

Tennes-Sierran

The Bi-Monthly state newsletter for the Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club

Volume 51, Number 6 - November/December 2018

The Tennessee Chapter Summer Retreat

By John Todd Waterman

The Watauga Group hosted our Summer Retreat and quarterly Business Meeting at Cedars of Lebanon State Park on the weekend of August 3.

On Saturday many of us headed off down the park's lovely trails, as others of us joined committee meetings. The morning's meetings began with the auspicious inaugural convening of the Renewable Energy/Ready for 100/Climate Change Committee, called together by Transportation Chair Dennis Lynch. We all understood the transcendent danger of climate change, which fundamentally and irreversibly threatens our hard-won environmental and social progress, entire ecosystems - and perhaps even our own existence. Still, no one has yet stepped forward to lead this vital committee. That could be you!

Bill Moll's Political Committee Meeting followed, with ex-National Political Chair Ken Brame sharing his expertise and his excitement about the role we can play in the upcoming national elections - our opportunity to win back our future from the corporate interests generally dictating environmental policy since the last election. Sierra Club's 501(c)(4) arm will be endorsing candidates at all levels. Ken explained

how those endorsements, properly handled, can also become our opportunity to leverage Sierra Club's positive influence.

After lunch facilitator Debbie Matthews of the Florida Chapter followed a challenging, compassionately caring Revitalization discussion with a session at which we chose new behavioral norms for carrying the Chapter forward.

And then, it was time to dine and unwind in the convivial Watauga Restaurant and Lounge. When our evening plan for a pool party fell through for lack of a lifeguard, that became another opportunity to connect.

Sunday's Executive Committee (ExCom) Meeting began with seating new Delegates: Paula Lennon for the Middle Tennessee Group, Jan Stone for the Chickamauga Group, and Lebanon's Cris Corley, who was chosen to fill an open At-Large Delegate seat. Alice Demetreon was confirmed as Treasurer.

Environmental Chair Axel Ringe then reviewed a painful, challenging year for environmental protection. That led to a discussion of elevating our hard-working and deserving organizer and lobbyist Scott Banbury from half-time status to full-time, which would be an expensive and irreversible decision. That

challenge inspired Grace Stranch and others of us to volunteer to help with fundraising.

The ExCom Nominating Committee's Chair Russ Gillenwater and I asked for Nominees, ideally ones who would bring more diversity to ExCom. Grace Stranch volunteered to chair the Chapter Election Committee, and a decision was made to institute e-balloting for the first time providing we were assured it would work as desired. Yet recently we were to be disappointed to discover that, as much as we all wanted e-balloting and the wider voter participation it promised, technicalities in our Chapter bylaws would preclude it until next year.

Political Chair Bill Moll recounted last year's successful February 20th Conservation Education Day (CED) and February 21st Conservation Lobby Day (CLD) in Nashville, and invited us to the coming February 2019 CED and CLD. Bill closed with a discussion of the Sierra Club endorsement process, stressing its importance - and the importance also of following proper procedures, submitting questionnaires, and interviewing candidates.

Come join us for our Winter Retreat. Find out how good it feels to "explore, enjoy, protect, and resist" in the company of fellow nature lovers and environmental champions.

Looking Ahead: Tennessee Chapter Winter Retreat January 25 - 27 Cedars of Lebanon State Park

Mark your calendars now for our Winter Retreat in the Group Camp of Cedars of Lebanon State Park, just north of Murfreesboro. Come for training, hiking, relaxing close to Nature, and the company of good friends, old and new. People from all across the state come to these gatherings!

Randy Hedgepath, our TN State Naturalist, will be leading hikes and nature walks both days. Saturday there will be citizen lobbying training and well as a focus on passing the TennCan bottle bill in the upcoming legislative session, with workshops to prepare us to hit the ground running in February. Other committee meetings may be happening too. You can participate in as much or as little as you wish, walking a short trail or sitting by the fire may be what appeals to you the most and that's ok!

Marge Davis will be our speaker Saturday evening; she's been behind the Bottle Bill for decades and believes this is the year we can finally get it passed. Did you know that Tennesseans recycle just 10% of the 4 billion-plus beverage containers we consume each year? TennCan will boost that figure to 80%, possibly higher, and it will do it in such a way that ensures the most beneficial use for

each container and generate millions of dollars for countless non-profits, schools, libraries, the homeless, etc. etc. across the state through bottle drives and donation bins or redemption centers! Marge will also facilitate in our workshops on Saturday.

We'll be at the Group Lodge; prices low (\$50/person with email or on-line reservation by Jan. 18, after that price rises to \$60/person; first-timeers 1/2 off; kids 15 and under free.) For that price you get bunkhouse lodging (women's & men's dorms,) 2 breakfasts and Saturday dinner - pack your own trail lunches. Payment happens when you check in at the Group Lodge. You can make your reservation on-line at <https://goo.gl/Vv3R42> or for more information and registration contact Barbara Hurst at barbaraduckhurst@hotmail.com.

Look for more details to come in the January/February Tennes-Sierran, with a detailed schedule and driving directions, as well as information on the release forms now required for our retreats. The Cherokee Group looks forward to hosting you all! Meanwhile, you can get a glimpse of the park by checking out their Facebook page at: <https://goo.gl/D1Q95b>

This is the Tennessee Sierra Club Election Issue - Please Vote

By Mac Post, Tennessee Chapter Chair

The Sierra Club is a democratically run, grass roots organization that depends on members like you to vote in club elections. Your vote determines who participates on the state and local executive committees. These committees guide how your Sierra Club operates and how your club allocates resources to local and regional environmental issues, legislation, and political endorsements.

Inside this newsletter, the only communication that reaches all our members in the state, are the election ballots for each of the 5 Tennessee Sierra Club Groups and for the State Chapter. With each ballot are the candidate statements. You do not have to know a candidate or be expert in the operation of the Groups or Chapter to vote. The fact that you vote is in itself crucial to the democratic nature of your Sierra Club. Your vote is very important.

Instructions are in the ballots for voting and mailing them in. Please consider completing 2 ballots - one for your local Group (you are a member of a group if you reside in the counties listed on the Group's ballot) and a second one for the State Chapter Executive Committee candidates. The procedure is a bit cumbersome but needed to ensure fair and confidential voting. The ballots must be received no later than December 15 so allow ample time for them to make their way through the mail. We currently do not have an electronic voting capability but are working on providing electronic voting options for next year's elections.

Sierra Social Hour

Join the Middle Tennessee Group of the Sierra Club for a Happy Hour Meet & Greet Refresh after work while meeting our new members Renew friendships with those that you haven't seen for a while
Thursday, November 15, 5:00 to 7:00 PM
Tailgate Brewery in Bellevue, 7300 Charlotte Pike
For additional information please email paulalennon615@gmail.com

Explore, Enjoy and Protect

Tennes-Sierran

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

SEND CHANGE OF ADDRESS TO:

*Email: address.changes@sierraclub.org
 *Snail Mail: clip the "Moving?" coupon on page 8 and mail

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

SEND ARTICLES TO:

E-mail: c.demetreon@mchsi.com
 ARTICLE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

Submission Target Date is November 30th for the January/February 2019 issue.

1. E-mail and e-mail attached files are preferred. Send to c.demetreon@mchsi.com either with embedded text messages or attached files. Attached files are preferred. Word is preferred but Apple users may send articles in Pages.
2. Photographs should be scanned in a .jpg or a .tif file format then either attached to e-mail or mailed via U.S. Postal Service on a 3 1/2" diskette or CD RM. Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you would like your diskette or photo prints returned.
3. Hard-copy handwritten or typewritten articles may be accepted; however, pre-approval from the Editor is required.
4. Any materials submitted via USPS mail will not be returned unless a stamped, self-addressed envelope is provided.
5. Concerns or complaints should be addressed to: Tennessee Chapter Ombudsman, Joel Gearhardt at jgearhardt@yahoo.com. The opinions expressed in the Tennes-Sierran are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the Tennessee Chapter or the Sierra Club.

Cutoff Date for the January/February Issue is November 30, 2018.

All meetings and outings notices, articles, and photographs should be in by then.

Send material to Chris Demetreon at c.demetreon@mchsi.com



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

All Creatures Great and Small



"Every good thing, great and small, needs defense"

- John Muir

Join Sierra Club and help protect all creatures, great and small.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____
 Zip _____ Phone (____) _____
 Email _____

Join today and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!



Check enclosed. Please make payable to Sierra Club.
 Please charge my: Visa Mastercard AMEX
 Cardholder Name _____
 Card Number _____
 Exp. Date ____/____/____
 Signature _____

Membership Categories	Individual	Joint
Special Offer	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$49
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Student/Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35

Contributions, gifts and dues to Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1 for your Chapter newsletters.

Enclose a check and mail to Sierra Club, P.O. Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32141-6417 or visit our website www.sierraclub.org

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Sierra Club Officers

TENNESSEE CHAPTER:

Chair: Mac Post 865-806-0980
mpost3116@gmail.com
 Vice Chair: Bill Moll 423-702-5779
whmoll@aol.com
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mcjoann@gmail.com
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demetreon1981@gmail.com
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onyxfarm@bellsouth.net
 Outings: Denise Bivens 865-384-5138
denisebivens@gmail.com
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mpost3116@gmail.com

TN LOCAL GROUPS:

Cherokee Group

<https://www.sierraclub.org/tennessee/cherokee>
 Chair: Barbara Kelly 423-718-5009
bk1rivers@gmail.com
 Vice Chair: Kate Anthony 513-365-7989
rainbowgardener2@gmail.com
 Secretary: Kate Anthony 513-365-7989
rainbowgardener2@gmail.com
 Treasurer: Barbara Hurst 423-886-9503
barbaraduckhurst@hotmail.com
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rainbowgardener2@gmail.com
 Outings: John Doyal 423-315-0965
2ndoutdoorscha@gmail.com
 Marie Brown 423-499-9691
marietommybrown@gmail.com
 Chapter Delegate: Bill Moll 423-702-5779
whmoll@aol.com
 Upper Cumberland Committee: Josephine McQuail 931-520-0449
jmquail@tntech.edu

Chickasaw Group - Memphis

<https://www.sierraclub.org/tennessee/chickasaw>
 Chair: Dennis Lynch 901-361-8029
dmlynch1@gmail.com
 Vice Chair: Joe Ozegovich 901-361-8029
jozegovich@yahoo.com
 Secretary: Dawn Nielsen 901-283-5887
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jozegovich@yahoo.com
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jozegovich@yahoo.com
 Outings: Sue Williams 901-274-0524
SCMemphisOutings@gmail.com

Harvey Broome Group - Knoxville/Oak Ridge

<https://www.sierraclub.org/tennessee/harvey-broome>
 Chair: Ron Shrieves 865-922-3518
ronshrieves@gmail.com
 Vice Chair: Joanne Logan 865-974-8803
loganj@utk.edu
 Secretary: Kris Christen 865-292-8277.
christen@nasw.org
 Treasurer: Bob Perlack 865-898-5751
perlack@aol.com
 Conservation: Axel Ringe 865-387-7398
onyxfarm@bellsouth.net
 Outings: Ron Shrieves 865-922-3518
ronshrieves@gmail.com

Middle Tennessee Group - Nashville

<https://www.sierraclub.org/tennessee/middle-tennessee>
 Chair: Grace Stranch 615-646-1102
graces@bsjfirm.com
 Vice Chair: Charles High 615-500-5499
cahigh1722@aol.com
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mary.w.high@gmail.com
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jgearhardt@yahoo.com
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Watauga Group - Northeast Tennessee

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gja4797@embarqmail.com
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scanford1258@yahoo.com
 Secretary: Dennis Shekinah 423-534-4804
bmwbruno@icloud.com
 Treasurer: Cindy Johnson 423-895-1687
cinnyj@hotmail.com
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Chapter Staff:
Scott Banbury
Conservation Program Coordinator
901-619-8567

Editor:
Chris Demetreon

<http://www.sierraclub.org/tennessee>



MEETING SCHEDULE

Chapter Retreat	Location	Dates
Winter	Cedars of Lebanon State Park	January 25 - 27
Spring	Fall Creek Falls State Park	May 3 - 5
Summer	Cedars of Lebanon State Park	July 26 - 28

The Chapter retreat will begin at 4 PM on Friday and end at 2 PM on Sunday. All TN Chapter Retreat participants will be required to sign the standard Sierra Club outings liability waiver when checking in at the retreat location. To review this waiver, please visit http://content.sierraclub.org/outings/sites/content.sierraclub.org/outings/files/forms/local-outings-sign-in_waiver.pdf

Any attendee under the age of 18 not accompanied by parent or legal guardian will need to have a signed liability waiver and medical authorization form with them when they arrive. To review these waivers, please visit http://content.sierraclub.org/outings/sites/content.sierraclub.org/outings/files/individual_waiver.pdf and <http://content.sierraclub.org/outings/sites/content.sierraclub.org/outings/files/forms/local-outings-minor-release.pdf>

Public meetings in Clarksville on proposed AtlasBX lead-acid battery plant

By JoAnn McIntosh

Hundreds of Clarksville residents attended two meetings September 26 to voice their concerns about pollutants expected from new industry in Montgomery County. The AtlasBX lead-acid battery plant, sister company to recently-opened Hankook Tire, filed for permits projecting lead emissions ~1000 lbs/year, in addition to other pollutants such as sulfuric acid and sulfur dioxide, for total particulate matter emissions of 100,000lbs/year. The proposed plant will be located within two miles of three schools, a hospital, a vineyard, and hundreds of homes.

Members of Sierra Club Clarksville-Montgomery County spoke at the 2pm meeting

Call to Action

Hello Chapter Leaders, Volunteers, and Staff,

Mike O'Brien and I are seeking your thoughts, comments and input on the draft Urban Infill Policy (<https://goo.gl/YHTD2C>). Today, October 1, 2018, marks the beginning of the formal 60 day review process which was approved by the Sierra Club Board of Directors this past weekend in Denver. This process is to allow chapters, volunteers and staff to provide comments, thoughts and suggestions on this draft policy. The Urban Infill Task Force will evaluate and review all comments collected during this comment period. We are looking forward to hearing your feedback.

Background

In many high-growth urban areas in the United States we are facing a climate crisis, housing crisis, transportation crisis, and habitat loss crisis; and all are impacted by issues around urban infill development. At the same time there are often justice and equity issues associated with gentrification, displacement and lack of affordable hous-

ing. It is imperative to develop the right framework with which our volunteers and staff can engage with communities and effectively navigate the issues and advocate in alignment with our justice, equity, and climate goals.

The Urban Infill Task Force was convened to consult with stakeholders and experts to develop a new policy that addresses these challenges in our urban environments. The task force has worked over the past 5 months to develop this policy and we are eager to receive thoughts and comments on the language.

We have created a google form (<https://goo.gl/forms/SGbZV6dzueCPbfNy2>) to capture comments, edits and suggestions. There are line and page numbers to reference specific sentences or paragraphs.

We will be accepting comments until November 30, 2018.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this draft policy language.

~Mike O'Brien, Sierra Club Board of Directors and Morgan Ellis, Associate Director, Clean Transportation for All Campaign

no basis for deferral.

Dozens more citizens spoke at the 6pm TDEC meeting, citing statistics on lead-related health issues in other communities with similar plants, local Clean Air Act and OSHA violations from AtlasBX's sister company Hankook in the past year, and questioning the benefits of 200 new jobs when weighed against the consequences of increased pollution in a city that is already rated 24th in a list of "Most Toxic Places" in the nation. TDEC responded that AtlasBX's lead projections were within the limits set by the EPA; the air permit was issued the following morning.

Save the Date

Conservation Education Day 2019

Tuesday evening, February 12 - Registration and Training - Location TBD

Wednesday, February 13 - Meet with Your Legislators - Cordell Hull Bldg., Nashville

Middle TN Group of the Sierra Club Holiday Party

Please join us! Celebrate the holidays with old and new friends.

Bring a favorite dish to share and your own table service. MTG to supply ham, turkey & soft drinks.

Saturday 12/8/18, 3:30PM - 7:30PM
1247 General George Patton Rd,
Nashville TN
River Plantation Section VII Clubhouse

If you need additional information or plan to come, please email paulalennon615@gmail.com or russ.m.crawford@gmail.com

Chapter E-Newsletter Editor Wanted

The Tennessee Chapter is looking for an electronic newsletter editor.

The Chapter's monthly E-Newsletter contains Tennessee relevant content that is time-sensitive and action oriented, including requests for members and other activists to take action on issues of concern to the Club. This tool promotes the quarterly Chapter Retreats and celebrates victories and successes.

Editor responsibilities include receiving/gathering proposed articles from Sierra Club members in the Tennessee Chapter and its Groups, editing as required, confirming that material does not have publication restrictions, and developing the E-Newsletter in Sierra's implementation of Marketing Cloud software. Support for learning to use the software will be provided.

If you are interested, please email Gary Bowers at sierra@totheforest.net. Please use E-NEWSLETTER APPLICANT in the subject line of your email. Include any information that you would like that supports your desire to fill this vital role.

Tennes-Sierran Editor Wanted

The Tennessee Chapter is looking for a new editor for the Tennes-Sierran.

The bi-monthly Tennes-Sierran contains Tennessee relevant content that is primarily educational and historical. This tool promotes the upcoming quarterly Chapter Retreats and celebrates Chapter and Group victories and successes. It is also used to announce Group business program meetings, Group business meetings, and special events.

Editor responsibilities include receiving/gathering proposed articles from Sierra Club members in the Tennessee Chapter and its Groups, editing as required, confirming that material does not have publication restrictions, formatting and retouching photographs and developing the Newsletter in Adobe InDesign. Guidance will be provided.

If you are interested, please email Gary Bowers at sierra@totheforest.net. Please use TENNES-SIERRAN APPLICANT in the subject line of your email. Include any information that you would like that supports your desire to fill this vital role.

Election Ballot of At-Large Delegates for the Tennessee Chapter Executive Committee: 2019-2020 Term

Please vote for the election of three (3) members of the Tennessee Chapter Executive Committee (ExCom), each having a two-year term beginning January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020. Successful candidates will join our other ExCom Members in managing our fiscal, legislative, environmental, outings and other responsibilities for our Chapter.

Ballots must be received no later than December 15, 2018 to be valid. Only current members as of November 1, 2018 may vote. Joint members must use the same ballot.

Single Members or each Joint Member should vote for no more than three (3) candidates. The order of candidates on the ballot was determined by drawing names at random.

2018 Tennessee Chapter At-Large Election for 2019-2020

	Single Member or First Joint Member	Second Joint Member
Gloria Griffith	_____	_____
Alice Demetreon	_____	_____
Gary Bowers	_____	_____
Cris Corley	_____	_____
Marquita Bradshaw	_____	_____

Submit your Ballot: Only current members as of November 1, 2018 may vote.

Place both Group and At Large ballots in the same envelope, seal and write "Ballot" on the envelope. Place this "Ballot" envelope in a second envelope for mailing.

Write your name, address, and Sierra Club membership number in the upper left hand corner of the mailing envelope. Your membership number is located to the left of your name on the mailing label of your Tennes-Sierran.

- Envelopes without name, address, and membership number cannot be counted.
- Mail promptly! Ballots must be received no later than December 15, 2018 to be valid.

Mail to: Grace Stranch
223 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, Suite 200
Nashville, TN 37203

Candidate Biographies:

Gloria Griffith

At the Chapter level, Gloria presently volunteers as a member of the Budget and Legislative Committees, and previously served several terms as Vice Chair. She currently serves as Watauga Group Chair and Delegate. Gloria's environmental enthusiasms include Cherokee National Forest wilderness designation plus grassroots activism for clean air and water quality. Gloria is a resident of Mountain City, TN since 1995 and a Sierra Club member since 2004. She received an Elementary Education BS degree from Jacksonville University. Gloria retired after teaching in New Jersey, Florida and Guam and being a retail shop owner and a wholesale garden center supply sales representative.

Alice Demetreon

I have always loved nature. Growing up in Chicago, I walked the beaches every chance I got. A poor kid from the North Side does not have a lot of opportunities to be "in the wild." I was fortunate to have a mother who took us to Chicago's nature preserves where I wandered the woods, loving every minute. That is why I know the Sierra Club's Inner City Outings program is so very important.

In 2012 I watched *Gasland*. How many people can say a movie truly changed their life? In 2013 I attended my first anti-fracking rally where I learned of the Sierra Club from Scott Banbury. I was inspired and immediately became a member.

I became very active in my local group by organizing and attending marches, also joining the Executive and Political Committees. In January 2014 I became the TN Chapter Treasurer. I was an At-Large Delegate for 2 years and know the commitment and work it requires.

As the TN Chapter Treasurer, I am ready to help continue fighting for the Environment. I know as an At-Large Delegate I can help members voice what direction they would like the Chapter to go. I seek to connect to the younger crowd out there who are ready to make noise and let legislators know we are watching and the Environment is not for sale to the highest bidder.

Gary Bowers

Gary is committed to ensuring that everyone has an opportunity to experience nature and the natural wonders of the world. He has lived that commitment for the past 30-plus years working diligently to protect our planet. He has been a member of the Sierra Club since 1984, and actively engaged in conservation work since the late 1980's.

Gary strives to be well informed about current threats to our environment. He strongly believes that we are at a critical crossroads in the areas of energy conservation/alternative energy generation and local/organic (non-GMO) food production and that these very important issues should continue to be key Chapter focus areas.

An At-Large delegate represents the entire Chapter (State of Tennessee) and provides leadership. This means having a working knowledge, historical and current, of Sierra Club national initiatives, Tennessee Chapter initiatives, and how the two relate.

Fifteen years as a previous Tennessee Chapter Conservation Chair provide an extensive knowledge of these areas. Experience includes: revising Chapter conservation committees, aligning with National Club priorities, establishing goals and mission statements, helping bring Sierra National's Beyond Coal Campaign to Tennessee, obtaining Sierra's first End Commercial Logging on Federal Public Lands Campaign in the country, and drafting forest protection legislation.

Gary's true passions are the hardwood forests of Tennessee and collecting mineral specimens.

Your vote would be appreciated.

Cris Corley

Since I was a young man, my interests have been in studying the environmental consequences of human negligence. Jacques Cousteau stirred my interest in protecting the planet.

My undergraduate degree was in biology and chemistry. Dr. Oliver Yates, Chairman of Biology, Lipscomb University was my mentor. He led the effort to preserve Radnor Lake and in 1981 directed my research in protecting its shores.

In the summer of 2000, Nashville planned a super-regional landfill on the Cumberland River. Attorney Frank Fly and I formed a grassroots organization, Save our Bend (SOB) and defeated their efforts.

I currently serve as Vice Chairman of the Wilson County Parks and Recreation Commission. We are planning and developing a trail system to connect Cedars of Lebanon and Long Hunter State Parks.

I began serving on the Tennessee Chapter Executive Committee in 2018.

With the local and statewide participation of Sierra members, we can continue to increase our influence with government officials and with the general public. We must keep Sierra's environmental issues in the forefront. Whether fighting landfills, protecting our waterways, or enjoying Tennessee trails, I will continue to work hard as a member of the Executive Committee. Your vote would be greatly appreciated.

Marquita Bradshaw

Marquita Bradshaw is a lifelong Memphian who has extensive experience in the environmental justice movement and who advocates for human rights. The catalyst that got her started was when she conducted an awareness campaign in defense of her friend's brother, Tom Marshall, who had been falsely accused of a crime, resulting in his exoneration through the efforts of Jaribu Hill and the late Chokwe Lumumba. She is an alumna of the University of Memphis and is committed to lifelong learning. She began writing press releases and planning direct actions with Defense Depot Memphis, Tennessee - Concerned Citizens Committee (DDMT-CCC) to educate and fight for her childhood community, where the rates of sickness and death surpass national averages, seeking justice for contamination from its Superfund site, the Memphis Defense Depot chemical and biological warfare military landfill. Marquita continues to serve as a volunteer project director for DDMT-CCC. In 1999 she was one of the eleven founders of Youth Terminating Pollution.

Along with serving her community, Ms. Bradshaw served as Community Communications Liaison to the Memphis Community Advisory Board of the Southern Gateway Environmental Health Disparities Research Center of Excellence on behalf of the Memphis Chapter CBTU Community Action and Response Against Toxics (CARAT) Team, a national task force that collects and disseminates information about pollution. Marquita's career and service have spanned labor, environment, education reform, tax reform, trade policy, and social justice work with the Tennessee African American Environmental Justice Network and the AFL-CIO Organizing Institute as well as the CBTU CARAT Team. She also served on the boards of the International Coalition to Ban Depleted Uranium Weapons, the African American Environmental Justice Network, the Military Toxics Project, Youth Terminating Pollution, and the Mid-South Peace and Justice Center. Bradshaw is the recipient of the Human Rights Award from the Mid-South Peace and Justice Center and of the VOX Student Award: Financial Literacy High School Pilot Campaign Partnership with Bank of Bartlett.

Election Ballot for Cherokee Group

Executive Committee: 2019 - 2020 Term

You are in the Cherokee Group if you live in one of these southeast Tennessee counties: Bledsoe, Bradley, Coffee, Franklin, Grundy, Jackson, Hamilton, Marion, McMinn, Meigs, Monroe, Overton, Polk, Putnam, Rhea, Sequatchie, Van Buren, Warren or White.

Please vote for the election of five (5) members of the Cherokee Group Executive Committee (ExCom), each having a two-year term beginning January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020. Successful candidates will join our other ExCom Members in guiding our Group's actions.

Ballots must be received no later than December 15, 2018 to be valid. Only current members as of November 1, 2018 may vote. Joint members must use the same ballot. Single Members or each Joint Member should vote for no more than five (5) candidates. The order of candidates on the ballot was determined by drawing names at random.

Cherokee Group	Single Member or First Joint Member	Second Joint Member
Barbara Hurst	_____	_____
Jenn Galler	_____	_____
Barbara Kelly	_____	_____
Bob Pyle	_____	_____
Sandy Kurtz	_____	_____
John Doyle	_____	_____
Bill Moll	_____	_____

Submit your Ballot: Only current members as of November 1, 2018 may vote.

Place both Group and At Large ballots in an envelope, seal and write "Ballot" on the envelope. Place this "Ballot" envelope in a second envelope for mailing.

Write your name, address, and Sierra Club membership number in the upper left hand corner of the mailing envelope. Your membership number is located to the left of your name on the mailing label of your Tennes-Sierran.

- Envelopes without name, address, and membership number cannot be counted.
- Mail promptly! Ballots must be received no later than December 15, 2018 to be valid.

Mail ballot to: **Grace Stranch, Sierra Club Elections**
223 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, Suite 200
Nashville, TN 37203

Candidate Biographies:

Barbara Hurst

Barbara is a speech therapist. She's a native of England, has travelled widely through 50+ countries, lived in 5, and been settled here in Chattanooga for many years, though she is often still traveling around the world! She loves to hike, and is a frequent participant on Cherokee outings. A Cherokee Group member for many years, she helped reestablish the current Group and is serving as Group Treasurer.

Jenn Galler

Jenn is a recent college graduate and is now an organizer with Southern Alliance for Clean Energy- primarily in Chattanooga, but also organizing in Knoxville. She is currently organizing a grassroots campaign called Renew TN which advocates clean, affordable energy in the state of Tennessee. Some of her tasks include, building relationships, planning events, and advocating Renew TN throughout the cities. She believes that clean energy is the key to a better future.

Barbara Kelly

Barbara is active in climate action issues, working with both Climate Chattanooga - Healthy Energy for Everyone (CCHEE) and Chattanooga Citizens Climate Lobby (CCL,) advancing the belief in a 100% clean energy future in Chattanooga and for Tennessee. She's willing to work behind the scenes on things like mailing lists and our Group newsletter. She currently serves as Group Chair, and Fundraising Chair for the Chapter.

Bob Pyle

Bob is a life member of the Sierra Club, with a long held interest in Water Quality and

Anti-Nuclear efforts. A semi-retired attorney, he has represented the Sierra Club and others in several lawsuits related to coal mine pollution and nuclear power plants.

Sandy Kurtz

Sandy has long been active in the environmental education field while dealing with environmental issues at local, state, and Federal levels. She was one of the founders of the Tennessee Environmental Education Association in 1974, and went on to establish the first educational programs at the Chattanooga Nature Center and at the TVA Energy Center Museum. She went to Paris with Sierra Club for Climate Accord work. Lately she works primarily on nuclear, climate change, local water quality, energy justice, and sustainability issues. She participates with Sierra Club's Beyond Coal Campaign.

John Doyal

A long-time advocate for wilderness protection for the Cherokee Forest, he's been a member since 1981. He has served on Sierra's National Wildlife and Endangered Species Committee, and continues to keep a watch on wildlife issues, especially our mountain lions in the South Cumberlands. An outings leader for several area groups, he currently serves as our Outings Chair.

Bill Moll

Bill has been a Sierra Club member for many years - way back in 1973 he helped stop clear-cutting in the Cherokee Forest. He has been the Group representative on the chapter ExCom since 2017 and is the current Chapter Vice-Chair, Political Committee Chair and Conservation Education Day coordinator.

Election Ballot for Watauga Group

Executive Committee: 2019 - 2020 Term

You are in the Watauga Group if you live in one of these northeast Tennessee counties: Carter, Greene, Hancock, Hawkins, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi or Washington.

Please vote for the election of five (5) members of the Watauga Group Executive Committee (ExCom), each having a two-year term beginning January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020. Successful candidates will join our other ExCom Members in guiding our Group's actions.

Ballots must be received no later than December 15, 2018 to be valid. Only current members as of November 1, 2018 may vote. Joint members must use the same ballot. Single Members or each Joint Member should vote for no more than five (5) candidates. The order of candidates on the ballot was determined by drawing names at random.

Watauga Group	Single Member or First Joint Member	Second Joint Member
Jay Piper	_____	_____
Bob Carlough	_____	_____
Gloria Griffith	_____	_____
Dennis Shekinah	_____	_____
Wilbert Griffith	_____	_____
Dottie Grimes	_____	_____

How to Submit your Ballot: Only current members as of November 1, 2018 may vote.

Place both Group and At Large ballots in the same envelope, seal and write "Ballot" on the envelope. Place this "Ballot" envelope in a second envelope for mailing.

Write your name, address, and Sierra Club membership number in the upper left hand corner of the mailing envelope. Your membership number is located to the left of your name on the mailing label of your Tennes-Sierran.

- Envelopes without name, address, and membership number cannot be counted.
- Mail promptly! Ballots must be received no later than December 15, 2018 to be valid.

Mail ballot to: **Grace Stranch, Sierra Club Elections**
223 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, Suite 200
Nashville, TN 37203

Candidate Biographies:

Jay Piper

I have been a member of the Sierra Club for twenty years, I enjoy being an active participant in order to make a difference and spotlight conservation efforts in my community.

Bob Carlough

Bob serves on several Watauga Group Committees such as the Watauga Lake Cleanup, Watauga Lake Conservation Tour, and is an avid organic gardener and vintner. Retired as a Naturalist Tours Sea Captain in Cape May, NJ, Bob is now a resident of Butler, TN.

Gloria Griffith

Currently serving as Watauga Group Chair and TN Chapter ExCom delegate, Gloria's environmental enthusiasms includes Cherokee National Forest wilderness designation plus grassroots activism for clean air and water quality. Gloria is a resident of Mountain City, TN since 1995. She received an Elementary Education BS degree from Jacksonville University. After teaching in New Jersey, Florida and Guam, Gloria retired after being a retail shop owner and wholesale garden center supply sales representative.

Dennis Shekinah

I have been an active Sierra Club member since 2004. I have served on the Watauga ExCom as Secretary since its inception in 2006. I currently serve on 6 locally based

committees or NGOs which involve themselves with community development and/or clean water issues.

Wilbert 'Webb' Griffith

Webb has been a member of the Watauga Group since 2006 and previously a member of the Henry's Knob Group of the SC Chapter serving there as an outings leader. He is an avid woodworker, fishing enthusiast and canoeist. As an amateur chef/ baker since retirement Webb advocates for family farms and locally sourced food at farmers markets.

Dottie F. Grimes

I am a lifelong educator and because of my mostly rural teaching experience in both Arizona and Alaska I have been called upon to teach subjects at all levels kindergarten through grade 12. I also have University teaching experience. For the past 30 plus years I have remained active with nine nonprofit, member supported organizations which promote conserving our natural environment by influencing public policy decisions. I have worked on outreach and marketing committees, fundraising, and letter writing campaigns to legislators and officials. I strongly believe in supporting organizations whose efforts include conservation, promoting responsible use of ecosystems and resources, and continuing the fight for generations which follow.

Election Ballot for Chickasaw Group

Executive Committee: 2019 - 2020 Term

You are in the Chickasaw Group if you live in one of these west Tennessee counties: Benton, Carroll, Chester, Crockett, Decatur, Dyer, Fayette, Gibson, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Henry, Lake, Lauderdale, Madison; McNairy, Obion, Shelby, Tipton or Weakley.

Please vote for the election of seven (7) members of the Chickasaw Group Executive Committee (ExCom). The four (4) candidates who receive the most votes will each have a two-year term; the next three (3) candidates will each have a one-year term. Terms begin January 1, 2019. The elected ExCom Members will guide our Group's actions.

Ballots must be received no later than December 15, 2018 to be valid. Only current members as of November 1, 2018 may vote. Joint members must use the same ballot.

Single Members or each Joint Member should vote for no more than seven (7) candidates. The order of candidates on the ballot was determined by drawing names at random.

Chickasaw Group	Single Member or First Joint Member	Second Joint Member
Susan Moresi	_____	_____
Ramie Bell	_____	_____
C. Lynn Strickland	_____	_____
Claudio Meier	_____	_____
Marquita Bradshaw	_____	_____
Dennis Lynch	_____	_____
Charlie Belenky	_____	_____
Jan Stone	_____	_____

How to Submit your Ballot: Only current members as of November 1, 2018 may vote.

Place both Group and At Large ballots in the same envelope, seal and write "Ballot" on the envelope. Place this "Ballot" envelope in a second envelope for mailing.

Write your name, address, and Sierra Club membership number in the upper left hand corner of the mailing envelope. Your membership number is located to the left of your name on the mailing label of your Tennes-Sierran.

- Envelopes without name, address, and membership number cannot be counted.
- Mail promptly! Ballots must be received no later than December 15, 2018 to be valid.

Mail ballot to: Grace Stranch, Sierra Club Elections
223 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, Suite 200
Nashville, TN 37203

Candidate Biographies:

Susan Moresi

Susan Moresi got involved with the Chickasaw Group after reading that the TVA planned to use 3,500,000 gallons of clean, drinkable water from the Memphis Sands Aquifer every calendar day for the foreseeable future to cool equipment in its new, electricity-generating plant. Then she found out they are not the only ones! Since that time, when Susan tries to start a conversation about the aquifer, people typically respond by saying "What is an aquifer?" Susan says that "Yes, I very much support the Sierra Club's mission to inform and educate communities".

Another issue that bothers Susan, while not at all local, is the decimation of the world's elephant and rhinoceros populations for their tusks and horns. Susan doesn't exactly know what she can actually do to stop it, but she can publicize the situation, so she intends to do that. She would like to serve on the executive committee because she has attended and learned a great deal from presentations made by the Chickasaw Group, and she would like to help with this work to the extent that she can. Also, the people on this committee seem to be easy to work with. (So far).

Raymonde Bell (Ramie Bell)

Ramie Bell is a Civil Engineering student at the University of Memphis where she is a STEM ambassador and an American Society of Civil Engineering member. Her interests are clean water and waste management. Ramie's commitment to the environment blossomed during a high school summer trail crew in the Allegheny National Forest with the Student Conservation Association which spurred her to join forces with the Sierra Club and the Tennessee Youth Environmental Network (TennYEN). In high school she tabled for the Sierra Club and was a board member for TennYEN, where she developed skills in youth and community outreach, planned days of action, and organized two youth environmental summits. At Warren Wilson College, Ramie supported the successful divestment campaign, spent school breaks volunteering at the Mountain Justice Convergence and at climate change marches, and constructed an industry level compost system on the renovations work crew. Ramie has recently rejoined the Sierra Club Chickasaw Chapter where she has been supporting the Communications Committee with program PR and is excited to develop youth membership outreach efforts.

C. Lynn Strickland

Lynn Strickland has been a long-time advocate for better TVA energy Policy, particularly in the area of renewable solar energy. Very knowledgeable about implementing solar, Lynn is active in Memphis, advocating City efforts toward more effective solar and renewable energy. He leads efforts toward better coordination between TVA, MLGW, Bioworks, local manufacturers, local renewable service providers, and City and County Governments.

Lynn was previously on the Sustainable Shelby Committee and Tennessee Chapter's Rebuild & Repower Committee. Lynn has been on the Chickasaw Group Excom for three years and wants to continue his work with the Excom.

Claudio Meier

Claudio Meier is a faculty member in the Dept. of Civil Engineering, U. of Memphis. He is a Civil Engineer (B.Sc. 1988; Diploma, 1990, both a U. de Concepcion, Chile; M.Sc., 1995, Colorado State U.) as well as an Ecologist (Ph.D., 2008, U. of Montana), who specializes in ecohydrology and ecohydraulics, with transdisciplinary interests in the science and sustainable management and engineering of river systems, and in hydrological science and engineering. His academic interests focus on fluvial processes, environmental change in rivers, rainfall analysis, and urban flooding. He has consulting experience in river engineering, hydrologic/hydraulic design of civil works, environmental impact of water resources infrastructure, and recreational fisheries management. He is the foremost expert on environmental impacts of hydropower and flood control schemes in Chile, and has an ample record of outreach activities towards the scientific community and the public. His personal interests and hobbies include fly-fishing, hiking, travelling off the beaten path, languages, reading, and electric trains.

Marquita Bradshaw

Marquita Bradshaw is a lifelong Memphian who has extensive experience in the environmental justice movement and who advocates for human rights. The catalyst that got her started was when she conducted an awareness campaign in defense of her friend's brother, Tom Marshall, who had been falsely accused of a crime, resulting in his exoneration through the efforts of Jaribu Hill and the late Chokwe Lumumba. She is an alumna of the University of Memphis and is committed to lifelong learning. She began writing press releases and planning direct actions with Defense Depot Memphis, Tennessee - Concerned Citizens Committee (DDMT-CCC) to educate and fight for her childhood community, where the rates of sickness and death surpass national averages, seeking justice for contamination from its Superfund site, the Memphis Defense Depot chemical and biological warfare military landfill. Marquita continues to serve as a volunteer project director for DDMT-CCC. In 1999 she was one of the eleven founders of Youth Terminating Pollution.

Along with serving her community, Ms. Bradshaw served as Community Communications Liaison to the Memphis Community Advisory Board of the Southern Gateway Environmental Health Disparities Research Center of Excellence on behalf of the Memphis Chapter CBTU Community Action and Response Against Toxics (CARAT) Team, a national task force that collects and disseminates information about pollution. Marquita's career and service have spanned labor, environment, education reform, tax reform, trade policy, and social justice work with the Tennessee African American Environmental Justice Network and the AFL-CIO Organizing Institute as well as the CBTU CARAT Team. She also served on the boards of the International Coalition to Ban Depleted Uranium Weapons, the African American Environmental Justice Network, the Military Toxics Project, Youth Terminating Pollution, and the Mid-South Peace and Justice Center. Bradshaw is the recipient of the Human Rights Award from the Mid-South Peace and Justice Center and of the VOX Student Award: Financial Literacy High School Pilot Campaign Partnership with Bank of Bartlett.

Dennis Lynch

Dennis Lynch has been Chair of the Sierra Club Chickasaw Group (CKG) for 4 years. He has helped CKG to strengthen and broaden its Excom and membership. Dennis helped organize the March 2018 strategy session which decided on a near-term focus on Clean Energy, Recycling and Solid Waste, Parks and Open Space, and Water and our Aquifer, plus important attention to Environmental Justice. In 2019, Dennis will continue that work while helping develop a new Excom Chair.

Dennis has also been Transportation Chair for the Group since 2012 and for the Tennessee Chapter since 2013. Dennis recently ended his term as the Chapter's Delegate to the National Council of Club Leaders, and greatly valued the 2-way communications between Chapter and National. A career transportation professional, Dennis works to increase the priority of transportation issues within the Sierra Club. He points out that transportation is responsible for 28% of energy use in the USA, and 34% of greenhouse gases. Dennis has participated in numerous recent national transportation issues, including VW Diesel Mitigation strategy, and also being a "declarant" in the Sierra Club Case against the EPA regarding "Glider Trucks" (Google it). Happy to answer any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Charlie Belenky

Charlie is a retired attorney. He has run for local office. He attends City Council meetings. He helps out.

Jan Stone

Jan Stone spent a great deal of her early years outside: climbing trees, chasing butterflies and grasshoppers, cuddling caterpillars, building forts in bushes, picnicking in the woods. In more recent years, Jan has become increasingly aware of the problems that we humans create for the environment and the injustice of who absorbs the greatest impact of these pollutive practices/events.

Remind other members to vote.

Election Ballot for Harvey Broome Group Executive Committee: 2019 - 2020 Term

You are in the Harvey Broome Group if you live in one of these east Tennessee counties: Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Claiborne, Cocke, Cumberland, Fentress, Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson, Knox, Loudon, Morgan, Pickett, Roane, Scott, Sevier or Union

Please vote for the election of six (6) members of the Harvey Broome Group Executive Committee (ExCom), each having a two-year term beginning January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020. Successful candidates will join our other ExCom Members in guiding our Group's actions.

Ballots must be received no later than December 15, 2018 to be valid. Only current members as of November 1, 2018 may vote. Joint members must use the same ballot.

Single Members or each Joint Member should vote for no more than six (6) candidates. The order of candidates on the ballot was determined by drawing names at random.

Harvey Broome Group	Single Member or First Joint Member	Second Joint Member
Joan Tomlinson	_____	_____
Jerry Thornton	_____	_____
Jim M. Hackworth, Jr.	_____	_____
Bob Perlack	_____	_____
Stan Johnson	_____	_____
Robin Hill	_____	_____
Will Skelton	_____	_____
Todd Waterman	_____	_____

How to Submit your Ballot: Only current members as of November 1, 2018 may vote.

Place both Group and At Large ballots in the same envelope, seal and write "Ballot" on the envelope. Place this "Ballot" envelope in a second envelope for mailing.

Write your name, address, and Sierra Club membership number in the upper left hand corner of the mailing envelope. Your membership number is located to the left of your name on the mailing label of your Tennes-Sierran.

- Envelopes without name, address, and membership number cannot be counted.
- Mail promptly! Ballots must be received no later than December 15, 2018 to be valid.

Mail ballot to: **Grace Stranch, Sierra Club Elections
223 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, Suite 200
Nashville, TN 37203**

Candidate Biographies:

Joan Tomlinson

Joan is a retired computer analyst. She worked 30+ years with information systems, many of which were through her own small consulting company. In 2014, at a "ripe old age" and deciding she wanted to live life at the edge (or beyond) of her comfort zone, she spent over six months completing a thru hike of the Appalachian Trail. Her AT experience gave her a deep understanding of and appreciation for the natural world, where she finds much wisdom and joy. Joan's trail name is Blue Jay. She has written a series of articles for the bi-monthly TN Sierra Club's publication, the Tennes-Sierran. Her articles are called "Lessons from the Trail." Joan has been a member of the HBG's executive committee since 2017. She serves on the communications and outreach committees. She occasionally helps with the ICO. Joan participated in the Women's March in Washington DC in 2016 and the Climate March in DC in 2017. Joan is an outing leader with the HBG. She (Blue Jay!) continued her love of long distance hiking in 2016 by attempting a thru hike of the Pacific Crest Trail. Although her PCT hike did not end as a thru hike, she continued her PCT hike in 2017 and completed her incredible PCT journey in September of this year. Joan is committed to being active with the Sierra Club and other organizations that promote conservation of, love of, and connections to wild and natural places on our amazing planet.

Jerry Thornton

Jerry seeks to return to a leadership position in the Sierra Club after a long absence. Jerry has been a member of the club since the 1960s and was the Chairman of the Bluegrass Group in Kentucky in the mid-1970s. While in law school, he clerked for the Red River Gorge Legal Defense Fund, which led the fight to stop the dam that would have flooded the RRG. He resigned from SC leadership roles when he went to work as a staff attorney for the U.S. Department of the Interior in 1978, to avoid the appearance of any conflict of interest regarding matters before the Department. His career included a large amount of environmental law as counsel for the Office of Surface Mining, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service. Since his retirement in 2014, Jerry has again become active in the Sierra Club through the Harvey Broome Group. In particular, he and his wife, Alice, are active volunteers in the Club's ICO program (Inspiring Connections Outdoors), which offers nature programs and field trips to school children who have limited opportunities to visit natural areas. Jerry has a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Kentucky, a MS in aquatic ecology from Cornell University, and a J.D. degree from UK. He was a seasonal park naturalist for the NPS at Grand Canyon NP in 1968 and 1969 and has been a general naturalist his entire life. He enjoys hiking, "botanizing," bird watching, gardening, canoeing and basketball (Hey! I'm from Kentucky!). He is also still active with Boy Scout Troop 246 in Knoxville. If elected to the HBG board, Jerry will work to continue an active outings program, seek more volunteers for an expanded ICO program, and will work to further the Club's efforts to oppose the Trump Administration's dismantling of environmental protections and destruction of public lands.

Jim M. Hackworth, Jr.

Retired as a Senior Facility Engineer and Project Leader/Manager from UT-Battelle, LLC/ORNL, in 2008 after 34 years. He joined Sierra Club in 2017. Jim earned his Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Applied Organizational Management, from Tusculum College. He began employment at ORNL in the Mechanical Engineering Division doing reactor design. During his last several years at ORNL, he worked within the Facilities Revitalization and Energy Management Programs. Prior to that, he won awards for managing the radioactive waste and environmental programs for the Plant and Equipment Division. Jim also served as a Tennessee State Representative, District 33, from 2002 to 2010 and as an Anderson County Commissioner from 1978 to 1990. He now wants to put the experience and the knowledge he's gained in environmental protection and legislation to work for the Harvey Broome Group.

Bob Perlack

Bob recently retired from Oak Ridge National Laboratory (Environmental Sciences Division) after 31 years where he worked as a natural resource economist and energy analyst. A member of the Harvey Broome Group for several decades, Bob served on as an outings leader, and on the Executive Committee in various capacities. He currently serves as the HBG Treasurer and as Assistant Treasurer for the Tennessee State Chapter of the Sierra Club. If re-elected to the Executive Committee he will continue to serve as the treasurer and participate in activities that promote the Sierra Club's mission to protect the environment of region, country and world.

Stan Johnson

Socially Equal Energy Efficient Development (S.E.E.E.D.) is a newly formed community development non-profit organization focused on creating pathways out of poverty for low-income communities. By investing in the development of sustainable technologies and job skills for our young people that are relevant to Knoxville's emerging green economy, S.E.E.E.D. pursues prosperity that is sustainable and respectful of the Earth, as well as our communities, through three interconnected strategies:

1. "Green Collar" Job Development and Training for Youth from Disadvantaged/Low-income Communities

2. Youth Mentoring and Social, Cultural, and Spiritual Development through a Community Service Program

3. Advanced Mentoring for Green Entrepreneurship

In our short history, we have already planted seeds of sustainability and prosperity in our community by placing three young people in "green collar" jobs in Knoxville, including at Knoxville Botanical Gardens, Beardsley Community Farm, and CAC Energy and Community Services. S.E.E.E.D. has a tremendous amount of momentum in the community.

Stan Johnson is a Knoxville College alumnus and successful Knoxville entrepreneur. His commitment to the human and economic development of the East Knoxville community has been deep and wide. He has applied his considerable entrepreneurial skills in the nonprofit sector as a Tribe One staff member, where he facilitated workshops on entrepreneurship for Knoxville's inner city youth. He has also been a member of the Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission since 2004. He is the founder of the green community development organization SEED.

Robin Hill

Robin, a resident of Knoxville and Farragut for 60 years since moving in January 1954. She and her wife joined the Sierra Club in 1987. She has taken an active interest in Executive Committee (ExCom) activities for the past 14 years. She served as Chair of HBG and continued on the board. She wishes to continue to work with the ExCom members to get more members active and interested in the many local environmental issues we face in the HBG area and in the state, particularly in combating the many pieces of proposed state legislation that have adverse environmental effects. She retired from active engineering work in 2000 but still puts some of her engineering experience to use in volunteer work. She worked in project management at ORNL and Y12, on general construction projects, special research projects, environmental restoration projects and waste management projects. She 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. She served since about 1982 on the Farragut Municipal Planning Commission and retired as Chairman of that organization in May 2010 after 17 years in that position. She served for five years on the Farragut Storm Water Advisory Committee and retired from that committee in July 2010. She wishes to remain involved as an Executive Committee member and to pursue environmental issues related to transportation, parks and greenways, responsible development, and other issues where results are best achieved at the local level.

Will Skelton

Retired Knoxville attorney with Bass, Berry & Sims, PLC. Prior Chair of Harvey Broome Group and Tennessee Chapter and longtime Harvey Broome Group outings leader. Will led wilderness campaigns of 1980's that resulted in existing wilderness areas in Cherokee National Forest and was editor of Cherokee National Forest Hiking Guide published by UT Press. Chair of Knoxville Greenways Commission 1992-2006 when most existing Knoxville greenways were built. Currently on Board of Legacy Parks Foundation, TN Parks & Greenways Foundation, Smoky Mountains Hiking Club, Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards, and NPCA National Advisory Council. Personal interests include world travel, backpacking, jogging, vegetarian cooking, reading, photography, theater and arts. Goals for Harvey Broome Group include passage of the Tennessee Wilderness Act to designate an additional 20,000 acres of Cherokee National Forest as Wilderness.

Todd Waterman

Climate change is a slow, silent, for-profit slaughter. We can't take it back, and it urgently, fundamentally threatens all our hard-won social and environmental progress. We thus are given an unprecedented opportunity to do profound, lasting good. If we can rapidly change not just our light bulbs but our government policy, we could still provide an economically and environmentally sustainable, verdant future for our children, and for all the children to come.

As an environmental and social activist and as HBG Communications Chair I strive to build public and political support for game-changing, sustainable policy by bringing us and our organizations together to speak with one, powerful voice. I work with Sierra Club, Beyond Coal, and our partner organizations to create, publicize, and present effective, rewarding volunteer opportunities: to testify before TVA, TDEC, BLM, OSMRE, and the EPA; to attend rallies, trainings, conferences, and marches here and in distant cities; to lobby here, in Nashville, and in D.C.; and to comment, sign petitions, and inform ourselves through our Facebook page, email, our Chapter website, the Tennes-Sierran, the HBG Newsletter, and other websites, newsletters, and social media platforms. As a Nominator for the HBG and Chapter Executive Committees I've sought to bring in talent, diversity, experience, dedication, and passion. My current priority is to make HBG more inviting to activists, minorities, and youth. And to occasionally climb out of my computer, hang out, and hike.

I'm honored to be a part of Tennessee's most dynamic, effective, and exciting Group. I told TVA's Board, "I have no time, no money, and no regrets - because I get to live from the heart." I thank you for that.

Election Ballot for Middle Tennessee Group Executive Committee: 2019 - 2020 Term

You are in the Middle Tennessee Group if you live in one of these middle Tennessee counties: Bedford, Cannon, Cheatham, Clay, Davidson, DeKalb, Dickson, Giles, Hickman, Houston, Humphreys, Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln, Macon, Marshall, Maury, Montgomery, Moore, Perry, Robertson, Rutherford, Smith, Stewart, Sumner, Trousdale, Wayne, Williamson or Wilson.

Please vote for the election of five (5) members of the Middle Tennessee Group Executive Committee (ExCom), each having a two-year term beginning January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020. Successful candidates will join our other ExCom Members in guiding our Group's actions.

Ballots must be received no later than December 15, 2018 to be valid. Only current members as of November 1, 2018 may vote. Joint members must use the same ballot.

Single Members or each Joint Member should vote for no more than five (5) candidates. The order of candidates on the ballot was determined by drawing names at random.

Middle Tennessee Group	Single Member or First Joint Member	Second Joint Member
R.C. Wingfield Jr.	_____	_____
John Behn	_____	_____
Antoinette Olsen	_____	_____
Gary Bowers	_____	_____
Dan Joranko	_____	_____
Paula Lennon	_____	_____

How to Submit your Ballot: Only current members as of November 1, 2018 may vote.

Place both Group and At Large ballots in the same envelope, seal and write "Ballot" on the envelope. Place this "Ballot" envelope in a second envelope for mailing.

Write your name, address, and Sierra Club membership number in the upper left hand corner of the mailing envelope. Your membership number is located to the left of your name on the mailing label of your Tennes-Sierran.

- Envelopes without name, address, and membership number cannot be counted.
- Mail promptly! Ballots must be received no later than December 15, 2018 to be valid.

Mail ballot to: **Grace Stranch, Sierra Club Elections
223 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, Suite 200
Nashville, TN 37203**

Candidate Biographies (in random order):

R.C. Wingfield Jr.

Dr. Wingfield currently serves as an Associate Professor within the Discipline of Chemistry at Fisk University (where he has served since 1985). At Fisk he is currently also serving as the Director of the Fisk Community Environmental Toxics Awareness and Sustainability Program. In addition he serves as the Environmental Health and Safety Coordinator for Academic Affairs.

His continuing interests are in environmental justice and sustainability education, eliminating racial health disparities, fate and transport of pesticides and other toxics in the environment, reducing community exposure to toxics, middle school environmental education, and integration of environmental sustainability/health across the curriculum.

He is a B.S. graduate of Fisk University (1964), received his Ph. D. from the University of Cincinnati (1971) in Physical Bioorganic Chemistry. He has had over twelve years industrial experience in chemical process and product development. During the Fall of 2001, while on sabbatical, he worked as an EPA/NAFEO Fellow in the USEPA.

He served as External Process Leader and Co-Chair of a statewide Steering Committee to develop an Environmental Justice Strategic Plan for the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (1998-2000). He was appointed by the Governor of the State of Tennessee to the Compliance Advisory Panel in June 2009 to support the TDEC Small Business Environmental Assistance Program.

From July 2003 to October 2004, he chaired the Nashville Health Disparities Coalition. During the period, 2003-2013, he served as a Mayoral appointee to the Healthy Nashville Leadership Council to help lead the city in establishing strategic priorities and mobilizing community initiatives to achieve significant improvements in the city's health. He has served as a Mayoral appointed member of the Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County Wastewater Hearing Authority since 1996.

He served on the Committee on Science of the American Chemical Society from 2003 to 2012. In 2008 and 2014 he served as Awards Chair for the Southeast Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society. He currently serves as 2017 Chair-Elect, Nashville Section, American Chemical Society

John Behn

Sierra Club drew my interest because of my concerns for the environment including resources, open spaces, air quality, wetlands, and water supplies. Here in Middle Tennessee the rapid urban development of urban areas in rural areas seems to be done without regard to our environment. This is abundantly obvious in the Spring Hill area near my home. Yet too few people are aware of the efforts by Sierra Club to address these issues. For the past year I have served as Webmaster of the Middle Tennessee Group and as Chair of Web and Social Media for the Tennessee Chapter as well as tech support for all the Groups in Tennessee. I am participating in implementing new web based membership systems for the Tennessee Chapter and for the Middle Tennessee Group. As an engineer and former consultant with IBM and SAP, I feel my experience can help MTG reach out, expand and drive stronger community involvement to protect our environment. I elected to the MTG Executive Committee in 2018 filling a position vacated by another member.

Antoinette Olesen

I have been a long time member of the Sierra club as were my parents, avid environmentalists where camping at every California State park and beyond was summer. My experience with non-profits began at the age of 15 when I was elected to the Board of Directors of The California State Horsemen's Association (youngest ever) where I served with one of my early mentors, George Cardinet Jr., dubbed "the father of the California trails system" (who passed legislation establishing a federal trails system in 1968).

I grew up working also for mentors Frank and Josephine Duveneck owners of the 2500 acre Hidden Villa, a non-profit educational organization similar to Sierra's ICO bringing inner city kids into nature for week long hiking, camping and sustainable organic farming. I was the founding, first member of another non-profit built on unique ground-breaking programs seeking the inclusion of a more diverse membership of all ages and socio-economic backgrounds to equine competition. Planning and marketing numerous events, conventions and state-wide competitions the organization grew. It continues to flourish decades later with thousands of active members and 33 operating divisions throughout California. Should I be elected, my goal with Sierra is utilizing this "think big", out of the box visioning to raise awareness and interest, especially attracting new, young, enthusiastic Sierra Club members.

Gary Bowers

Following a six-year absence from the Middle Tennessee Group Executive Committee, long term Sierra member since 1984 seeks the opportunity to support the efforts of the MTG ExCom in conservation initiatives, recruiting new members, and engaging and activating them using the Ladder of Engagement. Developing committee infrastructure and staffing those committees is key to the continued growth and effectiveness of the Group.

15 years as a former Tennessee Chapter Conservation Chair provide an extensive knowledge of and the ability to apply those principles to these areas. Chapter level experience includes: revising Chapter conservation committees, aligning with National Club priorities, establishing conservation committee goals and mission statements, helping bring Sierra National's Beyond Coal Campaign to Tennessee, obtaining Sierra's first End Commercial Logging on Federal Public Lands Campaign in the country, and drafting forest protection legislation.

Gary looks forward to the opportunity to serve the Middle TN Group. He asks for your support in the form of your vote.

Dan Joranko

Dan Joranko is a community organizer and educator currently focused on climate change. He was the original contract organizer with the Tennessee Sierra Club Beyond Coal Campaign; organizing teams in Nashville, Chattanooga, Memphis, Knoxville and Sewanee. He continues to bring the Middle Tennessee Group into partnership with other organizations in his role as convener of Climate Nashville. He is also co-coordinator of the Nashville Chapter of Tennessee Interfaith Power and Light. He has considerable experience organizing in lower income communities on energy issues. He also teaches at Vanderbilt Divinity School on religion and ecology and other social justice concerns, and coordinates classes that bring together inmates and divinity students at Riverbend Maximum Security Institution.

Paula Lennon

I have a life long love for the outdoors. As a child, I spent many weekends and vacations camping, hiking, picnicking and planting trees in the forest. As a parent, I have passed the love of the outdoors on to my children. As a Girl Scout I learned to leave things in better condition than I found them and this includes the environment.

I have been a Sierra Club member for quite some time and attended Chapter Retreats for many, many years. In the past I have served as Chapter and Group Secretary, am currently on the MTG Excom and serve as the Group delegate to the Chapter Excom. At this time I am also the Membership Chair for the Chapter as well as for MTG.

There is no better time than now to make a difference, and I would like to be involved in educating children about the importance of taking care of our world. I would appreciate your vote so that I can continue to serve on the MTG Excom.

Thank you.

Meetings

The public is very welcome at ALL Sierra Club Meetings and Activities! All members traveling across the state should feel free to drop in and attend another Group's meetings. You will find yourself among friends and learning something interesting.

CHEROKEE GROUP

November 26, 2018 - 7:00 P.M. - November Program: Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga, 3224 Navajo Dr., Chatta. 37411; off I-24, just east of the Missionary Ridge cut. Take the Germantown Road Exit, turn north onto Germantown Road, take the 2nd left onto Navajo, go about 1/2 mile, UUCC will be on your left, up the hill! We meet downstairs, in the Forum Room.

David Lochbaum, will be speaking about small modular nuclear reactors (SMRs) and TVA's plans for SMRs at its former Clinch River Breeder Reactor site in East Tennessee.

Dave received a bachelor of science degree in nuclear engineering from the University of Tennessee and worked in the nuclear power industry for over 17 years before joining the Union of Concerned Scientists in fall 1996. At UCS, Dave monitored safety levels at the nation's operating nuclear power reactors and engaged the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Congress, and the media when risks were found to be unduly high. Dave left UCS in February 2009 to become an instructor at the NRC's technical training center in Chattanooga. Dave returned to his old job at UCS in March 2010, but stayed in Chattanooga, retiring this year. Please come with your questions.

Letter-writing materials on current issues with talking points will be available for those interested. Hand-written letters do count! Phone calls and e-mails too. Bring a friend. The public is very welcome! Free as always.

5:30 Social Supper - before our meetings we invite our speaker, and all interested, to dine together prior to the meeting. Feel free to join us at 5:30 pm at Amigo's Restaurant, 3805 Ringgold Rd., in East Ridge. (Mondays are always taco night!)

November 5, 2018 & December 3, 2018 - 6:00 P.M. - Strategy/Business Meetings: Location: Pilgrim Congregational Church, 400 Glenwood Dr., Chattanooga, TN 37404. Come add your ideas, share your concerns. We've got

our fingers in a number of issues (clean energy, climate, forestry, water quality, parks), and will be making plans for 2019. Come to the meeting - take the first step by learning more. Come in the front door, we'll be in the second room on the right. All are welcome!

No Program in December.

January 6, 2018 - 4:00 P.M. - Cherokee Group Annual Welcome 2019 Pot-luck/Mixer: Audubon Acres, Sunday, Jan. 7th starting at 4 pm. YOU are invited! Bring friends and a covered dish. We'll supply drinks, utensils, plates, etc. Come start the new year off by joining people sharing the same interests, energy and dreams for our environment as you. All welcome, don't worry if you haven't got a dish there's always plenty of food and wine as well. Before dark we'll take a short walk to the bridge over South Chickamauga Creek before dinner. Also, the Visitors Center, where we'll be dining, is a mini-museum with interesting archeological artifacts to explore; Audubon Acres is a registered site on the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. Location: Audubon Acres Visitor Center, 900 Sanctuary Rd., Chatta., 37424 -- in East Brainerd, off Gunbarrel Road, just follow the signs. The Visitors Center is on the right, just inside the gate.

CHICKASAW GROUP (Memphis)

December 7, 2018 - 7:00 - 9:30 P.M. - Holiday Party, at the offices of Burch, Porter, Johnson law firm, at 130 N Court Ave, Memphis.

Check <http://www.facebook.com/ChickasawGroup> for more meeting information.

HARVEY BROOME GROUP (Knoxville)

Our monthly programs are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 P.M., at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church, 2931 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919. For additional information see: <http://www.sierraclub.org/tennessee/harvey-broome/programs>

Our business meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at The Church of the Savior, 934 N. Weisgarber Rd. Knoxville, TN 37909 at 7pm. Everyone is invited. These meetings are free and open to the public. See

our web page (sierraclub.org/tennessee/harvey-broome/programs) for details.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE GROUP (Nashville)

November 9, 2017 - 7:00 P.M. - Program: Charlie High, co-chair of Sierra Club's Inspiring Connections Outdoors program, will discuss the volunteer program that takes children on outdoor adventures of all kinds. Expect lots of pictures from outings including camping, hiking, canoeing, cave exploration and fishing. Learn how we partner with social service agencies and park rangers to safely introduce children to the great outdoors. Become a volunteer yourself!

WATAUGA GROUP (Northeastern TN)

Program and business meetings begin at 6:00 PM on the second Tuesday near Doe Mountain Recreation Area from spring through fall at R&D Campground Pavilion at 900 Mining Town Rd., Mountain City, TN. During the wintertime meet up at The Loft 5902 Hwy 421 south Mountain City, TN. Got questions, contact bmw@icloud.com 423- 534-4804 or GLa4797@embarqmail.com 423-727-4797.

Join us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/WataugaGroup

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Keep those e-mail addresses coming so you will get our E-News: send your e-mail address to Alice at demetreon1981@gmail.com so you get the News about our Programs and Outings!

We have e-mails for only about 1/3 of our members -- so you are missing out on all our activities! We will not give your address away.

Outings

The Tennessee Chapter's Outings and activities are always open to the public and members of the Club from across the state! Sponsored by our local Groups, pre-registration with the trip leader is a must for all outings.

November 10, 2018 - Nature Saunter: Lead Cove-Bote Mountain-Finley Cane Loop, GSMNP. A great recap for our biodiversity tour since we will be visiting many of the lower elevation forest types on this trip with fall colors. Distance, 7 miles. Rated Moderate. One-way drive, 45 miles. Preregister with Mac Post at 865-806-0980 or mpost3116@aol.com (email preferred). (Harvey Broome Group)

November 17, 2018 - Dayhike: Laurel-Snow segment of the Cumberland Trail. Originally one of the ten Bowater Company Pocket Wilderness Areas and named after two waterfalls - Laurel Falls (80 feet) and Snow Falls (35 feet). In addition to the falls, the area features a couple of overlooks, steep gorges, boulder strewn creeks, and remnants of mining activity. Our hike starts up Richland Creek where we will pass an old mine tunnel and Dayton reservoir. After crossing a 50-foot metal bridge over Laurel Creek (1.5 miles), we will take the east trail to Laurel Falls (2.5 miles) and Bryan Overlook (3.5 miles) where we will have a view of the Tennessee Val-

ley from a height of 1700 feet. Bryan Overlook is named after William Jennings Bryan prosecutor in the Scopes Monkey Trial held in nearby Dayton. The hike is 7 miles round trip. Rated moderate to difficult. The driving distance is about 70 miles from West Knoxville. Preregister with BJ and Bob Perlack: perlack@aol.com; 865- 229-5027. (Harvey Broome Group)

December 1, 2018 - Dayhike: Point Lookout Loop hike, Panther Creek State Park. We will do a 5.1-mile hike on the Point Lookout Loop, at Panther Creek State Park near Morristown, TN. This hike is a vista-laden trek with multiple views of Cherokee Lake from shoreline & hill-tops, including the Smallman Overlook. Rated moderate for distance & 180 feet in elevation gain. The elevation is 1,290 feet at the trail-head to 1,470 feet at the high point. Panther Creek State Park is 1,435 acres located near Morristown in Hamblen County on Cherokee Lake (<http://tnstateparks.com/parks/about/panther-creek>). Driving time, 52 minutes; distance, (Harvey Broome Group)

December 8, 2018 - Forks of the River Loop Hike: Knoxville Urban Wilderness. This urban hike consists of a 6.1-mile loop hike within the Forks of the River WMA, part of Knoxville's Urban Wilderness. Starting at the McClure Lane

parking lot, we'll take the short connector out the north side of the lot to the paved Will Skelton Greenway, thence along the Tennessee River to the end of the greenway where we'll pick up the "natural surface" Whaley Trail, and take that to the West Perimeter Trail, thence back to the parking area. Decent hiking boots are a good idea, as the natural surface trails may be muddy in wet weather. Rated moderate. Hike distance, 6 miles. Drive is to South Knoxville. Pre-register with Ron Shrieves: 922-3518; ronshrieves@gmail.com (email preferred). (Harvey Broome Group)

Nashville Outings! - We have an active outings schedule! To check out our outings, please go to <http://www.meetup.com/Middle-Tennessee-Sierra-Club-Outings-and-Adventures>

Spring will be here before we know it, and we'd like to add some outings leaders. If you'd like to become a Sierra Club certified outings leader, let us know. We'll be looking at holding a Saturday training (first aid certification and Leader 101 training) in January or February. Please let Marie Brown know if you're interested, or have questions: marietommybrown@gmail.com (Cherokee Group)

We Go Lobbying in Nashville: Conservation Education Day and Conservation Lobby Day 2018

By Todd Waterman

At last year's Chapter Fall Retreat Jen Hensley, National Sierra Club's State Lobbying and Advocacy Director, and Scott Banbury, our own Tennessee Conservation Programs Coordinator/state lobbyist/legislative watchdog, together led a lively lobbying discussion and invited us to Nashville for a February 20, 2018 Conservation Education Day lobby training - from which we would surely emerge expert lobbyists all, just in time for the next day's Conservation Lobby Day.

At last January's Chapter Winter Retreat, Tennessee Political Chair Bill Moll, having volunteered to organize both the training and Lobby Day, invited us all to discuss and choose our lobbying goals. We decided we would ask our lawmakers to address these four areas of primary concern, most of them raised by Americans for Prosperity pressure to deregulate:

1. "Open Government and Public Notice," including the opportunity to see amendments in time to research and comment on them, to photograph public documents with cell phones, and to receive public notice on radioactive waste dumping, on application of pesticides applied to kill invasive aquatic plants in recreational waterways, and on lead levels exceeding the action level in drinking water supplies.

2. "Tennessee's Solid Waste Issues," including the dumping of low-level radioactive waste, toxic "special waste," and energy-squandering food waste, and instituting TDEC training for municipal solid waste management boards.

3. "Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations [CAFOs]" and their freedom to contaminate waterways with excrement from factory farms, replacing fish and other aquatic life with algae, when it could be used as fertilizer. Public Chapter 293 would deregulate all but 15 Tennessee



Conservation Lobby Day press conference.

operations, putting us orders of magnitude behind surrounding states.

4. "Vehicle Emissions Testing," in which municipalities' health departments would be barred from the tailpipe exhaust testing programs that enabled their cities to meet federal air quality standards. Exceeding those standards again would require greater, more costly regulation in other areas and bar those cities from inviting new industry.

On the evening of Conservation Education Day twenty-seven of us from all over the state gathered at Scarritt Bennett Center, where Jen, Scott, and health, social welfare, equal justice and environmental non-profit lobbyist Stewart Clifton introduced us to the sometimes harsh realities of lobbying our Supermajority, and then role-played us through friendly, respectful, and effective lobbying.

The next morning, having accidentally set my watch back a half hour, I showed up late and panting, my suit hopelessly rain-rumpled, halfway through my first scheduled meeting - with my own Senator, Lieutenant Governor Randy McNally. Fortunately, Scott and the rest of our delegation had already made our case well.

Thanks to our brief but reasonably thorough training, now joined by more experi-

enced lobbyists, our many scheduled visits with our state lawmakers would generally be satisfying, fun, and productive. Our elected officials were elected because they're friendly, likeable folks. Most of their visitors are lobbying for special corporate interests, so they appreciate hearing from actual constituents who seek common ground, even if they don't agree with us on much else. We were able to inform our lawmakers on the adverse effects of many bills. And, in a few cases, they told us they were going to change their votes thanks to our input. As we debriefed at our base camp in the Cordell Hull Building, there were many happy faces.

Bill Moll says we'll be back in Nashville on Tuesday, February 12, 2018 for another training. And on February 13 we'll be lobbying our state legislators once again. You're invited! Bill, with the help of Barbara Kelly and many others, made this year's Conservation Lobby Day - for years a joint effort of the Tennessee Environmental Council, Sierra Club, and Tennessee Conservation Voters - an unprecedented success. I'm looking forward to being there again for this coming one. We don't get many opportunities to protect the world we love as satisfying as this one.

Group Business Meetings

Group	Date	Location	Time
Cherokee (Chattanooga)	Mon 11/5, 12/3 Sun 1/6	Pilgrim Congregational Church, 400 Glenwood Dr., Chattanooga Annual "Welcome the New Year Pot Luck" at Audubon Acres 900 N. Sanctuary Rd., Chattanooga, TN 37421	6:00 P.M. 4:00 P.M.
Chickasaw (Memphis)	Wed 11/7, 12/5 January TBA	Cheffie's Cafe, 483 High Point Terrace, Memphis	6:00 P.M.
Harvey Broome (Knoxville)	Tue 11/27 Sat 1/12	The Church of the Savior, 934 N. Weisgarber Rd., Knoxville January planning meeting location TBA	7:00 P.M. 10:00 A.M.
Middle TN (Nashville)	Mon 11/19, 12/17, 1/21	House of Kabob, 216 Thompson Lane, Nashville	6:30 P.M.
Watauga (Mountain City)	Tue 11/13 - Fundraiser Tue 12/11 - Holiday Dinner Tue 1/8	Harvest Dinner - Villa Nove Vineyard - 1877 Dry Hill Rd., Butler, TN Prospect Hill B&B, 801 W Main St., Mountain City ExCom Annual Planning, 5902 Highway 421 South, Mountain City	5:00 P.M. 5:00 P.M. 5:00 P.M.

Group Program Meetings

Group	Date	Location	Time
Cherokee (Chattanooga)	Mon 11/26, 1/28 Sun 1/6	Unitarian Universalist Church, 3224 Navajo Dr., Chattanooga Annual "Welcome the New Year Pot Luck" at Audubon Acres 900 N. Sanctuary Rd., Chattanooga, TN 37421	7:00 P.M. 4:00 P.M.
Chickasaw (Memphis)	Thu 11/15, 1/17 December Holiday Party - 12/7	Benjamin Hooks Public Library, 3030 Poplar Ave., Memphis Burch, Porter, Johnson, 130 N Court Ave, Memphis	5:55 P.M. 7:00 P.M.
Harvey Broome (Knoxville)	Tue 11/13, 12/11, 1/8	Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalists Church, 2931 Kingston Pike	7:00 P.M.
Middle TN (Nashville)	Thu 11/8 Sat 12/8 Thu 1/10	Radnor Lake Nature Center, 1160 Otter Creek Rd., Nashville, TN Holiday Party, 1247 General George Patton Rd., Nashville, TN Radnor Lake Nature Center, 1160 Otter Creek Rd., Nashville, TN	7:00 P.M. 4:30 P.M. 7:00 P.M.
Watauga (Mountain City)	Tue 11/13 - Fundraiser Tue 12/11 - Holiday Dinner Tue 1/8	Harvest Dinner - Villa Nove Vineyard - 1877 Dry Hill Rd., Butler, TN Prospect Hill B&B, 801 W Main St., Mountain City ExCom Annual Planning, 5902 Highway 421 South, Mountain City	5:00 P.M. 5:00 P.M. 5:00 P.M.

A Cautionary Tale of John Sevier -- The Fossil Plant

By Nancy Bell

The ash spill into the Holston River was just one more insult to this beautiful river located in a broad, rural valley. It was in 1973 when the dike broke at the John Sevier Fossil Plant in Rogersville, located about 25 miles south of the industrial Tri-Cities area of upper east Tennessee,

TVA and local industries, with regulatory prodding from the federal Clean Water and Clean Air Acts, have come a long way since 1973. Economics and local opposition forced the cancellation of a nuclear plant on the Holston in 1980. Whether using nuclear energy or coal to boil water for the steam to generate electricity, there are consequences when storing the waste.

The generators at the John Sevier Fossil Plant, built in 1957, were converted to natural gas in 2012, resulting in less carbon emissions. But the coal ash is still there. There were some improvements at the facility. In the mid 70s engineers changed the slope of the ash pond berms. Astonishingly, some berms had been made of coal ash. (Think about how unstable a pile of ash from your fireplace would be!) Engineers rebuilt the berms using compacted clay.

An open coal slurry pit was covered in one pond, and wells were bored for monitoring seepage. Groundwater surrounding the site was tested for baseline data for comparison with on-site data from bored wells. Protection of groundwater, natural springs, and neighbors' wells is critical. The integrity of the berms and validity of well sampling is crucial for all life in the river. The western edge of the coal ash ponds runs along the riverbank for thousands of feet.

John Sevier is investigated

Now old John Sevier is being thoroughly investigated under TVA's Environmental Investigation Plan (EIP). It is part of a state-wide plan spurred by the disastrous coal ash flood in Harriman, Tennessee, after the failure at the Kingston Plant. In 2015 the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) ordered TVA to institute the plan that TDEC would devise "...a transparent, comprehensive process to investigate, assess, and remedy unacceptable risks resulting from the management and disposal of coal combustion residuals at TVA coal-fired plants."

In other words, as your mother would

say, "Find out what's happening and clean up that awful mess before someone gets hurt!"

(And, yes, "coal combustion residuals", or "CCR", is coal ash.)

A TVA Environmental Investigation Plan (EIP) presentation will be coming soon (or has already been) to a town near you if any of the following plants are in your vicinity: Allen, Paradise, Johnsonville, Cumberland, Kingston, Bull Run, or Watts Bar.

Care NET volunteers take action

On July 13, 2018, after an email alert from the Tennessee Sierra Chapter Conservation Chair, two of the members of Care NET Conservation Committee (Hancock, Hawkins, and Grainger counties) attended a hearing for the Rogersville plant — in Knoxville (an hour and a half away). Since we were the only two folks there with the ten TVA and TDEC officials, we opined that a hearing in Rogersville would be more appropriate. A week or so later, TVA announced a hearing in Rogersville for August 9. TVA's publicity resulted in articles in three area newspapers. We scrambled to get out publicity with emails and phone calls. We collaborated with the Cherokee Lake Users Association and other groups, which helped to get out a good crowd.

At the August hearing many technical details were presented in a poster exhibit, while an ample number of TDEC and TVA staffers and officials patiently explained to the attendees the geology, hydrology, biology, chemistry, and engineering factors under investigation. We wrote comment cards, even took part in a news interview. Our emphasis was that we cared; that we lived, shopped, and worked nearby; and that we were ready to bark like alert watchdogs.

Coal ash is toxic

Since the Holston Valley is not in an earthquake-prone area, and there is no honeycomb-like karst topography, geology is not the main concern. The problems are seepage into the river and groundwater and flooding because coal ash is toxic. Of all the chemicals on the "CCR constituents" list (as TVA terms the dangerous chemicals) arsenic, boron, cadmium, mercury, cobalt, manganese, and molybdenum top the list. It is important that these chemicals continue to be monitored several times a year for more than our own lifetimes.

Sadly, while more wells are proposed for monitoring for leaks, if leaks do occur, we face state regulations that have now been questioned due to the recent 6th Circuit Court of Appeal's ruling. That three-person appellate panel reversed the cleanup order for the Cumberland River, and stated that the Clean Water Act did not apply to the seepage into the groundwater draining into that river.

Another concern is the rigor of the testing and modeling for catastrophe. After the horror of the recent flooding in North Carolina, a hundred-year flood, or even a 500-year flood appears to be a dreadful possibility. The specter of the Holston River overflowing the detention reservoir dam, the banks of the dry fly ash stack, and the former and present bottom ash ponds; plus the failure of berms and possibly the pumps is a haunting one indeed. The flooding in Harriman is on our minds. (And upriver in Kingsport the leaking Boone Dam is undergoing repairs.)

Get involved

The comment period for the Environmental Investigation Plan is over for several plants, but the following plants' EIPs are still open for public comments: Bull Run (till Nov. 2), Johnsonville (till Nov. 9), and Allen (till Nov. 28). Read a little about the plant that produces your power; look at the TVA materials at each plant's website; search online for details of a specific plant's history, including at non-agency websites such as that of the non-profit, Environmental Integrity Project. Pay attention to appendices with tables that show which chemicals threaten your water.

Have even more fun by attending a public hearing, a TVA Community Information Session. Then comment. You don't have to be an expert. But your comments will show that we support the implementation of safeguards for our waters and adequate TDEC staff to enforce those rules, and, that there are watchdogs ready to bark.

Next we wait for the Environmental Assessment Report next year.

Finally, what we all really need to be requesting (or demanding!) is the total removal of coal ash dumps from our riverbanks to drier, safer locations. Hey, we all live downstream!

Sierra Club Citizens Rise for Climate Action on September 8th

By Bonnie Swinford and Barbara Kelly

Four events in the Tennessee Chapter brought our concerns about the climate, forward as part of Citizens Rise for Climate Jobs and Justice on September 8th, joining people across the country. We had assistance from the National Club in organizing and communications, perhaps you received e-mails inviting you to these events and calling you to action.

In Nashville the Middle Tennessee Group partnered with Climate Nashville, March for Science and Southern Alliance for Clean Energy to hold a visibility event in the Public Square of Nashville with more than 500 people in attendance. The day featured a lineup of incredible musicians and speakers including Nashville's Mayor. After the event the Mayor shared this strong statement on the need for climate action along with picture of the event on twitter.

<https://goo.gl/JVyLVZ>

In Chattanooga the Cherokee Group volunteer leaders, along with Climate Chattanooga, TN Interfaith Power and Light and Chattanooga Drive Electric sponsored a Climate Festival and March, along with highlighting National Drive Electric Week, and used the event to underscore the need for climate action. The day attracted around 200 people who participated in a rally and march around the Tennessee Valley Authority building highlighting TVA's role in investing in clean energy for our future. There was a lineup of inspirational speakers, including Chattanooga's Mayor, as well as live music, an electric tailgate festival, a dozen educational climate organizations tables, kid's activities and more.

In Knoxville, the Harvey Broome Group Sierra supported two PCM events. The first was a

faith based Climate Vigil hosted by Tennessee Interfaith Power and Light. Around 25 faith leaders from different backgrounds gathered in a park and delivered messages of caution and hope and participants were asked to make pledges to act on climate change. The second event was a PCM letter writing event hosted by a high school organizer at a local community center. There was an intergenerational crowd of around 75 people who gathered to share a meal, socialize and write letters to our Senators on the Clear Power Plan rollbacks, Clean Car Standard rollbacks and the Supreme Court Nomination. This was such an inspirational event in part because it was led by students, but also because it was such a pleasant environment to share a meal, share stories and get some important work done.

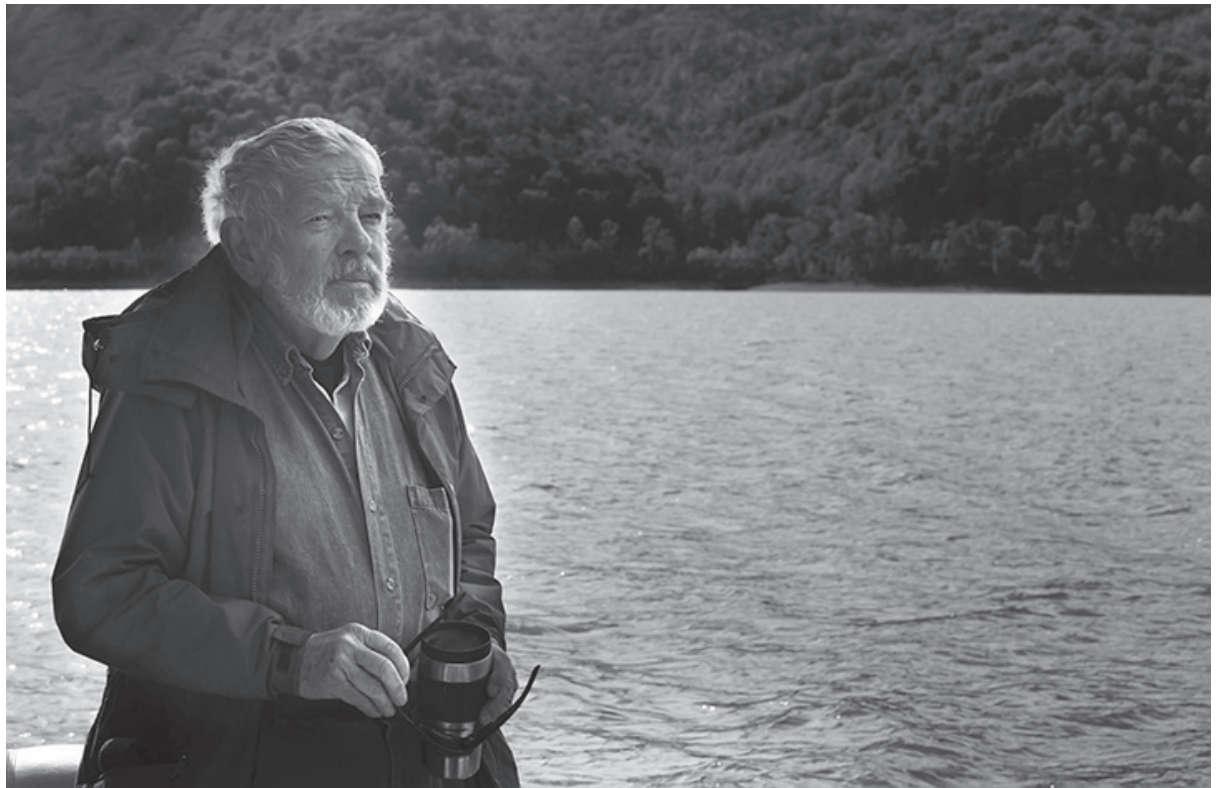
Remembering Dean Whitworth

By Catherine Murray and Gloria Griffith

Presley 'Dean' Whitworth was born October 17, 1937 in the mountains of Wise County Virginia to parents Presley James and Elizabeth. He passed away on September 1, 2018 at home on Stone Mountain, as was his wish. A gifted storyteller, Dean shared many sagas of childhood adventures hiking, camping and being paperboys with his brothers Jim and Gary. Dean graduated from Dobyns-Bennet High School in 1956 and Virginia Tech in 1962 with a Chemical Engineering degree.

A friend, learning Dean was looking for mountain property, gave him "country" directions. When he finally located the place Dean expounded, "I got out of my VW bus and walked to the brow of the hill. I looked at the cabin, listened to Morgan Branch, breathed the cool air sweet with scents of mature forest and realized 'This is it, I'm home'." In July Dean celebrated 33 years of owning his piece of the mountain which he aptly named Frog Hollow.

As quick as possible he rehabbed that stack of logs into a comfortable cabin by adding a floor, ceiling, windows, doors, and roof. He completed all construction projects on the property himself with the exception



Dean Whitworth. Photo by Dennis Shekinah

of the fireplace and chimney. Field rock for the chimney came from the property.

Next he built a sitting porch on the front of the cabin and a workshop on the side that was bigger than his living space. When questioned why, Dean would respond, "Well, you see what is important to me, building."

"The mountain is good medicine," Dean would say whether walking in the beauty of forests or crossing his spring fed headwater creek or hiking the Appalachian Trail.

Dean loved being a Papa to his daughter and a Papa Dean to his two grandsons. He loved seeing them explore the mountain or turning purple after jumping in the cold water of the half acre pond. Dean knew future generations would enjoy this mountain land.

Ansel Adams best described the way Dean felt about the world and his slice of Stone Mountain. "Let us leave a splendid legacy for our children...let us turn to them and say, this you inherit: guard it well, for it is far more precious than money...and once destroyed, nature's beauty cannot be repurchased at any price."

Dean worked as a chemical engineer to provide things he needed for his family but his true vocation was being an

actor in movies and the theater. Dean performed at community theaters as actor and as a director. A natural teacher, he loved the opportunity to pass on knowledge and encouragement to young folks bitten by the acting bug.

He loved music and disc jockeyed a live late night radio program on WMMT in Whitesburg Kentucky called "All Vinyl All Night." For almost three years, once a week he made the six-hour round trip, to do his show.

Dean was a Lifetime member of Sierra Club. He served on the Executive Committees of the Tennessee Chapter and the Watauga Group. He was employed by Sierra Club as a Regional Representative for 2 years during the End Commercial Logging campaign. While working for Sierra as an organizer he also used his acting talent to portray Teddy Roosevelt across the country at hearings and conferences that promoted protection for our wild forests.

Dean lived one of his favorite sayings:
Do all the good you can
For all people you can
In all the ways you can
As long as ever you can

He met a lot of people fighting for the protection of water quality, forests and healthy communities. Dean served on Appalachian Voices board of directors from 2002 to 2009 and treasurer of Watauga Watershed Alliance and Cherokee Forest Voices since inception. Dean would say, "The best anyone can expect of a volunteer is one that says what they will do, and then does it." A character trait Dean exemplified in all that he endeavored.



Dean Whitworth. Photo by Clark Buchner

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