Democrats Challenge Each Other in Lively Forum

"Attorney general? Is that something in the Air National Guard?" a bewildered voter asked Republican candidate John McCuskey on a campaign stop. Kanawha County Senator John McCuskey and fellow Democratic candidates Charlie Brown, former assistant attorney general for antitrust enforcement, and Danny Staggers, Mineral County prosecutor, all agree the office of state attorney general commands very limited voter recognition.

They were glad to have the exposure of the candidate's forum during the May 5 Spring Meeting at Camp Anthony. Mountainnet Radio Network covered the event, the first of a series of live broadcasts of candidate debates. Of Republican candidates, James Jeter declined to participate and John McCuskey had another commitment.

Boettner and Brown emphasized enforcement of state antipollution laws and went on to outline their pro-environment, pro-consumer records for an audience of Conservancy members. Their apparent enthusiasm for regulation and enforcement led Gazette reporter Chris Knap to ask, "What do you guys say when you are talking to business groups, anyway?"

Knap was one of four Charleston-based journalists who probed each candidate's political background and position on issues. Deborah Baker of UPI, Wayne Davis of AP, and Nancy Hill of Mountainnet, also directed questions, with each candidate responding in turn.

Recent polls showed Staggers leading the primary race, and he resisted being drawn into the brawling debate style of the feistier Boettner and Brown, both of whom made plain their resentment of Staggers' name-recognition advantage. Staggers also hung back from the race to claim leadership in environmental protection, consumer advocacy and exclusion of conflicts of interest in the office. He preferred to remind listeners the office he seeks "belongs to the people" and that he would represent "the people."

On the Business Climate

Brown claimed he was the chief spokesman for small business as assistant attorney general, and that small business is the main source of new jobs. He believes he can increase business confidence in the office by running it "frugally."

Boettner pointed to his co-

(Continued on Page 7)

McCuskey Asks Consideration

Republican candidate for Attorney General John McCuskey came to Camp Anthony early Saturday to visit with members of the Conservancy before they set off on spring meeting trips.

Although he couldn't accept the Conservancy's invitation to join the debate because of a prior commitment, McCuskey asked members to consider his positions and experience.

In a written statement provided to The Voice, McCuskey cited his four terms in the House of Delegates and his work for judicial reform and consumer protection laws. He reviewed his environmental work, including a study of methods to eliminate coal gob piles and support of the Conservancy's position on the Davis Power Project.

"As West Virginia's Attorney General I pledge to remove the political taint of the past 20 years from the office and to aggressively prosecute those who violate the laws that protect West Virginia's land, air and water," he wrote.

Left: Republican candidate John McCuskey visited with Conservancy members Saturday morning at Camp Anthony, but was unable to attend the debate because of a prior commitment. Right: Charlie Brown characterized himself as "a fighter" during the debate, and promised a toll-free number for consumer complaints.

Above: Si Boettner said he believed his legislative experience would allow him to win prosecutorial powers for the office. League of Women Voters President Becky Cain and Conservancy President Larry George listen. Below: Daniel Staggers advocated regional offices and assistance to local prosecutors as ways of improving the effectiveness of the office. Press panels at the table to the right of the podium include Chris Knap with the Charleston Gazette, Deborah Baker of UPI, Wayne Davis of AP, and Nancy Hill of Mountainnet.
**VOICES**

Opinion from members and friends

Environmental Issues and Election Year Politics

By Skip Johnson

Nothing is so certain as death, taxes and the likelihood of anything being done environmentally in an election year. Or even talked about.

This year is no different. The campaigns are being waged, but you'd have to listen very carefully to hear anything said about environmental topics. The only exceptions, perhaps, are specific local issues which occasionally get mentioned.

On a statewide basis, to our knowledge, the pledge of Senate President Warren McGraw to clean up the state. McGraw, a Democratic candidate for governor, has proposed a network of trash compacting stations in each county where people may bring household refuse. The garbage would then be transferred to a central landfill.

He coupled this proposal with a plan to beef up the Solid Waste Authority of the Department of Natural Resources, and to jawbone county commissions into becoming more active in ridding their counties of the ugly open dumps that are so prevalent in West Virginia.

Otherwise, the environmental issues are being given short shrift by the candidates. This is particularly so on the national scene, where acid rain legislation has been sidelined by the House of Representatives and faces long odds in the Senate. The issue is too controversial to face in an election year, so it is swept under the rug until another day. Meantime, the damage from this insidious form of pollution continues.

Less surprising, perhaps, than the decision of the Reagan Administration to recommend further study of the Clean Air Act is the present state of water cleanup in West Virginia. We don't know.

Perhaps it is partly the fault of the news media. Perhaps we don't ask frequently enough. Perhaps given the chance, candidates would prefer to say nothing about everything. It's much safer that way.

Acid Rain Legislation Dies in Subcommittee

by Linda Winter

As I'm sure you know by now, all hope of passing acid rain control legislation this year has been effectively snuffed out. On May 2 the House Subcommittee on Health and Environmental Education voted 10-4 to remove acid rain control provisions from HR 5314, the comprehensive bill to reauthorize the Clean Air Act. HR 5314, sponsored by Subcommittee Chairman Henry A. Waxman (D-CA), contained the acid rain control provisions of the Waxman/Sikorski/Gregg bill HR 3400 along with language to control toxic air pollution and a reauthorization of the Clean Air Act in its present form. Representative Dennis Eckart (D-DO) cast the deciding vote.

It is doubtful that the Clean Air Act will be reauthorized in 1984. Waxman has no plans to continue markup of HR 5314 without an acid rain control plan included. Also, little time is left for Congress to act on this legislation since the congressional session is abbreviated because of upcoming elections.

In the meantime, millions of tons of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides are being spewed into our atmosphere continuing to cause damage to aquatic ecosystems, forests, building and outdoor health. Use the time that your Members of Congress are campaigning at home to remind them that this issue is one of the most important environmental issues facing this country today. Let them know that you expect them to work for a solution to the acid rain problem.
Committees Highlight Spectrum of Issues

Vice President Linda Winter, five Committee Chairs and two guests updated the WVHC Board of Directors on issues across the spectrum of air, land, and water concerns. Winter cited pressure against cost-sharing and mandatory scrubbers as key reasons behind the recent defeat of House Resolution 3400 in the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health and the Environment. (See article on this issue)

She reviewed the provisions of S. 1758 (also H.R. 5166), the “State and Local Rivers Conservation Act,” and asked members of the Board of Directors, senators and congressmen to urge support of the bill. The state concurrence provision gives states veto power over dams, a measure which can establish some state restraint over FERC licensing decisions.

Public Lands

Public Lands Chair Sayre Rodman outlined the potential for legislation to add about 3000 acres of Monroe County land to the proposed Mountain Lake Wilderness. Rodman said the area was of “reasonably good quality” and believed WVHC should foster it as an adjunct to the Virginia area. The bill has been reported out of the House Interior Committee, but will need to be amended to include the West Virginia area. The WVHC Board voted to endorse the principle of including the areas in the larger wilderness and authorized Rodman to communicate that support.

Rodman also explained the Isaac Walton League’s support for reestablishing the “Backcountry” designation for areas around the Cranberry Wilderness. The area, once part of the backcountry but not included in official wilderness status, could serve as a buffer zone. Purchase of minerals by the state might be required.

Rivers

River Conservation Chair Ray Ratliff explained the new direction of the committee (formerly the Water Resources Committee) he felt was a result of attendance by senators and congressmen. “The Board of Directors annually adopts the recognition of the WVHC’s role in reconstituting the River Conservation Committee, he said. “Changes in the WVHC are the result of a report to the Board of Directors by the River Conservation Committee Chair, presented a report of their work on the ‘Canaan Valley Authority Act’ and a followup of the session. ‘We did fundraising and local organizing, lobbied for introduction of the bill, compiled a list of landowners, and researched developments. We prepared drafts of legislation, explanatory material, and legislative packets,” she said. The committee also encouraged letters to editors of Charleston and other papers, made press appearances and attended meetings. Ellington explained.

Mining

Mineral Mining Committee Chair John Purcell reported a study of the Crum Creek Mining Company’s plans to open a deep mine in Monongalia County. The permit, which was being appealed by a group of local citizens, would allow the company to open an updip mine in an acid producing coal seam. The permit was granted without bond. Such mines are believed to produce perpetual acid mine drainage.

Joan Sims, Chairman of the 4-H Road Community Association, the group appealing the permit, presented a request for financial assistance to help with legal costs.

In other action, the board approved an increase in membership dues of fifty percent across the board. New dues structure includes a student category, and provides these membership levels:

Individually:

- Standard $20
- Associate 25
- Sustaining 30
- Student 10
- Family 25

WVHC Office & Staff Approved

The WVHC’s Board of Directors adopted the recommendation of the Management Review Committee at the Spring Meeting at Camp Anthony on May 6, 1985. Terms of office will expire mid-July. Dates and locations have not been confirmed.

New Directors Chosen

In spring meeting action, the WVHC elected two directors-at-large to fill vacancies created by the promotion of Tom Michael to Senior Vice President, and the resignation of Frank Pelurie. The new directors are Cindy Rank of Rock Cave and Ray Ratliff of Liberty, both in West Virginia.

Cindy Rank started work on Conservancy issues in 1979 when mining operations threatened the headwaters of the Little Kanawha. After helping form the Friends of the Little Kanawha, her water-quality concerns led to involvement in several other roles. She now serves as a board member for Mountain Stream Monitors, is an alternate on the Water Quality Advisory Committee, and acts as WVHC’s representative to the Reclamation Advisory Committee.

As a result of her research and strong interest in sedimentation problems in streams, Trout Unlimited asked Rank to prepare a study on the effects of development of ski resorts on nearby streams. An excerpt of her report appeared in the March edition of the Voice.

Ray Ratliff’s work with the Conservancy began in 1970 when the Appalachian Research and Defense Fund, of which he was a co-founder, represented a number of West Virginia Conservation organizations as intervenors in the Blue Ridge Project licensing hearings at FPC and through a series of court appeals in the D.C. Circuit Court.

Also while at Appalach. Ratliff participated in Davis Power Project litigation from the very early stages of licensing. When he and Paul Kaufman left Appalachian and Ratliff, a Charleston law firm, they continued work on both issues. He also handled litigation to hold off mining in the Cranberry Backcountry during the federal study period.

Appointed in April to head the reconstituted River Conservation Committee, he will guide the development of strategy for river corridor protection in West Virginia.

President Larry George announced the resignation of Glenn Davis, another director-at-large. The vacant position will be filled at the summer meeting. Terms of the newly elected members will expire in October 1984.
June Is American Rivers Month—

Greenbrier River Rises to the Occasion

Torrential rains greeted Conservancy members as they arrived at the Greenbrier Youth Center at Anthony, WV, on Friday evening May 4th for the Spring Meeting.

By Saturday morning, the Greenbrier River flowed so high and fast one adventurous group was forced to abandon plans to canoe the Fort Springs to Alderson section. But the rain-swollen river didn’t stop water lovers altogether. John Purbaugh and Brian Farkis brought their paddlers to join the trip planned for Anthony to Caldwell.

Ray Ratliff and Carter Zerbe, trip leaders on the upper section reported a rapid proliferation of canoes and kayaks around the put-in area at trip time.

One impatient group couldn’t wait for drivers to set up the shuttle and pushed off ahead of the pack. While trip leaders Ray Ratliff and Carter Zerbe estimated 17 craft completed the eleven-mile float, they begged off when asked for accuracy. “One group went ahead, and about nine boats were putting in when four more showed up. There were canoes everywhere,” Ratliff said.

The swift water, moving at about five miles per hour, carried the paddlers through one of the normally gentler sections of the river in only three and one-half hours, including a leisurely lunch. The trip normally takes about six hours.

At low water, the river requires some maneuvering around boulders and shallows, but the boulder gardens were ‘washed out’ (covered) this time, and paddlers were only required to stay upright and pointed down-river.

A few canoeists, including one WVHC vice president, apparently went looking for thrills where side creeks spilled into the Greenbrier. A low branch did in Linda Winter’s boat, and its passengers came up sputtering. The water—about 55 degrees—apparently didn’t dampen spirits too much. Those who rolled got safely righted and settled for the wide, flat middle of the rest of the way.

Despite overcast skies, the rain held off all through the trip, giving almost everyone a chance to relax and stay dry.

River Committee Gets Feet Wet

by Ray Ratliff

Your Rivers Committee has been hard at it ever since the weather turned. Using the motto “see you on the river”, the Committee quickly decided to hold its meetings on the river whenever possible. The Bluestone, Gauley and Greenbrier Rivers have already been run. While particular strategies are being developed for particular rivers in the state, it is my purpose here to generally tell you of certain guidelines in this endeavor:

1. The Committee members will do everything within their power (and means) to assist you in establishing a management plan for your river; so long as

2. local people, landowners, agencies and the like are keying in to making such a management plan “their plan,” and are included in the actual development of the particular strategies for this river; and

3. the river is of the first rank (I’d estimate we have at least thirty, wouldn’t you?), which decision the Committee will make.

In addition to our efforts to work on particular rivers, we envision a legislative agenda as well. The next state legislative session, coming as it does during the changeover of administrations, is perhaps an opportune time for environmentalists to sponsor “tax reform” measures to help landowners along riverbanks.
Conservancy Celebrates Early State tax credits for voluntary cleanup of riverbanks, state tax incentives for certain uses of riverbank property, even technical assistance programs like the Agricultural Extension Service, to name a few, are important beginning steps toward a State rivers policy.

Which brings me to the end of this outline. We cannot possibly, whatever the extent of our commitment or means, “save” each and every river in this State. We must develop a State policy for our rivers. We must finally develop a common cause with landowners, state agencies and others, with the view that the rivers in this State are perhaps our most important resource. After all, some are calling West Virginia “the rivers state of the East.” See you on the river!

(Send your ideas for the Rivers Committee to Ray Ratliff, address in roster.)

Rare Plants, High Water Greet Hikers

Seventeen spring meeting hikers had to double back on their trail when they found the Cranberry River too high to cross. Led by Charles Carlson, the group planned to complete the full length of the Cowpasture Trail around the Glades.

At one point, the group encountered water backed up from a beaverdam and had to hike up two hundred yards to get around it. But when they reached the rain-swollen river, no convenient grape vines offered passage, and they had to retrace their trail.

The five-mile hike still rewarded participants with looks at 31 wildflowers, a couple of them quite rare. Along the boardwalk, the group saw Jacob’s Ladder (Polemonium) just ready to bloom. They spotted Frazier’s Sedge in full flower.

The Cranberry Glades is the most southern area where these plants are found.

Join the Conservancy
The Brooks Bird Club began as a small "bird group" in the West Virginia Nature Association of Oglebay Institute at Wheeling, W. Va. in September 1932. The Nature Association was an outgrowth of public nature walks conducted each Sunday morning by A. B. Brooks, the Institute naturalist. The Club was later named for him. Twelve men and one teen-aged girl were the founders—some of whom are still active in the Club, along with their children and grandchildren.

In 1940, the Club pulled away from the Institute and took off on its own, starting with a week-long nature study foray at Lost River State Park. The Brooks Bird Club is now an independent, educational, non-profit organization which promotes the study and enjoyment of birds and other elements of the natural world. It seeks to inform its members on environmental issues and to encourage their activism on behalf of intelligent use of our natural resources and preservation of our natural heritage. The Club also undertakes studies which have scientific value, e.g. population and breeding bird surveys at the Forays, and a Breeding Bird Atlas for West Virginia.

The Brooks Bird Club has more than 600 members in 30 states and five foreign countries. There are groups in Harpers Ferry, Morgantown and Huntington, W. Va.; East Liverpool and Columbus, Ohio; the Handlan Chapter in Charleston, W. Va.; and the Headquarters Chapter in Wheeling, W. Va.

Special activities occur almost every month—the Early Spring Meeting in March, Waterfowl Field Trip in April, Century Day Counts, Sutton Search, and Sortie in May, the Foray in June, Field Trip in Terra Alta in July, Labor Day Weekend at Camp Anthony in Greenbrier County, Bird Banding and Hawk Counts in September, Annual Meeting at Cedar Lakes in October, and Christmas Counts in December.

The most treasured event of all these is the week-long Foray, which is held each June in a different area of West Virginia suitable for bird and plant study. The purpose is to offer members and others (especially students) the chance to be in the field and take part in an ecological study of a selected area. The program is planned so everyone can pursue his own interest. There are classes and field work in birds, ferns, mosses, flowers, grasses, trees, geology, fungi, reptiles and small mammals. There is bird-banding and nest-finding. The interdependence of all living things is learned anew.

The Foray is the spiritual solitude of a forest trail, scientific plotting and impromptu fun. It's an emotional and aesthetic experience that lifts the spirit and lightens the heart. Sometimes it rains.

The Allegheny Front Migration Observatory near Red Creek Campground in Tucker County has been manned for 17 years by BBC-banderers.

A Wild Life Sanctuary program which offers signs for sale has been very successful in almost every state in which it has been placed.

The Club has been commended by Cornell University for its participation in the North American Nesting Census. It usually contributes from 600-800 cards each year.

The BBC sponsored a birding tour of Switzerland in 1978, and members have just returned from a tour of Spain this April.

"The Redstart" is the official publication of the Club. Original papers in the field of natural history have been published in magazine format quarterly since 1933. The quarterly "Mail Bag" is a newsletter. The Club has also published A List of West Virginia Birds by Dr. George A. Hall (1971). The Handlan Chapter has published Birds of the Great Kanawha Valley by Charles O. Handley, Sr.

Inquiries should go to The Brooks Bird Club, Inc., 707 Warwood Avenue, Wheeling, WV 26003.

Leadership Conference Sparks New Energy

by John Parbaugh

On the fog-bound flanks of Shenandodea National Park near Front Royal, Virginia, over 100 environmentalists from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia and West Virginia met to learn about "broadening our base of support," the theme for the Central Atlantic Environmental Leadership Conference on April 13-15.

The meeting was sponsored by the ten largest national membership environmental organizations: Environmental Defense Fund, Environmental Policy Institute, Friends of the Earth, Izak Walton League of America, National Audubon Society, National Parks and Conservation Association, National Wildlife Federation, National Resources Defense Council, Sierra Club, and Audubon Society.

Most of the learning came from each other, as the sessions focused on involvement in the political process. Mobilizing volunteers, making the most of media opportunities, being well-informed, and raising funds.

The opportunity to discuss ways to strengthen local environmental groups such as the Highlands Conservancy with experienced hands from other states gave all of us new ideas and ideas for future success.

Leadership Conference members attending were Linda, Dave and Molly Ecklinton, Linda Winter, Geoff Green and myself; other West Virginians included Dave McMahon (Oil & Gas Reform Council) and Joe McAteer of Fairmont.

In three meetings focusing on West Virginia concerns, St. Albans native Peter Foster of the Environmental Policy Institute acted as a facilitator. Here, as in the larger meetings, the emphasis was on the what and how of broadening support for environmental groups in West Virginia.

Everyone agreed the various environmental and sportsmen's groups, nature and bird clubs and local single-issue groups needed to work more closely together, to form strong coalitions on issues and assist each other. This abstract goal will be pursued by trying to arrange a meeting of the local leadership of the Highlands Conservancy, Citizen Action Group, Izak Walton League, West Virginia Wildlife Federation, Trout Unlimited, the Sierra Club, Audubon Society/Brooks Bird Club, and The Nature Conservancy.

If these representatives can identify common ground and renew commitments, a similar skills conference for West Virginia environmental leaders will be planned.
Democrats Challenge... [Continued from Page 1]

chairmanship of the state Economic Summit Conference in December, and linked business climate to "quality of life." He said, "We must have a good educational system to attract business, and we need to plan our economic goals."

Staggers said, "The attorney general represents all the people, the best interest of the people, and not any one group."

On Differences Between Themselves

Brown said he had "the right stuff to fight for West Virginia," cited his record of successful antitrust and consumer protection cases, and accused Staggers of rubber-stamping bills and phone bills. He pledged to set a priority on crimes against children, such as child-abuse and drug dealing.

Staggers wants to coordinate prosecutors and law enforcement agencies, and to "protect the people against fraud, business racketeering, and political corruption." He cited his experiences in representing state agencies as prosecutors and opening regional offices headed by assistant attorneys general.

Boettner said, "It is not enough to be right—you also have to be effective," and pointed to his role in enacting health and utility rate control legislation in the State Senate.

On Organized Crime and Political Corruption

All three agreed they would seek legislation granting prosecutorial powers to the attorney general and authorizing appointment of a special prosecutor in cases of political corruption. In a jibe at Staggers, Boettner challenged the others to swear their campaigns would not accept the services of "anyone who would stand in the way, and not be part of it." Recent charges have named Barron-era figure Curtis Trent as a Staggers campaign worker in southern West Virginia.

On Federal Issues

Staggers confirmed that the attorney general has the power to intervene in federal cases "to protect the people." Boettner said acid rain is the number one federal environmental issue he would tackle, by gathering facts on its impact in West Virginia, and going to Washington to argue for reduction of power plant sulfur emissions.

Brown recalled he represented the state in federal court on antitrust cases concerning natural gas and phone pricing, and had filed a petition in administrative proceedings to block the merger of the Chessie River System with a barge line.

On Chauncy Browning

The three candidates refrained from criticizing fellow Democrat and six-year veteran Attorney General Browning, with Staggers calling him "a fine gentleman." Nonetheless, each promised to reform the office.

Staggers promised to organize the staff according to specialized expertise, as in school law, environmental law, etc. He also sees a role for the office as mediator between labor and business.

Brown promised to do more for consumer protection, starting with a toll-free line for citizens' complaints, and a mobile office rather than regional offices as proposed by Staggers. "If we can get ski conditions on an 800 number," said Brown, "we ought to be able to get help on consumer fraud the same way."

Staggers would increase efficiency with more computers and word processors, and would allow legal research work. He would emphasize the accessibility of the office without adding costs.

On Environmental Protection

Brown claimed he was in a better position to protect "our greatest asset—the environment" than "someone who accepts contributions from natural gas and big oil interests like Si Boettner."

Boettner responded that he was "aware of every political contribution to which he (Brown) alludes," and reminded the audience of his successful campaign in the5th District. He reminded the Sierra Club for introducing legislation to protect Canaan Valley. Boettner called for an investigation of the antitrust division which Brown headed until his dismissal by Browning in 1982. He accused Brown of "bottling up" a panel appointed to investigate the issue of the "falling to recover sufficient money in settlements with accused firms to fund the division's activities. He also said enforcement of strip mining laws has been weak.

Staggers cited a strip mine visible from I-79 as an example of the need for better enforcement of strip mining regulations.

On Representing Legislative and Judicial Branches

Danny Staggers favors the attorney general's office representing "each officer in the state" if this can be done without overextending the office. Si Boettner opposed AG representation of legislators and other state officials, especially where these are accused of political favoritism or abuse.

Charlie Brown didn't answer directly, but said he would follow the Code of Professional Responsibility. After getting a letter back from Boettner's assistant, he said, "the entire budget of the antitrust division, $150,000, was put on my desk by the AG to redecorate his office."

On Firing a Teacher Reputed to be Homosexual

Staggers referred to a Supreme Court decision declaring that activities outside school which do not affect teaching ability are not grounds for dismissing a teacher. He did not say whether he thought a homosexual reputation affects teaching ability.

Boettner said it would be a violation of due process to fire someone without drawing up standards for assessing teaching ability. Boettner said such standards "would inv

On Campaign Contributions

The three candidates compared expenditures in the campaign so far, with Boettner at $30,000, Brown at $20,000 and Staggers at $20,000. Brown extended a challenge to debate in five urban centers in the state. Although Boettner did not respond, Brown said he would join the debates if two conditions were met. "First, Danny Staggers will have to change his last name," Boettner joked, and second, Charlie Brown will have to sign a public record as assistant attorney general—what investigations were made, what set

On Private Practices by Assistant Attorneys General

Si Boettner promised to keep his assistants so busy they would not have time for private practice. "They should be full-time public servants," he said, "not political pensioners. If I make the office of AG so exciting that attorneys will want to work not eight, but ten to twelve hours per day, seven days a week, for practically nothing." Brown promised assistants would not be allowed to practice privately, but Staggers would "inquire into private practice." The custom comes from low public salaries, Stagger said, but quoted the Bible saying, "no man can serve two masters."
Coming Up...

SUMMER HIKES
- June 10 • Cranesville Swamp
- WV Group/Sierra Club hike with naturalist highlights northern plant life. Limit 15.
- Contact Jim Sconyers (789-6899)
- June 30 • Nelson's Rock, near Circleville
- WV Group/Sierra Club hike for five-star view and plant life.
- Contact Pat Stanley (485-8293)
- July 14-15 • Otter Creek
- WV Group/Sierra Club backpack or dayhike through Otter Creek hardwood forest.
- Contact Pat Stanley (485-8293)
- July 21 • Kanawha State Forest
- Dayhike for nature study and photography.
- Contact Charles Carlson (343-2056) or Pat Stanley (485-8293)
- July 21 • Brush Creek, Mercer County
- WV Chapter/Nature Conservancy sponsors "Adventure Through Brush Creek," a dayhike to one of the state's best stands of Canadian Yew.
- Contact Rodney Bartgis (636-9270 evening, 636-1767 day)

BIRDERS' SORTIE
- June 20-24 • Dolly Sods, Tucker County
- Brooks Birds Club sallies forth for birds and fun.
- Write: Brooks Bird Club, Rt. 1, Box 116, Triadelphia, WV 26059

RIVER TRIPS ACROSS THE COUNTRY
- American Rivers Conservation Council sponsors both eastern and western river excursions in everything from kayaks to dories (canoes and rafts in between). Nine of the seventeen eastern trips between mid-April and late June were held in West Virginia. Ten western trips from the Rio Grande to the Noatak are scheduled between May and October.

Outfitters fees vary.

WVHC SUMMER MEETING
- Tentatively scheduled either July 22 or 29, possibly at Summersville. Keep your schedules open.

"HIKING GUIDE TO MONONGAHELA NATIONAL FOREST AND VICINITY"
New - 240 pages - Trail Description - Topo maps
Includes Dolly Sods, Otter Creek and Cranberry Creek hard.
COST: $7.00 Post Paid

West Virginia Highlands Conservancy
P. O. Box 506
Fairmont WV 26555

SAVE CANAAN VALLEY
Wild animals T-shirt

$6

You may order the SAVE CANAAN VALLEY T-shirt at your nearest Canaan Valley stocking dealer or by writing to Mr. John A. Stover, A-1 Westover Drive, Philippi, WV 26416. (Prices include postage and handling.)

How Does Your Member of Congress Vote on Environmental Issues?

A nationwide poll conducted in November 1983 by Louis Harris indicated that environmental issues will be major factors in the 1984 elections.

This news did not come as a surprise to the League of Conservation Voters (LCV). Formed in 1970, LCV is an environmental political action committee which supports proven environmental leaders running for office in the House, Senate and gubernatorial elections. The League knows from experience that environmental issues can play a key role in a candidate's election into office. Since 1970, in every election year, over half the candidates LCV supported were elected.

The LCV's steering committee of leaders from the major national environmental organizations choose to support candidates who are members of key Congressional committees, or those challengers with proven records on the local level. This year, West Virginia's own Representative Bob Wise is among those candidates the LCV will support! The League also publishes charts every year showing the floor votes of all Members of the House and Senate on the most crucial environmental and energy issues. Some of these issues include: EPA funding; hazardous waste regulation; air pollution control; soil and water conservation; wilderness; and the coal slurry pipeline. The following chart shows how often your member of Congress voted for environmental legislation. The scores represent the percentage of times each Member made the environmentally correct vote. One hundred percent is the highest possible score.

W.V. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION VOTING CHART

| Senators:  | Byrd (D) |   |   |   |
| Randolph (D) |   |   |   |   |
| Representatives:  | Molloy (D-1st) | 53 | 46 | 37 | 17 |
|                  | Benedict (R-2nd) |   | 7 | 15 |   |
|                  | Staton (R-3rd) |   | 21 | 36 |   |
|                  | Rahall (D-4th) | 53 | 56 | 53 | 41 |
|                  | Staggers (D-2nd) |   | 71 |   |   |
|                  | Wise (D-3rd) |   |   |   | 93 |

*from: How Congress Voted on Energy and the Environment - 1982 Voting Chart, $4.00, LCV, 320 4th St. NE, Washington, DC 20002

**from: How the U.S. House of Representatives Voted on Energy and the Environment - 1983 Voting Chart, $4.00, LCV.

Note: Scores were not computed for the Senate floor votes in 1983. They will be combined with the voting record for 1984.