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Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Development Council *NEWSLETTER*

July 2008

Childers Elected in North Mississippi



Travis Childers won a special congressional election in North Mississippi on May 13, 2008, filling the vacancy created in the 1st district when Roger Wicker was appointed to the U.S. Senate in January. Before coming to Congress, Childers served as Chancery clerk in his native Prentiss County and operated a real estate agency. The Congressman attended Northeast Mississippi Junior College and the University of Mississippi, where he received a degree in business administration in 1980. The Congressman has also been very active with the Yellow Creek Inland State Port Authority, serving on its board for 19 years. Congressman Childers has been married for 27 years to the former Tami Gibson, and the couple has two adult children, Dustin and Lauren.

Tenn-Tom Council Hosts 2008 Transport Symposium

On June 25th, the Tennessee- Tombigbee Waterway Development Council hosted an Intermodal Transport Symposium in Tupelo, Mississippi. This was the fourth symposium of its kind and primarily focused on the future of container-on-barge opportunities along the Tenn-Tom corridor and the inland waterways of Alabama. The manufactured furniture industry of Northeast Mississippi and Northwest Alabama was featured throughout the symposium as an example of an industry which would benefit from waterway transportation in the future. "Our goal for the meeting was to provide industry leaders with enough information to view barge transportation as a viable and economically-valuable mode for the future and I think that we certainly accomplished such. As a result of the meeting, we are now working with interested companies who wish to coordinate or build a coalition for future shipments," said Mike Tagert, Council President.

The symposium was made possible by funding provided by the Coalition of Alabama Waterway Associations (CAWA). The Coalition exists to promote port and waterway projects and programs for the overall benefit to the State of Alabama and the region.

For a complete list of speakers or to view presentations made at the event, go to the Tenn-Tom website at www.tenntom.org and click on News/ Conference Presentations.



Director of the Mississippi Department of Transportation, Mr. Butch Brown, speaking at the Symposium.



Council member, Mr. Ron Coles, provided information on furniture transportation.

Mississippi State Legislative Tour



The Tennessee Tombigbee Waterway Development Authority hosted a state legislative tour of some of the industrial and commercial development projects within the lower waterway corridor on May 14-15. Investments such as the Lowndes County Port, SeverCorr and American Eurocopter, as well as, others were included in the two-day tour. The purpose of the tour was to provide legislators with an update of our activities and to thank them for their continued support. The Authority would like to thank the legislators for attending and the local industries for being part of this successful event.

This picture was taken at Waverly Mansion in Clay County, Mississippi. (Front Row –Left to Right) – Representative David Gibbs; Senator Lydia Chassaniol; Senator Giles Ward; Senator Tommy Moffatt; Representative Jimmy Puckett; Mr. Nick Ardillo (Tenn-Tom Waterway Development Authority). (Back Row – Left to Right) – Senator Briggs Hopson; Senator Terry Brown; Senator Alan Nunnelee; Mr. Bud Phillips (Tenn-Tom Waterway Development Authority).

Kinder Morgan announces \$12.8M Expansion

Kinder Morgan Energy Partners recently announced a \$12.8M expansion at the Amory, MS Port. The company leases the port from the City of Amory and handles material loading and unloading. The expansion will provide additional infrastructure to meet the growing need for carbon products in the Southeast due to increased steel making in the region.

With the expansion, Kinder Morgan will receive carbon products by barge, rail and truck. It is expected to create several new jobs directly and more indirectly. The city receives a tonnage

fee for all materials moving across the city's port on the Tenn-Tom Waterway; this expansion will increase revenues for the city.

Construction on the expansion was scheduled to begin in late June, with completion expected in the fall of 2008.

Hydroelectricity Plant Study on Stennis Lock

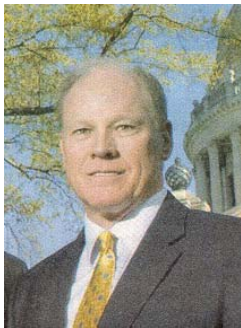
A Utah-based company is studying the possibility of operating a hydroelectricity plant at the Stennis Lock and Dam near Columbus, Mississippi. Symbiotics, LLC is seeking permission from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to study the feasibility and impact for such a facility. Environmental impact is a major consideration when studying the feasibility of such an operation. Only healthy river and waterway systems are considered for power plants. According to local news sources, the company selected the Stennis Dam site after looking at hundreds of existing dams without power plants. The Tenn-Tom Waterway Development Authority supports such development efforts, provided they do not interfere with navigation and future development. The Commission is currently accepting public comments about the proposal through the end of July.

Tennessee Waterway Association Study - Phase II

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT), the Nashville District US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Hanson Professional Services, Inc. (Hanson) invite you to attend the final stakeholder meeting for the Tennessee Waterway Association Study - Phase II. The purpose of this meeting is to present program recommendations for TDOT's role in support of the State's ports and waterways. This meeting will be held in Nashville only.

Wednesday, July 16, 2008
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
TDOT Region 3 Office
6601 Centennial Boulevard
Nashville, TN 37243-0360

Should you have any questions related to this meeting, you may contact Debbie McClish (Hanson) at (615) 665-9611 ext. 4101.



Charlie Williams, Authority Board member, has joined the Butler Snow firm in Jackson, Mississippi. He will assist in leading the Public Policy and Strategy Team.

Governor Phil Bredesen (TN) recently appointed **Mr. Jimmy Evans** of Nashville and **Ms. Ann Coulter** of Chattanooga to the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Development Authority Board of Directors. Jimmy is currently responsible for business development efforts for the healthcare industry in Middle Tennessee. He coordinates Marsh and McLennan Companies resources for the benefit of clients and prospects.



Jimmy has seventeen years of business development experience in Nashville. Prior to joining Marsh in 2002, he had held a position with Clayton Associates, a Nashville-based

private equity firm, which managed over \$100 million in committed capital. He has also held positions with former Tennessee Governor Ned McWherter and the Nashville Chamber of Commerce. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of Mississippi.

Cline Jones has been named Executive Director of the Tennessee River Valley Association in Decatur, Alabama. He is to succeed the retiring **Jan Jones** who has held the position for 33 years at the waterway promotion organization. With his background in marketing and distribution, Cline most recently served as general manager of AAA Computer Services of Muscle Shoals, Alabama, where he led their sales, service and financial services programs serving the northwest Alabama region.

Sympathy

Mr. Harold Burdine, Director of the Port of Greenville, MS passed away February 28, 2008.

Welcome New Member

Mr. Mark Osborne
E-Crane International-USA
Galion, Ohio



U. S. Corps of Engineers Lock Closures

September 10 – 24, 2008

Black Warrior/Tombigbee River
Demopolis Lock & Dam, Mile 213.2
Selden Lock & Dam, Mile 261.1

Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway
Fulton Lock & Dam, Mile 391
Whitten Lock & Dam, Mile 411.9

**Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway
Development Opportunities
Conference
&
Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway
Development Council
Annual Meeting**

Schedule of Events

✦Tuesday, August 26, 2008✦

4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Registration Desk Open

6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Chairman's Reception

Sponsored by:

**Tennessee-Tombigbee
Waterway Development Council**

Dinner on your own

✦ Wednesday, August 27, 2008 ✦

7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

8:00 a.m. Registration Desk Open

8:30am **Tennessee-Tombigbee
Waterway Development Council
Annual Meeting Convenes**

Presiding: Mr. Steve Alley

Council Chairman &
Director of Sales, Ingram Barge Company
Fort Mitchell, Kentucky

Reports by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers

Colonel Byron Jorns
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
Mobile, Alabama

Mr. Wynne Fuller
Chief of Operations Division
Mobile, Alabama

Mr. Rick Saucer
Tenn-Tom Operations Manager
Columbus, Mississippi

Mr. Thomas Cayce
Planning, Programs, Project
Management Division
Nashville, Tennessee

Report by the U. S. Coast Guard

Captain Edwin Stanton
Commander, U. S. Coast Guard
Mobile, Alabama

10:30 a.m. **Break**

10:45 a.m.

Presiding:

Mr. Tim Weston
Council Chairman &

Manager of Field Operations
TVA Economic Development
Tupelo, Mississippi

Lockage Fees and their Economic Impact

Mr. Sandor Toth, Publisher (*invited*)
River Transport News
Silver Springs, Maryland

A Modal Comparison of Domestic Freight Transportation Effects on the General Public

Mr. Jim Kruse, Director
Texas Transportation Institute
Houston, Texas

Mr. Jimmy Lyons, Director
Alabama State Port Authority
Mobile, Alabama

Meeting Concludes

11:30a.m. Council Membership meeting

Presiding: Steve Alley, Chairman

Treasurer's Report
Nominations Committee Report
President's Report

Adjourn at Noon

Lunch on your own

Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Development Opportunities Conference Convenes

2:00 p.m. First Session

Welcome & Announcements

Mr. Mike Tagert, Administrator
Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway
Development Authority

Presiding: Mr. Joe Barker Vice-Chairman, Tennessee-Tombigbee
Waterway
Development Authority
Jackson, Tennessee

Keynote Remarks

Welcome to Alabama

Honorable Seth Hammett
Speaker of the House
State of Alabama

Honorable Travis Childers
United States Congress
First District, Mississippi

Brig. General Joseph Schroedel
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
South Atlantic Division
Atlanta, Georgia

Honorable Jody Richards (*Invited*)
Speaker, House of Representatives
State of Kentucky

Honorable Alan Nunnelee, Chairman Appropriations Committee (MS)

3:30 p.m.

Break

3:45 p.m.

Second Session

Presiding:

Mr. Mike Armour
State Director
Appalachian Regional Commission
Tupelo, Mississippi

Ms. Carol Hallett
U. S. Chamber of Commerce Washington, D. C.

Mr. Richard J. Peltz
Alternate Federal Co-Chairman
Appalachian Regional Commission Washington, D. C.

Mr. Jimmy Allen
Tennessee Valley Authority
Nashville, Tennessee

7:00 p.m.

Reception

7:45 p.m.

Dinner

Presiding:

Mr. Steve Alley, Chairman
Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway
Development Council
Ingram Barge Company
Fort Mitchell, Kentucky

Oral History Presentation

Mr. Don Waldon
Former Administrator
Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway
Development Authority
Fayette, Alabama

✦ **Thursday, August 28, 2008** ✦

7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

8:30 a.m.

Third Session

Presiding:

Mr. Quentin Wesley
Board Member
Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway

Development Authority
Morganfield, Kentucky

Dr. Liam Leightley
Interim Research Director
Forest and Wildlife Research Center
Mississippi State University, Mississippi

Mrs. Amy Larson, Executive Director National Waterways Conference, Inc.
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Mike Randle, Publisher
Southern Business & Development
Birmingham, Alabama

9:45 a.m. **Break**

10:00 a.m. Fourth Session

Presiding: Mr. Ron Coles, P.E.
Council Member & Vice President
Hanson Professional Services, Inc. Nashville, Tennessee

Mr. Patrick Donovan, Director
West Virginia Public Port Authority
West Virginia Department of Transportation Charleston, West Virginia

Mr. Scott Hercik
Transportation Advisor
Appalachian Regional Commission
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Jim McCarville
Executive Director
Port of Pittsburgh Commission
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Mr. Dana Robertson
Director of National Maritime Enhancement Institute
Rahall Appalachia Transportation Institute Marshall University
Huntington, West Virginia

Mr. Tracy Drake
Chief Executive Officer
Columbiana County Port Authority
East Liverpool, Ohio

12:00 Noon Luncheon Buffet

1:30 p.m. **Twenty First Annual Tenn-Tom
Golf Scramble Tournament
Quail Creek Golf Course
Fairhope, Alabama
Bob Day, Event Chairman
Paducah/McCracken County Riverport
Paducah, Kentucky**

7:45 p.m. Reception & Dinner Buffet

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

July 16, 2008: Tennessee Waterway Association Study Public Meeting. TDOT Region 3 Office. Nashville, Tennessee. Contact: Debbie McClish at (615) 665-9611 ext. 4101.

July 30-31, 2008: Inland Waterways Users Board 5th meeting. Walla Walla, Washington. Contact: Kenneth E. Lichtman, Users Board executive assistant (703) 428-8083;

August 20 – 22, 2008: Gulf Intracoastal Canal Association Annual Convention. Westin Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana. Contact: Raymond or Nita Butler at (281) 996-6915 or www.gicaon-line.com

August 26 – 28, 2008: Tennessee Tombigbee Waterway Development Opportunities Conference. Marriot's Grand Hotel, Point Clear, Alabama. Contact Agnes at (662) 328-3286 or azaiontz@tenntom.org

October 3 – 5, 2008: Trash & Treasures along the Tenn-Tom, 234 miles of Yard Sales. For more information contact Tenn-Tom Tourism Association (800) 457-9739 or Tishomingo County Tourism Bureau (800) 386-4373.

October 29 - 30, 2008: Waterways Council Inc. Annual Meeting and Waterways Symposium. Ritz Carlton Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri. Contact Pam Daniel at (901) 766-4513.

November 5 – 7, 2008: National Waterways Conference, Omni Royal Orleans Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana. For hotel reservations call 1-800-843-6664.

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Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Development Opportunities Conference

Marriott's Grand Hotel
August 26 – 28, 2008
Point Clear, Alabama