Advocacy is CORA’s Business

Advocacy, exactly what is advocacy? Webster’s defines advocacy as: active support, as of a cause; to speak in favor of: Recommend: 1. One who supports or defends a cause. 2. One who pleads in another’s behalf.

The ability to advocate related issues and concerns has been a central function of CORA because it has provided our membership with an effective voice. In this day and age, words such as "politics" and "advocacy" tend to leave a bitter taste in the mouths of many. Whether a result of a relentless media barrage or simply a knee-jerk response of a collective dissatisfaction with our local, state and federal governments - they've become terms much maligned. There's no question that super-funded special interest groups can have far-ranging negative effect on our legislative processes. But after spending the last several years working with TWRA and the state and local government, I must counter that it is a system of our own making and that they've become terms much maligned. There's no question that super-funded special interest groups can have far-ranging negative effect on our legislative processes. But after spending the last several years working with TWRA and the state and local government, I must counter that it is a system of our own making and that it's not all bad. Further - without the ability for organizations like the Campbell Outdoor Recreation Association to present their cases to government representatives, our purpose would be severely compromised and limited.

The ability to advocate related concerns is a central function of CORA because it provides our membership with an effective voice. It is the very means whereby we reach out to governments, their agencies, and also the public to help create and guide policies to serve our interest in wildlife and natural resources. It has been a mainstay for our organization throughout our 25-year history, and we have a formidable track record that proves, beyond question, that our efforts have had a dramatic impact on East Tennessee's "outdoor" landscape. Without our collective voices, we would be both hollow and toothless. Effective advocacy has empowered us, and has resulted in many successes for our state's wildlife, our natural resources, and the citizens of our great state.

Our local, state and federal governments - as unwieldy as they can appear to us - have been genuinely receptive to CORA's efforts. I can only encourage you to spend one day at the Tennessee Legislature to see for yourself how government works. These are bustling places with halls, offices and committee rooms filled daily with countless constituents espousing their respective causes. When you meet with legislators, the first thing you realize is that they're human - not just figureheads - and that they realize their job is to listen. They may not always agree - but they do listen to their constituents. It is not easy, but it's a fundamental part of their job that we all tend to take for granted.

I have learned that, despite "political correctness" and contrary to the common theme of "politics-bashing," that the political process can and does accomplish many good things. Advocacy, when done by grass-roots
6th Annual C.O.R.A. Ultimate Turkey Hunt

Join us for a day of fun and fellowship where you can always find a SMILE and a KIND WORD

Our annual Ultimate Turkey Hunt will be held on April 24, 2010 at the farms of Terry Lewis and Ron Cunningham located at 599 Hickory Creek Lane, LaFollette, TN.

Wounded warriors, disabled hunters, youth hunters, guides, support staff, TWRA officers, sponsors, members of the media and a guest speaker will be there. Event is free to the neighbors, friends and the public, all are invited to join in on the fun.

Lunch will be provided to all and door prizes given to lucky winners. A silent auction will also be held.

For additional information about the event or to sponsor a hunter or donate to the event, please contact Terry Lewis at 865-414-0057 or t-lewis.com or Mitzi Ivey at 865-567-2416 or mitzivey@att.net

Licenses are participant’s responsibility

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Stan Stooksbury  (423)566-8557
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CORA & NWTF WHEELIN’ SPORTSMEN IS HOSTING THEIR 6TH ANNUAL ULTIMATE TURKEY HUNT APRIL 24, AT THE FARM OF TERRY LEWIS ON STINKING CREEK
Controlled or prescribed burning, also known as hazard reduction burning or SWAILING. This is a technique sometimes used in forest management, farming, prairie restoration or greenhouse gas abatement. Fire is a natural part of both forest and grassland ecology and controlled fire can be a tool for foresters. Hazard reduction or controlled burning is conducted during the cooler months to reduce fuel buildup and decrease the likelihood of serious hotter fires. Controlled burning stimulates the germination of some desirable forest trees, thus renewing the forest. Some seeds, such as sequoia, reaming dormant until fire breaks down the seed coating. In industrialized countries, controlled burning is usually overseen by fire control authorities for regulations and permits. The party responsible must delineate the intended time and place.

BACK BURNING. Back burning is a way of reducing the amount of flammable material during a bushfire by starting small fires along a man made or natural firebreak in front of a main fire front. It is called because the small fires are designed to “burn back” toward the main fire front. The basic reason for back burning is so that there is little material that can burn when the main fire reaches the burnt area. The firebreaks that may be used to start a line of fires along could be a river road or a bulldozed clearing.

TOOLS:
Controlled burns are sometimes ignited using a tool known as the drip torch, which allows a steady stream of flaming fuel to be directed to the ground as needed. Another tool used is a fire rake. This is a very heavy duty rake that can be used for cutting or raking away leaves or other material that may cause the fire to jump to an undesirable area. Variations on the drip torch can be used such as the helitorch which is mounted on a helicopter.
A pyrotechnic device known as fusee can be used for ignition in nearby fuels while a very pistol can be used for fuels farther away.

George D. Kessler, professor of forestry and extension forester at Clemson University notes that controlled burning reduces fuels, may improve wildlife habitat, controls competing vegetation, and improves short term forage for grazing, improves accessibility helps control tree, diseases and perpetuates fire dependent species.

UPPER CUMBERLAND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT CONTROLLED BURN
The controlled burn on the Upper Cumberland Wildlife Management Area will be in an area that has been clear cut for several years. The purpose of the burn is to kill out the young tree sprouts that are shading out the native grasses that are used by our wildlife. We have a plan to burn 1000 acres a year for ten years. Our last burn was very successful and several professors from the University of Tennessee were very pleased with the results when they visited the burn area.

Photo from the controlled burn that CORA participated in on March 20 with TWRA

Joe Justice using drip torch to start fires while Terry Lewis makes sure fire does not get out of control
Jerry Stout is a retired educator and Middle School Principal and lives in Lafollette, Tennessee. He is an avid hunter, fisherman, outdoors enthusiast. He has a myriad of interest and hobbies, including amateur radio operator, wood worker, part time electrician, music lover, and connoisseur of fine food; actually any food. When he is not educating new hunters he can be found in the mountains working with Tennessee’s elk program.

Jerry brings his experience as an educator to the TWRA Hunter Education program and for 34 years has enjoyed teaching our new hunters as a TWRA Hunter Educator instructor.

Jerry has developed and presented slide shows and educational materials to teach civic groups, conservation organizations, and school groups about the elk program in Tennessee. He has presented this material to more than 30 groups throughout the state and region.

He has taught hunter safety classes in the area and included extra sessions regarding elk identification and conservation.

Jerry has been the Chairman of the RMEF Royal Blue Chapter for 7 years.

He has volunteered to support the TWRA with Elk Carcass recovery for over 20 elk. This involves radio tracking of mortality signals, field searches for remains, and physical recovery of remains in rugged terrain, often in bad weather conditions.

He volunteered to support TWRA in radio tracking of released elk for location and population surveys. As the first volunteer in this effort, he used his amateur radio operator experience to improve the tracking approach of the TWRA and ended up training them in better methods and equipment operation. He has volunteered easily more than 500 hours of radio tracking.

He was an original participant in the development and construction of the Hatfield Knob viewing tower which now attracts more than 500 visitors a month to see elk in the wild. Additionally, Jerry helped to erect the TWIF Informational Kiosks and Signage.

Jerry volunteered his time to clear brush and plant food plots throughout the Tennessee Elk Zone including the Hatfield Knob Viewing Area.

For the last release of elk provided from the Land Between The Lakes, Jerry volunteered his time to travel to LBL, and provided his own equipment to assist TWRA in the darting, gathering of statistics (weight, sex, etc.) and quarantine of every elk (more than 70) and bison on the LBL reserve to ensure that transplanted elk were disease free. This project involved him being in the field for more than 30 days. He also volunteered to support the transport of the animals to the release site.

Jerry serves as a member of the CORA Board of Directors
Has authored several conservation articles for the CORA newsletter.
Is a member of the Pine Mountain Long Beard Chapter of the NWTF
Is a life member of CORA
Is a life member of the RMEF
Is a member of the Tennessee Wildlife Federation
Has a lifetime TWRA hunting license since 1999

He has participated in all of the TWF’s North Cumberland Habitat Management program of controlled burns.

Jerry Stout was the Recipient of Rocky Mountain Elk “Volunteer of the Year Award in 2009”

Jerry was honored by the “Tennessee Senate Joint Resolution #295” for being chosen as “RMEF Volunteer of the Year”.

Jerry Stout is one of the TWRA’s most committed Hunter Education Instructors in Tennessee. While he has worked selflessly for 34 years to educate the states new hunters, Jerry has dedicated his time continuing to educate the public on Tennessee’s wildlife and conservation programs. I believe his example is the best of the volunteer spirit of the Hunter Educator and as a Conservationist in Volunteer Country, and deserves this recognition

Jerry Stout receives his award from Loring Holfrich, Jr. Secretary of TWF.
A “RIGHT” TO HUNT AND FISH

Why this effort is one of the most important wildlife and conservation issues of our time.

Hunting and fishing have long been a part of Tennessee’s history, lore and culture. Who hasn’t heard stories of Daniel Boone and Davy Crockett and their exploits across our state? The images are so strong that even to this day they persist with a public and visible force.

Take for example the pioneer dressed college student complete with muzzle-loader and coon skin cap roaming the sidelines of Tennessee football games. Or consider the many a political gatherings throughout the spring named “coon supper” or “bird supper” referencing the traditions of hunting raccoons and quail respectively. There are even two hunts given in the name of the highest elected official in the state-the Governors Dove Hunt and Governor’s One-Shot Turkey Hunt. And how many small towns still hold “turkey shoots” as local fundraisers.

Thus, for many, the thought of Tennessee without the pursuits of chasing game or catching fish is foreign, even if they themselves are not active participants in the pursuits.

However, many are concerned about a future which may someday not allow for hunting and fishing. They point to successful efforts in Europe and Great Britain which have curtailed hunting traditions in the past 10 to 20 years. They despair over the limiting of hunting seasons in California for certain game species. The message they bring to the table is this, “Do not wait until you need a right to hunt and fish in your state. If you wait until you need it, you will already be too late.”

In many of these examples, the debates over hunting or fishing have been as much about the differences between rural and urban culture and values as they have been about hunting and fishing. Simply put, to people close to the land, hunting and fishing are largely an accepted part of live. However, to those with little to the connection to the land, or nature and its realities, these activities are not well understood. It is largely this lack of understanding that creates the fertile ground for efforts to stop hunting and fishing.

What is the Why?

For many, the most visible threat to hunting and fishing are the images of animal rights activists campaigning to stop hunting and fishing. Creating a right to hunt and fish is an obvious solution to address these challenges.

For others (from both people whom do and do not hunt, fish or trap) the question of “why does Tennessee need a constitutional amendment which provides for a right to hunt and fish?” is often the first words they have spoken on this topic.

This question is asked from two distinct perspectives; with the first being “Don’t we already have a right to hunt and fish?” (hunter/fisher perspective). The second being “Is it really necessary?” (typically a non-hunter/fisher perspective).

Why Does Tennessee Need a Right to Hunt and Fish in its Constitution?

Currently, Tennesseans do not hold a right to hunt and fish, although the average hunter or fishermen feels they do. In Tennessee, hunting and fishing are a privilege, not a right. This privilege is granted by the state through its Constitutional amendment which provides for a right to hunt and fish. Given this reality, the most obvious need for such an amendment is quite simple, it helps Tennesseans preserve an important part of our history and a current set of recreation and wildlife management tools and places the interest of citizens equal with that of the state. If laws can be created to allow for hunting and fishing, then logic would dictate that laws can be changed to prohibit hunting and fishing, leading to the conclusion that having a right to hunt and fish in the state constitution provides a stronger protection as compared to a simple law.

For example, if ever there was a successful challenge to a hunting or fishing season, manner or means, then the affected constituency (namely sportsmen and women of Tennessee) currently do not have the right to appeal such a case to the Tennessee State Supreme Court. Passage of this “right” will at the very least allow for such an appeal.

However, the importance of preserving the traditions of hunting, fishing and trapping for far beyond the effort to simply protect a particular recreational pursuit.

In Tennessee and across the United States of America, sportsmen and women are still by far the largest financial contributors to the conservation of fish and wildlife and their habits. Through license sales, federal excise taxes, sales taxes and other payments, sportsmen and women are the financial fuel that feeds “on the ground” fish and wildlife work.

The system of fish and wildlife management developed in North America is considered to be the single most effective model in the world. This “North American Model” has produced tremendous results in recovering both game and non-game species of wildlife. However, one of the most significant aspects of this model has been that efforts to manage fish and wildlife, while being paid for by sportsmen and women, have dramatically and positively impacted those fish and wildlife which are not hunted or fished.

Cont’d Page 6 Column 3
TWRA Makes Public Aware of Potential Legislative Action Concerning TWRC, Agency

Released on Fri, Mar 19, 2010 - 1:05 pm under Wildlife Resources

NASHVILLE --- The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency informed its governing board, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission and others in attendance at their regularly scheduled March meeting of possible legislation that could affect the future of the TWRC and the agency. This information came during the legislative update portion of the meeting, concerning legislation that would sunset the TWRC and/or the TWRA.

Every state governmental entity has a statutory termination date, generally referred to as a sunset provision. Each of these entities must periodically go through a process of review and their termination date extended by the legislature. On Thursday, March 11, 2010, the House Calendar and Rules Committee took action to stop the legislation (HB 2460) that would have given the normal four-year extension to the existence of the TWRC.

Without passage of this legislation in both the House and Senate, the TWRC will go into a one-year period of wind down to termination, beginning July 1, 2010. During this period of wind down/termination, the entity continues to operate, unimpeded by its impending termination.

“We felt it is important to make all those affected by the operation of the TWRA and the TWRC aware of what could possibly happen,” said Ed Carter, TWRA Executive Director. “We did not want our constituents or anyone else to find out about this at the 11th hour.

“Knowing where we stand with both the House and Senate at this moment, our agency felt an obligation not only to the sportsmen of Tennessee, but all citizens who enjoy boating and wildlife watching, to let them know of the situation and the potential consequences regarding the future of the TWRA and its governing body, the TWRC. When the original Game and Fish Commission was formed in 1949, many state wildlife agencies across the country adopted what has become known as the Model Game and Fish Act and adopted the North American Principles for Wildlife Conservation.

“This model, considered sacred ground by some, was conceived to allow the management of fish and wildlife by trained professionals, governed primarily by a board of interested citizens. This model over time has served our state well and has allowed wildlife agencies across the country to make decisions regarding wildlife resources based on science and biology. The restoration of deer, turkey, and the bald eagle in Tennessee are prime examples of the many success stories.”

“This review of the rich history of the agency and commission and all they have accomplished over the past 60 years makes me proud to have the privilege to serve our state in this way,” said TWRC Chairman Mike Chase, at the conclusion of the video presentation. “It’s obvious to me that members of this commission who serve, those who have served before us and agency employees past and present, have been motivated to do great work because they truly believe in the future of wildlife and fish in Tennessee and want to make a positive impact.”

Right to Hunt and Fish Cont’d from Page 5

Thus, to weaken, challenge or attempt to halt fishing and hunting is to promote a fundamental attack on the North American Model of wildlife management and by association the myriad of benefits it has and continues to provide both game and nongame species of fish and wildlife. Stated in the affirmative, to support the protection of hunting and fishing through a right to hunt and fish is also supporting the system that helps all fish and wildlife.

What is the task that lies before us? Amending the constitution of Tennessee is not a simple task. First a joint resolution containing the amendment language must pass both chamber of the general assembly during one session (a two-year period) by a simple majority. Following the passage, and during the next immediate session, the resolution must pass the general assembly by 2/3rds majority vote. Then the language is advertised and subsequently placed on the November ballot as a referendum vote in the year in which a gubernatorial election is taking place. In the general election, the amendment referendum must then receive at least 50% plus one vote of the total number of voters voting in the gubernatorial election to become ratified.

In Tennessee, we are preparing for the 2/3rds majority vote which will quickly be followed by the amendment language referendum vote in November of 2010. We expect final passage of the general assembly in January with no difficulty. But then the real work begins. In 2010 we will need your help in preparing the public to understand the importance of this amendment and the upcoming November vote.

If you are interested in helping in the campaign or can support it financially, please do not hesitate to contact Mike Butler at 615-353-1133 ex 1 or e-mail directly at mabutler@tnwf.org
The Board meeting commenced at approximately 7:00 PM, at the Campbell County Court House in Jacksboro, TN.

Invocation was led by Ray Wilson.

The Board’s roll call was taken by Mike McAfee. Harry Burden and Bob Williams were absent excused. Leonard Hooks was absent.

The October, 2009 minutes were read and approved by the Board.

Treasurer Ray Wilson presented the general and newsletter financial report. The general financial and newsletter report was approved by the Board as read. A motion was made and approved by the board to reimburse the newsletter account $180 for a CORA banner.

Publicity
No report.

Activities
No report. Bill Bruce thanked everyone who helped out on the pig roast.

Newsletter
Terry Lewis reported the 36th edition of the newsletter is out. That’s 15 consecutive years for the CORA newsletter.

Newsletter Distribution and Advertising
Glen Massengill reported we have a couple advertisers who are behind on payments.

Memberships
No report.

Roads and Trails
Bob Burden reported roads and trails are in pretty good shape.

Old Business
Elk Camp and Elk Hunt. Terry Lewis reported on the many activities of the elk camp and elk hunt and asked others to comment. Everyone was in agreement the elk camp and elk hunt was an overwhelming success. Most view the elk hunt as truly a historic event for the State of Tennessee. It was TWRA who asked CORA to host the elk camp at the Lewis farm and CORA delivered another success. So many helped it is impossible to name everyone, but certainly a very special thank you goes out to Terry and Jane Lewis. Terry Lewis gave a thank you to Stan Stooksbury and his folks for all their hard work, responsiveness, and cooperation. The camp and hunt provided a conducive environment and a real opportunity to build and strengthen working relationships with a host of new players at TWRA. Many had the opportunity to meet and talk with Ed Cater, the new TWRA Executive Director and also visit with our long-term friend, retired TWRA Executive Director Gary Myers.

Gary Myers in his remarks after dinner at the Saturday night event praised CORA as the leader behind the elk program. County Commissioner Melvin Boshears, who attended the recent TWRA Commission meeting, reported that many from TWRA were truly appreciative of CORA’s ongoing efforts.

A thank you goes out to Don King and Second nature for providing the Saturday night musical entertainment. Everyone enjoyed the BBQ on Saturday night provided by U-Ranch BBQ. Bill Stanley noted it was good to have provided a local company this opportunity. He also thanked Mitzi and Ray Ivey for helping with set up and serving of the Saturday night meal.

Many different video crews from organizations such as NRA, TWRA, and Knight and Hale obtained good video footage which will show up in a variety of venues in the future. Local Knoxville news stations also provided news/media coverage.

Kiosk Information. CORA has a 2 ft. by 2 ft. space at the informational kiosk at Hatfield. Terry Lewis provided a written mock up of the CORA information. The board approved the content and the expenditure of $40 for a laminated sign.

New Business
Campbell County-Elk Capital of Tennessee Proposal. County Commissioner Melvin Boshears presented a proposal to name Campbell County as the elk capital of Tennessee. This designation would promote local tourism. The Campbell County Commission will need to pass a resolution which would also require future actions by the State Legislature and the Governor. Boshears reported the Campbell County Chamber of Commerce supports the proposal. The CORA board approved that a resolution be written and submitted to the Campbell Commission in support of the designation. Lewis and McAfee to write a draft resolution for board review.

The meeting adjourned.

Submitted by: Mike McAfee
CORA Secretary
CORA Meeting Minutes cont’d

The November, 2009 minutes were read and approved by the Board.

Treasurer Ray Wilson presented the general and newsletter financial report. The general financial and newsletter report was approved by the Board as read.

Publicity
No report.

Activities
Bill Bruce reported on clear-cut activity and concerns as well as habitat fields needing attention at Cove Creek.

Newsletter
No report.

Newsletter Distribution and Advertising
No report.

Memberships
No report.

Roads and Trails
Bob Burden reported the road at Turley had been improved.

Old Business
Campbell County-Elk Capital of Tennessee Proposal. The CORA board unanimously approved a written CORA resolution to be submitted to the Campbell County Commission in support of the designation.

New Business
OHV Issues. OHV is becoming a hot topic again across the state. At issue are places for the public to ride OHVs. Currently, Royal Blue receives the bulk of riders from across the state. Royal Blue also receives all the available grant money from TDEC for an OHV trails pilot program. Other users want the grant money to be shared with other parts of the state in a statewide program. If funds are cut for Royal Blue the trails cannot be maintained and future environmental consequences are likely. Terry Lewis believes a resolution will include seeking additional funds for a statewide program. CORA is poised to play a major role in the debate and resolution.

Controlled Burning. CORA is initiating dialog with organizations such as NWTF and RMEF seeking monetary support for a 10 year North Cumberland habitat improvement program. The program calls for the controlled burning of 1,000 acres per year for 10 years. We are looking at ways to accomplish the controlled burns each year without the difficult job of recruitment of large numbers of volunteers and having those volunteers on-ready until optimal burn conditions occur. Options being considered include helicopters and the potential use of younger volunteers from public school agricultural programs.

The meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:
Mike McAfee
CORA Secretary

Publicity
No report.

Activities
Activities Chairman Bill Bruce was absent.

Newsletter
No Report

Newsletter Distribution and Advertising
No Report

Memberships
No report.

Roads and Trails
No Report

Old Business
A discussion was held concerning the habitat management controlled burn program for this year. President Lewis discussed that some funding had been donated to the program through the TWF and TWRA. It appears that enough funding has given to allow the use of aerial ignition to help lessen the demand for volunteer’s to use the drip ignition process on the high walls and in hard to reach areas of the burn. Lewis is to set up a meeting with area manager Stan Stooksbury to determine if he feels comfortable with the use the aerial ignition system and to set out the areas to be managed this year. A scheduled date for the burns should be determined over the next few weeks.

A discussion was held concerning the OHV issues statewide. The need for a statewide program was discussed as well as the roll the board thought that CORA should play in this issue.

New Business
A discussion was held concerning the boat ramp located at Caryville. Disappointment was expressed by board members due to the lack of progress.
on the repairs and the opening of the ramp. Ray Wilson will investigate the process and report back to the board at the next meeting as to the issue over finally completing the work on the boat ramp.

The meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:
Glen Massengill
Acting CORA Secretary in the absence of Mike McAfee

CORA Meeting
Minutes of February 2, 2010

The Board meeting commenced at approximately 7:00 PM, at the Campbell County Court House in Jacksboro, TN.

Invocation was led by Harry Burden.

The Board’s roll call was taken by Mike McAfee. Terry Lewis was absent excused. Pete Shelton was absent.

The January 2009 minutes were read and approved by the Board.

Treasurer Ray Wilson presented the general financial report. The general financial report was approved by the Board as read. The newsletter financial report was not available.

Publicity
No report.

Activities
Bill Bruce reported a general concern about the lack of food for wildlife this winter.

Newsletter
No report.

Newsletter Distribution and Advertising
Glen Massengill reported four (4) accounts are outstanding.

Memberships
No report.

Roads and Trails
Bob Burden reported roads and trails are OK.

Old Business
Controlled Burning. Eleven CORA members volunteered via sign-up sheet for refresher controlled burn training and for participation in this spring’s controlled burn for habitat improvement. Refresher training will likely be the end of February and the controlled burn in March. Terry Lewis is investigating Stan Stooksbury’s interest in aerial ignition to reduce the total number of volunteers required.

Caryville Boat Ramp. Ray Wilson reported the project is still active, but will take considerable time to complete because of the numerous required steps in the process. This is a joint effort between TWRA and Cove Lake State Park.

CORA BBQ. Ray Wilson confirmed a shelter at Cove Lake State Park has been reserved for October 9, 2010.

New Business
Cove Creek. Bill Bruce suggested we need to work with TWRA for habitat planting at Cove Creek.

Bank Charges for New Checks for CORA Account. The bank changed the routing symbol resulting in a requirement for CORA to purchase new checks.

Right to Hunt and Fish in TN. The right to hunt and fish in TN bill has passed the state senate and now moves to the state house.

The meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:
Mike McAfee
CORA Secretary

CORA Meeting
Minutes of March 2, 2010

The Board meeting commenced at approximately 7:00 PM, at the Campbell County Court House in Jacksboro, TN.

Invocation was led by Harry Burden.

The Board’s roll call was taken by Mike McAfee. Leonard Hooks was absent.

The February 2010 minutes were read and approved by the Board.

Treasurer Ray Wilson presented the general and newsletter financial reports. The general and newsletter financial reports were approved by the Board as read.

Publicity
No report.

Activities
Bill Bruce suggested we need to plan for spring wildlife food plot planting at Cove Creek. Bill to coordinate getting a list of volunteers. Terry Lewis reported TWRA may be moving away from spring planting.

Newsletter
Terry Lewis announced it is time for another newsletter edition and requested articles.

Newsletter Distribution and Advertising
Glen Massengill reported we have a few outstanding accounts, but we will likely get caught up when we distribute the next newsletter.

Memberships
No report.

Roads and Trails
No report.

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<th><strong>JOHN R. W. BROWN INSURANCE</strong></th>
<th><strong>LAFOLEETTE SPORT SHOP</strong></th>
<th><strong>LYK-NU</strong></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>102 N FIFTH St.</td>
<td>Guns &amp; Ammo</td>
<td>Auto Collision &amp; Service Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LaFollette, TN 37766</td>
<td>Reloading Equip.</td>
<td>1534 Old Jacksboro Highway</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Archery</td>
<td>LaFollette, TN 37766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUTO<em>LIFE</em>FIRE*HEALTH</td>
<td>Camping &amp; Muzzle Loading</td>
<td>(423)562-5156 * (800)773-1763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHONE</td>
<td>Army Surplus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home (423)562-3126</td>
<td>Owners</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office (423)562-5754</td>
<td>RONNIE &amp; SUSIE CARROLL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1115 Jacksboro Pike*LaFollette, TN 37766</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(423)562-0035</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>MARTIN WILSON FUNERAL HOME</strong></th>
<th><strong>MILLER TOWING</strong></th>
<th><strong>LAFOLEETTE MINE SUPPLY</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>700 West Central Avenue</td>
<td>125 N. 13th Street</td>
<td>P.O. BOX 1449 TOWESTRING RD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LaFollette, TN 37766</td>
<td>The Old NAPA Building</td>
<td>LAFOLEETTE, TN 37766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel (423)562-7452</td>
<td>423-562-4939</td>
<td>(423)562-0080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax (423)562-2543</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>Bill Ball, Owner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>423-562-4787</td>
<td>Home: (423)562-0307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large Enough to Serve You</td>
<td>SAMMY MILLER, OWNER</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Enough to Know You</td>
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</tbody>
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CORA Meeting Minutes cont’d

Old Business

Controlled Burning. The burn is rescheduled for March 13th. The meeting area on burn day is about one-half mile from the Hatfield Knob parking lot. 27 individual volunteers were trained in controlled burning this year; 17 were new trainees; bringing our total trained over two years to 63. The aerial ignition option is still under discussion.

Right to Hunt and Fish in TN. TWF is working on a presentation which Terry Lewis will cover at the April CORA meeting.

OHV. Terry Lewis discussed OHV background and issues with TWRA’s Nat Johnson. TWRA Executive Director Ed Carter has taken the position that TWRA does not want a statewide OHV program, but wants to preserve their work and funding on the North Cumberland. A lengthy discussion about various aspects of this complex topic ensued.

New Business

Handicapped Hunt. The 6th annual hunt will occur on April 24th. This year’s hunt will be comprised of 17-18 handicapped and 7-8 youth hunters. CORA needs volunteers for implementing the hunt.

Louie Bluie. CORA received a non-profit application for a booth for the June 12th event, which if selected, will cost us nothing. The booth last year was very successful drawing hundreds of interested individuals. We need 6-7 volunteers to work the booth. The board approved participation in the event.

Smallmouth Bass Issue. Representative Chad Faulkner is proposing a private act to eliminate TWRA responsibilities to establish smallmouth bass size/slot limits. CORA opposes this and any private act that would take wildlife and fisheries management out of the hands of professionals and place that responsibility in the hands of politicians.

The meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:
Mike McAfee
CORA Secretary

C.O.R.A.  
Meeting  
Jacksboro Court House  
7:00 P.M.  
Regular meetings  
Are 1st Tuesday  
Of each month  

See You There!

CORA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
P.O. Box 66, Jacksboro, TN 37757

NAME___________________________________________________________________________________________

ADDRESS________________________________________________________________________________________

CITY_______________________________________STATE_____________ZIP CODE_________________________

PHONE #___________________________________E-MAIL ADDRESS_____________________________________

1 YR MEMBERSHIP $10.00_____________________LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP $100.00______________________

C.O.R.A.  
HOPES EVERYONE  
HAD A SAFE & HAPPY EASTER!!!

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL C.O.R.A.  
BECOME AN ACTIVE MEMBER

www.cora-tn.org
groups who are committed to the betterment of our natural amenities, is both effective and positive.

It is our job as CORA’s board members to remain an engaged and active participant in the political process. It is government's job to listen, weigh the facts, respond to their constituents, and perform to the betterment of our state and nation. Together, we provide a formula for great successes, and we have already left our mark for Tennessee's wildlife and natural resources. Making advocacy CORA’s business has paid big dividends, and if we remain engaged will continue to do so in the years ahead.

HUNTERS DONATE 50 TONS OF VENISON FOR HUNGRY TENNESSEANS

The Tennessee Wildlife Federation's Hunters for the Hungry Program Provides Over 400,000 Meals for Hunger Relief Agencies across the State Thanks to Record Breaking Year

NASHVILLE, TN - The Tennessee Wildlife Federation's Hunters for the Hungry Program collected and distributed over 100,000 pounds of venison to hunger relief agencies during the 2009/2010 deer season. As a result, more than 400,000 meals will be provided to individuals and families in need.

Hunters for the Hungry teams up with hunters and deer processors to fight hunger by providing venison to food banks, church programs and soup kitchens. 70 processors in 54 Tennessee counties participated in the program during the 2009/2010 hunting season.

"We owe a sincere debt of gratitude to everyone contributing to this program," said Michael Butler, Chief Executive Officer for TWF. "Without the support of sportsmen and women, volunteers and processors, this program would not be possible."

"Hunters should be proud of what they did last season," said Ken Lewis of Bridge Community Church of Jackson County. The church's Immediate Needs Ministry saw a sharp increase of need this year over last, and the venison they received made a significant difference in their ability to help. "One family I remember in particular had not eaten in at least two days and the venison we received made enough food to produce several days worth of complete meals, as opposed to just a few canned goods," he continued.

Hunters contribute to the program by donating harvested deer through their local meat processor.