State of Tennessee Partnering to Protect Fiery Gizzard Trail System
State Lands Acquisition Fund, Private Donations, Critical to Conservation Efforts

NASHVILLE – Governor Phil Bredesen and Department of Environment and Conservation Commissioner Jim Fyke announced Sept. 16 the third phase of an effort to protect a critical recreation and conservation area adjacent to South Cumberland State Park in Grundy and Marion counties, known as Fiery Gizzard. The state of Tennessee has committed approximately $4 million to acquire a threatened 2,900-acre portion of the Fiery Gizzard Trail and viewedish, which is part of a larger campaign to protect 6,200 acres. In addition to the state’s contribution, conservation groups are working to raise $2.1 million needed to complete the transaction.

“Fiery Gizzard is nationally recognized for recreation, and threatened by development,” said Bredesen. “By leveraging resources to preserve this land, we will be able to both protect the breathtaking scenery and important ecological features at the site for future generations, as well as continue to draw visitors to South Cumberland State Park, enhancing tourism and the local economy in one of Tennessee’s rural areas.”

The majority of the state’s funding comes from the State Lands Acquisition Fund. This year the Governor proposed and the General Assembly approved re-establishing the SLAF using a portion of the Real Estate Transfer Tax. The state’s commitment also includes federal funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and a portion of a federal grant.

The Land Trust for Tennessee and The Conservation Fund, supported by the Friends of South Cumberland, are partners with the state to raise private dollars to complete the 6,200-acre phase of the project. The total project cost is $8.1 million - $4 million from the state, $2.1 million in private fundraising and $2 million from the expected sale of part of the property to a conservation buyer.

“The purchase of the Fiery Gizzard tract at South Cumberland preserves both the trail and the viewedish into the future,” said Fyke. “This opportunity won’t come along again. We appreciate all the efforts of our conservation partners, and particularly want to recognize the late Marvin Runyon, a long-time member of the Friends of South Cumberland State Park, who was instrumental in securing nearly $2 million in federal grant funding to initiate this series of acquisitions.”

The Fiery Gizzard Trail is managed by South Cumberland State Park, though most of the trail and viewedish have historically been privately owned. The area has been a priority for conservation as the land becomes available. Upon the completion of phase three, the state’s total investment in Fiery Gizzard since 2003 will be $6.2 million in SLAF and federal funding, resulting in the acquisition of 4,559 acres. In all, including phase three, the state and conservation partners’ commitment at Fiery Gizzard will protect a grand total of 9,779 contiguous acres.

The Fiery Gizzard Trail has been ranked as one of the top 25 backpacking trails in the country by Backpacker magazine. The 17-mile trail features streams, waterfalls, rocky gorges and spectacular panoramic views. For more information about the trail or South Cumberland State Park, visit the website at www.tnstateparks.com/SouthCumberland.

To learn more about the Fiery Gizzard campaign, visit www.fierygizzard.org.

Groups Secure Protections for Tennessee Water, Support for Land Preservation
Claims Settled in Clean Water Act Lawsuit against Mountaintop Removal Coal Mine

NASHVILLE, TN – Tennessee Clean Water Network, Statewide Organizing for Community eMpowerment, and the Sierra Club Tennessee Chapter have reached a settlement agreement with National Coal Corporation over a lawsuit the groups filed regarding the company’s discharges of toxic selenium from the company’s Zeb Mountain mountaintop removal mine with- out a permit.

The suit claimed that National Coal’s permit under the Clean Water Act did not authorize selenium discharges. After the suit was filed, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) issued a new draft permit that would, for the first time, authorize selenium discharges but impose stringent limits on the amount of those discharges.

Under the terms of the settlement agreement, during the period prior to issuance of a final permit by TDEC, National Coal will be required to monitor its selenium pollution and report these results to TDEC and the three organizations.

“This is an important victory in our efforts to keep Tennessee’s streams and waterways clean and free of mining pollution,” said Renée Hoyos, executive director of the Tennessee Clean Water Network. “Coal companies need to know that they can’t just dump toxic pollutants like selenium into our waters.”

National Coal will also provide $40,000 to the Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation for the acquisition and protection of property in the Clear Fork or Cumberland River watersheds. “This is a positive step in efforts to protect Tennessee’s headwaters on Zeb Mountain. The settlement will allow us to keep better track of National Coal’s discharges,” said Cathie Bird, strip-mine committee chair for Statewide Organizing for Community eMpowerment (SOCM). “It is also nice to know that another parcel of land in eastern Tennessee will be protected for the people of the state and not subjected to disturbance from surface mining.”

Selenium, a toxic element that causes reproductive failure and deformities in fish and other forms of aquatic life, is discharged from many surface coal mining operations across Appalachia, and is commonly found in coal combustion byproducts like coal ash. Selenium bio-accumulates in the tissues of aquatic organisms, and experts predict that waterways across Appalachia could be on the brink of collapse due to increasing levels of the pollutant.

“We’re glad that TDEC has now included selenium limits in the most recent draft of the Zeb Mountain mine’s discharge permit,” said Axel C. Ringe, of the Sierra Club’s Tennessee Chapter. “These limits are important for keeping dangerous levels of toxic selenium out of our streams.”

The groups filed their lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee in October 2008. U.S. District Court Judge Thomas W. Phillips entered the settlement and closed the case on September 3, 2010. For more information on selenium visit http://sc.org/seleniumfacts.
ARTICLE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

Submission DEADLINE is the 1st of the month preceding the new month’s issue.

1. Email and email attached files are preferred. Send to Baker@usw.org either attached to email or mailed via US Postal Service (USPS) on a 3½ diskette or CD Rom. Please include a check enclosed. Please make payable to Sierra Club.

2. Photographs should be scanned in a .jpg or .tif file format attached to your email message only. Mac users should embed text in body of email attached files in PC-based formats. Attached files are processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Do not send CD or diskette or photo prints returned.

3. Hard-copy handwritten or typewritten articles may be accepted; however, pre-approval from the Editor is required.

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Tennessee Water Sentinels participates in September 11 “Serve Outdoors” Remembrance

By James H. Baker - Project Director - Tennessee Water Sentinels

Tennessee Water Sentinels and its partners—Chickasaw Group-Sierra Club, Friends for Our Riverfront, Clean Memphis and the City of Memphis Public Works-Storm Water Department—braved gray skies and oncoming rain showers to conduct a stream side litter clean-up at a public boat ramp under the A.W. Willis bridge at Wolf River Harbor.

This event was part of Sierra Club's 'Serve Outdoors' on the National Day of Service and Remembrance. Sierra Club was proud to join with Americans from across the country who volunteered on September 11 in honor and remembrance of those who bravely serve the country. This was a way for us to come together in support of each other and our communities and to build a foundation for a better future.

The 16 participants, which included three youth, picked up between 300 and 400 pounds of trash and litter, including a “Tinker Bell” pillow, two old tires, a wooden pallet, the heavy base of a traffic control barrel, part of a chair, live fireworks (bottle rockets), heavy duty rope as well as the usual beverage and food containers and other urban debris tossed by a public in need of a better conservation ethic and environmental education. We had just finished the clean-up and were packing equipment away when the rain began to fall. For their efforts, the volunteers were offered a Water Sentinels t-shirt and a Sierra Club backpack.

During the clean-up, it was sad but interesting to watch local residents drive right past a sign by the boat ramp to go fishing in a water body that has been posted by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation with a “no fishing” advisory because, as the sign reads, “All fish from this body of water contain contaminants at levels thought to increase the risk of cancer or other serious illness in humans. These fish should not be eaten.”

Based on the amount of trash we picked up and observations of the people fishing, we in the environmental community still have a lot of work to do in the arena of education and advocacy so that people make healthy choices for themselves, their families and their community.

Serve Outdoors-Memphis Group. Photo: James H. Baker

Dear Tennessee Chapter Members,

Our fall Chapter meeting was held October 22-24, 2010 at Pickett State Park with Upper Cumberland Group (UCG) hosting. Many thanks go to Eston Evans for his time in shopping for and preparing the meals for the meeting. Thanks also go to Mary Mastin, Brian Paddock, Peggy Evans, Bonita Barger, and other members from UCG who made the Chapter meeting a success.

UCG will be in re-organization effective January 1, 2011. UCG members wishing to remain active via a Sierra Club group (voting in SC group elections, holding office, committee involvement, etc.) may petition the membership office of the National Sierra Club for re-assignment to another group during the re-organization period of UCG.

November is the month in which our Chapter conducts the “Defenders Campaign.” Donations raised for Defenders are used toward paying for our lobbyist, Mike Murphy. Without a lobbyist, the Sierra Club would not have as strong a political voice in the Tennessee legislature. Please donate generously when you receive the Defenders letter. If you do not receive a letter, please consider making a donation, writing a check to “TN Chapter Sierra Club” and mail it to P.O. Box 290306, Nashville, TN 37229.

The State of Franklin Group (SOFG) has been inactive since January 2010. Two attempts to re-organize the group met with limited success. A hearing will be held during the winter 2011 Chapter meeting at Cedars of Lebanon State Park on January 30, 2011 regarding action to be taken to dissolve SOFG. The Chapter executive committee will vote to either dissolve SOFG or put the group back into re-organization. Members of SOFG are encouraged to attend this hearing.

2010 has been so full of Sierra Club activity related to your Chapter Chair that space does not allow to tell of such. Please contact me for information regarding our Chapter, for National updates, or just to have a conversation! My phone number is 615-943-6877.

Wishing you a bountiful holiday season!

Katherine Pendleton, Chair
Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club

Announcement to Upper Cumberland Group

Effective January 1, 2011, Upper Cumberland Group will be in re-organization status. Any member of UCG may petition the National Sierra Club membership office for re-assignment to another group while UCG is in re-organization status, in order to have the opportunities to vote in group elections and to take active part in group activities and committees. For additional information please contact Katherine Pendleton, TN Chapter Chair at 615-943-6877 or Katherine.pendleton@sierraclub.org.
"Beauty is a resource in and of itself. Alaska must be allowed to be Alaska, that is her greatest economy. I hope the United States of America is not so rich that she can afford to let these wildernesses pass by, or so poor she cannot afford to keep them."

- Mardy Murie - In congressional testimony about the Alaska Lands Act

Voices of the South Presents Wild Legacy in collaboration with Voices of the South. Baxter is joined by performers Jerre Dye, Alice Berry, Virginia Ralph, Geoffrey Wood, Michael Khanlarian and stage manager, Tiffany Hall McClung.

Wild Legacy opens with a two-week local preview at Evergreen Theatre before the official national premiere in Alaska this December. The show will then engage in a multi-city “50th Anniversary Tour” of the U.S. throughout 2011.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday performances are at 8 p.m. Sunday performances are at 2 p.m. Tickets are $15 for students/seniors and $20 for adults. For tickets, go to voicesofthesouth.org or call 901-726-0800.

Voices of the South is presented by Dorothy O. Kirsch. Baxter is joined by performers Jerre Dye, Alice Berry, Virginia Ralph, Geoffrey Wood, Michael Khanlarian and stage manager, Tiffany Hall McClung.

Voices of the South Presents Wild Legacy Play in Memphis

Elly McPherson

By Rita Harris

On Friday and Saturday, September 24-25, 2010 over 300 people from communities of faith along the Mississippi River gathered in Memphis to learn about how we can all protect and preserve our river.

The Gather at the River Conference was hosted by a creative group of caring people of faith who cherish the Mississippi River as a sacred trust and want to equip each of us to address the issues challenging the river.

Chickasaw Executive Committee member and Douglass High School teacher Sandra Upchurch paired up with Rev. Ralph White, a Baptist minister and community activist from the Riverview area of southwest Memphis, to present a workshop at the conference. Both Upchurch and White serve on the Environmental Justice (EJ) Steering Committee and work closely with Sierra Club EJ Organizer Rita Harris.

Their workshop topic was “Old Man River thru an Environmental Justice Lens.” The workshop’s focus was to share perspectives on understanding the impact the Mississippi River has on poor people-of-color communities living in its path. The workshop included thoughtful discussions on how the long-time interstate commerce on the river has impacted life for people living in communities nearby.

Discussion also focused on the historical connection to water, water pollution problems, fishing, chemicals discharged into the river, and the local industrial corridor that thrives because of its location on the river.

Douglass High School students were encouraged to attend with a special student registration rate, and they got to hear many great speakers and got to meet Congressman Steve Cohen (D-TN). Douglass High School students left the conference with the following information: We learned how to honor and cherish the Mississippi River as a sacred trust, and gained knowledge and specific direction to do something to address issues facing the river. We know who the decision makers are and how to reach/influence them. We are aware of the river’s importance as a local economic force.

Douglass High School is located in an environmental justice community in north Memphis and is dedicated to protecting and restoring the Mississippi River. The high school is a Tennessee Pollution Prevention and Partnership (TPP) Green School and Alliance of Energy Green Schools.

Sandra Upchurch also served on the steering committee for the Gather at the River conference. Sue Routon, Scott Banbury, and Keven Routon were also present.
The Tennessee Chapter Executive Committee

Election Ballot for At-Large Delegates for the 2011-2012

Please vote for three (3) of the following candidates.

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<td>Katherine Pendleton</td>
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Only current members can vote. Please put your membership number (found on the mailing label of the Tennes-Sierran) on the outside of an envelope containing the ballot. Place this envelope in another envelope and mail by close of business December 3, 2010 to:

Robert M. Hill
Election Committee Chairman
11304 Mountain View Road
Knoxville, TN 37934

Candidate Statements: (Also posted on the Chapter Web page)

Gary Bowers
Gary 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 25 years working to protect it.

Gary believes that we are at a critical crossroads in the areas of energy conservation/alternative energy generation and local organic (non-genetically engineered) food production, and that these two very important issues should continue to be key focus areas of the TN Chapter.

As Chapter Conservation Chair, Gary worked with the TN Chapter Executive Committee following the Sierra Summit in 2005 to align the Chapter’s conservation committees with the Club’s new national conservation campaign priorities: Energy, Wild Legacies, and Safe & Healthy Communities. A Super Committee structure was created parallelizing the three national priorities. A Super Committee chair was assigned to each, and Chapter conservation committees were placed under their respective Super Committee. Each committee is tasked annually with developing an annual mission statement, goals, and submitting a year-end evaluation of their efforts during the year. This alignment proven to be very successful and provides the opportunity for synergy between the Chapter and national Sierra initiatives.

Gary’s major accomplishments are recapped below:
- Sierra Club – TN Chapter Conservation Chair 1998 – 2010
- Sierra Club – TN Chapter – Creation of Chapter Super Committee structure – 2006
- 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 – Sara Hines Award (for conservation) winner 1999
- Sierra Club – TN Chapter – initiator and organizer – One Thin Dollar Silent Auction held at the spring and fall chapter meetings – proceeds going to support TN Chapter lobbying
- Sierra Club – Middle TN Group Executive Committee – late 1980’s to present
- Co-founder Friends of the Forest – the first assembly of environmental groups working to pass legislation to reform management practices of Tennessee’s state forests
- TN Forests Council (TFC) – steering committee charter member – a unification of environmental groups working to stop the destruction of Tennessee’s hardwood forests
- Co-author TN Sustainable Forest Management Act (TN Legislature)
- Author – TN Forest Landowner Boundary Protection Act (TN Legislature)
- TN Scenic Rivers (TSRA) – Board of Directors 2001-2003
- TN Scenic Rivers (TSRA) – Conservationist of the Year 2003

Gary would appreciate your vote so that he can continue his work on the TN Chapter Executive Committee.

Brian Paddock
I am an attorney living in Jackson County. I served as a Delegate-at-Large in 2009-10, and I am willing to serve another term. I am a Life Member of the Club. I have provided legal advice and legal, legislative and administrative policy representation to the Chapter, the Upper Cumberland Group, and other environmental organizations.

I work with the Chapter Water Quality, Energy and Climate Change, and Litigation committees and chair the Transportation Committee. I participate in the National Transportation Chairs’ conference calls and host a newsletter and the national Energy Activist calls and campaigns.

I am one of the Chapter’s representatives to the Stakeholder Review Group for the Tennessee Valley Authority Integrated Resource Plan.

I attended the 2005 National Summit in San Francisco in which began the Club’s reorganization and the development of the Climate Change campaigns. I support the Club’s emphasis on the grassroots activism directly connected with Club staff and lobbyists by national conference calls and the evolving Climate Recovery Campaigns. See http://www.sierraclub.org/cri/campaigns/

Katherine Pendleton
My name is Katherine Pendleton. I am asking you to re-elect me as a delegate-at-large to the Tennessee Chapter. As your chapter chair the past four years, I have worked hard to promote positive change in our chapter. The Cherokee Group was re-organized under my leadership. I have kept in close contact with our groups, making regular visits.

Aside from being chapter chair, my experience within our chapter includes chapter at-large delegate (2004-current), alternate CCL delegate (2007-current), chapter treasurer (2005-2007), and chapter outings chair (2004-2007). I have represented our chapter at the annual CCL meetings in San Francisco as the CCL delegate the past two years. I am actively involved with the Middle Tennessee Group serving on the executive committee and as outings chair.

I became involved with the Sierra Club as an outings leader and have progressed through the “ranks,” serving in various positions at the group level before becoming active with the chapter. I am well versed in Sierra Club policies having served on four national committees and attended numerous training sessions at the national Club headquarters in San Francisco.

My main goal in being involved with our chapter is to promote teamwork. As an at-large delegate, I will consider the opinions of all members of the chapter. I will be sure that you are represented and I will strive to serve you well.
Candidate Statements:

**Gary Bowers**

- Sierra Club member since 1984
- Active at both the Group and Chapter level since the mid 1980’s
- Member of the Middle Tennessee Group Executive Committee
- At-Large member of the TN Chapter Executive Committee since 1998
- TN Chapter Conservation Chair from 1998 to the present
- Site coordinator from 1999 thru 2002 – TN Chapter's Environmental Public Education Campaign (EPEC) to End Commercial Logging (ECL) in the Cherokee National Forest, the first EPEC ECL site in the country
- Co-founder Friends of the Forest
- Charter member steering committee for the TN Forests Council
- Co-author TN Sustainable Forest Management Act (TN Legislature)
- Author TN Forest Landowner Boundary Protection Act (TN Legislature)
- Author Tennessee Locally Grown and Organic Farming Impact Task Force Resolution (TN Legislature)
- Tennessee Scenic Rivers (TSHA) Conservationist of the Year 2003

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.

**Cliff Cockerham**

Cliff Cockerham first started working on environmental issues in 1973 when the legislature appointed him to the Environmental Management Council of Central Upstate New York as an advocate for beverage container legislation and glass recycling programs. Since then he worked on a wide range of environmental education programs, conservation issues, and ecological studies at Cornell University, Georgetown University, and Emory University. In Nashville Cliff chairs both the Sierra Club Middle TN Group's Environmental Justice Committee and the Conservation Committee. Working with Betsy Garber and Joy Mayfield, Cliff organized & created the Water Sentinels Student Project, which engages high school students in monitoring local water quality in streams and creeks. This effort led to five Nashville students representing TN at the Sierra Club’s national environmental youth leadership program in July 2010. Upon their return to Nashville, they recruited fellow students to form a new chapter of the Sierra Club Student Coalition that now spans seven local high schools and has increased in numbers spreading the word on global warming. Describing his environmental work, Cliff explained: “All our efforts for the greater good are important, but if we fail to get a handle on climate change, nothing else will matter. For that reason, I hope you’ll vote for me to continue serving on the Middle TN Group Executive Committee and as a delegate to the Tennessee Chapter Executive Committee. Together we can make a difference in what tomorrow will bring, but only if we start today.”

**Betsy Garber**

Betsy Garber has been a member of Sierra Club and the Middle Tennessee Group for approximately 14 years. Her first significant volunteer involvement was as the volunteer coordinator of the recycling site. She not only enjoyed meeting a wide variety of recyclers, she met her husband during this endeavor. Impressed by the need to get more Sierra Club members engaged in the activities of the Group, she started an e-mail list with bi-monthly postings of hikes, programs, meetings, and environmental action requests. With the help of Rachel Floyd, this grew into our current e-mail system geared to any and all who want to know what’s going on with our Group. She then became Membership Chair, and started the system of mailing letters of welcome to new members with a current calendar of events and our e-mail list. Betsy readily has joined and supported the environmental campaigns of our conservation chair, Cliff Cockerham. Finally and most treasured by her, she has had the opportunity to work with the development and maintenance of the Nashville Inter City Outings Group. While her organizational skills far exceed her ability to lead hikes for city kids, she has put heart and soul into recruiting new ICO hike leaders and supporting the incredible efforts of the amazing volunteers that make this program such a success. She would like the opportunity to serve on the executive committee to help shape the expansion of current programs, the reactivation of dormant programs, and the direction of our environmental efforts in the Nashville and Middle Tennessee area.

**Scott Heflinger**

Scott is a licensed professional engineer with a BS in Civil Engineering and an MS in Environmental Engineering. He started his career working for the State of Tennessee Division of Water Pollution Control, then moved to the consulting world assisting clients with pollution control projects involving water, wastewater, air, wetlands, and storm water. He is a strong believer in wildlife protection, renewable energy, recycling and global sustainability. Scott and his wife have been members of the Sierra Club for over 10 years and have been long-time supporters of many wildlife, environmental and conservation organizations.

**Vanessa Saenz**

Originally from the island of Puerto Rico, I came to the United States thinking everything would be just as lush and green as it once was back home. As time passed I have seen how every state I have lived in is losing its green spaces and how water rights have become such a hot button issue. I have become much more aware of all these issues within the last 10 years. I have a Bachelors of Arts degree in Sociology and Spanish from Macalster College and a Law degree from the University of New Mexico. I took environmental law in school but have never put it to use. I really want to become more involved in environmental issues and I believe the Sierra Club is the perfect place to do that.

**Don Scharf**

Don Scharf currently serves on the Middle Tennessee Group Executive Committee and is the Vice-Chair of the MTG. He has been a Sierra Club member for over 20 years and is a past Chapter Conservation Chair and MTG Chair, Conservation Chair and Treasurer. Don’s focus is on air quality, energy and global warming issues.

**Jennifer Thompson**

I am the current secretary of the Middle Tennessee Group (MTG) and have served on the MTG Executive Committee since January 2009. I have been a member of the Sierra Club since 1993. I represented the Sierra Club at the Watershed Summit on Short Mountain in 2007 and 2008. I received an M.S. degree in Biology in May 2003 from Middle Tennessee State University and a B.S. in Environmental Biology in December 1985 from the University of North Alabama. I am currently employed as a biologist with the state of Tennessee and have worked for the state for 24 years as an environmental specialist and biologist. Through many years of employment with the state I have a working knowledge of state and federal environmental regulations, particularly those concerning streams, wetlands and rare species. I have participated in fish, freshwater mussel, crayfish and rare plant surveys as well as general environmental boundaries surveys. In previous years, I served as an education contact for the Nonpoint Source (water pollution) Program, participated in educational events, and written and worked on publications including a riparian zone restoration handbook and various articles for the Tennessee Conservationist. If re-elected to the Executive Committee, I will continue to work to help the MTG achieve its goals and to promote environmental stewardship.
The ballot must be postmarked or received by a member of the election committee by Dec 15, 2010. You may vote for up to six (6) candidates for the Chickasaw Group Executive Committee (ExCom).

**Candidate Statements**
(Also posted on the Chapter Web page)

**Scout Anglin**
A second-year graduate student of Urban Anthropology at the University of Memphis, Scout is involved in a number of groups on campus, including the Environmental Action Club Student Organization and the campus Recycling Committee. She has a BS in Biology from Christian Brothers University and was involved in animal and land conservation fieldwork in both Brazil and Seattle, Washington during her time there. Scout is currently an intern at Shelby Farms Park Conservancy working on the Shelby Farms Greenline outreach initiative. She is also a graduate assistant at Keep Tennessee Beautiful, working on outreach, engagement, and education regarding greening and conservation initiatives statewide. Scout believes that community engagement and education are important in changing behavioral attitudes toward sustainability and conservation.

**Julie Balz**
Julie Balz has worked at the Memphis Botanic Garden for 10 years as the Outreach Coordinator. She takes vibrant environmental education programs out to the Greater-Memphis area, which includes Tie-dying T-shirts, a Recycling Program, and Botany Basic lessons where she gets to dress up as fun characters such as Inspector Nectar and Captain Chlorophyll!! She has been part of the grassroots effort to better the community of Memphis and environment of the area neighborhoods by serving as a board member and resident of the DeCleyre Cooperative, which serves the community through direct action, community involvement and community garden projects.
Julie has been a part-time naturalist trip leader for Great Outdoors University, a program through Tennessee Wildlife Federation since its inception, and enjoys taking under-privileged youth on outdoor excursions. She hopes to continue to bring greater awareness to the general public about the issues that currently affect our beautiful green earth.

**Jim Johnson**
Jim holds a B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. in physics and has taught and researched at Mississippi State University, Florida State University, Tallahassee Community College and Georgia Institute of Technology. He has also completed research at NASA and Naval Ocean Research and Development Activity. Jim’s current interests include the control or eradication of invasive and exotic plant species, sustainable agriculture, the balancing of agriculture and wildlife needs, water issues, and renewable energy systems. Jim is a Sierra Club life member.

**Christian Man**
Christian Man holds a B.A. in Economics & Community Development from Covenant College. He has taught English in Nepal and conducted field research for a community development non-governmental organization (NGO) in South Africa. He has also held internships with a local church and the Greater Memphis Chamber of Commerce. He is presently working for an inner-city non-profit in Memphis, helping the organization to transition from children’s after-school programming to broader social and economic development initiatives. Christian’s vision is to play a role in helping his respective communities develop right thought and right actions toward the local environment, such as humility, dependence, reverence, and conservation.

**Mary Phillips**
Mary is a recent graduate of Warren Wilson College in Swannanoa, North Carolina where she received her B.A. in English. She has worked on farms in North Carolina, Kansas, and Washington, and finally putting her passion for sustainable agriculture to use in Memphis. Mary is now the farm manager at the Urban Farms in Binghampton. Mary also has a passion for pollinators. She is a novice beekeeper, a graduate of the Western North Carolina Beekeeping School, and a member of the Memphis Area Beekeepers Association. Mary spent six years teaching early childhood education and is passionate about bringing environmental education to young audiences. She started a gardening and recycling program at Lindenwood’s childcare and after-school center and would like to continue to find ways to reach out to the Memphis youth.

**Don Richardson (incumbent)**
Don is a current Executive Committee member seeking re-election. He looks forward to helping grow a more energetic, influential Chickasaw Group with new leaders and new members by providing the needed continuity with our green allies and community partners. Don places great emphasis on cultivating the group's ongoing relationships and living up to commitments to expand the group's capacity to keep our city, county and region green and sustainable.

**Emily Schwimmer (incumbent)**
Emily Schwimmer received her BA from the University of Florida. She is currently pursuing a history master's degree and museum studies certificate at the University of Memphis. As a graduate assistant at the University, she co-coordinates the West Tennessee District History Day contest. Emily loves being part of the Sierra Club because it allows her to actively work for a more sustainable future. She is a current Executive Committee member and Secretary of the Chickasaw Group and looks forward to the chance to continue to serve this organization.

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**Watauga Group Election Ballot**

Please vote for five (5) of the following WG Executive Committee (ExCom) candidates:

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<td>Mike Wiles</td>
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Place your ballot in an envelope and mark the word “ballot” on it. Place this envelope with the ballot in another envelope and write your membership number in the upper left hand corner with your address. Your 8 digit membership number appears on the mailing label. Your ballot must be received no later than DEC 30, 2010. Please consider mailing your ballot today!

Mail election ballot to: Rita Cowan
WG Election Committee
900 Miningtown Rd
Mountain City, TN 37863

Five successful candidates will serve on the 2011-2012 WG ExCom along with returning ExCom members Rita Cowan, Sandra Cranford, Mary Gale and Louise Shoen.
I served for 10 years (1970-1980) as a member of the Knox County Quarterly Court and the Knox County Commission as one of the two representatives for the West Knox County area. I have served on the Farragut Municipal Planning Commission and retired as Chairman of that organization in May 2010 after serving about 17 years in that position. I also served five years on the Farragut Storm Water Advisory Committee and retired from that committee in July 2010.

Hospitality Chair of the Harvey Broome Group; and have worked closely with SPEAK, the student environmental group at the University of Tennessee. 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 other national forests and public lands. I am an avid backpacker and hiker and also enjoy canoeing and bicycling. I am a member of the Sierra Club because it is the only national environmental organization with a local level (grassroots) focus. We have approximately 1,500 members in the HBG area and all other national forests and public lands. I am an avid backpacker and hiker and enjoy canoeing and bicycling. I am also the Webmaster (or Web Ms.) for the Tennessee Chapter and for the Harvey Broome Group, and the Listmaster for the listserves: TENNESSEE-EXCOM and NEWS, HBG-EXCOM and ALERTS, and the Greater Smoky Mountains Coalition. I am a brand new mother to a wonderful baby boy named Kaden.

Barbara Allen
I have served on the HBG Executive Committee (ExCom) for several years, holding the position of group chair for one term and currently serving as a member of the Group ExCom and as group secretary. I have been an on-site leader for the HBG as well as the Smoky Mountains Hiking Club, where I also served as secretary.

Elizabeth Tallman-Gazaway
I have been a member of the Club for a long time, and worked on many issues including water quality, wild land protection and surface mining. I am so happy to see the Sierra Club back in action and growing! I love meeting our members, helping with education on issues and learning new things at our programs, while helping on the behind-the-scenes things like mailing lists and newsletters. There is a lot to cover — let’s keep growing!

Caara Stoney
I am very involved in the Green and Sustainable community in Chattanooga, and look forward to serving on the Executive Committee. I’ve spent the last 2 1/2 years turning a 2.5 acre parcel of eroded land into an urban meadow, having fought City Hall with some success over a lawn ordinance requiring vegetation over 10 inches be cut like a golf course! This summer I organized our “Hands Across the Sand” — part of the national event raising awareness of our use of fossil fuels and in solidarity against the Gulf oil spill — where people joined hands around the span of the Walnut Street Bridge. Being involved and making a difference in Chattanooga is possible in ways that a larger city would not allow.

My name is Jami Brown. I have been a Sierra Club member for four years now. I am currently seeking my Masters degree in Environmental Science. I am working on getting Slow Food established on the UTC campus. I am also manager of the Gathering Gardens in Hixson Tennessee, this community garden is open to all and extra vegetables are donated to a local food bank.

Tami Friedman
I am Tami Friedman. I care about the planet. I care about human health. I care about animals and animal rights. I have a degree in Communications PR from UTC and was Publicity Chair for Cherokee Sierra 2010. It’s a great Group and I feel honored to work with such beautiful caring people. I’d like to continue working with and for you.

Liz Dixon
I have been a Sierra Club member since 1982 on the Farragut Municipal Planning Commission and retired as Chairman of that organization in May 2010 after serving about 17 years in that position. I have served since about 1982 on the Farragut Municipal Planning Commission and retired as Chairman of that organization in May 2010 after serving about 17 years in that position. I also served five years on the Farragut Storm Water Advisory Committee and retired from that committee in July 2010.

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HARVEY BROOME GROUP (Knoxville)

All programs will be held at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Church, 2391 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN and will start at 7:00 PM.

November 9, 7 PM Program: “The Two Sides of Glacier National Park.” Duane Simmons' slide show will look at the grandeur of Glacier National Park from the back country to the luxury of the National Park lodges.

December 14, 7 PM, Our annual Holiday Party! Bring a dish to share. Everyone is welcome! Please refer to the Harvey Broome Group web page or Facebook page for additional information.

Strategy Meetings: Four Tuesdays of each month—November 16, December 21. Tennessee Valley Unitarian Church, 2391 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN and will start at 7:00 PM. All members are invited to attend this conservation and administrative meeting to get the news on what’s happening in our Harvey Broome Group.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP (Nashville)

PROGRAM: November 11, 7:00 p.m. at Radnor Lake Visitor Center, 1160 Otter Creek Road, Nashville

Wow! Randy Hedgepath, Tennessee State Naturalist, storyteller and sought-after interpretive specialist, will bring us slides of his favorite trails and hiking spots in state parks (as shown in the picture on the calendar page in this issue). With more than 26 years of experience with Tennessee State Parks, Randy has served as a Ranger Naturalist at South Cumberland and Radnor Lake State Parks. He has contributed as a regular hike leader at Sierra Club Cumberland chapter quarterly meetings in addition to the large workshops he leads for various groups across the state.

Randy’s enthusiasm and his beautiful photographs will highlight the best that Tennessee has to offer. Free and open to the public.

PROGRAM: There will be no program in December, instead there is our annual holiday party.

MTG Holiday Party

The annual MTG holiday party will be held on Thursday, December 16, 2010 from 6-9 p.m. at the United Steelworkers Union building at 3340 Perimeter Hill Drive, Nashville, TN 37211. Participants are asked to bring a potluck dish such as a salad, vegetable, or dessert. For additional information contact David Bordenkircher at 615-333-3377.

STRATEGY MEETING: November 15 and December 20, 6:30 p.m. at the United Steelworkers Union Building, 3340 Perimeter Hill Drive, Nashville, TN 37211. Follow the signs to the conference area. If you arrive late, please ring the bell at the side door on the left, and someone will come down to let you in. Conservation issues are first on the agenda, and all members are invited to attend this conservation and administrative meeting to get the news on what’s happening in our Middle Tennessee Group. We welcome you to come with us to learn about the group’s conservation initiatives and community activities.

UPPER CUMBERLAND GROUP ( Cookeville)

MONTHLY MEETING: Every 4th Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the downstairs meeting room of the Putnam County Library. Alternating program meeting with planning meeting.

CHEROKEE GROUP (Chattanooga)

NOVEMBER STRATEGY (Board Meeting): 2nd Wednesday, November 10, at 6:00 p.m. - AT NEW location -- the Brained Bethlehem Resource Center, located at the Brained United Methodist Church, 4413 Brained Road, next to the Balloon Factory.

Program Meetings continue at GreenSpaces. Join us there -- all members and interested people welcome -- as we discuss issues and plan our actions! To place an item on the agenda, contact Elizabeth Gazaway-Tallman at 423.619.0379.

NOVEMBER PROGRAM: Last Monday, November 29, 7 p.m., at Green Spaces, 63 E. Main Street, Chattanooga. Our topic: Green Medicine/Environmental Medicine, with a Panel Presentation of Green Medicine Practitioners, including Dr. Charles Adams, MD; June Drennon, CCT; Faye Henry; Jeff Ransom; and Jeff Hall, DC.

Sierra Club members, and most people who care about the environment, acknowledge that massive levels of toxins being dumped on our planet. With Environmental Medicine, holistic health practitioners make the connection between a toxic and grassroots level of human and environmental deficiencies from depleted soils, pesticides, genetically modified organisms, and factory farming practices. They seek to detox and support nutritional balance. People in the environmental movement and those in holistic health share many concerns while appreciating the benefits of organic foods and supporting local farming. Come to hear a thoughtful presentation from some of our area’s best “Green Health” practitioners. Bring your friends -- the public is always welcome at all Sierra Club activities, and after the program we’ll enjoy great (and healthy) refreshments too!

NOTE: Our Program Meetings continue to be held at GreenSpaces, 63 E. Main St., which is a non-descript storefront building in the 1st block west of market Street sitting on the corner of Market Street and the left. It is kiddy-corner from the Fire Department. Watch for the Sierra Club banner! December STRATEGY (Board Meeting): 2nd Wednesday, December 8, 6:00 p.m. - AT NEW location -- Brained Bethlehem Resource Center, located at the Brained United Methodist Church, 4413 Brained Road, next to the Balloon Factory.

Program Meetings continue at GreenSpaces. Join us there -- all members and interested people welcome -- as we discuss issues and plan our actions! To place an item on the agenda, contact Elizabeth Gazaway-Tallman at 423.619.0379.

DEC/JAN NEW YEAR CELEBRATION COVERED DISH SUPPER: Dr. Cho, 2-5:00pm, takes the place of our December program -- Come together for fun and fellowship at Barbara & Bill Hurst’s home on Signal Mountain for our annual covered dish supper. Bring a dish to share -- and your favorite photos of travel, outings, the environment -- as we talk about interests and issues along with fellowship. Invite your friends and bring your family for a relaxing and fun evening at Barbara and Bill’s wonderful home. Call Barbara at 423.886.9503 for directions, or e-mail her at barbaraduckhurst@hotmail.com.

CHICKASAW GROUP (Memphis)

(Sign up for our monthly email events list on the calendar page http://tennessee.sierraclub.org/chickasaw/)

Thursday, November 4, 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm, Sierra Club Chickasaw Group Monthly First Thursday Gathering, Otherlands, 641 S. Cooper, Memphis, TN.

Sierra Club members, activists and friends meet in a casual setting to talk about issues and interests. For more information, contact Emily Schwimmer at eschwimm@gmail.com or Deborah Mayes at (901) 722-4111.

Monday, November 8, 6:30 pm, Sierra Club Chickasaw Group Strategy Meeting, Panera Bread, 4530 Poplar Avenue, Suite 101, Memphis, TN.

The Executive Committee meets on the second Monday of every month. This is a business meeting but members are welcome to attend. For more information or to place items on the agenda, contact Nancy Brannon at nтехchair@gmail.com or (901) 829-4360. Agenda items need to be submitted at least 3 days prior to the meeting.

Saturday, November 13, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, Sierra Club Environmental Justice Conference: “An Interconnected Environmental Web,” Unitarian Universalist Church of the River, Memphis, TN.

Enjoy a wide range of presenters at the only annual conference in West Tennessee! Free to the public & lunch included! For more information and to register, contact Rita Harris at (901) 324-7757. For details see https://www.scha.org/events/2010-conference-brochure.pdf

Wednesday, November 17, 6:30 pm, Networking & Snacks; 7:00 pm Program, Sierra Club Chickasaw Group Monthly First Monday Gathering, Otherlands, 641 S. Cooper, Memphis, TN.

Topic and speaker to be announced on the Chickasaw Group web page and Facebook page. For more information or to suggest a future presentation, contact Susan Routon at susan.routon@gmail.com or (901) 413-3888.

Friday, December 10, 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm, Sierra Club Chickasaw Group Holiday Party: Burch, Porter, & Johnson Law Firm, 130 N Court Ave., Memphis, TN (located across from the northeast corner of Court Square).

This party is for members and invited guests only. Join us for our annual awards event and celebration! Street parking is free at meters in the evening and in parking lot behind building (enter from Jefferson). Please bring an appetizer or dessert with serving utensil. Beverages provided by Chickasaw Group with a donation. For more information contact Nancy Brannon at ntechchair@gmail.com or (901) 829-4360.

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Ten Essentials for Hiking  
Sierra Club outings offer a variety of wildness 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!

Announcement to Upper Cumberland Group  
Effective January 1, 2011, Upper Cumberland Group will be in re-organization status. Any member of UCG may petition the National Sierra Club membership office for re-assignment to another group while UCG is in re-organization status, in order to get needed meetings and group activities and committees. For additional information please contact Katherine Pendleton, TN Chapter Chair at 615-943-6877 or Katherine.pendleton@sierraclub.org.

Meetings (continued from page 9)

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: https://www.sierraclub.org/tennessee/tennessee/ten/2008/10/program_meetings.html

Sierra Club Chickasaw Group is now on Facebook:
http://www.facebook.com/chickasawgroup/

This is a forum for public discussion, so please feel free to post comments, raise issues, and express environmental concerns.

WATAUGA GROUP (Northeastern TN)

PROGRAM MEETINGS: Every second Tuesday at 7 p.m. Please contact Gloria Griffith at gla4797@earthlink.net or 423-727-4797 for more information.

Microsoft Word - Page 10 - November/December, 2010
Positive Energy, Environmental Legislation May Be Introduced After Election

By Steven Sondheim

Before the congressional break very little clean energy or climate legislation moved forward. Corporate polluters and their allies in Washington continue to launch attacks on the EPA’s ability to clean up pollution.

Recently a group of Republican senators introduced a bill that would require the President and both chambers of Congress to approve all major rules from the EPA and all other federal agencies. It is reflective of a growing wave of corporate opposition to the protection of public health and welfare. Let Senators Corker and Alexander know you want to preserve EPA’s authority.

Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM) introduced a bill to create a national renewable electricity standard (RES). This bill would require that electricity utilities generate 15% of their energy from renewable energy or efficiency by 2021, and is based on the version of the RES that passed out of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee last year (S.1462). It will likely come up when the Senate comes back after the November elections.

In addition to an RES, there are a number of positive energy and environmental bills that may come to the floor in November. Namely, a Gulf Coast Recovery bill that includes key programs such as the “Home Star” energy efficiency retrofit program, Senator Dorgan’s (D-ND) electric vehicle initiative, and full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Transportation Initiatives

EPA authority on clean air is under attack by industry, many Republicans and some Democrats. We need to rally around EPA’s authority to regulate greenhouse gas after Congress returns in November.

The President announced his support for a full 6-year transportation authorization, front-loaded with $50 billion infrastructure bank to fund transportation, energy and water projects. The President’s support is helpful, but at the end of the day these initiatives must be passed by Congress.

Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood met with Sierra Club Chairman Carl Pope to discuss how to pay for transportation by linking it with reducing oil consumption and lowering VMT (Vehicle Miles Traveled).

“We need both lower VMT and greater fuel efficiency to effectively lower greenhouse gas. Neither gets us there alone.” Pope said.


Historic standards have been approved for vehicle fuel economy and fuel efficiency and are effective in 2016. The next round is 2017-2025: Electric cars could help reach a 60 miles per gallon goal.

The work on clean ports is based on Port of Los Angeles progress. We are pushing for the Clean Ports Act (H.R. 5967). We have 82 co-sponsors in the House and are working with labor for passage of the legislation. Ask your Representative to cosponsor the Clean Ports Act!

Join Activists Network

The new Transportation Activists network is a place for folks of all experience levels to learn about and take action on transportation issues at the local and national level. The reason for building up the network is to showcase a widespread interest in reducing VMT as a way to move “beyond oil.” These new activists are called on to ‘take action’ to reduce VMT and oil. You can sign up for the network at http://action.sierrachrl.org/TransportationActivists.

The Freight Working Group is focusing on more efficient shipping that uses less oil, requires less road capacity, and makes better use of rail. The trucking industry is pushing for new truck only lanes and freeway widening.

Contact me at StevenSondheim@yahoo.com for more information about these issues.

We invite Sierra Club Executive Director Michael Brune’s comments on climate change, energy legislation, EPA authority, coal ash, and transportation by typing “Daily Kos Michael Brune” into Google.

Tennessee Green Jobs Conference a Success

Space doesn’t permit a full article, For a report and YouTube videos of some of the presentations click www.tnapt.org.

Contact me at StevenSondheim@yahoo.com to suggest energy related topics for future Energy Corner columns.

Wind Energy Could Play Big Role

Reprinted from Oil Daily

Given the right financial and political backing, wind turbines could generate more than a fifth of the world’s electricity by 2030, saving 34 billion tons of carbon dioxide emissions by not burning fossil fuels, according to a report released Oct. 12, Global Wind Energy Outlook 2010, from industry lobby group Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) and Greenpeace International.

That is the best scenario envisaged by GWEC — but it says that even less optimistic and pragmatic assumptions suggest wind power could meet 6%-22% of global electricity needs by 2030, but stresses that the volume of installed capacity will still be substantial.

The group expects China to reach 95 GW of installed wind capacity by 2030 under its reference, or lowest-assumption, scenario, up from roughly 25.9 GW at the end of 2009. India is expected to reach 31 GW, Europe 234 GW and the US 141 GW.

The International Energy Agency reckons global electricity demand could reach 29,000 terawatt hours (TWh) by 2030. But GWEC data suggest improved energy efficiency could keep demand to just 25,000 TWh by then.

Public Comments Wanted on TVA’s Energy Plan

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) is currently planning our energy future for the next 20 years. Will they go heavy on dirty coal? Or nuclear? Or will TVA focus on a future that reduces our costs and our reliance on pollution/radioactive waste while increasing emphasis on energy efficiency and renewables?

Will you join us and speak out in favor of a 1% per year energy efficiency goal? Please submit a comment online. You can easily do so by going to http://www.tva.gov/irp and clicking on “online comment form.” The deadline for your comments is November 8.

The Memphis City Council and Shelby County Commissioners recently passed a resolution urging TVA to implement a 1% energy efficiency plan per year. Besides costing less, this would pollute less, free up extra energy for critical business development, and avoid new power plant construction.

For more info & talking points refer to http://www.solarvalleycoalition.net/
Environment and Conservation Announces Walk with Me Tennessee Initiative Helps Encourage Communities with Pedestrian-Friendly Planning

NASHVILLE – Department of Environment and Conservation Commissioner Jim Fyke announced the launch of its new Walk with Me Tennessee initiative, addressing recreational efforts for cities and counties that focus on planning, health and fitness opportunities, infrastructure, connecting community areas and safety.

Designed as an assessment tool, the program ranks community “walkability” and provides pertinent planning information to help communities increase their pedestrian friendliness.

“The department’s Recreation Educational Services Division is striving to increase awareness of alternate transportation and lower the obesity percentage of our citizens,” said Fyke. “Currently, Tennessee is ranked second in the nation for obesity and the national obesity rate of children is increasing to a hazardous level. Combine the obesity statistics, cost of fuel and the environmental impacts of vehicle emissions – having a community with alternate transportation options is invaluable to all Tennesseans’ quality of life.”

Prior to making the program available to communities across the state of Tennessee, seven pilot communities were chosen to serve as part of the program’s initial research, including the cities of Athens, Clarksville, Cleveland, Collegedale, Jackson, Manchester, and Sevierville.

For more information about the Walk with Me Tennessee program or to obtain the Inventory and Assessment application, please visit the Web site at www.tn.gov/environment/recreation. Assessment applications also can be sent to the department’s Recreation Educational Services for scoring at 401 Church Street, L&C Tower - 10th Floor, Nashville, TN 37219 or e-mail to TDEC.RES@tn.gov.

Lawyers, Activists Join to Exchange Information on Environmental Issues

Registration is now open for the first annual Appalachian Public Interest Environmental Law (APIEL) conference Nov. 19-21 at the University of Tennessee College of Law in Knoxville. APIEL welcomes law students, attorneys, activists, scientists, and community members to the UT College of Law for a weekend of workshops and panels focused on exchanging information and fostering collaboration between activists and attorneys addressing the most critical ecological issues of our time.

Topics Include:
• The Basics of Mountaintop Removal and Strip Mining
• Utilizing the Clean Water Act and the Clean Air Act in the Appalachian region
• The Endangered Species Act and its potential for impact in the Southeastern U.S.
• Lawyering for Environmental Justice: The Broadfront Deced
• NEPA and the Precautionary Principle
• Forest Protection and Ecological Restoration
• “Know your rights” as activists and as the attorneys who represent them

With the assistance of lawyers, grassroots activists, keynote speakers and presenters, the first APIEL conference hopes to both energize lawyers and create a common ground for community organizers and their legal support to communicate, educate each other and have fun.

For a complete list of workshops and panels visit www.apiel.org.

Cost
The attendance fee for the conference is $45 for Friday through Sunday, which includes pizza on Friday and Saturday night. All other meals, transportation and lodging are the responsibility of the participant. Participants who are only attending part of the conference may pay by the day.

For More Information and to Register for APIEL
Visit the APIEL website at www.apiel.org
Or visit our Facebook event page:

Questions? Email us: apielconference@yahoo.com
Call: (865) 287-4029
Fax: (888) 201-1104

THE TENNESSE SIERRAN
3340 Perimeter Hill Drive
Nashville, Tennessee 37211

THE Tennes-Sierran
3340 Perimeter Hill Drive
Tennes-Sierran
The Sierra Club-Middle TN Group

Moving?
Attach mailing address label, or fill in current name, address & Membership ID#

Current Address:

Member ID#:

My new address is:
Name:
Address:
City/State/Zip:

Mail to:
Sierra Club, P.O. Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041.

THE TENNESSE SIERRAN
3340 Perimeter Hill Drive
Nashville, Tennessee 37211

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Vol. 41, No. 6 - November/December, 2010

Bob Perlack
I am currently employed as an environmental resource economist/analyst at Oak Ridge National Laboratory and have plans to retire early next year. I’m looking forward to having considerable time (and hopefully energy) to become much more actively involved in the Sierra Club. My career at the lab has focused mostly on renewable energy systems—bioenergy, forestry, and hydropower in particular—conducting energy, economic, and environmental assessments including environmental impact statements. My career has also involved similar work overseas including environmental assessments of parks and environmentally sensitive areas.

My interests are quite varied and I’m open to working on a variety of issues, hopefully utilizing some of my experience. For enjoyment I like to hike, backpack, and fish in remote areas. I have been a Sierra Club member since the early 1980s co-leading outings (mostly in the 1980s with my wife, BJ) and as a participant in many outings. I was also a trail maintenance volunteer for the park in the early 1990s.

David Reister
I joined the Sierra Club in 1970 at Buffalo, NY, when I was asked to be the chair of the energy task force for the Niagara Group. I was active in the group until 1974 and served as out-going chair and group chair. In 1974, I moved to Oak Ridge and worked at the Institute for Energy Analysis and ORNL. I became active in the Harvey Broome Group in 1997 when the Tennessee Department of Transportation proposed to build the proposed Orange Route next to my house. In 1998 I joined the HBG ExCom. In 2000 I became conservation chair, and in 2008 I assumed the position of group chair. I am also the TVA chair for the TN Chapter. In 2005, I joined the national sustainable consumption committee. In 2007 I joined the sustainable planet strategy team, and in 2008 I was appointed as chair of the national biofuels task force. I plan to continue to be active on national energy issues. I am the chairman of the board for the Cumberland Trail Conference.

Linda Smithyman
I have been a Sierra Club member since 1989 and was involved in the Harvey Broome Group from 1994 - 2003 and 2009-10. When I moved to Nashville I continued my activities there. I have held positions as secretary, vice-chair, membership chair and chair, and have been a very active outings leader, coordinator of volunteers for the Third Creek Greenway Clean up and other activities. For years I have volunteered to do trail work and special events in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. I have attended public hearings about environmental issues and submitted my statements regarding issues to the EPA and other agencies. I would like to continue to serve on the HBG ExCom.

Candidate Statements: (continued from page 8)