

# CORA

48th EDITION

May, 2015



*Promoting Outdoor Recreation*

## CAMPBELL OUTDOOR RECREATION ASSOCIATION

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[www.cora-tn.org](http://www.cora-tn.org)

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Terry Lewis

### WHAT HAS CORA BEEN UP TO!

I suspect there are some who wonder what has CORA been involved in this past few months. I thought I would share the list of issue we have been engaged since the last newsletter.

CORA's Hunters for the Hungry was very successful this year with 18,836 meals provided to the needy here in Campbell County. This is a program that has grown rapidly since we began it 3 years ago.

CORA partnered with the RMEF and University of Tennessee to have the last 5 years of surveys from the Hatfield viewing tower analyzed to determine how many folks visited this fantastically successful viewing area. I was very surprised to learn that over 16,000 people are visiting our viewing area annually. What a CORA success story this area is.

When the TWRA Commission wanted to raise the license fees CORA was at the table with the Director and his staff discussing the budget and operational requirements of the Agency. The Agency recognizes the important role CORA has of representing the sportsmen of the North Cumberland WMA.

The long waited dedication of the new Ray Wilson boat dock has taken place. This dedication will help folks remember the great things that Ray Wilson did for the citizens of this area. Ray was a founding father of CORA and his leadership is severely missed by the CORA Board of Directors.

This spring CORA held its first youth turkey

hunt. CORA partnered with other NGO's to provide an outdoor hunting experience for 9 youth. One turkey was harvested during this event. The purpose of the event is to get children who have never hunted before out into the outdoors and experience the wonderful world of hunting. Getting kids into hunting will help save our hunting heritage.

On April 25<sup>th</sup> CORA held its 11<sup>th</sup> annual Wounded Warrior turkey hunt in the Stinking Creek Community. On Friday night 180 people attended a fish fry where a "Meet and Greet the Warriors" was held to allow everyone the opportunity to meet and speak with those who have defended our country and paid the price for their service. Saturday morning 24 disabled individuals participated in this year's hunt. 150 people attended the Saturday afternoon's lunch and program. Three turkeys were harvested during this year's event.

CORA partners with other likeminded organizations like; Pine Mountain Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation, Tennessee Wildlife Federation, TWRA, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and the Lafollette Baptist Church. I am pleased to report that this event has been a huge success and has been selected for National Awards the last two years by the National Wild Turkey Federation. **Folks that's a Nation Wide award for being the Best of the Best.**

As you can see, CORA has been very busy and it's easy to see exactly how CORA's leadership is impacting the community.



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BURDEN AND NICK  
ROBINSON  
IN YOUR PRAYERS AS  
THEY CONTINUE TO  
BATTLE HEALTH  
CHALLENGES**

## The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency Off-Highway Vehicle Project

By Rusty Dunn—OHV Manager

The Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Project on North Cumberland Wildlife Management Area (NCWMA) began in 2005. The purpose of the project has been to renovate existing trails and stabilize stream crossings to

decrease siltation into streams. The OHV riding area in the Sundquist Unit of NCWMA has one hundred and two miles of trails and primitive roads that are maintained for public use.

The four man crew that oversees the renovations and maintenance of

the riding area consists of Wildlife Manager 1 Rusty Dunn, Wildlife Equipment Operator Fred Jordan, Wildlife Technician 2 Jamie Miller and Wildlife Technician 1 Ray Bostic. Fred spends most of his time on a track type dozer grading and placing water control structures along the trails to control erosion. Rusty, Jamie and Ray clear trees from trails, monitor the signage and place course aggregate limestone at stream crossings. Annual maintenance is required on the trail system. The amount of maintenance is directly dependent on the amount of annual rainfall and user traffic on the trails.

The program also provides funding for half of two Off-Highway Vehicle Officers' (Joel Hyden and Greg Julian) salaries. Half of their time is spent checking users for compliance of state laws on the trail system. The other half of their time is spent with wildlife law enforcement.

The project is federally funded by the Recreational Trails Program. The Recreational Trails Program gains funds from a percentage of the federal fuel tax on each gallon of fuel sold across the

### Published by: C.O.R.A

www.cora-tn.org

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Mike Trentham	Mitzi Ivey
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Brent Harrison	(423)587-7037

### NORTH CUMBERLAND WMA MANAGERS

Joe Elkins	
Danny Akins	(423)566-8557

United States. Grants are 80% federal dollars and require a 20% match of state dollars. The Tennessee department of Environment and Conservation administers and is the oversight for the federal grant funding. Each grant requires environmental clearances and a map of the specific trails to be renovated.

In addition to the trail system in the Sundquist Unit the OHV crew has expanded the project to the New River Unit of NCWMA. In 2014 they began renovations on approximately thirty miles of trails and primitive roads in the Bull Creek area of the New River Unit. In the last few months they began the process of identifying and tracking approximately twenty five additional miles of trails to add to the new trail system. If funding continues at current levels the goal would be to expand the New River trail system to one hundred miles of trails and primitive roads.

Pine Mountain Longbeards NWTF Chapter held their 11th Annual Wounded Warrior Turkey Hunt on April 25, 2015 at the farm of Terry Lewis and Ron Lawhorn. Some 23 hunters participated in the annual hunt this year.

Half of the hunters hunted on the Ron & Terry Cunningham farm.

The morning started out a little dreary and drizzly, but as the day went on the rain cleared out.

A total of three birds were taken on this day. The first hunter to get a bird was a first time turkey hunter and wounded warrior from Kentucky. He was very excited about getting a bird on his first hunt.

The Jellico Color Guard presented all the flags of the military and United States in a short program.

Special guest speakers were Sam Mars, NWTF National Chairman of the Board and Brenda Valentine, NWTF Spokeswoman. Brenda also served as a guide to one of the wounded warriors.

LaFollette First Baptist Church provided and served lunch to all attendees on Saturday at noon. TWRA Cast Iron Cookers cooked deserts in cast iron kettles for the group.

Randall Pierce, Ruger Rep donated a gun to be given away for our Turkey Shoot among the hunters.

On Friday evening a Meet and Greet fish fry was held with 180 attendees. Mike Trentham smoked BBQ for the group and Ron Combs from Illinois and Terry Lewis cooked fish that Ron had caught in Illinois.

A Blue Grass Band played music for entertainment of the evening. A job well done.

A Silent Auction, and drawings for guns were also held.

We want to thank all NWTF, RMEF, CORA members and other volunteers that helped make this wonderful event.

We also want to thank First Baptist Church, TWRA and the Color Guard for participating in our event. With everyone's help, this is a successful event..



# PINE MOUNTAIN LONGBEARDS NWTF WINS AWARDS

The local Pine Mountain Longbeard's Chapter of NWTF won Two National Awards for events their Chapter holds each year. They won a National Hunting Heritage Award for their Wounded Warrior Hunt they hold each year.

This is the second year they have won a National Award for this event.

They also won a National Award for their Jake's Day that they hold each summer for kids 17 years and under.

Congratulations for a job well done!



# CORA MEETING MINUTES

## CORA Meeting Minutes of November 2nd, 2014

The Board meeting commenced at approximately 7:00 PM, at the Campbell County Court House in Jacksboro, TN. The meeting was held in the County Mayor's office due to the Court House being closed for Election Day.

Invocation was led by Mike Trentham.

The Board's roll call was taken. There were only five board members present at tonight's meeting.

The October 2014 minutes were read and approved as read by the Board.

The general financial and newsletter financial reports were presented by Bob Williams for Bill Stanley and approved as read by the Board.

### Publicity

No report.

### Activities

The CORA BBQ will be discussed under Old Business.

### Newsletter

Terry asked for articles from Board Members to be placed in the next newsletter.

### Newsletter Distribution and Advertising

No report.

### Roads and Trails

No report.

### Memberships

No report.

## Old Business

### • **Ray Wilson Boat Launch.**

Terry reported that the sign is ready for pick up.

• **Gun Raffle:** Sheila Westray from "Ride Royal Blue" was the winner of the firearm raffle at the BBQ.

• **CORA BBQ:** The BBQ was a success. The shelter has been reserved for the second Saturday in October at Cove Lake for 2015.

• **Hunters for the Hungry Program:** We received 300 pounds of venison and will be receiving 210 more pounds to be distributed. Terry mentioned that he would like to see CORA do 10 to 12 thousand meals this year. Terry also mentioned that we need to find more avenues to get the meat out to the people that really need the help. E.L. said he would look into some possible new places to help in the distribution of the meat for the HFTH program.

CORA's website is [www.CORA-TN.org](http://www.CORA-TN.org). We need to update the website. There have been a few names turned in to help with this but there has not been any follow up as of yet. We need to have someone close to keep the site updated.

## New Business

• **Elk Tagging:** Forty-five people showed up at Hatfield Knob to tag Elk. The only thing was is that the Elk did not show up. There was only one Elk that showed up. Terry reported that TWRA has created some competing food sources in the Hatfield area. This has pulled the Elk away from the viewing zone.

• Terry and Jane counted some 2200 surveys from the Hatfield area that people had filled out. TWRA was not receptive with the results that Terry had come up with since it was not a "scientific" type survey. Some RMEF officials were there and decided to donate \$5500.00 to help with a "scientific" survey. Susan Shackmeyer from the University of TN was contacted and so far they have spent fourteen visits to Hatfield conducting surveys and gathering data from the visitor surveys. All the data will be compiled and turned in to CORA when they are completed.

• **Dr. Craig Harper (UT)** who is a conservation expert and writer has asked Terry if he would care to participate in a "selectivity" test for the Elk. This would involve planting different types of food plots, control burns, using herbicides to control foliage, etc. There would possibly be three test sites for the study. Terry will be attending a meeting on December the 5<sup>th</sup> to go over all this information.

On Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> Terry will be attending a meeting in Nashville with the TWRA commissioners to go over the possible rate increase for hunting and fishing licenses. With a \$100M budget, about all of this money comes from "hook and bullet" fees, (hunters and fishermen).

A motion was made to adjourn. Motion passed, meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:  
Mike Trentham  
CORA Secretary

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# CORA Meeting Minutes Continued

## CORA Meeting Minutes of December 2nd, 2014

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

The meeting was opened by CORA President, Terry Lewis.

Invocation was led by Mike Trentham.

The Board's roll call was taken by the Secretary.

The November 2014 minutes were read by the Secretary and approved as read by the Board.

The general financial and newsletter financial reports were presented by Bill Stanley and approved as read by the Board.

**Publicity**  
No report.

**Activities**  
None

**Newsletter**  
Terry reported that the newsletter is now out and available for distribution.

**Newsletter Distribution and Advertising**  
No report.

**Roads and Trails**  
No report other than the roads and trails o.k. at this time.

**Memberships**  
No current activity

## Old Business

• **Hunters for the Hungry Program:** At present CORA has 1402 lbs. of venison on hand ready for distribution. J.O. Adams has processed 3464lbs of venison so far for the HFTH program. This relates to 13,856 individual meals to date that have been given out. Adams will have 500 to 600 more pounds of venison coming for distribution. CORA's HFTH program is now feeding people in Campbell, Anderson and Knox counties. We need to get more Churches to help in the program and to help with financial donations to keep the program going.

**TWRA License increase:** Terry said he had attended a meeting in Nashville on November 5<sup>th</sup> with the TWRA Board members and others about the possible increase in fees. TWRA is looking at a 21% increase in the hunting and fishing licenses. Terry mentioned that TWRA was looking at using the fee structure that CORA had come up with years ago.

## New Business

None

There was a motion made to adjourn, meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:  
Mike Trentham  
CORA Secretary

## CORA Meeting Minutes of January 6th, 2015

The Board meeting commenced at approximately 7:00 PM, at the

Campbell County Court House in Jacksboro, TN.

The meeting was opened by CORA President, Terry Lewis.

Invocation was led by Mike Trentham.

The Board's roll call was taken by the Secretary.

The December 2014 minutes were read by the Secretary and approved as read by the Board.

The general financial and newsletter financial reports were presented by Bill Stanley and approved as read by the Board.

**Publicity**  
No report.

**Activities**  
None

**Newsletter**  
None

**Newsletter Distribution and Advertising**  
No report.

**Roads and Trails**  
No report

**Memberships**  
No current activity

## Old Business

**Ray Wilson Boat Ramp:** It was reported that there was an article in the Lafollette Paper.

• **Hunters for the Hungry Program:** Glenn picked up 1604 lbs.

# CORA Meeting Minutes Continued

of venison and distributed it to various churches, 1192 lbs. of which went to Campbell County. At present a total of 16200 meals will have been provided by the HFTH program in our area. Glenn commented that we need to look at trying to get some money from Second Harvest for the program.

- Glenn also made a motion to give \$100.00 to GB for his expenses of transporting the venison and also for storage costs. Motion passed.
- Terry reported that PMLB's gave out 125 food boxes at Christmas and there was about 3lbs. of venison in each one.

Ray Perry from the Scott County Homeless Shelter was present at tonight's meeting. He asked what the annual cost for the HFTH program is for CORA. Terry said that it is about \$1.00 per pound of venison but this does not cover transportation or storage cost. Mr. Perry talked about their facility in Scott County and what all they do there. They are an affiliate with Second Harvest and they serve 95 to 100 individuals a week. Each person served represents 3 to 4 people in a family.

## New Business

- There was a color picture of the new graphics for the PMLB trailer passed around for viewing.
- Dues for the TWF are due.

Motion was made to pay these and it passed.

- The CORA website fee is due for this year. Jane paid for this and a motion was made and passed to reimburse Jane.

- Terry mentioned that he has a conference call with TWRA Board Director chairman on January 7<sup>th</sup>.

Terry read the CORA mission statement and asked the Board if our current mission statement still reflects our current position. He asked us to think about this and that we need to reassess our goals, mission and where we are going in the future.

There was a motion made to adjourn, meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:  
Mike Trentham  
CORA Secretary

## **CORA Meeting Minutes of February 3rd, 2015**

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

The meeting was opened by CORA President, Terry Lewis.

Invocation was led by Mike Trentham.

The Board's roll call was taken by the Secretary.

The January 2015 minutes were read by the Secretary and approved as read by the Board.

The general financial and newsletter

financial reports were presented by Bill Stanley and approved as read by the Board.

## Publicity

No report.

## Activities

None

## Newsletter

None

## Newsletter Distribution and Advertising

No report.

## Roads and Trails

No report

## Memberships

No current activity; Doug Swallows invited Gabe King from CCHS, Gabe is over the Fishing program at the High School.

## Old Business

- **Hunters for the Hungry Program:** CORA has handled 2598lbs of venison. 2111lbs have been given to Second Harvest. CORA has provided 18,836 meals this season for the HFTH program. Three thousand one-pound packs of venison burger came out of 4700 total poundage. 200lbs were donated to the Scott County Homeless Shelter.

## New Business

- Danny Akins from TWRA spoke about the license increase. Terry elaborated on the license increase.
- Joe Elkins from TWRA talked about some control burns. He said

**Continued Page 11**

# Boat ramp dedicated in Wilson's memory



DWANE WILDER/Staff

The Ray Wilson Boat Ramp is formally dedicated. From left: Mitzi Wilson Booth and Joey Russell, daughter and nephew of Ray Wilson; Rep. Dennis Powers; Campbell County Mayor **E.L. Morton**; and Glen Massengill, Clarence Ward and Robert Burden from the Campbell Outdoor Recreation Association.

**'We are here to honor the legacy of somebody that decided to be a blessing to the people of Campbell County.'**

**— Campbell County Mayor E.L. Morton**

By DWANE WILDER  
dwilderglafollettepress.com

CARWILLE—Campbell County officials, outdoorsmen and family members of former commissioner Ray Wilson gathered Tuesday morning to dedicate a boat ramp named in his

memory.

Wilson passed away last summer, but not before spearheading an effort to spruce up the public boat launch on Queener Road just downstream of the Cove Lake Dam. The site is on the

Cove Creek embayment of Norris Lake.

"We are here to honor the legacy of somebody that decided to be a blessing to the people of Campbell County," County Mayor E.L. Morton said.

Wilson was a founding member of the Campbell Outdoor Recreation Association and served 16 years on the Campbell County Commission. Over the years, he made several trips to Nashville to meet with state leaders to promote development of the access ramp.

## HUNTERS FOR THE HUNGRY By TWF

### 2014-2015 BY THE NUMBERS

126,649 Pounds venison donated.  
More than 500,000 meals provided.

There are 78 total processors in 63

counties.

We had a 8.5% increase in whole deer donations



# YOUTH TURKEY HUNT

On March 28<sup>th</sup> 2015 Pine Mountain Longbeards NWF Chapter, and TWF held their first Youth Hunt on opening day of Youth Turkey Season. A total of 9 youth hunters attended. These youth braved to frigid cold weather with a low of 23 when they arrived at 5:00 in the morning with snow flying the night before. There were 8 boys and 1 girl attend. All of these youth were a part of TWF's Scholastic Clay Target Program. Each was accompanied by a parent and a guide.

One turkey was harvested during the hunt. Everyone heard gobblers and most were lucky enough to see birds but only one was harvested.

When the shooting was over and the distance to the gobbler was paced off, the 11 year old fifth grader of Knoxville, a member of the school's Warrior Shooting Team, had connected from 55 yards. The bird weighed 23 1/2 pounds, had a 10 1/2 inch beard and 1 3/8 inch spurs.

On Patrick's first turkey hunt, he not only had his first turkey, he had his first trophy turkey.

He also used his 12-gauge to make the shot at a distance that would be challenging to a lot of veteran turkey hunters.

But that wasn't what closed the loop.

When TWF kick started the Scholastic Clay Target Program 12 years ago, the mission or one of its missions was to get youngsters involved in shooting sports and, along the way, get them involved in hunting.

Over the years, hunting license sales

in Tennessee had been on the decline and the biggest decline wasn't among adults, but among kids who were never introduced to the sport. While taking kids with little or no outdoor experience from the classroom to a turkey blind can be tough, getting them on the shooting range first was a way to smooth the transition.

Through the SCTP, youngster's from Memphis to Mountain City picked up their hunter education certification, got intensive training in gun safety, and were taught the shotgun by shooting sports trap and skeet. Not only has the program spawned one of the best SCTP programs in the nation, it's getting kids who might not otherwise become hunters into the woods.

Each person attending was served breakfast and were given a snack bag

to take to the blind with them. They were then taken to turkey blinds. At lunch time they were retrieved and served lunch and after lunch they were taken out into blinds to hunt the afternoon. At dusk they were retrieved and served dinner.

Each youth were given t-shirts, caps and miscellaneous items as souvenirs of the event.

We want to Thank all the volunteers that helped with the event, Whether you were a guide, a helper, or a volunteer in helping make and serve the meals or volunteering to help set up. We could not do this without Volunteers.

Thank You All!



Patrick Calhoun, Age 11, of Knoxville, harvested this 23# bird during the Youth Hunt. Along with Patrick were his dad, Douglas, (on the left) and his guide, Jonathan Brandenburg

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# CORA Minutes Cont'd from Page 7

that they had received a grant for \$250,000 from the NWTf for control burns. Joe said he has been in contact with Pat-Rick Fire in North Carolina to provide a 40 man crew to do a burn. He has a go ahead to use this group to do a burn in the North Cumberland area and other locations. The funds must be used within one to two years. He asked if CORA could help with some volunteers to come up on a Saturday to assist. The contract price breaks down to around \$32 to \$34 per acre. Terry added that we might be able to get some of the UT Forestry students to help with the burns as well.

Terry Lewis talked about a study of "Elk Foraging" by Dr. Craig Harper. Joe said that TWRA would be interested in the findings of the study. Dr. Harper wants to do a study to see what the best forage is for the Elk in our area.

- E.L. noted that there would be a Norris Lake clean-up day on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

Terry passed out a copy of the CORA Mission Statement and also stated that the CORA website is in dire need of

updating. [www.CORA-TN.org](http://www.CORA-TN.org)  
There was a motion made to adjourn, meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:  
Mike Trentham  
CORA Secretary

## CORA Meeting Minutes of March 3rd, 2015

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

The meeting was opened by CORA President, Terry Lewis.

Invocation was led by Mike Trentham.

The Board's roll call was taken by the Secretary.

The February 2015 minutes were read by the Secretary and approved as read by the Board.

The general financial and newsletter financial reports were presented by

Financial reports were presented by Bill Stanley and approved as read by the Board.

Activities  
None

Newsletter  
Terry stated that he needs articles.

Newsletter Distribution and Advertising  
No report. **Cont'd Back Page**

**C.O.R.A.  
Meeting  
Jacksboro Court House  
7:00 P.M.  
Regular meetings  
Are 1st Tuesday  
Of each month  
OPEN TO THE  
PUBLIC  
See You There!**

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HAPPY SPRING**

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TRAVELS AND PLAY**

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# CORA



CAMPBELL OUTDOOR RECREATION ASSOCIATION

## Campbell Outdoor Recreation Association

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Jacksboro Courthouse

## CORA MINUTES Cont'd

### Roads and Trails

No report

### Memberships

It was stated that we have four new members as of our last meeting.

### Old Business

**Controlled burn:** Joe Elkins reported that there was no date scheduled as of yet.

TWRA license increase: Terry said there has not been must noise on the license increase.

- CORA mission statement: Terry asked that a committee be established to review our mission statement. Mike McAfee-Chairman, E.L. Morton and Glenn Massengill will be on the committee.

Dr. Craig Harper from U.T. has a desire to perform a food plot study on the Elk. The reason he wants to do this is to determine how best to keep the Elk on the Wildlife Management Area, thus keeping them from going onto farm land outside of the WMA. It was mentioned that the TWRA is not interested in the study. Dr. Harper is upset with TWRA about this. Dr. Harper went to Steve Bennett from TWRA and said it would not be a forage study but a vaginal transmitter study to study the birth/deaths of newborn calves.

### New Business

Look into a possible HFTH

grant: E.L. Morton and Tommy Overton to do this. E.L. said that there is possibly \$21,000 available and that we may be able to get \$4 to \$5,000 of some of this grant money for the HFTH. Possibility of having Jo Stout be the administrator.

- Youth turkey hunt on March 28<sup>th</sup> at Terry's farm

TWRA deer hunting discussion

Gold mining bills: HB 442 and SB 390

There was a motion made to adjourn, meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:  
Mike Trentham  
CORA Secretary