



Volume 2, No. 35  
January 10, 2017



*Grouting rigs on top of Boone Dam's earthen embankment are now injecting high mobility grout into the dam's smaller cracks in the bedrock.*

### **Progress Update: Evaluations on Fall Fluctuations**

Workers at Boone Dam are immersed in the high mobility grouting phase of the project. The high mobility grout is a thinner fluid than the previously completed low mobility grouting, more of a chocolate milk consistency, intended to fill the smaller cracks and bedding planes in the bedrock beneath the embankment.

Over a period of several weeks in November, the Boone Lake reservoir was raised a few feet to the top end of the current operating range, held for a period of time, and then lowered to the pre-fluctuation level. The purpose of the fluctuation was to evaluate the effectiveness of the grouting program to date. Preliminary results indicate that the grouting program is currently meeting the design objective. TVA engineers expect similar tests will be performed in the future.



*CFC Committee members display some of the new toys purchased for Toys for Tots just before taking them on the employee bus to the US Marine Corps Reserve Center.*

### **Holiday Generosity Abounds at Boone Dam**

The Boone Dam Combined Federal Campaign raised more than \$13,000 for charity during three events in November and December. Those events were a skeet shoot, a chili cook off with golf shoot-out and a cook-out with silent auction. A committee comprised of representatives from each of the contractors at Boone Dam worked diligently on the campaign, more than tripling their initial goal of \$3,500. In addition to the CFC, the Boone project also collected over \$2,000 in new toys for the local Marine Corps Toys for Tots program. Committee members took a bus load of new toys to the Marines just in time to distribute for Christmas. Boone workers also assisted local firefighters with the Gatlinburg Relief fund.

## **TVA Sponsors FIRST LEGO League Robotics at ETSU**

Boone Dam Engineer Aaron Nottis (in top right photo) interacted with plenty of future engineers during the second annual FIRST LEGO League Tennessee State Qualifying Tournament at ETSU Dec. 3. Aaron was one of the judges for the competition, which featured 25 teams of 9-14 year olds from across the Tri-Cities region. Competitors researched real world issues and designed, built and competed using LEGO robots. Top qualifiers will compete in Cookeville in February. TVA sponsors the tournament as part of its ongoing support of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education.



## **Gone Fishin'**

The recent snowy weather got us dreaming about spring time here at Boone Dam. These brown trout were caught below Boone Dam on the South Holston River on Aug. 28.

Fisherman Joe Artzberger, from Pittsburgh, was visiting relatives when he caught the "big one," a 16 pound brown trout. He caught the fish on a 4" streamer imitation of a shad on sinking fly lines. He said the fish were released to be "caught again by another lucky angler."



*Top: Joe Artzberger shows off his 16 pound brown trout. Steve Katona (bottom) holds an 11 pounder.*

**New Community News Updates:** Remember, we'll keep you informed in between monthly editions of this newsletter through the new "Community News" section of the [Boone website](#). We'll also update the @BooneRepair Twitter feed and, if needed, provide special newsletter editions. You can always e-mail us questions at [boonelake@tva.gov](mailto:boonelake@tva.gov), or stop by the TVA Community Relations trailer at the intersection of Boone Dam and Minga Roads.

**How to Receive Regular Updates** "The Boone Dam Update" is published monthly to help keep TVA's stakeholders informed on the activities associated with repairing the earthen embankment at Boone Dam. These updates and other information are available at TVA's website: [Boone Repair](#) and via email distribution.

*If you'd like to be included on the Boone Update email distribution list, please visit [Boone Repair](#) and submit your email address where you see "Sign up below to get weekly updates via email."* Learn more the Boone Project and other TVA activities on Facebook at <http://www.Facebook.com/TVA> and on twitter @BooneRepair.

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