Making Friends and Building Relationships
By Terry Nelson

It was in 2014 that I had the pleasure of meeting Laura Woods. At that time, she was campaigning for the office of Senator in district 19. She was a vocal 2nd Amendment rights advocate and I found myself standing on street corners, holding signs in support of her. After her successful campaign, Senator Woods made it a practice to hold Town Hall Meetings, many of which I attended. It was in a conversation after one of these meetings that she told me that her family owns a ranch outside of Oak Creek in Game Management Unit 15.

Senator Woods and her husband, Bill, attended the Outdoor Buddies banquet in 2015 and were very impressed with the organization and the work that we do. I asked Laura if her family would consider allowing Outdoor Buddies the opportunity to hunt elk on their property. She spoke with her father, Frank, and he gave a very enthusiastic thumbs up to that proposition.

On Thursday, January 26th, Dwaine and I headed to Oak Creek and the ranch to get first-hand information with an elk hunt. We met Frank at the family ranch. He took us to several locations where we did some glassing. We did see several elk, none of which was in range. We then parted ways with Frank, who had to feed his cattle and then head in to Steamboat Springs for a doctor’s appointment.

Later in the afternoon, we found out that Frank had been admitted to the hospital for some tests. We were very concerned and decided we would visit him the next morning.

After Dwaine and I found a motel for our stay, we spent the rest of the day exploring the area. We did see some elk which, again, were too far away for a shot.

The next morning we finally saw some elk which were within shooting range, but couldn’t get a good clean shot, so we headed to Steamboat to visit Frank in the hospital. He had already made up his mind that he would be exiting the hospital that day!

The next day, Sunday, was to be our last day hunting. Our plan was to go out for a few hours and then head home. The first spot that we went to was empty of elk, but the second had about fifteen that were within range. I picked one out and made a successful 230 yard shot.

I have neglected to say until now that the amount of snow in the area was amazing. It was at least two to three feet deep and we had to huke up hill to get to my kill. Dwaine got there first and I finally arrived after an hour and a half struggle. Dwaine and I came up with the plan to drag that elk down, by me pushing and Dwaine pulling. We finally got to a place where I was able to field dress the elk. We then waited for the ranch foreman, Auston, and Laura to help pull that elk to the tractor, where we were able to hang her for butchering.

Frank is the third generation on this homestead. Meeting him and hearing some of his great stories are just two of the memories that I will treasure from this great hunt.

I would like to compliment the folks at the Oak Tree Inn and Penny’s Diner in Yampa: Michelle, Andrea, Lacy, and Steve. Good food and good people.

And I want to express special thanks to Frank, Laura, Auston, and Dwaine for this incredible hunt.

Time will tell what good things will happen in the future because of the friendships and relationships evolving from this adventure!
Conner’s Second Cow Elk

By Allan Dowsett

In 2009, while active duty Navy, Conner sustained a spinal injury. He is a quadriplegic, meaning he does not have the use of his arms or legs. Conner is not able bodied, but he is very able minded.

In 2010, Outdoor Buddies representatives Rich Cori and Larry Sanford called us and wanted to meet Conner. Both came to our home in Windsor to introduce themselves, Outdoor Buddies and to acquaint Conner to an adaptive rifle system. It was a life changing event for Conner; an opportunity to be outdoors, with a goal of a successful hunt, and in beautiful Colorado.

We spent the day with Rich and Larry, with Conner using the “sip and puff” adaptive rifle system to aim and engage. That introduction and the energy from both Rich and Larry are forever engraved in our memories.

Sadly, Rich passed away on July 28, 2015.

Conner embraced the opportunity, and spent the next four years, with the help of many, hunting for pronghorn and elk from a stationary blind. In those four years, he never engaged once. We needed an alternative method to a blind.

Because of Conner’s level of injury, he is authorized to hunt from a vehicle. So, with the help of many, we adapted a Toyota FJ40 Land Cruiser to be Conner’s hunt vehicle. It has been a “game” changer.

We have used the FJ in 4 hunts, 3 of which have been successful; (2 cow elk and 1 doe pronghorn). The latest was a cow elk on January 20, 2017.

It was an awesome day. Conner was thrilled and his 3-support people could not have been happier for him. It was a great day in many ways.

Conner has a large team of people who support, encourage and enjoy his hunting. It all started with Dennis Hermish (our neighbor) who suggested Outdoor Buddies to Conner. And then were Rich and Larry who made a point of meeting Conner.

There are many people who have and continue to be “there” for Conner, but there is one person who makes the difference and that’s Conner. Conner has a tough chair to sit in………but he does it and he has persevered. We are so very proud of him.

Thank you Rich (May you rest in peace.), Larry, and Outdoor Buddies!
First Ever Ice Fishing
James Lowry – Vice President, Outdoor Buddies

What are the best ingredients for a person’s fantastic first day ever ice fishing?
Well, by all accounts it appears that you should start with a beautiful sunny day, nice weather and a slight breeze. Add in over forty really great people from those with disabilities to youth and several families.

Mix in some amazing volunteers from Patriot Anglers who actually provided most of the equipment from ice augers to fishing rods/reels to fish finders, buckets to sit on, bait to fish with, and expert advice on how best to catch and land beautiful trout.

After about three hours, add an amazing lunch consisting of sweet pulled pork sandwiches, old fashioned homemade coleslaw (just like your grandma used to make), chips and a soft drink...or two, all provided by Outdoor Buddies volunteer, Ivan Brooks.

Then finish up a wonderful day by landing some great looking trout!
That is exactly what happened on February 4th at Tarryall Reservoir.

Buy Your Tickets Now for the Outdoor Buddies Banquet

Please make plans to attend the 2017 Outdoor Buddies banquet. This year’s event celebrates thirty-three years of community service by Outdoor Buddies.

The funds raised at the annual banquet are critical to the success in meeting our mission to provide outdoor adventure experiences for disabled persons and youth. With your help, this year’s banquet will provide necessary funds for Outdoor Buddies to continue; improve, and expand its programs.

The 2017 banquet will be held at the Hyatt Regency Aurora Denver Conference Center in Aurora on Saturday, April 22nd. Banquet tickets can be purchased using the forms included in this newsletter or from the Outdoor Buddies website at: www.outdoorbuddies.org.

Why wait; make your reservation now!
Consider reserving a table for ten (10) at the banquet. That way you and your friends will be assured that you can share a table at the banquet. Don’t forget to invite all your friends and family to come too!

Coyote Hunting Opportunities
By Al Montoya

Al Montoya has scheduled a coyote hunt for March 18th at a ranch near Watkins, Colorado. Al schedules hunts on an as needed basis. If you would like to do a coyote hunt give Al a call.

Also, please contact Al if you know of property owners who will allow Outdoor Buddies access to their property for coyote hunts. You can contact Al at 303.296.4610 or via Email at agmontoya@q.com.
Outdoor Buddies Mission:
Improve the quality of life by providing opportunities, through a volunteer organization, for those who have been deprived of enjoying outdoor experiences. These opportunities are available to all with no additional costs (other than personal expenses) and no discrimination due to race, color, creed, religion, sex, or family status.

Executive Director’s Comments
By Dwaine Robey

Outdoor Buddies needs your help! Please help us spread the word about the upcoming Outdoor Buddies Fundraiser Banquet to be held on Saturday, April 22nd at the Hyatt Regency Aurora-Denver Conference Center.

If you have not purchased your tickets for the banquet, please do so soon.

You can buy tickets using the form included in this newsletter or you can purchase tickets online from the Outdoor Buddies website at http://outdoorbuddies.org/annualfundraiser/.

The annual fundraiser banquet is critical to the success of Outdoor Buddies and our capability to provide our programs for disabled persons and youth at no cost.

I urge you to be an advocate of Outdoor Buddies and ask your friends and family members to attend the banquet. Also, if you know a business owner please ask him/her to be a sponsor of the Outdoor Buddies banquet by purchasing a sponsor table for the event.

The annual banquet is always a lot of fun and a great way to spend an evening with family and friends.

“Everybody can be great. Because anybody can serve. You don’t have to have a college degree to serve. You don’t have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve…. You don’t have to know the second theory of thermodynamics in physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.”

~Martin Luther King, Jr.

I look forward to seeing you on April 22nd.

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

Submit newsletter input 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

From the President
By Larry Sanford

Hi everyone! Do you all realize that it is only two months till the Outdoor Buddies annual fundraiser banquet on April 22nd?

Our board of directors is working now to sell corporate tables and individual seats as well as selling raffle tickets!

Every year we work very hard to have a great assortment of live and silent auction items so there is something for everyone to bid on and support Outdoor Buddies! If you have not made plans to attend please do so now before all of the seats are reserved.

The banquet is a great time to meet new friends and find out more about what we do.

I look forward to seeing you all there on April 22nd!

We have a great pheasant hunting coming up on March 25th for disabled and youth hunters. This would be a great time for those of you who would like to volunteer to come out and help!

Have you all received the Colorado Parks & Wildlife 2017 Big Game brochure? If not, you should get one and read it!

It’s time to send in your “Hunt Request” to Outdoor Buddies if you want to have a chance to go on a 2017 Outdoor Buddies big game hunt!

The hunt committee will get together the middle of March to place the disabled hunters with available hunt opportunities.

I want to thank everyone who has volunteered for our hunting and fishing events; without you Outdoor Buddies couldn’t provide such great activities throughout the year!

Lord Bless everyone! We will see you at the next outdoor adventure!
**Pheasant Hunt at Drake Land Farms**

Outdoor Buddies has scheduled a pheasant hunt for Saturday, March 25, 2017 to be held at Drake Land Farms near Goodrich, Colorado from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

Drake Land Farms is a hunting club started in 1980. The property includes 867 acres with 1.5 miles of the South Platte River. It is ideal habitat for the event we are planning.

Outdoor Buddies is coordinating this event with Chris Nowak who is a member of the Drake Land Farms hunting club.

This event promises to provide a lot of shooting because we are planning to plant one hundred pheasants.

Shooting is reserved for disabled members and youth hunters, except for “back-up” shooters.

Outdoor Buddies will provide some adaptive equipment for disabled hunters who may need a little help getting around for their hunt. We will have our “Go-Getter” ATV device as well as three Action Track chairs.

This will be an all-day event starting at 9:00am. Lunch will be served.

At the end of the hunt harvested birds will be cleaned and divided with participants who want them.

Participants need to register in advance.

**Directions to Drake Land Farms**
Take Interstate 76 toward Wiggins
Take Exit 66A onto CO Hwy 39 going north
Go approximately 6 miles (If you cross the South Platte River you have gone too far.)
Watch for Outdoor Buddies sign
Exit to the West into Drake Land Farms

**TO REGISTER:** Please call or text Larry Sanford at 970.218.5356.

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**Do You Want to Help at the Outdoor Buddies Banquet?**

The annual Outdoor Buddies Fundraiser Banquet is probably the most important event of the year for Outdoor Buddies. The funds raised at the annual banquet make it possible for the organization to offer its programs free of charge throughout the year.

As you probably know, Outdoor Buddies is an “all-volunteer” nonprofit organization and has no paid staff at all. The officers and Board members of Outdoor Buddies are all unpaid volunteers.

Board members work very hard each year to make the annual banquet a success. We can use your help!

There is a wide variety of tasks that must be done to make the banquet a success. Some of the major tasks include:
- Acquiring items that can be used as auction items or raffle and game prizes.
- Selling dinner tickets prior to the banquet.
- Selling sponsor tables prior to the banquet.
- Selling raffle tickets prior to the banquet.
- Selling raffle tickets at the banquet.
- Managing games at the banquet.

If you are interested in helping out please contact Dwaine Robey at 303.877.8584 or Christal Bardfield at 719.580.6366 for more information.

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**Outdoor Buddies on the Radio**

Outdoor Buddies has entered into a seven month marketing agreement with Sportsman of Colorado Radio Show.

Scott Whatley founded Sportsman of Colorado Radio Show in 2012 to combine his passion for hunting and the outdoors with his expertise in broadcast media.

Sportsman of Colorado airs live Saturday 1-2pm and is re-aired Sundays from 9am-10pm.

Outdoor Buddies will receive 30 second ads on each show for 30 weeks on KLZ 560, 1220AM, 95.3FM AND 100.7FM, 5 fifteen minute interviews during 2017 and additional promos for events.

All ads and interviews will be heard on all stations.
Save the date – 2017 Outdoor Buddies Banquet

ANNOUNCING
OUTDOOR BUDDIES
FUNDRAISER BANQUET FOR 2017

Outdoor Buddies, Inc. is proud to invite you, your family, and friends to our annual banquet. The 2017 banquet celebrates thirty-three years of community service by Outdoor Buddies.

The banquet will be held at the Hyatt Regency Conference Center on Saturday, April 22nd, 2017. The Conference Center is located at 13200 East 14th Place in Aurora, Colorado.

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 $50.00 per person for the banquet dinner and the evening’s program. Children, age sixteen and under, will be admitted for $15.00.

The dinner includes your choice of a three-course meal of Chicken, Beef, Salmon, or Vegetarian. Drawing from the fresh, bountiful Colorado harvests, the Executive Chef and his culinary team select the region’s best organic and authentic ingredients to feature on its award-winning menus.

The children’s ticket includes a Kid’s Meal of Chicken Tenders, Tater Tots, Macaroni and Cheese, and Fruit.

Cash bars will be available.

The program will include current information about Outdoor Buddies activities and a few “surprise” agenda items.

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

If you cannot attend the banquet, perhaps you 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, 555 Highlands Road, Westcliffe, CO 81252.
To order by phone call (303) 877-8584.

To: Outdoor Buddies
555 Highlands Road
Westcliffe, 81252

I would like to request _____ Adult tickets for the Outdoor Buddies Banquet.
Menu choice(s): Chicken ____, Beef ____, Salmon ____, Vegetarian ____.
Please accept my payment of $50.00 for each ticket.
I would also like to request ____ Children’s ticket(s) at $15 per ticket.
Enclosed is my check, payable to Outdoor Buddies, in the amount of ____________.

From: ___________________________ ___________________________
NAME TELEPHONE NUMBER
_____________________________ ___________________________
STREET ADDRESS CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE
Outdoor Buddies Newsletter – February 2017

SPONSOR FORM
Outdoor Buddies Banquet
at
Hyatt Regency Aurora-Denver
Conference Center
SHOWCASE YOUR COMPANY
BY SPONSORING OUR BANQUET

BANQUET SPONSORSHIP
This is a great opportunity to show your support of Outdoor Buddies. A limited number of Sponsorships are available for the annual fundraiser banquet on Saturday, April 22, 2017.

Sponsorship Levels (Please check the box of your choice.)

☐ Platinum Sponsorship $1,500.00
  Admission for ten and a reserved table for ten at the banquet
  Acknowledgement on the Outdoor Buddies website, Facebook and Twitter and a link to your business for six months
  Acknowledgement and your company logo in the Outdoor Buddies newsletter for six editions
  100 bucket raffle tickets for your attendees
  Your Company logo on the sponsor poster at the banquet
  Announcements at the banquet

☐ Gold Sponsorship $1,000.00
  Admission for ten and a reserved table for ten at the banquet
  Acknowledgement on the Outdoor Buddies website, Facebook and Twitter with a link to your business for three months
  Acknowledgement and your company logo in the Outdoor Buddies newsletter for three editions
  Your Company logo on the sponsor poster at the banquet and on the table tent
  50 bucket raffle tickets for your attendees
  Announcements at the banquet

☐ Corporate Sponsorship $750.00
  Admission for ten and a reserved table for ten at the banquet
  Acknowledgement and your company logo on the Outdoor Buddies Website, Facebook and Twitter pages for one month
  Acknowledgement and your company logo in the Outdoor Buddies newsletter for two editions
  Your Company logo on the sponsor poster at the banquet and logo on table tent
  Announcements at the banquet

Please complete the Sponsorship Order Form below and submit it to the address shown on the form or return to any Outdoor Buddies Board member for processing.

SPONSORSHIP ORDER FORM

To: Outdoor Buddies
335 Highlands Road
Westcliffe, CO 81252

I would like to be a sponsor of the 2017 Outdoor Buddies Fundraiser Banquet.

From: _______________________________ _______________________________
      NAME NAME

      STREET ADDRESS STREET ADDRESS

      CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE

Name to be displayed on promotional material and at banquet: _______________________________

Message (Optional): _______________________________ _______________________________

   CORPORATE NAME

   YOUR MESSAGE

Please accept my payment of $____________.

Please check one of the following boxes:
  ☐ Please find enclosed my check, payable to Outdoor Buddies, in the amount of ____________.
  ☐ Please bill me at the address above, I will send a check later.
  ☐ Please charge to my credit card account. Outdoor Buddies will follow up to assure privacy and protection of your information.

Signature _______________________________ Date: _______________________________
GUNS AND SAFE RAFFLE

One Winner Takes All
(Need not be present to win)
Winner drawn on April 22, 2017
At
Outdoor Buddies Banquet
Hyatt Regency Conference Center
13200 East 14th Place
Aurora, CO

Ridgeline Gun Safe
Holds up to 26 Guns

Browning 12 gauge Citori Shotgun
Browning X-Bolt 30.06 Rifle
Weatherby .308 Win Rifle
Kimber Micro 9 mm Pistol
Kimber Stainless .45 ACP Pistol

For tickets contact:
Terry Gleason
303-868-2579
terrygleason@gmail.com

$100 per ticket limited to 200 tickets

Must pass a background check and pay for the background check.

Please contact Terry Gleason to purchase your raffle tickets
303-868-2579 or terrygleason@gmail.com
# Upcoming Events Calendar

Shown below are currently scheduled events. Other activities will be scheduled as appropriate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event/Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Contacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 13</td>
<td>Outdoor Buddies Board of Directors meeting at the Lone Tree Cabela’s store.</td>
<td>Board meeting starting at 6:00 PM. Non-board members are welcome; please RSVP in advance.</td>
<td>Dwaine Robey (303) 877-8584 <a href="mailto:dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org">dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>Outdoor Buddies coyote hunt near Watkins.</td>
<td>A coyote hunt is scheduled for March 18th. More hunts may be scheduled on an “as requested” basis. Interested persons should contact Al Montoya to discuss dates for hunts.</td>
<td>Al Montoya (303) 286-4610 <a href="mailto:agmontoya@q.com">agmontoya@q.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>Outdoor Buddies Pheasant Hunt at Drake Land Farms near Goodrich, Colorado.</td>
<td>All day event starting at 9:00 AM. Lunch will be served. Shooting is reserved for disabled members, except for “back-up” shooters</td>
<td>Larry Sanford (970) 218-5356 <a href="mailto:popsllarrys@gmail.com">popsllarrys@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 22</td>
<td>Outdoor Buddies 2017 Banquet at the Hyatt Regency Conference Center located at 13200 East 14th Place in Aurora, Colorado.</td>
<td><strong>Mark your calendar.</strong> Annual fundraiser banquet at the Hyatt Regency Aurora-Denver Conference Center. Tickets will go on sale in January.</td>
<td>Dwaine Robey (303) 877-8584 <a href="mailto:dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org">dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>Rich Cori Memorial sight-in at Green Mill Sportsman’s Club 2490 County Rd 3, Erie.</td>
<td>Big bore and pistol ranges are reserved starting at 8:00 AM.</td>
<td>Wally Hunt (303) 985-2293 <a href="mailto:wdhunt1716@outlook.com">wdhunt1716@outlook.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>Outdoor Buddies Family Day at A Painted View Ranch in Westcliffe.</td>
<td>There will be free admittance, free food, and lots of games and demonstrations. Everyone is welcome!</td>
<td>Dwaine Robey (303) 877-8584 <a href="mailto:dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org">dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June – September</td>
<td>Outdoor Buddies fishing outings at Tarryall State Wildlife Area.</td>
<td>Outdoor Buddies volunteers will coordinate fishing activities at Tarryall using leased properties and Tarryall Reservoir.</td>
<td>Jim Piper (303) 514-8944 <a href="mailto:geoproe@q.com">geoproe@q.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 10</td>
<td>Outdoor Buddies Family Day at Swift Ponds. Everyone is welcome!</td>
<td>There will be free admittance, free food, and lots of fishing, shooting, games and demonstrations.</td>
<td>Larry Sanford (970) 218-5356 <a href="mailto:popsllarrys@gmail.com">popsllarrys@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 14</td>
<td>2017 Outdoor Buddies Golf Tournament at Green Valley Ranch Golf Course.</td>
<td>The format for the tournament is a scramble with a shotgun start. Entry fee includes cart, range balls, silent auction, prizes, buffet lunch, contests, and fun.</td>
<td>Dustin Robey (303) 515-9777 <a href="mailto:dustindroby@gmail.com">dustindroby@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 5</td>
<td>Rich Cori Memorial sight-in at Green Mill Sportsman’s Club 2490 County Rd 3, Erie.</td>
<td>Big bore and pistol ranges are reserved starting at 8:00 AM.</td>
<td>Wally Hunt (303) 985-2293 <a href="mailto:wdhunt1716@outlook.com">wdhunt1716@outlook.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 5</td>
<td>Outdoor Buddies Sporting Clays Event at Colorado Clays Shooting Park near Brighton, Colorado.</td>
<td>All day fundraiser event at Colorado Clays LLC 13600 Lanewood Street Brighton, Colorado.</td>
<td>Larry Sanford (970) 218-5356 <a href="mailto:popsllarrys@gmail.com">popsllarrys@gmail.com</a> or Dwaine Robey (303) 877-8584 <a href="mailto:dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org">dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 16</td>
<td>Outdoor Buddies Fishing Outing on the Cache la Poudre River west of Fort Collins. Directions will be provided to those who register with Larry Sanford.</td>
<td>Everyone is welcome. Outdoor Buddies will provide lunch, soft drinks, and fishing assistance for those who want it. There will be two Actiontrack wheelchairs available if needed.</td>
<td>Larry Sanford (970) 218-5356 <a href="mailto:popsllarrys@gmail.com">popsllarrys@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>