



OUTDOOR BUDDIES NEWSLETTER

555 Highlands Road Westcliffe, CO 81252

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CONTENTS

Executive Director's Comments -----	1
President's Column -----	1
Westcliffe Elk Hunt -----	2
Elk Hunt near Estes Park -----	2
A Message from a Member -----	3
Deer Hunt at Escalante Ranch -----	3
Help Find Hunting Properties -----	4
Friends of NRA Banquets -----	4
Got Goodies? -----	4
2013 Big Game Hunt Request Form -----	5
Outdoor Buddies Banquet Invitation -----	6
Outdoor Buddies Raffles -----	7
Upcoming Events Calendar -----	8

Executive Director's Comments

by Dwaine Robey



Now that 2013 is here, it's time to make plans to attend the annual Outdoor Buddies Banquet.

The 2013 banquet will be held at The Wildlife Experience on Saturday, April 13th.

Banquet tickets are now on sale and can be purchased using the form included in this newsletter or from the Outdoor Buddies website via the Internet at www.outdoorbuddies.org.

The annual banquet is perhaps the most important event of the year for Outdoor Buddies. This annual fundraiser event provides a large portion of the funds needed to support Outdoor Buddies programs throughout the year.

Attendance and participation in fundraising activities at the banquet is a great way to show your support of our organization. So, please make plans to attend the banquet and invite all your family and friends to come also.

Please visit our website and purchase your banquet tickets while you are there! Please help us make this the best ever Outdoor Buddies Banquet!

Now is the time to start planning your fall big game hunts. Handi-buddies wishing to participate in an Outdoor Buddies sponsored hunt should submit Big Game Hunt Request forms as soon as possible. A hunt request form is included with this newsletter.

Feel free to contact me if you have ideas about improvements to Outdoor Buddies or if you are willing to serve on one or more of our committees or as an officer or board member. You can contact me at (719) 783-9044 or drobey@centurytel.net.

President's Column

by Larry Sanford



A new year has started and we are just finishing up with the 2012 big game season hunts. All of our mobility-impaired member hunters should be starting to send in their hunt requests for the 2013 big game season. Now is the time to let us know if you want to go on an Outdoor Buddies sponsored big game hunt in 2013!

Outdoor Buddies staffed a booth again this year at the annual International Sportsmen's Exposition at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver. We would like to thank Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) for providing the space for our booth. CPW allows Outdoor Buddies to share

space in their Youth Fair area where there are booths that provide education for young and old to learn more about Colorado and its wildlife.



Some of the volunteers at the Outdoor Buddies booth.

I also want to thank all the volunteer members of Outdoor Buddies who help to make this event a great time to fellowship with so many people and to share information about our mission!

At the Expo, we sell raffle tickets for raffle prizes with the prize winners to be drawn at our annual fundraiser banquet. We sold raffle tickets at the Expo for three guns that are being offered as raffle prizes; a 12ga Stoeger over/under shotgun, a 9mm handgun, and a Browning 30.06 rifle. We still have raffle tickets left for these prizes, so if you want to help Outdoor Buddies out then buy a chance to win a gun!

I would like to invite you all to come to our fundraiser Banquet this year to celebrate our mission of getting people who have been deprived of the outdoor experience back into the outdoors. The annual banquet provides much needed funds to buy adaptive equipment as well as helping to finance Outdoor Buddies' programs throughout the year. I hope to see you there!

Westcliffe Elk Hunt

by Jimmie Ashley



My name is Jimmy Ashley and I live in Jonesboro, Arkansas. I recently had the pleasure of going to Westcliffe, Colorado for an elk hunt.

I arrived late Friday night and contacted Dwaine Robey to let him know that we had arrived in Westcliffe. The next morning we met at my motel, introduced ourselves, and loaded up in his truck to start the hunt.

We headed out for a ranch to see if we could spot any elk. It was so beautiful when the sun came up and we could see the snow on the mountains.

The morning hunt was not a lucky one, so we headed back for lunch. Dwaine showed me his home and some beautiful neighboring areas before we had lunch.

After lunch, we headed back out. We checked out a few other hunting areas, but did not locate any elk. As it started to get dark, we went back to the motel and an early bed time. It had been a long day.

The next morning, a new person, Rob Adams, came with us. Rob is one of the great volunteers who help with Outdoor Buddies hunts in the Westcliffe area.

We headed back up to the mountains. Again, we found no elk that morning and went back to town for lunch.

After lunch, Rob and I headed out to a different place a little earlier than usual, but it was beautiful. We saw a big herd of antelope and some deer soon after going into the ranch. It was so amazing! I thought "Man; a lot of game, but we are hunting elk."

We went further into the property and set up for the hunt. We were talking and getting to know each other. We stayed until late afternoon. I saw a few more mule deer, including one nice 3x3 which I would have been glad to have on my wall. Later on, another buck came in. He was a nice 4x4, but the 3x3 was a much larger buck. We enjoyed watching all the nice animals, but it got dark so we headed out. But, man o man, there were a lot of mule deer all over.

The next day we headed out again; me, Dwaine, and Rob. We got a late start due to a low tire.

We headed into the mountains to a different place from where we had hunted before. We travelled several miles on sparsely traveled gravel roads, then on thin two-track trails; gradually gaining elevation.

As we turned a corner, I saw a small herd of elk on the edge of heavily wooded area. Dwaine stopped the truck, and I tried to get set up to take shot. Before I could get positioned for a good shot, the elk started to move. I took a shot and hit one of the trailing animals.

We waited about five minutes, and then Dwaine and Rob got out to see if they could track down the elk. Initially, they found blood where the elk had been hit. They tracked the blood trail for about two hours. At that point, the animal stopped bleeding, and her tracks mingled with tracks from several other elk and it was impossible to track her any farther.

I was surprised that the elk never went down when she was hit. We did not get the elk, but I have to say "It wasn't because we didn't try".

My hunt ended that day. We said our good byes as I had to leave the next morning to head back to Arkansas and back to work.

I enjoyed myself and got to meet and make some great friends and see lots of beautiful country.

Hunting is not only about killing an animal; it is about the enjoyment of being able to get into the outdoors and enjoy great people who do things for the disabled; and the ranchers who let us come on their land to do the things we get to do.

I'm thankful to the Lord and all the people who open their heart and make it possible for us to enjoy these outings. God bless all of you!

Elk Hunt near Estes Park

by Tom Eckrich

On Thursday morning, the 13th of December, I met Martie Brocko and Steve Nichols at the Estes Park Police Station. It was still dark, but they had already scouted the Estes Park area and saw elk on the Willet's property. Steve checked my scope setting and adjusted it to 4-power and I had a clip ready to load, but left it empty until we were ready.

We talked about how we would approach the elk herd, which numbered about forty or more.

We proceeded to the area and drove into shooting range. I then loaded my rifle, jockeyed into position, laid the rifle on the rolled down window, and Steve and I agreed on a lone cow.

I squeezed off a round and the herd took off running. We waited about 30 seconds and my cow went down and walked over to check the elk and she was dead.

At this time, because we were somewhat visible from the road, Steve hooked up a rope to his truck and dragged the elk out of sight.

Martie, aka as the "Queen of Willets", wanted to field dress the elk. I must say that, under the tutorage of Steve, she did a great job.

With the help of Steve's electric hoist, the elk loaded very easy.

We then transferred it to my truck, covered it, and stopped for breakfast. By eleven o'clock we said our goodbyes and I headed down to Roy Logan's to have my elk processed.

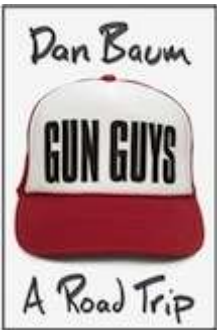


I can't say thank you enough to Steve, Martie, and Outdoor Buddies for allowing me the opportunity to get out and hunt in the beautiful state of Colorado.

Thanks again and God Bless America.

"No one but he who has partaken thereof, can understand the keen delight of hunting... For him is the joy of...the rifle well held... In after-years there shall come forever to his mind the memory of...all the innumerable sights and sounds of the wilderness; of its immensity and mystery; and of the silences that brood in all its depths."
- Theodore Roosevelt

A Message from a Member



Hello, friends.

I wanted to let you know that I have a new book coming out from Knopf in March: "Gun Guys: A Road Trip."

It's an account of my driving 15,000 miles around the United States, talking to gun owners of various types, trying to answer the questions: Why do we like these things so much? Why do they inspire such passion on all sides?

It's not a gun-policy book. It's an attempt to explain, both to gun owners and those who don't like guns, the complexity of the attraction to firearms.

Here's a quirk of the publishing business: All pre-orders are credited to the first week of a book's life. So if there are a lot of pre-orders, a book can jump immediately onto the best seller list, and those that get there tend to stay there. So this is a shameless request - if the book interests you at all -- to pre-order it. (Cheaper, too.) You can read about the book, and find links to a number of ways to buy it, at www.danbaum.com.

Either way, I hope you have a very happy new year.
Dan

Deer Hunt at Escalante Ranch

by Bruce Brown

At the Outdoor Buddies banquet last March, I won a deer hunt auction for a hunt at Escalante Ranch. My hunt was scheduled for November and was to be coordinated by Holly Davis, who manages hunting operations at the ranch.

The Escalante Ranch is a century old western cattle operation located on the western slope of Colorado. It lies 25 miles south of Grand Junction and 12 miles northwest of Delta, stretching from the Gunnison River to

the top of the Uncompahgre Plateau. It covers approximately 6,000 deeded acres and over 100,000 acres of leased, private, BLM and Forest Service ground. This contiguous block of land is approximately 6 miles wide and 30 miles long, with the elevation ranging from 4,600 feet along the river in the lower country to over 9,200 feet on the forest on top of the plateau.

Lori and I arrived at the ranch on November 4th. We dropped off my special golf cart and drove up to Dominguez Escalante National Conservation Area (NCR) which lies east and west of the Gunnison River just south of Grand Junction.

Included in the NCR is the 66,000 acre enclosed Dominguez Canyons Wilderness. What beautiful scenery! I saw my first desert bighorn sheep herd and got some



great pictures

We checked into the hotel and prepared to start hunting the next day.

Holly met us every day at 6:00 AM and was our personal guide extraordinaire. She helped us spot animals and get ready for the shot; setting up the tripod and gauging the distance. She then met us every evening at 3:30 PM and we started all over again.

We played "cat and mouse" with the deer for several days. We found deer in the pastures, pumpkin fields, and orchards.

On Wednesday, I got a couple of shots at a nice 4 x 4 out in the field, but did not get him.

We drove up and down the canyon and spotted several herds of deer every day. In the mornings, there seemed to be more deer than in the evenings. They did not start coming down out of the hills into the meadows until late. Anyway, the hunting areas were very beautiful and we enjoyed each day immensely.

The ranch hands and other hunters were very kind. They spotted deer for us and assisted us in every way they could. They would watch and help by telling Holly about deer in one of the fields just over the hill. We drove the country roads and saw so many deer that were just out of range. It was difficult for me to get set up for a shot because it took considerable time to get ready.

It was great fun and many times I came very close to getting a deer.

After a few days, we decided to hunt behind the main ranch; we started seeing deer almost immediately in the pastures.

It didn't take long for Holly to get me set up on a nice buck which we harvested on Saturday morning.

Here is how I came to bag my deer.

On the last day of hunting, I got up at 3:30 AM and drove 50 minutes out to the ranch. Holly had set it up to hunt in the field behind the main house. She had heard that there were at least 3 bucks visiting that field. They had been coming out at day break, so I wanted to be there as soon as the light was right.

Holly came out on that very cold morning and took me out on my golf cart.

We went into the field and there were the deer. I saw the one I wanted and everything lined up.

I was in the right spot with the right deer in my sights; one shot and I had my deer.



Holly was so happy and so helpful. She called the ranch hands and they came to help gut the deer and put it in my truck for me.

She then took pictures and butchered it for me.

The Escalante Ranch hunt was so much fun and the ranch hands were so helpful and kind with giving us reports on the location of deer.

Holly was fantastic! She is a very great and understanding guide, helping in every way possible. I would like to thank her and also Mr. Richard Miller, ranch owner, for donating the hunt to Outdoor Buddies.

Help Find Outdoor Buddies Hunting Properties

Outdoor Buddies is seeking help with obtaining landowner permission for big game hunting access to their properties.

As the organization continues to grow and expand membership, it is increasingly difficult to be able to find hunting opportunities for mobility-disabled members.

This situation exists throughout the state and is especially true in the Estes Park area.

Many landowners are concerned about liability issues related to allowing hunting access to their properties. In that regard, Outdoor Buddies carries liability insurance to help guard against the possibility of damage claims by participants in activities.

If you know of landowners or properties where there is a potential for Outdoor Buddies hunting access please contact one of the Outdoor Buddies hunting coordinators listed below.

Dwaine Robey	719-783-9044
Larry Sanford	970-218-5356
James Piper	303-932-1209
Dave Hamling	303-681-3738
Steve Nichols	303-678-1963
Martie Brocko	303-448-9253

Any help you can provide will be greatly appreciated.

Friends of NRA Banquets by Dwaine Robey

Are you a member of the National Rifle Association? If not, I suggest that you consider becoming a member.

In addition to helping to protect our 2nd Amendment rights, NRA has provided financial support to many Colorado nonprofit organizations, including Outdoor Buddies through Friends of NRA.

Friends of NRA chapters around the state hold annual fundraiser banquets with 50% of the proceeds being given to deserving local organizations through grants.

Please consider supporting your local Friends of NRA chapter by attending their annual banquet. Or, better yet, consider becoming a member of your local Friends of NRA chapter.

To find information about your local chapter and the date of their banquet, please visit the Internet at: <http://www.friendsofnra.org/National.aspx>

Got Goodies?

As I am sure you are all aware by now, the Outdoor Buddies annual banquet is coming up on April 13th. This is our major fund raising event and we depend on it for monies needed to purchase much needed equipment, office supplies, and any other expenses incurred in keeping Outdoor Buddies up and running. As members of Outdoor Buddies, we have all benefited in some way and with your help, will continue to do so.

Everyone seems to have a good time with the auctions, whether it be the live, silent, or bucket raffles. In order for the auctions to be successful and bring in as much money as possible, we need donations. We need new hunting, fishing, and outdoor equipment. Also, new toys, jewelry, gift certificates.....in short, any new items that can be auctioned at the banquet.

If you will notify Kathy Shears by phone or email with any donations, we will be able to categorize items and therefore maximize the amount that we make at the auctions. Also, we are asking that you notify Kathy by April 1st with any donations so that we have a proper inventory and can organize everything before the banquet.

Your help is appreciated very much!!

Kathy's Phone: 303-431-1275
Email: shearsks@hotmail.com



**OUTDOOR BUDDIES
MOBILITY-DISABLED HUNTING PROGRAM
2013 BIG GAME HUNT REQUEST**

REQUIREMENTS/CONDITIONS

1. Participants in Outdoor Buddies sponsored big game hunts must be registered members of Outdoor Buddies. A signed registration form must have been submitted prior to requesting a big game hunt.
2. **All Colorado hunters must possess a "WILDLIFE RECREATION ACCOMMODATION PERMIT", issued by Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW), authorizing the hunter to shoot from a vehicle.** It is also suggested that hunters be enrolled in CPW's **Mobility-Impaired Big Game Program**; for questions and application form contact CPW at (303) 291-7380.
3. Participants are expected to provide **their own transportation to and during the hunt**, unless other arrangements are made in advance, and pay personal expenses including required licenses. Outdoor Buddies will provide a location to hunt and an able-bodied helper/guide.
4. To request a hunt, complete the lower portion of this form and mail to **Outdoor Buddies, PO 27095, Denver, CO 80227.**
Or, scan the completed form and email to huntcommittee@outdoorbuddies.org

SELECTION PROCESS

The Outdoor Buddies Big Game Hunt Committee will review all requests received and work with the applicants to plan and schedule the hunts.
Please inform Larry Sanford at (970) 663-7852 if you have not been contacted by the Committee within thirty days after you have submitted a Big Game Hunt Request Form.

HUNT LOCATIONS

Applicants may designate an area where he/she would prefer to hunt, however it may not be possible to schedule that location due to the limited number of opportunities at each hunt location. Shown below is a list of some of the locations where Outdoor Buddies will sponsor big game hunts in the upcoming seasons.

Locations

- | | |
|---|--|
| Cortez Area (mule deer) | Southeast Wyoming Area (antelope) |
| Craig Area (elk – mule deer - antelope) | South Park Area (elk) |
| Estes Park Area (cow elk) | South Platte River Area (whitetail deer) |
| Kremmling Area (cow elk) | Steamboat Springs Area (elk – mule deer) |
| Meadow Springs Ranch (antelope) | Westcliffe Area (cow elk – mule deer) |

Hunt requests received by February 28th will have priority over those received after that date.

Note: Please do not apply for a license for requested hunt until your hunt is confirmed.



OUTDOOR BUDDIES 2013 BIG GAME HUNT REQUEST

PLEASE SUBMIT A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH SPECIES.

NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER(S) _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATE BOXES BELOW

	ANTELOPE	DEER	ELK
SPECIES PREFERENCE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	FEMALE	MALE	EITHER
GENDER PREFERENCE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			NO PREFERENCE
LOCATION PREFERENCE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	YES	NO	
DO YOU HAVE A PERMIT TO SHOOT FROM VEHICLE?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	



ANNOUNCING OUTDOOR BUDDIES FUNDRAISER BANQUET FOR 2013



Outdoor Buddies, Inc. is proud to invite you, your family, and friends to our annual banquet. This year's banquet celebrates **twenty-nine years of community service** by Outdoor Buddies.

The banquet will be held at **The Wildlife Experience** on **Saturday, April 13, 2013**. The Wildlife Experience is located approximately 10 miles from downtown Denver at the intersection of Lincoln Avenue and South Peoria Street.

Your ticket to this event includes admission to the Museum and Galleries at The Wildlife Experience starting at 3:00 PM. There will be a social period beginning at 4:00 PM with dinner being served at approximately 6:00 PM.

Business casual attire is suggested. We are asking for a payment of \$35.00 per person for the banquet and the evening's program. Children, age fifteen and under, will be admitted for \$20.00.

The dinner menu includes your choice of Grilled Flat Iron Steak, Grilled Salmon, or Chicken Florentine. The dinner will also include Classic Caesar Salad with assorted Freshly Baked Rolls, Freshly Brewed Coffee or Tea, Seasonal Vegetables, and Dessert. A cash bar will be available. The children's ticket includes a Kid's Meal of Chicken Tenders, Macaroni & Cheese, and French Fries

With Fox 31 Denver's Dan Daru as Master of Ceremonies



Dan is a weekday morning reporter on Fox 31's *Good Day Colorado*.

Dan hasn't always had those movie star good looks; he was born with a slight blemish. Dan's parents were horrified to find their son had an extra pair of lips on his left cheek.

The doctors worked their magic, and after two short operations, they moved the lips to a place more needed. Dan's parents spoke another language that they never taught him, making communication difficult.



Dan Daru

The program will include current information about Outdoor Buddies programs and plans and updates from a representative of Colorado Parks and Wildlife and a few "surprise" agenda items.

There will be raffles, a silent auction, and a live auction so come prepared to do a little shopping.

If you cannot attend the banquet, perhaps you will want to consider purchasing a ticket or two for a handi-buddy. If so, please let us know and your donated ticket(s) will be put to good use.

You may purchase tickets for this great Outdoor Buddies event via the Internet at www.outdoorbuddies.org or simply fill out and return the form below to: Outdoor Buddies, Wally Hunt, Treasurer, 2141 South Yarrow Street, Lakewood, CO 80227.

To order by phone call **(303) 985-2293**.

To: **Outdoor Buddies**
Wally Hunt, Treasurer
2141 South Yarrow Street
Lakewood, CO 80227

I would like to request _____ Adult tickets for the Outdoor Buddies Annual Banquet.
Menu choice(s): Grilled Flat Iron Steak ____, Grilled Salmon ____, Chicken Florentine ____.
Please accept my payment of \$35.00 for each ticket.
I would also like to request ____ Children's ticket(s) at \$20.00 per ticket.
Please find enclosed my check, payable to Outdoor Buddies, in the amount of _____.

From: _____
NAME TELEPHONE NUMBER

STREET ADDRESS CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE

Outdoor Buddies Raffles

Raffle tickets cost \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20 for all 3 raffles.



A-Bolt 30-06 Composite Stalker



Stoeger Condor

Over & Under Field Gun

12-gauge with 28" ventilated rib barrel



CPX-1 TWO-TONE 9mm



Dimensions/Weight

Barrel Length: 3.1"

Height: 4"

Length: 5.7"

Width: 1"

Weight: 15oz

To purchase raffle ticket, please contact:

Todd Bacon 303-955-6363

toddbacon@live.com

or

Dwaine Robey 719-783-9044

drobey@centurytel.net

Outdoor Buddies Upcoming Events Calendar

(Note: Shown below are currently scheduled events. Other activities will be scheduled as appropriate.)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event/Location</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Contacts</i>
Nov 1 thru Feb 10	Waterfowl hunts in various northern Colorado locations.	Waterfowl hunts will be scheduled based on requests received from mobility disabled members.	Larry Sanford (970) 663-7852 lpbusy@comcast.net
Jan 1 thru Mar 15	Ice fishing in various northern Colorado locations	Ice fishing events will be scheduled based on requests received from mobility disabled members.	Larry Sanford (970) 663-7852 lpbusy@comcast.net
March 13	Outdoor Buddies Board of Directors Meeting at Craig Hospital.	Bi-monthly Board Meeting starting at 6:30 PM. Visitors are welcome	Dwaine Robey (719) 783-9044 drobey@centurytel.net
April 27	Spring shoot at Green Mill Sportsman's Club.	Big bore and pistol ranges are reserved. Contact Rich Cori for details.	Rich Cori (303) 604-9227 r_j_cori@msn.com
May 18	Armed Forces Day Outdoor Buddies Community Appreciation Day Honoring Wounded Warriors and other Military Veterans at Westcliffe.	Everyone is invited to attend. Free barbecue, games, and more.	Dwaine Robey (719) 783-9044 drobey@centurytel.net
June 7 - 9	Focus on Forever (FOF) Conference at YMCA of the Rockies – Estes Park	The FOF Conference is a "train the trainer" conference, designed specifically for conservation volunteers and agency staff who are passionate about sharing our outdoor traditions with youth and their families.	For more information and registration visit the Pheasants Forever website at: http://www.pheasantsforever.org/page/1/Focus-on-Forever-Conference.jsp Dwaine Robey (719) 783-9044 drobey@centurytel.net
June 15	Outdoor Buddies Family Day at Swift Ponds.	All are welcome to attend our annual Family Day at Swift Ponds. Free fishing, barbecue and more.	Larry Sanford (970) 663-7852 lpbusy@comcast.net
August 17	Fall shoot at Green Mill Sportsman's Club.	Big bore and pistol ranges are reserved. Contact Rich Cori for details.	Rich Cori (303) 604-9227 r_j_cori@msn.com