Tennessee Chapter Makes Legislative Endorsements

The Tennessee Chapter has finished a first round of endorsements in state legislative races. These candidates have been voted upon by the chapter political committee and the chapter executive committee. The first round of endorsements was basically incumbents, and the committees considered their recorded voting records on environmental issues. Other factors that went into the endorsements include: position in the party, rank in the House or Senate, long history of being a friend, behind the scenes help and committee assignments. The endorsements are:

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<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jim Hackworth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mike McDonald</td>
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<td>Stratton Bone</td>
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<td>Kent Coleman</td>
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<td>Gary Moore</td>
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<td>Mike Turner</td>
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<td>Mike Stewart</td>
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<tr>
<td>Janie Sontany</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brenda Gilmore</td>
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<td>Gary Odum</td>
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<td>Beth Harwell</td>
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<td>Sherry Jones</td>
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<td>Ben West</td>
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<td>Bob Bibb</td>
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<td>David Shepard</td>
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<td>Jeanne Richardson</td>
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<td>Mike Kernell</td>
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<td>Eddie Yokely</td>
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<td>Bill Dunn</td>
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<td>David Seal,</td>
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<td>John Dowdy,</td>
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Senate

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<th>Candidate</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jamie Woodson</td>
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<td>Joe Haynes</td>
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<td>Jim Kyle</td>
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<td>Beverly Marrero</td>
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<td>Mark Norris</td>
<td>R 32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jim Hawkins,</td>
<td>D 18</td>
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<td>Randy Camp,</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

At the end of the 2008 session, Chapter Legislative Committee Co-Chair Bill Terry and Chapter Lobbyist Mike Murphy presented Senator Mark Norris with a special recognition award for his valuable work and leadership in passing the budget bill last year that included the funds for the North Cumberland Plateau land acquisition program. Senator Norris was instrumental in keeping these funds in the approved budget. The Tennessee Chapter gives Senator Norris a hearty thank you.

The Model Forest Policy Program [www.mfpp.org] is seeking an experienced project director to lead a new multi-year project with the City of Cookeville/Putnam County to enhance their climate action plans with forest stewardship measures to protect water resources and mitigate climate change. We are seeking an energetic, self reliant leader with demonstrated success as an organizer, networker, and facilitator. Please send resume/cover letter to: gilngll@aol.com

Project Director Job

Now you can receive your Tennes-Sierran via email
Subscribe simply by going to http://tennessee.sierraclub.org/mtg/subscribe.htm

So Join the Crowd and Go Paperless Today!
Explore, Enjoy and protect the planet
Middle Tennessee Group Offers Volunteer Opportunity

MTG has a great volunteer opportunity for someone who would like to help the Sierra Club through a specific task. Our program chair has retired from the position after two years, but she has already scheduled speakers through the end of the year! This means that a new volunteer could have time to ease into the responsibilities. Training provided. Contact Adelle Wood for more info. 665-1010, adelleintn@juno.com.
Call for Potential Candidates

State of Franklin Group Executive Committee

The State of Franklin Group solicits interested members to run for executive committee positions for 2009-2011. Please contact Katherine Pendleton for additional information at 615-943-6877 or Kathbug1959@aol.com before October 10, 2008 if you are interested in being considered to run for an executive committee position.

Cherokee Group Executive Committee

Cherokee Group is looking for members interested in serving on their executive committee. Please contact Katherine Pendleton at musemnc@yahoo.com or (423) 232-0827 before October 10, 2008 if you are interested in being considered to run for an executive committee position.

Chickasaw Group Executive Committee

Please send your contact information and a paragraph about why you want to be on the Excom (or why you are nominating someone) and what you can contribute to the group’s efforts. Nominees must be Sierra Club members and live in West Tennessee. Send information to Judith Hammond at (901) 276-2819, judithhammond@bellsouth.net before October 10, 2008 if you are interested in being considered to run for an executive committee position.

Middle Tennessee Group Executive Committee

The nominating committee of the Middle Tennessee Group requests nominations to the executive committee for a two-year term beginning in January 2009. We are seeking members who care about environmental issues and who are willing to accept the responsibilities of the office. The executive committee meets in Nashville on the fourth Tuesday of each month, and we would ask you to be willing to attend and participate in those meetings. The program meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, and we would welcome your attendance and participation there as well. We would also ask you to participate by working on or chairing one of our standing committees, including programs, outings, conservation, membership, or legislative/political.

This year the terms of four current members expire or have been vacated, so this is an excellent opportunity to become involved. We are happy to provide training and guidance to new delegates, and we are always in need of fresh perspectives and input.

Please seriously consider this opportunity. In these times when our environmental protections are being eroded, we need volunteers more than ever. The nominating committee will consider all potential candidates, and candidates may also qualify by petition. To nominate yourself or to nominate another candidate, or to receive more information, please contact Dabe Dabordenkircher at (615) 333-3377 or Dabordenkircher@mindspring.com. The deadline for receiving your nomination is October 10. After agreement to run for office, we will ask you to submit a small ballot write-up about yourself, which will be published in the November newsletter.

TDEC Offers Free Radon Test Kits

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation is offering free single-use radon test kits and educational brochures on radon-resistant new construction techniques to Tennessee residents at their local Ground Water Protection Division offices, via email or a toll-free phone call.

According to US EPA estimates, radon is the number one cause of lung cancer among non-smokers. It is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States overall.

“Preventing exposure to radon is extremely important,” said Lori Munkeboe, director of Environmental Assistance. “By utilizing new construction techniques that make homes resistant to this gas or by correcting high radon levels in existing homes, Tennesseans can protect themselves and their families.”

“The only way to know if a home has elevated radon levels is to test,” said Amy Inabinet of the Tennessee Radon Program. “We encourage all Tennesseans to take action to identify and to fix radon problems in their homes.”

For information on how to order a free test kit and prevent radon exposure, contact the Tennessee Radon Program by phone at 1-800-232-1139 or email at TDEC.Radon@state.tn.us.

Corner Dear Tennessee Chapter Members,

As we move into autumn, it is a good time to reflect on some of our recent successes. The Wataga Group had a bountiful harvest from their community garden during the growing season, providing organic produce to their community and to chapter supported events. The Chickasaw Group co-sponsored a sustainability summit in Memphis the end of September that brought people together for generating support for a sustainable Tennessee. The Tennessee Chapter and Wataga Group sponsored a national level outings leader training the last weekend in September that drew participants from across the nation. The Middle Tennessee Group and Wataga Group helped stop a sprawl issue in the Bells Bend area of Davidson County. Cherokee Group continues to regularly hold re-organizational meetings.

Clark Buchner and I represented our chapter at the Council of Club Leaders meetings in San Francisco during the week of the Sierra Club annual meeting in September (Clark was our CCL delegate and I was our alternate delegate). We learned of upcoming funding changes that will affect the Tennessee Chapter.

Our own Tennessee Chapter member, National Board of Director Jeremy Doochin, is planning on attending our quarterly chapter meeting later this month and wishes to speak to us about changes in our club. Please plan on attending our chapter meeting October 24-26 and meet and speak with Jeremy.

Congratulations go to Ann Harris from the State of Franklin Group for receiving the 2008 National Sierra Club Special Recognition Award for her anti-nuclear work. A full story and photo will appear in the November Tennes-Sierran.

I will be attending the Georgia Chapter retreat October 17-19 at Cohutta Lodge in the northern Georgia mountains. Registration is still open for this event. If you are interested in attending, please contact me. Jeremy Doochin and I attended this event last year held on the Georgia coast, which was enjoyable and an opportunity to get to know our Georgia neighbors. There will be an outings leader retreat at Foster Falls near Tracy City October 31-November 2. This car camping outing is open to all current and potential outings leaders as well as to those who enjoy participating in outings. Please contact me for more information.

Many thanks go to those of you across the chapter serving this year on Executive Committee Nominating Committees. Next month, you will receive your ballots for the group and chapter fall elections. Please take a few moments of your time and vote. I want to thank everyone who agreed to run for group or chapter positions.

I look forward to seeing you at the chapter meeting later this month.

Enjoy the changes of the season and the beauty of the foliage.

Katherine Pendleton
Chair, Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club
logistical snafus, and just plain exhaustion. In the 2,800 miles through varied terrain and challenging Divide Trail,” showcasing his recent trek of some “From Canada to Mexico: Hiking the Continental Valley Unitarian-Universalist Church, 2931 Kingston Pike

Maryville backpacker Bert Emerson presents “From Canada to Mexico: Hiking the Continental Divide Trail,” showcasing his recent trek of some “From Canada to Mexico: Hiking the Continental Divide Trail.” He will discuss the most challenging Divide Trail.” He will discuss the most challenging circumstances: snow and freezing rain in the Rocky Mountains, searing desert heat in New Mexico, logistical snafus, and just plain exhaustion. In the end the scenery, animals, solitude, and occasional socializing with humans made it all worthwhile. Bert has joined an exclusive club of fewer than 80 individuals who have traversed all of the “Triple Crown” trail routes: The Appalachian, Pacific Crest, and Continental Divide trails. (HBG guests may recall his excellent program of July 2006 on this subject.)

**STATE OF FRANKLIN GROUP (Tri-Cities)**

**STRATEGY/PROGRAM MONTHLY MEETING:** Oct, 1, 6:00 p.m., at the “The Acoustic Coffee House- Next Door” at 450 West Walnut in Old Town Johnson City.

A letter writing initiative to our political representatives in Congress to voice support for key issues involving the Sierra Club’s need for support. Contact Tom Mozen at mozenet@gmail.com or 423-232-0827 for more information.

**UPPER CUMBERLAND GROUP (Cookeville)**

**MEETING:** Every 4th Thursday at 7 p.m. in the downstairs meeting room of the Putnam County Central Library.

Alternating program meeting with planning meetings every other month. For more information, contact Mary Mastin at marymastin@twlakes.net or (931) 268-2938.

**CHEROKEE GROUP—UNDER RE-ORGANIZATION (Chattanooga)**

**MEETING:** Monday, October 27, 2008 from 6-8 p.m. at the Hamilton County Bicentennial Library in downtown Chattanooga. For additional information, contact Barbara Kelly at 423-718-5009 or rpyle@chattanooganet.net.

**CHICKASAW GROUP (Memphis)**

Monthly First Thursday Members Gathering: October 2 & November 6, 5:30-7:00 pm -- Otherlands, 641 South Cooper, Memphis, TN -- 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. Anyone interested in learning about the Sierra Club is invited. For more information, contact Juliet Jones at (901) 374-0582 or juliet101@comcast.net.

**Political Committee Meeting:** October 2, 7:00pm, Otherlands, 641 S Cooper St. Memphis. (after 1st Thursday gathering.)

**CITCHASAW GROUP (Memphis)**

Monthly First Thursday Members Gathering: October 2 & November 6, 5:30-7:00 pm -- Otherlands, 641 South Cooper, Memphis, TN -- 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. Anyone interested in learning about the Sierra Club is invited. For more information, contact Juliet Jones at (901) 374-0582 or juliet101@comcast.net.

**Political Committee Meeting:** October 2, 7:00pm, Otherlands, 641 S Cooper St. Memphis. (after 1st Thursday gathering.)

**Committee members must be members of the Sierra Club. Contact: Sue A. Williams, 274-0524 or zlcwmr@juno.com for more information.**

If you would like to make a difference in deciding who is elected to government positions, join the group political committee! The upcoming presidential, House of Representatives and Senate campaigns will be an opportunity to let our members know who the club has endorsed. The committee also works with the Chapter (statewide) Political Committee regarding state legislature endorsements. Electing the right people makes a difference for all areas of the environment.

The Chickasaw Group’s political committee makes recommendations regarding endorsements of local candidates by the Sierra Club, based upon the candidates’ record or responses to our questionnaire. We will have an opportunity to endorse a candidate on the Memphis City Council due to the resignation of the incumbent.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:** Must be a Sierra Club member. We need someone to monitor the Shelby County Commission meetings and get resolutions passed. This can be a fun and rewarding opportunity. Contact: Gloria Griffith at glbe4797797@earthlink.net or 423-727-4797 for more information.

**Chickasaw Group Strategy Meeting:** October 13 & November 10, 6:30pm - Prescott Memorial Baptist Church, 961 Getwell, Memphis, TN. -- This meeting of the political committee will be an opportunity to let all members of the Sierra Club. Contact Nancy Ream by October 10 (October meeting) or November 7 (November meeting) to place items on the agenda; (901) 759-9416 or nream@aol.com.

**Chickasaw Group Sierra Club Program Meeting:** “What Is E-Waste?” Thursday, October 23, 6:30-8:00pm, Benjaminee Hooks Central Library, 3030 Poplar Avenue.

It’s all around and can be a mess if not done properly…that’s disposal of e-waste. Karen Birkenstock of SR will provide insight into e-waste, such as TVs – How is the problem of proper disposal being addressed and what are current industry practices? She will also provide a short presentation on local e-waste recycler, SR, and their capabilities. For more information, contact Tom Lawrence at (901) 237-4819 or bus@theave.com.

**TELEVISION PROGRAM:** WPYL - Channel 18, Memphis, Tenn. - Mondays at 1:30am, Tuesdays at 3:30am and 10:00pm, Wednesdays at 8:00pm, Thursdays at 5:30am and noon, Fridays at 11:30pm, and Sundays at 2:00am and 11:00pm. “The Nature of Conservation” is the Club’s Chickasaw Group TV Program on cable channel 18. For more information, call 767-5916 or rutschman@rhodes.edu.

**A Yahoo Group for the Sierra Club**

Sierra Club-Chickasaw Group and Friends is a Yahoo group for members and friends of the Chickasaw Group of the Sierra Club (Memphis/West TN). It is an announcement-only email list to send information about Sierra Club activities and events to all members of the community. If you have a special concern and would like to see a program on it, please contact Judith Rutschman at (901) 767-5916 or rutschman@rhodes.edu.

**WATAUGA GROUP (North Eastern TN)**

**PROGRAM MEETINGS:** Second Thursday at 7 p.m. Please contact Gloria Griffith at glbe4797797@earthlink.net or 423-727-4797 for more information.
Chickasaw Group News  
(Contributed by Various Members)

August Program Focused on Hazardous Waste Removal

Lisa Williams of the Shelby County Household Hazardous Waste Facility gave a presentation at the Chickasaw Group Meeting on August 28 at the Benjamin Hooks Central Library on Poplar in Memphis. She said that latex paint is one of the most frequently disposed items. If dried with cut litter it can simply be placed with other garbage for pick-up. It does not need to be brought to the Hazardous Waste Facility unless it is still liquid.

The facility is open on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 8:30am until 1:00pm. It is located at 6305 Haley Road in Shelby Farms Park and is open to residents of Shelby County only. NO TELEVISION SETS ARE ACCEPTED. One computer, including monitor, keyboard, and printer will be accepted per household. There is a limit of 100 pounds or 15 gallons of waste accepted per vehicle per month. For more information, call the recycle hotline at (901) 379-4460.

Water Sentinels Reach Out to Hunters, Anglers at Sports Show

The Tennessee Water Sentinels recently conducted hunter - angler outreach at the Mid-South Hunting and Fishing Extravaganza in Memphis, which was organized by the Tennessee Wildlife Federation. This type of outreach hasn’t been done much, with the Chickasaw Group’s previous effort being the Ducks Unlimited Great Outdoors Festival in 2004.

Working a hunting and fishing show exposes Sierra Club volunteers to a different audience than our usual information table venues. It isn’t “preaching to the choir.” Occasionally, when discussing issues with visitors to our table, we had to work hard to overcome skepticism and distrust when we heard comments that the Sierra Club opposes hunting and fishing and supports gun control. We also heard that America needs to allow more domestic drilling for oil to reduce gas prices, and we tried to counter those arguments with positive responses, however, some of those people still walked away skeptical of our organization.

Carl Pope said it best in an article in the May/June 1996 Sierra Magazine article, “Ways and Means: A Sporting Chance.” “Most often, urban environmentalists and hunters are divided over philosophical and cultural differences that are clearly tangential to conservation goals: for example, animal rights or gun control. While the Sierra Club takes no position on either issue, perceived differences have often translated into mutual distrust and wariness to the detriment of all concerned.” For the full article, go to:

(continued on page 7)

FALL FAMILY MEETING  
Friday-Sunday October 24 - 26  
Pickett State Park

Enjoy beautiful autumn weather and fall colors without having to fight the crowds. Have we got a deal for you!

FOR ONLY $40, YOU CAN ENJOY:

Hiking - good food - pumpkin painting, face painting, an all ages Saturday night Halloween masquerade contest, and weather permitting, a bonfire with ghost stories and s’mores

PLUS,

A silent auction to benefit our chapter’s lobbying and legislative program.

The executive committee will be meeting on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, but those not on the executive committee may join in the activities, strike out on your own on nearby trails, or just enjoy the peace and quiet of a fall weekend. Lodging is in cabins that accommodate about 20, and family cabins (accommodating more than one family) will be available. Camping among the surrounding trees is another popular option (the cost for the weekend is the same for camping as for staying in the cabins). Bring your own bedding, towels and lunches. If you want additional beverages, you need to bring your own.

Breakfasts on Saturday and Sunday, and Saturday night dinner are provided. You are on your own for Friday dinner and Saturday lunch.

Directions:

I-40 to Exit 317. Hwy. 127 north (46 miles). Turn right on Hwy. 154, travel 12 miles to the park entrance. OR, I-75 north from Knoxville to Exit 141. Hwy 63 to Huntsville. Right onto Hwy 27 north to Oneida. Left onto Hwy 297 through Big South Fork NRRA. Right onto Hwy 154, follow to Pickett State Park. The park’s office number is 931-879-5821.

TOTAL ENCLOSED $______  (Make check payable to Chickasaw Group - Sierra Club).

REGISTRATION FORM

To register, please clip out and mail this registration form by Saturday, October 11, to: Chickasaw Group-Sierra Club c/o Nancy Ream - Chair Post Office Box 111094 Memphis, TN 38111 If you know you will attend but are unable to mail your registration by the deadline, please contact Nancy at njream@aol.com by the deadline date in order to be assured of meals.

Name: ___________________________ ___________________________
Address: ___________________________ ___________________________
Phone: ___________________________ ___________________________
e-mail address: ___________________________ ___________________________

Number of adults @ $40: ___________________________

Number of children under age 13 @ $20 (what ages?): ___________________________

Number of vegetarians ___________________________
Number of omnivores ___________________________

Total enclosed $______

2008 FALL FAMILY MEETING AT PICKETT STATE PARK

From left to right, Tim Guilfoile, lead organizer of the Northern Kentucky Water Sentinels, Ed Jones and Don Richardson of the Chickasaw Group. Photographer: James H. Baker.
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.sierracub.org/outings/outing/2008 asking Waiver 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)

October 4-5. Gourmet Backpack, Cherokee National Forest, along North Fork of Cilcoo Creek.

This trip has become a Harvey Broome Group tradition, with everyone trying to make the most outrageous, non-backpacking type food that one can imagine. If you can dream it up, you can cook it in the backcountry. Frozen margaritas, Caesar salad, roasted Cornish game hens, seafood Newburg, hot fudge ice cream sundaes, cheesecake, blueberry pancakes—has been done here on the woods on this trip. (Limited to 12 hikers.) Mileage is less than 3.0-miles on a relatively flat trail, but involves several creek crossings, so you may want to bring your “creek shoes.” Rated easy. Pre-register with Beverly Smith: blsmith1300@comcast.net (preferred); 865-531-8480 (evenings).

Wednesday, October 8. Day hike in GSMNP to Abrams Falls (the Back Way!)

This is a roundtrip hike of about 11 miles from Loweswater, Tennessee (a short walk from Creek Crossing) to Abrams Falls and back via Cooper Road and the Little GSMNP. This will be a guided tour along the Abrams Creek where we will drink in the beauty of the nearly 5 miles of the Little River. Hiking distance is about 12 miles total and it is rated easy. Preregister with Will Skelton: H 523-2272; cell 742-7327; whsone@bellsouth.net.

STATE OF FRANKLIN GROUP (Tri-Cities)

October 4-5. Jack & Back Bike Ride

The Tennessee Chapter has a bike team to ride the multiple sclerosis “Jack & Back” from Franklin to Molotow College. There are two routes available. One is 75 miles each way and the other is 50 miles each way. This is a fully supported ride. If you can’t ride the entire route, transportation is available to take you to the finish line! It is a fun event with refreshments and meals provided. Each participant is required to collect $300 in donations. Last year, the TN Chapter bike team raised $3,300 for this worthy cause. For additional information contact Katherine Pendleton at 615-360-3481 or katiqbug1959@aol.com.

October 12, 2008. Day hike on Fiery Gizzard Trail in Traci City, TN on Columbus Day.

This is one of the most diverse and beautiful in Tennessee. The section that starts at Traci City and climbs the plateau to Ravens Point is possibly the most rugged and difficult trails in Tennessee. It is steep and extremely rocky. It is 4.4 miles to Ravens Point. The remaining part to Foster Falls is relatively easy. I have been on the trail many times. We will hike to a time at which we plan to eat lunch and then we will turn and hike back. We won’t try to hike faster than anyone wants to go. We will meet in Nashville at a parking lot at 8:00. We will drive an hour and a half on I-24 to go to Monteagle. From there we will drive to Traci City. To register, send email to mbarker@mindspring.com or call 615-333-3377.

Sunday, October 12, Mount Olivet Cemetery Walk

Ever wonder where some of the legendary people in Nashville’s past are buried? Come and find out where they are laid to rest as we walk in Mount Olivet Cemetery. Wear comfortable walking shoes for this easy to moderate walk. For more information, contact Katherine Pendleton at kabitbug1959@aol.com or 615-360-3481.

October 17-19, Georgia Chapter’s Annual Gathering

You are invited to attend the Georgia Chapter Annual Gathering at Cobutta Lodge near Chatasworth, GA in the north Georgia mountains. For additional information, visit georgia.sierraclub.org or contact Genie Strickland at 404-607-1262 ext. 22.

October 31-Nov. 2. Outings Leader Retreat

There will be an outings leader retreat for all outings leaders and potential outings leaders of any group in the Tennessee chapter as well as the Nashville ICO Group. It’ll be held October 31-Nov. 2, at The Tappaan Lodge for a week that you will never forget! This is the third year for the Tennessee Chapter to host an outing for any group in the TSC TVA campgroup near Tracy City, TN. Activities during the weekend include hiking on the Fiery Gizzard Trail, evening campfires, fellowship, and more. Please register by October 27 so we will know how many campcgrounds to reserve. Contact Katherine Pendleton for more information at 615-360-3481 or email katiqbug1959@aol.com.

March 7-14, 2009, 3rd Annual Clair Tappaan Lodge Ski Trip

Make your reservation now to go with the Tennessee Chapter to Sierra Club’s Clair Tappaan Lodge for a week that you will never forget! This is the third year for the Tennessee Chapter to host a ski trip for any group in the TSC TVA campground near Tracy City, TN. Activities include exploring the Lake Tahoe area. Skiing classes are available at the lodge. Accommodations are in bunk beds equipped with mattresses. Bring your own bedding and towel. Restroom and shower facilities are shared with two men’s and two women’s bathrooms. Meals are served family style. Price for the trip is $600 per person and includes lodging, all meals from supper on March 7 thru lunch on March 14 and transportation from airport to lodge and back to airport. Trip price does not include airfare, ski rental, ski lessons, ski fees, incidentals, breakfast, and lunch on March 7 and supper on March 14.

Reservations are limited to 6 participants. Non-refundable $100 deposit due by February 1, 2009 made to TN Chapter Sierra Club Outings, P.O. Box 293036, Nashville, TN 37229. Remainder of fees due February 23, 2009.

For additional information regarding equipment rental rates, cross-country skiing activities planned, accommodations, and any other inquiries may be directed to Katherine Pendleton at 615-943-6877 or Katherine.pendleton@sierraclub.org. Payment by credit card is available. (Educational, Conservation)

Ten Essentials for Hiking

Sierra Club outings offer a variety of hiking 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 would be expected of an individual 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!
Outings (continued from page 6)

CHEROKEE GROUP (CHATTANOOGA)

October 17-19, Georgia Chapter Annual Gathering
You are invited to attend the Georgia Chapter Annual Gathering at Cohutta Lodge near Chatsworth, GA in the north Georgia mountains. For additional information, visit georgia.sierraclub.org or contact Genie Strickland at 404-607-1262 ext. 221.

CHICKASAW GROUP (Memphis)
Tour Shilo National Military Park with the Chickasaw Group Saturday, October 4, 9:00am, Shilo National Military Park, Shiloh, TN.

History buff Keith Hoover will lead an easy hike at scenic Shiloh National Military Park. Points of interest will include the Tennessee Monument, Rhea Springs, Shiloh Church, and the Shiloh Indian Mounds National Historic Landmark. Admission to the park is $5 per family and $3 per individual. Please, no pets allowed. Bring your own snacks and water. We will eat lunch at a nearby restaurant afterward.

To join the Sierra Club Chickasaw Group outing from Memphis, meet at 9:00am at Starbucks at 987 W. Poplar Avenue in Collierville (just west of Byhalia road). For more information or if you wish to meet us at the park visitor’s center, contact Keith Hoover at hooverk@yahoo.com or (901) 363-8299.

Yard Sale for Chickasaw Group, October 18, starts at 7:00am 5071 Anchor Cove, Menasha, WI. For more information, contact Juliet Jones at juliet101@comcast.net.

Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Shirley (Highway 9 & 16). The Middle Fork of the Little Red River (MFLRR) is located in Stone County, upriver from Fairfield Bay and Greers Ferry Lake, a four-hour drive from Memphis. Camping facilities are available at the nearby Van Buren campground (Hwy 330) on Greers Ferry Lake. Motels are available in Heber Springs, Greers Ferry, Mt. View, and Clinton.

The hike will begin in the abandoned town of Alberge along an abandoned railroad easement three miles upriver from the Diggs’ cabin for lunch. The suggested car route is Hwy 64 west to Bald Knob, Hwy 167 north to Pleasant Plains, Hwy 87 west to Concord, Hwy 25 west to Drasco, Hwy 92 west to Greers Ferry, and Hwy 16 northwest to Shirley. Wildlife includes turkey, raptors, deer, otter, beaver, bass and ginsing. Up to nine people can be accommodated overnight. There will be a discussion of future plans for the Diggs property.

For more information, contact Walter Diggs at (901)386-9751. wdiggs@jointcommission.org.

Recycling Coordinator Needed
Volunteer Coordinator needed for the recycle drop-off Site in Nashville that is sponsored by the Sierra Club.
The Volunteer Coordinator will schedule volunteers to staff the Drop-off Site from 9:00 to 12:00 on Saturday mornings from a list of people who have expressed an interest in being there.
Interested people may contact Betsy Garber at garberb@hotmail.com.

Chickasaw Group News (Continued)

http://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/199605/ways.asp

We did use one of the lessons we learned from the 2004 event, and that was to have some really good items for raffling to draw in people to sign up for the Sierra Sportsmen Network’s e-mails. This was successful in getting 227 names, and of those 227, 142 provided an e-mail address. We raffled a Temple Fork Outfitters fly rod that had the logos of the Sierra Club and the Federation of Fly Fishers. For the fly fishers that read this, this rod was a Lefty Kreh Signature Series, 8 and ½ feet long, 5 weight that breaks down into two sections. We also raffled two $100 gift certificates from Bass Pro Shops. The fly rod was won by Lindsey Mitchell, and the gift certificates were won by Jake Estes and Champions.

We also got a chance to network with representatives of Ducks Unlimited, Mid-South Fly Fishers, Tennessee Wildlife Federation, and the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, who all had booths at the show.

Tennessee Water Sentinels wants to thank Tim Guilleford of the Northern Kentucky Water Sentinels (http://sierrclub.org/watersentinels/nky/kentucky/) for his assistance all three days of the show. Tim hunts and fishes and he knows how to work this audience well. He showed Chickasaw Group’s volunteers how to gather people to sign people up for the Sierra Sportsmen Network.

We also thank Chickasaw Group’s volunteers who gave of their weekend to help: Amy Stewart-Bailey, Don Hoss, Betsy Jones, Keith Hoover, Nancy Ream, and Walter Diggs. Please see the website, http://www.sierraclub.org/sierrasportsmen/ for more information on the Sierra Sportsmen Network and the Club’s outreach to hunters and anglers.

Chickasaw Group Visits Hummingbird Migration
Saturday, September 6, the Chickasaw Group held an outing at Strawberry Plains, near Holly Springs, Miss. The event was the annual Hummingbird Migration Celebration. Every year, thousands of hummingbirds come through the Middle-South on their way to Mexico. The Audubon Center puts out feeders to attract them. They flock there by the thousands.

In addition to birding, the celebration consists of hummingbird banding and lectures on hummingbirds, bats, and snakes. Keith Hoover of the Chickasaw Group helped everyone navigate the talks, tents, and tables, providing helpful advice at the appropriate times.

Chickasaw Members Discuss Plum Point on Public Radio
Chickasaw members Steven Sondheim and James Baker were interviewed for a story that was heard on National Public Radio’s Morning Edition about Plum Point, a new coal-fired power plant being constructed in Osceola, Ark., about 40 miles from Memphis. You can hear this interview at http://www.publicbroadcasting.net/wkno/news/newsmain?action=article&ARTICLE_ID=1350276.


Since the NPR interview, WKNO, the local PBS station, has asked for Steven and James’s help in doing stories on water and nuclear power. They have been in touch with the Sierra Club’s Nuclear Coal Campaign, and are working with them on the issue of air quality in Memphis and on the seismic concerns given that Plum Point is on the New Madrid earthquake fault.

Rebuttal to News Story
“Bloom in old fuel source generates global warming concerns. Arkansas electric plant part of coal-burning resurgence”—This was the lead-in to an article in the Memphis Commercial Appeal at http://www.commercialappeal.com/news/2008/jun/23/coal-burning-plants-enjoying-resurgence/

Story Rebuttal by Steven Sondheim, Co-Energy Chair
New sources of global-warming pollution fly in the face of the new wisdom that we have to do something about global warming. Building dirty coal-powered plants is the wrong thing to do. Besides being the most polluting source of CO2, these plants also put out mercury (which ends up in our food chain) and dioxins (which end up in our lungs) and a number of other toxins responsible for our worsening air quality problems. This results in increased health problems such as asthma and emphysema. Memphis is currently out of compliance with the federal regulations on air quality and has just been downgraded.

Some are moving in the right direction by constraining new building of dirty sources. The mayor of Austin, Texas, found it unnecessary to build a proposed coal-powered plant after conserving an equivalent amount of energy. Recently, Kansas and Georgia ceased development of two of their new coal plants. Our own TVA is proposing that we invest in efficiency and conservation first and renewable energy second. As energy savings and clean sources come on line, we can retire the dirtiest sources such as coal-powered plants. There is no such thing as clean coal. Sierra Club statement on Dirty Coal: http://kansas.sierraclub.org/Wind/CoalFactSheet-2008-05.pdf.

There is a rush to develop new coal-powered plants before they become more expensive to the consumer due to an almost certain carbon tax of some kind. In fact, the power they supply could soon be more expensive in both direct costs, indirect costs of cleaning up pollution and the associated costs of health care.

We challenge that demand by 2025 will grow by one-third as stated in the Commercial Appeal article. There are already decreases in energy demand and transportation due primarily to high costs. It’s well established that major reductions in the previously thought increased energy demand can be found in energy efficiency and conservation.

If this country invests in renewable energy in a major way (a Marshal Plan), many think that with in 20-30 years we can not only be completely energy independent, but we can supply most of our energy with clean, nuke sources at a reasonable cost. There are already major efforts surfacing like the Tennessee Pork Pickens’s recent announcement of major investment in wind power. In addition, nuclear will be unnecessary. It is the most costly type of energy, is projected to increase in cost and is inadvisable for its waste, terrorism, and danger problems. The huge amount of money slated for investment in both coal and nuclear power would be better spent hastening the development of renewable energy.
Your Voice Needed at Second Summit for a Sustainable Tennessee

By Tennessee Environmental Council

Those of us looking for a greener lifestyle in our state could benefit from a structure of organizations working together and collaborating toward a common goal of a sustainable Tennessee. In 2007 the Tennessee Environmental Council (The Council) and Tennessee Conservation Voters (TCV) recognized this need and partnered to create the first Summit for a Sustainable Tennessee.

Under the banner “Many Voices, A Common Vision,” more than 200 citizens representing at least 90 Tennessee communities, organizations and agencies gathered at Lipscomb University in Nashville on November 15, 16, and 17, 2007 to begin a multi-phase, year-long process of crafting the state’s first sustainability agenda.

During the Summit for a Sustainable Tennessee, scores of scientists, engineers, ecologists, executives, farmers, educators, activists, organizers, students and other interested citizens examined issues and opportunities related to clean energy, natural infrastructure, healthy communities, quality growth and sustainable design and development.

Topping the list of most popular strategies:

• providing creative market incentives for private business and consumers making more sustainable choices
• developing a statewide public information campaign directed at business, consumers and students emphasizing the many practical benefits of greener lifestyles and practices
• providing incentives and public-private partnerships to encourage investment in and development of denser, more walkable, transit-oriented communities
• promoting healthier, more locally-sourced food systems throughout the state
• instituting new energy policies and land use planning at the federal (TVA), state and local levels based on energy efficiency and organized along the state’s key watersheds
• purchasing and preserving up to a million acres of green space across the state, beginning with land along the state’s Mississippi corridor

Follow-up continued throughout the year in a series of Regional Opportunity Forums conducted in Knoxville and Chattanooga. These forums provided additional opportunities for input and brought in new and additional voices of those who had not yet had a chance to participate. A third forum happened Sept. 19-20 in Memphis at the Fogelman Executive Center on the University of Memphis campus.

All of the information that came from last year’s summit and the subsequent forums have been compiled and are being used to develop an agenda for the Second Annual Summit for a Sustainable Tennessee. This year’s summit will again be held at Lipscomb University in Nashville and will take place November 13-15.

As we all strive for a greener, more sustainable life in Tennessee, opportunities like the summit offer meaningful ways to directly affect the future of our state and its many diverse communities. However, as the summit’s slogan implies, it takes many voices to create a future that is truly built upon a common vision. So bring your voice and your ideas to the Second Annual Summit for a Sustainable Tennessee. To find out how to get involved, you can visit www.sustainabletn.org or contact our office at tec@tectn.org / 615-248-6500. Together we can find out how to get involved, you can visit www.sustainabletn.org or contact our office at tec@tectn.org / 615-248-6500. Together we can make a more sustainable Tennessee and we look forward to seeing you in November!