



Tennessee
Citizens for
Wilderness
Planning

ISSN 1089-6104

Newsletter No. 300

November 13, 2011

Taking Care of Wild Places

1. Obed and Big South Fork miscellany p. 3

2. Tennessee organizations p. 3
 A. SELC opens Tennessee office C. Friends group for Pickett
 B. New state director for TNC D. SAFC staffer to Wilderness Soc.

3. Other Tennessee and Regional News p. 4
 A. Legislative Scorecard for 2011 (TN legislature)
 B. The fight to end Mountain-Top Removal will resume
 C. The cranes are back in Tennessee
 D. Our region is VERY special ... and VERY threatened
 E. Report on Sustainable Tennessee conference
 F. Tennessee Climate Action Campaign

4. The Cherokee and other national forests p. 6
 A. The Roadless Rule is powerfully reinstated
 B. Cherokee Wilderness bill moves another step forward
 C. Citico Creek area threatened
 D. A national forest proposes to ban hydrofracking
 E. Unpredicted and alarming forest response to climate change

5. National issues: Parks and other public lands p. 7
 A. New National Park unit added through Antiquities Act
 B. Congress sniping at Antiquities Act
 C. LWCF: how MUCH we've been cheated
 D. Congress attempting public-land divestitures
 E. State of our national parks is wake-up call

6. Other national issues p. 9
 A. Good news: extinction rider defeated
 B. More (partially) good news about endangered-species protection
 C. The energy-water collision

7. Blasts from the Past. p. 9
 A. 40 years ago: Big South Fork legislation (in the making)
 B. 30 years ago: LWCF woes

8. TCWP news. (This Newsletter is No. 300! Also, 2012 Board and Nom. Comm.; Upcoming and recent activities; Honors for a Board member; From the Exec. Dir.; Thanks) p. 10

9. Calendar; Resources p. 12

***** SPECIAL INSERT: What they say about the TCWP Newsletter***** p. 13

10. ACTION SUMMARY p. 2

The BIG stories

This is NL300! ¶8A, ***

The fight to end MTR mining will resume ¶3B

Roadless Rule is reinstated ¶4A

Cherokee Wilderness bill moves again..... ¶4B

Antiquities Act used to create a Park unit ¶5A

Editor: Liane B. Russell, 130 Tabor Road, Oak Ridge, TN 37830. E-mail: lianerussell@comcast.net
Shaded box or star means "Action Needed." Don't be overwhelmed -- check the ACTION SUMMARY on p. 2

10. ACTION SUMMARY

¶No.	Issue	Contact	"Message!" or Action
3A	Performance of Tenn. legislators	High scorers	"I greatly appreciate your work!"
3B	Mountain-Top Removal mining	www.TNLEAF.org	Sign up for action alerts to help ban this practice
4B	Cherokee Wilderness bill	US Reps. from Tennessee Sens. Alexander, Corker	"Support S.1090 in the House!" "Thanks for S.1090. Please work to get it passed!"
5A	New National Monument	Pres. Obama	"Thank you!! Please use Antiquities Act for additional designations!"
5B	Attacks on Antiquities Act	Your member of Congress	"Designation of National Monuments brings economic benefits!"
5C	Land & Water Conserv. funding	Your US Senators	"Support S.1265 to prevent further diversion of needed funds!"
6A	Attacks on Endangered Species	Your member of Congress	"The ESA costs <0.01% of budget, and doesn't stop developments!"
***	NL 300; 45 years!	TCWP	Offer your support and services

Senator John Doe
United States Senate
Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. John Doe
U.S. House of Representatives
House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Pres. Barack Obama
The White House
Washington, DC 20500
202-456-1414; Fax 456-2461
president@whitehouse.gov

Governor Bill Haslam
State Capitol
Nashville, TN 37243-9872
615-741-2001; Fax 615-532-9711
bill.haslam@state.tn.us

Dear Senator Doe
Sincerely yours,

Dear Congressman Doe
Sincerely yours,

Dear Mr. President
Respectfully yours,

Dear Gov. Haslam
Respectfully yours,

Sen. Bob Corker
Ph: 202-224-3344; FAX: 202-228-0566
e-mail: <http://corker.senate.gov/public/>
Local: 865-637-4180 (FAX 637-9886)
800 Market St., Suite 121, Knoxville 37902

Sen. Lamar Alexander:
Ph: 202-224-4944; FAX: 202-228-3398
e-mail: <http://alexander.senate.gov/public/>
Local: 865-545-4253 (FAX 545-4252)
800 Market St., Suite 112, Knoxville 37902

Rep. Chuck Fleischmann:
Phone: 202-225-3271
FAX: 202-225-3494
Local (O.R.): 865-576-1976
<https://fleischmann.house.gov/contact-me>

To call any Rep or Senator, dial Congressional switchboard, 202-224-3121. To find out about the status of bills, call 202-225-1772
URLs: <http://www.house.gov/lastname/> and <http://lastname.senate.gov/> General contact info: <http://www.lcv.org>
With mail to Congress still slow following the anthrax scare, consider faxing, phoning, and other modes of communication.

There is much contact information in the up-to-date Political Guide we have mailed to you. You can also access the Guide, and much other information, on TCWP's web site (<http://www.tcwp.org>).

WHAT IS TCWP?

TCWP (Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning) is dedicated to achieving and perpetuating protection of natural lands and waters by means of public ownership, legislation, or cooperation of the private sector. While our first focus is on the Cumberland and Appalachian regions of Tennessee, our efforts may extend to the rest of the state and the nation. TCWP's strength lies in researching information pertinent to an issue, informing and educating our membership and the public, interacting with groups having similar objectives, and working through the legislative, administrative, and judicial branches of government on the federal, state, and local levels.

TCWP: 130 Tabor Rd., Oak Ridge, TN 37830

President: Jimmy Groton, 865-483-5799 (h)

Executive and Membership-Development Director: Sandra Goss, 865-583-3967. Sandra@sandrakgoss.com

Newsletter editor: Lee Russell, lianerussell@comcast.net

TCWP website: <http://www.tcwp.org>.

1. OBED and BIG SOUTH FORK MISCELLANY

[With contributions by Sandra Goss and Jimmy Groton]

The following are brief news capsules. Some may be expanded at a later time.

- Obed Ranger Matt Hudson will be acting head ranger at BSF from January to April.
- National Park Service personnel from the Obed WSR provided the training and oversight for the hemlock treatment against the deadly woolly adelgid that was carried out in September on Nature Conservancy properties (about 170 acres) within Obed WSR boundaries (NL299 ¶1D). The treatment is good for 3-5 years.
- The boardwalk at Leatherwood Ford has to be repaired every year from flood damage. Thank you, Park staff, for your efforts to provide access to nature for everyone.
- Big South Fork has been hosting a free storytelling festival for many years. It is held the third Saturday in September and is now the biggest free storytelling festival in the South.
- Bears are now well established in the BSNRRA. Bears have come to the park on their own, most likely from the north. The reintroduction program was discontinued because there was no further need.
- A climbers' guide to the Obed WSR has recently been published, and a book-signing session is scheduled for Nov. 19 (see ¶9, Resources and Calendar, respectively).
- In the planning-ahead category, mark your calendar for the annual River Cleanup Day at Obed. It will be Saturday, May 19, 2012.

2. TENNESSEE ORGANIZATIONS

2A. *Distinguished environmental group opens Tennessee office*

The Southern Environmental Law Center (SELC), founded 25 years ago by Rick Middleton, is opening an office in Tennessee, one of the organization's six focus states (AL, GA, NC, SC, TN, VA). This is indeed great news because SELC has been a highly effective advocate for the issues TCWP cares about deeply, and has frequently been an ally in coalitions we have joined. High on the list of SELC's interests are topics related to the use of coal as a power source, including mountaintop removal mining, greenhouse-gas (GHG) emissions, pollution of air, water and land, and disposal of coal ash. The six focus states are no mean contributors to these problems: Middleton has pointed out that, in aggregate, they are the seventh-largest producer of GHGs in the world.

But coal-related issues are not the only ones taken on by SELC. The organization is vitally interested in protecting the biological and scenic treasures of the Cumberland Plateau, in management policies of national forests,

in potentially harmful road proposals (e.g., Corridor K), and even in even in safeguarding the natural resources of the Oak Ridge Reservation.

SELC, headquartered at Charlottesville, VA, has offices at Chapel Hill, Atlanta, and elsewhere, with a total staff of 90, of whom 47 are attorneys. Despite the name, litigation is not the organization's major activity, though it is an essential component. The bulk of the work involves policy, and working with government, industry, and anyone involved with potential environmental problems.

The Tennessee office, to be opened in Nashville within the next two months, will be headed by Anne Davis, wife of Nashville Mayor Karl Dean (recently elected to a second term). Two additional attorneys will be hired. Davis, a graduate of Vanderbilt Law School, practiced with two of Nashville's leading law firms and, more recently, has taught law part-time at Vanderbilt. She headed the Mayor's task force on environmental sustainability.

To learn more about SELC, visit their website, www.SouthernEnvironment.org.

2B. *The Nature Conservancy has new State Director*

Scott Davis, director of TNC's Tennessee chapter for the past 11 years, has become the Conservancy's Director of Conservation Programs for the Central Division of North America, but will continue to work out of the Nashville office. In June, after a 3-month search that included international and external candidates, Gina Hancock, TNC's Associate State Director, was chosen to take Scott's place. As Associate Director, she oversaw conservation programs across the state. In 2007, she served as the team lead for the Connecting the Cumberlands project, TNC's largest land-protection success in Tennessee.

Connecting-the-Cumberlands, a cooperative project with the State of Tennessee, protected 127,000 acres of fragile and significant lands, some of them adjacent to Frozen Head State Park and Natural Area (NL272 ¶1; NL274 ¶1). It was the largest conservation deal in Tennessee since the Gt. Smoky Mtns. NP was created. Other major TNC projects of the past decade include the Walls of Jericho, Pogue Creek, and the John Tully WMA; there were numerous smaller efforts, in addition. For more information, visit www.nature.org/tennessee.

2C. *Friends Group forms at Pickett State Park*

[Contributed by Frank Hensley]

A meeting held October 2 formalized the group with selection of interim officers. It was determined that the group would become part of the Friends of Tennessee State Parks Coalition. A mission statement and bylaws will be formulated and presented at the next meeting, on Dec 3, 2011, 3 p.m. CST, at the Pickett Ranger Station. The group is starting the process of becoming a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Ken Pasternak and Ken Von Niede are chair and co-chair. For more information, visit <http://friendsoftennesseestateparks.org/newfriends.htm>

2D. *Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition staffer moves to Wilderness Society*

The Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition (SAFC), an important player in matters pertaining to protection of the Cherokee National Forest (among others) has lost one of its most important staffers, Hugh Irwin. The very good news, however, is that Hugh is now working for the Wilderness Society and will be taking care of many of the same issues. His expertise, rich institutional memory, and innumerable contacts make him priceless.

3. OTHER TENNESSEE and REGIONAL NEWS

3A. *Legislative Scorecard for 2011*

Tennessee Conservation Voters (TCV) has, once again, issued its annual scorecard, which provides factual, non-partisan information on how each member of our state legislature voted on a range of conservation issues. This is an important way to hold our elected officials accountable.

TCV's three top legislative priorities for 2011 were: (1) ending Mountain Top Removal mining; (2) maintaining the real estate transfer tax funds for land acquisition and preservation; (3) protecting environmental funding (to permit adequate staffing for TDEC). Only for #2 were efforts successful in 2011. One of the priorities (#1) is represented among the 15 legislative activities on which the evaluation of legislators was based. Other legislative efforts evaluated were in the areas of rock-harvesting permits (successful, thanks to Sen. Southerland, R-1, and Rep. Hawk, R-5), hydraulic fracturing, and the bottle bill. Positive or negative credit for floor votes, committee votes and/or sponsorship results in "+1" and "-1", respectively. TCV points out that, in the Tennessee General Assembly, most of the important legislative work and votes occur within the committee system, rather than on the floor.

The highest scorers include the following:

- Sen. Marrero (D-30), 9
- Sen. Berke (D-10), 7
- Sen. E. Stewart (D-14), 6
- Rep. Gilmore (D-52), 5
- Rep. McDonald (D-44), 5
- Rep. Richardson (D-89), 5
- Rep. M. Stewart (D-52), 5

The lowest score, -2, was earned by the following:

- Sen. Bell (R-9)
- Sen. Faulk (R-4)
- Sen. Roberts (R-18).

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Tell high scorers (see card for additional names, too) how much you appreciate their work. For more information about TCV and its Scorecard, visit www.tnconservationvoters.org

3B. *The fight to end Mountain-Top Removal will resume*

[Partly extracted from *Scenic Tennessee Viewpoints*, Fall 2011]

The Tennessee Scenic Vistas Protection Act (SB.577/HB.291), which would control Mountain Top Removal (MTR) coal mining, was unsuccessful in 2011, but is still alive for the second year of this session. The effort will again be led by LEAF—the Lindquist Environmental Appalachian Fellowship. In a recent article in *Scenic Tennessee Viewpoints*, Sen. Andy Berke (see ¶3A, above) summarized some of the economic arguments in favor of ending MTR mining.

- Much of the economy of East Tennessee and the Cumberland Mountains is based on the value of the scenic vistas of the region. Surface mining destroys these views; it also takes land away from other sectors proven to provide long-term economic benefit, such as tourism, hunting, fishing, hiking, forestry, and development, both residential and commercial.
- More than 177,000 Tennesseans work in travel and tourism; fewer than 327 people work in surface coal mining in Tennessee, and recent layoffs may have reduced this number to as low as 100.
- Tennessee produces less than 1% of all coal mined in the United States. At present, 23 surface mines are permitted in Tennessee. Of these, 18, with a total of 9,600 acres permitted for surface mining are, actively producing coal.
- The number of actively producing surface mines in Tennessee could soon increase to 26, given the number of new permits currently under review by the Federal Office of Surface Mining (OSM), which issues all mining permits in Tennessee. (Water-related impacts are regulated by the state's TDEC.)
- Mines do not get reclaimed: 13 Tennessee surface mining sites permitted in the 1980s or earlier have not reached final bond release.
- Bond release does not assure proper reclamation. In 2005, a 12-year-old bond-released surface mine site in the Sundquist WMA gave way, sending 23 acres of remodeled mountain into Smoky Creek, which flows into the Big South Fork. Sediment from the slide continues to pollute the water.
- The majority of past and present coal mining in Tennessee is located within the watershed of the Big South Fork Cumberland River. These mines degrade the water quality in the BSNRRA.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: To keep informed about this campaign, go to www.TNLEAF.org and sign up for action alerts.

3C. *The cranes are back in Tennessee*

[Contributed by Melinda Welton, TOS]

Join us for Tennessee's premier wildlife extravaganza! It happens every year from November through February at the Hiwassee Refuge in Birchwood, TN – the cranes come back.

It is only since the 1990's that tens of thousands of Sandhill Cranes have been migrating through and wintering at the confluence of the Hiwassee and Tennessee Rivers near Birchwood, TN. No other wildlife spectacle in the state compares to seeing thousands of these birds, with a magnificent 6-foot wingspan, cruising overhead! A few Whooping Cranes usually accompany the Sandhills, and Bald Eagles are regularly seen from the gazebo at the Hiwassee Refuge.

This year's Tennessee Sandhill Crane Festival, on January 14 and 15, 2012, at Birchwood, features Special Guest John James Audubon! (as depicted by Brian "Fox" Ellis). Brian is an engaging and entertaining storyteller. There will also be a variety of speakers, a raptor show, films, and children's activities at the Birchwood Elementary School, the Hiwassee Refuge, and the Cherokee Removal Memorial Park. Guides with spotting scopes will be at the Hiwassee gazebo, providing great views of the cranes and other wildlife.

A special fundraising event, "Dinner with Audubon," will be held the evening of January 14 at the Rhea County Community Room in Dayton. Sponsors of the festival include the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, the Tennessee Ornithological Society (TOS), and the Barbara J. Mapp Foundation. Blue Moon Cruises will be offering special cruises as well as providing the buses to the various festival venues.

For more information and directions please visit: www.TNcranefestival.org, or contact Melinda Welton, TOS, 615-799-8095, or weltonmj@earthlink.net.

Editor's note: If you can't make it for the festival, plan to view the cranes on some other date(s) before they leave (though those spotting scopes on January 14 and 15 are a *great* help). You may recall that there has been pressure on TWRA to open a hunting season for sandhill cranes. Following considerable public opposition, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission last January voted to defer any hunting proposal for two years (NL295 ¶3A).

3D. *Our region is VERY special ... and VERY threatened*

[From Center for Biological Diversity]

The southeastern U.S. has the richest aquatic fauna of any temperate area in the world, rivaling the tropics. It is home to 493 fishes (62% of U.S. fish species), at least 269 mussels (91% of all U.S. mussel species), and 241 dragonflies and damselflies (48% of all those in North America). The Southeast also contains more than 2/3 of North America's species and subspecies of crayfishes, and more amphibians and aquatic reptiles than any other region.

Unfortunately, as a result of pollution, development, logging, poor agricultural practices, dams, mining, invasive species and a warming climate, extinction is looming for more than 28% of the region's fishes, more than 48% of its crayfishes, and more than 70% of its mussels.

Near the end of September, in response to a scientific petition from the Center for Biological Diversity and other groups, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service found that protection of 374 freshwater species in 12 southeastern states (including Tennessee) may be warranted under the Endangered Species Act. The 374 include 89 species of crayfish and other crustaceans; 81 plants; 78 mollusks; 51 butterflies, moths, caddisflies and other insects; 43 fish; 13 amphibians; 12 reptiles, four mammals, and three birds.

For additional information, see:

http://biologicaldiversity.org/programs/biodiversity/1000-species/the_southeast_freshwater_extinction_crisis/index.html

3E. *Sustainable Tennessee Conference yields 5 policies and 5 practices to implement in 2012*

[From the Sustainable Tennessee website and Sandra K. Goss]

Collaboration and action were the underlying themes for the October Tennessee Sustainable Economy Summit, formerly the Sustainable Tennessee Conference. Featured speakers included leaders and experts in the business and environmental communities. TCWP's Executive Director, Sandra K. Goss, presented the section on water quality.

The Summit was a collaboration of several groups that had hosted separate conferences in the past, including Tennessee Environmental Council, Tennessee Conservation Voters, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, Tennessee Alliance for Progress, Tennessee Higher Education Sustainability Association, and Living Well Events.

This was the fifth year for Sustainable Tennessee, which drafts and implements the Sustainable Tennessee Agenda -- the policies (legislation) and practices (things one can do at home) that deserve support in 2012. Last year, the top priority in the Agenda was to keep the use of real-estate transfer funds for conservation-land acquisition in the budget. Through an effort led by Kathleen Williams of Tennessee Parks and Greenways Foundation this was accomplished in 2011 (NL298 ¶3A).

This year's Conference adopted the following:

TOP FIVE POLICIES (INCLUDING LEGISLATION FOR PASSAGE IN 2012)

1. Pass the TN Scenic Vistas Bill to ban Mountaintop Removal Mining practices (see ¶3B, above).
2. Support growth of clean energy markets, energy conservation, and green jobs.
3. Oppose new nuclear power plants and any nuclear waste going to TN landfills.
4. Pass a resolution requiring TVA to have a renewable portfolio standard.

5. Restructure the Air Control Board to improve representation of health and quality-of-life concerns.

TOP FIVE PRIORITY PRACTICES FOR 2012

1. Conduct a home energy audit (goal is 700 audits), then join your local Climate Action Team and/or become a Climate Protection Advocate through the TN Climate Action Campaign (see ¶3F, below).
2. Recycle, compost, and reduce waste
3. Improve/increase food security/local & sustainable production.
4. Support and use state and local parks & greenways; and develop and increase awareness of blueways.
5. Join, support, and, promote TVA's Green Power Switch program for home, school, and business (<http://www.tva.gov/greenpowerswitch/>).

3F. *TN Climate Action Campaign*

[Information from Tennes-Sierran, vol.42(6)]

The TN Climate Action Campaign (www.sc.org/tn-climate), a team of organizations and individuals, seeks to find and connect climate-protection activists within our communities and across Tennessee. The Campaign can be contacted at 931-484-2633, or lgorenflo@gmail.com.

One early objective of the campaign is to press TVA into adopting an annually compounded 1% energy efficiency target for 10 years. This would reduce demand for TVA power by 4,000 MW, the equivalent of three nuclear plants. As to what individuals can do, the campaign urges them to get a TVA In-Home Energy evaluation (call your power distributor and ask for it), since household consumption (mostly for heating and cooling) has been estimated to account for over 80% of total U.S. greenhouse-gas emissions. TVA will repay the cost of the initial evaluation when you follow through with recommendations, and will match up to \$500 in weatherization costs.

Remember that individual action, however important, is not a *substitute* for activism to promote policies that would address effectively address climate change

4. THE CHEROKEE and OTHER NATIONAL FORESTS

4A. *The Roadless Rule is powerfully reinstated*

Toward the end of the Clinton administration, after a series of hearings that demonstrated huge public support, the Forest Service declared that no further logging or road building would be permitted on nearly 60 million acres of wild, unprotected national forest lands (NL237 ¶6). This was the so-called Roadless Area Conservation Rule. In the Cherokee National Forest, it protected 85,000 acres.

Over the past 11 years, the Rule has been subjected to nine lawsuits (filed by five states, a few counties, and several timber-industry interests). It was repeatedly defended in court by Earthjustice, the Natural Resources Defense Council, and several other national and statewide groups; and, in a succession of cases, it was ruled illegal - only to have that decision overturned on appeal. At one

point the Bush Administration tried to replace the original Rule with one that would effectively turn over management of the national forests to the governors of the states in which the forests are located. That ploy, too, was defeated.

On October 21, the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals (in Denver) firmly and *unanimously* ruled to reinstate the Roadless Rule. This latest decision by the 10th Circuit is so powerfully constructed that experts believe it can withstand further challenge. The court found that the Rule did not violate NEPA, the Wilderness Act, the Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act and the National Forest Management Act -- a victory on all counts! The 2001 rule has now been upheld legally in both the 9th and 10th Circuit Courts of Appeals and is in effect nationwide except in Idaho, where the U.S. Forest Service completed a separate rulemaking 2008. This means that the Rule can be enforced on more than 49 million out of the 58.5 million total acres of inventoried roadless areas.

4B. *Cherokee Wilderness bill moves another step forward*

[Information from Tennessee Wild]

This month, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources committee approved the Tennessee Wilderness Act of 2011 (S.1090), making it eligible for a vote on the Senate floor. The legislation, which was introduced in late May by Senators Alexander and Corker, will protect nearly 20,000 acres of wilderness in the Cherokee National Forest by expanding five existing wilderness areas and creating the brand-new, more than 9,000-acre Upper Bald River Wilderness. All of this is accomplished without expense to the taxpayer. A hearing on the bill was held August 4 (NL299 ¶3).

Supported by the Obama Administration, and by hikers, hunters, business owners, local lawmakers, members of the faith community, and conservationists, the Tennessee Wilderness Act will protect portions of the beloved Appalachian and Benton MacKaye trails and critical habitat for both game and non-game wildlife. Because there is currently no companion bill in the House of Representatives, it is important that the Tennessee Congressional delegation hear from their pro-wilderness constituents about this bill. This is particularly true of Congressmen John J. Duncan, Jr., Phil Roe, and Chuck Fleischmann.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Contact your Congress man (with special emphasis on Reps. Duncan, Roe, and Fleischmann, see p.2) and urge him to support the Tennessee Wilderness Bill (S.1090). Thank Senators Alexander and Corker for their support, and urge them to work for passage in this Congress. Together, we can protect nearly 20,000 acres of Tennessee's natural heritage for future generations.

4C. *Citico Creek area threatened*

[Information from Cherokee Forest Voice]

Among several treats to the area, the most troubling one is a proposed horse-trail recreation complex that

would concentrate and encourage more use on the lower Citico Creek an area that includes critical habitat for several threatened and endangered aquatic species. The proposal also implements a "recreation zoning" for the Citico Watershed, a decision that has not gone through agency review or even internal biological review.

4D. *A national forest proposes to ban hydrofracking*

[From Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics, 11/9/11]

The George Washington National Forest, located in Virginia and West Virginia, has proposed eliminating horizontal drilling, also known as hydrofracking, on 90% of the 1.1-million-acre forest, an unprecedented step by any federal agency to date. Intense hydrofracking operations have concentrated on extracting gas from the Marcellus shale formation, which extends under the George Washington NF. This extraction process requires large amounts of water that must either be drawn from nearby streams or wells (often depleting local supplies), or trucked in over great distances (which requires an extensive road network). Hydrofracking also results in a toxic waste mixture of water and chemicals that can pollute local drinking water supplies and kill wide swaths of forest vegetation if not properly contained and disposed.

In the George Washington NF, unlike many other national forests, much of the surface *and* subsurface rights are held by the federal government, allowing the U.S. Forest Service to administer and control any extraction activities. The ban does not extend to vertical drilling operations, and FSEEE has asked the Forest Service to evaluate the environmental impacts that can be expected from future development of such drilling.

4E. *Forests are responding to climate change in unpredicted and alarming ways*

[Information from *USA Today*, 11/2/11]

Climate models had predicted that trees would migrate to higher latitudes and elevations as temperatures warm, but a recent study shows that the geographic range for most species is contracting, rather than moving. A National Science Foundation-funded study by researchers at Duke University and the U.S. Forest Service analyzed decades of Forest Service data for 92 tree species at 43,334 forest plots in 31 states.

Nearly 59% of the species showed signs that their geographic ranges were contracting from both north and south, posing risks for their survival. Only 21% appeared to be shifting northward as predicted. About 16% seemed to be advancing southward, and 4% appeared to be expanding in both directions.

Citation: "Failure to migrate: lack of tree range expansion in response to climate change," Kai Zhu, Christopher W. Woodall, James S. Clark. *Global Change Biology*, October 2011.

PARKS AND OTHER PUBLIC LANDS

5A. *New National Park unit*

is added through Antiquities Act

For over 100 years, our presidents have used the Antiquities Act to designate national monuments -- places that may differ in size and character as much as New York's Statue of Liberty and Utah's 1.7-million acre Grand Staircase Escalante. In the course of a century or so, ~130 national monuments were created by 8 Republican and now 8 Democratic presidents. Some of our best-known national parks (established by action of Congress) started out as national monuments (created by presidential fiat).

President Obama has now used the Antiquities Act for the first time in his presidency by proclaiming a substantial portion of Fort Monroe in Hampton, Virginia, a national monument, the newest unit of our National Park System. The fort and the Old Point Comfort Peninsula encapsulate many critical milestones in our nation's history. The first documented Africans in Virginia were traded for food by Dutch sailors there in 1619. During the Civil War, Union-controlled Fort Monroe became known as Freedom's Fortress when a Union general refused to return African slaves who had fled there.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Please thank Pres. Obama (address on p.2) for creating this wonderful new national monument. Urge him to look for other opportunities to use the Antiquities Act for protecting additional special parts of our country.

5B. *Congress sniping at Antiquities Act*

Several members of Congress have introduced bills that would severely undercut the President's ability to designate national monuments using the Antiquities Act. Some of these bills are specific to states; e.g., Utah's Sen. Orrin Hatch and Rep. Rob Bishop introduced the Utah Lands Sovereignty Act, which would prevent any new national monument designations in Utah.

The truth is that national monument designations have been a good thing for Utah and our nation. According to an economic study, the region around Utah's Grand Staircase Escalante (one of the most amazing landscapes in the world) has benefited considerably from establishment of the National Monument in 1996. Between then and 2008, real personal income in the region grew by 40%, jobs grew by 38%, and real per capita income grew by 30%.

The recent designation of Fort Monroe National Monument (§5A, above) could create nearly 3,000 jobs in Virginia as part of a larger Fort Monroe Reuse plan.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Please tell your Member of Congress (see p.2) to resist the short-sighted attacks on the important Antiquities Act. Let them know that designation of national monuments has been totally bipartisan, and that it has resulted in significant economic benefits (see §5A, above).

5C. *Land & Water Conservation Fund: how MUCH we've been cheated*

The Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), established by Congress in 1965, has, for almost half a century now, not been allowed to fulfill its original federal and state purposes. Federal purposes, for example are stated to be the acquisition of lands, waters and interests in lands and waters, including acquisitions for the national park and national forest systems, for the national wildlife refuge system, and acquisition of areas authorized by certain sections of the Refuge Recreation Act and the 1956 Fish and Wildlife Act. Projects in all these systems are sadly short of completion as authorized.

And it definitely isn't for lack of money. The money is plentifully there, but is being used illegally for other purposes. The Act specifies that revenues for the Fund consist of proceeds from the sale of surplus federal property, motorboat fuel taxes, and (most importantly) Outer Continental Shelf oil revenues to make the income of the LWCF not less than \$900,000,000 for each fiscal year. That this income level is plentifully exceeded is illustrated by data, below, for the past decade (the first three columns come from the Wilderness Society). Obviously, the offshore oil & gas revenues *alone* (2nd column) greatly exceed the required \$900 million. As shown by the last column, the LWCF appropriation has been a paltry proportion of what it was legislated to be; only three times during the past decade has it been as high (or higher than) half of the authorized \$900 million.

Fiscal Year	Offshore o&g rev. (Million \$\$)	LWCF (Million \$\$)	% of o&g revenues	% of \$900 million
2000	4,546	459	10.1	51
2001	7,498	563	7.5	63
2002	4,136	573	13.9	64
2003	5,934	413	7.0	46
2004	5,348	272	5.1	30
2005	6,325	259	4.1	29
2006	7,607	144	1.9	16
2007	7,019	138	2.0	15
2008	18,045	155	0.9	17
2009	5,819	180	3.1	20
2010	5,254	366	7.0	41

S.1265, the Land and Water Conservation Authorization and Funding Act of 2011, would finally make real the promise that was made to the American people almost 50 years ago, and prevent further diversion of funds that are desperately needed to protect some of America's most important natural areas. Last month, TCWP signed on to a letter to senators in support of that bill and urged them to oppose any cuts proposed for FY 2012. Individual letters would also be very helpful.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Contact your senators (see p.2) and urge them to support S.1265, the Land and Water Conservation Authorization and Funding Act. Here in Tennessee, there is a great need to acquire significant remaining private inholdings in the Obed WSR, the BSNRRA, the Cherokee National Forest, and many other important and fragile natural lands and water.

5D. *Congress attempting public-land divestitures*

[Information from The Wilderness Soc. and Salt Lake City Tribune]

Congress's assault on the environment extends beyond the multitude of riders attached to spending measures (e.g., NL297 ¶5B), and is contained in several freestanding bills. A number of these bills seek to get rid of our treasured public lands

- H.R. 2852, The Action Plan for Public Lands and Education Act of 2011, requires the federal government to give away 5% of the 'unappropriated public lands,' in each western state, which includes most Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and National Forest lands. The legislation would require 29.8 million acres to be transferred to the western states, effectively giving away tens of billions of dollars of American taxpayer assets without compensation to those taxpayers.
- Majority Whip Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) has introduced, The Great Outdoors Giveaway, which would give corporate polluters access to over 50 million acres of protected national forests and BLM lands.
- A bill that has been introduced both in the House (by Rep. Jason Chaffetz, R-UT) and Senate (by Mike Lee, R-UT) would dispose of "excess" swaths of the West to help pay down the federal debt. The bill would order the Interior Department to sell 3.3 million acres in the 10 states (AZ, CO, ID, MT, NE, NM, NV, OR, UT, and WA).

While Republicans in Congress may support this type of legislation, not all those on the outside do. A spokesman for Republicans for Environmental Protection said: "America's public lands are a lasting endowment that supports local economies. They're magnets that attract sportsmen, backcountry trail riders, hikers and campers year after year. It makes no sense to sell off this endowment, especially in a down economy." The Outdoor Industry Foundation estimates that outdoor recreation returns about \$730 billion a year to the economy and helps to employ 6.5 million people.

5E. *Assessment of the state of our national parks is a wake-up call*

[From NPCA]

Starting in 2000, the National Parks Conservation Association undertook an assessment of resource conditions in 80 representative units of the National Park System. More recently, the focus has been expanded to address issues affecting the System as a whole. The result is the 65-page report *The state of America's National Parks*, released in June.

Most of the parks examined were given only a “fair” ranking for the condition of their natural resources. Examination of the state of cultural resources produced even lower rankings. In addition to identifying problems, NPCA suggests a number of big-picture objectives, including the following:

- Establishing new national park units and expanding the boundaries of existing ones to increase the diversity of the heritage represented within the park system.
- Securing additional funding to provide ongoing park research, monitoring, and staffing.
- Viewing parks as habitat and heritage hubs within larger, landscape-level conservation efforts.
- Reducing air pollution, invasive species, and other threats resulting from climate change.

Visit www.npca.org, or call 1-800-628-7275, for more information on *The state of America’s National Parks*.

6. OTHER NATIONAL ISSUES

6A. *Good news: the extinction rider gets defeated*

[Information from *Defenders*, Fall 2011]

One of the heinous riders loved by the current House of Representatives was designed to eviscerate the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This rider was attached to the FY2012 House Interior Appropriations bill, though it had nothing to do with saving taxpayer money. It would have prevented the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service from listing any new species, from upgrading any species from threatened to endangered, and from designating critical habitat for species recovery. Thanks to a flood of messages sent to Congress, this “extinction rider” was defeated 224 : 202, with 37 House Republicans joining most Democrats in voting to remove it from the bill (Rep. Fleischmann, TN-3, was not among those 37).

This is not the end of the seemingly unending attacks on the ESA. At least 15 bills are pending to dramatically weaken the ESA, many under the guise of revitalizing the economy or reducing the deficit (though funding for endangered species protection is less than 0.01% of the federal budget). The ESA does not have a record of stopping development. Thus, between 1998 and 2004, less than 1% of 429,533 development projects were initially held up because of endangered species considerations. And of those, only a single project was permanently halted; the rest moved forward with modifications designed to minimize impacts to the species in question.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Let your Member of Congress (see p.2) know that species should not have to die to balance our budget or to encourage development (acquaint him/her with the facts in paragraph above).

6B. *More (partially) good news about endangered-species protection*

[From NRDC]

In a victory for NRDC, a federal judge has upheld the Fish and Wildlife Service’s 2008 decision to protect polar bears throughout their range as a “threatened” species under the Endangered Species Act. In doing so, the judge dismissed challenges by the state of Alaska and industry groups seeking to strip the polar bear of its protection. He ruled that the listing of the polar bear due to the melting of Arctic sea ice -- the first species to be added to the Endangered Species List due solely to the threat from global warming -- was well-supported. However, while the judge acknowledged that the polar bear’s plight is “troubling”, he denied a separate request from NRDC and others to give the bear full-fledged “endangered” status.

6C. *The energy-water collision*

[From Union of Concerned Scientists]

Our current system of powering homes and vehicles requires a massive amount of water. For example,

- U.S. power plants withdrew an estimated 143 billion gallons of freshwater *per day* in 2005 (to cool the steam that drives generating turbines).
- U.S. coal mining operations use between 80 million and 230 million gallons of water per day for purposes such as washing coal of impurities and cooling drilling equipment. This is equivalent to between 6 million and 18 million five-minute showers.
- To provide ethanol for vehicles, an increasing amount of corn is being grown in areas that require irrigation. It takes about 30 gallons of irrigation water in Nebraska to produce enough corn ethanol to drive a typical car one mile.

U.S. energy policy must begin to address these facts.

7. BLASTS FROM THE PAST, Or, The More Things Change, the More They Stay the Same

[Contributed by Sandra Goss]

7A. 40 years ago

From the TCWP Newsletter of 10/29/71: Big S. Fork legislation

Senators Baker (Tenn.) and Cooper (KY) are working on legislation to preserve the Big S. Fork and surrounding areas. Current indications are that they do not favor any one of the proposals put forth in the Interagency Report but something intermediate between a couple of them. A bill may be introduced in this session. We believe that the gorges of many of the tributaries, even the small ones, are as worthy of preservation as the main river itself -- they are intimate, secluded, and blessed with rockhouses, waterfalls, and an unbelievable wealth of plant life. Not only must we assure true preservation of the main rivers but of a large enough surrounding area to

protect the tributary gorges. Land prices will only escalate in the future. We hope that you will contact Sen. Howard Baker (Senate Office Bldg. J Washington, D.C. 20510) to express your opinion. Time is short!

6B. 30 years ago

From the TCWP Newsletter of 1/20/81: National Park Action Project (portion of article)

The magnitude of the FY 1983 Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) will be an important factor in the fate of the National Park System. There are rumors that the Administration will again ask for a very small LWCF, perhaps around \$75 million (last year they asked for \$45 million and the Congress voted \$144 million); but we won't know until about 2 weeks after the President presents his budget message on February 8 whether there is a list of specific acquisition requests. It's probably safe to predict that we'll have another battle on our hands. About \$2 million more is needed for the Obed, and half of this would not require an increase in the specific Obed authorization.

8. TCWP NEWS

8A. *This Newsletter is No. 300!*

To celebrate our reaching this number (in 45 years), we have enclosed a special page of testimonials from readers who have found our Newsletters useful, interesting, or stimulating over the past several years. We hope you'll enjoy reading what they have to say, that you, too, appreciate what we have to offer, and that you will participate in our ongoing efforts ... to be reported in the next 300.

8B. *2012 Board and Nominating Committee elected*

The following were elected unanimously at our October 1 Annual Meeting:

President: Jimmy Groton
 Vice President: Frank Hensley
 Treasurer: Charlie Klabunde
 Secretary: Carol Grametbauer
 Directors:
 Mark Bevelhimer Larry Pounds
 Tim Bigelow Liane (Lee) Russell
 Mary Lynn Dobson Warren Webb
 Jo Hardin
 Nominating Committee:
 Tom McDonough (chair), Beth Adler, Mac Post.

8C. *Upcoming activities*

[Contributed by Carol Grametbauer]

TCWP Holiday Party – Thursday, December 1

The holiday season is almost here, and once again long-time TCWP members Jenny Freeman and Bill Allen will

open their home at 371 East Drive, Oak Ridge, to members and friends. This annual event has become one of the most enjoyable of the year.

All members and friends are welcome. The hours are 7 – 9:30 p.m.. Please bring an hors d'oeuvre or dessert to share; beverages will be provided.

Whites Creek Trail workday – Saturday, January 21

TCWP will sponsor a day of trail work at Whites Creek Small Wild Area in Rhea County at 10 a.m. Eastern time, as part of our ongoing stewardship activities for this TVA Small Wild Area trail. The trail loops onto land that TCWP purchased from Bowater several years ago, thanks to the generous support of our members.

In addition to routine trail maintenance chores (brushing and removing limbs and logs), we will install a handrail on the small footbridge that we built three years ago. Participants should wear sturdy shoes or boots and bring work gloves, loppers, and small bow saws or folding saws. Some hand tools will be available at the event. Please be sure to bring clothing appropriate for weather conditions, water, snacks, and/or a lunch.

Participants can meet for carpooling in Oak Ridge at the Rush/Books-A-Million parking lot (on South Illinois Avenue across from the Oak Ridge Mall). We plan to leave Oak Ridge at 9 a.m. Eastern Time, or volunteers can join the crew at the trailhead at 10 a.m. Eastern. We plan to spend three or four hours at the site, but people may come and go as they wish. (**NOTE:** If the weather is uncooperative—excessive rain, or snow and ice—we will reschedule for the following Saturday.)

For additional information, contact Jimmy Groton at 865-805-9908 or at groton87@comcast.net.

Additional information on all TCWP activities may be obtained from TCWP Executive Director Sandra K. Goss at Sandra@sandrakgoss.com or at 865-583-3967.

8D. *Recent events*

National Public Lands Day cleanup -- Saturday, Sept. 24

[Contributed by Jimmy Groton]

TCWP and TVA partnered again this year for their annual National Public Lands Day (NPLD) celebration at TVA's Worthington Cemetery Ecological Study Area on Melton Hill Reservoir in Oak Ridge. The fall weather was spectacular, and we had a turnout of 38 diverse volunteers, including TCWP members, a large number of students from Oak Ridge High School and Jefferson Middle School, and two Oak Ridge City Council members. Beth Adler and Deni Sobek at ORHS, and John Beard and JD Goodlaxson at JMS have been extremely helpful in generating interest and participation by their students in this and other TCWP events.

TVA implemented a much different approach to their NPLD involvement this year. In addition to supplying

safety equipment, tools, snacks, water, and other supplies, TVA (represented by Wes James) gave everyone participating in this year's event a free TVA stewardship t-shirt and the opportunity to participate in a raffle, which resulted in one volunteer winning a \$25 gift certificate to a local sporting-goods store. All the volunteers were also entered into a separate raffle, held across the entire TVA system, for a canoe. Unfortunately, none of us won the canoe!

Ann Worthington attended the event, and provided a brief discussion on the history of the Worthington family and some of the individuals buried in the cemetery. She commented that the cemetery area looks better than she had seen it in years. TVA had done a great deal of maintenance to prepare for the NPLD event.

NPLD activities at Worthington included learning about the ecology of cedar barrens and wetlands, and removing invasive exotic plants from the historic cemetery and the cedar barren. Students removed Chinese privet, Chinese wisteria, bush honeysuckle, and other invasive shrubs and vines. They also helped to block off many of the small social trails that have sprung up around the area. Afterwards everyone enjoyed a pizza lunch.

TCWP has partnered with TVA, ORHS, and JMS many times since 1984 to enhance and protect natural resources at Worthington Cemetery and other TVA lands throughout East Tennessee as part of their mutual stewardship efforts.

TCWP Annual Meeting – Saturday, October 1

More than 30 TCWP members and friends attended our annual meeting at Cumberland Mountain State Park. The morning's activities featured a presentation by Robert Martineau, Tennessee's new Commissioner of Environment and Conservation, in which he stressed the importance of preserving our public spaces, both for conservation and as a tie-in to economic development. He referenced the conservation work Bill and Liane Russell have done, and stressed the importance of groups like TCWP in building public support for land conservation. TCWP President Jimmy Groton presented Commissioner Martineau with a TCWP t-shirt, a print of Bill Russell's photo of the Obed, and a hummingbird print.

Following a brief business meeting featuring the election of officers and board members for 2012 (§8B, above), attendees enjoyed the state park's luncheon buffet. After lunch many of the attendees participated in hikes on the Pioneer Short Loop and the Pioneer Trail.

Oak Ridge Cedar Barren cleanup -- Saturday, November 5

[Contributed by Tim Bigelow and Jimmy Groton]

Twelve volunteers, including seven students from Beth Adler's and Deni Sobek's classes at Oak Ridge High School, participated in a workday at the Oak Ridge Barren on a wonderful fall morning that warmed up nicely. The group filled several bags with bushy lespedeza (*Lespedeza bicolor*) seed head trimmings, and pulled a large number of bush honeysuckle, privet, and lespedeza plants. TCWP Board member and plant ecologist Larry Pounds led the

students on an interpretive walk to introduce them to cedar barren ecology. Pizza was served afterwards under a wonderful blue sky.

Located next to Jefferson Middle School, the Oak Ridge Cedar Barren, protected as a result of TCWP efforts, is a joint project of the City of Oak Ridge, the State Natural Areas Division, and TCWP. Our efforts help to eliminate the invasives and other shade-producing plants that prevent the prairie grasses from getting needed sun.

8E. *Multiple honors for former TCWP Board member*

Pat Mulholland, a research scientist in the Environmental Science Division of ORNL, who served on the TCWP Board from 2008 to 2010, has recently been the recipient of several scientific honors.

- The 2011 Distinguished Scientist Award from UT-Battelle. Citation: "For a distinguished career in environmental science that has made critical contributions to our understanding of forested watersheds and their response to environmental stressors, including acid precipitation, nitrogen deposition, and climatic variability and change.
- A symposium on "*Global change effects on aquatic ecosystems: Insights into controls on ecosystem functions and implications to their protection, conservation and restoration*" was held in honor of Pat's tremendous contributions to science.
- He received the Society for Freshwater Science's 2011 Award of Excellence in Benthic Science.

We're proud of Pat, and deeply grateful for the service he gave to TCWP.

8F. *From the Executive Director*

[Contributed by Sandra Goss]

Dear TCWP folk, and anyone who is interested in protecting our natural lands and waters, breathing clean air, and drinking pure water,

As you've probably realized, this is the 300th issue of the TCWP newsletter, and it continues our tradition of empowering concerned citizens with information and opportunities to speak up for, and get out into, our natural world.

I subscribe to an e-mail service that offers tips to make one's life less stressful and more in keeping with one's core values. The most recent issue listed areas that will improve one's life. They include exercise, time in nature, relationships, recreation, relaxation and stress management, and service to others.

Friends, TCWP has activities and programs that offer *all* of that!

The Program Committee is putting the finishing touches on a dynamite calendar of events, programs, and activities for 2012. Thanks to the leadership of Committee Chair Carol Grametbauer and TCWP President Jimmy Groton, the committee has looked ahead and is developing hikes (exercise, time in nature, recreation - check!),

timely interesting informational programs (relationships - check!), and public lands maintenance days (service to others, exercise, time in nature, relationships, stress management - check!)

TCWP has volunteer opportunities throughout the year with varying lengths of commitment. One can prepare newsletters for mailing (a couple of hours), one can eradicate exotic invasive plants (a Saturday morning), one can serve as a TCWP ambassador at various festivals (2-hour shift and training provided), one can serve as TCWP liaison to one of our sister organizations (such as the Obed Community Watershed Association, or the Alliance for the Cumberlands), or take on stewardship of a public area or of our Community Shares obligations.

Should your thoughts be turning to 2012 and possible increases in exercise, time in nature, recreation, etc., it's likely that TCWP has an opportunity for you. Call me and let's discuss your likes, dislikes, availability. TCWP members are smart, savvy, friendly, and interesting. We converse, we learn, we're fun. Join us for an outing or a project and start a grand improvement in life quality.

In our report on Sustainable Tennessee (§3E, this NL), there's an item about home energy audits. I had an audit done (recently reduced to \$50.00) and am currently installing several new-to-me energy saving products such as foam board insulation, sealing my ducts, and applying window film. Lower energy costs will be wonderful!! You, too, might benefit from an energy audit. For more information see: www.energyright.com

In this Thanksgiving season, I'm grateful to our Board of Directors for their wisdom and leadership; I'm grateful to our volunteers who make our accomplishments possible; and I'm grateful to you, reader, for reading and keeping informed about our natural world.

Happy Holidays, and call me about volunteer opportunities! (865-583-3967)

Sandra

8G. *My thanks to:*

[By Sandra K. Goss]

- Hal Smith, Dick Raridon, Charlie Klabunde, Frank Hensley, and Jean Bangham for their help preparing the TCWP newsletter for mailing.
- Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Commissioner Robert Martineau and Public Affairs Officer David Owenby for attending the October 1 Annual Meeting, and to Commissioner Martineau for his thoughtful and informative comments.
- Jimmy Groton, for his leadership and efforts toward our successful Annual Meeting and associated hikes.
- Lee Russell, for her incomparable work on TCWP's excellent newsletter. See accolades from around the state (enclosed with this NL).
- Francis Perey for serving as our topnotch web-meister and e-mail-list maintainer.

- Carol Grametbauer, for publicizing TCWP events through newsletters of Community Shares, Alliance for the Cumberlands, and our own TCWP newsletters. Carol is also chair of the Program Committee.
- Charlie Klabunde, for his invaluable service as Treasurer, as well as e-newsletter handler.
- Tim Bigelow, for his able stewardship of the Oak Ridge Cedar Barren.
- Warren Webb for his perceptive and experienced commentary on environmental issues TCWP works on.
- Jimmy Groton for publicizing and leading our National Public Lands Day event, held at Elza Gate/Worthington Cemetery on September 24.

9. CALENDAR; RESOURCES

•• CALENDAR

(For details, check the referenced NL item; or contact Sandra Goss, 865-583-3967, or [San-dra@sandrakgoss.com](mailto:Sandra@sandrakgoss.com))

- November 19, 5-8 p.m, EST, Book signing (Kelly Brown) and photo exhibit (Mark A. Large) at the Obed WSR Visitor Center (see ¶1, this NL). Call 423-346-6294 for more information.
- December 1, TCWP Holiday Party (see ¶8C, this NL).
- December 3, 3 p.m. CST, meeting of new Friends of Pickett group (see ¶2C, this NL).
- January 14, 15, Tennessee Sandhill Crane Festival (see ¶3C, this NL).
- January 21, Whites Creek Trail workday (see ¶8C, this NL).
- March 22-24, Gatlinburg, All Taxa Biological Inventory (ATBI) meeting for the Smokies; will feature two talks by E.O. Wilson (one in Knoxville). For more information, contact Dr. Patricia B. Cox, TVA, 865-632-3609.

•• RESOURCES

- To receive updates on state environmental legislation, e-mail: info@tnconservationvoters.org. To find legislators who represent your district, visit www.legislature.state.tn.us.
- *The Obed: A climber's guide to the Wild and Scenic*, by Kelly Brown. See Calendar (¶9), November 19.
- (TDEC has asked that we include this information in our Newsletter.) Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers. Test your home for radon. Test kits can be purchased at local hardware stores for under \$25. Radon problems can be fixed by qualified contractors for reasonable costs. For further information, contact The Tennessee Radon Program, 1-800-232-1139, or www.tn.gov/environment/ea/radon; or visit www.epa.gov/radon.

WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT THE TCWP* NEWSLETTER

“I rely on the TCWP newsletter for my news on conservation in Tennessee. The newsletter’s organization, depth, clarity and objectivity are unparalleled. Simply put, it’s my one-stop, go-to source for what’s happening in east Tennessee. Happy 300 and THANK YOU!!!” Alex Wyss, Director of Conservation Programs, Tennessee Chapter of TNC

“For 35 years, I’ve been sharing with my classes in environmental law & policy at UT College of Law the TCWP NL. I always tell my students that it is a model of solid grassroots information combined with wise suggestions for reform. Keep up the excellent work.” Dean Hill Rivkin, Distinguished Professor, The University of Tennessee College of Law

"Whether I was at Knoxville City Hall or at the US Embassy in Warsaw or at home on Kingston Pike in Knoxville, I always look forward to the monthly issue of TCWP. It is so complete and encompassing. I do not always agree but I always learn from reading. May it continue for another 300 issues! ... TCWP educates so many to the scenic wonders of Tennessee and the need to preserve and save."

Victor Ashe, former US Ambassador to Poland and Mayor of Knoxville; State Senator and State Representative

“In the two years I worked for the Environmental Policy Institute in D.C., I had the opportunity to see grassroots newsletters from all over the country. In my experience, there is no better state-wide conservation issue compendium and call-to-action anywhere in this country than the TCWP newsletter. It’s the Information Age version of one-stop shopping. Get it!” Don Barger, Senior Regional Director, Southeast Region, National Parks Conservation Association

“I rely on TCWP’s newsletter for the most accurate, up-to-date voice for environmental issues. Thank you for keeping Tennesseans well informed for 45 years.” Michelle W. Haynes, Board member, Tennessee Native Plant Society

“When I was hired into Tennessee State Parks in 1977 and asked about the best source for information on environmental issues, the TCWP newsletter was strongly recommended. I joined, and have never ceased to be informed and amazed by the scope, clarity, and, timeliness of this most cost-efficient report. And, now, the history of Tennessee’s environmental movement is within these pages like nowhere else. This work has been monumentally influential, and I offer thanks to the Russells and all the TCWP family that have given so much to make it happen.”

Bobby Fulcher, Superintendent, Cumberland Trail State Scenic Trail

“Congratulations TCWP on this remarkable achievement: 300 issues of reliable content in readable style. You’ve made a tremendous contribution to conservation in Tennessee. Here’s to many more years!” Paul E. Davis, P.E., Director, Division of Water Pollution Control, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

“Congratulations to TCWP and its staff and board on your 300th newsletter. This monthly summary of local, state and national developments must be the most effective communication of its kind in the country. Since my first TCWP letter-writing party at Susan and Eric Hirst’s house in about 1977, I have been amazed at the range of issues it covers and its succinct summary of what’s important.” Neil McBride, Director, TVA

“When I moved to Tennessee from Maine in 1979, I didn't know a soul, so my first step (after getting a job) was to join the board of the Cumberland-Harpeth Audubon Society. Somehow this entitled me to two newsletters--the Tennessee Environmental Council's and TCWP's. Both were terrific: credible, knowledgeable, extremely well-written, heavy on the science and light on the lecturing. But TCWP's newsletter had something TEC's didn't: Those little paragraph symbols! I loved those paragraph symbols and the larger organizing system they were part of. In the complex world of political-environmental issues, TCWP's highly structured newsletter imposed order. It conveyed authority. And it made difficult issues more manageable, more understandable and more winnable. Congratulations on your 300th, TCWP Newsletter!”

Marge Davis, Ph.D., Coordinator, Pride of Place/Tennessee Bottle Bill Project, A Project of Scenic Tennessee, Inc.

“The TCWP newsletter is a one-of-a-kind in Tennessee. It is a great source of information about the environmental events that are current--but it covers the big picture, not just one angle or one area of interest. Reading a hardcopy where you can make notes and go backwards and forwards on paper is the difference in reading a paper book versus trying to read a book online. The coverage is so accurate and thorough, I often ask myself, "how did she know about that?"

Congratulations on #300 and thank you for the past 300, as well as the next 300.” Penny Brooks, member of TCWP

“For 45 years now, TCWP and its excellent newsletter have been alerting Tennesseans to key policy issues affecting our treasured wilderness areas and influencing the political process at the grassroots level for the long-term benefit of all Tennesseans. You provide a strong, thoughtful voice for conservation and citizen action that we can always count on. Thank you, TCWP, for all you do to protect our beautiful state, for nature and for people.”

Gina Hancock, State Director, The Nature Conservancy in Tennessee

“The TCWP newsletter has always been a wonderful and significant resource for staying in touch with Tennessee’s environment and heritage, things we care deeply about. Through this effort we’ve learned of threats to that world from ill-advised action and policy, and of opportunities to join in the fight to preserve things we hold dear. Natural beauty that enriches our lives in ways that could never be replaced should we fail to meet the seemingly never-ending challenges. Even better, the Newsletter alerted us to outings, gatherings, and other opportunities for camaraderie with others who share our passion for protecting our natural heritage. Congratulations and gratitude to all of the fine people who contributed for 45 years and to those who will carry on into the future.”

Steve Scarborough, member of Tennessee Conservation Commission

“This newsletter has served as an environmental bellwether, earmarking Tennessee’s environmental treasures and protecting the foundation of environmental ecosystems. Liane Russell’s informative and forthright chronicle of the issues at hand has served as a guide to action on critical environmental degradation and proactive pursuit of positive influences for the betterment of Tennessee’s natural resources.” John Noel, President, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy

“When Drs. Bill and Lee Russell called me to come to your organizational meeting in 1966, I had a conflict and so sent a handout of John Muir’s trip through Tennessee in 1867. He saw his first mountain stream at the Emory or Obed and exited up the Hiwassee. His words were so inspiring, some wanted to call us TN John Muir Club. But wiser heads argued we should plan to save Tennessee wilderness. Over 40 years now Lee Russell has continued to edit the most informative and best-organized conservation newsletter in the USA. This has rallied our citizens to better regulate surface mining, save natural areas, and save scenic rivers from excessive dams. This has stimulated a green statewide effort to save the wonderful wilderness we lately enjoy. No other Tennessee group has achieved the success of TCWP, so John Muir would be proud.” Mack Prichard, State Naturalist Emeritus

“I often refer to the Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning newsletter to find out the news and learn about issues concerning the North Cumberlands and East Tennessee. When someone asks about this region and what’s going on, it is good to have a reliable and thorough source of information I can recommend to them. I also have suggested to other conservation organizations to use the TCWP Newsletter as a model for their publications.”

Randy Hedgepath, State Naturalist

"The TCWP Newsletter is a valuable resource which provides concise information about natural resource conservation and current environmental issues. The links provide a quick review of each issue and contacts for those who wish to be further involved. This newsletter helps keep us more informed and encourages us to take action to further protect our local, state and regional wilderness treasures. Thank you TCWP and all you do. I look forward to another 300 issues!"

Mark Campen, Executive Director, Izaak Walton League, Tennessee Chapter

“The TCWP newsletter is amazing for its thorough and accurate coverage of an incredibly diverse range of environmental topics for Tennessee. It’s wonderful to know it will be archived for posterity.” Ellen Smith, Oak Ridge City Council

“I use the newsletter as a way to keep up with everything happening in the state and value it very much. There is no other source that gives such excellent summaries of environmental issues and so clearly states exactly what needs to be done and when. The TCWP newsletter has been essential to so many of the successful environmental efforts in TN! On behalf of the Tennessee Ornithological Society, thank you!” Melinda Welton, Co-chair, TOS Conservation Policy Committee

“The TCWP newsletter is the most comprehensive environmental newsletter in East TN, bar none. I learn something new every time I read it.” Katherine Medlock, TCWP member

And from the past: “... your publication contains the most timely information of any newsletter put out by an environmental organization in this state. When the newsletter arrives, it is routed around the office and seen by 10-12 other staff members besides myself. ... Believe it or not, this is one of the best ways we have to keep up with what’s going on in the ‘real world.’” Lamar Bradley, Tennessee Dept. of Health & Environment, 1987, 1983

“... what a *fantastic* source of info it [the TCWP Newsletter] is. I receive several others, but frankly I’ve never seen anything comparable to TCWP. I can’t imagine a strong environmental movement in Tennessee without it. The information is objective and factual, so that it provides an invaluable source to rely upon when writing or speaking. It would be extremely difficult or even impossible to measure how effective and beneficial your work is.” Orville Bach, Morristown, Chair, Izaak Walton League of America, Tennessee Chapter, 1980

“Your newsletter is still the best, most informative one in the Southeast.”

Lee A Barclay, Cookeville, USDI Fish & Wildlife Service, 1999

Do you like **The TCWP Newsletter?**

Since 1966, the Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning Newsletter has been providing the best source of environmental news in the Southeast.

The **TCWP Newsletter** brings you: **Concise** and timely summaries of environmental issues of importance to Tennessee and the nation; **How** you can make your voice heard in environmental decisions; **Listings** of events and activities for all ages and interests. **Six** issues per year.

Here's how to get these for yourself — **join TCWP today.**

Complete the coupon below and mail with a check for TCWP to:

Charlie Klabunde, TCWP Treasurer, 219 East Vanderbilt Dr., Oak Ridge, TN 37830.

TCWP membership includes a subscription to the Newsletter and our annual Political Guide.

Individual dues are \$25, Family \$35, Sustain \$100, Support \$200, Life \$500, all IRS tax-deductible.

More info (and DONATE buttons) at www.tcwp.org or 865-583-3967

*Please consider the **PDF** delivery if you don't really want several printed sheets for each NL.*

I (we) would like to join TCWP and receive the Newsletters and Political Guide. —thru 2012

Name(s) _____ E-Mail address _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Telephone No. _____ Enclosed is check to TCWP for \$ _____ Date _____

(I would prefer to receive my Newsletters as email-attached PDF's)

TCWP MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL *for 2011 and/or 2012* {please circle}

If your address label code ends with underlined blank space, then you have not yet renewed for this year (2011). Our "dues" year is the calendar year, Jan 1 to Dec 31. We greatly appreciate you who renew early in the year. Contributions to TCWP (beyond the first \$10 - nominal valuation of the Newsletter) **are IRS tax-deductible**. Your address label, top right, is coded **M_ _** with numbers 1-7 inserted showing dues class paid for '10 & '11. Numbers correspond to those in form below. (**X**= unpaid for '10) *Special Contributions are not included in this coding.*

Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning 1/1 — 12/31/11-or-12 - Membership

Please send form, and check (**payable to TCWP, Inc.**), to: Charles Klabunde, Treas., TCWP
219 E. Vanderbilt Dr.
Oak Ridge, TN 37830
(*Or go online to www.tcwp.org and use a DONATE button.*)

NAME(S) _____ e-mail: _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONES: Home _____
Zip - _____ Work _____

- "DUES" -

2. <input type="checkbox"/> Student, Correspond, Senior (low budget)\$15.00	5. <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining member \$100.00**
3. <input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR (individual) \$25.00	6. <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting member \$200.00**
4. <input type="checkbox"/> Family (husband, wife) \$35.00	7. <input type="checkbox"/> Life member (new) \$500.00**
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Name your own Intermediate Rate (>\$15). \$ _____	**Includes spouse if indicated: <input type="checkbox"/>
(will be recorded as next lower rate + gift)	(8. or d = Community Shares donor to TCWP)

I prefer delivery of Newsletters as a **PDF** attached to an e-mail instead of paper copy via USPS.

**TENNESSEE CITIZENS FOR
WILDERNESS PLANNING**

130 TABOR ROAD
OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE 37830

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
www.tcwp.org



Taking
Care of
Wild
Places

NONPROFIT ORG.
POSTAGE
PAID
OAK RIDGE, TN
PERMIT NO. 178

Now **125** are doing this:
– Instead of via Snail Mail –
their Newsletters are delivered as PDF's
attached to an e-mail. This is *only*
after they told us to make this change.
An e-mail to klabundece@aol.com does it.

**Membership Dues Renewal or
Any Contributions are
VERY Much Appreciated.**

Pre-pay for 2012 – see forms p.15

TCWP's 2012 Board of Directors

Jimmy GrotonPresident
Frank Hensley ... Vice President
Carol GrametbauerSecretary
Charlie Klabunde Treasurer
Mark Bevelhimer..... Director
Tim Bigelow Director
Mary Lynn Dobson Director
Jo Hardin Director
Larry Pounds Director
Warren Webb..... Director
Liane (Lee) Russell Director
Sandra Goss Executive Director

Party Time !

See page 10, ¶ 8C