



NEWSLETTER

January 2017

Vol 33, No 1

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Volunteer Corner

By Dan Brown, Volunteer Committee

Persons interested in volunteering for any of the upcoming Outdoor Buddies events please contact Dan Brown at 843-816-0901 or fk15pts@yahoo.com.

An Elk Hunt Above and Beyond

By Don Coxsey

An Elk hunt above and beyond what I could ever have hoped or dreamed came true for me on December 3, 2016 in Craig, Colorado!

My story begins 14 years ago when a motorcycle accident left me as a complete paraplegic. It took a while, but I continued hunting whitetail deer. An elk hunt seemed completely out of reach.

After talking to Dwaine Robey of Outdoor Buddies for the past 3 years, he convinced me it was doable, to quote him, “we do it all the time”. I finally had the confidence to apply and made it to Craig.

We started our day out with an awesome breakfast at Cool Water Grill and then headed out to Trapper Mining Inc. As my guides Greg, Nick & Leeland helped get me up into the truck, the sun had just started to rise and that’s when somebody yelled “we’ve got elk spotted.”

Driving up the mountain, my guides asked me how comfortable are you shooting at 300 yards? I said, “I’m good and I’d even like to try 500”.

After high fives and fists bumps all around, Greg drove us up to a spot where we ranged 200 elk at 1800-2000 yards moving up the other side of the canyon, not a mile from where we started.

After helping guide the other two hunting parties to their intercept points, we started moving up the mountain. We had gone about 50-70 yards and suddenly Greg hits the brakes, points out the window right below us and asked “What about those right there?”

I was already on them and had settled my crosshairs on the lead cow of 6 as they ran for cover. Nick immediately began reading off ranges as they were running “368, 382, 410, 478 yards.” My cow stopped at the edge of the ravine to see if they were being pursued, presenting me with a broadside shot, Nick called out 481, a half second later BOOM!

She had made her last mistake!

She stumbled off into the ravine and out of sight. As we watched, we counted the other 5 come out on the other side of the ravine; we knew the 30-378 Weatherby had done its job.



Nick, Christiane, and Don pose with Don's cow elk.

Several minutes go by, and then I spot her stumbling coming up out of the ravine on the other side, lying down as soon as she got to the top at over 600 yards, but kept her head up for a while. She tried twice to get up when Greg says “hold on!” and takes off up the mountain to get up above her, hits the brakes and says “how’s that?” Nick ranging instantaneously; 356 yards, BOOM, perfect head shot.

When we drove up to her, I had no idea how big this cow was! I was happy just to see her from the truck and asked for a couple of pictures, when my guides told me, “Oh no, you’re getting out, that’s what we’re here for.”

A 45 minute hunt from the parking lot and a 2 hour photo shoot in a foot of snow! Wow, what a hunt!!!

What an Elk!! And NO DOUBT I HAD DRAWN THE A-TEAM.



Greg, Don, Leland, and Nick take a break before loading Don's elk into Leland's UTV.

Then they went to work field dressing her. It took all 3 men to load her in the back of the Ranger. Wow, what an Elk!!

We spent the rest of the morning spotting elk for the other guides then met up with everyone and had lunch at the Elk Mountain Restaurant in Craig. Great place to eat.

What great fellowship, great friendships...Priceless.

I would be remiss if I did not express my heartfelt gratitude to my beautiful, wonderful wife, Christiane, who was by my side helping me throughout this phenomenal adventure. Her love and support is what makes me feel like Superman; she is truly a God send in my life!



A happy Don, in the truck, gives his "thumbs up" to his helpers, Greg, Christiane, and Nick.

I want to thank these volunteers for making a lifelong dream come true! Thank you Dwaine Robey, Nick Filler of Outdoor Buddies, Rob Sovine, Greg Brewer and Leeland Mishke of Trapper Mining Inc.

Y'ALL ARE AWESOME!!

My Elk Hunt in the Estes Valley

By Tom Eckrich

On the morning of December 14th I left my home in Loveland to meet up with Steve Nichols & Martie Brocko to hunt for a cow elk. My friend Bill Morris a Vietnam veteran was also with me. We had to go through Lyons to get to the Estes Park area as US 34 is closed until next spring.

We met at the Police Department parking lot and discussed our plans to pursue a cow elk.

I was informed that the hunting had not been very good lately. There had been no elk taken the previous year and none so far this year.

I was driving and everyone else squeezed into my truck. We started out to hunt and almost immediately started to see elk all along the road and around houses. As we got closer to where we could shoot, we noticed the herd was moving in the right direction. After getting ahead of the elk we set up along the edge of the property where we had permission to hunt.

It seemed like a long time before we could see any animals. They were grazing away and moving slowly. I was getting nervous waiting for a shot at one of the many cows in front of me.

One cow jumped over the fence and started drinking from a stock tank. It seemed like she was drinking it dry. We then saw she was just licking ice covering the water.

More elk started to jump the fence and our choices increased. Steve spotted a young cow that was by itself and told me to take a shot. I shot and she just stood there then started walking toward the herd, but she was hit and couldn't move very well. Steve said I should take another shot which knocked her down and it was all over. The time was 8:05.

I had all the right equipment in my truck, sharp knives, rope, water, and paper towels. We dressed out the cow, and then we went to get Steve's truck. Steve had a board that we used to slide the elk onto my truck. We did not want to have a problem with dogs getting into the gut pile and making a mess so we bagged up the gut pile and hauled it away.

After all was done we had breakfast, said our thanks, and headed for the processor.



Tom quickly got his elk to the meat processor to be made ready for his dinner table.

I would like to thank Outdoor Buddies for giving me the opportunity to hunt and enjoy Colorado outdoor activities. I especially want to thank Steve, Martie, and Bill for all their great help.

Outdoor Buddies is managed by its Board of Directors.

Board Members are shown below:

Dwaine Robey
Executive Director
303-877-8584

Larry Sanford
President
970-218-5356

Dustin Robey
Vice President
303-515-9777

James Lowry
Vice President
713-248-9001

Wally Hunt
Treasurer
303-985-2293

Christal Bardfield
Secretary
719-580-6366

Daniel Brown
Director
843-816-0901

Nicholas Filler
Director
720-644-4842

Terry Gleason
Director
303-868-2579

Jim Piper
Director
303-932-1209

Gina Robinson
Director
303-619-4683

Frederick Solheim
Director-Warriors on
Cataract
303-818-7600

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

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.

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**

Executive Director's Comments

By Dwaine Robey



A belated Happy New Year to everyone!

The Outdoor Buddies booth at the International Sportsmen's Exposition (ISE) was a busy place again this year. We extend our thanks to Colorado Parks and Wildlife for providing our booth in their Youth Fair Exhibit at the ISE.

The ISE was held at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver January 12 through 15.

The January Outdoor Buddies Board of Directors meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 25th at the Thornton Cabela's beginning at 6:00pm. Board meetings are open to members. Please RSVP in advance with Dwaine Robey.

2017 Big Game Hunt Requests

Now is the time for disabled members to submit 2017 big game hunt requests.

Big game hunt requests can be submitted via the Outdoor Buddies website at:
<http://outdoorbuddies.org/join/>

Tarryall Reservoir Ice Fishing – February 4th

Outdoor Buddies is hosting an ice fishing outing at Tarryall state Wildlife Area on Saturday, February 4th and you are invited. Please see the event flyer on page 5 for more information.

If you have suggestions or comments, you are encouraged to contact any of the Outdoor Buddies board members.

You can reach me at: (303) 877-8584 or dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org.

From the President

By Larry Sanford



Can you believe it is already 2017! There were a lot of great memories made by Outdoor Buddies members in 2016 and we expect even more this year.

Please take a look at the Upcoming Events Calendar on page 9 and find some activities that are of interest to you.

Outdoor Buddies board members and volunteers have been making plans for this year's fundraiser events as well as all the other fun outdoor activities like two family days, one in Westcliffe and the other at Swift Ponds between Fort Collins and Loveland. There will also be several fishing events on the Poudre River, Tarryall Reservoir, and other locations throughout the year.

I would like to invite all of you to please get involved and volunteer to help make each of these events a great success. If you are interested please contact the coordinator for the event or any one of the board members.

Thank you for the continued support from all of you who have been with us for years as well as those of you who are new to Outdoor Buddies!

Take a look at the activities we have planned for this year and invite your friends and family to enjoy the event with you. The fundraisers help us to have the adaptive equipment we need to get disabled men, women and youth back in the outdoors!

I hope to see you all at the Outdoor Buddies ice fishing outing at Tarryall Reservoir on February 4th.

My Recent Pronghorn Hunt

By Tim Smith



Fortunately, I was able to draw a doe pronghorn tag for Meadow Springs Ranch.

I've hunted there before and always loved it! This time my uncle came with me and we met Outdoor Buddies Hunt Coordinator, Don Reid, at the ranch.

It was a beautiful day and there were a few other hunters there. We did some practice shooting to make sure our rifles were sited in.

Afterwards I was introduced to my guide and buddy for the day, CJ Ellis.

I got into the back seat of our truck behind CJ who was driving and we headed off.

We didn't have to drive far before we started to see animals. We saw two big groups that merged into one big group.

We got into position and picked out a good doe I had to wait a while for her to turn broadside and for other animals to clear. Then I took the shot at about 100 yards.

She went down immediately!



Tim poses with his plump Pronghorn doe.

CJ field dressed it and we brought it backed to camp. We skinned it out and my uncle and I were able to head back to Denver in time to make it to Steve's Meats to get it processed.

CJ was awesome and as always I had a great time and another great experience! My Uncle had a great time too.

Once again, Thanks to Outdoor Buddies!!!

Editor's note: Tim Smith, who lives in Denver, is a young man who was born with Spina Bifida and uses a wheelchair because of paralysis of his lower extremities. He has been a member of Outdoor Buddies since 2006 and has participated in several activities with Outdoor Buddies in the past.

Big Game Hunt Committee Update

By Larry Sanford

Outdoor Buddies has had some great outdoor adventures in 2016! Antelope hunters had a great year with most of the hunters taking home meat for the freezer.

We are still conducting the last of the 2016 season's deer and elk hunts.

Now is the time to start planning 2017 big game hunts. Disabled members who want to participate in Outdoor Buddies sponsored big game hunts in 2017 need to submit an online big game hunt request via the Outdoor Buddies website. You can submit your request at: <http://outdoorbuddies.org/join/>

Early submission of your hunt request gives the Outdoor Buddies big game hunt committee time to match your request with available hunting opportunities prior to the April CPW deadline for license applications. Early submission of your hunt request increases the likelihood of being selected for a hunt.

Please notify us if you know of any land owners who may give us permission to hold an Outdoor Buddies hunt on their property. You can contact one of the following members of the big game hunt committee; Larry Sanford, Dwaine Robey, Jim Piper, or Dan Brown.

I look forward to seeing you in the field and reading your stories about your hunt.

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

- Theodore Roosevelt

Make Plans to Attend the 2017 Outdoor Buddies Banquet

You are cordially invited to attend the annual Outdoor Buddies Fundraiser Banquet. The 2017 banquet celebrates **thirty-three years of community service** by Outdoor Buddies.

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 on pages 6 and 7 in this newsletter or from the Outdoor Buddies website at: www.outdoorbuddies.org.

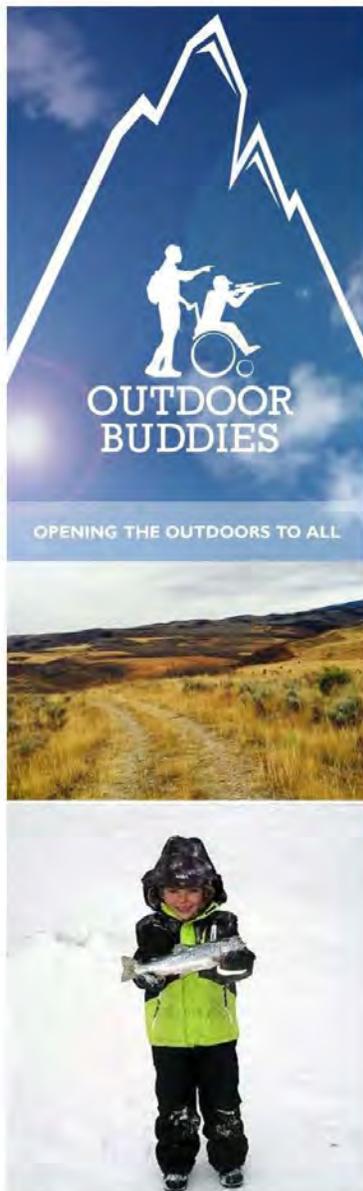
The funds raised in this event shall go towards helping Outdoor Buddies to continue its programs to improve the quality of life for youth and persons with disabilities.

Your participation at the banquet can help to make a big change to someone's life.

Please plan to attend and pass on the invite to others who would like to contribute towards this good cause.



OUTDOOR BUDDIES ICE FISHING OUTING TARRYALL RESERVOIR Saturday, February 4, 2017



WHAT

Outdoor Buddies is hosting an ice fishing outing at Tarryall State Wildlife Area on Saturday, February 4th. Everyone is invited! Lunch will be provided by Outdoor Buddies volunteers. Bring your own equipment if you have it. Outdoor Buddies will have loaner equipment and help for those who need it. For pre-planning purposes, please register in advance identifying the number of persons in your party.

WHY

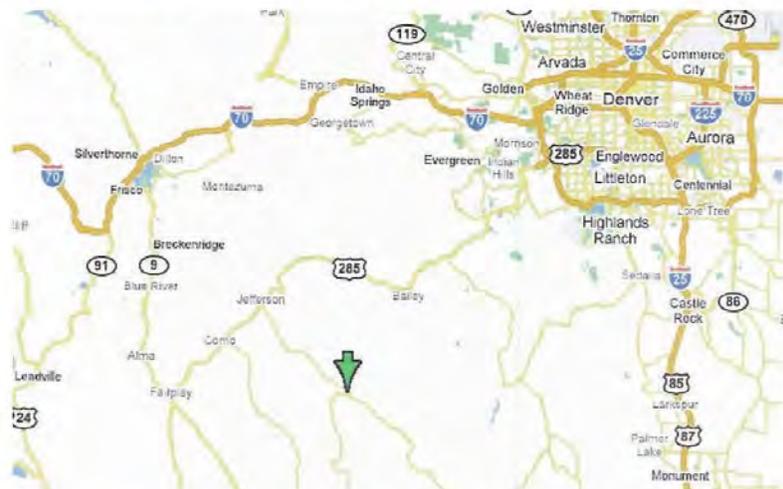
Outdoor Buddies wishes to provide an opportunity for youth and persons with disabilities to experience an activity in the beautiful Colorado Mountain outdoors.

WHEN

Saturday, February 4th from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

WHERE

From Jefferson, go 15 miles southeast on Park County Road 77 to the Outdoor Buddies bunkhouse located at 16226 Park County Road 77. (Telephone number 719-836-1913.)



TO REGISTER:

You can call, text, or E-mail to
Jim Piper at 303-514-8944

geopros@q.com

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**.



**Hyatt Regency
Conference Center**

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



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**
555 Highlands Road
Westcliffe, CO 81252

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

From: _____
NAME TELEPHONE NUMBER

_____ _____
STREET ADDRESS CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE

Name to be displayed on promotional material and at banquet: _____
CORPORATE NAME

Message (Optional): _____
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: _____

Win this South Africa Plains Game Hunt

The winner will be drawn at the Outdoor Buddies banquet on April 22, 2017

Do not need to be present to win!



\$6,200 RETAIL VALUE

OUTDOOR BUDDIES RAFFLE

**** \$20 PER TICKET OR 6 TICKETS FOR \$100 ****

SOUTH AFRICA PLAINS GAME SAFARI

for two (2) Hunters at Eland Safaris for 8 Nights / 6 Hunting Days

Each Custom Eland Safaris South African Rifle or Bow Hunting Safari Includes:

- 2x1 PH to hunter ratio
- 6 full hunting days with tracker
- All the transport in the hunting area
- Hunting for SCI Trophy Class animals, not representative animals or culls
- Luxury lodging at one of Eland's South African concessions
- Assistance with choosing a USDA Certified Trophy Import Broker
- Assistance with choosing a USDA Certified Taxidermist (only if necessary)
- Assistance with having your trophies mounted in South Africa if you choose
- Assistance with securing your U.S. Customs Form 4457 (without leaving your home)
- Access to our Airline Consolidators for discounted airline pricing
- Access to Rifle Permit Concierge service
- 3 meticulously prepared meals per day
- Wine and beer in moderation
- Laundry on a daily basis and field preparation of trophies
- Round trip transportation from Polokwane International Airport (PTG)



This Safari does not include:

Trophy fees for animals harvested or wounded and lost, airfare, accommodations before or after the hunt, dip and pack, taxidermy or trophy export costs, SAPS 520 gun permit application (\$200), gratuities, observers or non-hunters (\$250/day).

Global Sporting Safaris

Global Sporting Safaris is a full service hunting booking agency. We will work with the raffle winner (hunters) extensively before and after the hunt to make sure everything goes smoothly. This includes pre-trip prep as well as post-trip follow-up to get all of the trophies back safe and sound to the hunter's trophy room.

This South African Safari hunt donation is for two (2) hunters and is valid for the 2017 or 2018 season only. Non-hunters cannot be substituted for hunters. Trophy selection and hunt dates must be made by the raffle winner within 45 days of the event, along with the receipt of a non-refundable deposit of \$500 per hunter to confirm the hunt. The deposit will be applied to trophies taken on a per hunter basis – no trophy fee deposit sharing. Trophy fee deposit may not be applied to dangerous game. We will ask the hunt winner to sign a liability waiver. Due to the fluid nature of international hunting, Global Sporting Safaris reserves the right to revise our donation program at any time without prior notice. This includes hunts raffled or sold at auction where we subsequently determine that the featured outfitter(s) no longer meet our performance standards. In those cases, an alternate hunt of equal or greater value will be substituted as deemed appropriate at that time to ensure a quality hunt for your members. This donation is not refundable or transferable.

Winner to be drawn at Outdoor Buddies Banquet on April 22, 2017 - Do not need to be present to win.

**Please contact Terry Gleason to purchase your raffle tickets
303-868-2579 or terryjgleason@gmail.com**

Upcoming Events Calendar

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 | Pronghorn, deer, and elk hunts in various Colorado locations. | Previously scheduled hunts will continue throughout the big game hunting seasons. | Larry Sanford (970) 218-5356 popslarrys@gmail.com |
| January 25 | Outdoor Buddies Board of Directors meeting at the Thornton Cabela's store. | Board meeting starting at 6:00 PM. Non-board members are welcome; please RSVP in advance. | Dwaine Robey (303) 877-8584 dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org |
| February 4 | Outdoor Buddies Ice Fishing Outing at Tarryall Reservoir. | Outdoor Buddies volunteers will coordinate ice fishing activities from 9am to 3pm. A free lunch will be provided. | Jim Piper (303) 514-8944 geopros@q.com |
| April 22 | Outdoor Buddies 2017 Banquet at the Hyatt Regency Conference Center located at 13200 East 14 th Place in Aurora, Colorado. | <u>Mark your calendar.</u> Annual fundraiser banquet at the Hyatt Regency Aurora-Denver Conference Center. Tickets will go on sale in January. | Dwaine Robey (303) 877-8584 dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org |
| April 29 | Rich Cori Memorial sight-in at Green Mill Sportsman's Club 2490 County Rd 3, Erie. | Big bore and pistol ranges are reserved starting at 8:00 AM. | Wally Hunt (303) 985-2293 wdhunt1716@outlook.com |
| May 13 | Outdoor Buddies Family Day at A Painted View Ranch in Westcliffe. | There will be free admittance, free food, and lots of games and demonstrations. Everyone is welcome! | Dwaine Robey (303) 877-8584 dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org |
| June – September | Outdoor Buddies fishing outings at Tarryall State Wildlife Area. | Outdoor Buddies volunteers will coordinate fishing activities at Tarryall using leased properties and Tarryall Reservoir. | Jim Piper (303) 514-8944 geopros@q.com Ivan Brooks (719) 783-4011 nakaibrooks@gmail.com Dan Brown (843) 816-0901 fk15pts@yahoo.com |
| June 10 | Outdoor Buddies Family Day at Swift Ponds. Everyone is welcome! | There will be free admittance, free food, and lots of fishing, shooting, games and demonstrations. | Larry Sanford (970) 218-5356 popslarrys@gmail.com |
| July 14 | 2017 Outdoor Buddies Golf Tournament at Green Valley Ranch Golf Course. | 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. | Dustin Robey (303) 515-9777 dustindrobey@gmail.com |
| August 5 | Rich Cori Memorial sight-in at Green Mill Sportsman's Club 2490 County Rd 3, Erie. | Big bore and pistol ranges are reserved starting at 8:00 AM. | Wally Hunt (303) 985-2293 wdhunt1716@outlook.com |
| August 5 | Outdoor Buddies Sporting Clays Event at Colorado Clays Shooting Park near Brighton, Colorado. | All day fundraiser event at Colorado Clays LLC 13600 Lanewood Street Brighton, Colorado. | Larry Sanford (970) 218-5356 popslarrys@gmail.com or Dwaine Robey (303) 877-8584 dwaine.robey@outdoorbuddies.org |