmodica@aol.com.

PROGRAM MEETINGS: Fourth Monday of every month, 7pm, Holston Valley Unitarian Universalist Church. Programs on environmental issues, travel, nature photography are among the many topics featured at SOFG program meetings. FMI: Mary Gavlik, Vice Chair, (423) 434-9535, mlgav@yahoo.com.

CHEROKEE GROUP (Chattanooga)

PROGRAM MEETING: For additional information, contact Rick Gehrke 423-843-9625 or email rick.gehrke@comcast.net

CHICKASAW GROUP (Memphis)

MONTHLY MEMBERS GATHERING: Thursday, November 4, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Otherlands, 641 South Cooper, Memphis, Tennessee. Join us for Chickasaw Group's "FIRST THURSDAY" monthly gathering where Sierra Club members, activists and friends can meet in a casual setting to talk about issues and interests. Contact Membership Chair Jill Johnston <jdjhstn@memphis.edu> at (901) 278-2713 for more information.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING: Sunday, November 7, 2004, 1:00 to 3:00 PM - Otherlands, 641 South Cooper, Memphis, Tennessee. Join James Baker, the Conservation Chair in a casual setting to discuss conservation issues and interests that affect the Chickasaw Group. Contact James Baker at (901) 372-6717 or aubrey_kimo@worldnet.att.net for more information.

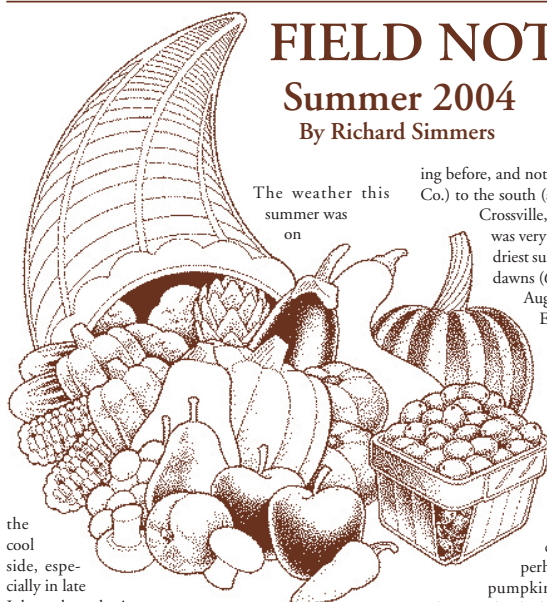
STRATEGY MEETING: Monday, November 8, 6:30 p.m. - University of Memphis Alumni Center, 635 Normal Street, Memphis, Tennessee. This meeting of the Executive Committee is open also to all members of the Sierra Club. For more information, contact Charlie Rond <charrond@bellsouth.net> (by November 3 to place items on the agenda) at (901) 452-8150.

THIRD TUESDAY GATHERING: Tuesday, November 16, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Café Francisco, 400 North Main, Memphis, Tennessee. Join us for Chickasaw Group's "THIRD TUESDAY" monthly gathering where Sierra Club members, activists and friends can meet in a casual setting to talk about issues and interests. Contact Membership Chair Jill Johnston <jdjhstn@memphis.edu> at (901) 278-2713 for more information. WALKIN JIM STOLTZ:

WALKIN' JIM STOLTZ: Thursday, November 18, 2004 - 7:00pm, University of Memphis Geography Auditorium, Johnson Hall, Patterson Memphis, Tennessee. Come here one of America's genuine troubadours, who has walked 23,000 miles and celebrates the outdoors in story and song. His multi media presentation includes songs, slides stories and poetry. For more information, contact Teri Sullivan at (901) 320-7191.

PROGRAM MEETING: No Program Meeting this month.

TELEVISION PROGRAM: Every Monday at 1:30pm, Tuesday at 4:00pm and Wednesday at 11:30am, CST, The Library Channel, Memphis Cable 18, WYPL. "The Nature of Conservation" is sponsored by the Sierra Club. For November TV host Judith Rutschman interviews Rita Harris, coordinator of the Sierra Club's Environmental Justice office in Memphis about the Environmental Justice conference held at LeMoyné-Owen College in Memphis. A different program is aired, usually each month, with the program repeating every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday throughout the month. If any groups or individuals in the community have a special problem or concern, or would like to see a program on a special issue or subject, please contact Judith Rutschman <RUTSCHMAN@rhodes.edu> at (901) 767-5916.



FIELD NOTES - Summer 2004 By Richard Simmers

the cool side, especially in late July and early August; and it never became droughty.

June was rather wet (especially on 23rd and 25th) and had near normal temperatures. July had at least 3 windstorms in the Upper Cumberland area, on the 5th, 6th and 13th; that on the evening of the 13th covered a very large area in mid-TN up to at least Louisville, KY; hurricane-force gusts were reported locally, and many trees were blown over or badly damaged (crowns lost often), especially in exposed places. I lost a few live trees at both Barnes Hollow and my place east of Monterey (hereafter "G"); many dead pines blew over at "G" or had their tops break off and be blown about 20-30', often bending over nearby live trees. In towns, Bradford pears were hit hard. I drove to Nashville the morn-

The weather this summer was on

ing before, and noted 2 turkeys flying over I-40 (in Smith Co.) to the south (an omen?). July had over 5" of rain at Crossville, and over 2" fell at G on 25th-7th; it was very cool early on the 28th. August was the driest summer month, with several chilly or cool dawns (6th-8th, 12th -14th); it rained most on August 24-26 (over an inch on 24th at G). Early and mid-Sept. were dominated by tropical weather; "Frances" dropped over 2" of rain Sept. 7-8, and "Ivan" dumped about 4-5 inches of rain Sept. 16-17, with average flooding at Barnes Hollow (hereafter BH).

This summer I had 12 active beds in my vegetable garden area, which produced snap peas, lettuce, (pole) beans, tomatoes, okra and, still to come, cowpeas, parsnips, collards and perhaps some bell peppers and Seminole pumpkins. A good many tomato seedlings volunteered, which I saved, and got several "Persimmon" tomatoes starting early in August; my earliest tomato, a "Sungold" seedling, was July 18. I observed that my "Brandywine" tomatoes had yellow-green overall foliage than any of the other tomato varieties in my garden beds (why?). Weather in July was too cloudy and wet for the best health of my tomato plants, and diseased off foliage was rampant; a few shoots wilted. In Sept. I began removing the worst-off plants and fed a pile. My pole beans did reasonably well; I had "Kwintus", "Helda" and "Kentucky Wonder" come up. "Kwintus" was planted May 29, began to bloom July 4, and had some pods picked (suitable size to cook) July 15. Eventually in August, I let many "Kwintus" pods ripen for seed; the large, flat pods suggested some

runner bean (*Phaseolus coccineus*) genes may be involved. Many seeds spoiled with the damp weather. Japanese beetles were not too severe a problem, and showed a preference for "Kentucky Wonder" foliage; they also liked okra. Green stinkbugs were a nuisance on beans, brown stinkbugs on tomatoes. I noticed some pink aphids in July on a few tomato plants; very few hornworms appeared. Except for a few spotted cucumber beetles chewing the cotyledon leaves, there were very few pests seen on the Seminole pumpkins, planted June 30 to cover a bare bed as an experiment; these began to flower on Sept. 2. I had a failed bed; some "Indian" rainbow corn, planted June 5, was severely eaten back by deer; a few remaining stunted plants tasseled out finally (late Aug.) and even 3 ears began forming. One plant showed some whitish stripes in the foliage, suggesting zinc deficiency. (Corn is one of the best plants to show deficiencies in available minerals or elements). Additionally, I had a cover crop of buckwheat in part of my garden, planted June 28; these began to bloom by July 22, attracted many bees, set many fruits, and grew (some) to about 3 feet high in a dense stand; I began harvesting the buckwheat Aug. 31. NOTE: Nothing was sprayed for pests or diseases; only organic type fertilizers (including pulverized, not pelletized, rock phosphate, high-calcium Franklin aglime, dolomite lime, greensand, alfalfa meal, kelp meal, and Hynopex "organic humus and manure" were used. Handpicking, when needed, is the only pest (insect) control used. Also some deer fencing was used, which was not completely successful; some nibbling of bean foliage was observed. Deer seemed very attracted to freshly worked beds that had alfalfa meal and kelp meal on the surface, suggesting a craving for missing nutrients not supplied by the local vegetation. Rabbit damage was minor as a rabbit ate some cowpeas near the bordering fence back, probably.

While I did my gardening during the summer, I enjoyed the presence of many kinds of birds in the neighborhood. Bird species with 2 or more singing males included yellow-billed cuckoo (up to 4 calling Aug.; some females?), Carolina chickadee, tufted titmouse, blue-headed and red-eyed vireos, starlet tanager, black-and-white warbler,

Continued on page 6

Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club Election 2005

Election Ballot for At-Large Delegates on the 2005 Tennessee Chapter Executive Committee

Please vote for five (5) of the following candidates. The four candidates with the most votes will each serve two-year terms. The fifth place candidate will serve a one-year term. See Candidate Statements below.

Single Membership Dual Membership

____ _____ Gary Bowers
____ _____ Cathy Butcher
____ _____ Liz Dixon
____ _____ Rachel Floyd
____ _____ David Orr
____ _____ Don Richardson

Only current members may vote, so please put your membership number (found on the mailing label of this Tennes-Sierran) on the outside of the envelope. Place that envelope inside another envelope and mail before November 30, 2004, to:

Election Committee - Roger Jenkins
1817 Chestnut Grove Road - Knoxville, TN 37922



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

Statement of Gary Bowers:

Gary Bowers has been a member of the Sierra Club since 1984, and has been actively engaged in conservation work since the mid 1980's. He believes that everyone should have the ability to experience nature and the natural wonders of the world. To that end he has spent the last twenty years fighting to protect it. Gary's major accomplishments are recapped below.

- Sierra Club-TN Chapter Executive Committee 1998-2004 (At Large 2001-2002)
- Sierra Club-TN Chapter Conservation Chair 1998-2004
- Sierra Club-TN Chapter Site Coordinator-Environmental Public Education Campaign (EPEC) to End Commercial Logging (ECL) in the Cherokee National Forest 1999-2002 (wrote the campaign matrix that garnered the first EPEC ECL site in the country)
- Sierra Club-TN Chapter-founder and maintainer-TN Environmental Activist Messaging (TEAM) system 1998-2002
- Sierra Club-TN Chapter-Sara Hines Award (for conservation) winner 1999
- Sierra Club-TN Chapter-initiator and organizer-semi annual One Thin Dollar Silent Auction-proceeds go to supporting the TN Chapter lobbyist
- Sierra Club-Middle TN Group Executive Committee-late 1980's to date
- Co-founder-Friends of the Forest-an alliance of environmental groups working to stop the destruction of TN's hardwood forests
- Tennessee Forests Council (TFC) steering committee charter member
- Co-author-TN Sustainable Forest Management Act
- Author-TN Forest Landowner Boundary Protection Act
- TN Scenic Rivers (TSRA) Board of Directors 2001-2003
- TN Scenic Rivers (TSRA) Conservationist of the Year

Statement of Cathy Butcher:

Hardy activist who has dedicated many volunteer hours, worked on many environmental crises and hopefully done some good along the way. Currently Sierra Club representative to TDOT Environmental Advisory Council and TDOT's Long Range Planning Steering Committee, state and group political chair, former MTG group chair and group and chapter excom member.

Statement of Liz Dixon:

Liz Dixon, a Sierra Club member since 1994, has been the Chair of the Tennessee Chapter since 2002. She views some Chapter

highlights as being the following accomplishments of our dedicated volunteers: the revitalization of the Cherokee Group, the revitalization of the Appalachian Regional Conservation Committee (ARCC), having a Training Academy held in Tennessee, the End Commercial Logging campaign, the Save Our Smokies (SOS) campaign (coalition with other groups, a big SOS rally and turn-out at public meetings, t-shirt fundraiser), the Reform TDOT campaign (coalition with road groups, review of 15 road projects, meetings with the Governor, TDOT Commissioner, and TDEC Commissioner), effective legislative and political activity with the help of our lobbyist, the production of the "Kilowatt Ours" film on the real cost of energy, the lawsuit against TVA power plant pollution, the Hot Spots campaign, an expanded more colorful Tennes-Sierran, pro bono legal action against the Spencer sewage plant (saving Rumbling Falls Cave) and against destructive mountain top removal mining at Zeb Mountain, opposition to the Hartsville nuclear facility and LES BLEU project, action against the expansion of the Staley plant, the grant obtained for the Water Sentinels campaign, the Friends of the Forest (now Tennessee Forest Council), and an excellent working relationship with the Regional Director, resulting in the hiring of an Environmental Justice organizer in Tennessee. There have been so many projects and so much hard work, it's impossible to list them all; apologies for any that were omitted.

Liz is also the Webmaster (or Web Ms.) for the Tennessee Chapter and for the Harvey Broome Group. She has developed home pages for the State of Franklin Group and the Upper Cumberland Group. She is the Listmaster for the listserves: TENNESSEE-EXCOM and NEWS, HBG-EXCOM and NEWS, and Greater Smoky Mountains Coalition.

Previously, she served as Chapter Vice Chair, and Group Chair, Conservation Chair, Vice Chair, and Hospitality Chair of the Harvey Broome Group. She is the Harvey Broome Group representative on the Board of Cherokee Forest Voices, and has worked closely with Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning, Save Our Cumberland Mountains and SPEAK, the student environmental group at the University of Tennessee.

Statement of Rachel Floyd:

Lifelong nature enthusiast/addict, Rachel became a Sierra Club Activist 12 years ago when introduced to local MTG members through a bicycle outings event. Very happy to find an outlet to exercise her civic responsibilities, in such a worthwhile way (i.e. to preserve our natural environment for the benefit of our children), Rachel immediately began contributions by actively listening and learning, and eventually holding group executive committee positions. These positions include Group Secretary [2 yrs], Group Solid Waste Committee Chair [1 yr],

Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club Election 2005 Candidate Statements

(Continued from Previous Page)

Chapter Excom Delegate [5 yrs - current], Group Chair [2 yrs], Group Treasurer [current], and Group Webmaster [current]. In addition, five years ago Rachel stepped into the position of Editor for the Chapter newsletter, the Tennes-Sierran. In this position, Rachel invested herself in learning new software, and development of media skills, but more importantly, she progressively has seen the need to represent her activism more Chapter considerations. Rachel feels strongly that the production of the Tennes-Sierran is a collective state team mission. Therefore, she would like to devote herself to an At-Large position not only to fulfill the state's need for the position, and bring her administrative skills to the table at the state level, but also to facilitate the state team effort, i.e. the Tennes-Sierran. She asks for your support and looks forward to continue to serving the Chapter!

Statement of David Orr:

The candidate has not provided a statement.

Statement of Don Richardson:

I seek your vote as an at-large (general) delegate to represent your interests at the chapter-level and beyond as I continue to serve Tennessee in increasingly important roles and responsibilities. I have been Chickasaw Group's Chapter Delegate continuously since 1999 and would like to foster future leaders by opening that position to new folks from Memphis and West Tennessee. In recent years I have increased my experience, perspective and service to the chapter in various state-wide roles and offices and now represent the chapter in joint regional Sierra Club efforts (Gulf Coast Regional Conservation Committee, regional staff retreats, Environmental Justice conferences-local, regional and national) and participate in national club issues (E.J., National Media/Communications training, Engaging Our Members Initiative, and a new national committee on tree-free products). Don has missed only one chapter meeting in the last 5.5 years (due to a fire occurring on out-of-state property a few days before the meeting), which I offer as further qualifications of my commitment to building a stronger chapter to meet the challenge of forces that seek degradation of environmental laws, mistreat our dwindling natural treasures, or attempt to weaken the grassroots strengths of the Sierra Club, especially in Tennessee.

Middle Tennessee Group

Excom Election Ballot for Term 2005 - 2006

FOR YOUR VOTE TO COUNT, you must enclose your marked ballot in an envelope marked "Ballot" on the outside. Place that envelope in another envelope for mailing. Write your membership number, which can be found on the address label of your newsletter, on the outer envelope with your return address. ENVELOPES WITHOUT A MEMBERSHIP NUMBER WILL NOT BE COUNTED. Mail your ballot to Sierra Club, c/o Adelle Wood, 4641 Villa Green Drive, Nashville, TN 37215. The deadline for submitting your ballot is November 30. PLEASE VOTE!

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN FOUR

Membership
Single Joint

_____ David Bordenkircher - David joined the Sierra Club in 1982 to be a part of the Sierra Club's campaign to amend the Clean Air Act. He was active in the Chattanooga group prior to moving to Nashville. In 1988 he served as a delegate to the Tennessee Chapter ExCom. Soon he got involved with the effort in Nashville to increase recycling of solid waste and helped several different groups that were advocating recycling. Sierra Club helped to bring the recycling that Nashville has today. Presently he is on the board of Recycle! Nashville, an organization that was formed to promote recycling. Last year he was appointed to be the volunteer coordinator for the MTG Sierra Club recycle drop-off site. He was active in the lobbying effort of Sierra Club, along with The Audubon Society, to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from proposed oil exploration that would harm the wildlife there. He has attended many Tennessee Chapter meetings to learn about the conservation issues that the Sierra Club is working on.

_____ Gary Bowers - Gary has been a Sierra Club member since 1984. He has been active at both the Group and Chapter levels since the mid 1980's. Gary is currently, and has been for several years, a member of the Middle Tennessee Group Executive Committee. He is also a member of the TN Chapter Executive Committee, where he has served since 1998. Gary has been the TN Chapter Conservation Chair from 1998 to the present. He spent the period of 1999 thru 2002 as the site coordinator of the TN Chapter's Environmental Public Education Campaign (EPEC) to End Commercial Logging (ECL) in the Cherokee National Forest, the EPEC ECL site in the country. Gary is the co-founder of the Friends of the Forest, co-author of the TN Sustainable Forest Management Act, and Author of the TN Forest Landowner Boundary Protection Act. He has also served on the Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association (TSRA) Board of Directors (2000-2002), and has served on the TSRA Conservation Committee (2000-2002). He is a charter member of the steering committee for the TN Forests Council. Gary looks forward to the opportunity to continue to serve the Middle TN Group and asks for your continued support in the form of your vote.

_____ Caty Butcher - Caty is a hardy activist who has dedicated many volunteer hours, worked on many environmental crises and, hopefully, done some good along the way. Caty has held a number of MTG offices, including serving as Chair several times. She is currently the Sierra Club representative to the TDOT Environmental Advisory Council and TDOT's Long Range Planning Steering Committee, state. She has long tenure as the Group and Chapter Political Chair, and currently serves on the Chapter fundraising, legislative, and transportation committees.

_____ Rachel Floyd - Rachel became active in Sierra Club in 1992 through listening and learning about issues important to our planet. She has been a member of the MTG ExComm for 8 years serving as Secretary, Group Chair, and currently as Group Treasurer. Rachel is also Editor of the State newsletter, the TennesSierran. She is continually interested, and active, in conservation of wildlands, renewable energy, clean water, and environmental, economic, and human sustainability. A vote for Rachel would assist election of a longtime-committed conservationist who loves putting her administrative expertise to work for our environment.

_____ Linda Smithyman - Linda has been a member of the Sierra Club since 1989. She served on the Executive Committee with the Harvey Broome Group from 1996 to 2003 holding the offices of Secretary, Vice Chair and Group Chair at various periods. Linda has been attending Ex-Com meetings with MTG since moving here in 2003 and is presently Membership Chair, an outings leader, a volunteer at the recycling center, and a coordinator of volunteer activities working with other groups to assist in working to obtain a cleaner environment for all of us. Linda is a tireless worker for the Sierra Club and would like to represent the general membership as a member of the Executive Committee.

_____ Nancy Hodges - Nancy has long had a deep love of the environment and a desire to protect it for all generations. Through her religious community she reinstated and led a regional Environmental Committee that arranged for environmental audits. She canoes and has been a member of the TN Scenic Rivers Association. She been active as a Community Advisor for Nashville Greenways for 5 years and participates in the Friends of Elmington Park. In 2000 she traveled with the Sierra Club in Peru. At home, she recycles and keeps a kitchen compost and hill garden. Her special interests include water quality, trees, state parks, and primitive areas. She has served on the Middle Tennessee Group Board for the past two years.

Don't forget, your vote counts here and in the Tennessee Chapter At-Large election, so be sure to vote in the State Election too!!

Cherokee Group

Election Ballot for the 2005 Executive Committee

Please vote FOR or AGAINST each of the following candidates for the 2005 Executive Committee of the Cherokee Group of the Tennessee Chapter of the Sierra Club:

Membership
Single Joint

_____ Chris O'Connor. I have served the past year on the Executive Committee of the Cherokee Group as the Director of Outings and Programs. I restarted an inactive outings program and feel that I am beginning to make progress in growing the program and attracting new members. I organized twenty outings, lead ten, and assisted with bringing in speakers for our monthly programs. I also assisted with the corridor K letter writing campaign, the Outdoor Chattanooga Initiative, and the Earth Day festivities at UTC. In addition to my work for the Sierra Club, I teach fifth grade and lead hikes for the Chattanooga Hiking Club. I have been active in politics since 1984, working for several national candidates. I feel strongly about the importance of the environment, and about getting people out to see and enjoy the world around us. If reelected, I want to continue building the outings program, work on local environmental issues (such as sprawl, clean air, corridor K), and try to build support for an Inner City Outings Program to help get disadvantaged youth exploring in the great outdoors. Thank you for your support.

_____ Terry Miller. Terry Miller has served the past year as the Chair of Executive Committee of the Cherokee Group.

_____ Betty J. Petty. Betty J. Petty has served the past year on the Executive Committee of the Cherokee Group as the Secretary.

Only current members are eligible to vote. Each person in a Dual membership (spouse/partner) may vote. If you have a Dual membership, please use a copy of this ballot. Mark the ballot and mail in an envelope marked on the outside with your membership number (found on the label of this Tennessee-Sierran) no later than November 30, 2004 to: Gerald Davis, Suite 1100, 736 Market Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

Don't forget, your vote counts here and in the Tennessee Chapter At-Large election, so be sure to vote in the State Election too!!

Harvey Broome Group

Candidate Statements and Ballot

Term: January 2005 - December 2006

Candidate statements for the Harvey Broome Group Executive Committee are posted below. The HBG has six positions open for the January 2005 - December 2006 term.

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN FOUR

Membership
Single Joint

_____ Barbara Allen - I joined the Sierra Club in 1989 and have been active in the club since my first meeting that year. Of special interest to me is advocating for and protecting wilderness areas, the Cherokee National Forest and all national forests and public lands. I am an avid backpacker and hiker and enjoy canoeing and bicycling. I have served on the HBG Ex Com for several years holding the position of Group Chair for one term and am currently serving as Group Secretary. I am an active outings leader for the HBG and have served on the TN Chapter Executive Committee. I also serve as secretary for the Smoky Mountains Hiking Club and lead hikes for SMHC. I have worked in the public health field for 30 years.

_____ Elizabeth (Liz) Dixon - I have been a Sierra Club member since 1994 and the Chair of the TN Chapter since 2002. I am or have been active in the revitalization of the Cherokee Group, the revitalization of the Appalachian Regional Conservation Committee (ARCC), the End Commercial Logging (ECL) campaign, the Save Our Smokies (SOS) campaign, the Reform TDOT campaign, the lawsuit against TVA power plant pollution and the campaign against destructive mountain top removal mining. I am the Webmistress for the TN Chapter and the Harvey Broome Group. I am also the List-mistress for the listserves: HBG-EXCOM, HGB-NEWS and the Greater Smoky Mountains Coalition (GSMC). Previously, I have served as Chapter Vice Chair and Group Chair, Group Conservation Chair, Group Vice Chair and HBG Hospitality Chair. I am the HBG representative on the Board of Cherokee Forest Voices and I have worked closely with TN Citizens for Wilderness Planning, Save Our Cumberland Mountains and SPEAK, the student environmental group at UT. I am a computer specialist by trade. In my free time, I enjoy scuba diving, travel and all forms of social dance (contra, waltz, swing, salsa and tango).

_____ Steve Harvey - I have been a member of the Sierra Club since 2001. My major environmental concern is air quality and other issues concerning the Smoky Mountains. I am an avid backpacker and hiker, having hiked all 900 miles of trail in the Smoky Mountains, twice. I have completed the Solo Wilderness First Aid course and the Red Cross Adult CPR course. I look forward to becoming an outings leader for the HBG. For the last two years, I have served on the program committee for the Smoky Mountains Hiking Club and as an outings leader for SMHC for four years. I have an honorable discharge from the US Army and have been running my family business in Lenoir City for 14 years. My greatest accomplishment and pleasure is that I have had the opportunity to raise a daughter as a single parent for the last 17 years and she is now in her second year of college.

_____ David Reister - I joined the Sierra Club in 1970 in Buffalo, NY, where I was Chair of the energy task force and the Niagara Group. I moved to Oak Ridge in 1974 to work at the Institute for Energy Analysis. I became a senior research engineer at the Oak Ridge National Lab in 1985. I became active in the Harvey Broome Group in 1997, when TDOT proposed to build the Orange route next to my house. I joined the HBG Executive Committee in 1998. In 2000, I became the Conservation Chair. My primary interests are national energy, TVA and land use. I am the chair of the board of the Cumberland Trail Conference. Recently I have become a member of the TDOT advisory committee for the Orange route.

_____ Kelley Segars - I have been a member of the Sierra Club since 2001. I have a M.S. in Environmental Studies with focuses on writing and ornithology. My thesis involved the impact on birds of development in riparian areas and if greenbelts within the development aided bird habitat. My big push now is related to planning issues with driving and trying to get people to drive less. Driving and its associated issues is one of the biggest impacts on our environment today. I am also interested in better development standards (e.g. smart growth) and requirements for bicycle, pedestrian and transit friendly developments and roads. I enjoy hiking and bicycling. I am a Senior Transportation Planner with the Knoxville Regional Transportation Planning Organization.

_____ Ed Soler - I have been a member of the Sierra Club since 1981. My biggest environmental concerns involve issues with state parks and national forests. I have held several positions with the Harvey Broome Group including Group Chair, Group Vice Chair, TN Executive Committee delegate, Group Outings Chair, Group Membership Chair and I currently hold the position of Group Treasurer. I am an active outings leader for the HBG and enjoy hiking and canoeing.

Please mark the ballot for 6 candidates and send your ballot to the following address: Roger Jenkins - 1817 Chestnut Grove Road - Knoxville, TN 37932-1914

You must include your membership number on either the return address or an envelope "inside" the mailing envelope. You can find your membership number on your membership card or the mailing label of the TN Sierran, above your name. Ballots must be mailed by November 30, 2004. Thanks for voting!

Don't forget, your vote counts here and in the Tennessee Chapter At-Large election, so be sure to vote in the State Election too!!

Upper Cumberland Group Ballot

Upper Cumberland Sierra Club Executive Committee Election 2005

PLEASE vote for two!

Membership Type
Single Joint

____ MARY MASTIN - Mary has served on the Tennessee Chapter Executive Committee as an At-Large delegate for the last four years (two terms). She has been Chapter Treasurer for three years. She is currently Conservative Chair of the Upper Cumberland Group, and as a lawyer, she represents the Sierra Club in the Zeb Mountain mountaintop removal case in federal court. The Zeb case has recently been successful in forcing a new Environmental Assessment on the controversial fill of the 10.08 acre wetland at the Upper Cumberland Regional Airport. Last year Mary received a Special Award of Appreciation from the Chapter, largely for her work in helping to get Citizens for TDOT Reform. She also initialed and organized March Window fundraising events for the Chapter for the last three years. She would like to continue her advocacy efforts to protect the environment, both for the Upper Cumberland Group and the Tennessee Chapter.

____ ESTON EVANS - Eston has been a Sierra Club member since 1994 and has operated behind the scenes since then. He has helped plan most of the quarterly meetings hosted by the Upper Cumberland Group. When the Group has needed extra hands, Eston has been there. He has been the kitchen coordinator (or dictator) for the quarterly meetings hosted by the Upper Cumberland Group.

Chickasaw Group Election Ballot

Term 2005 - 2006

FOR YOUR VOTE TO COUNT, you must enclose your marked ballot in an envelope marked "Ballot" on the outside. Place that envelope in another envelope for mailing. Write your membership number, which can be found on the address label of your newsletter, on the outer envelope with your return address. ENVELOPES WITHOUT A MEMBERSHIP NUMBER WILL NOT BE COUNTED. Mail your ballot to Sierra Club, c/o Clark Buchner, 975 N. Graham, Memphis, TN 38122. The deadline for submitting your ballot is November 30. PLEASE VOTE!

Candidate Statements for Chickasaw Group Executive Committee Ballot

Please vote for SIX (6) positions from the candidates that follow:

____ James H. Baker - James Baker is currently Conservation Chair of the Chickasaw Group. He is a Chickasaw Group delegate to the TN Chapter. He is a TN-Chapter delegate to the Gulf Coast Regional Conservation Committee. James believes that clean water is essential for all life on earth. James was instrumental in winning two Water Sentinels grants for the Chickasaw Group from the national Sierra Club since 2003. James researched and wrote several water quality reports on the poor compliance by industrial facilities with storm water permits in Memphis. These reports have been released to the public and the media. He asks for your vote to be re-elected for another term.

____ Sandy Dickey - Sandy Dickey is currently an active member of the Chickasaw Group and works as a professional environmental consultant. Her work experience is broad and has taught her a great deal about environmental issues. She has a BS in Environmental Health from East Tennessee State University. She believes her experience and solid record of achievement make me an ideal candidate for the upcoming ExCom election. She confident that her existing environmental work experience, educational background, and desire to succeed offer her a unique opportunity to make a positive and immediate contribution toward the growth and achievement of the Chickasaw Group. She asks for your vote to be elected for her first term.

____ Ralph Fox - (Away on a camping trip, this biography was written in behalf of Ralph's candidacy.) He is a former member of the Executive Committee who is being encouraged to run again for election. Ralph and his wife, Debbie, have been outstanding in their willingness to join volunteers in Sierra Club activities or to lead an outing. They worked willingly and tirelessly this year as the Chickasaw Group cooked hamburgers in a fund-raising event for the public at Wild Oats. They also led a wildflower hike last Spring in Meeman-Shelby State Park. He is a former Group Vice Chair, Group Outings Chair and served several terms on the Executive Committee. He is valued for his unflappable good judgement and for his generous and cheerful spirit. He and Debbie are avid hikers, backpackers and car campers and have explored most of this region's prime outdoor locations and many of those in the U.S. He is a valuable asset to the Sierra Club and would be a real contributor to the Chickasaw Group Executive Committee.

____ Jill Johnston - I first joined the Sierra Club in 1973, as a young mother concerned about the environment and saving wild places, to help ensure that my children would grow up with clean air and water and have access to continually expanding wilderness areas. It was a heady time, full of optimism, and much did happen that made our nation a better place to live. After many years, many moves, and children grown I rejoined a different chapter in a different state, in a nation now threatened with the real possibility of losing much of what has been gained since the 70's. An individual, on his or her own, can help fight the forces that would harm our environment and our lives, by being part of a larger movement with the numbers and expertise to counter the onslaughts to our air, water, and land. I wish to be part of that fight, through continuing as a member of the Chickasaw Executive Committee.

____ Joe Kyle - I am a lifelong Memphian who has enjoyed the outdoors since I was a kid. Boy Scouts, family trips to beautiful places, and camping or just hiking around have been big hobbies of mine throughout my life. I joined the Sierra Club in 1993 as a result of looking into and becoming serious about other environmental issues. The places I enjoyed as a kid were rapidly disappearing into sprawl, and I knew I had to be part of the solution. I was fortunate enough to be selected onto the Chickasaw Group ExCom in 1994 & served for 3 years, serving as Group Vice Chair for two years, and Group chair for one. I greatly enjoyed my time on the ExCom, and we worked on important issues ranging from partnering with the Wolf River Conservancy to ensure protection of the Ghost River section of the Wolf, to environmental justice issues in Memphis. I enjoy sharing my love of the environment with others, especially my children, Eileen and Robert, and would be honored to serve on the ExCom once again.

____ Don Richardson - Please vote to return me to the Chickasaw Group ExCom for another two-year term. I am your point person on several important issue areas that require continued vigilance in the foreseeable future: appropriate riverfront development, protection of parks, greenways and natural areas, creation and maintenance of safe pedestrian and biking pathways, reforming our zoning ordinances to insure smart growth in the suburbs and protecting neighborhoods from excessive "infill development" inside our beltway. And rest assured that the signature big trees of our area will continue to have my voice for their protection and support for more public education and celebration of our outstanding tree heritage. Thanks for your support since 1998.

____ Charles (Charlie) Rond - I have been a Sierra Club member since 1976 and have served two consecutive years as Chickasaw Group Chair, also as Group Vice Chair and several terms on the executive committee. A lifelong Memphian, I have been the Chickasaw Group's only web master, creating the web site in the late 1990's and revamping it again following National training last year. I was co-publisher for several years of the state chapter newsletter, the Tennes-Sierran. I am also a member of the Tennessee Chapter executive committee. In the 1980's I co-chaired a statewide Sierra Club conference, with the West Tennessee Sportsman's Association, aimed at bringing sportsmen - hunters and fishermen - together with environmentalists to work on issues of wildlife, threats to wildlife habitat and similar joint issues. I am a strong advocate of building a coalition of various environmental and related groups to bring a stronger chorus of allies to champion the environment to its opponents, and to the public, rather than the separate voices of individual organizations. I've been a hiker, backpacker, climber, cross-country and downhill skier, canoe'r and kayaker. I now focus mainly on hiking, canoeing and fly fishing. I ask for your vote to continue my service on the Chickasaw Group Executive Committee.

Don't forget, your vote counts here and in the Tennessee Chapter At-Large election, so be sure to vote in the State Election too!!

Southern Appalachian Task Force Identifies Energy and Forest Restoration as 2005 Priorities

Coming to a Group Meeting Near You

By Catherine Murray

At their August meeting, Southern Appalachian Highlands Task Force (SAHE) representatives agreed upon an aggressive education program for 2005 to outreach to our members and others on the critical issues of energy policy and National Forest



wildlands protection and restoration.

Energy policy is a critical issue to our region which suffers from some of the worst air pollution in our country that threatens our health and kills our trees. As a major coal producing region, coal mining continues to devastate our region with mountaintop removal, long wall an strip mining destroying streams and forests and threatening neighboring communities with floods and subsidence. A new documentary video, *Kilowatt Ours*, by Jeff Barry, will be the centerpiece of SAHE's energy campaign.

SAHE will be identifying ten cities in our region in which to "debut" the documentary and educate the public and the media on the impacts of fossil fuel, in particular coal, as the primary source of our energy. However, the campaign will do more than identify the problem; we will promote green solutions to our energy policy dilemma. "The SAHE energy program compliments our ongoing Environmental Justice work with communities in the coal fields," said Bill Price, EJ organizer with Sierra Club. "It educates folks outside the coalfields to the devastating impacts of coal mining and offers real solutions that

could lessen the burden on coal field communities."

A primary focus of SAHE's work over the years has been our National Forests and in 2005 SAHE will be actively encouraging our Sierra Club Chapters & Groups to sponsor outings to our Mountain Treasures, unprotected wild places in our National Forests. SAHE will also work to identify forest restoration projects where Sierra Club members could work with the Forest service to remove exotic plants, repair erosion problems and take on other tasks to restore our forests. SAHE is also encouraging Groups to show a short video, *Simple Gifts*, about the National Forests of the Appalachian region after which participants would engage

in small group discussions patterned after the *Engaging Our Members* program of the Sierra Club.

Attending the August SAHE meeting were: Bruce Martin, Alabama; Mark Alexander, Georgia; Sherry Lorenz and George Polk, South Carolina; David Wallace, North Carolina; Catherine Murray; Gary Bowers, Liz Dixon, and Dean Whitworth, Tennessee; Brian Jablonski and Diana Parker, Virginia; Jennifer Kayrouz, West Virginia, and Betsy Johnson, Maryland. Staff present were Glen Besa, Dave Muhly, Bill Price, and Kate Smolski.

For more information on SAHE, contact Dave Muhly at dave.muhly@sierraclub.org, (276) 688-2190.

To schedule a showing of *Simple Gifts*, contact: Jennifer Kayrouz at kayrouz1@hotmail.com, (304) 345-6999

For more information on the 'Kilowatt Ours' Presentations, contact Gay Bowers at gbl1nature@aol.com

FIELD NOTES -

Summer 2004

By Richard Simmers

Continued from page 4

hooded and pine warblers, and eastern phoebe. There was at least one singing male for the following: eastern wood-pewee, great crested flycatcher (3+, likely a family, seen June 12), Acadian flycatcher, white-breasted nuthatch, Carolina wren, wood thrush, ovenbird, indigo bunting and eastern towhee. Cardinals were present after July 8. Other presumably breeding birds included ruby-throated hummingbird, flicker, pileated and red-bellied woodpeckers, hairy and downy woodpeckers, barred owl (young heard several times), crow, blue jay, blue-gray gnatcatcher. Visitors included broad-winged hawk, purple martin, rough-winged swallow, brown thrasher, mourning dove, northern parula, prairie warbler, summer tanager, Baltimore oriole (May 29), blue grosbeak (May 19, June 11 and 26 at least). Robins were seen and heard often after the beginning of July. This avian feast must have enticed a couple of sharp-shinned hawks to hang around a few days (Aug. 3-9); one was a brown-backed immature. Mixed species flocks of small birds were noticeable after June. A few transients appeared after mid-Aug., especially chestnut-sided warblers (one well seen on Aug. 23., Sept. 3 & 5; and 2 at once Sept. 12) and magnolia warblers (one Sept. 3, several Sept. 12).

At BH, eastern Wood Pewee was more noticeable than usual, spending the whole summer near my cabin. A great horned owl was hooting July 29; this is my first record here in several years. Barred owls called nearly daily; a screech

owl called Sept. 4. Regular summer breeders include red-eyed vireos, scarlet tanagers, white-eyed and yellow-throated vireos, Carolina wren, Carolina chickadee, tufted titmouse, pileated, hairy and red-bellied woodpeckers; indigo bunting, eastern towhee, Acadian flycatcher, yellow-throated warbler, hooded warbler, ovenbird, Kentucky warbler, blue-gray gnatcatcher, cardinal and mourning dove.

Butterflies did not appear too numerous at BH or G in late July; I had many Carolina satyrs, (at least 40) on the July 24 count, 5 cloudless sulphurs, 10 silvery checkerspots (at BH), and various others. My best butterfly was a fine *Aphrodite fritillary* (at G, visiting flowers), likely new for the county at least (it is mapped as ranging through all of E TN). My first variegated fritillary for the year was on Sept. 3, and my first gulf fritillary in Putnam Co. was on Sept. 11 (both at G). (I saw gulf fritillaries, one earlier, at the Warner Park Nature Center, Davidson Co.); no common buckeyes yet.

All 3 of these were observed on the western Putnam Co. butterfly count on July 28th; Steve Stedman observed 3 variegated fritillaries and 2 buckeyes on the eastern Putnam Co. count. Sleepy oranges were occasional at BH this summer; 2 were well observed Aug. 9. Swarthy skippers were noticed often at G, including 2 copulating Aug. 2; 2 were found on the July 28 count. Tawny emperors were frequent by the end of August. A large emergence of red-spotted purples appeared Sept. 4 at BH following a shower.

My first katydid calling this year was on June 30 at BH, considerably earlier than in 2003. I heard broad-winged tree cricket Aug. 23 AT BH; jumping bush cricket I heard at BH on Aug. 25, some days earlier S of Cookeville at the Evans place. Mole crickets were noticeably frequent at G

Continued on page 6

Sign on to Save Our Smokies!

To subscribe to the Greater Smoky Mountains Coalition (a.k.a. Save Our Smokies - SOS) listserve, just send a blank email to:

Greater_Smoky_Mountains_Coalition-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

You will receive a subscription confirmation message. Just reply to the confirmation message, and your subscription will be complete.

If you run into any difficulties, just email Liz Dixon at dixonacs.utk.edu

Now 2 Shirts to Choose From!

Sierra Club John Muir Quote T's - NEW!

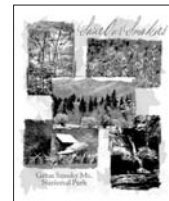
Mountain stream picture with John Muir quote "There is nothing more eloquent in nature than a mountain stream"
Sizes:



Medium - Qty _____ x \$15/shirt = _____
Large - Qty _____ x \$15/shirt = _____
X-large - Qty _____ x \$15/shirt = _____
XX-large - Qty _____ x \$15/shirt = _____
Total \$ - John Muir quote t-shirts = _____

Save Our Smokies T's

Shirt features a montage of very special shots from our Great Smoky Mountains National Park.
Sizes:



Small - Qty _____ x \$12/shirt = _____
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Total T-shirt order

Grand Total (from above) = _____
+ Shipping & Handling @ \$3/shirt = _____
Total Enclosed = _____

Ship to:

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Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
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Sorry, we cannot accept credit cards. Please make check payable to Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club and mail to:
Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club, 2021 21st Avenue South,
Suite 436 - Nashville, TN 37212

If you would like to be active in the Save Our Smokies campaign, please contact Beverly Smith at 865/531-8480 or blsmith1300@comcast.com
Your help would be greatly appreciated!

Outings

All participants in Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver before you participate, please refer to: <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/Sign-InWaiver.PDF>, or call 415-977-5630, for a printed version. Transportation to the outing, including carpooling, ride sharing or anything similar, is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.

HARVEY BROOME GROUP (Knoxville)

Saturday, November 14. Day Hike, Rich Mountain Loop, GSMNP. Join us for this late fall color hike. We may miss the peak color but we will also miss the Cades Cove hordes of tourists. We will see glimpses of the cove from the mountain above and pass the John Oliver cabin on our return. Pre-register with Barbara Allen, (865) 558-9214 (H) or (865) 215-5180 (W), email: b-tallen@email.msn.com.



Ten Essentials for Hiking

Sierra Club Outings offer a variety of wilderness and near-wilderness experiences. It is important to realize that while all trips are guided by a leader, it is ultimately the responsibility of the individual to operate in a safe manner. To this end, the following is a list of essential items, which should be modified according to the particular type of outing. These are:

1. Adequate map
2. First aid kit
3. Compass
4. Rain gear
5. Extra clothing (it is a good idea to always have a wool hat)
6. Matches
7. Knife
8. Flashlight
9. Extra food, water
10. The tenth essential. You decide what is the most important thing to bring!

MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP (Nashville)

Saturday, November 6th - Cleanup in Hendersonville - Volunteer trash clean up in Hendersonville area. Meet at Memorial Park at 9:00 AM and work with the Beautiful Hendersonville Committee to clean up the park and other areas with local groups. Fun morning with refreshments provided. Contact Linda Smithyman at 615-822-1979 or lsmithymanhb@yahoo.com for more information and to obtain directions to the location.

Sunday, November 14 - Bledsoe Creek State Park Day Hike - Easy hike at Bledsoe Creek State Park east of Gallatin. Meet at 2:00 PM at the park visitor center for a 3 mile hike (maybe longer if folks are interested). Call Linda Smithyman at 822-1979 or lsmithymanhb@yahoo.com for info.

November 12-14 - Fiery Gizzard Backpack - This is a great time of the year to hike one of the most outstanding trails in Tennessee known as the Fiery Gizzard Trail. We will plan to arrive on Friday night and camp at the CCC campsite which is 1/2 mile from the trailhead. Saturday, we will hike approx. 10 miles to Small Wilds campsite and spend the night there. Sunday, we will hike out 2 miles to the Foster Falls trailhead. Shuttle arrangements will be required. If you cannot participate Friday night, it will be fine to join the group on Saturday. Rating moderate to difficult. This trail is well known for spectacular scenery that includes waterfalls, deep gorges, sheer rock bluffs, scenic overlooks, and dazzling ice formations in winter. For additional information and to register contact Katherine Pendleton at 615-943-6877 or email Katibug1959@aol.com

Tuesday, November 16 - Singles Night Out - Anyone who has some sort of single status and wants to meet other single members (and their single friends) of the Sierra Club please come out at 6:30 for dinner at RazZ Bar and Grill and have a social evening out. This is a casual way for some of us singles to meet other singles and hopefully we can have more single nights out in the future. Call Linda Smithyman at 822-1979 or lsmithymanhb@yahoo.com for additional info.

Saturday, November 20 - East Recreation Area Day Hike - Join us for an easy hike at 1:00 pm along the East Stones River. We'll see white bluffs, remnants of an old dump and naturally the Stones River. Rec area is off of 1840 and West Jefferson Pike in Rutherford County. Contact Diane Perschbacher at 615-895-1236 or Diane@Propson.com for more information. Trail is shared by horses, dogs and people, but is in good shape. Expect some small wet areas and other areas where the trail is slightly overgrown. Pants recommended.

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at RazZ Bar and Grill and have a social evening out. This is a casual way for some of us singles to meet other singles and hopefully we can have more single nights out in the future. Call Linda Smithyman at 822-1979 or lsmithymanhb@yahoo.com for additional info.

November 26-28 - Pickett State Park Backpack - Let's work off our holiday meals with a Thanksgiving weekend backpacking trip. We will meet on Friday at Pickett State Park and car camp. We'll do some dayhiking and share a pot luck meal around a campfire. Saturday and Sunday, we will backpack the Hidden Passage Trail. Rating moderate. For additional information and to register, contact Katherine Pendleton at 615-943-6877 or email Katibug1959@aol.com

Saturday, January 1 - 2nd Annual New Year's Day hike at Long Hunter State Park. - We will walk the 4 mile Volunteer Trail and perhaps the Couchville Cedar Glade 1 mile trail, then off to brunch somewhere. Meet at 10:00 AM at the Visitor's Center for the first hike of the year! Call Linda Smithyman at 615-822-1979 or lsmithymanhb@yahoo.com to register for the hike.

CHEROKEE GROUP (Chattanooga)

For information on upcoming outings, contact Chris O'Connor at chris_o77@yahoo.com or visit our web site at <http://www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/cherokee/index.htm>

CHICKASAW GROUP (Memphis)

Disclaimer: The following activities are not sponsored or administered by the Sierra Club. They are published only as a service to our members. The Sierra Club makes no representation or warranties about the quality, safety, supervision or management of these activities. Transportation to the outing, including carpooling, ride sharing or anything similar, is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.

Mississippi River Bluffwalk - Saturday, November 27, 2004 - 3:30pm - Mississippi River Bluffwalk Walk Off Thanksgiving's stuffing on the Sunset Bluffwalk. Walk south from Butler Park. We'll be through South Bluffs before dark. Walking downstream will give the best view of the sunset. Up to 3-mile round trip walk for more information. with lots of opportunities to vary the length. Plan for downtown dinner afterwards. Call Sue Williams at 901-274-0524 for more information.

Old Forest Hike - Saturday, November 13, 2004 - 10:00 am - The Old Forest Trail. "Second Saturday Hikes" Explore the only urban old growth forest of its kind in America. Learn about the forest's history, identify big trees and wildflowers and observe firsthand the impact of natural and human forces on forests in an urban setting. Meet at the bridge next to the parking lot at the end of Old Forest Lane in the center of Overton Park. The informative and entertaining trail map to the self-guided mile-and-a-quarter mile loop hike with seasonal bird watching and wildflower-viewing guides is available for free at the Golf House in Overton Park at all other times. For additional information, contact Don Richardson <donrich@junco.com> at (901) 276-1387. Sponsored by Park Friends.

Volunteer Opportunity!

To help the Middle Tennessee Group, to help our senior and disabled recyclers, to have fun and to meet other Sierran's, please consider volunteering at our recycling site at the Elysian Fields Kroger in Nashville. The site is open Saturday

mornings from 9:00 to 12:00. You will have at least one other person working with you, and you can choose to volunteer only when it is convenient for you, whether that is just one time, monthly, quarterly, or every few months. Please call Recycling Coordinator David Bordenkircher at 333-3377 (H) or 741-1597, or e-mail him at dabordenkircher@mindspring.com.

We want to give a big thanks to all of our Volunteers, and a special thanks to Michelle Pfeffer, who was a frequent volunteer during the summer of 2003.



FIELD NOTES -

Summer 2004

By Richard Simmers

Continued from page 4

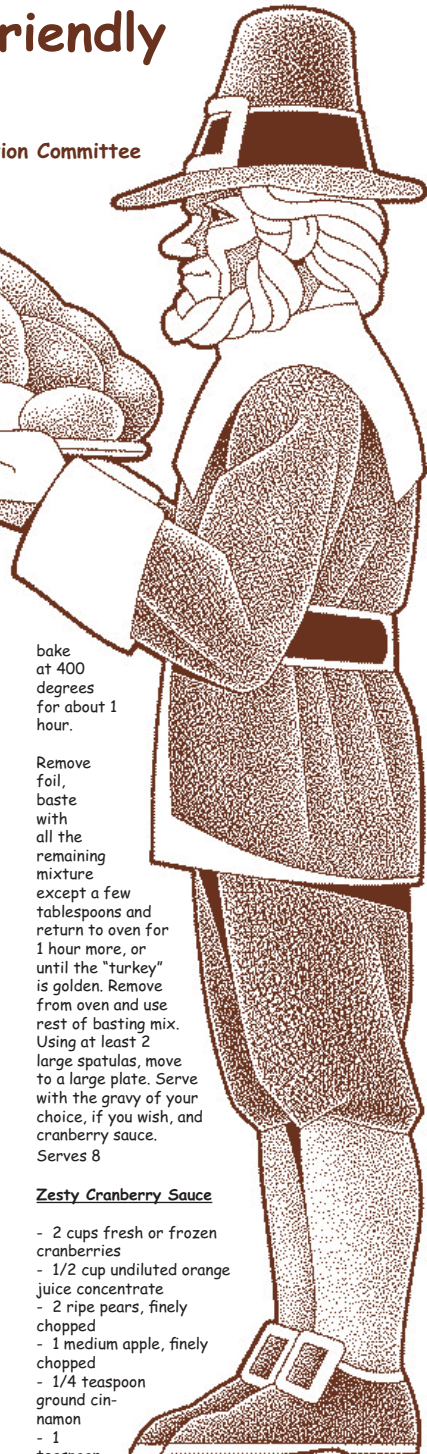
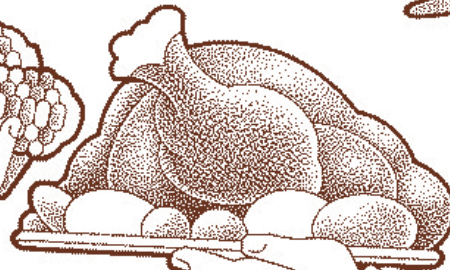
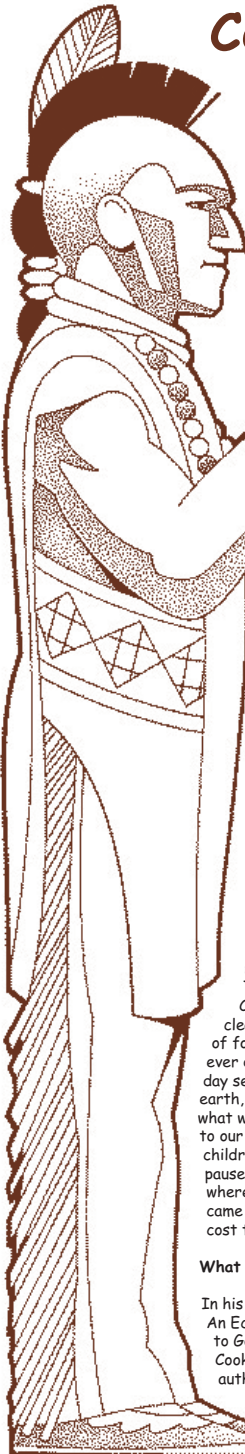
in late August. Crickets, mostly Japanese burrowing crickets, were numerous in late summer at my vegetable garden area. Other interesting insects include copulating imperial moths on July 20 at G, and a dragonhunter (Hagenius) well seen at G on July 3. Praying mantises (mantids) were frequent.

Southern leopard frogs were calling July 28th on the ridgetop at G; more were heard Aug. 22; some were seen Aug. 16 and 30. Southern leopard frogs were heard near my garden areas Sept. 2 and 9. Cope's gray tree frog eggs were seen July 28th. Green frogs were also actively calling at times during the summer. I heard rather feeble tree calls of tree frogs Sept. 12 (at G). Several red-spotted newts were seen at the "newt pool" Sept. 3. Spring peepers were quite vocal at BH in September.



Celebrating an Earth-Friendly Thanksgiving

By Diana Artemis, Sierra Club Sustainable Consumption Committee



For information on the SCC True Cost of Food Campaign, visit: http://www.sierra-club.org/sustainable_consumption/

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

What is Eco-Cuisine?

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

relationships between living organisms and their environment. Eco-Cuisine is about the human diet and its relationship to our personal health and the natural environment. We must begin to look at food as a route back to nature and a way to understand our connections with natural cycles. We need to live in harmony with nature and within our biological boundaries that are part of that natural system."

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

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

ing and eating the fruits of the field were once one of the strangest ties to community spirit.

As Sierra Club members, we can lead the way. This year invite your friends, neighbors and family members to a low impact, cruelty free Thanksgiving Day meal that is mindful of its origins and the connections that bind us all to a sustainable planet.

Eco-Friendly Recipe Ideas

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

Tofu "Turkey" with Stuffing

Turkey:

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

Stuffing:

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

Basting mixture:

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

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

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

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

Mix up the basting mixture and baste tofu "turkey" with half of it. Cover the "turkey" with foil, and

bake at 400 degrees for about 1 hour.

Remove foil, baste with all the remaining mixture except a few tablespoons and return to oven for 1 hour more, or until the "turkey" is golden. Remove from oven and use rest of basting mix. Using at least 2 large spatulas, move to a large plate. Serve with the gravy of your choice, if you wish, and cranberry sauce. Serves 8

Zesty Cranberry Sauce

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

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

Harvest Veggie Pie

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

Directions: Basically, this is a "pie" with no crust and a mashed potato topping. Preheat oven to 375 degrees (F) Cook and mash potatoes adding soy milk

Continued on page 12

Celebrating an Earth-Friendly Thanksgiving

By Diana Artemis, Sierra Club Sustainable Consumption Committee

Continued from page 11

and soy margarine to make it creamy and salt and pepper to taste. I also like to add lots of garlic!

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

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

Apple Stuffed Acorn Squash

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

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

Bulgar Pilaf

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

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

Corn Chowder

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

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

Cheesy Potato Boats

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

Directions: These potatoes really taste like they

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

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

Pumpkin Tofu Pie

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

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

Sweet Potato Pie

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

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

For more Thanksgiving Recipes, visit these informative sites:

www.gentlethanksgiving.org/about.htm
<http://vegweb.com/food/events/index-thanksgiving.shtml>
www.pcrm.org/health/Recipes/thanksgiving.html
www.vegan.com/current/thanks.html
www.shepherds-rod-message.org/health/eats.html
www.tazarat.com/thanksgiving.html

Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club Political Endorsements

Candidates for U.S. President, U.S. Vice President, the Tennessee General Assembly for the general election (as of the newsletter deadline)

**US President:
John Kerry**

**US Vice President:
John Edwards**

US House of Representatives: District 4- Lincoln Davis; District 5- Jim Cooper; District 6- Bart Gordon; District 9- Harold Ford Jr.

State Senate: Senator Ward Crutchfield District 10, Senator Tommy Kilby District 12, Senator Larry Trail District 16, Senator Joe Haynes District 20, Senator James F. Kyle District 28, Senator Stephen Ira Cohen District 30, Senator

JoAnn Graves
District 18 and
Senator
Roy Herron
District 24.

State House of Representatives:

Representative Nathan Vaughan District 2, Representative Harry Brooks District 19 (for his work on a bill to stop waste dumping in sinkholes), Representative Russell Johnson District 21, Representative Jere Hargrove District 42, Representative Mike McDonald District 44, Representative Kent Coleman District 49, Representative Mike Turner District 51 (for his work on the stream buffer bill), Representative Robert W. Briley District 52, Representative Gary Odom District 55, Representative Sherry Jones District 59, Representative Joe Fowlkes District 65, Representative Kim McMillan District 67, and Representative Michael Kernell District 93.

We thank them all for their support of the environment in the 2004 Legislative Session

The Sierra Club-Middle TN Group
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