

Election Ballot for At-Large Delegates Tennessee Chapter Executive Committee

2022-2023 Term

Please note that **ONLY** paper mail-in ballots are available for this year's ballot. No electronic ballot is available.

Please vote for the election of four (4) At-Large Delegates of the Tennessee Chapter Executive Committee (ExCom), each having a two-year term beginning January 1, 2022, and ending December 31, 2023. Successful candidates will join our other ExCom members in managing our fiscal, legislative, environmental, outings program and governance responsibilities of the Tennessee Chapter. Ballots must be received no later than December 15, 2021, to be valid. Only current members as of November 1, 2021, may vote. Joint members must use the same ballot. Single Members or each Joint Member should vote for no more than four (4) candidates. The order of candidates on the ballot was determined by drawing names at random. **Also complete a ballot for your group on page 5, 8, 9, or 10.**

VOTE HERE FOR CHAPTER AT-LARGE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CANDIDATES:

<u>At-Large Chapter Candidates</u>	<u>Single Member or First Joint Member</u> - Max 4 votes -	<u>Second Joint Member</u> - Max 4 votes -
Charlie High	_____	_____
Nancy Bell	_____	_____
Kent Minault	_____	_____
David Riall	_____	_____
Grace Stranch	_____	_____
Marquita Bradshaw	_____	_____

PLEASE READ: Paper ballots must be properly submitted to be counted.

Only current members as of November 1, 2021, may vote! Place both Group and At-Large ballots in the same envelope. Seal and write "Ballot" and your county on that same envelope. Place your "Ballot" envelope in a second envelope for mailing. Write your name, address, and Sierra Club membership number in the upper left hand corner of the mailing envelope. Your membership number is located to the left of your name on the mailing label of your *Tennes-Sierran*.

- Envelopes without name, address, and membership number cannot be counted.

- Mail promptly! Ballots must be received no later than December 15, 2021 to be valid.

**Mail ballot promptly to: Dr. Cris Corley
294 Braid Dr., Mt. Juliet, TN 37122**

Candidate Bios

Charlie High is an avid camper, hiker, and kayaker. It was his passion for environmental issues that guided him to Sierra Club 32 years ago. As co-chair of Inspiring Connections Outdoors (ICO), he organizes and conducts summer outdoor activities for school-age children, inspiring them to care for their environment. In spite of COVID-19 restrictions, ICO conducted five days of outings in July 2021. In 2019, Charlie helped develop Jack Lyle's River Kids, in partnership with the Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association, teaching children aged 12 years and older safe and effective use of kayaks. This program has continued offering these valuable, lifesaving skills to date. Charlie has had the honor of serving as Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary of the Middle Tennessee Group; currently, serving as Treasurer. He brings his knowledge and experience as a Nashville attorney to benefit Sierra Club. He currently serves as a Delegate to the State Executive Committee and Chair of the By-Laws and Standing Rules Committee, spearheading the creation of written standing rules for the Tennessee Chapter. If reelected as Delegate to the State Executive Committee, he will continue to pursue the vision for Sierra Club to lead the world in protecting our Earth.

Nancy Bell, a Peace Corps Volunteer in Iran, arrived in Tennessee as a public health nutritionist. Joining the Sierra Club in 1988, she worked on clean air issues in Kingsport. In 1990, she joined Friends of the Clinch and Powell Rivers, served three years as president, designed and led a school ecology program for 10 years, and coordinated cleanups and a recycling fair for 600 students. The Friends also defeated an ash landfill in Hancock County and an azide plant in Hawkins County. She served on the Hawkins County Solid Waste Board and on the Coalition for Jobs & the Environment (TN/VA). In 2004 she earned a Biology Teacher Certificate and taught for 10 years. In 2016, she formed Care NET Conservation Committee with friends and chaired it for three years. Care NET got the Jackson Law passed in Hawkins County, does cleanups, promotes solar power and EVs, and created a quilt memorializing black victims of violence. Currently she is assisting the Hawkins County school system in acquiring electric buses, and is helping create an exhibit on the history and value of the Holston River. She will work to support Sierra volunteers working in rural as well as urban areas.

Kent Minault acted and toured with the award-winning San Francisco Mime Troupe in the '60's. He joined the Diggers, organizing street rallies and serving daily free food in the park. They organized the first Haight Ashbury Free Medical Clinic, a version of which is still there. In the 70's, he worked for the SF Art Commission. His acting career moved him to the top theaters in San Francisco and then to LA in 1987. He expanded into television and film, and taught English for the School District. He organized with his adult students to preserve adult education and worked with his union to defeat anti-union ballot measures. In 2010, he joined the Beyond Coal campaign. After getting LA off coal, he joined the LA County Electric Bus Coalition and got LA Metro to transition to electric buses by 2030. He organized three EV events in Watts and helped found the Watts Clean Air Committee, installing rooftop solar and helping residents enter union apprenticeship programs. He organized an EV event in East Knoxville with SEED. He's on the HBG ExCom and serves as the Group's Political Chair. He works regularly with the Beyond Coal Team and the Chapter Energy Team as well as with Bull Run Neighbors. He currently chairs the State Transportation Team.

David Riall: In my 40-year career in graphic arts, I have always been concerned about the environmental direction in which our world and country are headed. I was very active in the 70's during college and my early career. Family then became my main focus, but now I am back getting involved. In the past few years, I have become active in Sierra Club, Interfaith Power and Light, and Audubon, and as Conservation Chair/Webmaster for the very active and socially-conscious Tennessee Valley Canoe Club. Through the paddle club my wife and I have captained river cleanups along with Adopt-A-River at Audubon Acres. With Sierra Club, I serve on the Chapter Transportation Committee and am currently working through the Cherokee Group to get East Ridge to start thinking in terms of renewables and EVs. I think that everything begins on a local level, so on top of these involvements, I have been politically active in getting exposure for environmentally friendly candidates. I see that there is a path to a better and cleaner world, but we need to get on that path as soon as we can. I would love to be a part of that change for the better.

Grace Stranch is the COO and Vice President of Conservation and Policy at the Harpeth River Conservancy. Prior to joining the Conservancy, she practiced law at Branstetter, Stranch & Jennings, PLLC with a concentration primarily in class actions and union representation. Notably, she worked on the Volkswagen class action about the emission defeat device. She has been Chair of the Middle Tennessee Sierra Club and is currently Vice Chair. For the Tennessee Chapter of the Sierra Club, Grace has led or assisted in organizing counting of the election ballots for two election cycles and has served as an alternate delegate. She has led or assisted in organizing the Appalachian Public Interest Environmental Law Conference for ten years and is the Tennessee leader for the Environmental Defense Fund. She has considerable organizing experience and has completed grassroots organizational training in Memphis, lobbying training in D.C., and has worked on a rural political campaign in West Tennessee. Based on her significant community involvement, Grace was honored with the 2020 Athena Young Professional Award and Metro Council Resolution RS220-457. If elected, she hopes to foster collaborations with environmental and other groups to promote and implement policies that protect Tennessee's natural environment.

Marquita Bradshaw made history as the first African American woman to win a major political party nomination in any statewide race in Tennessee with her 2020 US Senate run on an Environmental Justice platform. A South Memphis native, Marquita raised her child as a working-class mother while obtaining a degree from the University of Memphis. Marquita has championed many communities' causes in Memphis and throughout the Midsouth as an organizer at the local, state, and national level. Marquita's career and service have spanned from labor, environment, education reform, tax reform, trade policy, and social justice. Along with organizing around her own community's National Priorities List Superfund Site military landfill, she has served, on behalf of the Memphis Chapter Coalition of Black Trade Unionist Community Action and Response Against Toxics (CBTU-CARAT) Team, as Community Communications Liaison to the Memphis Community Advisory Board of the Southern Gateway Environmental Health Disparities Research Center of Excellence. Bradshaw received the Dick Mochow Environmental Justice Award from the Sierra Club, the Human Rights Award from the Mid-South Peace and Justice Center, and the VOX Student Award: Financial Literacy High School Pilot from PRSSA. Marquita founded and currently directs Sowing Justice, dedicated to coalition building, increasing civic engagement utilizing citizen science, and providing tools and resources to emerging grassroots organizations.