

Tennesse-Sierran

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

Volume 53, Number 1 - January / February 2020

WINTER CHAPTER RETREAT

January 24 - 26

Cedars of Lebanon State Park

The Sierra Club's Tennessee Chapter invites you, your family & friends to the Chapter's Winter Retreat



And Plan Ahead for . . .

The Spring Chapter Retreat
Booker T. Washington State Park
May 15-17

Hikes * Workshops * Great Food * A Beautiful Lake

Pricing and liability waivers are the same as for the winter retreat (page 3)

Photo from tnstateparks.com

PASSION AND POWER AT BULL RUN
PAGE 4 AND PAGE 7

Photo courtesy of Southern Environmental Law Center

Photo of Cedars of Lebanon Courtesy of Randy Hedgepath

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Bi-Monthly Newsletter for the Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club
Vol. 53, No. 1 - January / February 2020

Explore, Enjoy, and Protect

Tennes-Sierran

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

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CONTENT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. Send all submissions as email attachments to news wrangler Rita Bullinger (email listed below) 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 Deadline
for the March / April Issue
January 31, 2020**
Send submissions to
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Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

All Creatures Great and Small



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

- John Muir

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RETREAT SCHEDULE

CHAPTER RETREAT	LOCATION	DATES
Winter 2020	Cedar of Lebanon State Park	January 24-26
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

The Winter Retreat

January 24 to January 26

Cedars of Lebanon State Park

Join the Tennessee Chapter as we meet for our winter retreat at the group camp of Cedars of Lebanon State Park, just north of Murfreesboro. Come for training, hiking, relaxing close to nature, and the company of good friends, old and new. People from all across the state come to these gatherings! Be a part of the fellowship, hikes, fireplace chats, meetings, and stargazing. Wilderness hikes will be led by State Naturalist Randy Hedgepath.

FRIDAY ACTIVITIES

4:00 pm **Check in.** See old friends and make new ones. Settle into your lodging. Dinner on your own.
8:00 pm **Campfire and Stargazing.**

SATURDAY ACTIVITIES

6:30 to 8:00 am **Delicious Breakfast.** .

9:00 am **Wilderness Hike.** Be sure to prepare for muddy trail conditions (unless it is frozen) and winter weather that is likely in late January.

TBA Workshops. Focus on the upcoming session of the Tennessee State Legislature, the climate crisis, “beyond coal”, TVA and local power companies, The Bottle Bill, environmental justice, and discussion of national strategies for 2020 electioneering.

12:00 **Lunch on your own**

1:00 pm **Wilderness Hike.** Be sure to prepare for muddy trail conditions (unless it is frozen) and winter weather that is likely in late January. 6:00 - 7:30 pm **Delicious Dinner.**

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

9:00 am **ExCom meeting**

9:00 am **Wilderness Hike.** Be sure to prepare for muddy trail conditions (unless it is frozen) and winter weather likely in late January.

12:00 pm Clean up and fond farewells

ESSENTIALS

WHERE

Cedars of Lebanon State Park is located The park is located approximately 31 miles east of Nashville in Wilson County. It is six miles south of I-40 on U.S. Highway 231 (State Route 10). We will occupy the Group Lodge that features an activity building with a large kitchen, and half a dozen bunkhouses. You are also welcome to bring a tent and sleep under the stars, or glamp at the campground down the road.

WHEN

January 24, 4:00 pm through January 26, 2:00 pm. Come for a day or for the weekend.

WHAT TO BRING

Linens or sleeping bag, pillow, towel
Stuff for hiking: trail lunches, water bottle, daypack, rain gear
Beverages, flashlight
Warm hat, coat, and gloves
telescope/binoculars for stargazing

FOOD

Saturday and Sunday breakfasts and a Saturday evening meal will be provided and prepared by volunteers. Vegetarian options. Please bring your own lunches and your Friday evening repast.

REGISTRATION

Register by January 18, to receive the early bird discount.
Online here: http://bit.ly/Winter_2020_Retreat

OR contact Chickasaw Group Chair at ChickasawSierra@gmail.com

RATES

Adult registration fee (16 years and older) covers lodging (women's dorms, men's dorms), 2 breakfasts, and Saturday dinner. Please pay with cash or check when you check in. (Unfortunately, we have no provision for accepting payment online or with credit card.)

- Early Bird Discount (register by January 18) - \$50
- Late registration (after January 18) - \$60
- First Chapter retreat attendees - \$25
- Students - \$15
- Saturday Only (registration, dinner) - \$30
- Sunday Only - ExCom meeting (registration, breakfast, no lodging) - \$10
- Sunday Only - ExCom meeting (registration only, no lodging/ no breakfast) - \$5
- Youth under 16 - No Charge

LEGAL STUFF

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

<http://bit.ly/SierraClubMinorRelease>

For more information: email Chickasaw Group Chair at ChickasawSierra@gmail.com

Passion and Power at Bull Run

By Todd Waterman, Harvey Broome Group



At the ARAP Hearing, Julie Bledsoe shows one of many photos of unprotected Kingston cleanup workers. Photo by Todd Waterman.

Julie Bledsoe never thought she'd be an activist. But that was before her beloved husband Ron and his two brothers fell ill after being denied respirators and Tyvek suits while cleaning up the Kingston coal ash spill. Then Julie's fearsome passion wouldn't be silenced. She spoke out powerfully - and wrenchingly - for Ron and his fellow cleanup workers, of whom over 400 are sick and 44 have died at press time. She and others demanded TVA and its cleanup contractor Jacobs "you can eat a pound a day" Engineering accept responsibility for their suffering employees.

When Julie and her fellow victims began speaking out, their award-winning champion Jamie Satterfield of KnoxNews/USA Today, along with Ben Pounds of The Oak Ridger and others, broadcast their pleas for help and their warnings on coal ash at two TVA open houses, at a TVA board meeting, at a Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) hearing, at an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) hearing in Arlington, Virginia - and at four ever more rousing Bull Run Community Meetings organized by Statewide Organizing for Community eMpowerment (SOCM), Sierra Club, Beyond Coal, and Appalachian Voices.

At those Bull Run community meetings, the Bledsoes, their fellow Kingston victims Janie and Ansol Clark, and other coal ash survivors living near Bull Run joined a uniquely potent and determined coalition to demand that TVA do right by its neighbors. Other contingents include:

- scientists and engineers from ORNL, some of them experts in groundwater contamination and other coal ash concerns;
- nearby residents who lived under a constant rain of carcinogenic, pre-scrubber fly ash, some of whom had their homes taken for TVA's unpopular proposed new coal ash landfill;
- environmental activists and organizations;
- current Bull Run workers;
- and, effectively advocating for them all, their elected and other government officials.

Jamie Satterfield says she never saw such a powerful movement in Kingston. As our voices rise together, we know TVA hears us loud and clear. CEO Jeff Lyash is reaching out, if so far only with words, to the Kingston survivors and to a wider community. But rebuilding trust will take much more than words. We're wise to the toxic threats from Bull Run's current and

proposed dry fly ash landfills and from its remaining wet fly ash pond - now jutting into the lovely reservoir from which Anderson County and much of Knoxville drinks. The community wants all of TVA's coal ash gone. And as Sierra Club Tennessee Chapter Chair Mac Post put it, they should "stop making more of it."

Many, like Julie Bledsoe, also want TVA to more urgently address the elephant in the room, the tragically politicized but scientifically undeniable climate crisis. That requires rapidly shifting to carbon-free energy and storage - and shutting down not just CO2-intensive coal plants like Bull Run, but the natural gas plants TVA wants to replace them with. Welcome to Oak Ridge, home of the Climate Change Science Institute and the world's-fastest Summit supercomputer, on which now runs frighteningly localized climate projections.

Our fourth Bull Run Community Meeting on October 21 at Claxton Elementary School featured the twelfth and final presentation of Appalachian Voices' Tennessee Valley Energy Democracy Tour. About 40 of us turned out for a passionate, energized discussion of what we want from TVA, followed by the Energy Democracy Tour's power mapping exercise on how to get it.

When earlier I had asked what we wanted from TVA's own new Bull Run Community Action Group (CAG), of which I'm a member, I'd gotten so many answers I worried we'd never get to that Tour. We also prepped for the following Thursday's TDEC's Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit (ARAP) hearing on TVA's permit to divert Worthington Branch for a new coal ash landfill, which was likely our last chance to keep the landfill out of our community (TVA's actual landfill permit is pending approval of the ARAP).

Three days later we brought all that passion and power to the ARAP Hearing. TDEC Regional Director John LeCroy had a tough time confining the questions to the water permit; it was the landfill itself we wanted to block. It was too close to homes. And TVA had not established the need for the landfill, and thus for the ARAP permit. We were all encouraged to comment on the ARAP application. Scott Banbury soon created an ARAP Action Alert for commenting. 183 of you commented and others of you submitted detailed technical comments. Thank you!

At our second TVA Bull Run CAG meeting on December 5, TVA and TDEC's top coal ash officials seriously addressed our toughest questions - giving me high hopes they'll also seriously address our community's needs. And we scheduled the tour I'd requested of Bull Run in full operation for January 11. What happens now is history you get to help make.



Bri Knisley of Appalachian Voices introduces the Energy Democracy Tour at the Fourth Bull Run Community Meeting. Photo by Todd Waterman

Harvey Broome Group's New Political Committee Endorses Knoxville Candidates



The Harvey Broome Group's new Political Committee endorsed these five candidates for Knoxville City offices. (L to R) Indya Kincannon who won the mayor's race; Amelia Parker and Amy Midis who were both running for an at-large City Council seat with Parker winning; Charles Thomas who won the race for City Council district 5 seat; and David Hayes who ran for an at-large City Council seat and was defeated.

by Kent Minault, Political Chair, Harvey Broome Group

This year the Harvey Broome Group jumped into Knoxville's election season with a newly energized Political Committee and shouldered the task of deciding which candidates to endorse. The Renew TN Mayoral Energy Forum got us very excited about Indya Kincannon, and when, after the August 27th primary, she qualified to run in the general election, we clearly had to get moving. I got the latest copy of the Club's Political Team Guidelines and was shocked to realize how much work had to be done in a very short time. The Guidelines require thoughtful and impartial deliberation.

More specifically, they require a questionnaire, so that we grasp candidates' intentions on environmental issues and their level of understanding. Along with the Guidelines came conversations with the Tennessee Chapter Conservation Chair, Bill Moll, and with the chief Chapter lobbyist, Scott Banbury. They got us sample copies of questionnaires from other Tennessee groups. We adapted them and added suggestions from HBG members about urban wilderness and greenways, fixed utility fees and high energy burdens, and especially about the new Knoxville climate goals. We got strong support from Will Skelton, Jan Berry, Ron Shrieves and Todd Waterman. The issues addressed had to be comprehensive and up-to-date, while the language had to be clear and accessible.

HBG's ExCom took two weeks to approve our questionnaire. With less than a month until election day, time was short. Axel Ringe and Maggie Longmire stepped forward to form the HBG Political Committee with me. We sent the 10 candidates the questionnaire and a cover letter by email thanking them for their commitment to public service and emphasizing that our process was rigorously non-partisan. We would only pay attention to what they told us and look at their records. We asked them to get the questionnaires back to us by September 25th so that we'd have enough time to study their answers, make decisions, and get recommendations to our members by October 1st. We knew the questionnaire wasn't short, but asked for detailed answers to support a deeper conversation. The questionnaires began to come in. Maggie continued to contact the candidates, finally giving a 48-hour extension. Ultimately,

due to Maggie's persistence, 100% had been returned.

The time extension forced us to make calm, thoughtful endorsements almost instantly! So I wrote a draft and Maggie and Axel worked on it over the next day. On Oct. 1st, I sent it out to the HBG ExCom. We were definitely going to be late getting the endorsements to our members, but we still had a chance to put the message out before the Oct. 7th deadline to register to vote.

The next day the HBG ExCom responded with most approving and some smart suggestions about language and format. The next day was spent finalizing our document and getting unanimous ExCom approval. The day after was taken up communicating with Bill Moll at the State Chapter to get clarification on the final statewide approval process. Our finished document was emailed to the Tennessee ExCom that night.

They immediately raised questions about our dual endorsement of Amy Midis and Amelia Parker, both running for the same seat. We studied the guidelines from the national political team and found that dual endorsements were ALMOST never a good idea and that they were especially bad in races for federal office. This left us a little wiggle room. We argued back that the dual endorsement was a way to give our local membership our very best thinking. We had endorsed David Hayes who was not a front runner and seemed a long shot. Were we throwing away an endorsement? Looking at his questionnaire and his history, it was clear he was the superior candidate. And even if he lost, we'd have formed a relationship that would continue until his next chance to run. We asked the State ExCom for their approval.

On the 6th, state approval came through. Not unanimous, but 100% of everyone who voted. We had the official Sierra Club endorsement seal and were ready to inform the candidates. The next question was, "What do we do next?" Do we just inform them all and then drop it? Or do we actively marshal our membership to get them into office? Could we relax or was the real work only just beginning?

To be continued next month.

Living Downstream from Clarksville? News you might have missed

by JoAnn McIntosh, Clarksville-Montgomery County

The Clarksville environs have unfortunately been the subject of several recent news articles, ranging from sources as diverse as *The Clarksville Leaf-Chronicle* to the *Los Angeles Times*. If you haven't seen the articles, here's a recap:

On Nov. 4, the LA Times picked up an AP article on proposed Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rollbacks affecting coal-fired power plants and the release of toxic materials in their wastewater. The Cumberland Fossil Plant southwest of Clarksville was cited as releasing millions of gallons daily that do not comply with existing limitations on selenium; the plant would be given a green light to continue or increase polluting the Cumberland River if the EPA rollbacks are enacted.

On Nov. 20-21, Nashville's News Channel 5 and the *Leaf-Chronicle* in Clarksville reported allegations made by Tennessee Riverkeeper, an organization dedicated to protecting the

Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers by enforcing environmental laws and educating the public. Riverkeeper contends that, since 2014, Clarksville's Sewage Treatment Plant has had 498 overflow violations resulting in over 82 million gallons of sewage released into the Cumberland. The City Communications Director Richard V. Stevens responded: "We haven't been intentionally dumping raw sewage into the river." Tennessee Riverkeeper is reportedly threatening the city with a lawsuit.

On Nov. 26, the *Leaf-Chronicle* reported a related story on odors from Montgomery County's Bi-County Landfill, stating that much of the problem is due to sewage sludge trucked in from Clarksville's Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Plant was damaged by the 2010 flood, creating cost issues to converting the sludge into a stabilized, land-applied fertilizer for farms as had been done previously. Five truckloads of sludge are now brought into the landfill daily to be mixed with trash and buried.

Wildlife Corridors Conservation Act: In Pursuit of a Passage

by Jaime Watkins

The Endangered Species Coalition (ESC), a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection of threatened and endangered wildlife and their wild places, sponsored an Endangered Species Day in May 2019. The ESC has also sponsored events to protest the delisting of wolves from the Endangered Species Act (ESA), promote climate change action and, most recently, advocate for the Wildlife Corridors Conservation Act.

On October 30, 2019, a group of ESC activists participated in a conference call with Randall Gibson, a legislative aide for Tennessee Senator Lamar Alexander, to discuss the Wildlife Corridors Conservation Act.

The bill would designate federal public lands as wildlife corridors, increasing biodiversity by connecting critical wildlife habitat areas to one another. It would also establish wildlife crossings in areas where vehicle collisions frequently occur, to increase safety of both drivers and wildlife.

October through December is prime mating season for deer; they are less aware and more likely to cause accidents. The Tennessee Department of Highway Safety and Homeland Security (TDOSHS) has reported that most deer-related accidents occur on state highways. 2016 saw a record 7,219 deer-related acci-

dents – a 3.8 percent increase from 2015.

In addition, the 2017 Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Global Assessment report reported that one in five animal species are at risk of extinction. Any steps we can take to improve wildlife protections and conservation efforts should be considered an obligation to future generations.

The Wildlife Corridors Conservation Act is a major step in the right direction. Introduced in May by Senator Tom Udall (D-NM), the bill already has gained 13 co-sponsors. Although Senator Lamar Alexander has not agreed to co-sponsor this act, his aide, Gibson, said the bill "does raise some good points," and that he finds the act "intriguing." According to Gibson, Senator Alexander has high hopes for conservation solutions for Tennessee and has long prioritized wildlife protections and highway safety. All Tennesseans are encouraged to contact Senator Alexander at (202) 224-4944 and urge him to co-sponsor the Wildlife Corridors Conservation Act of 2019.

Jaime Watkins works as a Species Guardian for the Endangered Species Coalition (ESC) for Knox County, Tennessee.

Thank You to These Defenders Fund Donors

Your generous contribution above and beyond your membership provides crucial support for our lobbying campaign to protect Tennessee's water, land, air, and wildlife.

Anonymous (10)
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Dear Eartha: Advice from An Eco-Guru

Dear Eartha,

I'm feeling really conflicted about my passion for fashion and the huge negative impact this indulgent consumption has on the environment and factory workers in third world countries. How can I meet my needs to express who I am through what I wear, but also not be a first-world energy hog? Can you offer any advice for shopping and buying eco-sustainably?

–Eco-Fashionista in Training

Dear Eco-Fashionista:

Heck, yeah! I love to give advice on stuff I know very little about, so thanks for raising my consciousness on this important topic. While I shop frequently at REI and bought a tee and a dress from two Fair Trade Certified companies last summer, Prana and Toad & Co, I had to look up the importance of shopping for and buying eco-fashion, also called sustainable fashion and ethical fashion. Here's what is suggested by the experts:

- >Look for Fair Trade Certified – these are the companies who make it their business to give back to the communities and their workers through premiums paid directly to those on the factory floor, engage in a democratic process to determine how funds are invested and in community development for farmers and factory workers.
- >Buy clothes that are cotton, hemp, or linen. Avoid polyester, nylon, and spandex – they take a long time to break down.
- >Repair loved garments – do it while binge-watching something for the second time.
- >Shop consignment stores – some really fashionable clothing if you choose the right store!
- >Buy from neighbors (folks sell their clothes on Facebook!)
- >Buy vegan leather – the process of transforming leather into wearable clothing takes a lot of energy and toxic chemicals.
- >Shop from sustainable clothing brands; Style Bee can help.
- >Organize a clothing swap – I used to do this in the 90s. Throw a party with nibbles and wine and friends bring what they no longer want but aren't worn out. Lots of fun modeling on the living room runway!
- >Make your own – art schools may have sewing and design classes!

We can also push back on our culture making us want more. By shopping and wearing fashion that's sustainable, we can question what our values are, do with less, and refuse to buy anything that wrecks the planet, doesn't pay workers a living wage, and isn't engaged in truly giving back to the communities making the product, no matter where those communities live.

Hope this helps, dear reader. I'm definitely going to pay more attention thanks to your letter.

Yours till next time,
Eartha

[Readers: if you have suggestions to add to my list, please submit them to "Dear Eartha" care of this publication and we'll keep the conversation going. Thanks!]

Action Alert: Oak Ridge Superfund

Eminent scientists spoke out at a hearing on a proposed new Department of Energy (DOE) Oak Ridge hazardous waste landfill similar to DOE's existing one shown flooded and leaking radionuclides.

Now DOE and the Senate Appropriations Committee are misguidedly attempting an end-run around responsible regulatory protections and concerned citizens like you: they would gut Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Oak Ridge Superfund cleanup oversight by compromising healthy EPA radioactivity safeguards and shutting down the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) Oak Ridge office, which oversees and expedites the Superfund cleanup.

Senator Lamar Alexander
(865) 545-4253 or (202) 224-4944
Senator Marsha Blackburn
(629) 800-6600 or (202) 224-3344

<http://bit.ly/SuperFundCleanUp>

Love Poem Relying on an Ethnographer's Myth

By Lynn Domina

Here is the word for snow
rising with a gust, one flake settling
onto a lower lip;
and here are the words
for snow falling upon a hedge, distinguishing
each twig, snow coating a ledge
marked with the three-pronged prints of chickadees,
the triangle resting in birch branches,
caught in spruce;

the months, their proper nouns separating the last
flurries from the first,
the verb indicating a last snow melting early
into the seed, the arced stem, the yellow flash of crocus;

the difference between snow on Christmas and on Epiphany,
snow casting light onto a photographed façade
and a photograph of snow;

the forms of angels in a backyard, snow dancing
on the hooded heads of children;

the adjective applied to northern constellations obscured by snow
or snow obscured through steam
drifting from the morning's first coffee
brought to you in bed
on a tray with marmalade and buttered toast.

Receive these words, this world
billowing, raucous, abundantly falling.

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Boots on the Ground: Conservation Education Day

Conservation Education Day (CED), scheduled for Wednesday, February 18, 2020, is your chance to join other environmentalists meeting with state legislators in Nashville face to face to promote the passage of bills which preserve and protect our water, air and lands, and to block those which would do it harm. Training is available on Tuesday evening and meetings with legislators on Wednesday. The training teaches lobbying and “ask” education. Participants will also learn from information and discussion on Sierra Club listservs where updates on what bills are pending is provided, to help prepare for the meetings. We will meet with as many legislators as possible. Last year, we had a record number of participants meet with a record number of legislators. Despite the hostile political climate in DC, all but one of the Tennessee legislators were friendly and engaged in real conversations. They don’t always agree, but there is an exchange of ideas.

In order for us to get on a legislator’s calendar, one of her constituents must be attending the meeting. Therefore, your presence can make the difference in whether we are able to meet with your district’s legislator. Last year, fifty of us met with 55 of the 132 total legislators.

The Agriculture and Natural Resources Committees and the Government Operation Committees are key committees for many Sierra Club issues. Many of their members are from non-urban/suburban areas which means we need more CED participation by Sierra Club members from the non-urban/suburban areas. These legislators get fewer constituent visitors and they appreciate any who do take time to meet with them.

Come join us! We will be contacting members across the state, so please don’t hang up. This is an important event and it is very satisfying. For more information, questions or suggestions, or if you would like to help organize Conservation Education Day, contact:

Bill Moll
whmoll@aol.com
 (404) 401-7899

State Chapter PAC Formed

This year is going to be a very active year for elections. In order for the Tennessee Chapter to have the maximum impact, we need to communicate with our full list of supporters, not just members. In order to do that, a Political Action Committee (PAC) is necessary. The Chapter had a PAC years ago with the goal of making significant contributions to endorsed candidates. It was unable to collect sufficient donations and was disbanded.

The purpose of this PAC is to pay for the use of Sierra Club mailing lists to support our endorsed candidates. David Bordenkircher will be the PAC Treasurer, Donation rules to make the PAC reporting tasks simpler will be announced when the PAC is officially created in January.

So budget some money now for the 2020 Chapter PAC. Details will be on the Chapter listservs, website and Facebook sites after the PAC is created.

Action Alert:

Protect the Nolichucky River!

The Tennessee Chapter of the Sierra Club has endorsed the American Whitewater Association’s ongoing effort to protect a section of the Nolichucky River between Poplar, North Carolina, and Erwin, Tennessee, as the region’s next National Wild and Scenic River. The 7.2 section stretches along the border between the states and is located entirely within the Cherokee and Pisgah National Forests. The designation would ensure the river is never dammed or diverted and that its unique scenic and recreational value would be protected for future generations. The Wild and Scenic River designation requires an act of US Congress. Members are encouraged to ask their congressional representatives to make this a priority. Learn more and support the proposal today! <https://www.noliwildandscenic.org>

Group Business Meetings

Group	Date	Location
Cherokee (Chattanooga)	Sun 1/5	Meeting Combined with Annual Welcome New Year Potluck at Audubon Acres
	Mon 2/3, 3/2	Pilgrim Congregational Church, 400 Glenwood Dr., Chattanooga
Chickasaw (Memphis)	January	TBD
	Wed 2/5, 3/4	Cheffies Cafe, 483 High Point Terrace, Memphis
Harvey Broome (Knoxville)	Sat 1/11	Annual Planning Meeting - Skelton Home
	Tue 11/26, 1/23	The Church of the Savior, 934 N. Weisgarber Rd. Knoxville
Middle TN (Nashville)	Mon 1/20, 2/17, 3/16	House of Kabob, 216 Thompson Lane, Nashville

Group Program Meetings

Group	Date	Location
Cherokee (Chattanooga)	Mon 1/27, 2/24, 3/23	Unitarian Universalist Church, 3224 Navajo Dr., Chattanooga
Chickasaw (Memphis)	Thu 1/23, 2/20, 3/19	Benjamin Hooks Public Library, 3030 Poplar Ave, Memphis
Harvey Broome (Knoxville)	Tue 1/14, 2/11, 3/10	Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church, 2931 Kingston Pike
Middle TN (Nashville)	Thu 1/9, 2/13, 3/12	Radnor Lake Nature Center, 1160 Otter Creek RD, Nashville

Regional Conservation Committee Business Meetings

Committee	Date	Location
Clarksville	Tue 1/21, 2/18, 3/17	Clarksville-Montgomery County Public Library, 350 Pageant Ln, Clarksville
CareNET (Rogersville)	Thu 1/2, 2/6, 3/5	St. Henry Catholic Church, 114 Highway 70 North, Rogersville
Tipton County	Thu 1/9, 2/13, 3/12	Ward Law Firm, 99 Doctors Drive Suite 300, Munford
Watauga (Mountain City)	Tue 1/14, 2/11, 3/10	ExCom Annual Planning 5902 Highway 421 South, Mountain City