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The Fierce Green Fire: Vol. 3 Issue 25

Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

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The Fierce Green Fire

A Newsletter of the Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

Volume 3, Issue 25

A group of ENVS seniors and faculty pose for a picture at "The Tower" on their weekend trip to Cherokee, NC.



Senior Seminar Visits Cherokee by Andrea Kelsey

Rain and cold temperatures did not stop a group of five senior ENVS majors from enjoying a camping trip to Cherokee, NC on May 3 and 4 accompanied by Reverend Ron Robinson, Dr. John Simmons, Dr. Kaye Savage, and Professor John Lane. The trip began with a visit to The Museum of the Cherokee Indian where the highlight was talking with Jerry Wolfe, recently named the tribe's "Beloved Man", the first Cherokee man to hold this title since 1801. Jerry shared Cherokee tales of creation and the interactions of the animal world.

The group then made their way to the Smoky Mountains National Park to observe elk that had been reintroduced to the area beginning in 2001 after being eliminated from the region due to habitat loss and over-hunting in the late 1700s. By dusk, a group of grown elk made their way out of the forest in

preparation for sleeping in the open field where the Wofford group stood in observation.

After dining in Sylva, the Wofford group set camp near John Lane's mountain cabin. In the morning, renowned poet and nature writer Thomas Rain Crowe talked with the group about his experiences in the mountains of North Carolina and his own sustainable lifestyle. Fog and rain filled the mountains as the group descended the mountains from the Blue Ridge Parkway. While the beautiful vistas were not visible due to the weather, the mystery of the mountains reminded the entire group of the majesty of nature at all times.



The group observed elk in the Smoky Mountains National Park.



Dr. Ferguson led a group from the Catawba Valley Land Trust on a recent visit to Forty Acre Rock.



Dr. Savage and George Schley '13 represented ENVS in the 2013 Terrio with a "Wall-E" themed golf cart decorated by the FGF student group.



Upcoming Events and Opportunities

- May 11th **Concert at Glendale Shoals:** *The Antibodies* will perform at the outdoor amphitheater at 5:30pm. Admission is free, but we are collecting donated supplies for The Adult Learning Center (writing utensils, notebooks, dry erase materials, etc.).
- May 11th **Hub City Farmer's Market:** This is the first Saturday of the new season! 8:00am-noon in downtown Spartanburg.
- May 18th **Discover Your Watershed:** 10:00am-3:00pm; Spartanburg Parks is hosting guided wetlands tours and educational exhibits designed to raise awareness about the importance of protecting water resources. No pre-registration required; the first 300 people to check in at the registration table receive a meal ticket! Don't have a boat? Canoes and kayaks will be available to use at no cost. Please bring a bag of recyclables for a chance to win door prizes provided by Pratt Recycling! Lyman Lake Lodge, 200 Lyman Lodge Road, Lyman, SC.
- Ongoing **Job Opening at GOLS - Palmetto Conservation Foundation:** GOLS is hiring someone to work 10 to 25 hours a week throughout the summer and into fall depending on the student's schedule. Tasks include answering phone calls and emails, taking group reservations, camp registrations, maintaining social media and website, and writing a monthly newsletter. The position may also include helping with teambuilding facilitation, rock climbing birthday parties, and summer camps. Pay is \$10/hour. If you are interested, please contact Kari Hanna, (803) 771- 0870 or kari@palmettoconservation.org.

PROFILE OF THE WEEK:

Michigan Tech – MS in Environmental and Energy Policy

Graduate studies in Environmental and Energy Policy are part of the Department of Social Sciences at Michigan Tech. The MS program is small and focused, allowing flexible and intensive work with each student. Students blend their technical or scientific knowledge with training in policy analysis and socio-environmental systems. Michigan Tech's Master of Science in Environmental and Energy Policy offers an innovative, interdisciplinary approach to environmental management education, drawing on the expertise of faculty in economics,

ecology, engineering, forest resources, and the social sciences.

The OSM/VISTA program is available in conjunction with this MS degree program giving students the opportunity to volunteers in numerous organizations dedicated to renewing the cultures, economies, and environments of historic mining communities. Visit <http://www.mtu.edu/social-sciences/graduate/environmental/> for more information on the program.