

TGA News

The Newsletter of the Tennessee Geographic Alliance

Volume XX, Issue 2, Spring 2006

Your Help is Needed in Garnering the Support of Tennessee's Senators For the Teaching Geography is Fundamental Act

From the Coordinator

Members of the Alliance...I rarely request much from the membership, but today I am asking you to contact your U. S. Senator and ask him or her to support Senate Bill 1376. The bill, summarized below, could be the future lifeblood for geography curriculums in K-12 schools and for the Geographic Alliance Network that you have all worked so diligently to build and support.

At present, geography is the only core academic subject recognized by the No Child Left Behind legislation that does not have dedicated federal funding. On July 11, 2005, Senator Thad Cochran (R-MS) introduced Senate Bill 1376, The "Teaching Geography is Fundamental" Act, into the Senate.

This bill would authorize federal funding to improve student achievement, increase teacher training, encourage education research, and develop effective instructional materials and strategies in the field of geographical education. Specifically, it would authorize \$15 million in federal grant funding per year for five years to a nonprofit educational organization to improve the quality of student understanding of geography through effective teaching in classrooms.

Twenty-five percent of grant funding would be made available to support national non-profit efforts to strengthen geography education through training, research, and outreach activities. Seventy-five percent of funds would be made available for sub-grants to higher education institutions associated with state geographic alliances, state and local education agencies, and other nonprofit educational organizations for these same purposes. Sub-grantees would be required to provide a 20 percent match.

More information about the Bill and a downloadable copy of the complete text is available from the National Council for Geographic Education website at:

www.ncge.org/geography/2005bill

Detailed instructions on how best to reach your Senator in a timely and meaningful way are included on page 16 in this edition of the *TGA News*. Please take a little time out of your busy schedules to assist the National Geographic Society Education Foundation and the Tennessee Geographic Alliance in seeing that this worthwhile legislation is passed.



Alliance Sponsors Workshops Across the State

From the Coordinator

Once again, the Tennessee Geographic Alliance will sponsor FREE workshops and programs from Memphis to Kingsport in 2006. These workshops are the result of a great deal of planning and hard work from members in the various regions and chapters around the state.

I am very excited to relate an opportunity for members in Memphis and West Tennessee. The Memphis Chapter is sponsoring a half-day workshop on *Hazards, Aquifers, and Archeology: A Geologic Perspective*. The workshop will be on Saturday, April 6, 2006 at the Center for Earthquake Research and Information in Memphis.

The fine folks in the Geosciences Department at Middle Tennessee State University have received a grant from the Tennessee Space Consortium (supported by NASA) to host a one-day workshop *Using Remote Sensing Imagery (Satellite Images and Air Photos) in K-12 Geography, Earth Science and Environmental Studies*. The workshop will be held on the campus of MTSU in Murfreesboro on Saturday, February 25, 2006.

The Alliance is partnering with the Tennessee Council for the Social Studies on a couple of special programs. We have submitted a grant to the Japan Foundation

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stolson@ntown.com

Tennessee Geographic Alliance Spring Programs

TO CONTACT or JOIN THE ALLIANCE

Want to join the Tennessee Geographic Alliance? Want to get on our electronic email listserv? You can do it all on-line by visiting the Alliance website at <http://web.utk.edu/~tga/>.

You can also contact:
Kurt Butefish
Tennessee Geographic Alliance
304 Burchfiel Geography Building
University of Tennessee
Knoxville, TN 37996-0925

Nashville Chapter Spring Program

Date: Thursday, February 9, 2006
Time: 4:00 - 6:00 pm
Location: Randall's Learning Center
3501 Byron Ave., Nashville, TN 37205
Program: *Project CENTS: Activity Based Lessons for Social Studies* with Tami Coleman, Director of Project CENTS (Conservation Education Now for Tennessee Students)
Contact: Catherine Kelly at cgkelly@comcast.net or 615-333-9656
Come for great teaching activities, in-service credit, free food, fun, friends, and door prizes.

Northeast TN Chapter Spring Program

Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2006
Time: 4:30- 6:30 pm
Program: *Using Music to Understand Social and Political Change* by University of Tennessee Geography Department PhD candidate Sara Beth Keough
Location: Eastman Chemical Company Employee Center, 400 S. Wilcox Dr., Kingsport, TN 37660
Contact: For information contact Rhonda Gregory at Gregory@chartertn.net
Come for great teaching activities, in-service credit, free food, fun, friends, and door prizes.

Knoxville Chapter Spring Program

Date: Thursday, February 23, 2006
Time: No Registration, Meeting at 4:45 PM
Location: East Tennessee Historical Society Museum
Program: Come check out the newly renovated facility and learn about their educational opportunities from Education Coordinator, Lisa Oakley
Contact: Kurt Butefish at kbutefis@utk.edu or (865) 974-4841

No pre-registration is required. Come for great teaching activities, in-service credit, free food, fun, friends, and door prizes.

Chattanooga Chapter Spring Program

Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2006
Time: 5:00 – 7:00PM
Location: Library of Chattanooga High School Center for Creative Arts
1301 Dallas Rd., Chattanooga
Program: *Astrobiology, Closer Than You Think* with three great speakers discussing new discoveries about the moons Europa and Titan, extremophiles, and much more.
Contact: Ken Collins Collins_k@HCDE.org
Come for great teaching activities, in-service credit, free food, fun, friends, and door prizes.

Southern Middle TN Chapter Spring Program

Date: Monday, March 13, 2006
Time: 4:00- 6:00 pm
Program: *The Peruvian Rainforest* with Wayne Richardson and his students who experienced the rainforest firsthand last year.
Location: E.O. Coffman Middle School, Lawrenceburg, TN
Contact: Robin Thompson at 931-762-6395 or 931-766-5975 or Betty Hawkins at 931-389-6417
Come for great teaching activities, free food, fun, friends, and door prizes.

Murfreesboro Chapter Spring Program

Date: Thursday, April 6, 2006
Time: 4:00 – 6:00 pm
Location: Erma Siegel Elementary School, Murfreesboro
Program: *Migration: The Human Journey* with Cynthia Dabalos of Richview Middle School
Contact: Carolyn Anderson at madrass98@bellsouth.net or (615) 904-1002.
Come for great teaching activities, in-service credit, free food, fun, friends, and door prizes.

Memphis Chapter Program

Date: Saturday, April 8, 2006
Time: 9:00 am – 12:30 pm
Location: Center for Earthquake Research and Information, University of Memphis
3892 Central Ave. (located behind 3890 Central, park behind 3918 Central)
Program: *Hazards, Aquifers, and Archeology: A Geologic Perspective*
Contact: RSVP to Jayson Evaniuck at sincere@excite.com
Light breakfast and refreshments included.

Spring GEOFEST and TCSS Annual Meeting 2006

Date: Friday, March 3, 2006

Location: Park Vista Hotel, Gatlinburg, TN

Contact: See information and registration form in this issue or contact Kurt Butefish at kbutefis@utk.edu or 865-974-4841



Coordinator continued from page 1...

Center for Global Partnerships for funds to host a one-day workshop on **Japan: History, Geography, Society, Art and Education**. The workshop, if funded, is scheduled for Saturday, March 4, 2006 in Gatlinburg. We have commitments from a number of Japan scholars from East Tennessee and a couple of master teachers to facilitate K-12 curriculum-oriented sessions. This is one you will not want to miss.

Also sponsored in concert with TCSS is a series of three, one-day workshops for elementary school teachers to be held this summer on the campus of the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga. The workshops will be on Tuesdays and run from June 13 – June 27, 2006. Topics include: **Latino 101**, **Integrating Content in Elementary Social Studies Classrooms**, and **Storypath: Meeting State Standards through Story**.

With the deadline for No Child Left Behind certification hitting this summer we will be hosting one last edition of the very successful **Teaching and Learning Geography** workshop at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville from June 12 – 26, 2006. Please don't miss this excellent opportunity to prepare for the Geography Praxis exam. To date, everyone who has completed the workshop and taken the Geography Praxis exam has passed!

PLEASE...read the announcement for the **Lottie and Alden Beverly and Tom and Stella Mullane Geography Teacher of the Year Awards** and consider nominating one of your peers. A generous benefactor established the endowment for these awards and it would be disappointing for us not to be able to recognize and reward deserving teachers because of a lack of participation in the program.

Details and applications for these and many more opportunities are included in this edition of the *TGA News*. Please plan to participate in a workshop or chapter program in your area...and remember to BRING A FRIEND.

Correction

In the article *Cody Simons Wins the 2005 State Geographic Bee* in the Fall 2005 edition of the *TGA News*, we misspelled the name of the Pribilof Islands in reporting the Bee's winning question.

Memphis Chapter to Host Hazards Workshop

The Memphis Chapter of the Tennessee Geographic Alliance will host a special, half-day workshop on *Hazards, Aquifers, and Archeology: A Geologic Perspective* on Saturday, April 8, 2006. The program will include presentations by University of Memphis scholars and scientists currently performing research on the area's natural hazards, aquifers, and archeology. The program will culminate in a tour of the Center for Earthquake Research and Information. A light breakfast, teaching resource materials, and proof of attendance for in-service credit will be provided.

The workshop will begin at 9:00 am and run until 12:30 pm. Meet at the Center for Earthquake Research and Information, University of Memphis, 3892 Central Ave. (located behind 3890 Central, park behind 3918 Central).

To reserve a spot, please email Memphis Chapter Coordinator, Jayson Evaniuck at sincere@excite.com.



Smithsonian Institution's Indigenous Geography Program

The Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian program, Indigenous Geography, is a cross-cultural exploration of indigenous communities throughout the Americas. The website-based program includes educational material designed to provide teachers with a ready resource for discussing the website content and issues of cultural diversity. Communities present their perspectives on themes universal to humanity.

Two sets of lessons accompany each community profile—one for grades 4-8 and one for grades 9-12. Each covers a variety of topics so that teachers can adapt each set to their grade level for additional lessons if desired. Lessons include information about the various standards addressed in the materials. Standards

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**Combined
Tennessee Council for the Social Studies
State Social Studies Conference
and the
Tennessee Geographic Alliance GEOFEST**

**Friday, 3 March 2006. 8:00a.m. – 3:00p.m. CST
Park Vista Hotel, Gatlinburg**

Enjoy Sessions For All Grade Levels And Subjects Such As: "It's a Matter of Perspective,"
"Digital Storytelling: A Technological Approach to Sharing Personal and Family Stories," "I Can't
Stop Loving You: Ray Charles and Country Music," "Taking a Stand in History: National History
Day for Your Classroom," a special Tennessee Geographic Alliance Strand, and much more!

Social: Thursday, 2 March 2006 @ 7:00p.m.

Call 1-800-421-7275 And Mention The Tennessee Council For The Social Studies To Receive
The Special \$76 Single-Quad Rate (Code TCSS 2006). After 31 January 2006 Rooms Subject
To Availability and Conference Rate NOT Guaranteed. \$25 early departure fee charged.

Registration Fees: \$50.00 TCSS Members. \$65.00 Non TCSS Members (Includes 2006-2007
TCSS Dues). For Luncheon Featuring Special Speaker National Council for the Social
Studies President Dr. Jeff Passe and Outstanding Social Studies and Outstanding Geography
Teachers Awards Please Add \$20.00 Per Registrant.

Send Registration Fees Including Luncheon Participation/Non Participation Choice, Name(s),
E-Mail or Conventional Mail Address(es) Of All Registrants Covered By Registration Fees by
Friday, 24 February 2006 to:

**James E. Akenson
Box 5042
Tennessee Technological University
Cookeville, TN 38505**

Enclosed is my check of \$ _____ made payable to TCSS:

Name(s) _____

Address(es) _____

City, State, ZIP _____

E-mail _____

Number of Luncheons _____

Confirmation and directions will be provided.

Smithsonian cont. from page 3

in geography, English, and science are covered. Most lessons address multiple skill areas so as to be flexible for varying state standards and curricula.

Teachers may find the “Introduction to Cultural Diversity” lessons helpful in initiating this material. These lessons are designed to encourage students to think about different perspectives. Among the questions that we hope students discuss are:

- What is our place in the world and how do we relate to others?
- What are the similarities between peoples of this culture and the student’s own culture? What are the differences?
- In what similar ways do people view the world?
- How do people view the world differently?
- How are people alike despite living in different places?

You may check out the *Indigenous Geography* site at:

www.indigenousgeography.si.edu



Email-based Geography Competition Developed by Alliance Member

Greg Hamilton, a 7th grade teacher at Robertsville Middle School in Oak Ridge and sponsor of an after-school Geography Club, has developed an email-based geography competition that he would like to open up to the Alliance’s general membership.

Here is part of the message he sent to the home office announcing the competition:

“For the past year or so, I’ve been having my students participate in geography competitions to motivate them to learn more. We already participate in the National Geographic Bee but that’s primarily for the school winner. We presently have about a dozen students in our club, and I’d like for all of them to compete somehow. Consequently, I’ve developed a contest format that

can be used for online competitions with school groups across the state. The guidelines are attached.”

“Also we’re interested in doing live head-to-head competitions with other schools or groups around the Knoxville area if there’s an interest.”

The Alliance encourages you to look over the Geography Team Challenge Rules of Competition below and contact Greg Hamilton if you would like to participate. His email address is gshamilton@ortn.edu.

Geography Team Challenge Rules of Competition

1. Every month, Greg Hamilton will email a set of questions and answers to participants. These questions will be taken from pre-announced topics. For example, an October competition could focus on physical and cultural geography, topics which teachers are likely studying this time of year.
2. Teachers copy and distribute questions to students in their classes or clubs and supervise their work.
3. Students work together in teams of 2-4 to answer questions without reference to any outside source.
4. Each team has up to 30 minutes to write the answers to 50 questions. (The actual time will probably be from 10-20 minutes.)
5. Teachers score the answers using the answer key, using discretion about reasonable alternative answers.
6. Teachers email scores back to Greg. For each team, indicate team name, teacher’s name, grade level, (the grade of the oldest member of the team), and school name.
7. Scores will be posted on the web, indicating team name, school, and grade. The web address is: www.ortn.edu/downloads/geocompetition.htm.
8. Team eligibility guidelines are the same as the National Geographic Bee. To be eligible, students must be in grades 4-8. The competition will be open to public and private schools, as well as eligible homeschoolers.

Announcing the Lottie and Alden Beverly Geography Teacher of the Year Award
AND
The Tom and Stella Mullane Geography Teacher of the Year Award

The fifth LOTTIE AND ALDEN BEVERLY GEOGRAPHY TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD and TOM AND STELLA MULLANE GEOGRAPHY TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD will be presented during the 2006 combined TCSS Annual Meeting/GEOFEST. The BEVERLY award is bestowed for superior achievement in the teaching of geography in grades K-6. The MULLANE award is bestowed for superior achievement in the teaching of geography in grades 7-12. These awards each carry a \$500 cash prize. Nominations are currently being accepted by the Tennessee Geographic Alliance*. Previous nominees who have not won the award are encouraged to be submitted again. Please submit your nomination on the attached form and send to: *Kurt Butefish, 304 Burchfiel Geography Building, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925*. Nominations must be received in the Alliance office by February 17th, 2006.

Is this teacher being nominated for (check one): _____ The BEVERLY award (Grades K-6)
_____ The MULLANE award (Grades 7-12)

Your Name _____

Home Address _____
Street and Number.

_____ City State Zip

Your Phone Number _____ - _____ - _____
(in case we need to reach you with questions about your nominee)

Name of Person You Wish to Nominate _____

Nominee's School _____

Grade Level and Subjects Nominee Teaches _____

Reasons You Believe Nominee Deserves the BEVERLY or MULLANE GEOGRAPHY TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD:

* *Tennessee Geographic Alliance staff members are not eligible for nomination, however, regional liaisons and chapter coordinators are eligible. Nominees, and nominators must be members of the Alliance.*

**TENNESSEE TEACHERS
ARE YOU NOT “HIGHLY QUALIFIED” TO TEACH
GEOGRAPHY? WE CAN HELP!!!**

**FREE PRAXIS PREP WORKSHOP
AT UT KNOXVILLE, JUNE 12-23, 2006**

- Workshop focus is to prepare you to pass the Praxis Exam, Secondary Test in Geography.
- No cost to attend the workshop – Textbooks and materials will be provided. On-campus parking will be provided. Non-commuters - the grant will pay a \$30 per day food allowance and double occupancy dorm housing.
- An end-of-course certificate will be provided for proof of in-service.
- Continuing education units may be earned (\$10 fee).
- Workshop may be taken for three (3) graduate credits (\$35 graduate school application fee + \$966 course fee*). *Fee based on rates at printing of this flyer.
Fees may be increased by the University before summer 2006 sessions.

If you fit any of the following criteria, you are an excellent candidate:

- Middle school and high school teachers who wish to take the Praxis exam, Secondary Test in Geography.
- Teachers who are six hours (or less) short of having a major in geography or are six hours (or less) short of having the equivalent of a major (24 hours).
- High school teachers who have a major in history, government and civics, economics or social studies and who need six hours (or less) in geography to meet requirements for teaching geography.
- Teachers who are six hours (or less) short of having a graduate degree in geography.
- Pre-service teachers who may wish to take the Praxis exam, Secondary Test in Geography.

The workshop will provide 40 hours of instruction at UT Knoxville. Application available on the back of this page. For more information, contact:

**Kurt Butefish
304 Burchfiel Geography Building
The University of Tennessee
Knoxville, TN 37996-0925
Voice: 865-974-4841
Email: kbutefis@utk.edu**

Funding for this workshop is provided by a grant from the National Geographic Society Education Foundation and the Tennessee State Department of Education.

**APPLICATION FOR THE
TEACHING AND LEARNING GEOGRAPHY WORKSHOP
KNOXVILLE, TN - June 12 – 23, 2006**

**APPLICANTS SHOULD SUBMIT A \$25.00 REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT,
WITH CHECKS MADE TO, Tennessee Geographic Alliance**
[Refunds will be made to all persons accepted for and completing the workshop, and to those not accepted.]

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Your Name _____

Home Address _____
Street and No. City State Zip

School Name _____

Grade Level That You Teach _____; Subject(s) Taught _____

Home Phone _____ - _____ - _____; Work Phone _____ - _____ - _____

E-Mail Address _____

Please check the appropriate description for your situation:

_____ Middle school or high school teacher who wishes to prepare for the Praxis exam, Secondary Test in Geography.

_____ Teacher who is six hours (or less) short of having a major in geography or is six hours (or less) short of having the equivalent of a major (24 hours).

_____ High school teacher who has a major in history, government and civics, economics or social studies and who needs six hours (or less) in geography to meet requirements for teaching geography.

_____ Teacher who is six hours (or less) short of having a graduate degree in geography.

_____ Pre-service teacher who wishes to take the Praxis exam, Secondary Test in Geography.

_____ Other (please explain):

PLEASE RETURN THIS APPLICATION, WITH A \$25 REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT, NOT LATER THAN MAY 8, 2006, TO: Kurt Butefish, 304 Burchfiel Geography Building, University Of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925

FREE - Social Studies Workshops for Elementary Teachers

One-day Workshops Sponsored by the TCSS and TGA

At the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga

Dates of Workshops: June 13, June 20, June 27, 2006 (9:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m. each day)

Place of Workshops: University of Tennessee, Chattanooga

Persons Eligible to Apply: Any elementary grade in-service teacher, or senior in an elementary level pre-service teacher-education program, in Tennessee may apply for the workshops.

Number of Participants: 25 participants will be selected for each workshop. You may apply to one, two, or all three workshops.

Deadline for Applications: Deadline is May 12, 2006, but applicants should realize that places in the workshops will be filled on a *first-come/first-served* basis.

Who Should Attend: Teachers who are interested in improving their teaching effectiveness and in enhancing their skills in social studies instruction.

Benefits: Instruction is free and all materials are included. Lunch will be provided. A certificate of completion will be provided upon completion of each workshop.

June 13th - *Latino 101* is a presentation developed by Dr. Loida C. Velázquez as a response to the demographic changes experienced nationwide and especially throughout the Southern region of the USA. The objective is to provide the necessary information that will equip educators for the new classroom experience. It is a comprehensive presentation that uses elements of Popular Education such as poetry, music, and hands-on experiences to construct a Latino student profile. This profile develops from the analysis of Latin America geography, the history of the Latino migration, Hispanic cultural values, and differences among themselves and with the mainstream population. Dr. Velázquez concludes her presentation with practical recommendations that will enhance the effectiveness of educators in the process of integrating the Latino student into their classrooms. Dr. Loida Velázquez is the former Director of the High School Equivalency Program at the University of Tennessee and a leader in the Latino community in the Knoxville area.

June 20th - *Integrating Content in Elementary Social Studies Classrooms* This workshop will focus on social studies standards for elementary classrooms. Moreover, the activities and group interactive discussions will center on integrating social studies with literature and mathematics. Assessment for integrative activities will also be a central component. Dr. Karon LeCompte, Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning at the Peabody College of Vanderbilt University will lead this session.

June 27th - *Storypath: Meeting State Standards through Story* K-8 teachers will learn the Storypath process, through participation and collaboration, by creating a setting and characters, problem solving a critical incident and planning a final celebration. A social studies topic will be used to teach the Storypath process. Reading, language and fine art activities will be incorporated throughout the Storypath process. Participants will receive sample copies of Storypath units which meet grade level standards. Dr. Jeanette Stepanske, Associate Professor in the Teacher Preparation Academy at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, will lead this session.

Where to Submit Application: Mail your application, with a \$25 refundable deposit **FOR EACH WORKSHOP** (checks made out to the Tennessee Geographic Alliance), to: Kurt Butefish, 304 Burchfiel Geography Building, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925. FAX: 865-974-6025; E-Mail: kbutefis@utk.edu

APPLICATION FOR WORKSHOPS ON SOCIAL STUDIES INSTRUCTION

Tuesdays - June 13th, 20th, and 27th, 2006
University of Tennessee, Chattanooga

APPLICANTS SHOULD SUBMIT A \$25.00 REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT FOR
EACH WORKSHOP, WITH CHECKS MADE TO,

Tennessee Geographic Alliance

[Refunds will be made to all persons accepted for and completing the workshop(s), and to those not
accepted.]

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I WISH TO ATTEND THE FOLLOWING WORKSHOP(S) (Check all that apply):

_____ Tuesday, June 13 - *Latino 101*

_____ Tuesday, June 20 - *Integrating Content in Elementary Social Studies*

_____ Tuesday, June 27 - *Storypath: Meeting State Standards through Story*

Your Name _____

Home Address _____

Street and No. City State Zip

Your School Name _____

Grade Level You Teach _____; E-mail Address _____

Home Phone _____ - _____ - _____; Work Phone _____ - _____ - _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS APPLICATION, WITH A \$25 REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT FOR EACH WORK-
SHOP SELECTED, NOT LATER THAN MAY 12, 2006, TO: Kurt Butefish, 304 Burchfiel Geography
Building, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925.

FREE ONE-DAY REMOTE SENSING WORKSHOP

USING REMOTE SENSING IMAGERY (SATELLITE IMAGES AND AIR PHOTOS) IN K-12 GEOGRAPHY, EARTH SCIENCE and ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Sponsored by:

Tennessee Space Grant Consortium (supported by NASA)
Tennessee Geographic Alliance
Department of Geosciences, Middle Tennessee State University

- Date and Time of Workshop: Saturday, February 25, 2006, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM
(CST) Workshop is **free** (\$25 deposit refunded to attendees
and to those who apply after the first 17 applicants)
- Place of Workshop: Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) in Murfreesboro
- Persons Eligible to Apply: Tennessee K-12 teachers
- Number of Participants: 17 participants (first 17 to apply)
- Deadline for Applications: Deadline is February 15, 2006 for receipt of applications
- Primary Presenters: Dr. James Henry, Dr. Mark Abolins, and Paul O'Farrell,
Department of Geosciences, MTSU, and Kurt Butefish,
Coordinator of the Tennessee Geographic Alliance
- Workshop Content and Benefits: Focus will be on satellite images and easy-to-use computer programs designed to analyze satellite images in educational settings. Several programs will be provided on diskettes and CDs free to participants. Discussion will also include free analysis programs available on the Internet. Lesson planning will be emphasized and many educational handouts included. A tour of the NASA Educator Resource Center on the MTSU campus will be conducted. Lunch will be included, sponsored by the Tennessee Geographic Alliance, and a certificate of completion for In-Service will be provided.
- Application Submission: Send application (included on the back of this announcement) and \$25 refundable deposit (checks made to Tennessee Geographic Alliance) to Kurt Butefish, 304 Burchfiel Geography Building, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925. Deadline for receipt of application is **February 15, 2006**.
- Questions and Information: Dr. James Henry, Department of Geosciences, Box 9, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN 37132. FAX: 615-898-5592; Office phone: 615-904-8452; e-mail: jhenry@mtsu.edu.

**APPLICATION FOR ONE-DAY
REMOTE SENSING WORKSHOP**

*USING REMOTE SENSING IMAGERY
(SATELLITE IMAGES AND AIR PHOTOS)
IN K-12 GEOGRAPHY, EARTH SCIENCE and ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES*

Sponsored by:

**Tennessee Space Grant Consortium (supported by NASA)
Tennessee Geographic Alliance
Department of Geosciences, Middle Tennessee State University**

February 25, 2006

Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) in Murfreesboro

SUBMIT \$25 REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT
checks made to TENNESSEE GEOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE

Refunds made to attendees and to those who apply after the first 17 applicants.

Name _____

Home Address _____
Street and No. City State Zip

Home Phone _____ - _____ - _____ Work Phone _____ - _____ - _____

School _____

E-Mail _____

Please return this application, with \$25 refundable deposit made to the Tennessee Geographic Alliance, to be received not later than February 15, 2006, TO: Kurt Butefish, 304 Burchfiel Geography Building, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925.

FREE ONE-DAY WORKSHOP

JAPAN: HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY, SOCIETY, ART and EDUCATION

Sponsored by:
Tennessee Geographic Alliance
Tennessee Council for the Social Studies

- Date and Time of Workshop: Saturday, March 4, 2006, 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM (EST).
Workshop is **free** (\$25 deposit refunded to attendees and to those who apply after the first 20 applicants). **Please note: This workshop is contingent upon receipt of a grant from the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership. Refunds will be made immediately if funding is not procured.**
- Place of Workshop: Park Vista Hotel, Gatlinburg, Tennessee
- Persons Eligible to Apply: Tennessee K-12 teachers
- Deadline for Applications: Deadline is February 17, 2006 for receipt of applications
- Primary Presenters: Dr. Lucien Ellington – *Japan in World History*, Dr. Henri Grissino Meyer – *Natural Hazards and Their Impacts in Japan*, Dr. Paul Watkins – *Japanese Art and Culture*, Dr. Karon LeCompte – *Communities, Schools, and Families in Japan*. Plus – two teacher facilitated breakout sessions for grades K-6 and 7-12.
- Workshop Content and Benefits: The workshop will: 1) Relate classroom content about Japan; 2) Provide methods for incorporating additional content about Japan in your classroom; 3) Provide quality resource materials (a request for funds for teacher-recommended materials is included in the grant); 4) Increase your understanding of Japan's importance in the global economy and on global culture, and its impact on the economy, trade, and culture of the United States; 5) Provide information on further opportunities to receive materials about and travel to Japan and East Asia. Lunch will be included. A certificate of completion will be provided for those completing the workshop.
- Application Submission And Information: Send application (included on the back of this announcement) and \$25 refundable deposit (checks made to Tennessee Geographic Alliance) to Kurt Butefish, 304 Burchfiel Geography Building, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925. Deadline for receipt of application is **February 17, 2006**.

This workshop is being held in conjunction with the combined Spring GEOFEST and TCSS Annual Conference but attendance at the conference is not required.

APPLICATION FOR WORKSHOP ON JAPAN

Sponsored by:

**Tennessee Geographic Alliance
Tennessee Council for the Social Studies**

Saturday, March 4, 2006

Park Vista Hotel, Gatlinburg, Tennessee

Please note: This workshop is contingent upon receipt of a grant from the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership. Refunds will be made immediately if funding is not procured.

SUBMIT \$25 REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT
checks made to TENNESSEE GEOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE

Refunds made to attendees and to those who apply after the first 20 applicants.

Name _____

Home Address _____
Street and No. City State Zip

Home Phone ___ - ___ - _____ Work Phone ___ - ___ - _____

School _____

E-Mail _____

Please return this application, with \$25 refundable deposit made to the Tennessee Geographic Alliance, to be received not later than February 17, 2006, TO: Kurt Butefish, 304 Burchfiel Geography Building, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925.

TNSWEP and the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development

The General Assembly of the United Nations declared 2005-2014 to be the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD). Tennessee Solid Waste Project (TNSWEP) is celebrating this decade and contributing to it. In order to do so, however, we had to answer two questions: "What is sustainable development?" and "What is education for sustainable development (ESD)?"

One of the first descriptions of sustainable development was made by the Brundtland Commission. It stated, "Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987, *Our Common Future*. p43). Basically, this means thinking about our future when making environmental, economic, and societal decisions today; in hopes that it will have an improved quality of life in all of these aspects for the future.

Now that we know about sustainable development, we can learn about ESD. ESD was first described by Chapter 36 of Agenda 21. This chapter identified four major thrusts of ESD: (1) improve access to quality basic education, (2) reorient existing education to address sustainable development, (3) develop public understanding and awareness, and (4) improve training. There is a major difference between education *about* sustainable development and education *for* sustainable development. The first is an awareness lesson or theoretical discussion, and the second is the use of education as a tool to achieve sustainability.

Unfortunately, more education will not give us a more sustainable world- the most educated nations leave the deepest ecological footprints. The purpose, content, and quality of education are important for a more sustainable world for generations to come.

The TNSWEP curriculum can help teachers and schools meet the challenges of educating for a more sustainable future. The TNSWEP curriculum addresses many aspects of ESD.

- TNSWEP primarily contributes to the environmental sphere of ESD, although it also touches economic and social spheres.
- TNSWEP curriculum and activities are an effort to reorient education to address sustainability.

- TNSWEP activities lead to environmental stewardship, which is a major underlying goal of ESD.
- TNSWEP activities at the upper grades deal with community-based decision making which is a major underlying goal of ESD.
- TNSWEP activities address consumerism, which is one of the major issues that jeopardize a sustainable future.
- TNSWEP helps teachers and students learn to deal with controversial environmental issues in a fair and balanced approach.

Every teacher in every discipline can contribute to the U.N. Decade of Education for Sustainable Development and contribute to a sustainable future! Simply call the TNSWEP Consultant nearest you for a free classroom presentation, in-service workshop, or a consultation regarding ESD. East TN - Brenda Lee (423) 337-4081; Middle TN - Laura McCall (615) 904-8547; West TN - Cindy Black (901) 682-9666. Or Visit our web site

<http://www-tnswep.ra.utk.edu>.



Globalization Educational Website

The Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) is offering a new objective, online resource, globalization101.org, to teach high school & college students about policy aspects of globalization related to civics, economics, geography and history, *without any fees or charges*. *Globalization101.org* provides unbiased, easily understandable information and related lesson plans to teach about cross-disciplinary subjects such as world - wide health problems and global environmental challenges. The site includes 11 in-depth issue briefs, more than 70 news analyses, teacher's resource section (with lesson plans and indexes of alignment to state standards), video interviews with experts in the field and useful links.

This website is the perfect tool for teachers looking to "internationalize" their classroom geography lessons. As this site will be constantly updated, a newsletter has been created to inform constituents about recent additions and upcoming events. To sign up for the newsletter or for more information contact Rebecca Weiner, Marketing Associate, CSIS at (202) 741-3936 or g101@csis.org.

Asking Senators to Co-sponsor S. 1376 – Guidelines for Contacting Senators

Contact your Senators and ask them to co-sponsor the “Teaching Geography is Fundamental Act” (S. 1376). Adding co-sponsors to the bill is an important way to build momentum for the bill and strengthen the case for its passage.

Strategy:

1. Find contact information for your Senators. To do this:
 - Go to <http://www.congress.org/mygov/home/>
 - Enter your Zip Code and click “Submit.”
 - Under your Senator(s) pictures, click “Info.”
 - Write down, or copy/paste, the Washington DC address, phone number, and fax number.
2. Compose a letter using the guidelines below.
3. Fax the letter to the Senator’s Washington office. (Note: DO NOT send a hard copy letter through the mail to a Washington office due to excessive delays and possible damage resulting from security screenings).
4. Send your letter as an email (That’s right, send a fax AND an email):
 - Return to the Senator’s webpage at <http://www.congress.org/mygov/home/> following the steps in instruction #1 above.
 - Underneath the Senator’s picture click the bar titled “Send Message.”
 - Click “Compose your own letter,” and then “Next Step.”
 - Select your Senator’s box.
 - Type in a “Subject” (e.g. S1376, Education; Constituent, etc.)
 - Copy and paste the text of your letter into the “Message” box.
 - Fill in your required contact information.

- Continue stepping through the screens that appear to send your email.
5. Within one week of sending the letter, place a phone call to your Senator’s Washington office.
 - Call the office and ask for the Education Staff person. You can even find out that person’s name using the above website and ask for her/him by name.
 - If the Education Staff person is unavailable, speak to the receptionist and ask her/him to take a written message for that staff person. You can also ask the receptionist to transfer your call to the Education Staff person’s voice mail where you can leave a message and ask the person to call you back.
 - State that you sent a letter, and then reiterate what was stated in the letter.

The Letter

This should be a formal business letter, no more than ONE PAGE. Eleven point type font is the smallest you should use, with at least 1 inch margins all around.

If you are contacting your Senators as a private citizen, then there are no lobbying restrictions. Everyone is free to contact their elected representatives and make their views known. You are even free to share your professional experience in the letter, for example, stating that you’ve been a teacher in the state for X number of years, or a member of the Alliance.

However, if you write a letter on letterhead from your university, school, other place of employment, etc. you should check with the organization to see what their policies on lobbying are.

Addressing the Letter

- Address the letter to the Senator using standard business format:

Date

The Honorable (full name)

*__(Rm.#)__(name of)Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510*

Dear Senator:

You can use the following sections as paragraphs:

Introduction and “The Ask” (what you want the senator to do) – 2 sentences.

- A sentence that states that you are a constituent of the Senator and offers sincere thanks to the Senator for her/his leadership and support of the state and your interests.
- State that you are asking the Senator to co-sponsor the “Teaching Geography is Fundamental Act” (S. 1376). (Possible language, “I am writing today to ask you to co-sponsor . . .”).

Background – 2 to 4 sentences.

- This bill was introduced in the Senate on July 11, 2005.
- A bi-partisan group of original co-sponsors was led by Senators Cochran and Stevens, and includes Senators Warner, Dodd, Akaka, and Burns.
- The bill provides dedicated federal support geography education (to improve student achievement, increase teacher training, encourage education research, and develop effective instructional materials and strategies.
- The bill rectifies an omission in the No Child Left Behind legislation that designated geography as a core academic subject but left it as the only subject lacking dedicated federal support.

Personal – 4 to 8 sentences.

- The need for this bill in your state, city, school district, etc.
- Need to prepare students for the increasingly connected world of the 21st century.
- Need to maintain the economic competitiveness of the U.S. internationally.
- Inadequate resources for geography education.
- Your experience. For example:
 - A high school teacher for ____ years.
 - A parent with school age children.
- The work of the Alliance:
 - Briefly describe the Alliance, e.g. nationwide network of volunteers committed to improving geography education).
 - Provide specific examples of the great activities the Alliance has conducted in your state.
 - Focus on the scope and breadth of the activities, remembering that Senators represent the entire state.
 - Use statistics – e.g. number of teachers trained, number of students impacted, number of counties/districts served.

Provide a personal anecdote.

- What passage of S. 1376 will mean for you and for education in your state:
 - Be able to train more teachers to teach geography better.
 - Enable you to attend more teacher professional development activities in order to teach geography better.

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- Expand geography education and teacher professional development into more counties/districts.
- Help improve your child's knowledge of geography, or the geographic knowledge of the students in your classes.

Thank You and an Offer of Assistance

– 2 to 3 sentences

- Thank the Senator.
- Restate “the ask.”
- Offer to provide additional information on this issue if the Senator would like.
- Sign the letter.
- Include your contact information (Name, address, phone, email address).



On Your Mark, Get Set, ... TEACH!

By Catherine Kelly

Ready or not, the XX Winter Olympic Games will soon be held in the Italian Alps in Turin, Italy, beginning February 10, 2006. The Olympics, summer or winter, present an excellent opportunity to make a geography connection with students, and “Torino 2006” is no exception!

K-12 teachers can start by doing their own research to find ways to adapt the Olympics to their grade level and subject area. Go to the many links found at www.olympic.org and www.torino2006.org. Matt Rosenberg's comprehensive geography news and information website at <http://geography.about.com> also includes numerous links to interesting facts about the Olympics.

Begin an emphasis on the Olympic Games by posting a world map in a school hallway where students can keep updated before and after school and between classes. Show the location of Turin, Italy. As the various participating countries start winning

medals, list them on a poster board next to the map. Use gold star stickers to represent gold medals, silver stars for silver medals, and red stars for bronze medals. As countries acquire medals, the list on the poster board becomes a bar graph. Give groups or pairs of students the job of keeping track of the countries and number of medals won. Other students can have the job of locating and labeling the countries on the world map.

Students can also...

- Research individual Winter Olympic sports including where each sport originated.
- Learn about cultural diffusion by finding out how these sports, such as ice hockey, have spread to other countries (remember the Jamaican bobsled team!?!).
- Find out the countries where previous Winter Olympics have taken place, what's special about their physical and human geography, and how many times the Winter Olympics have been held in the Alps.
- Explore reasons why certain countries win the most number of medals and speculate what these countries have in common with each other.

A recent Matt Rosenberg (geography.about.com) article entitled “Most Populous Countries NOT Participating in the Winter Games” states that “while more than 200 countries traditionally participate in the Summer Games, only 85 are scheduled to show up in Turin.” This is his list of the ten most populous countries NOT participating in the Winter Games in Italy: Indonesia, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Philippines, Vietnam, Egypt, Ethiopia, Thailand, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Myanmar.

Middle school and high school students can compare this list with the ten or twenty most populous countries, readily found in an almanac and also at the “geography.about.com” website. What do these ten most populous countries not participating in the XX Winter Olympics have in common with each other?

Have FUN in your classroom as you...
let the XX Winter Olympic Games begin!

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT CHATTANOOGA ASIA PROGRAM

Invites Teachers for an Exceptional Professional Development Opportunity

**High School and Middle School Teachers of World History, World Geography,
World Literature or Art: Include East Asia in Your Courses!!**

Stipends and Funded Seminars for Qualified Teachers

Hundreds of Dollars Worth of Curriculum Materials

The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Asia Program is pleased to announce a statewide teacher seminar on East Asian history and culture to be held in June 2006. UTC Professor Lucien Ellington will be the course instructor. Stipends and free materials are available to all participants who complete the seminar. The number of participants is limited to 21, and qualified applicants will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications must be mailed or faxed by **March 30, 2006**.

Purpose: Funded by the generosity of the Freeman Foundation, the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA) and the East Asian Curriculum Project of Columbia University have selected The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga as the site of a special seminar to be held in June on China, Japan and Korea. The purpose of the seminar is to increase World History, World Geography, World Literature, and Art teachers' knowledge of the histories and cultures of these countries.

The twenty-five teachers selected for the seminar will each receive a \$500.00 stipend distributed in two installments and \$200.00 worth of materials on China, Japan and Korea. All teachers enrolled, after completing all aspects of the seminar, will receive an additional \$300.00 to purchase materials on East Asia for their school.

Eligibility: First priority will be given to middle and high school World History, World Geography, World Literature, and Art teachers who teach about Asia.

Requirements: In order to receive stipends and materials, participants must:

1. Attend all sessions (unless excused by the seminar instructor) and the follow up session.
2. Complete assigned readings.
3. Develop three approved lesson plans.
4. Obtain verification from principals or supervisors that, if returning to your current school in the fall of 2006, you will teach at least one section of World History, World Geography, World Literature or Art.

For an application, email Kurt Butefish at: kbutefis@utk.edu

2006 Summer Fellowship in Korean Studies

AN INTENSIVE PROGRAM IN KOREAN STUDIES FOR AMERICAN EDUCATORS

HELD IN KOREA OVER THE PERIOD OF JUNE 19—JULY 7, 2006

The Korea Society is pleased to announce openings for up to 20 American educators to participate in the 18th annual Summer Fellowship in Korean Studies program to be held in Korea from June 19—July 7, 2006. All the expenses of the participants will be covered, including round-trip international airfare, accommodations, meals and program fees. This unparalleled learning experience and unique opportunity for extensive travel within Korea will be implemented with the financial support of the Korea Foundation and the Freeman Foundation.

Applications are invited from social studies and language arts educators, including K-12 classroom teachers and professors or instructors in schools of education. Preference will be given to applicants who have a demonstrated ability to adapt to new cultural settings as well as the physical and psychological demands of an intensive study/travel program. Some prior familiarity with Korean culture and history also is highly desirable.

The program's three-week schedule will include lectures and discussions on Korean history, culture, politics, economics, arts and language. Also included will be opportunities for on-site study of locales of historical and contemporary relevance. During the final week, the participants will be given a limited amount of time for independent research and exploration.

Program participants will be required to: 1) complete a background reading assignment from a list of recommended titles prior to the starting date of the program; 2) attend all scheduled activities during the program, including evening discussion meetings; and, 3) after returning from Korea, hand in a completed lesson plan on an aspect of Korean history or culture that reflects one of their areas of interest and expertise.

APPLICATION: due by February 14, 2006 (postmarked).
For an application, email Kurt Butefish at kbutefis@utk.edu

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