555 Highlands Road Westcliffe, CO 81252



# NEWSLETTER

Vol 31 No 7, August 2015

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#### Executive Director's Comments ~ By Dwaine Robey



Outdoor Buddies lost a valued member of its Board of Directors with the passing of Richard Cori on July 28<sup>th</sup>.

Rich continually sought ways to improve our organization. In Board meetings he often provided suggested ways to improve the business processes required to manage Outdoor Buddies. He consistently lobbied to do things the right way, even when that may not be the easiest way.

He also was a very effective fundraiser for the organization and succeeded in acquiring several grants which provided funding needed to carry out Outdoor Buddies programs.

Richard Cori will be greatly missed and not forgotten by his many friends at Outdoor Buddies. May he rest in peace!

The past month has been a very busy time for Outdoor Buddies with site-in at Green Mills Sportsman's Club, the Sporting Clays Shooting Event at Colorado Clays Shooting Park, The Golf Benefit at Green Valley Ranch Golf Course, and a few other activities.

Outdoor Buddies holds some of these and other events on an annual basis. The Board has been working to get annual events scheduled in advance so that members can plan their schedules accordingly. There are several 2016 events that have already been scheduled. The 2016 scheduled events include:

International Sportsmen's Expo (ISE) – Outdoor Buddies will staff a booth at the ISE being held at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver on January 14 – 17, 2016.

Outdoor Buddies Annual Fundraiser Banquet – The Outdoor Buddies Fundraiser Banquet for 2016 will be held at the Omni Interlocken Hotel in Broomfield on Saturday, April 23, 2016.

Outdoor Buddies Annual Golf Benefit – The 2016 Outdoor Buddies Golf Benefit will be held at Green Valley Ranch Golf Course in Denver on Saturday July 30, 2016.

Outdoor Buddies Sporting Clays Shooting Event – The 2016 Outdoor Buddies Sporting Clays Shooting Event will be held at Colorado Clays Shooting Park near Brighton on Saturday, August 6, 2016.

The Outdoor Buddies Board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> will be the annual meeting where Outdoor Buddies officers and board members will be elected. Please let me know if you, or someone you know, are interested in becoming a Board member or officer of Outdoor Buddies.

A very critical area where help is needed is that of Outdoor Buddies Treasurer. Wally Hunt has performed the duties of Treasurer for several years and has announced his intention to step down from that position later this year.

We encourage interested persons to get involved with the management of Outdoor Buddies. Your involvement will be greatly appreciated!

If you have suggestions or comments, you are encouraged to contact any of the Outdoor Buddies board members. You can reach me at: (719) 783-9044 or dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org.



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/Chaplain 303-916-8955

Rick Brady, Director 970-330-3151

Daniel Brown, Director 843-816-0901

James Lowry, Director 713-248-9001

Terry Nelson, Director 303-884-3266

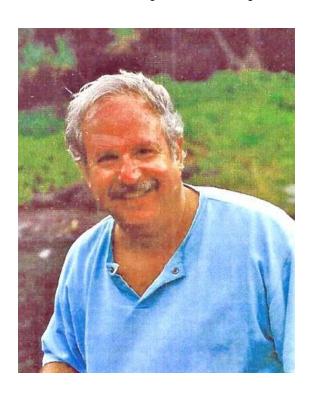
Jim Piper, Director 303-932-1209

Gerald Robinson, Director 303-949-4267

Gina Robinson, Director 303-619-4683

Kathy Shears, Director 303-431-1275

## In Loving Memory



Richard J. Cori

January 31, 1939 - July 28, 2015

Outdoor Buddies Newsletter Publisher: Outdoor Buddies, Inc.

Co-Editors: Dwaine Robey and Christal Bardfield

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.

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

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

Please send newsletter input via E-mail to: dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org



## Florida Hog Hunt – From Conception to Completion By Dylan Harrell

As a firearms enthusiast and a fan of silencers, I frequently visit the Advanced Armament Corporation website to see what they have been up to. At some point in 2014, I came across a video on their home page of a blind hunter named Aaron Patrick going on his first ever hunt. This was a hog hunt in southwest Florida, guided by a gentleman named Buck Holly. You can search "Aaron Patrick Advanced Armament" on YouTube and quickly find the video. It's worth the time to watch.

After an extensive internet sleuthing effort, I was able to track down Buck Holly on Facebook and reached out to him regarding the video. We discussed how this is the exact thing that Outdoor Buddies does for hunters in Colorado. At that time, Buck agreed to donate a 2-day 2 person hog hunt for a disabled hunter and their companion. Throughout the following year, leading up to our 2015 fundraiser banquet, I got to know Buck. He's co-founder of C&H Precision Weapons and through building his network has been able to land an envious gig eradicating the feral hogs of the Florida orange groves. Buck also partners with Remington Arms in promoting the use of silencers for hunting throughout the United States.

This donated hunt and also contributions from the Westin Hotel and Frontier Airlines allowed us to bundle a hunt package to be donated at our fundraising banquet in April 2015. Due in large part to my own interest in putting the package together, a buddy and I decided to go for it and ended up winning the bid. Shortly thereafter we finalized our arrangements and setup our hunt for the weekend of June 12-14.



My longtime friend and hunting companion Aaron Smith and I arrived in Florida that Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. It was hot and muggy, but that didn't matter and in my opinion it sure beats the cold and wet Fall/Winter hunting conditions that I'm accustomed to in Colorado.

After heading to Buck's house to meet his family and eat a nice dinner prepared by his wife, we headed out to the groves. As a guide, Buck knew exactly where to set us up and put us in position. We then "camouflaged" the pickup. Outfitted with thermal vision, in case the hunt continued past dark, we sat and waited.

Within an hour, a trophy hog that Buck had been scouting showed up. I had been watching the feeder we were sitting on through my scope, so when the hog first passed by, it filled my entire scope picture and I really didn't even get a good look at it. The hog disappeared behind a couple trees and I thought I missed my opportunity. Fortunately, that was not the case. This hog continued his path and circled back to the feeder. As previously discussed, Buck counted down 3...2...1...BANG! The hog went about 10 yards and we were done, just as quickly as we had begun.



This boar weighed in at 320 pounds, in the top 5 of those that Buck had ever harvested.

Since the hunt was for 2-days/2 people, we went out again the next afternoon to drive the groves looking for pigs. We saw one bobcat and some alligators, but that was about it during the day. Ahead of nightfall, we setup at another feeder in hopes of getting a hog for Aaron. Similar to the night before, we tried to hide the pickup and all got setup as this particular feeder had seen multiple hogs show up at a time. Just after nightfall, a boar showed up. Aaron took his time looking through the thermal vision and again Buck counted down. With the 300 Winchester Magnum, Aaron squeezed the trigger and again we were successful.

It was a great trip. On top of the hunting, our hotel was right on the water which provided a great location for our time to relax from the long days/nights. Thanks to Buck, the Westin and Frontier Airlines for donating to such a great cause.



# Outdoor Buddies Holds Inaugural Annual Sporting Clays Shooting Event at Colorado Clays Shooting Park

On August 1<sup>st</sup> Outdoor Buddies held its inaugural annual sporting clays shooting event at Colorado Clays Shooting Park near Brighton, Colorado.

It was a fun-filled day for all the participants and onlookers.

The team from American Armored Transport garnered bragging rights as the first to claim the first place traveling trophy. Each of the four members of the team, Chuck Freitag, Warren Anderson, Mike Marshall, and Mark Hanke also received individual trophies commemorating their first place finish in the event.

Outdoor Buddies was honored to have Bobby Holik as one of the contestants. For non-hockey fans, Bobby is a retired Czech-American professional ice hockey center who played 18 seasons in the National Hockey League.

Holík became a U.S. citizen in a ceremony in Newark, New Jersey on November 4, 1996. He is married with a daughter, Hannah Marie Holík, born in 1997, and splits his time between Wyoming and Florida.



**Bobby Holik** 

He is an avid rifle, pistol & shotgun enthusiast.

After being introduced to firearms manufacturer CZ-USA's President Alice Poluchova by shooting instructor Shepard Humphries, Bobby became CZ-USA's celebrity

representative.

Outdoor Buddies thanks the owners of Colorado Clays Shooting Park, Doug and Cory Kraft, for hosting this event for Outdoor Buddies. They both did a fantastic job and we are looking forward to working with them again next year.

The second annual Outdoor Buddies Sporting Clays Shooting Event will be held at Colorado Clays Shooting Park on August 6, 2016. Make your plans now to be there!

Team American Armored Transport must return with the traveling trophy and attempt to defend their championship!

Following are a few pictures from the sporting clays shooting event.









### Outdoor Buddies Holds 2015 Golf Benefit at Green Valley Ranch Golf Course By Dustin Robey

On Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup> Outdoor Buddies had the privilege of hosting our golf tournament at Green Valley Ranch Golf Course. We were blessed with wonderful weather, course conditions, and a spectacular group of participants.

Green Valley Ranch is the host of the Men's and Women's Colorado Open, hence the course could not have been in better shape. We had ten teams competing for the prestige of winning the annual Outdoor Buddies golf tournament.

The winning team consisted of:

Kyle Ahl, Steve Sully, Anthony Sulley, and Larry Bullen

2<sup>nd</sup> place consisted of:

Gordon East, Pete Monolas, Jim Walen, and Kevin Walen

3<sup>rd</sup> place consisted of:

Karl Uhl, Anthony Uhl, Derek Uhl, and Dustin Robey We greatly appreciate everyone who participated in the event.

Special thanks go to Todd Hall and the Green Valley Ranch team. They did a fantastic job hosting the event.

Lastly, we would like to thank our volunteer staff consisting of Lindsey Robey, Taylor Robey, Trevor Robey and Emerson Knapp.

Outdoor Buddies is excited to announce that next year's golf tournament will be held July 30, 2016 at Green Valley Ranch. We are fortunate to lock in this date as it is one week prior to the Men's Colorado Open. We should have phenomenal course conditions once again.



**Teams Scores** 

Following are some pictures from the day's activities.



The first place team, with Dustin Robey



The second place team, with their Coach



The third place team



#### **Outdoor Buddies Helps Texan**

The Kansas Chapter of Outdoor Buddies is no longer active, however Merle Heldenbrand, former President of the Kansas Chapter is still helping disabled persons whenever he can.

Some time ago, Merle came into possession of a Trac About wheelchair which was donated to Outdoor Buddies.

Merle stored the Trac About waiting to find a deserving disabled person who could put the chair to good use.

Recently Merle found a deserving recipient for the chair through roundabout word of mouth communications.

That deserving person is John Thomason of Euless, Texas who was born with cerebral palsy.

Following is a letter to Merle from John's family.

"I don't know how to express our appreciation for your generous gift to John.

He is such a great young man. He has a big smile and big heart. He makes friends with everybody he meets. In all honesty, he can be grumpy with his family sometimes, especially with his twin brother, but he gets over it.



John in his Trac About wheelchair.

With the Trac About he can be involved activities that wouldn't be possible without it. His first outing with it was a trip to a flooded park with his dad. stepmom. brother. sister. He drove the through water and did a few 360's.

We look forward to watching him enjoy it for years to come.

Thank you! The Thomason Family

My brother is the happiest he's ever been because of his cool new chair.

Thank you! Tori Thomason



The Thomason Family-Brad, Jim, Tori, Nelda, & John.

#### Outdoor Buddies Helps Wounded Warriors

Honor and Courage Mountaineering Team would like to thank Outdoor Buddies for their support during our first mountaineering event. August 12-15, 2015.

Wounded Iraq veteran and mountaineering team leader SSG Ian Newland Army (ret), and wounded Afghanistan Army veteran SPC Jared Hoerrmann inserted into the mountains near Westcliffe. The two warriors spent three days hiking, climbing, healing from PTSD, and pushing physical injuries sustained on the battle field to summit the local mountain top.

Dwaine Robey allowed the team to use his ATV which got them and their heavy gear to a comfortable alpine camp and save much needed energy and pain for the summit hike. Knowing that Outdoor Buddies would be a few



hours down the mountain if anything went wrong was a huge ease off the warriors and allowed them to relax and spend time talking through PTSD and war injuries.

Thank you again and we look forward to future endeavors together!



Jared (left) and Ian.

#### Anyone Want to Go Fishing?

Outdoor Buddies is offering a terrific day of fishing (and we guarantee CATCHING) on the Poudre River on Saturday, August 29th.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) is helping make this an end of summer adventure for Outdoor Buddies members and their families. CPW will stock many fish for us the day before and, from past experience, I can testify to just how great the fishing will be.

If you would like to spend a beautiful Colorado day enjoying family, friends, food, and FISHING, let us know that you will be there.

The Stevens Gulch picnic area is nearly perfect for our needs. The river is easily accessible and the "river runs through it" with some nice pools in addition to some more shallow areas. Colorado State fishing regulations apply and both fly fishing and bait fishing are allowed. Daily bag limit is four fish. Children under 16 years of age are not required to have a fishing license.

Please register for this event with Dwaine Robey at 303.877.8584 or Kathy Shears at 303.431.1275.

This information regarding the number of attendees is important for us to have as Outdoor Buddies will supply lunch and drinks (non-alcoholic, of course).

#### **Dove Hunting Opportunities**

Al Montoya will be coordinating dove hunts at the Jerry Francis ranch near Watkins. These hunts will be scheduled on an "as needed" basis depending on the number of interested persons.

Dove hunts will be available after the dove season opens on September  $\mathbf{1}^{\mathbf{St}}$ .

Interested persons should contact Al for more details and to register for hunts. You can contact Al at 303.296.4610 or agmontoya@g.com.

### Recognition of Wally Hunt By Jim Piper & Al Montoya



**Wally Hunt** 

Wally Hunt has served as Outdoor Buddies Treasurer and a very productive member of the Outdoor Buddies Board of Directors for many years.

This year he is retiring from the Board and stepping down from the Treasurer's office.

Wally wishes to relinquish some of his official responsibilities to the organization, however he has offered to continue lending a helping hand to those in need.

As Outdoor Buddies Treasurer, Wally has helped to steer the organization towards a healthy financial stability, lending critical financial advice. In addition to his guidance as Treasurer, he has taken on the job of procuring necessary supplies for our events, which is a tremendous task.

He has also helped many disabled members become more mobile, caring for them as true buddies. He has helped Al Montoya, Jim Piper, and several others on many outdoor adventures, enabling them to successfully aspire to greater challenges.

Let's all give a big thank you to Wally for going above and beyond the call of duty!



### **Outdoor Buddies Upcoming Events Calendar**

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

Date	Event/Location	Description	Contacts
August 29	Outdoor Buddies annual fishing event on the Poudre River at the Stevens Gulch picnic area.	If you would like to spend a beautiful Colorado day enjoying family, friends, food, and fishing, mark your calendar and let us know that you will be there.	Kathy Shears 303-431-1275 shearsks@hotmail.com or Dwaine Robey (719) 783-9044 dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org
September 1 thru November 9	Dove hunts near Watkins, Colorado.	Dove hunts will be scheduled on an as needed basis. Contact Al Montoya for hunt dates.	Al Montoya (303) 296-4610 agmontoya@q.com
September 16	Outdoor Buddies Board Meeting at Colorado Parks and Wildlife facilities located at 6060 Broadway, Denver.	Board Meeting starting at 6:00 PM. Visitors are welcome.  This is the "Annual Meeting" for 2015 with election of officers and board members.	Dwaine Robey (719) 783-9044 dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org
October 1 thru January 31	Deer, elk, and pronghorn hunts in various Colorado locations.	Previously scheduled hunts will continue throughout the big game hunting seasons.	Larry Sanford (970) 218-5356 popslarrys@gmail.com
October 3 - 9	Outdoor Buddies annual pronghorn hunt at Meadow Springs Ranch.	Pronghorn hunts with hunters who have prior Outdoor Buddies approval for access to Meadow Springs Ranch.	Larry Sanford (970) 218-5356 popslarrys@gmail.com
January 14-17	International Sportsmen's Expo at the Colorado Convention Center.	Outdoor Buddies will staff a booth at the Expo.	Dwaine Robey (719) 783-9044 dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org
April 23	Outdoor Buddies 2016 Banquet at the Omni Interlocken Hotel located at 500 Interlocken Blvd., Broomfield, CO.	Mark your calendar. Annual fundraiser banquet at the Omni Interlocken Hotel. Tickets will go on sale in January.	Dwaine Robey (719) 783-9044 dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org
July 30	2016 Golf Tournament Green Valley Ranch Golf Course	The format for the tournament is a scramble with a shotgun start. The entry fee includes cart, range balls, silent auction, prizes, lunch buffet, contests, and lots of fun.	Dustin Robey (303)845-0423 dustin@midwestfloors.com
August 6	Outdoor Buddies Sporting Clays Event at Colorado Clays.	All day fundraiser event at Colorado Clays LLC 13600 Lanewood Street Brighton, Colorado	Larry Sanford (970) 218-5356 popslarrys@gmail.com or Michael Sabbeth 720-839-7264 michaelsabbeth@ymail.com