## East Tennessee

# Clean Fuels Advisor

A quarterly publication of the East Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition

Bringing alternative fuels and hybrids to the forefront. Alt Fuels = biodiesel, electricity, ethanol, hydrogen, natural gas and propane.

### **Biodiesel Blasts Off in East Tennessee**

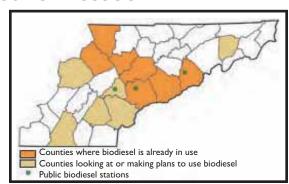
Due to hard work by many members of the ETCFC, biodiesel use is set to take off across East Tennessee! From biodiesel suppliers to fuel distributors to municipal and county fleets to individuals, biodiesel is beginning to make a difference.

Two public B20 pumps are now open in Alcoa and Newport (Mr. Gas Texaco's), and folks are driving from surrounding counties to fill-up! Dan Pursglove (Seymour), David Ashbery (Monroe) and Mike Whedbee (Knox) are just three examples of folks who have let us know that they are filling up in Alcoa. And the list grows...

Our two partner fuel distributors, McNutt Oil and Calloway Oil, are working to open other public B20 locations. McNutt Oil will hopefully open a Loudon B20 location in the next few months, while Calloway Oil is looking at several locations for possibly opening public B20 pumps.

Perhaps the biggest jump right now is happening on the user front, and municipality and county governments are leading the way! Hamilton, Washington, Monroe, McMinn and Anderson County government officials have all met with the ETCFC in the months of May and June to discuss getting biodiesel in use in their fleets.

In Hamilton County, the City of Chattanooga is looking to site a B20 tank to begin fueling their waste haulers as a first step. City Fleet Manager Brian Kiesche said "It didn't take long for me to be sold on the idea of biodiesel. If we can produce it in this region, solve air quality problems and reduce foreign oil dependence all in one action, that's a strong step."



In Washington County, Highway Superintendent John Deakins, Jr. had been speaking with Blount County Highway Superintendent Bill Dunlap about biodiesel, and Dunlap referred him to the ETCFC. After Deakins met with the ETCFC in May, he began laying the groundwork for using B20 in his fleet. "It's just common sense," says Deakins.

In Monroe County, County Mayor Allan Watson and Economic Development Director Shane Burris attended a meeting at the Tennessee Koyo Steering Systems plant in Vonore. (The Koyo plant is active in trying to be a leader for environmental issues in the area; Ernie Bloebaum and President Michael Bowers hosted the meeting.) The first step there will most likely be to look at the Highway Department for a pilot project.

The McMinn County meeting took place in mid-June and could not have been the success it was without the encouragement of Athens Mayor Bo Perkinson, and (continued on page 2)

#### Inside this Issue

Biodiesel Blasts Off in East TN	I
"Run for Clean Air" a Success	I
Nat'l AFV Day Odyssey Raises Air Quality & Energy Awareness	2
ETCFC Receives \$2,000 Grant	2
ET Jettas In Biodiesel Groove	3
Coordinator's Corner – East Tennessee's Summer Forecast	3
Big South Fork NRRA On-board with Biodiesel	4
Alt Fuel News & Notes	4
National Conf. Shows Alt Fuels	4
GSMNP Gets Biodiesel Moving	5
Clinch River Energy Group & U.S. Biofuels Connect	5
Whedbee Ins. Making Difference	5



Partners' Summer Update

## "Run for Clean Air" a Success with 226 Runners!

Thanks to Ted Buel and Mother Nature, the ETCFC's inaugural "Run for Clean Air" was a grand success! 226 participants showed-up to run, walk and learn about ways we can begin improving air quality in East Tennessee. With the Knoxville Track Club onsite to take care of finish line activities, they noted that we should be quite happy with the showing for our first race!

The 5k run/walk was held April 10 on beautiful Cherokee Boulevard in Sequoyah Hills, near downtown Knoxville. The event was cohosted by the Regional Clean Air Coalition (<www.etnrcac.org>).

Thanks to great sponsorship for organizations like St. Mary's, WUOT, WBIR, Friends of the Smokies, Calloway Oil, the Energy, Environment and Resources Center, City of Knoxville, Big Frog Mountain and the Sevier Transportation Board, we were able to cover all the race costs and make about \$3,000 to help move people to using alternative fuels in East Tennessee!

We've already begun planning the 2005 run. If you would like to be a part of the team, just contact us!



Runners take-off along Cherokee Boulevard. Great leadership from Ted Buel, beautiful weather and a slew of wonderful volunteers helped make the event a great success for the ETCFC!

#### Clean Fuels Checklist:

Ask your fuel retailer when they will start selling B20!

Be part of the solution, not the pollution.

Check out the ETCFC Website www.etcfc.org



Let us know if your name or address needs updating (send to jgoverly@utk.edu).







To see pictures of regional projects, and for more information on the ETCFC and alternative fuels, visit us online at www.ETCFC.org.

# Nat'l AFV Day Odyssey Raises East Tennessee's Air Quality & Energy Awareness

The ETCFC participated in the national event known as the National AFV Day Odyssey on April 2, 2004. This event, held only two times in its history (2002 and 2004), is an attempt to bring national and local attention to what AFVs can do for our country.

It was held in Knoxville at the World's Fair Park's Festival Lawn. 20 AFVs from a variety of regional organizations spanning all the fuel types were on display that day. A total of almost 40 ETCFC partners and volunteers joined in to help make this day a success.

About 150 people came by to see the array of AFVs or test drive a GEM electric car or the Segway Human Transporter. There were games like the "Wheel of Clean Air" and the "Energy Independence Frisbee Toss" to accompany the fine food offered at the hot dog stand.



Knoxville Mayor Bill Haslam talks to the media during the Odyssey. He noted the importance of our actions to clean air in the community.

## ETCFC Receives \$2,000 Grant from GM

Thanks to the good work being done by Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) and the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge Operations (DOE-ORO) offices, the ETCFC was the beneficiary of a \$2,000 check from GM.

As of a few years ago, GM began annually providing some coalitions with fiscal awards for adding E85 and natural gas vehicles and refueling infrastructure to the community.

In the last year, DOE-ORO opened two new E85 refueling facilities for their flex-fuel vehicles (FFVs) on

their sites in Oak Ridge. With the additions, the total E85 refueling facilities in Oak Ridge now totals to three, and their FFV numbers using E85 are way up.

While the infrastructure is private, the two organizations are also working to see if they can make one open to the public.

"If we can make it happen, this will definitely be a boost for East Tennessee considering the number of FFVs that exist here and the number of people that come to the DOE-ORO offices," notes David Myers.

#### ETCFC '04-'05 Steering Committee

Our Steering Committee is made-up of nine members from a variety of organizations and areas in East Tennessee. Each member serves a 3-year term.

The 2004-2005 Steering Committee for the ETCFC is:

Doug Bishop - City of Sevierville

<u>Teresa Cantrell</u> - Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Bob Colby - Advanced Transportation Technology Institute

Barry Greenberg - Knoxville Area Transit

<u>Dejim Lowe</u> - Tennessee Valley Authority

Dan Pursglove - Interested Citizen

John Trollinger - McNutt Oil

<u>Parks Wells</u> - Tennessee Soybean Promotion Council

Carla York - SAIC

### **Biodiesel Blasts Off in East Tennessee**



ETCFC, Koyo and Monroe County representatives pose after their meeting in June. Shane Burris and County Mayor Allan Watson are second and fourth from left, respectively.

(continued from page 1)

the connections provided by Meigs County resident Tim Haney. The team met at the Jackson Street Cafe on a Thursday over lunch where Athens City Council member Burkett Witt's world-famous, homemade barbecue can be ordered. Baked beans, seasoned potatoes and all, it is delicious!

Those in attendance at that meeting included John Gentry (County Mayor), Jack Hammontree (McMinn Economic Development Authority), Mitch Moore (Athens City Manager), Paul Wilson (President, Citizens National Bank) and Mark Stiles (Mayfield Dairy Farms). The discussion centered around biodiesel basics, but the follow-up discussion will focus on potential pilot projects that the team could start. "With (federal nonattainment) air quality problems hitting many surrounding counties, this is a way for us to get proactive about McMinn County air quality," says Perkinson. "And with biodiesel's other benefits, we need to assertively pursue pilot projects."

In Anderson County, County Mayor Rex Lynch joined meeting facilitator Brian Jenks (Director of Public Works) to learn about the difference biodiesel can make and what all is going on in the U.S. and in East Tennessee with biodiesel.

"With our air quality problems, everyone needs to start doing something or else we'll never get out of this [nonattainment]," notes Jenks. "Biodiesel seems like a great start that has many side benefits, like helping American farmers and using renewable fuels. It's a real win-win for Anderson County."

# ET Jettas Getting into the Biodiesel Groove

Dan Pursglove and David Ashbery didn't know each other before a month ago, but they know each other now.

Pursglove recently began attending ETCFC meetings and getting excited about alternative fuels beginning to make a difference in air quality in East Tennessee. So much so that he went out and bought a 2002 black VW Jetta TDI just so he could fill it with biodiesel!!

He was disappointed when it came filled with petroleum diesel. "I had to drive around seemingly forever to get the petro-diesel out so that I could go fill-up with B20," says Pursglove.

Pursglove has now been to several ETCFC meetings and has even joined the Steering Committee and offered his services at a recent local event where we put up the ETCFC display -- TroutFest in Townsend. At TroutFest, David



Ashbery showed up in his white 2001 Jetta TDI that he has been filling with B20 from Alcoa. Their "BioJettas" look like fraternal twins!

Both gentleman are seeing a slight increase in fuel economy and are pleased to be examples of how to do the right thing in East Tennessee!

### Help Wanted: Actors for Change

The partners of the ETCFC work hard to create change in your community, and they need your help! Although we reach out to more and more East Tennesseans every day, you can help us reach even further.

There are several ways you can help the ETCFC make a difference:

#### Become a Partner!

On page 5 you'll see our partnership levels -- each level comes with certain benefits. You can see those benefits on the Web site on the "Join Us" page. Perhaps most importantly, you'll be helping ensure that the ETCFC can continue its work making a positive impact in the community.

#### Display a brochure stand at your office or place of work.

We have attractive display stands that you can place almost anywhere that sees some traffic. These brochures describe the basics of our effort, and provide contact information and the Web address where anyone can learn more about the team's effort.

#### Tell your friends and coworkers about the ETCFC.

We work hard to get our message out there, but to really make a difference in the community, we need your help! Just simply letting people know about projects in the community or upcoming meetings helps folks know that we exist and know that we are making change right now!

TEAM = Together Everyone Achieves More

### Jonathan Overly's

# Coordinator's

Corner

# East Tennessee's 2004 Summer Forecast

"Expect about a 50% chance of biodiesel usage in your county this Summer, with some scattered propane, electric and hybrid-electric projects. There will be an isolated chance of a hydrogen vehicle project. Visibility will be high as we'll be pumping out all kinds of info on projects. Additionally, a high-pressure system has moved into East Tennessee, as it is now time for people to get on board and do something to help their country trim its foreign oil dependence. Watch out for those ozone alert days — do your part and take action

when they occur!"

If the ETCFC gave alt-fuel-project updates like weather forecasts, that's what you'd see for the 2004 Summer season. Several of the articles on these pages about biodiesel's growth in the community suggest that we are looking at the possibility of half the counties in East Tennessee starting at least one biodiesel project in 2004—that's up from basically zero usage in 2003! Biodiesel is on the move in East Tennessee, and there's a good reason why.

Obviously biodiesel will work only in diesel engines. But due to biodiesel's almost nonexistent capital cost (compared with other alternative fuels) and it's ease of use, it's the easiest alt fuel for some areas and fleets to get begin using. And this is important because the alternative fuels' message can be hard for some people to truly "get."

It's not that making the connection between petroleum displacement or air quality and the transportation sector is difficult. It's seeing those larger problems and knowing that we have to do what we can do, no matter how small each action is.

The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step.

That ancient Chinese proverb puts it nicely. We each have to know that what little we can do adds up, and that what might sometime seem ever-

so-slight in the larger scheme of things isn't nothing -- "it's the something that I can do." And while each of us using biodiesel in our VW Jetta TDI or propane in our fleet may only make a small difference in the big picture, we are still making a difference.

I would be remiss in the first "Coordinator's Corner" if I did not thank all of our current partners for their hard work. Without their vision and leadership, this group effort would not be moving very quickly. But it is

Make sure and read the articles on pages 3 and 5 about folks getting the biodiesel bug now that public availability is here. Page 2 gives a brief summary of the National AFV Day Odyssey and shows the members of our 2004-2005 Steering Committee. There are pictures from the National Conference on page 4. Certainly, don't miss the "Partners' Update" on page 6; lot's of regional activity listed there!

Here's to this Summer being a breakout season for domestically produced and cleaner energy!



## Big South Fork NRRA On-board with Biodiesel

After attending ETCFC monthly meetings for about one year, Reed Detring, Superintendent at Big South Fork (BSF) National River and Recreation Area, was ready to act.

In early June, BSF reviewed the state of their diesel tank, and asserted that is was clean enough to begin using biodiesel as B20. On June 4, BSF took delivery of their first load of 1,000 gallons of B20.

"We are very pleased to begin using biodiesel," says Detring. "American citizens need to take a more proactive stance on important issues, and foreign oil dependence and regional air quality are important issues."

BSF received their second tank full of B20 on June 22. Thus far, they have not seen any problems and are seeing a reduction in soot (black smoke) in several vehicles.



Reed Detring shows off one of the 15 diesel vehicles (a John Deere tractor) that they now run on B20. Their B20 fuel tank is positioned at left.











Vehicles from the National Conference as modeled by Fortner and Overly (top-to-bottom):

- 2005 GM Silverado Hybrid
- $\hbox{-} \textit{GEM eL with new amenities} \\$
- Pursuit Tahoe running E85 - Diesel Smart Car (80 mpg)
- "Propane One" (President's vehicle)

### Alt Fuel News & Notes

KNOX CAC - The Knoxville/Knox County Community Action Committee (CAC) is making inroads to using propane to fuel its 53 vans. Following KAT's lead, Karen Estes applied for and received some CMAQ funding to begin converting new vans to run propane before they go into service for CAC (among other things, CAC provides transportation service to community citizens that can't use KAT). The funding received will purchase 4 new vehicles.

ETCFC MEETS WITH KNOXVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS - Overly met with Chris Woodhull, Barbara Pelot, Joe Hultquist and Bob Becker in June to provide them information on alternative fuels' use in the community.

**FORD AFVS** - Ford has quit making all of its CNG and propane model AFVs beginning 2005 MY. A Ford representative noted that this is not a stoppage in their program, but a redirection for the company. They plan to invest more in hybrids and E-85 vehicles

in the coming years.

**SOUTHEAST ALT FUELS TASK FORCE** - The SEAFTF has compiled data from NC,TN and GA on infrastructure for all the main alternative fuels. You can see this information here:

<a href="http://eerc.ra.utk.edu/etcfc/4-stateInfraCmte.html">http://eerc.ra.utk.edu/etcfc/4-stateInfraCmte.html</a>
ETCFC RECEIVES AWARD FOR ODYSSEY

- As one of 54 venues to celebrate the national event, and the only event in the four states of KY,TN, MS and AL, the ETCFC was thanked for participating in 2004. The ETCFC was lauded for its leadership in helping make this national event a success!

MTAS HELP - Thanks to Lillian Mashburn of UTK, the ETCFC was connected to MTAS, the Municipal Technical Advisory Service. MTAS provides all kinds of technical assistance to cities in Tennessee. MTAS Director Bob Schwartz sent out an email to all his contacts in East TN on behalf of the ETCFC, and that has lead to several great connections!

## **National Conference Showcases Alt Fuels**



Bryon Fortner, Jonathan Overly and Russell Teall of Biodiesel Industries discuss alternative fuels at the 10th annual National Clean Cities Conference in May.

May 1-5, Ft. Lauderdale hosted that 10th National Clean Cities (CC) Conference and Expo.

There was much to learn this year as the CC program is expanding to provide increased support for fuel blends (B2, B5, E10, hythane), fuel economy, hybrids and idle reduction technologies.

In addition, there was much to learn about on the AFV front. Some examples include GM's new hybrid Silverado (shown at right) and the new displacement-on-demand (DoD) system that will come in the 2005 Envoy. Also, there are new diesel vehicles coming to market in the U.S. and other countries, more hybrids from a variety of automakers, and new E85 and fuel cell vehicles.

See the ETCFC Web site for updated information on what 2005 AFV models will be offered (look on the "AFVs" page).

Summer 2004 Page 5

# **GSMNP** Gets Biodiesel Initiative Moving



Mark Schotters and Teresa Cantrell stand in front of one of the dump trucks the Parks is filling with B20. This dump truck was brought to the National AFV Odyssey.

Mark Schotters, Road Superintendent for the TN side of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, has been working to get the Park on biodiesel for over 2 years now, and its finally coming to fruition!

On March 25, the Park took delivery of their first 500 gallons of biodiesel as B20. They are fueling all 35 of their diesel vehicles at the Headquarters location with B20 including road graders, dump trucks, front-end loaders and tractors.

Over time, Schotters hopes to get the Cades Cove location on B20 as well. That would make all of the National Park vehicles on the Tennessee side of the Smokies running B20!

In addition to B20, the Park uses vegetable-based hydraulic oil and re-refined motor oil in their vehicles. Good job Mark!



#### Join the ETCFC

The ETCFC works hard to simultaneously reduce foreign oil dependence and improve regional air quality by putting alternative fuels to use in the transportation sector.

This work is vital to our country as there will be a world oil peak in the coming century, perhaps within the decade, and renewable-sourced hydrogen as oil's replacement is no where near ready for prime time. Additionally, this work is vital to Tennessee, as our air quality problems are serious and we have to start creating more local action to make a difference.

And we can.

If you'd like to get involved, come to one of our monthly meetings and hear straight from the users' themselves how local fleets and individuals are making the switch. Go to our Web site, <a href="https://www.etcfc.org">www.etcfc.org</a> to see when and where monthly meetings are held.

Also, consider supporting our effort by becoming a member! Membership has many benefits, and includes receiving the ETCFC newsletter, Clean Fuels Advisor, free! More membership information can be found on our Web site as well.

# PARTNERSHIP LEVELS (annual dues)

 Founding Partner
 \$4,000

 Platinum Partner
 \$2,000

 Gold Partner
 \$1,000

 Silver Partner
 \$500

 Associate Partner
 \$20

 Supporting Partner
 \$25

The Supporting Partnership level is reserved for nonprofits and individuals.

## Clinch River Valley & U.S. Biofuels Connect

Although Clinch River Valley Energy Group (CRV) has only been working on biodiesel projects for about six months, they are quite active in getting the renewable fuel on the streets of East Tennessee. And they've found a new partner!

The ETCFC was contacted about 4 months ago by a representative of U.S. Biofuels, a biodiesel production company based in Rome, GA. Through some phone discussions, Greg Hopkins of U.S. Biofuels was invited to attend the May 27 Chattanooga District meeting of the ETCFC. At that meeting, everyone learned that Hopkins has an indepth knowledge of biodiesel and its production, and the associated costs.

Through some networking, Mike Ellis of CRV contacted Hopkins to set up a meeting. It didn't take long for Ellis and Hopkins to realize that they could work together to realize a collective dream they have -- get biodiesel in use across East Tennessee!

Although they first met in mid-June, they have already met several times and are in the process of making arrangements to utilize CRV's raw material to produce biodiesel from the U.S. Biofuels plant for East Tennessee.

Hopkins' plant can produce upwards of 5 million gallons per year right now at full capacity, and Ellis and Hopkins hope to utilize it all!

Please welcome Hopkins into the ETCFC fold when you see him.

CRV is currently supplying several biodiesel blends to six regional fleets through their distributor, Calloway Oil. Those fleets include both national parks that have property in East Tennessee. CRV has also networked contacts at another 10-20 fleets across the region that are looking to use biodiesel. Out of 33 counties in East Tennessee, that could spell supply to as many as 15 counties before the end of 2004 -- that's almost half!

# Whedbee Insurance Making a Difference

Mike Whedbee is hooked! When he found out about the local availability of B20 to the public, he had to try it out. And that was about five fill-ups ago.

"I had to fill-up about two times ago with regular diesel, but I've had two fill-ups since with B20, and I'm looking forward to staying that way," Whedbee says.

Mike is an agent with Whedbee Insurance, which has recently become an Associate Partner as well as a Brochure Partner in the coalition.

He frequently traverses Blount, Knox and Sevier Counties, so he's looking forward to the opening of several other public B20 sites.

He has two Mercedes Benz (two 300D's - a 1982 and a 1983) and would like to run at least one of them on B100!

He also notes that through the insurance business, he frequently works with clients that operate diesel vehicles. "I'm hoping to convert a few



clients to biodiesel as well!" Whedbee adds.

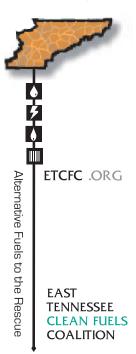
Whedbee is currently getting his B20 at the Mr. Gas Texaco in Alcoa. He's pictured above with his 1983 300D. With 175,000 miles on it, he's giving it a new lease on life with B20!

#### **East Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition**

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Be part of the solution, not the pollution.

# Partners' Summer Update

There's a lot going on right now, so here's a briefing on what ETCFC partners are doing:

ORNL & DOE-Oak Ridge Operations - E85 FFVs numbers are up considerably (from 61 to 203)! Looking into biodiesel + possible H2 projects.

<u>City of Pigeon Forge</u> - In discussions to bring B20 to the entire city fleet! Tank evaluation to take place soon so that if all goes smoothly, can take delivery of B20 by August.

KAT - 4 Ebus hybrid trolleys are on the redline route in downtown Knoxville. I I dedicated propane vans are in operation through UTK's "T-Line" direct connection service. Seven larger-sized 20 passenger vans that will also be dedicated propane are expected to arrive in August. 2 Toyota Prius are already in service with KAT staff and another 2 have been ordered. Started using B5 June 24 on twenty 30-foot buses and expect to have whole fleet on-board by end of July.

GSMNP - Hybrid bus project expected to start mid-Summer (2 Ebus' propane trolleys). AFVs will be operating in Gatlinburg and the Park for a 6-month period as a demonstration project.

McNutt Oil - Opened two public B20 stations (Mr. Gas Texaco's) in April in Alcoa and Newport, and will hopefully open a Loudon station in July. Some advertising was put out for the Alcoa location and multiple fleets and individuals are taking notice and filling up there.

City of Sevierville - 4 Ebus hybrid-electric trolleys have been ordered and should arrive in September. The purchase of 4 dedicated propane small buses are still being negotiated. Moving towards bi-fuel propane police cars and a multiple alternative fuel refueling site by end of 2004.

<u>KUB</u> - Working to replace some CNG AFVs right now, and have some other plans in the works. Information on those plans will be released soon.

Calloway Oil - Another load of B20 was provided to Big South Fork on June 22. Calloway is working with KAT to meet requirement to deliver B5, then B20 later. The entities already using B20 in Blount County (BC Highway Dept. and cities of Maryville and Alcoa) are releasing all positive information about their pilot projects with B20. They are seeing slight increases in fuel efficiency and decreases in visible pollution.



**ETCFC 2004 Partners** 

Founding Partners
Energy, Environment & Resources Center
Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Sevier Transportation Board
Clinch River Valley Energy Group

Platinum Partners
AmeriGas Propane
Knoxville Utilities Board
Sevier County Utility District
Dream Works Printing

Gold Partners
McNutt Oil
Tennessee Valley Authority

Silver Partners
Hydrocore
IdleAire
Big Frog Mountain
City of Knoxville
Calloway Oil
Friends of the Smokies
St. Mary's
WBIR - Channel 10
WUOT