

## Knobs and Knolls



P.O. Box 1763  
Bristol, TN 37621

Phone: 423-989-5616  
E-mail:

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The Newsletter of the Friends of Steele Creek  
Nature Center and Park  
Bristol, Tennessee

Fall 2005

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## Wildlife Weekend-October 14 & 15, 2005

Steele Creek Park Lodge

Kevin Elam, Nature Center Manager and *Friends of Steele Creek* invite you to attend any or all of the programs and activities scheduled at the park in celebration of our beautiful fall environment and the creatures that call it home.

### Friday Evening, October 14, 2005

**7:00 p.m.** Campfire and OWL TALK featuring Marty Silver, Warrior's Path State Park Ranger and live owls

**8:00 p.m.** OWL PROWL lead by Tom McNeil of Northeast State Technical Community College

### Saturday, October 15, 2005

**9:00 a.m.** Bird Hike lead by Bill Grigsby, Bristol Bird Club

**10:00 a.m.** Bird Banding, Richard Lewis

**11:00 a.m.** TWRA-Tennessee Wildlife (animal furs and skulls)

**1:00p.m.** Gray Fossil Site Presentation, Larry Bristol,  
Paleontology Coordinator

**3:00 p.m.** Autumn Ecology Ramble, hike lead by Don Holt,  
former Steele Creek Park Naturalist

**4:00 p.m.** Nature Photography, Mike Poe

**7:00 p.m.** Turtle Research in Bristol, Logan Webb, King College

**8:00 p.m.** *The Grandest Canyon* Brad Jones, Winged Deer Park

Bring your family and friends Friday evening for the campfire and owl prowl and Saturday for a day full of diverse programs.

Park admission is free all day Saturday. Friends of Steele Creek are providing refreshments and lunch. Friends will have t-shirts for sale. For additional information about Wildlife Weekend call the Nature Center staff at (423) 989-5616.

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secutive years, if extenuating circumstance warrant such an exception".

The bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed at any regular or special meeting of the members of the Corporation, provided that notice of any proposed change is given to the members at least ten (10) days prior to the next meeting. The next board meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference room at the Lodge. It is important that you, the membership of *Friends*, contact one of the officers or board members to express your recommendation regarding the proposed change. This will be discussed and voted upon at the September session of the Board of Directors.

The Officers and Board of Directors of *Friends* are anxious to know your thoughts and recommendations regarding this proposed bylaw change. Please pick up the phone or e-mail us at [friendsofscncp@earthlink.net](mailto:friendsofscncp@earthlink.net). We need and appreciate your participation. Thank you for responding.

## Park Update

Summer Nature Camps held weekly in July and August turn Steele Creek Park into a summer campus. Children have fun and many opportunities to explore and learn about ecology, herpetology and vertebrate zoology. Plus they receive educational notebooks, t-shirts, and other supplies thanks to the contributions of *Friends*.

The Urban Forestry Grant awarded by the State of Tennessee two years ago will be complete September 30, 2005. This grant has permitted us to:

- Purchase a laptop computer and printer
- Complete a forest-type analysis of Steele Creek Park trees
- Complete an emergency response plan for the park
- Develop a hazard tree plan for the park
- Attend the 2004 Tennessee Urban Forestry Conference

The Hemlock Woolly Adelgid has been identified within the park. At this time the insect has only been found in the Eastern Hemlock trees along the lakefront. Due to their proximity to the water, they cannot be treated with chemical insecticides. Management of this problem will be ongoing with the assistance of various state agencies.

We are focusing on our fall schedule and invite you to come by anytime and to consider our Calendar of Events for September and October:

September 17	10-11:00 a.m.	Tree Walk
September 30	6:00 p.m.	Set Small Mammal Traps
October 1,	10-11:00 a.m.	Small Mammal Traps in the Wetlands
October 14 & 15		Wildlife Weekend
October 23, 10-12		Foliage Hike

Again, thanks for your support! See you at the park.

**Kevin Elam, Nature Center Manager**

# President's Letter

Greetings *Friends*,

Our new fiscal year has begun and that means it's time to pay our dues, which is the purpose of the enclosed envelope. As you know, our dues make these newsletters possible and fund educational material at the Nature Center as well as assisting with other projects throughout the year.

Please note the information being requested on the dues envelopes and help us by indicating areas of interest and expertise that you can offer. Here are some examples of how you can help. Check the *Fund Raising* block if you would be interested in helping with the souvenir booth at the BMS races in March and August, which provides most of our funding. We're also particularly interested in new ideas for fund-raising or better ways for doing what we're doing now, so put on your creativity hats. The kiosks will be built and erected this fall, so check the *Other* block and write in Kiosks if that is an area of interest for you. There are also miles of trails in our park, so planning, building and maintaining them takes lots of time, talent and effort. Our butterfly and herb gardens are constantly in need of attention, and could use TLC from those of you with a green thumb. We garden on Thursday mornings and Sharon Foster, Master Gardener, coordinates this activity.

Please indicate your e-mail address so that you may receive timely information about upcoming events, work days, news items and meeting notices.

We look forward to hearing from you and invite you enjoy the park as an involved member of *Friends*.

**Becky Wilkerson, President**

## Bristol Motor Speedway August Race

From the beginning inventory to the final checkered flag, *Friends* experienced another victory for Steele Creek Park. Our wonderful team of 20 volunteers worked 355 hours and we thank each of you for our financial success.

John Arwood  
*Rachael Bush*  
Ralph Davis  
Margaret Feierabend  
Sharon Foster  
Dian McIlwain  
Helga vonDohlan

Myrna Bush  
*Susie Chandler*  
Kevin Elam  
Robin Feierabend  
Bill Graham  
Catherine Murray  
Becky Wilkerson

*Catherine Batts*  
J.B. Combs  
Kristin Feierabend  
Brenda Fincher  
Casey McComish  
Soni Schermer

*The spring race will be coming up in March, so think about how you may volunteer in any of the many roles: coordinating the event, inventory and set-up or manning the souvenir stand.*

## Proposed By-Law Change

The 2005-2006 Board of Directors met in July for the first meeting of the year. A major topic of discussion concerned a section of the bylaws, Article VII, Section 4 that states: "No director of this corporation shall serve as a director for more than eight (8) consecutive years". The intent of this is to promote and build future leadership within *Friends*. The board members concluded that situations may arise that require extending a board member's term and a motion was made and approved by the board to add a subsection stating "The board of directors may choose to extend the term of a director beyond eight (8) con-