



OWCA Ripples

www.obedwatershed.org

Obed Watershed Community Association

January 2010

It's a New Year!

As we enter 2010, we have a lot to look forward to this year. We will begin the process of restoring the branch of the Little Obed in Centennial Park and in addressing a number of stormwater and erosion problems there as well. We will continue our work in repairing and stabilizing the banks of the Obed, One Mile Creek, Spiers Branch, Long Branch, and Town Branch. We also look forward to our continuing work with the schools and the stream monitoring work. Not to mention our many walks and field trips designed to build appreciation for our wonderful community. All of this is possible because of the good work and efforts of our volunteers and members. Please look for ways to become involved during this next year. It's deeply satisfying to see things change for the better.

Meet the New Head of the Obed River National Park

January 21st, 4:00 p.m.

In November, Janet Ambrose took the reins of the Obed River National Park. Her career has taken her to many parks across the country, including Yellowstone where she pioneered "virtual tours" of a number of sites in the park. She comes to the Obed from her most recent assignment at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, where she was also Chief of Interpretation. Recognizing her history with community outreach, we are looking forward to new initiatives to help people understand

and appreciate the Obed River system. Come learn about her vision and share with her your ideas for raising the visibility of this park. She will be speaking at the Common Ground, 405 W 4th St.

Best Book(s) Discussion a Hit

It was the week before Christmas that a small group gathered to share their favorite books with a nature theme. The recommendations in no particular order: Birdscapes (an amazing pop-up book with habitats and songs of birds), Decade of the Wolf by Douglas Smith, Tree by James Bayley, Neighborhood Forager by Roberth Henderson, The Subject Tonight is Love (poetry by Hafiz), The Everything Seed by Carole Martignacco, Like This by Rumi, New and Selected Poems by Mary Oliver, Thirst by Mary Oliver, Gift from the Sea by Anne Morrow Lindbergh, Teaming with Microbes by Jeff Lowenfels and Wayne Lewis, Three Dog Life by Abigail Thomas, The Zookeepers Wife by Diane Ackerman, the Good Pig by Sy Montgomery, The Birds of Heaven by Peter Matheisen, Prodigal Summer by Barbara Kingsolver, Pilgrim at Tinker Creek by Annie Dillard, and Animal, Vegetable, Mineral by Barbara Kingsolver. Have a good read while it's cold outside!

One Mile Creek Project complete!

OWCA completed the bank stabilization work on One Mile Creek from Villageway to Miller Ave by mid- December. We'll be back to do some planting in late February or early March,

but its been great to see that when the high water came as soon as we finished, the banks were no longer washing. In fact they are collecting and removing sediment from the stream. What a visible reminder that we as humans can use our skills as stewards!

Water Monitoring Training

January 28, 2010 1:00 p.m.

Before the spring rains come, we'd like to train another group of volunteers to sample the streams after a rain. If you live on or near One Mile Creek, the Obed River, Byrds Creek, the Little Obed, Long Branch, Spiers Branch, or Town Branch, or are willing to pick a point and walk or drive to it, we could really use your help. The only way we can tell if a stream is getting better, worse, or staying the same is to do regular sampling. The process is not hard. It takes about fifteen minute to do a sample.

During the training, the procedures will be explained and equipment distributed. After talking it through indoors, we will go to a nearby stream and practice taking samples.

The training will be held at the Common Ground. To sign up, call Dennis Gregg at 484-9033.

Support Your Organization and have FUN!!

January 30th, Chestnut Hill Winery
4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Chestnut Hill Winery is launching a new wine, Dulcimer White. They are inviting the public to come enjoy this new offering and funds raised will go to OWCA. In keeping with the name, there will be dulcimer music and finger foods. We are also working on a speaker to talk about local history. If you'd like to help put this together, contact June Zettelmeyer at 788-5022. Please come and tell all your friends as well. This is open to the public and is a great opportunity for us to tell the OWCA story as well as promote a local business.

OWCA Board Meeting

January 14, 2010 1:00 p.m.

The next Board meeting will be at the Common Ground at 1:00 p.m. on January 14, 2010. The Board is interested in setting up some working committees to take on some of the work of the organization. If you would like to participate on one of this committees, (fundraising, program, membership and outreach, water monitoring, volunteer recruitment and coordination, or others), please let Ed LeGrand know and come to the meeting. Board meetings are open to all members of OWCA and we welcome your participation. Contact Ed at 788-1846.

OWCA Board

The OWCA Board includes Ed LeGrand (president), Jean Cheely (vice president), Sandra Goss (treasurer), June Zettelmeyer (secretary), Deanne Blankenship, Kim Miller, Pete Peterson, and Sandy Schrade.

OWCA sponsors are Silvara Stone, LP Shanks, St. Raphael's Episcopal Church, Crossville Friends Meeting, and Veolia Water NA.

OWCA is a 501(3) nonprofit membership organization. Tax deductible contributions can be sent to OWCA, 185 Hood Dr. Crossville, TN 38555. Dennis Gregg is the Executive Director and can be reached at 484-9033.

