



OUTDOOR BUDDIES NEWSLETTER

555 Highlands Road Westcliffe, CO 81252

May 2013

Vol 29 No 4

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traditionally a fun-filled day, so mark your calendar and plan to join us at the Family Day at Swift Ponds. Please see the related article on page 5 of this newsletter.

On June 22nd, Outdoor Buddies will host Mountain Man Demonstrations at Tarryall State Wildlife Area. There will be more details about this event in our next newsletter. In the meantime, if you wish, please contact Larry Sanford for additional information.

The annual Outdoor Buddies Golf Benefit is set for Saturday, July 6th at Murphy Creek Golf Course in Aurora. Now is the time to register, yourself or your team, for this event. Please see the Entry Form on page 7 of this newsletter. Dustin Robey is the director for this event and he promises to make this year's golf tournament very enjoyable for participants.

As always, please feel free to contact me if you have ideas about improvements to your organization or if you are willing to serve on one of our committees or as an officer or board member. You can contact me at (719) 783-9044 or drobey@centurytel.net.

Executive Director's Comments

by Dwaine Robey



Thank you to all who attended the Outdoor Buddies banquet at The Wildlife Experience on April 13th. You helped make it a very successful event.

Outdoor Buddies Treasurer, Wally Hunt, reports that the net profit from the banquet was approximately \$20,000. We intend to put that money to good use, primarily in purchasing badly needed adaptive equipment & an all-terrain UTV.

With the all-important banquet behind us, the Outdoor Buddies board of directors and committee members are hard at work preparing for future activities and events.

Of course, the Big Game Hunting Committee works year-round planning and scheduling big game hunts. This is a never ending process of finding hunting locations, matching disabled hunters with the available hunting slots, determining adaptive equipment needed, etc.

The next major event is the Outdoor Buddies Community Appreciation Day Honoring Wounded Warriors and other Military Veterans at A Painted View Ranch near Westcliffe. Please see the related article on page 5 of this newsletter and plan to attend if you can!

Outdoor Buddies will be participating in the Focus on Forever Conference being held at YMCA of the Rockies near Estes Park on June 7th through June 9th. On Saturday, June 8th, Larry Sanford will be making morning and afternoon presentations called "MAKING OUTDOOR ADVENTURES POSSIBLE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES". For more information about the Focus on Forever Conference, please see the related article on page 6 of this newsletter and visit their website at: <http://www.pheasantsforever.org/page/1/Focus-on-Forever-Conference-Colorado.jsp>

The annual Outdoor Buddies Family Day at Swift Ponds will be held on Saturday, June 15th. This is

President's Column

by Larry Sanford



I send out my sincere thanks to all the people and businesses from all over Colorado who donated items for the banquet.

There were many contributors and I cannot mention them all. But, to name a few, CZ-USA, Sportsman's Warehouse, and Rocky Mountain Shooters Supply.

And special thanks to Jim Moser, for his hand carved Mallard duck, and Rob Myers, for his handcrafted ice fishing sled and gear. These were very special donations, hand made by the donors.

I hope to see many of you in Westcliffe on May 18th.

If you can, come see my presentation at the Focus on Forever Conference in Estes Park on July 8th.

For sure, you must plan to come to the Outdoor Buddies Family Day at Swift Ponds on Saturday, June 15th. There will be catch-and-release fishing, trap shooting, archery, and much more!

Lunch will be catered by the famous Nordy's Bar-B-Que & Grill; you do not want to miss that! It will be a fun day for your whole family and be sure to invite friends.

On June 22nd, join us for Mountain Man Day at Tarryall Reservoir and keep an eye on the Upcoming Events Calendar for a full summer of fishing and fun for all.

I look forward to seeing you in the outdoors soon!

Have a great summer; and may God bless you and your family.

Overflow Crowd at 2013 Outdoor Buddies Banquet



Dwaine Robey

Outdoor Buddies held its annual banquet for 2013 at The Wildlife Experience in south Denver on Saturday, April 13th. There was an overflow turnout.

Outdoor Buddies Executive Director, Dwaine Robey, kicked off the evening's program with a welcome and thank you for the great support given to Outdoor Buddies.

After brief remarks from the officers, Outdoor Buddies Vice President, Dustin Robey, introduced Dan Daru, the master of ceremonies for the program.

Dan is a well-known Denver TV personality, who is a weekday morning reporter on Fox 31's *Good Day Colorado*.



Dan Daru and Dustin Robey



Todd Bacon



Dean Riggs

Dean Riggs, who grew up in Westcliffe and is currently Colorado Parks and Wildlife Assistant Regional Manager, Northwest Region, made a presentation relating to the recent merger of Colorado Parks and the Colorado Division of Wildlife into one organization. He also gave a brief status of several initiatives currently in progress within his organization.



Larry Sanford

Outdoor Buddies President, Larry Sanford made a presentation demonstrating how adaptive equipment is used to assist disabled persons in their pursuit of outdoor activities.

The keynote speaker was Major-General Joe Arbuckle, retired U.S. Army, who stressed the importance of the 2nd Amendment to the United States Constitution.



Young Marines Color Guard

Very special thanks to our guest speakers and all who attended!

Following are a few additional pictures from the banquet.



Joe Arbuckle

This set the stage for the live auction, and gave auctioneers Debbie Stafford, a former state representative, and John Anderson, a captain in the Castle Rock Police Department, a chance to begin the action.



Partial view of banquet guests



Another view of banquet guests



Debbie Stafford



John Anderson

Dan Daru and Dustin Robey assisted the auctioneers, while Marci Gregg recorded sales.

The evening concluded with the raffle prize drawings. The winners of some of the raffles included:

- Derrick Duran 9 mm SCCY Two-Tone Pistol
- Jed Danbury Stoeger Over/Under Shotgun
- Keith Chisholm Browning A-Bolt 30.06 Rifle

Outdoor Buddies would like to thank all of the individuals and companies who donated items for the raffles and auction, and express gratitude to The Wildlife Experience for its assistance in hosting this great banquet.



Outdoor Buddies receives grant award check from the NRA Foundation

Acknowledgement:

All banquet pictures are courtesy of Kathy Swier. Thank you for all the great pictures, Kathy.

Editor's note

The banquet committee would like to commend Kathy Shears for her work in acquiring banquet auction items and the excellent job she did in setting up and managing the silent auction at the banquet.

This was not a "once a year" job for Kathy; she has worked at it all year since the last banquet.

Thank you, Kathy!



Kathy Shears

We should remember our banquet donors

Terry Nelson, Outdoor Buddies Board of Directors member, points out:

"Often times we don't give enough recognition to the mom and pop businesses and individuals who help make our banquet fundraiser the success that it is.

In the past few years there are donors who I have gone back to year after year, and always with a smile, they say "sure we can."

"So, just to let our members know who these people are, and if they do any business with these donors, they might say hi and let the folks know that we appreciate their support.

- Wiggy's Sleeping Bags in Grand Junction
- High Country Western Wear in Arvada
- Enstrom's Candies in Arvada

OD Green Shooting Supplies in Arvada (with many AR's in stock)

I encourage all members to let us know of other donors so we can do some business with them and keep the good will alive."

Terry is right; please help Outdoor Buddies thank and support the individuals and companies who donate products and services to be used as auction and raffle items at our banquets.

Please let them know that their support is greatly appreciated!

Tom Eckrich Nominated for Outstanding Senior Volunteer Award

Outdoor Buddies member, Tom Eckrich, who lives in Loveland, does a variety of volunteer work. Tom said "I do volunteer work with several veteran organization, but my main thing is playing TAPS at the funerals of my fellow veterans. I have provided final honors for more than 900 veterans of all branches of the military plus some merchant marines."



Tom Eckrich

"Let's face it. If you didn't volunteer, a lot of things wouldn't get done," Tom said.

Tom, who is a veteran who served during the Korean War era, bugles for the Northern Colorado Marine Corps League, the All Veterans Honor Guard and other veteran organizations.

"It's a feel-good thing. It's a feeling of satisfaction," he said. "You know you've helped someone."

The Outstanding Senior Volunteer award is part of the 2nd annual Salute to Senior Service program, sponsored by Home Instead, Inc., the franchiser of the Home Instead Senior Care Network.

Congratulations, Tom!

Outdoor Buddies Community Appreciation Day Honoring Wounded Warriors and other Military Veterans

by Dwaine Robey

On **Armed Forces Day**, May 18th, Outdoor Buddies will hold the second annual Community Appreciation Day Honoring Wounded Warriors and Other Military Veterans in Westcliffe from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The event will be held at A Painted View Ranch located three miles west of town.

Everyone is invited! There will be games, demonstrations, free food, and much more.

Last year's event was a huge success, so we are expecting a large turnout.

So far, the activities planned include participation by Wounded Warriors from the Warrior Transition Unit at Fort Carson, flag ceremonies with a military mounted color guard, a rock climbing wall, a tug-of-war game (by Colorado National Guard), the Blooming Bush Women (music and Samurai Sword Dance), pack mule demonstration with mules (by local US Forest Service), archery range (by local Colorado Parks & Wildlife), laser shot video game trailer (by local Colorado Parks & Wildlife), Paca Peace alpaca educational program with alpacas, Mission Wolf's 30 minute educational program with wolves, and more.

Special attractions for kids (and older folks who are not too "chicken") include a Bounce House, ducky race (using irrigation canal that runs through the ranch), stick horse barrel racing, face painting, animal balloons, and cotton candy.

There will be a free lunch of barbecued pork, hot dogs, sloppy Joes, potato chips, iced tea, lemonade, and water. (Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.)

So please plan to be in Westcliffe on Saturday, May 18th.

For more details, please contact Dwaine Robey at (719) 783-9044 or drobey@centurytel.net.

Arkansas River Fishing Outing

There is an opportunity for handi-buddies and their helpers to fish a private stretch of the Arkansas River near Coaldale. The outing is scheduled for Sunday, May 19th.

So, come to the Outdoor Buddies Community Appreciation Day on Saturday and stay over for the fishing on Sunday. Please contact Dwaine Robey if you would like to find overnight lodging.

We will meet at the Cotopaxi General Store at 8:00 am. The Cotopaxi General Store is a historic landmark in southern Colorado. Since the 1920's, it has been a cafe, gas station, grocery store, and meeting place for locals and travelers alike. Please get there a few minutes early so that we can head for the river at promptly 8:00 am.

Once everyone is there, we will make the short drive to the fishing location.

You can use flies, lures, and/or bait and it is okay to keep the fish you catch.

Space is limited to no more than 12 fishermen/women, so sign up early to reserve your spot.

Terry Nelson and Kathy Shears are coordinators for this outing. For more information and to sign up, please contact Terry or Kathy at (303) 431-1275 or terrencet275@hotmail.com.

Outdoor Buddies Family Day at Swift Ponds

by Larry Sanford

Mark your calendars! The Outdoor Buddies Family Day for 2013 will be held at Swift Ponds on Saturday, June 15th from 9:00 AM. until 4:00 PM. Swift Ponds are located north of Loveland, off of the Windsor exit from I-25.

Plan to have a great time because there will be plenty of good food, and exciting events.

Several activities are being planned for your enjoyment, and we would like to hear any suggestions that any of you might have to add to the activities. Among the usual activities catch and release fishing (no license necessary) is one of the most popular.

There is no charge for this day-long event and all Outdoor Buddies members and their family and friends are welcome, so please plan to attend. We encourage your participation!

Send your activity suggestions to Larry and Penny Sanford 970-663-7852, or 970-218-5356, or Email: lpbusy@comcast.net.

Outdoor Buddies/Wounded Warriors Shoot at The Green Mill Sportsman's Club Range

by Wally Hunt



Early Saturday morning on April 27th, the Green Mill Sportsman's Club hosted a site-in for Outdoor Buddies/Wounded Warriors.

Pete Labella, our Green Mill Sportsman's Club host, provided excellent weather and a cast of hard working

members including Lou Bellinhausen, Pat Beren, Steven Clendenin, Don Conyac, Bruce Gambell, Mel Heaps, Paul Ludwig, Dale McCombs, Ken Smith, Earl Reed, Joe Titus, Mike Towle, Carl Wagner, Josh Wagner and Don Wilkinson.

Additionally, we understand that Butch Dolphin deserves our thanks for maintaining the entrance road, which had suffered from the recent snow storms.

After the Pledge of Allegiance these folks went to work and the shooting commenced. Many of them are qualified range officers, so safety and assistance were great. In addition to a covered rifle range with 100, 200 and 50 yard availability, the pistol range was opened with the same expert assistance available.

Outdoor Buddies and member George Carter provided some refreshments. During a break, Outdoor Buddies board member, Rich Cori, and President Larry Sanford presented a plaque to Pete Labella expressing appreciation for all of the shoots we have had at their big bore and pistol ranges.

Pete said "It was a great honor for me to receive the plaque from Larry Sanford, Outdoor Buddies President. We will hang it in the big bore rifle range for all to see. It is an honor for me to organize this shoot for these guys."

There were 15 Outdoor Buddies/Wounded Warriors participating and everyone qualified.

Many of our members personally expressed their gratitude to Green Mill for providing a great range and such excellent supervision.

The next site-in will be held at the Green Mill range on Saturday, **August 17, 2013**. The range will open at 8:30 am. Please contact Wally Hunt at (303) 985-2293 or wdhunt2141@hotmail.com to reserve a space.

Able Buddies are welcome to shoot as space becomes available as Handi-Buddies and Wounded Warriors are done. Youth hunters are permitted, so long as they are sponsored by a registered member of Outdoor Buddies, are between the ages of 12 to 17, and have their hunter safety card.

Thank you to Green Mill Sportsman's Club!

FOCUS ON FOREVER CONFERENCE ACCEPTING REGISTRATIONS; CPW OFFERS CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

DENVER - Colorado Parks and Wildlife and Pheasants Forever are co-sponsoring a June 7 through June 9 conference in Estes Park that will teach best practices for providing outdoor skills education. Participants will receive in-depth training in how to teach skills like archery, cast-iron cooking, shooting, canoeing, kayaking and much, much more. Sessions will also focus on teaching methods that can be used to make sure students are engaged, challenged and retaining outdoor skills for lifelong enjoyment.

The "Focus on Forever" Conference is designed to help current outdoor skills instructors improve and help organizations train new instructors all with the main goal of getting more people outdoors in Colorado.

"Colorado is an amazing state with so many outdoor opportunities," explained Allison Kincaid, Colorado Parks and Wildlife Partnership Coordinator. "People are hungry to learn new skills and get outside but individual organizations may not have the ability to offer all of this training in one place for their staff, volunteers and board members."

The Conference cost is \$325 per person but Colorado Parks and Wildlife has a limited amount of scholarship funding set aside to provide a 50-percent match for organizations that can't afford the entire fee. An application for the matching fund scholarship is available by contacting Allison Kincaid at allison.kincaid@state.co.us or 303-291-7252.

"Beyond building skills, we're excited to bring partner organizations together to network," added Kincaid. "Participants will learn about programs being offered by other organizations and, we hope, get a chance to find new ways to team up for greater success."

Details about the Focus on Forever Conference can be found on the Pheasants Forever website at <http://pheasantsforever.org/page/1/Focus-on-Forever-Conference.jsp>.

Coyote Hunts

by Al Montoya



Outdoor Buddies has coordinated two coyote hunts in the past few weeks. No coyotes were taken, but we had a lot of fun.

We extend our sincere thanks to Jerry Francis and Court and Sandy Campbell for

hosting coyote hunts on their properties.

Our first hunting group met at the Watkins restaurant parking lot then traveled together Jerry Francis' hunting area.

Some of the participants included George Carter, Sean Haggard, Court and Sandy Campbell, Rudy Duran, and Al Montoya.

After we arrived at the ranch, the hunters set up overlooking a wooded area. Some of us used predator calls occasionally to try to get some coyotes to show themselves.

We hunted for about two hours; then the wind started to pick up and the temperature dropped about ten degrees within about five minutes. So, we decided to call it a day.

We chatted for a while, and then Court and Sandy invited us to plan a future hunting outing at their property near Akron. We agreed and set the date for our next hunt.

For the next hunt, our group included George Carter and his grandson Eric, David Bayne, Dylan Harrell, Wally Hunt, and Al Montoya.

We met Court and Sandy at their home. Sandy had a cold, so she decided to stay at the house.

Court led out on his ATV and we followed him to the hunting area. He showed us in what direction to shoot. We set up our predator calls and started the hunt.

We hunted for about three hours. After which we called in the guys from their hunting positions and headed back to the house.

When we reached the house, Sandy and her mother and father, had prepared lunch. They had grilled hamburgers and made potato salad with all the fixings; tomatoes, onions, olives, etc. And best of all, was Sandy's chocolate chip cookies (my favorite).

After lunch we all headed home with a full stomach and a smile on our face.

Are You a Handi-Buddy in Need of Help with Gun Cleaning?

Outdoor Buddies member, Bill Baker, is a gunsmith and shooting enthusiast with a lot of experience with firearms.

He has volunteered to help, at no charge, handi-buddies who may need assistance with keeping their firearms clean and in good working order.

If you would like to talk with Bill about getting his help, please contact him at 719-942-3027 or js1217c@earthlink.net



OUTDOOR BUDDIES ANNUAL GOLF BENEFIT



Supported by:



ENTRY FORM

Event

You, your family, and friends are cordially invited to participate in our golf tournament. The tournament will be held at **Murphy Creek Golf Course** in Aurora, on Saturday, **July 6th**. Tee time is **7:30 am**.

The format for the tournament is a scramble with a shotgun start. The **entry fee** is **\$100.00** per player, which includes cart, range balls, silent auction, prizes, lunch buffet, contests, and lots of fun. You can also count on a few “surprises”. We are accepting payment by cash, check, or money order.

Outdoor Buddies

An **all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization** that was founded in 1984 by a group of concerned sportspeople who desired to provide outdoor adventure experiences to mobility disabled outdoor lovers. The **mission** of Outdoor Buddies is: **“To provide opportunities through a volunteer organization, for those who have been deprived of enjoying outdoor experiences.”** These opportunities are available to all, with no additional cost (other than personal expenses) and no discrimination due to race, color, creed, religion, gender, or family status.

Golf Course



Murphy Creek is a challenging and fun 18 hole regulation course for all ability levels. One of the best practice facilities in Colorado, great putting green, tough chipping and sand practice green, two short game practice greens up to 75yards distance, and a full driving range. From the longest tees it features 7,456 yards of golf for a par of 72. The course was designed by Kenneth Kavanaugh, ASGCA and opened in 2000. The course rating is 74.6 with a slope rating of 13.1.

Registration

You may register as a foursome, or a single player and we will set up a foursome for you. To reserve your place for this great Outdoor Buddies event, simply fill out and return the form below to:

Dustin Robey, 1607 S. De Gaulle Way, Aurora, CO 80018

Or, if you prefer, please call **Dustin Robey** at **(303) 366-9961** or **Wally Hunt** at **(303) 985-2293** for more information or reservations.

(If there are unplayable conditions on July 6th, the tournament will be rescheduled.)

Prepayment is required. Entry deadline is July 2nd.

I would like to reserve _____ entry/entries at **\$100.00** each for the **Outdoor Buddies Golf Benefit** on **July 6th, 2013**.

Player 1: _____ Player 2: _____

Player 3: _____ Player 4: _____

Please find enclosed my check payable to **Outdoor Buddies** in the amount of _____.

Contact: _____
NAME TELEPHONE NUMBER

STREET ADDRESS CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE

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>
May 8	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
May 18 Armed Forces Day	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
May 19	Fishing on the Arkansas River near Coaldale, Colorado.	Meet at the Cotopaxi General Store at 8:00 AM. Fishing group will travel together to the fishing site. Lunch will be provided.	Dwaine Robey (719) 783-9044 drobey@centurytel.net
June, July, and August	Group camping – private campground at Tarryall State Wildlife Area.	Reserve 40 acre campground for church group, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Kid's Club, or other group	Jim Piper (303) 932-1209 geopros@clanmurray.org 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 for conservation volunteers and agency staff who are passionate about sharing 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
June 22	Mountain Man Rendezvous demonstrations at Tarryall State Park.	Demonstrations of shooting of muzzle-loaded guns, the throwing of knives and tomahawks, etc.	Larry Sanford (970) 663-7852 lpbusy@comcast.net
July 6	Outdoor Buddies Golf Benefit at Murphy Creek Golf Club.	Four member team scramble. Shotgun start at 7:30 AM.	Dustin Robey (303) 366-9961 dustin.d.robey@us.army.mil
August 17	Fall shoot at Green Mill Sportsman's Club.	Big bore and pistol ranges are reserved.	Wally Hunt (303) 985-2293 wdhunt2141@hotmail.com