



OUTDOOR BUDDIES NEWSLETTER

555 Highlands Road Westcliffe, CO 81252

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Executive Director's Comments

By Dwaine Robey



The big game hunting seasons are in full swing as you will see from the hunting articles included in this newsletter. I hope you enjoy reading them.

We are also entering the time of year when nonprofit organizations typically make a plea for financial support.

As you probably already know, Outdoor Buddies does not charge participants

fees to participate in hunting and fishing activities. The expenses incurred in providing these programs are significant. In addition, funds are needed for many other expenses such as liability insurance, maintenance of equipment, development and distribution of newsletters, maintenance of our website, office equipment and supplies, and many others.

In order for Outdoor Buddies to continue its services for disabled persons and youth groups, ways of procuring necessary funding must be found. As Outdoor Buddies continues to grow it means increasing costs associated with providing our programs for more participants.

Even though Outdoor Buddies officers and board members are unpaid volunteers, they are expected to make a financial contribution to the organization each year. We hope that many Outdoor Buddies members can help in our fundraising process by making a financial contribution each year also; and by encouraging friends and family members to contribute if they are financially able to do so.

There are several ways in which interested persons can donate to Outdoor Buddies.

Donations made to Outdoor Buddies through the Wet Mountain Valley Community Foundation will receive matching funds from the Foundation.

Donations can also be made to Outdoor Buddies through ColoradoGives.org and donations can be made "online" via the Outdoor Buddies website at any time.

Outdoor Buddies will issue a special edition newsletter in early December which will be dedicated primarily to providing information related to ways to provide financial support for the organization.

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.

President's Column

By Larry Sanford



For nearly 30 years, Outdoor Buddies has been continuing its mission helping disabled persons and youth enjoy outdoor adventure experiences.

Some of the folks that we have strived to help pitch in and help with many aspects of the Outdoor Buddies organization.

Our Board of Directors and Committees reflect this in that we have Able-Buddies and Handi-Buddies members working together all year round to bring the events and outings we all continue to enjoy. People helping people!

Outdoor Buddies programs continue throughout the year and we are always looking for folks who want to volunteer their time to help with outdoor activities or in coordination of events. If you are interested in helping with any of these activities please contact me or one of the other board members.

The Outdoor Buddies Banquet Committee is in the initial planning stages for the 2014 banquet to be held at The Wildlife Experience on April 5, 2014. We are putting together a few raffle packages with prizes to be drawn at the banquet. Advance raffle ticket and banquet ticket sales will begin in December. Don't miss out on your chance to win one (or more) of the great raffle prizes and make your plans now to attend the banquet. Also, please let us know if you want to volunteer to work as a Banquet Committee member and/or help sell raffle tickets.

I would like to finish by saying thank you to all of the folks who volunteer to make Outdoor Buddies the great organization it is!

God Bless!



Outdoor Buddies Newsletter
Publisher: Outdoor Buddies, Inc.
Editor: Dwaine Robey

Outdoor Buddies' Mission:
"Provide opportunities through a volunteer organization, for those who have been deprived of enjoying outdoor experiences." These opportunities are available to all, with no cost, other than personal expenses, and no discrimination due to race, color, creed, religion, sex, or family status.

Outdoor Buddies is managed by its Board of Directors. Voting Board Members are shown below:

Dwaine Robey, Executive Director	303.877.8584
Larry Sanford, President	970.218.5356
Dustin Robey, Vice President	303.845.0423
Wally Hunt, Treasurer	303.985.2293
Dylan Harrell, Secretary	303.827.4610
Todd Bacon, Director	303.916.8955
Rick Brady, Director	970.330.3151
Rich Cori, Director	303.604.9227
Terry Nelson, Director	303.884.3266
Jim Piper, Director	303.932.1209
Kathy Shears, Director	303.431.1275

All Outdoor Buddies members are encouraged to submit input for the newsletter.

Newsletter input should be submitted by the 15th of the month to be included in that month's newsletter.

Please send newsletter input via Email to:
executivedirector@outdoorbuddies.org.

Outdoor Buddies help many experience a hunt

By Dennis Smith

It's a commonly held misconception that hunting pronghorn (usually, but incorrectly, called antelope) is easy -- "All you have to do is drive around the prairie 'til you spot a herd of goats, then jump out of your truck and shoot one, right?" Wrong.

Oh that it were that simple. It isn't. And while the sheer vastness of the prairie does necessitate driving ranch roads to initially locate the herds, what follows invariably requires overcoming an unholy conspiracy of physically demanding challenges, not the least of which are trying to sneak unseen long distances across impossibly open terrain, circumventing wildly fluctuating winds, and defeating the super spooky survival instincts of the critters themselves.

When you consider that pronghorns are gifted with highly developed long range vision, an acute sense of smell, and an inherent impulse to bolt and run at blinding speed for miles and miles at the merest hint of danger, you can begin to understand the degree of effort required to merely get close enough for a shot.

If you don't send the herd blazing into the next county at 40 mph when you stop your truck, your next move will entail various combinations of stalking hunched over like Elmer Fudd, creeping on hands and knees, or belly-crawling across hundreds of yards of prairie floor generously populated with cow pies, fire ants, multiple species of stickers, thorns, cacti and the possibility of a face-to-face meet-and-greet with a prairie rattler.

Assuming all goes well, you'll then need to steady your crosshairs on an animal the size of a billy goat 300 yards distant while simultaneously fighting the blurring

effects of prairie mirage, a 20 mph crosswind, and the nerve-shattering dose of adrenaline known as buck fever that almost always accompanies shooting at big game.

If bagging a pronghorn is difficult for a physically fit hunter, imagine the challenge facing a disabled hunter or one confined to a wheelchair. I came to understand just how easy we had it this past week when my grandson, Dawson, was selected to hunt pronghorns as part of a Youth Hunter Outreach program sponsored by Outdoor Buddies, an all-volunteer group that specializes in bringing outdoor experiences to young hunters and mobility-impaired sportsmen, women and youngsters.

We learned that Outdoor Buddies has taken hundreds of amputees, disabled vets, paraplegics, quadriplegics, multiple sclerosis and muscular dystrophy patients as well as at-risk youths on deer, elk, antelope, pheasant, and dove hunts since the group was founded in 1984.

We got to experience firsthand the specialized knowledge, warmth, and overwhelming dedication of the volunteers as they escorted disabled hunters into the field and positioned them in strategic locations to intercept any pronghorns that might pass through. Seemingly against all odds, many of the hunters scored, and the jubilation on their faces was heartwarming.

Dawson hunted long and hard for three days from sunup 'til sundown. He didn't get his pronghorn, but he did learn how fortunate he is just to be able to crawl around in the cactus and cow pies, carrying a pack and shouldering his own rifle. It's a lesson he and his dad will never forget. And neither will I.



From left are Derek Smith, his son, Dawson, and Larry Sanford, President of Outdoor Buddies, who was counseling them on Outdoor Buddies' mission to provide quality outdoor experiences for the mobility-disabled as well as at-risk youths, young hunters and various youth groups. Dawson was a participant in the group's Youth Outreach Program, open to all young hunters who apply. (Dennis Smith)

Dennis Smith is a Loveland outdoors writer and photographer, and his freelance work is published nationally. Smith's Home Waters column appears in

the Loveland Reporter-Herald on the first and third Thursdays of the month. He can be reached at Dsmith7136@msn.com.

Outdoor Buddies to be Featured in December Lady Hunter Magazine



A representative of Lady Hunter Magazine has contacted Outdoor Buddies about being one of the featured organizations in their

December issue. They intend to provide information to their readers about organizations that help provide outdoor activities for disabled sportspersons.

The representative, Jen Shultz, said "We did a fair amount of research and found Outdoor Buddies to be just the type of organization that we would like to include. This is a project very near and dear to my heart as a huntress who refused to let limitations be set after a genetic disorder impacted my life in an unexpected way. Encouragement, empowerment and engagement are so important for each of us and your organization is hitting the trifecta! We would very much like to include your organization."

If you would like to know more about Lady Hunter Magazine, you can visit them on the web at www.LadyHunterMagazine.com.

La Veta Deer Hunt By Terry Nelson

This was my first rifle deer hunt which I was looking forward to with great anticipation. I had archery hunted in Illinois and Wisconsin in my youth with no success.

I drove to Westcliffe to meet my able body helper, Dwaine Robey, loaded up my camper and truck and off we went.

This was a hunt to thin out the herd that lives close to town and we had an invitation from the mayor, and the local District Wildlife Manager, Kevin Madler. Kevin suggested that we contact another local citizen and great guy, Sid Popejoy.

After meeting with Sid he directed us to Sammies RV Park where we met with owner Dave Molyneux and set up camp. His restaurant was closed that day so he directed us to the La Veta Inn where we had a great lunch.

After some scouting of the area it was back to Sammies for a few "barley pops", then we hit the rack with me dreaming of big bucks

Next day we got out early, but saw no deer in the designated area, they obviously hadn't read the playbook.

So back to Sammies Restaurant for a smothered breakfast burrito and regroup.

Then we made the short drive to the honey hole where we spotted a buck on a hill about sixty yards off.

One shot and it was over! As we approached the kill, four other bucks stood up (with larger antlers than my deer) and greeted us.

These guys were so people friendly they hardly moved twenty five yards away, and as we field dressed their buddy, they watched on in bewilderment. A quick photo op and back to Sammies where we skinned and iced down my first deer.

Thanks to Dwaine, who set up this hunt, drove my truck during the hunt, field dressed my deer, and skinned the deer, with the help of a mystery man named Randy, who appeared out of nowhere.

Thanks to Sid who gave us GPS like directions to locate the deer and Sammies great hospitality.



Terry with his nice young buck.

This was a "depredation" style hunt and if it continues next year put in for it, but keep in mind it is a "meat in the freezer" deal, drive up shoot, skin, and take home.

La Veta is a beautiful place that I will visit again, whether hunting or not, and I highly recommend Sammies Motel, RV Park and Restaurant and the La Veta Inn.

And for you golfers; if you have not already done so, you should make plans to play Grandote Peaks Golf Course at La Veta.

My Twentymile Mine Elk Hunt By Chris Johniken

Hello my name is Chris. I am an amputee and suffer from a genetic disorder that causes non-cancerous tumor growth.

I had an opportunity to hunt with Larry Sanford and Rich Cori through the Outdoor Buddies program at Twentymile Mine this year.

On November 5th we came into a herd of at least 200 head of elk. I had never seen anything like that before. It was the most awesome thing I had ever seen.

On Thursday the 7th I got my first bull; a good 4x5. I was so nervous it took 3 shots to bring him down. Lol.

It was just light enough to see and we hit them just right. Headed down a two track road, I saw a small herd of about 10 or so, "There's some" I said. "Where" came the reply in stereo from both Larry and Rich.

With no real land marks to go by, all I could say was "There, to the right". About that time Larry saw some crossing the road in front of us.

Then I saw the bull. "He's legal" I said to which Larry replied "shoot him".

It was the best day of my life! I never thought I would get such a beautiful animal.



Chris and his first bull elk,

I want to thank Larry for the help, good conversation, and the chance to hunt. Rich, it was a pleasure meeting you and getting to hear all your stories.

Thanks again to Outdoor Buddies and the great people at Twentymile Mine for the chance and I look forward to hunting with Outdoor Buddies again.

Volunteers Needed!

By Todd Bacon

I hope all is well with you and your family and everybody has been enjoying some of the great opportunities that Outdoor Buddies has been providing.

It takes a lot of work to make these activities happen. I have talked with the manager at Sportsman's Warehouse in Thornton and he said that we can sell raffle tickets and banquet tickets there any weekends we want too.

I would love some help with this. The time slots will be 3 hours at a time, Saturdays and Sundays, starting in late November or early December. (As soon as we have raffle tickets available.)

We also have our fundraising banquet coming up on April 5th. If all of us pitch in, we can make this the best banquet ever.

Outdoor Buddies doesn't charge fees for all that they do for the members. There are many ways you, your family and friends can help keep Outdoor Buddies moving forward!

If you can help, please call me at 303-955-6363. Or send an Email message to toddbacon@live.com.

I look forward to working with you!

My 2 cents worth...

By Darrell (Doc) Bowen

How is it that we, as members of Outdoor Buddies, get to enjoy outdoor experiences? It's because we have many GREAT volunteers, who give freely of their time and energy, so we can enjoy our experiences; whatever they may be.

Without these GREAT people, this organization would not be able to carry out its mission. Volunteers are the backbone of Outdoor Buddies.

Everyone, from the executive director to the "able buddies" in the field is a volunteer.

Since I became a member in 2012, every event or outing I've attended, I always see the same people volunteering.

We, as members, should be able to, at the very least, give back a little of our time, to the organization that makes it possible to do the things that we get to do.

I know for some, it might be difficult because of our disabilities. However, there are areas where volunteers can be utilized, regardless of their disability. Since we are currently in the hunting season, I'll use this as an example of what it takes to get one (1) hunter in the field. It takes a minimum of four (4) people to place us in the field for our hunting experience; the coordinators (2), the "able buddy" (1-2), and last, but not least, we the hunters.

We, as an organization, will cease to exist, if the same people, time after time, STEP UP to help when needed. They become burned out and stop volunteering. When the volunteers are gone, the opportunities for us, the members, will become fewer and fewer. DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN.

If you are called and asked to volunteer, no matter how small the task, PLEASE, consider giving some time to the organization that makes all these things possible.

Better yet, don't wait to be called. Each month the newsletter publishes a list of upcoming events, call or send an e-mail message the person listed and offer your help. I am sure that they would welcome any and all help offered.

Letter to the Editor
From Larry Jones

Dear Dwaine,

First, I want to thank you and all of the Outdoor Buddies board members and volunteers who work so hard on doing what ya'll do.

I made arrangements to occupy the Outdoor Buddies bunkhouse at Tarryall for the second rifle season for deer and elk. My son and his family and a friend with his young son joined Carol and me there so I was able to hunt with two able buddies.

We got up to a temperature of 27 degrees that morning about 5:30 AM. We loaded up and drove to the other side of the reservoir. We were out about 40 minutes and then we decided to move to another spot.

My friend spotted 8 does so we stopped and glassed around a bit and suddenly a big bodied buck came out of the rocks. He was a 4 point and we ranged him at 252 yards.



Larry and his buck.

I made a free standing shot and dropped the buck in his tracks with a double lung and heart shot. My total time in that hunt was approximately 1 hour.

We hunted another 2 days, but never saw a sign of elk. Then I got sick and had to return home, but that will be a memory I will keep for a long time.

Thanks to all of my companions for making it possible for me to participate and enjoy a big game hunt this year.

Letter to the Editor
From Wally Hunt

Some of our handi-buddies are unable to afford a big game hunt and costs are increasing each year. As you know our organization provides hunt coordinators, but we cannot afford to pay for licenses, travel, motel, fuel, ammo, food and meat processing in most cases.

Over the years I have hunted with several handy-buddies and we share all costs and, if the hunt is successful, split the meat.

This is an excellent opportunity for an old man like me to be able to participate in a hunt and usually have some game meat which my wife and I enjoy.

If you or someone you know would like to volunteer to aid fellow handi-buddies in this manner please contact me at (303) 985-2293 or wdhunt2141@hotmail.com.
Wally Hunt

Get on the Fishing Email List!!
by Joe Arcese

Sometimes we have fishing opportunities that come up at the last minute, and there is not time to put the date in the Newsletter

Please send me your email address if you would like to be notified about future fishing dates, and I will let you know whenever we have one.

This includes both Handi-Buddies and Able-Buddies who are interested in participating in fishing events.

Also, please contact me if you have a good fishing spot and maybe we can set up a fishing date there.

Please contact me via Email at jfarcese@yahoo.com

Looking for a few good Men and Women

Hopefully this year will bring some snow to Tarryall Res. so we can go ice fishing. The last few years have been dry and walking on glare ice is not conducive to an old gimp like me. We have procured an ATV to drag people out which was a major hurdle in the past for getting a good turnout.

So if you have the cojones for this kind of event, give me a call for more information.

Terry Nelson
303-884-3266
terrencet275@hotmail.com

We Need Coyote Hunting Properties

By Al Montoya

Outdoor Buddies coyote hunting coordinator, Al Montoya, is seeking more properties when Outdoor Buddies members can hunt coyotes.

If you know of such properties, please contact Al at 303.296.4610 or via Email at agmontoya@q.com.

My Wyoming Antelope Hunt With Outdoor Buddies

By Tim Smith

This year, I was able to go on a buck pronghorn hunt on the Monaghan Ranch near Laramie Wyoming.

My Dad and I made it to the ranch at about 7:30 in morning. We meant Mr. Garry Woodman at the ranch in the morning. We went through my paperwork, then headed out on the ranch and fired a few rounds to make sure my scope was on because I thought it might have got bumped the night before. We got it adjusted and we headed out to hunt.

We started seeing pronghorn right away and I started to get pretty excited. The Monaghan Ranch is a beautiful and historic ranch. It has awesome views of the surrounding mountains. Just being out and about on the ranch is a great way to spend the day!

We saw a lot of pronghorn of course, it is Wyoming! We wanted to find a nice buck but I am not a very good judge. However, Garry knew what we were looking for.

We drove around to different areas of the ranch looking for a good buck. Not the entire ranch was accessible due to heavy rains in September.

We finally found a buck that Garry said I should take. I took the shot; it was about 140 yards or so. I was quite nervous and I hit him a little far back but was able to get a follow up shot, which knocked him down and we went over to look at him and take pictures.



Tim and his handsome pronghorn buck.

Garry field dressed him and we put him in the truck. We drove about for a while enjoying some great scenery. We went and looked at a neat old barn that was built in the early 1900s. There were a couple of owls that were living in it.

Afterwards we headed back to the ranch and Garry skinned the pronghorn and Dad and I headed back to Denver to get the carcass to the processor in time.

I had a wonderful experience and enjoyed every minute of it.

I would like to give Mr. Garry Woodman and the Monaghan Ranch a HUGE thank you!

What Hunting Means to Me

By: Dustin Robey-Vice President



It has been said, "Cherish your human connections- your relationships with family and friends" (Barbara Bush).

I may be different from others or most others anyway, but to me hunting is not about the harvest.

Instead, it is more about the time spent with family, friends and

nature.

During the past antelope hunt at Meadow Springs Ranch, I experienced the time of my life that most are not fortunate enough to experience. I did not carry a firearm nor did I hunt, but spent time with my family and friends. I was fortunate to have my grandfather, father and son with me.



Dwaine, Dustin, Trevor, & Karl

Some of you may have noticed my 5 year old son, Trevor Robey running around camp, asking questions, in search of doughnuts or in the field. There were four generations together, without external distractions, enjoying the time spent together.



Trevor, with his BB gun.

Outdoor Buddies is an organization of family. We have our faults, tears have been shed, but it is important to recognize we are family with a common goal.

Hunting provides a connection with humans and nature and should not be measured by the harvest. I strongly encourage everyone on their next hunt to remember how fortunate we are to have the opportunity to hunt, and enjoy the time spent with family and friends.

I sincerely thank Outdoor Buddies for the opportunity of a lifetime

Outdoor Buddies Membership Cards

Outdoor Buddies used to issue membership cards to our members. Several years ago, this policy was discontinued.

Recently, it was suggested that membership cards be made available to Outdoor Buddies members in order to identify themselves to businesses that may offer discounted prices on merchandise to Outdoor Buddies members. In addition, a membership card may be useful for verifying Outdoor Buddies membership to landowners who allow access to their properties for our members.

Since not all members need a membership card, Outdoor Buddies will produce membership cards for members on a "by request only" basis.

If you wish to have an Outdoor Buddies membership card, please send an Email message requesting a membership card to Dwaine Robey at drobey@centurytel.net.

Firearms and Other Stuff

By Bill Baker

This month we're going to talk about muzzle breaks. Basically there are two types: fully circular, and closed on the bottom with openings on the top and both sides. The ones closed on the bottom are meant for varmint shooting; they don't have holes at the bottom so that there will be no muzzle blast toward the ground – hence no dust cloud. For big game hunting, we use fully circular muzzle breaks.

With fully circular muzzle breaks, recoil is reduced by 40 to 60 percent. I prefer KDF muzzle breaks made in Texas. These and many other breaks can be found at Brownells gunsmithing supplies. I use breaks on many of my high-caliber rifles to make practice more fun.

I picked up my new CZ-USA 9.3 X 62 Mouser and had it rechambered to 370-Sako Magnum. I had no muzzle break installed and it has less recoil than a 30-06. I also picked up a Waterfowl model 7-12, 2 3/4" to 3 1/2" 12-

gauge. It's a sweet ultra light – patterns like a dream; best bang for the buck in a 3 1/2" pump!

Please feel free to call me at 719 942-3027 with any of your firearms questions and I'll get back to you as soon as I can or you'll see the answer in this newsletter. (Multiple calls won't help you get an answer any faster.)

Elk Hunt at Wolf Springs Ranch

By: Jay Neiman

One cannot imagine the frustration and hardship trying to hunt when being disabled. I suffered a stroke which caused my left arm to be totally paralyzed and my left leg to be partially paralyzed. I use a cane to help me get around.

After a ten year dry spell and missing the camaraderie and excitement of hunting with people that love the sport, Outdoor Buddies made that dream possible.

These men help the disabled on their own time and donate so much to the cause. The state of Colorado should help fund this wonderful organization and all of the volunteers. What a fantastic community service!



L to R: Rob, Dwaine, & Jay with Jay's cow elk.

I want to thank Dwaine Robey and Rob Adams personally. Their knowledge of wildlife and the terrain made my hunt successful in every way.

Very special thanks to Mr. Tom Redmond, owner of Wolf Springs Ranch, and his ranch manager, Mr. Don Kelly, for allowing access to this beautiful ranch for disabled hunters like me. Without their generosity my successful hunt would not have been possible.

I look forward to next year and many coming years with Outdoor Buddies.

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>
October 1 through January 31	Elk and deer hunts in various Colorado locations.	Previously scheduled hunts will continue throughout the big game hunting seasons.	Larry Sanford (970) 663-7852 lpbusy@comcast.net or Dwayne Robey (719) 783-9044 drobey@centurytel.net
November 1 through February 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
January 1 through March 15	Ice fishing in various Colorado locations.	Ice fishing events will be scheduled based on requests received from mobility disabled members.	Joe Arcese jfarcese@yahoo.com or Terry Nelson (303) 884-3266 terrencet_8@hotmail.com
December 3	Outdoor Buddies Banquet Committee Meeting at Craig Hospital.	Banquet planning meeting starting at 6:30 PM. Volunteers are welcome.	Dwayne Robey (719) 783-9044 drobey@centurytel.net
January 8	Outdoor Buddies Board of Directors Meeting at Craig Hospital.	Bi-monthly Board Meeting starting at 6:30 PM. Visitors are welcome	Dwayne Robey (719) 783-9044 drobey@centurytel.net
January 16-19	International Sportsmen's Expo at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver.	Outdoor Buddies will staff a booth at the Expo.	Dwayne Robey (719) 783-9044 drobey@centurytel.net
April 5	Outdoor Buddies 2014 Banquet at The Wildlife Experience in south Denver.	<u>Mark your calendar.</u> Annual banquet at The Wildlife Experience. Tickets will go on sale in January.	Dwayne Robey (719) 783-9044 drobey@centurytel.net
May 17	Armed Forces Day Outdoor Buddies Community Appreciation Day at Westcliffe.	Family day honoring wounded warriors and all military service members and veterans. There will be free admittance, free food, and lots of games and demonstrations. Everyone is welcome!	Dwayne Robey (719) 783-9044 drobey@centurytel.net