

# CORA

PREMIER EDITION

APRIL 1993



*Promoting Outdoor Recreation*

CAMPBELL OUTDOOR RECREATION ASSOCIATION

## WELCOME to the First Issue of C.O.R.A.

Many of our members have asked that they be informed of what is going on within our ranks, and in the Royal Blue WMA. We appreciate your concern and need for information but.... "ya gotta help us out!" How??? First, make an honest attempt to attend the quarterly membership meeting or any of the monthly Board meetings. We need your opinions, ideas and often your vote.

Secondly, in order to make a newsletter interesting, we need your input. Send us information, an experience, a "gripe", or concern you may have. Give us as much detail as you can!!! A problem? Give us your solution to it (if you have one). Don't worry about grammar or spelling, just make sure we can understand it; and of course, make it legible. If it looks like some foreign language, forget it. We

have enough trouble with the Judges' scribble. The good Lord has certainly blessed his secretary, Shirley Wier, with unbelievable talent.

Let us hear from you—it's your Newsletter. Enough said. Read on. Hope you enjoy it.

*Editors: Frank LaGreca and Terry Lewis*

### INSIDE

**PAGE 2**

What is C.O.R.A.

Jim Shetterly Wants to Know

**PAGE 3**

Meeting Schedule

Royal Blue Happenings

How to Kill C.O.R.A.

**PAGE 4**

C.O.R.A Minutes

**PAGE 5**

Business & Professional Directory

**PAGE 6**

Permits Required

Roy & Mitzl Ivey say

**PAGE 7**

The Recipe Exchange

Happenings, Continued

Minutes, Continued

**PAGE 8**

Hunter or Idiot?

Grouse Update

### From the President

#### "WHEN THE STATE NEEDS TO ACT QUICKLY"

*by Lee Asbury, President*

Recent events in Campbell County should focus our attention on the State of Tennessee to be able to act quickly when desirable tracts of land become available for addition to WMAs, State Forests, Parks and other State holdings. On January 3, 1993, 1600 acres of mountain land in the Elli Valley section of Campbell and Scott Counties went on the auction block and sold for around \$100.00 an acre. That price is well below what everyone has thought to be a fair market value. Ironically, this acreage is very near Royal Blue WMA property—except for one land owner, would be adjoining. Even if TWRA had shown an interest in adding it to Royal Blue, it would be powerless to act quickly enough. Therefore, land which had been public land for 100 years has passed into the hands of several new owners, some of them likely to stop unrestricted public use.

Why can't the State act faster? Because laws and procedures are

cumbersome, time consuming and require the consent of so many agencies and individuals that a period of months or years are needed to get a deal fully completed. C.O.R.A. and other like-minded groups, need to work with the Legislature and the Governor to create a procedure for moving quickly when the need arises. Without such authority bargains will keep going by and we will all be losers because of it. We need to start NOW on a solution to this problem!!!

#### Turkey Calling Contest

Tuesday, April 6, 1993

7:00 pm

at the monthly meeting

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## What is C.O.R.A.?

By Mike McAfee

C.O.R.A. is the Campbell Outdoor Recreation Association. C.O.R.A. was originally formed to protect and ultimately move 43,000 acres of mountainous land, that had historically been used mostly for hunting into public ownership. That goal was reached when the State of Tennessee purchased the land and moved management to TWRA. C.O.R.A.'s work is just beginning. CORA was founded on a concept referred to as "multiple use". In a nutshell that is defined as the use of public lands by a wide variety of users without undue harm to the land. Specifically,

C.O.R.A. would like to see the Royal Blue Wildlife Management Area continue to be a year round facility; open to a wide variety of hunters, hikers, bikers, four wheelers, campers, and others with minimum rules. C.O.R.A. activities include active involvement with state, federal, volunteer agencies, and clubs with interest and responsibilities relating to outdoor recreation. C.O.R.A. has interest and involvement in wildlife habitat improvement and other environmental projects. If you have similar interests, call or write for membership information.

## Jim Shetterly Wants to Know...

Where are the tall "tails" or is it "tales" .... okay, stories, of the great outdoors or its creatures??? Like the 400 lb. White-tail with 24 points or the 12 foot rattle snake with a body the size of your leg. How about the 4 foot tall wild turkey with a 20" beard. And then there's the hunter who sees 4 or 5 monster-size bucks in one day and doesn't get a shot. Jim enjoys the "ole" pot-belly stove and campfire set arounds, listenin and tellin about such "all fired certain" things and events. Jim says. . "he's also heard one about a big, big, really big fish but doesn't remember the details." How about somebody out there helping "ole" Jim out, send us the "rest of the story" as you know it. . . for sure.

Published Quarterly by:

C.O.R.A.

Campbell Outdoor Recreation Association

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Knoxville, TN 37921  
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# C.O.R.A. Meeting Schedule and Comments

C.O.R.A. Board of Directors meet on the first (1st) Tuesday of the month. Members are invited to attend and are encouraged to participate. The general membership meetings are held every quarter, also on the first (1st) Tuesday of the month. **The next general meeting is April 6th, at 7 pm in the Campbell County Court House, Jacksboro, TN.**

C.O.R.A. has and will continue to be influential in what happens on the ROYAL BLUE WMA. We are very fortunate to have Manager, Stan Stooksbury and Region IV Wildlife Officer Manager,

Bob Ripley, directly involving us in planning for the future development of this recreation area. Our collective concern is to help insure that what is done on Royal Blue is in the best interest of the land, wildlife and everyone wishing to use this beautiful mountain area. It is very important for your Board of Directors to hear "the rest of the story" from people like you, the persons taking the interest and the time to read this newsletter. Make us aware of the "good, bad & the ugly" thoughts you may have on your mind. The "good", we

will certainly enjoy hearing, the "bad and ugly," maybe we can do something about. So let's see you at the next meeting, and why not bring a friend.

Prospective new members are invited to attend. Annual dues are \$15.

## Royal Blue Happenings

### "National Wild Turkey Federation Habitat Enhancement Plan"

by Stan Stooksbury, Area Manager

There are 5 separate projects in this plan. This work will take place in the Muse Gap and Straight Fork Creek area of Royal Blue WMA. Over \$100,000.00 will be spent on this plan in the following manner:

1. Tennessee Valley Authority, will fund \$16,000.00 toward the construction of fields and linear openings. In addition, TVA will update treatment of power line right-of-ways to discourage woody growth and enhance nesting sites.

2. Mine Reclamation, will utilize approximately \$70,000.00 in Federal grants to reclaim a mine which has acid mine drainage. This drainage has killed off all life in Straight Fork Creek. The area will be replanted in wildlife habitat.

## How to Kill C.O.R.A

- Don't participate beyond paying your dues. Let them handle things. Then, complain that the members have **NO VOICE** in the organization.
- Decline all offices and committee appointments. Then, offer plenty of advice on how they should do things.
- If appointed to a committee, don't work. It's only a courtesy appointment. Then complain that the organization has stagnated.
- If you don't attend the meetings or initiate new ideas, then you can play the "Devil's Advocate" to those submitted by others.
- Don't rush to pay your dues. They are too high anyway. Then complain about how finances are managed.
- Don't encourage others to become members. Then complain about the membership not growing.
- Don't read your Newsletter. Then, complain that you're not informed.
- Don't volunteer your talents or your time. Then complain that you are never asked.
- If, by chance, the organization grows, grasp every opportunity to tell the members how tough it was and how hard you worked to bring it to the present level of success.

Please see Happenings on page 7

# C.O.R.A. MINUTES

## MAY '92

Terry Lewis, representing an ATV group, concerned about ATV restrictions on Royal Blue.

Lee Asbury, voiced his concern regarding restrictive policy of proposed plan by TWRA. Wants to see it more as an "Outdoor Recreational Area," rather than a Wildlife Management Area," as TWRA recognizes all of their properties.

President Asbury accepted a proposal by member, Joe Terry, to form a C.O.R.A. group to meet with TWRA officials and discuss possible changes. Proposal was unanimously approved.

## JUNE '92

President Asbury, reported that he met with Royal Blue, manager Stan Stooksbury. Changes in the "PLAN" were discussed. Stan took them under advisement.

Harry Burden, Board Chairman.. Opened the meeting to the membership and the Board, to further narrow the proposed changes being presented to TWRA concerning: ATV's, Firearms, Camping, Roads, Gates and a designated "Wilderness Area."

Four C.O.R.A. representatives were chosen to meet with TWRA. They were: Asbury, Wilson, Tackett and LaGreca. The "theme" they were to present to TWRA was a "Multiple Use" concept for the entire Royal Blue area.

Defined as "an area opened year round, for the public to enjoy a variety of outdoor activities with limited restrictions."

## JULY '92

President Asbury, in a telecon, talked with TWRA Director Gary Meyers and requested a meeting on the proposed C.O.R.A. changes. The changes were passed on to TWRA personnel—we were advised to "hold off", until TWRA could discuss the changes and get back to us.

Annual elections were held over until the proper quorum was available, with one exception. Secretary, Gary Tackett, due to personal circumstances, resigned his position and was replaced by director Frank LaGreca (Maryville), and LaGreca's position filled by member Fred Walker (Maryville). Motion was accepted and passed.

## AUGUST '92

Lee Asbury, continued to accept the responsibility of keeping the lines of communications open between C.O.R.A. and TWRA, insuring that our proposed changes wouldn't fall between the cracks.

The Membership was officially notified that area law enforcement for Royal Blue was in place and a permit was required. Warnings issued—not Citations.

Terry Lewis accepted responsibility for sending a mailing to all present and former C.O.R.A. members making them aware of C.O.R.A.'s progress and future direction.

## SEPTEMBER '92

President Asbury, invited Wildlife Officer manager for Region IV, Bob Ripley, and Royal Blue WMA manager, Stan Stooksbury, to speak to the group with a Q & A session to follow. All of our proposals were addressed and presented to the Board and membership, a direct result of the special meeting held prior to the regular meeting.

The following conclusions were reached, regarding our proposals:

1. ATV's may be used on all existing trails at all times. During deer season joy riding should be avoided. Courtesy and common sense should prevail.
2. Carrying any kind of firearm year-round is under consideration. Until a final decision is made, you may carry a weapon with the necessary permits and the proper caliber weapon to match the permit and the season.
3. Camping- Most anywhere- use common sense to help avoid conflict or injury. Bury or remove trash and garbage. This is very important, since it was a "sore spot" with TWRA, regarding as "un-assigned camping area."
4. Horseback riding—anywhere, but use extreme caution on traveled roads and especially careful "off road", due to "perc. and exploratory" drill holes.
5. Gates—none at this time. Except, you are asked to honor those privately owned, and by all means, honor No Trespassing signs. You must have an Owner signed permit to be on private property. Wildlife Officers will be checking to insure compliance.

6. Roads—primary, capillary and veins, will always be there. Parallel roads will probably be closed to avoid duplicate maintenance efforts.

7. Wilderness Area—"Wilderness Area" as described, will no longer be used. The sever restrictions imposed on the use of land with this designation is prohibitive. A different designation will be assigned to describe this kind of protected area in Royal Blue. C.O.R.A. and TWRA are considering an area.

Hog Roast, set for Oct. 24th OCT. '92'

Lee Asbury, presented to the Board and attending members, the Wildlife Commissions meeting agenda, along with the Royal Blue proclamations being presented to the Commission at their meeting in Chattanooga, TN.

Hubert Rollen, reported that the Wild Turkey Federation committed \$10,000.00 to the Royal Blue WMA for turkey restoration. With matching funds it could amount to some \$50,000.00.

Lee Asbury, requested that all work projects involving C.O.R.A. on Royal Blue, be documented to help insure eventual TWRA payback.

## NOVEMBER '92

Recycling film was shown to the membership by Mr. Stuart Bradley. A presentation and discussion followed.

Lee suggested that C.O.R.A. might possibly provide the leadership in supporting a Landfill in Campbell county. Our major concern would be reclamation. We would want to make sure it will become a good game food plot.

Tom West- expressed concern that the C.O.R.A. membership, was not fulfilling its trash pick-up obligation on its State designated route. More volunteers are needed in order to get the job done.





## DECEMBER '92

Tom West—reported that with (5) volunteers, they were available to cover (1) mile of the designated (6) mile route. With so few volunteers (6) miles may be more than we can handle, said West.

Ray Wilson, reported that Limestone Ridge, a prospective Landfill area, was **NO** longer under consideration because of drainage problems. They elected to

Please see Minutes on page 7

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# Permits Now Required for Royal Blue Management Area

The Royal Blue Wildlife Management Area, 43,000 acres located in Campbell and Scott Counties, now requires a permit for hunting small game or big game, according to the TWRA.

Royal Blue now has a full-time manager and technician assigned whose main jobs are to improve the habitat for wildlife inhabiting the area. The area is open to hunting, same as statewide seasons, though no hunting is allowed prior to squirrel hunting season. Small game hunters and other users are allowed on the area during big game hunts.

Dog training is allowed the same as statewide except for raccoon dog training which is October 1 through March 31.

Horses and all-terrain vehicles may be ridden night or day on any established road or trail that is not posted otherwise.

Persons using Royal Blue WMA should be aware of general regulations that affect all wildlife management areas.

- Use, possession or transportation of firearms, bows and arrows or other arms and ammunition is prohibited except when authorized.

- Firearms loaded with ammunitions in either the chamber or magazine may not be transported in vehicle.

- Possession of any alcoholic, narcotic drug, barbiturate or marijuana while hunting is prohibited. No individual may be under the influence of these substances at any time while within a management area.

- No person shall damage or remove

any trees or other plants, dirt, gravel or sod from any wildlife management area without specific authorization.

- No litter or sewage shall be deposited in the area.

- Overnight camping is permitted anywhere on the area.

- The use of wire, nails or other metal materials is prohibited in the building or

attaching of climbing devices or hunting stands. Portable devices or stands that do not injure trees can be used. Hunting from permanent, attached stands is prohibited.

For information on the Royal Blue WMA contact the TWRA at 1-800-332-0900.

## Ray and Mitzi Ivey say... "Praise the Lord" and C.O.R.A. too!!!

We have always considered ourselves fortunate having these beautiful mountains as an everyday part of life here in Campbell County. However, our real reward comes from being a part of C.O.R.A. (Campbell Outdoor Recreation Association). The beautiful mountain area we speak of, is known as "Royal Blue". Having the chance of being members of C.O.R.A., has enabled us to help in saving this 40,000 acres of wildlife area to remain in its natural state for all to enjoy now, and for generations to come. Even if an individual doesn't hunt, ride an ATV, hike or any other use of the Royal Blue property; they still benefit from C.O.R.A.'s remarkable accomplishments. A self-organized organization of over 1,000 families strong, pulled together to save these

precious mountains. Not only Campbell County residents, but families from numerous surrounding areas as well, had a part in CORA's success.

It is not just those who enjoy using the Royal Blue property, but anyone traveling I-75; who witness the Fall leaves or see Spring bloom thru the mountain side must know, "yes, there is a God"—something this beautiful is nothing short of a Miracle from God.

We both want to say to everyone belonging to C.O.R.A.—"you will always be appreciated for your part in saving the Royal Blue mountains. We are truly thankful for the privilege to be part of it." C.O.R.A., is still working together to help TWRA keep and maintain the Royal Blue area. We all look forward to the future of the Royal Blue WMA.

# The Recipe Exchange

## YANKEE VENISON STEAK

by Bea LaGreca

- 2 Round steaks
- Tsp salt
- Tsp pepper
- 1 Cup flour
- 1 Can chicken broth
- 1/3 Cup horse-radish
- 1/3 Cup Crisco or favorite shortening

Place steaks between sheets of waxed paper and pound with meat mallet to tenderize. Cut into **serving size pieces**. Place salt, pepper & flour in sack and add pieces of steak. Shake to coat. Heat shortening in skillet & brown steak pieces on both sides in hot shortening. Remove meat from pan & pour off remaining grease. Scrape bottom of skillet to loosen bits of browned flour & add chicken soup. Stir soup & heat to low boil. Return steak pieces to skillet and top with horse-radish (do not stir or disturb). Cover skillet & simmer slowly for 45 minutes or until tender. Serve with rice, noodles or mashed potatoes. Serves 4-6.

## FOOD GIFTS... HOW TO STORE THEM, HOW LONG THEY'LL LAST

- **Game birds:** Keep refrigerated up to 2 days raw or 4 days after cooking.
- **Country ham:** Shelf-stable 1 year if unsliced. Refrigerate 2 to 3 months if sliced. Once cooked, refrigerate 5-7 days.

**FREEZER NOTE:** Frozen food stays safe indefinitely but may lose quality or flavor. **WARNING:** Don't freeze canned food. Expanding contents may burst seams causing leakage and rusting.

If you have a favorite wild game recipe you would like to share with our readers, send it in. Space permitting, we will publish it in one of the Newsletters.

## Happenings, continued from page 3

3. The National Wild Turkey Federation, contributed \$15,000.00 toward creating wild turkey habitat in the Royal Blue WMA.

4. TWRA, will utilize manpower, equipment and funds to assist in all of these projects, in addition to creating area food plots and cover openings.

5. Wild turkey will be trapped from three (3) locations in the State, one must be Land-Between-The-Lakes. They will be released in Royal Blue to strengthen the gene pool. However, in order to help insure this plan, stocking areas will be **CLOSED** for at least two (2) years. The site for this program has not been chosen. Remember, TWRA needs your

help!!! Please report any illegal activity to your local Officers at once. Time is most important.

Last year illegal activity during the turkey season included:

1. Hunting overbait and baiting.
2. Failure to tag game after the kill. (We are aware of, known locals, that did kill over their limit).
3. Hunting in closed season.
4. Hunting without a proper license.

### Telephone numbers to have on hand:

Jim Arnold Campbell County W/O  
(615) 784-3704  
TWRA (Stop Poaching)  
1-800-255-TWRA  
Stan Stooksbury Royal Blue WMA Mgr  
(615) 566-8557

## Minutes, continued from page 4

seek some privately owned property, instead. Therefore, since it was no longer in the WMA, C.O.R.A. need not be involved.

TWRA's Bob Ripley, called Lee and asked that we meet with him and others, to help determine which roads we might want to suggest they work on first in Royal Blue. Meeting is pending.

C.O.R.A. newsletter, suggested and discussed. All agreed that we needed a way to maintain contact and interest with inactive members; and to also make the public aware of what C.O.R.A. was doing to help maintain and preserve their heritage, an interested group met after the meeting and the newsletter was born.

1993 C.O.R.A. minutes in the next issue. Attend the meeting on the first Tuesday of each month and we promise to bring you up to date a whole lot sooner.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- For success, start climbing the ladder, don't wait for the elevator.
- The man who drives half asleep is now buried six feet deep.
- Most of the things we wait for aren't worth the delay.
- Some drivers cover a lot of ground, sometimes a lot of ground covers the driver.

## \$ Reward \$

A reward of up to \$300 is offered by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency to anyone giving information and/or testimony leading to the arrest and conviction of any poacher of a wild turkey in the state of Tennessee. An additional \$300 is offered by the Tennessee Chapter of the Wild Turkey Federation. Contact a TWRA office or the nearest chapter of the Wild Turkey Federation for details. All calls are kept in strictest confidence!



Campbell Outdoor Recreation Association  
3409 Henson Road  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37921  
Phone: (615) 584-1825

## POSTMASTER:

Address Correction Requested

FIRST CLASS MAIL

# Hunter or Idiot?

By Mike McAfee

Please read the text below and answer the multiple choice question.

The sky was slate gray and the temperature hovered just above the freezing mark. The wind came out of the north and seemed to cut through every layer of clothing, all the way to the bone. Each ridge seemed a little steeper than the one before. Having crossed several

branches and creeks that day water was finally beginning to soak through well oiled boots. The quarry was proving to be as elusive as ever. After having spent six hours and logging several miles in the woods it was proving to be a textbook day. Four flushes over excellent points and nothing in the game bag. Neither man nor dog could remember having so much fun. Next day can not come too soon.

What do you call the individuals described above?

- A. A grouse hunter
- B. An idiot (my wife voted for this one)
- C. All the above

# Grouse Update

by Mike McAfee

Most individuals I talked with seem to feel the grouse population is up this year. Most hunters do not report a corresponding rise in their wing shooting abilities. The general failure of the mast crop this year is never good news, although grouse do fair much better than some animals due to the fact they eat such a wide variety of plants. Wild fox grapes, a favorite of grouse, are almost non existent this year in the mountains. Grouse crops I have checked this year have been stuffed with young buds, ferns honeysuckle leaves/berries, and green briar berries. Many hunters report grouse hunting pressure is increasing resulting in birds that do not hold well for dogs. TWRA has real data to shed light on that speculation from hunters. TRWA is involved in a long term grouse study that looks at items such as number of hunters, number of trips, flushes, and hunter success. More volunteers are needed. Contact your local TWRA officer.

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