



# THE HIGH KNOB HERALD

## HOLIDAY EDITION

The Clinch Coalition  
Newsletter

DECEMBER 2021, ISSUE 12

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

*Bring on the festivities!*

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays, from us to you! We hope that you are all taking this time to remember and value those that are truly important to you!

To celebrate the holidays, TCC held our Annual Holiday Gathering on December 14th, at 6pm. We had an incredibly fun social hour, played games, and heard from two amazing authors and speakers David Hrivnak and Wally Smith.

TCC is incredibly thankful for all of your support this year. We have big plans and goals for next year, so make sure to stay tuned!



Written and Designed by Jala Tyler, Program Director.  
All photography by Bill Harris



Photo by Bill Harris



Photo by Bill Harris

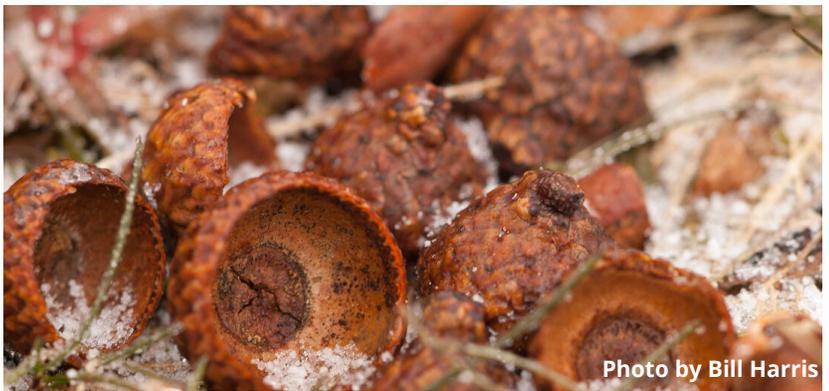


Photo by Bill Harris



Photo by Bill Harris



# Activities

## What's New on High Knob?

There are no new activities scheduled for The Clinch Coalition. We will be rolling into the next year with plenty in store, however, so make sure you stay up to date by checking our upcoming events at <https://www.clinchcoalition.org/events>.

## Plant of the Month

**Balsam Fir**  
*Abies balsamea*

Throughout history, plants and trees that remained green all year had a special meaning for people in the winter. Just as people today decorate their homes during the festive season with pine, spruce, and fir trees, ancient peoples hung evergreen boughs over their doors and windows. With that being said, the Balsam Fir is a classic holiday icon. The Balsam Fir features aromatic foliage and a narrow, pointed, spire-like crown. This tree is what one thinks of when they hear, "Christmas tree". As an ornamental, the balsam fir makes a good specimen tree for large and small landscapes in the colder portions of the Northeast, where the tree is the lone native fir. It is a classic beauty that is also commonly used for paper pulp and construction.

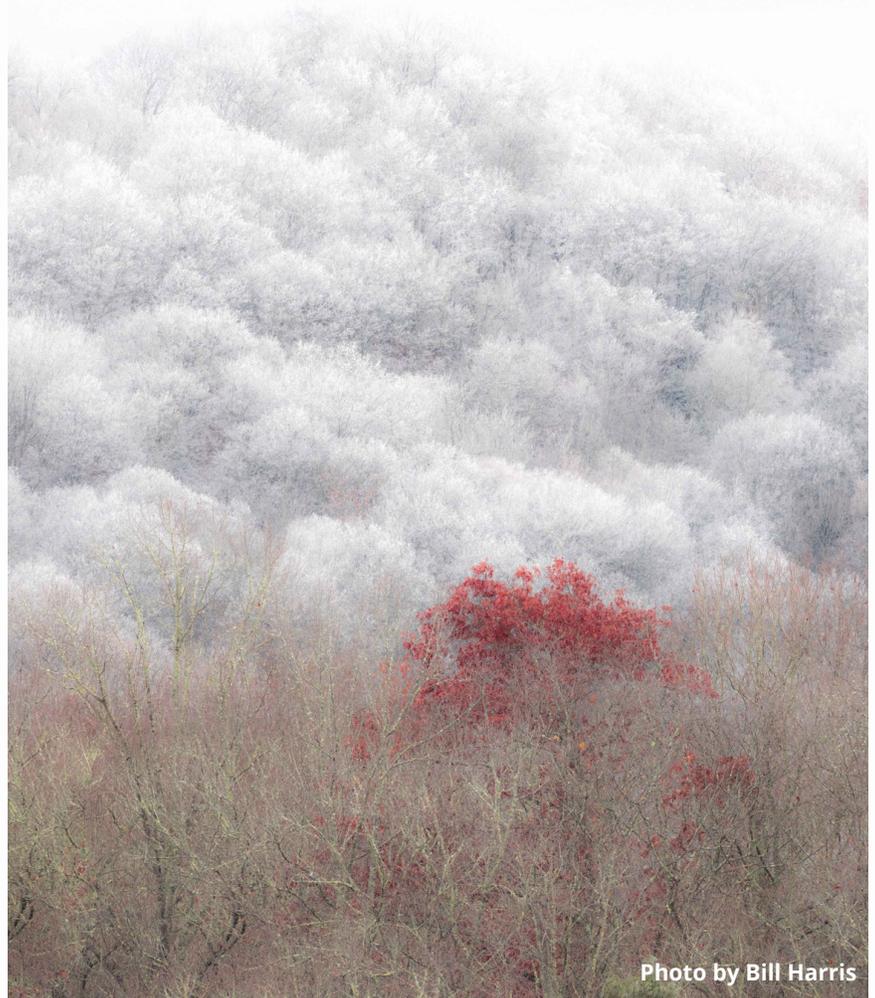


Photo by Bill Harris

## Animal of the Month

**Reindeer**  
*Rangifer tarandus*

*Rangifer tarandus*, commonly known as the reindeer or caribou, are a member of the deer family. In Europe, they are called reindeer. In North America, the animals are called caribou if they are wild and reindeer if they are domesticated. According to the FDA, Reindeer are covered in hair from their nose to the bottom of their feet (hooves). The hairy hooves may look funny, but they give reindeer a good grip when walking on frozen ground, ice, mud, and snow. In fact, Reindeer are the only deer species to have hair completely covering their nose. Their specialized nose helps to warm incoming cold air before it enters their lungs, and it's also an excellent sniffer. Their good sense of smell helps the reindeer find food hidden under snow, locate danger, and recognize direction. Reindeer mainly travel into the wind so they can pick up scent!

The species has a history dating back over 2,000 years. Over time, the usefulness and dynamic traits of the reindeer became a staple icon in societies. The reindeer came to symbolize creativity, resourcefulness and knowledge, whilst also representing safe journeying and endurance through travels.



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