

TGA News

The Newsletter of the Tennessee Geographic Alliance

Vol. XXII, Issue 2, Winter/Spring 2007/08

Alliance Member Participates in Goethe Institut Transatlantic Program - So Can You

by Susan Gratz

Long-time Alliance member Susan Gratz was selected by the Goethe Institut to participate in The Transatlantic Outreach Program (TOP) for summer 2007. TOP seeks the best and most qualified K-12 social studies educators in the United States and gives them the opportunity to experience Modern Germany in the most dramatic way possible: in person. Because Susan is Director of Student Teachers at LMU and also is an active partner and workshop presenter with the Tennessee Geographic Alliance; her application was accepted and she traveled for two weeks in July throughout Germany by bus, taxi, plane, train, bicycle and on foot with a group of K-12 educators from the United States.

Some of the sessions in which she participated were Q&A sessions with diplomats of the Federal Foreign Office and German public school curriculum developers, talks with German teachers and students, a visit to a German middle and high school, a guided tour of the Reichstag, a tour and information session at a solar panel manufacturer, a tour of the Mercedes Benz Museum, an excursion to a uranium mine site converted to a garden paradise, a trip to the Black Forest, a visit to

Pottsdam, and a tour and information session with the original owner of a company that survived The Third Reich, take over by the East German government during the cold war and the economic downturn following the opening of the Berlin Wall. These opportunities were located throughout Germany—cities in former east Germany, historic Frankfurt, the capital city of Berlin, industrial Stuttgart, and Bavarian farmland. Susan will be conducting workshops for LMU students and K-12 educators throughout 2007-2008 school year with materials provided by the Goethe Institute and collected from her activities during her two weeks in Germany.

Any K-12 educator interested in applying should visit this website: www.goethe.de/ins/us/lp/prj/top/enindex.htm. The deadline for applications for Summer 2008 tours is February 8th.

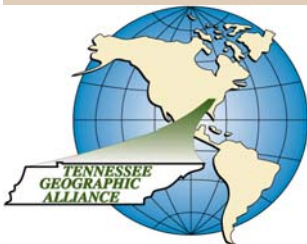
This is the trip of a lifetime. Airfare, transportation in Germany, lodging, and two meals per day are all paid for by Goethe. The guides are fantastic. The Goethe staff are

delightful people. You meet educators like yourself from diverse locations in the U.S. Your group becomes like your family. You see Germany as no tourist ever gets to see it. The only cost to participants is one meal per day (which you probably won't eat because the two provided meals are enormous), two gifts

to represent your state and community for speakers, some tips, and your souvenirs. Don't miss this opportunity!



Susan Gratz (right) and teacher Terry Stahl from Kansas enjoy a feast of roast pork in Frankfurt, Germany while participating in the Goethe Institute.



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Fax: 865.974.6025

kbutefis@utk.edu
<http://web.utk.edu/~tga>

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

Northeast TN Chapter Spring Program

Date: Thursday, February 7, 2008

Time: 4:30- 6:30 pm

Program: *Iceland* by Terri McBroom, Farragut Middle School

Location: Eastman Chemical Company Employee Center, 400 S. Wilcox Dr., Kingsport, TN 37660

Contact: For information contact Rhonda Gregory at Gregory@chartertn.net or Cheri Phillips at hape1511@aol.com

Come for great teaching activities, in-service credit, free food, fun, friends, and door prizes.

Knoxville Chapter Spring Program

Date: Thursday, February 21, 2008

Time: Registration 4:15 – 4:45, Meeting at 4:45 PM

Location: Hermitage Room, University Center on the UTK Campus

Program: *The Geography of the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers* featuring Kim Trevathan, author of *Paddling the Tennessee River and Cold Hearted River: A Canoe Odyssey Down the Cumberland*

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.

Nashville Chapter Spring Program

Date: Tuesday, February 26, 2008

Time: 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Location: Rose Park Middle Math/Science Magnet
1205 9th Ave. South
Nashville, TN 37203

Program: *Beijing 2008: On Your Mark, Get Ready...TEACH!* With Kyle Alexander presenting a 5-day unit on the physical and human geography of China. Other guest will also present.

Contact: Catherine Kelly at cgkelly@comcast.net or 615-333-9656

Come great teaching activities, in-service credit, free food, fun, and door prizes.

Murfreesboro Chapter Spring Program

Date: Monday, March 10, 2008

Time: 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Location: Erma Siegel Elementary, Murfreesboro

Program: *You Are Here! Targeting TCAP Skills using the TENNESSEE A GEOGRAPHIC PERSPECTIVE Map* with Dr. Peggy Gripshover of the UTK Geography Department

Contact: Carolyn Anderson at (615) 904-1002 or Carolyn.Anderson@cityschools.net

Come for great teaching activities, in-service credit, free food, fun, friends, and door prizes.

Memphis Chapter Program

Date: Saturday, April 19, 2008

Time: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Location: Memphis Teaching and Learning Academy

Program: *A Focus on Turkey* featuring Dr. Esra Ozdenerol of Memphis University Dept. of Earth Sciences

Contact: RSVP to Jayson Evaniuck at sincere@excite.com or Brandon Rader at b_rader@earthlink.net

Lunch included. Come for great teaching activities, in-service credit, fun, friends, and door prizes.

Southern Middle TN Chapter Spring Program

Date: Thursday, April 10, 2008

Time: 4:00-6:00 pm

Program: TBD

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.

Spring GEOFEST and TCSS Annual Conference 2008

Date: Friday, March 7, 2008

Location: Hilton Hotel, Downtown Knoxville, TN

Contact: Visit the TCSS website at:
www.tncss.org for information and on-line registration or see the flyer in this newsletter on page 4.



Geography Awareness Week a Huge Success in Knox County

Geography Awareness Week is an annual program sponsored by the National Geographic Education Foundation and facilitated in Knox County by the Tennessee Geographic Alliance. It is designed to educate and excite students about our natural, cultural, and historic treasures. Each year a different topic related to conservation and the world is celebrated. This year's theme was *The Geography of Asia*, which encouraged students to explore the biodiversity and cultural diversity of Asia through a geographic perspective.

Part of the celebration of Geography Awareness Week included visits by majors in the Department of Geography to local elementary schools to share geographic knowledge. Presentations were offered to 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade classes around Knox County. Teams of two geography students conducted the classroom presentations, which were designed to involve students in interactive activities. More than 1,010 students in 33 classes received presentations during the four-day event.



Students in Susan Bauman's 3rd grade class at Rocky Hill Elementary School in Knoxville received a program from UTK Geography Department graduate students Lisa LaForest (left) and Dawn Drake (right) during Geography Awareness Week.

Coordinators for this year's GAW celebration were graduate students Ian Feathers, Angela Danovi, and Joshua Albritton. Coordinating this program is a massive undertaking and the large numbers of classes visited and students reached by the Department's majors is a testament to their leadership and dedication to geography education.



Geography Awareness Week Celebrated at Lincoln Heights Middle School

Kimberly Dean, 6th grade Social Studies teacher at Lincoln Heights Middle School in Morristown, Tennessee put Geography into action with lessons from the 2007-2008 Geography Action! Conference. Students participated in new lessons and games centered on their studies of ancient India.



Students in Kimberly Dean's 6th grade class at Lincoln Heights Middle School in Morristown study a statue of Buddha as part of Geography Awareness Week.

Throughout their research of India and the Indus River Valley, students made an informative India foldable, completed investigative activities with artwork of Buddha and Shiva, created their own Buddhist mandalas, and viewed United Streaming videos of India as well as Buddhism and Hinduism.

Kimberly's classroom activities were covered by her local newspaper and two local educational websites.



**Combined
30th Anniversary
Tennessee Council for the Social Studies
State Social Studies Conference
and the
Tennessee Geographic Alliance GEOFEST**

Social: Thursday, March 6, 2008 at 7:00p.m.

**Friday, March 7, 2008. 8:00a.m. – 3:00p.m. EST
Hilton Hotel, Downtown Knoxville**

Enjoy Sessions for ALL Grade Levels including: "The Geography of the Trail of Tears", "A Cross-Curricular Study of Ancient Civilizations, Go Global-Get Connected", "Environmental Education Connections to Teaching Elementary Social Studies." Lesson Plan and Teacher of the Year Awards will be presented at the optional luncheon.

Registration Fees: \$50.00 TCSS Members. \$70.00 Non TCSS Members (Includes 2008-2009 TCSS Dues). The luncheon featuring special speaker National Council for the Social Studies President Dr. Gayle Thiemann and Outstanding Social Studies Teacher Awards is \$20.00 per registrant.

Hilton Reservations

Call 1-865-523-2300 and mention the Tennessee Council for the Social Studies Spring Conference to receive the special \$86 single-quad rate (parking \$6 extra). After 5 February 2008 rooms subject to availability and TCSS rate cannot be guaranteed.

Register On Line at www.tncss.org

Or send registration fees in form of a check made payable to TCSS (best for schools without credit cards) including luncheon participation/non participation choice, Name(s), E-Mail or Conventional Mail Address(es) of all registrants by Friday, 29 February 2008 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: _____

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 sixth 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 2008 combined TCSS Annual Conference/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 submit 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 Friday, February 15, 2008.

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.*

Your Favorite Geography Lesson Plan Could Be Worth \$500 !!!

Siesta Software Solutions has generously agreed to sponsor a competition in which your favorite geography lesson plan could win \$500. The competition will be administered through the Tennessee Geographic Alliance and is open to members who are in-service teachers that teach in the state of Tennessee.

We are looking for lessons that:

- **Successfully blend geography with other areas of the curriculum**
- **Address one or more of the 18 standards from *Geography for Life***
(see www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/standards/matrix.html)
- **Present an innovative or original approach to teaching geography.**

Siesta Software wants to inspire teachers to create creative geography lessons, to share those lessons with others, and to seek national recognition for the creativity of Tennessee teachers. The creator(s) of the winning lesson plan will receive a \$500 cash award from Siesta Solutions. (Teachers may choose to submit a lesson as a team.) The winning plan will be shared with the Alliance community in the TGA News and on the Alliance web site. The winning lesson plan will also be featured on the program of the Spring GEOFEST in Knoxville.

The Alliance will also assist the winner(s) in submitting their lesson plan for the annual NCGE/Nystrom award which pays \$1,500, provides a one-year NCGE membership, waiver of the annual meeting registration fee and an award banquet ticket at the national conference. In return, you will present a program at that meeting on your winning lesson plan. In this way, the winner(s) will have an opportunity to continue a tradition of Tennessee Geographic Alliance members who have previously won the national NCGE/CRAM award.

Please submit your lesson plan(s) NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 15, 2008 to:

**Tennessee Geographic Alliance
304 Burchfiel Geography Building
Knoxville, TN 37996-0925**

Or you may submit them electronically to kbutefis@utk.edu

Be sure to include the following information:

**Your Name
Home Address
School Address
Email Address
A Copy of Your Lesson Plan**

If you have questions about the competition, please email them to Kurt Butefish at kbutefis@utk.edu or call him at 865-974-4841.

FREE ONE-DAY WORKSHOPS ON TENNESSEE

A Refreshing Look at Teaching the Geography and History of Tennessee

Knoxville, TN – Monday, June 2, 2008
Murfreesboro, TN – Tuesday, June 17, 2008
Memphis, TN – Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Sponsored by:

The Tennessee Geographic Alliance

- Times for Workshops:** 8:30am – 3:30pm (Local time)
- Locations of Workshop:** Knoxville – Burchfiel Geography Building – UT Campus
Murfreesboro – Kirksey Old Main – MTSU Campus
Memphis – Teaching and Learning Academy
- Persons Eligible to Apply:** All Tennessee K-12 teachers and pre-service teachers
- Deadline for Applications:** Deadline is May 19, 2008 for receipt of Knoxville applications
Deadline is June 2, 2008 for receipt of Murfreesboro and Memphis applications
- Primary Presenters:** Dr. Peggy Gripshover, Professor of Geography at the University of Tennessee and Dr. Carole Bucy, Professor of History at Volunteer State Community College and Project Director for TEACH, (Tennessee Educators' Active Colloquia for History).
- Content and Benefits:** Both Dr. Gripshover and Dr. Bucy are dynamic lecturers and their presentations are innovative, informative, and more than a little entertaining.

In Dr. Gripshover's presentation "You are Here: Targeting TCAP Skills Using the TENNESSEE: A GEOGRAPHIC PERSPECTIVE Map" she will provide a quick refresher on our state's geography. She will then assist you in teaching your students to: 1) understand how to interpret maps, including absolute and relative location, 2) locate major geographic features, 3) identify the physical and political boundaries of Tennessee, 4) identify and compare landform, climate, and natural resources of the three Grand Divisions, and 5) understand the relationships between physical and cultural characteristics of regions. Participants will take away lesson plans, teaching strategies and a classroom set of the TENNESSEE: A GEOGRAPHIC PERSPECTIVE maps.

In her presentation, Dr. Bucy presents innovative ways to link major events in Tennessee's history to those of American History so that you can bring history "home" to your students. She includes liberal use of maps and geographic techniques as well as language arts skills.

- 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.

- Questions and Information:** Kurt Butefish, 865-974-4841 or kbutefis@utk.edu

APPLICATION FOR ONE-DAY TENNESSEE WORKSHOPS

*A REFRESHING LOOK AT TEACHING THE
GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY OF TENNESSEE*

Sponsored by:

The Tennessee Geographic Alliance

Knoxville, TN – Monday, June 2, 2008
Murfreesboro, TN – Tuesday, June 17, 2008
Memphis, TN – Wednesday, June 18, 2008

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

Refunds made to attendees who complete the workshop.

Please Check One

I am applying for the: Knoxville Workshop
 Murfreesboro Workshop
 Memphis Workshop

Name _____

Home Address _____
Street and No. City State Zip

Home Ph. _____ - _____ - _____ Work Ph. _____ - _____ - _____

School _____

E-Mail _____

Please return this application, with \$25 refundable deposit made to the Tennessee Geographic Alliance, TO: Kurt Butefish, 304 Burchfiel Geography Building, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925.

Knoxville applications are to be received not later than Monday, May 19, 2008

Murfreesboro and Memphis applications are to be received not later than Monday, June 2, 2008

FREE HALF-DAY EARTHCACHING WORKSHOP

Murfreesboro, TN – Saturday, April 12, 2008

USING GLOBAL POSITIONING SATELLITE SYSTEMS to ENHANCE YOUR
GEOGRAPHY / SCIENCE / AND EARTH SCIENCE CLASSROOM

Sponsored by:

The Geological Society of America
The National Geographic Education Foundation

- Date and Time of Workshop: Saturday, April 12th, 2008, 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM (CST)
Workshop is free (\$25 deposit refunded to attendees who complete the workshop).
- Location of Workshop: Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) in Murfreesboro
- Persons Eligible to Apply: Tennessee K-12 teachers and pre-service teachers
- Deadline for Applications: Deadline is March 31, 2008 for receipt of applications
- Primary Presenters: Keith Bell, Professor of Geography at Volunteer State Community College and Kurt Butefish, Coordinator of the Tennessee Geographic Alliance
- Content and Benefits: EarthCaching is a part of the world-wide adventure game of Geocaching. It takes people, using a GPS unit, to places where they can learn about some aspect of the Earth. In the process, participants learn about navigation and maps as well as the earth science/geography of special places. EarthCaching is an excellent classroom tool. Teachers and students can visit EarthCaches, use EarthCaches to examine some physical phenomenon or even set up their own. It involves them in the use of technology to better understand their planet. Participants of the workshop will receive a detailed workbook that includes instruction and classroom activities. They will also have access to loaner GPS units through Keith Bell.
- 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 **Monday, March 31, 2008**.
- Questions and Information: Kurt Butefish, 865-974-4841 or kbutefis@utk.edu

APPLICATION FOR HALF-DAY EARTHCACHING WORKSHOP

*USING GLOBAL POSITIONING SATELLITE SYSTEMS to ENHANCE YOUR
GEOGRAPHY / SCIENCE / AND EARTH SCIENCE CLASSROOM*

Sponsored by:

The Geological Society of America
The National Geographic Education Foundation

Murfreesboro - Saturday, April 12, 2008

Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) in Murfreesboro

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

Refunds made to attendees who complete the workshop.

Name _____

Home Address _____
Street and No. City State Zip

Home Ph. _____ - _____ - _____ Work Ph. _____ - _____ - _____

School _____

E-Mail _____

Please return this application, with \$25 refundable deposit made to the Tennessee Geographic Alliance, TO: Kurt Butefish, 304 Burchfiel Geography Building, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925.

Applications are to be received not later than Monday, March 31, 2008

ONE-DAY AMERICAN INDIAN WORKSHOP

Knoxville, TN – Friday, July 11, 2008

TEACHING AMERICAN INDIAN HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CURRENT EVENTS

Sponsored by:

Tennessee Council for the Social Studies
Tennessee Geographic Alliance
Indian Creek Productions, Inc.
Frank H. McClung Museum
East Tennessee Historical Society Museum

Date and Time of Workshop: Friday, July 11, 2008 8:00am – 4:30pm with Powwow at 5:00pm

Location of Workshop: Frank H. McClung Museum on the University of Tennessee Campus

Persons Eligible to Apply: All Tennessee teachers (public, private, home school, and pre-service)

Deadline for Applications: Friday, June 20, 2008

Primary Presenters: Debbie Woodiel, Museum Educator, McClung Museum
Lisa Oakley, Curator of Education, East TN Historical Society Museum, Sherry and Mark Finchum, Indian Creek Productions, Inc.

Content and Benefits: Presentations at McClung Museum will include information on the pre-contact peoples of Tennessee, along with new data that has been recently collected. There will be a “behind the scenes” look at how archaeology is conducted plus a guided tour of the “Archaeology and the Native Peoples of Tennessee” exhibit.

The East Tennessee Historical Society Museum will provide a session on life on the Tennessee frontier. Mark and Sherry Finchum will present a session on Cherokee culture. Participants will tour the ETHS Museum and there will be workshop specific entertainment during lunch.

Lesson plans and multiple handouts will be provided. The registration fee includes transportation, lunch, materials, museum tours, and admission to the Spirit of Nations Powwow and Cherokee Heritage Festival to be held at the World’s Fair Park beginning Friday evening.

Application Submission: Send your \$25 workshop fee (checks made to Tennessee Geographic Alliance) and completed application form to Kurt Butefish, 304 Burchfiel Geography Building, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925. Deadline for receipt of application is **Friday, June 20, 2008.**

Questions and Information: Mark Finchum, finchums@usinternet.com

APPLICATION FOR ONE-DAY AMERICAN INDIAN WORKSHOP

TEACHING AMERICAN INDIAN HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CURRENT EVENTS

Sponsored by:

Tennessee Council for the Social Studies
Tennessee Geographic Alliance
Indian Creek Productions, Inc.
Frank H. McClung Museum
East Tennessee Historical Society Museum

Knoxville - Friday, July 11, 2008

Frank H. McClung Museum
The University of Tennessee in Knoxville

SUBMIT \$25 WORKSHOP FEE
checks made to TENNESSEE GEOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE

Refunds will be made to applicants if they are not admitted because the workshop fills.

Name _____

Home Address _____
Street and No. City State Zip

Home Ph. _____ - _____ - _____ Work Ph. _____ - _____ - _____

School _____

E-Mail _____

Please return this application along with your \$25 workshop fee via a check made to the Tennessee Geographic Alliance, TO: Kurt Butefish, 304 Burchfiel Geography Building, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925.

Applications are to be received not later than Friday, June 20, 2008

Grants for Teachers

Thanks to the Environmental Education E-Newsletter for compiling and forwarding the following opportunities to the Tennessee Geographic Alliance. You can find out more about the newsletter and member organizations at www.eintennessee.org.

Toyota Tapestry Grants

The 2007 Toyota Tapestry program will award 50 grants of up to \$10,000 each and a minimum of 20 “mini-grants” of \$2,500 each to K-12 science teachers.

Interested teachers should propose innovative science projects that can be implemented in their school or school district over a one-year period. Toyota Tapestry projects demonstrate creativity, involve risk-taking, possess a visionary quality, and model a novel way of presenting science. The Environmental Science Education category funds projects that emphasize the efficient use of natural resources and protection of the environment. Students participating in these projects should gain an increased awareness of the terrestrial, aquatic, and/or atmospheric environment and an understanding of their own interdependence with the natural world. If you have a great way to make science come alive, apply for a Toyota Tapestry grant. Apply by January 28, 2008.

For complete details visit: <http://ecommerce2.nsta.org/toyota/>

Lowe’s Toolbox for Education \$5,000 Grants

The Lowe’s Toolbox for Education awards \$5 million annually to schools (K-12) and parent / teacher groups across the United States. The Foundation provides funding only to 501(c) (3) tax-exempt non-profit schools. School projects should encourage parent involvement and build stronger community ties. Samples of funded projects are ones that engage students with their school’s surrounding environment, such as planting a school / community garden or developing a nature trail.

Lowe’s Toolbox for Education accepts only the first 1,500 applications per grant period. Submit your application early to be sure you are considered to receive a grant. The next 2007-08 school year grant cycle deadline is February 15, 2008.

For complete details visit: www.toolboxforeducation.com/

Toshiba America Grants for Enhancing Math and Science Ed.

Toshiba America Foundation contributes to the quality of science and mathematics education in the U.S. with an annual grant budget of approximately \$500,000. Teachers K - 12 are eligible to apply for grants ranging from up to \$1,000 for grades K - 6 and \$5,000 for 7 - 12.

Recent K - 6 grantees include a kindergarden class using their urban neighborhood as a laboratory for an introduction to geometry, and elementary students participating in hands-on activities at a National Wildlife Refuge. Some recipients in grades 7 - 12 are working on creating new science based classes, lesson plans or research laboratories for their schools.

Deadline for K – 6th grade programs is October 1st (may request up to \$1,000). Grant Applications for 7th - 12th grade programs are accepted year round for grants under \$5,000 and are due February 1st and August 1st for grants over \$5,000.

Continued from page 13

Teachers are encouraged to contact the Toshiba Foundation directly before submitting an application. Please visit the foundation's Web site for further details.

For complete details visit: www.toshiba.com/tafpub/jsp/home/default.jsp

Captain Planet Foundation \$250 - \$2,500 Grants

The Captain Planet Foundation provides grants of up to \$2,500 to school and community groups to support hands-on environmental projects. The objective of the Foundation is to encourage innovative programs that empower children and youth around the world to work individually and collectively to solve environmental problems in their neighborhoods and communities.

You can submit a proposal at any time during the year. However, proposals will only be reviewed the last day of March, June, September, and December. It is very important to remember this information if your project is seasonal. For example, if you are seeking funding for a summer project you would want to submit an application no later than the December 31st deadline in the year prior, otherwise you will not have your grant money in time for the project.

All applications must be submitted using the online form available at:
www.captainplanetfoundation.org/default.aspx?pid=16&tab=apply

Outdoor Classroom Grants

Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation, International Paper and National Geographic Explorer! classroom magazine have partnered to create an outdoor classroom grant program to provide schools with additional resources to improve their science curriculum by engaging students in hands-on experiences outside the traditional classroom. All K-12 public schools in the United States (excluding Puerto Rico) are welcome to apply. While supplies last, Lowe's will send all reviewed applicants the International Paper's Life of the Forest Classroom Kit. The free kit, which contains 10 full-color posters, 10 teaching guides and 20 booklets, can be used in your classroom at your discretion.

This school year, the program will award grants up to \$2,000 to at least 100 schools. In some cases, grants for up to \$20,000 may be awarded to schools or school districts with major outdoor classroom projects. The grants can be used to build a new outdoor classroom or to enhance a current outdoor classroom at the school.

Grants will be reviewed three times a year. Only complete online applications, with all supporting documents, will be considered. You will be notified via email if your grant proposal was declined. The Spring 2008 cycle is now open; to meet the next deadline apply before February 15, 2008. Hurry and apply now, once 1500 applications are received the application process will close.

Apply September 1- December 31, receive notification by mid January.

Apply January 1 - April 30, receive notification by mid May.

Apply May 1- August 31, receive notification by mid September.

For complete details visit:
www.lowes.com/lowes/lkn?action=pg&p>AboutLowes/outdoor/index.html

Project WILD Educator Professional Development Workshop

Saturday, February 23, 2008
(9:00 am - 4:00 pm)

This workshop is a day-long event where participants receive the Project WILD K-12 Curriculum and Activity Guide, participate in many activities from the guide, and learn how to integrate some of the activities into their existing educational program. Each Project WILD activity contains all the information needed to conduct that activity including objectives, method, background information, materials list, procedures, evaluation suggestions, recommended grade levels, subject areas, duration, group size, and setting. Project WILD Activities have been correlated to K-8 Tennessee Curriculum Standards for science, social studies, math and language arts. Lunch will be provided.

To register:
Visit www.adventuresci.com Scroll down to "TEACH" and click on Teachers Corner. There you will find more details and a registration form to download.

Admission: \$10 advance registration fee to reserve your place. Fee will be refunded at the workshop.

Location:
Adventure Science Center
800 Fort Negley Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37203

Presented by:
Project CENTS
710 James Robertson Parkway
Andrew Johnson Tower, 5th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243



Back the Brookie Learning Module Available

The "Back the Brookie" Learning Module was created by Tennessee educators and includes a DVD and teacher packet for

use in grades 7 – 12. The module is about clean air and clean water, and their effects on brook trout habitat as well as on humans. It includes information on brook trout biology, watersheds, acid rain, the water cycle, pH, and how students can help participate in conservation efforts. The teacher packet is complete with a listing of correlation to TN Department of Education Curriculum Standards, a pre/post test, enrichment activity suggestions, and teacher notes. It is suggested for use in wildlife, ecology and environmental science classes. To request the teacher packet with DVD learning module, email tnbrookie@hotmail.com. The module is free to teachers. If multiple packets are ordered, a mailing fee is requested.



Project Bud Burst – Citizen Science for Teachers and Students

You and your students can participate in Project Bud Burst, a nationwide phenology study sponsored by the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research. Join them in 2008 collecting important climate change data on the timing of leafing and flowering of trees and flowers in your area. This national citizen science field campaign targets native tree and flower species across the country. By recording the timing of the leafing and flowering of native species each year, scientists can learn about the prevailing climatic characteristics in a region over time. With your help, they will be compiling valuable environmental information that can be compared to historical records to illustrate the effects of climate change.

Phenology is literally "the science of appearance." Scientists who study phenology – phenologists — are interested in the timing of specific biological events (such as flowering, migration, and reproduction) in relation to changes in season and climate. Seasonal and climatic changes are some of the non-living or abiotic components of the environment that impact the living or biotic components. Seasonal changes can include variations in day length, temperature, and rain or snowfall. In short, phenologists

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attempt to learn more about the abiotic factors that plants and animals respond to.

Phenological observations have been used for centuries by farmers to maximize crop production, nature-lovers to anticipate optimal wildflower viewing conditions, and by almost all of us to prepare for seasonal allergies. Today, this well established science is also used by scientists to track the effect of global warming and climate change

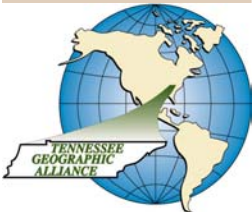
on organisms and to make predictions about the future health of the environment. By tracking changes in the timing of these phenological events, scientists are able to better understand how our environment is changing.

To learn more, visit the Project Bud Burst website at: www.windows.ucar.edu/citizen_science/budburst/

Alliance member Rhonda Gregory (right) poses with her new friend, Geal, a geography teacher in Kakamega, Kenya. Rhonda shared resources donated by the Alliance with teachers she met while on a mission trip this past summer.



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