

CORA

November, 2007
Edition 31



Promoting Outdoor Recreation

CAMPBELL OUTDOOR RECREATION ASSOCIATION

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Change is Inevitable cont'd

FROM THE PRESIDENT

CHANGE IS INEVITABLE by Terry Lewis

CORA is justified in being proud of what has been accomplished. "However, our long range goals (a) influencing the regulatory process; (b) assisting in preserving and protecting the land and wildlife; (c) working for increased public access to outdoor recreation areas; (d) maintaining the ability to lobby for or against laws of interest; (e) seeking out and affiliating with like-minded organizations; and (f) keeping the even handedness and public access for multiple use on outdoor recreation areas" are more important than ever. These are the tenets that Lee Asbury wrote about in his "From the President" newsletter article dated December 1993. As CORA President, I pledge these important goals are still the guidance and vision that CORA continues forward with into the future.

At CORA's September meeting, in a packed courtroom, TWRA's Assistant Director Ron Fox and Rusty Dunn, TWRA OHV Program Manager provided CORA Board Members and the public with details concerning the TWRA's Off Highway Trails Program currently being implemented on Royal Blue WMA. The details of the

OHV Program included interesting issues like funding from our Federal Highway gas taxes funneled through TDEC to TWRA through grants. TWRA provided maps and pictures of the restoration of miles of the Royal Blue trail system along with the feeder roads as well as future plans for additional areas slated for restoration. As CORA's President, I was most interested to learn just how the TWRA Director's office and its upper management staff were willing to work with CORA Board members to address the public's concerns. I was pleased to hear the TWRA Assistant Director affirm the original agreements between TWRA and CORA. Those important agreements were promises to work closely together on issues and to support the public's interest on the Royal Blue Area.

At times it's easy to become side-tracked with special interests or red hot topics like roads and trails issues. The biggest concerns we face are the inevitable evolutionary changes

that can not be curbed or easily controlled; just like the changes to ATV use from what it was some 20 years ago, to what it is today, and what it will be like in the future. A few years ago primarily local folks were the ones out riding in the mountains and now there might be several hundred from all across the United States riding the trails on any given weekend. I'm sure, as CORA members, you can remember past meetings where we discussed the increased OHV traffic on the Area and as a group tried to find ways to curb the problems that came with big increases in user numbers; from the CORA sponsored UT decibel noise studies, to new parking lot areas, to the area speed limits and user fees all designed to limit the impacts to the sport of riding on the Area. As more Off-Highway users come to enjoy this wonderful Area, we can expect to see more changes to this sport we all enjoy.

With the increased traffic we can be sure that more impacts on the environment
Continued on Back Page

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Cranberry Salad By Jane Lewis

4 cups washed cranberries, 2 red apples, cored & chopped but not peeled, 2 oranges chopped & peel one of them first, 1 cup chopped walnuts, 2 cups sugar, 1 6oz package cherry jello, 1 can crushed pineapple drained.

Mix together the cranberries, apples, oranges, walnuts, pineapple and sugar. In

a separate bowl, dissolve the jello in 2 cups boiling water, add 1 cup cold water and refrigerate until slightly gelled. Combine jello with fruit mixture and spoon into 1 1/2 qt mold. Refrigerate until completely set. (Serves approximately 10)

Royal Blue / Sundquist WMA LE Summary

By Brian Ripley

Please find listed below a summary of Area 41 personnel enforcement actions relative to the Royal Blue, Sundquist Wildlife Management Areas from July 01, 2003 through August 30, 2007. A majority of the arrests / citations were made as a result of saturation enforcement details utilizing uniform patrol / static check points, plain cloths operations, and aerial surveillance.

Slightly over 200 hunters / ATV operators / OHV operators were checked resulting in 128 citations / arrests. The majority 56% were misc. WMA rules and regulations, followed by 25% for assorted firearms and ammunition violations. Not possessing appropriate licenses and permits accounted for 18% of the total citations / arrests; while various minor drug offenses comprised 1% of the total. During the same period enforcement personnel encountered 2 non functioning clandestine methamphetamine labs.

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CORA'S ANNUAL BAR-B-QUE

CORA held its annual public appreciation barbeque on October 13th at the shelter #5 in the Cove Lake Park. This year's barbeque was a huge success and CORA would like to thank everyone who participated in the event. Special thanks go out to Bill Bruce, Leonard Hooks and many others who worked very hard to make this event a great success. Approx. 80 folks attended the event on the beautiful fall Saturday. A drawing was held for door prizes as well as some great knives and other items to help raise funds for the event. Campbell County Commissioner Ann Smith donated a check for \$100.00 to CORA in the honor of Lee Asbury. Additionally, Elizabeth Asbury donated \$40.00 in honor of her father. Thank you both for your wonderful support of CORA. And thanks to everyone for remembering Lee Asbury. We truly do miss Lee.



Ann Smith presents CORA a check in honor of Lee Asbury. Accepting the check is CORA President, Terry Lewis and Vice President , Harry Burden

Members and Guests wait in line to fill their plates with food at the Annual CORA BBQ.



GENERAL INFORMATION ON

CWD - MAD COW DISEASE - BRAIN WORMS

Compiled by Jerry & Jo Stout

CWD - CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

CWD is a disease of deer and elk that produces small areas of damaged tissue in the brains of infected animals. The cause of the disease is not a bacteria or a virus but an infectious protein called a prion. The disease is characterized in animals by loss of body condition, behavioral abnormalities and often times death. CWD is classified as a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE). CWD is a contagious fatal disease among deer and elk but research suggests that cattle and other domestic livestock are resistant to its natural transmission. The possibility of human infection remains a concern but there have been no verified cases of humans contracting CWD.

CWD can reduce the growth and size of wild deer and elk populations in areas where its occurrence is high and is becoming a great concern for wildlife managers across North America.

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency has been testing for CWD since 2003 and has sent hundreds of brain tissue samples from hunter-killed deer and several elk to The University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine for testing. All tests have been negative for CWD. Georgia is one of 15 labs around the country that will be conducting the tests. The tests are rather expensive when manpower and dollars for the actual tests are considered. At the present time, this is the only testing option available since there is no feasible form of live animal testing. Although a lot of people are trying to develop a live animal test for CWD one is not expected to be developed in the near future.

MAD COW DISEASE -

Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) is a transmissible, slowly progressive,

degenerative, and fatal disease affecting the central nervous system of adult cattle. Researchers believe that the agent that causes mad cow disease is an abnormal version of a protein normally found on cell surfaces, called a prion. For reasons still unknown, this protein becomes altered and destroys nervous system tissue in the brain and spinal cord.

Common methods to eliminate disease-causing organisms in food, like heat, do not affect prions. Therefore cooking infected meat will not kill the organism. The prions have only been found in the nervous system tissue so far, but studies are continuing to determine if the prions can also be found in the muscle tissue of infected animals. A human version of mad cow disease called variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD) is believed to be caused by eating beef products containing central nervous system tissue from the brain or spinal cord of cattle infected with mad cow disease.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), no cases of vCJD have been identified in the U.S. The USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) tests thousands of cattle every year and only two cases of BSE have been found in the United States. The last one was discovered in 2003. The disease has been confirmed in cattle born in Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, and the U.K. Mad cow disease is very similar to the chronic wasting disease found in deer and elk

BRAIN WORM OR MENINGEAL WORM -

The parasite

Parelaphostrongylus tenuis (*P. tenuis*) is also known as brain worm or meningeal worm. The major host for this parasite is the white-tailed deer where it is carried without causing any signs of disease. However, when *P. tenuis* is ingested by unnatural, or aberrant hosts such as elk and other susceptible ruminants, the parasite moves into the brain and/or spinal cord, damaging delicate nervous tissue causing neurologic problems to develop. Some of these problems are discussed later in this article.

To understand this disease and how to prevent or minimize its occurrence, it is important to understand the life cycle of *P. tenuis* in the White-tailed deer and what happens when the parasite is ingested by susceptible ruminants. The life cycle is as follows:

1. Adult meningeal worms live in the deer's central nervous system (brain and spinal cord) and produce eggs which hatch into larvae.
2. The larvae migrate from the deer's central nervous system to the lungs, where they are coughed into the mouth, swallowed and passed from the intestinal tract with manure. This portion of the life cycle takes about 3 months.
3. The larvae, now on the ground, must continue their development in an intermediate host (certain land-dwelling snails and slugs) for another three to four weeks until they reach their infective stage.
4. White-tailed deer become infested with *P. tenuis* by eating snails or slugs that contain the infective stage of the larvae. Once eaten, the larvae migrate through the deer's gut and eventually into their central nervous system where they mature into adults and produce eggs and the cycle repeats.

The real problem occurs when *P. tenuis* infected snails and slugs are eaten by aberrant (not a natural) host. Because these larvae do not mature into adults, they cannot produce

eggs that would mature into larvae which could then pass outside the animal with the feces. Instead, these immature larvae wander through the central nervous system causing inflammation and swelling which damages sensitive nerve system tissue, producing a variety of neurologic symptoms. These unnatural hosts are considered to be "dead end" hosts because they cannot spread the disease to other hosts since the larva never mature to adults and only adult worms can lay eggs.

The degree to which an animal is affected is related to how many larvae are present in the nervous system tissue and the specific portion of the brain or spinal cord that has been affected. For example, a mild infestation in a very local area may produce a slight limp. A more severe infestation may cause an animal to become partially or completely paralyzed. If the parasites are located only in the spinal cord, an affected animal will appear bright and alert, and have a normal appetite, despite an altered gait or paralysis. When larva migrate through the brain, they may cause blindness, a head tilt, circling, disinterest in or inability to eat. Symptoms can mimic other brain diseases such as those caused by bacteria, viruses, nutritional deficiencies, trauma, or toxins.

Drugs are not an effective treatment for brain worm because they can not cross the blood-brain barrier. The most effective treatment is prevention by interrupting the life cycle of the snail. This is

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by keeping the ground free of vegetation where the snails live and applying molluscicides the kill the snails.

HUNTERS FOR THE HUNGRY

Sportsmen—Hunters can take advantage of liberal doe harvests while meeting several goals.

Some of these goals are:

1. Feeding local families by donating venison to Hunters for the Hungry.
2. Helping to manage and control the state's exploding deer population.
3. Allowing sportsmen to provide a low fat, high protein diet to our hungry citizens.

A buck or a doe is really nice, but a pound or two will do! We encourage every hunter to donate an animal or a package of venison for the hungry.

Contact—Chad Whittenburg
TWF—(615)-353-1133

TENNESSEE ELK PROJECT STATUS REPORT 2006/2007

Steve Bennett TWRA Elk Project Leader

The North American elk (*Cervus elaphus*) originally ranged throughout Tennessee. The last elk were recorded in the state in the late 1800's. In 1999, citizen groups from the northern Cumberland Plateau region of Tennessee expressed their interest in restoring elk to the area. Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) worked with these citizen stakeholders to develop a plan to restore elk to a 670,000-acre area that includes portions of Campbell, Scott, Morgan, Claiborne, and Anderson counties in the Cumberland Plateau region of Tennessee. This area includes 87% mixed mesophytic forest with about 12% openings. The openings are pasture/grassland and re-claimed coal strip mines. Less than 1% of the site is classified as cropland. The primary area for elk restoration is in this zone with the outer 2 miles considered a buffer region. Beyond the buffer region is identified as a no elk zone where the animals are not considered compatible with the available habitat and/or human interests.

The restoration plan was approved by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission in October 2000. In December 2000, 50 elk were obtained from Elk Island National Park (EINP), Alberta, Canada and released on the Royal Blue Wildlife Management Area. Additional releases occurred in February 2001 (36 elk), February 2002 (50 elk) and February 2003 (31 elk) totaling 167 elk released. The 2003 elk were obtained from the U. S. Forest Service, Land Between the Lakes, KY (LBL).

The goals of the restoration plan are:

1. Restore a native species, elk, to a portion of its former range where compatible with other land uses and where local support is demonstrated.
2. Develop a self-sustaining elk herd capable of providing wildlife viewing opportunities and sustainable hunting.
3. Minimize conflicts between elk and humans.

.4. Minimize the potential for introduction of diseases that are harmful to livestock and wildlife.

2006/07 LIST OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Elk Strategic Planning

The Cumberland Mountain plan was initiated in August 2006. This new plan will be looking at many wildlife species found in the Cumberland Mountains and issues dealing with them. A task force of non TWRA and TWRA personnel was assembled to look at issues dealing elk.

Critical elk habitat will be identified and elk management strategies will be developed. The elk section of the plan is to be completed in 2007.

The elk habitat management plan for the Royal Blue, Sundquist and Brimstone WMA's is being prepared for managing elk on state lands. This plan will be completed the second half of 2007.

Importation Efforts

TWRA was unsuccessful in obtaining the necessary permits from the USDA in 2007 to import elk from Elk Island National Park. TWRA is pursuing the possibility of obtaining additional elk from Land Between the Lakes, KY for release in March 2008.

Population Estimates

Efforts were undertaken in November and December 2006 to determine the elk population in the elk zone. The survey was conducted by TWRA personnel and volunteers and was conducted in both daylight and night time hours.

The survey utilized radio collared elk as marked animals, hand held thermal imaging cameras and spotlights. All elk were counted with sex and age determined if possible. The results of the survey showed that with a 95% confidence interval there were 159-220 elk in the zone.

The 1007 elk census is underway and will continue for several weeks.

Elk Hunting Season

The Wildlife Commission directed TWRA to develop the mechanisms necessary to hold the first elk hunt in the state. TWRA surveyed elk hunting states to help determine how we would develop the hunt. TWRA staff came up with several options on hunting and presented them to the Commission. Three public meetings were held (Campbell Co., Knox Co., and Highland Sportsmen Club in Hamilton Co.) to discuss the options and gauge public support.

The needed legislation was passed during the 2007 legislation year opening up the mechanisms for an elk hunt to be established when approved by the Wildlife Commission.

Elk Viewing Area

TWRA's first elk viewing area was established on the Sundquist WMA in August 2005. A viewing tower was constructed that provides excellent viewing of elk and other wildlife species. For the past several years the area had been intensively planted and produces several acres of food plots. Elk utilize the area year around. Wildlife commonly seen are deer, turkey, birds, coyote and bobcat.

A user survey was developed and placed at the viewing tower to gain information from the users of the area. This survey was a special project for the summer elk intern and was monitored by him until October 2006. A report of the findings from August to October 2006 was completed. The report showed that 82% of the visitors came to view or hear elk. 94.6% of visitors rated their satisfaction with

Tennessee Elk Project Status Report Cont'd

The area in the highest categories. The survey is being continued this fall by CORA, TWF, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and TWRA.

The need for signage at the viewing area was addressed. A 4'X6' Sundquist WMA entrance sign was purchased by TWRA and erected by volunteers with the elk project. Recently the Tennessee Wildlife Federation purchased a 4'X6' sign announcing the Hatfield Knob Viewing Area. This sign was also erected by volunteers. Several smaller directional signs are in place. The educational kiosks were erected at the site by the Tennessee Wildlife Federation and volunteers and are awaiting the signage.

Productivity

Efforts were made throughout the 2006/07 calving season to document elk calves in a portion of the elk restoration zone. The methods used were observer sightings, placement of remote cameras and tracking the adult elk and elk calves.

Sightings were recorded from TWRA personnel as well as reliable cooperators. The final calf count for 2007 is not completed yet but it appears to be in line with other years. A total of 35 calves were documented from the observations in summer 2006. In 2005 there were 38 calves located.

Media Coverage and Community Support

The project has received coverage both in the printed media and television. There is an increase in the number of people traveling to the zone to view the herd. The Hatfield Knob Viewing Area has had special media coverage and visitation is increasing as people find out about it. Local volunteers from several conservation organizations have assisted in making improvements to the viewing area. TWRA project personnel continue to make several presentations at various group meetings across the state. Volunteers also make presenta-

tions to groups on the restoration project.

Law Enforcement

Law enforcement is a key component, as any newly established population needs protection. Several law enforcement details are held on the WMA's as well as other places in the restoration zone. There has been an increase in the number and duration of details. No illegally killed elk were found or reported this year

Two Bull Elk Spar at Hatfield Knob Wildlife Viewing Area



CORA MEETING MINUTES

CORA Meeting Minutes of June 5, 2007

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

Invocation was led by Chairman – Harry Burden.

The Board's roll call was taken by Mike McAfee. Jim Ayers and Hubert Rollins were absent.

The May minutes were read and approved as read.

Treasurer Ray Wilson presented the general and newsletter financial reports for March. No deposits were made or checks written. The report was approved by the Board.

Publicity

Mitzi Ivey will check on the status of the local news media announcing our monthly meetings.

Activities

No report.

Newsletter

Terry Lewis brought 300 copies of the latest newsletter. The cost was approximately \$300. The next edition will be shorter and cheaper to produce because a year's worth of minutes will not be required. The group was reminded the newsletter is our only method of getting our message out and that Judge Asbury stated in the past our newsletter was a major asset. The Board reaffirmed that the newsletter should cash flow from advertisers and not require subsidy from the general account.

Newsletter Distribution and Advertising

Glen Massengill will be in contact our advertisers.

Roads and Trails

N/A

Membership

Bob Burden announced this meeting would be the last meeting to purchase new memberships before the August meeting.

Old Business

Asbury Plaque. Again, many thanks to Joe Levitt for donating the money for the plaque. TWF is handling payment to Al-len Sign Company for tax purposes.

Terry to sign the resolution and the plaque goes into production.

Cove Creek Quail Restoration. Dick Conley excused himself from writing the five year plan due to illness in his family and his upcoming retirement. Stan has agreed to meet with Terry to discuss specifics on what needs to be done short term in each field he selects for improvements. Invoices for work completed on Cove Creek have been submitted to QU for reimbursement.

TWF Hunters for the Hungry. Mike Butler from TWF made a presentation on the program and how it may be implemented in Campbell County. Butler reported that approximately 66,000 pounds of meat were processed from the 06 season contributing much needed quality protein to roughly 250,000 meals. Butler proposed CORA could consider becoming a TWF affiliate for HFH. TWF would provide technical direction to CORA for starting the program and would provide the ongoing administrative support. A number of options for proceeding with implementation such as pound and pack and fundraising were discussed. As a start point, Glen Massengill will contact the county minister's association to determine who feeds the hungry in the county and their level of interest in HFH. Thanks to Butler for attending the CORA meeting and providing valuable information.

New Business

Election. Officers and Directors are scheduled to be elected at our next regularly meeting on August 7th. Proxy's were handed out for those who may not be able to attend. Ray Wilson will handle the

election process. Terry Lewis asked to consider the possibility of two or three vacancies to be filled and to think about possible nominations.

Other TWF News. (1) Senator Kilby is taking steps to have discretionary dollars applied to Hatfield Knob improvements. If dollars are obtained, Butler requested letters of thanks or calls to Kilby. (2) A TN constitutional right to hunt and fish is in the works in the General Assembly. The final vote is next Monday (June 11th). Butler suggested CORA should thank Representative Baird for his support.

Norris Hotel Development. A Campbell County Commission meeting to discuss the development is scheduled for June 25th. Ray Wilson and Ray Ivey will attend and read or submit the CORA position/resolution on this matter.

Kiosks on Hatfield Knob. Money was donated from TWF and grants for informational materials and structures on Hatfield. Terry Lewis asked for volunteers to build the structures.

House Bill 860. Representative Baird sponsored a bill which appeared to effectively remove the public's right to operate ATV's on TN public areas. A group of CORA officers met with Baird. The real purpose of the bill, according to Baird, was aimed at obtaining a public entrance on Stinking Creek at the Ride Royal Blue location. A discussion ensued resulting in a motion being made and passed to write a resolution stating CORA supports true public access and recommending anyone, not just Ride Royal Blue patrons, should be able to use the access area. Ray Wilson suggested the County commission may also consider a resolution in support of this public access point. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:
Mike McAfee, CORA Secretary

CORA Meeting Minutes cont'd

CORA Meeting Minutes of August 7, 2007

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

Invocation was led by Chairman – Harry Burden.

The Board's roll call was taken by Mike McAfee. Glen Massengill and Pete Shelton absent excused.

The June minutes were read and approved as read.

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

Publicity

Mitzi Ivey reported the LaFollette Press announced our August monthly meeting.

Activities

Bill Bruce reported he had heard one of the corn fields planted at Cove Creek looks good.

Newsletter

Terry Lewis reported we are gearing up for the next newsletter, likely coming in October.

Newsletter Distribution and Advertising

Ray Wilson reported Glen Massengill contacted many of our advertisers.

Roads and Trails

N/A

Membership

Bob Burden asked those in attendance to renew their CORA memberships which have now expired.

Corporate Business – Yearly Election

The yearly election of Officers and Board members was held. After nominations

and motions, the results were that the Officers and Board members seated from the previous one year terms were re-elected. In addition, again with nominations and motions, the existing three vacancies on the Board were filled by:

Bill Stanley

Jerry Stout

Ron Lawhorn

We welcome our three new Board members and greatly appreciate them agreeing to serve.

Old Business

Asbury Plaque. Terry Lewis and Nick Robinson reported the plaque would be ready for the next monthly meeting. The media, local public officials, and the Asbury family will be invited for the presentation and unveiling.

Cove Creek Quail Restoration. Waldo Galliher from the Oak Ridge QU chapter gave a presentation on QU's mission, a few samples of TN QU projects, and how to build and improve habitat. Galliher reported he met with Stan Stooksbury to discuss potential Royal Blue projects. QU may have funding to contribute to Royal Blue projects. A QU roll chopper may be loaned out to TWRA-Royal Blue. Galliher and Lewis asked the group to think about ideas for joint TWRA/QU/CORA projects.

TWF Hunters for the Hungry. Report deferred until the next meeting due to Glenn Massengill's absence.

Ride Royal Blue Resolution. The resolution was read. No comments were made and the resolution was signed.

Kiosks and Signs on Hatfield Knob.

Thanks to those who helped put up the sign. Terry Lewis asked for volunteers to build the Kiosks. The first work day will be Saturday August 11th at 8:00 AM. Also, thanks to many who have given materials and money. Senator Kilby managed to get some public dollars appropriated for the kiosks. Dixie Concrete will furnish the concrete and Hall's

Salvage is donating all the treated lumber. A&S Steel donated roofing.

New Business

OHV Program. Ron Fox and Rusty Dunn from TWRA will attend next month's CORA meeting and provide information on the OHV program at Royal Blue, including what the future looks like (where is the program headed) and the road closure process. This is a very important topic to the public at large in East TN. CORA receives more comments on this subject area from the public than any other single topic. CORA will take steps to get the word out about the meeting to local and East TN press and other media. Bill Bruce and Leonard Hooks emphasized the importance of word of mouth and asked Officers and Directors to call and talk to as many folks as possible to inform them about the meeting and topic.

Legislative. Representative William Baird presented copies of eight study bills coming up soon for discussion in Nashville that topically CORA may be interested in.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:
Mike McAfee
CORA Secretary

CORA Meeting Minutes of September 4, 2007

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

Invocation was led by Chairman – Harry Burden.

The Board's roll call was taken by Mike McAfee. Bill Stanley was absent excused.

The August minutes were read and approved as read.

CORA Meeting Minutes cont'd

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

All committee reports were deferred until the next monthly meeting, with one exception:

Activities

Bill Bruce reported on shelter availability at Cove Lake for the pig roast. The BBQ was set for October 13th at Shelter number five (5). Details will be worked out later.

Old Business

Kiosks on Hatfield Knob. Thanks to those (named individually by Terry Lewis) who helped put up the kiosks. Poles and roof systems are up. More work is to be done with gravel and concrete for the floors.

OHV Program. Ron Fox and Rusty Dunn from TWRA made a presentation on the OHV program at Royal Blue that included: introduction; statewide perspective on OHV; history and current status at Royal Blue (RB); and what the future looks like (where is the program headed).

Ron Fox, TWRA Assistant Director, giving the statewide perspective, acknowledged CORA has and will continue to play a significant role with OHV's at RB. RB is viewed by TWRA as a pilot site for the Federal Motorized Trails tax money TN receives. TWRA did not ask for the OHV program, in fact no State agency wanted it, but recognizes TWRA may well be the logical choice to manage the program. Something must be done to manage the large number of OHVs who need a place to ride and who currently are creating trespassing issues.

Rusty Dunn, RB and Sundquist OHV Manager, gave the RB details. The program started in 2005. Funding comes from the Federal Highway Administration in an 80%/20% Fed/State

match ratio. The 20% State match comes from Wetland Funds and ??? The money is actually given to TDEC and is then awarded through a grant process to TWRA after going through as many as six (6) levels of approval. TWRA has been awarded three grants to date. \$40K primarily for planning, \$202K primarily for equipment, \$488K primarily for trails. About 46 miles of trails are considered complete. Rusty stated his number one concern with the trails program is the environment and safety. He stated his goal with trails is scenic touring, loosely defined as not gravel roads, but not too challenging. Roads and trails are labeled as green-easy, blue-mid, and black-challenging. Rusty stated he has a lot of users to try to please, including jeeps, ATVs, horses, bicycles, and motorcycles. All work on the OHV program for the foreseeable future will be East of I-75, which started with the Short Mountain area. Maps and before and after pictures were presented on current and future efforts. Rusty also reported OHV trail maps are now available at the TWRA web site. Terry Lewis pointed out Royal Blue started out with approximately 800 miles of trails and we provided TWRA with a color-coded map of roads and trails. TWRA acknowledged they are using that map and are working to expand roads and trails, not close them.

Asbury Plaque. The final plaque was delivered and placed on the wall for permanent display in the Courthouse. It was covered with paper for an unveiling ceremony. Many dignitaries were present for the unveiling ceremony including: the entire Asbury family, Jerry Cross-County Mayor, Ann Smith-County Commission, William Baird-State Representative, and Wes Montgomery-?? Local news media was also present. Terry Lewis gave brief opening remarks concerning the contributions Lee Asbury made to CORA and to the public. He then read the words contained on the plaque. The Officers, Directors, visitors, and audience then made their way to the hallway at the main courthouse entrance. The plaque was unveiled

and Ann Smith read a statement prepared by Joe Coker on behalf of the Campbell County Bar Association concerning Lee Asbury. The family members were each presented with a framed replica of the original metal plaque. The ceremony opened and closed with prayer???

Submitted by:
Mike McAfee
CORA Secretary

CORA Board Meeting October 2, 2007

Invocation

The invocation was led by Harry Burden

Roll Call

Roll call was read by Terry Lewis. Mike McAfee was excused absent.

Minutes

The minutes of the prior meeting held on September 4, 2007 were read by Jerry Stout. After reviewing the minutes, a motion was made and approved to amend the minutes of this meeting to include the attendance of County Commissioners Melvin Boshears and Rusty Orick.

Treasure Report

The Treasurers Report was presented by Ray Wilson and approved as reported.

The Newsletter account was also provided by Mr. Wilson and approved as reported.

Committee Reports

Committee Reports were delivered with acceptance by the attendees:

Publicity – The upcoming CORA pig roast would be publicized in the local paper and on the public access channel as well as radio.

Activities – Bill Bruce reported progress on the planning of the pig roast and requested additional help on supplies and support for various items on the day of the event (October 13, 2007). Several attendees volunteered their services and sup-

CORA Meeting Minutes cont'd

port. Assignments were delegated and confirmed.

Newsletter—Terry Lewis reported that the next issue was under development and requested that anyone who would like to contribute information is welcome to contact him.

Membership – No Updates beyond requesting that members who owe their annual dues to remember to pay.

Old Business

Hunters for the Hungry – It was reported that discussions with the Campbell County Baptist Association had gone very well. The Association provides food for over 200 persons throughout the county and believes that participation in this program would be beneficial. The Association has volunteered to act as the distribution arm of this effort and would also assist in the solicitation of operating capitol. The next stage is to identify a processor that can and will support the Hunters for the Hungry program. Some concern was expressed regarding two points:

- Ensuring that churches that provided operating capitol also had an equitable share of the distributed meat.
- Recent diseases in local deer could impact the number of deer processed in the upcoming year

Asbury Plaque – Terry Lewis read a kind letter written on behalf of the entire Asbury family authored by Lee's oldest son, Wes Asbury. The letter expressed their thanks and appreciation for the plaque honoring Lee, their thanks for the concern for his family, and for the strong friendship between Lee and CORA.

Off Highway Vehicles (OHV) – Terry Lewis read a message from Ron Lawhorn regarding pending regulation of OHV usage in the Indian Boundary region of the TN/NC border. Based on this message, OHV use will likely be curtailed, or eliminated, in this area due to concerns regarding impacts to surface water streams and brook trout habitat. The Southern Law Center is considering com-

mencing a lawsuit on behalf of Trout Unlimited and other stakeholders.

CORA member discussion of this issue expressed concern that OHV used in our area may be adversely impacted due to similar issues. Currently, TWRA is making trail improvements to address some potential impacts. However, area logging, and mining operations are likely providing greater surface water impacts than OHV usage. Actions after this lively discussion include:

- Asking TWRA to define, with the assistance of TDEC, which regulations in fact address OHV usage
- Determining if surface water quality is available and applicable in the area Gauge the interest and perspective of other stakeholders and users of public lands

New Business

Terry Lewis presented samples of CORA information/business cards for board members to review and discuss at the next

In the Absence of Mike McAfee
Submitted By:
Bill Stanley

CORA ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

CORA held its annual election for officers and directors on August 7th, 2007. We are proud to announce that many of our elected officers and board members were re-elected to serve another term. We welcome 3 new members to the board of directors: Jerry Stout of Lafollette, Bill Stanley of Lafollette and Ron Lawhorn of Kingston.



meeting.

The Lee Asbury Family

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Open Letter to Past Members and the Public

October 2007

Dear Outdoor Lover,

We would appreciate your considering renewing your membership with C.O.R.A.

We realize that people living in this area have unprecedented outdoor recreation opportunities. However, there are issues that are affecting the use of the area.

We need your continued support for the following reasons:

We never know when a serious issue may arise. Politics is numbers and the greater our membership the greater our ability to influence the direction of issues important to the multiple use of our outdoor recreation. We are faced with increased financial demands as everything like mail expenses, seed and fuel for habitat improvement has increased in cost.

Your name on our membership list and your financial support would be of great benefit when future problems arise. Memberships run from July to June of each year and our dues are only \$10.00 per year. How many other organizations membership dues are only \$10.00 a year? Would you like to be a part of this dynamic organization, an organization that stands for "Multiple Use" of outdoor recreation? Please feel welcome to attend the regular meetings held on the first Tuesday of each month at the Campbell County Courthouse in Jacksboro and assembles in the main courtroom at 7:00pm. These meeting are open to the public and you are invited to attend.

If you have any questions, you may reach any of these members for further information:

Harry Burden	423-562-2171
Terry Lewis	865-414-0057
Ray Wilson	423-566-6837
Glen Massengill	423-566-8513
Mike McAfee	423-562-2283

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT OUR NEXT
CORA MEETING

CORA MEMBERSHIP

10612 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37922

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE # _____ e-mail _____

Date _____ Membership Dues ____\$10.00____

CORA NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE

CONTACT FOR INFORMATION:

TERRY LEWIS	865-584-8896
HARRY BURDEN	423-562-2171
RAY WILSON	423-566-6837
MIKE MCAFEE	423-5622283
GLEN MASSENGILL	423-566-8513

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Knoxville, TN 37922

Phone: 865-584-8896
Fax: 865-862-0797
E-mail: terry@t-lewis.com
janel@t-lewis.com

**Meetings 1st Tuesday
of every month**

Promoting Outdoor Recreation

Presidents Letter cont'd from page 1

ment will occur. More regulations will be placed on the land and its users. As new environmental laws are created and as the current laws are more strictly enforced we can expect to see more changes to come that probably will not be to our liking. Unfortunately, most of these changes will come as a result of the increased use and will not be issues that CORA can easily influence. As a result we must prepare ourselves to adjust to the future and to work closely with those organizations and groups that have some control over the issues and attempt to have as much positive influence over the inevitable changes as possible. Hopefully, moving forward with our eyes wide-open and keeping our expectations reasonable, we can limit the impact to our interests here at home. While riding ATV's deep into the mountains will

never again be as it once was, it will be something we can all still enjoy.

**WE WANT TO WISH EVERY-
ONE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING
AND A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

**HAVE A HAPPY NEW YEAR
TOO!**

**DON'T FORGET
OUR REGULAR
MEETINGS 1ST
TUESDAY OF
EVERY MONTH
7:00 P.M. AT THE
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