

CORA

EIGHTEENTH EDITION
DEC, 1998



Promoting Outdoor Recreation

CAMPBELL OUTDOOR RECREATION ASSOCIATION

From The President

ORV Riding! Blessing or Curse?

by Lee Asbury

Sometime in the not too distant future every agency that controls the use of public lands must face and answer this question.

CORA has, from the start, believed in and stood for what we called a "multiple use" concept. We still believe that idea is viable and are proud of the record on the Royal Blue WMA, where the evidence indicates that hunters, nature lovers, riders and others if all are willing to act reasonably, can co-exist with a minimum of friction.

The problem arises from the fact that as ORV and ATV ownership and use rises steadily there is a corresponding rise in the number of outdoor areas where riding is prohibited, severely restricted, or only allowed on roads that are good enough to accommodate passenger cars.

Strangely, at least to me, TWRA, the agency administrating Royal Blue, is more concerned and sympathetic to ORV and ATV use than some other public agencies such as parks, forestry, TVA, Corps of Engineers, national forests and parks, all of which have stronger statutory mandates regarding non hunting outdoor recreation than TWRA does.

Also strangely, at least to me, is the barrage of criticism directed at TWRA's Royal Blue area where + or - 400 miles of roads and trails are open to ATV use by groups who make no protest at all to other agencies controlling hundreds of thousands of acres where riding is prohibited or severely restricted.

My personal concern regarding Royal Blue is that as more and more areas prohibit recreational riding, overuse of Royal Blue will occur.

I would pose the following questions, to users and agencies controlling public lands.

1. Is ORV and ATV recreational riding a legitimate outdoor recreation?
2. If the answer to 1 is no, then should it be permitted anywhere?
3. If the answer to 1 is yes, why shouldn't public lands across the state be open?
4. What agencies have responsibility to address these questions?
5. Should any agency be allowed to spend trails money for the exclusive use of small groups to the exclusion of the public in general?

I've often heard that people who talk to themselves may be a little off and that people who answer themselves are crazy. I'm in that category.

Speaking for myself only.

The answer to question 1 should be yes.

The answer to question 3 is: that all publicly owned lands, subject to special situations and reasonable regulations should be open to legitimate outdoor recreation uses.

Inside

PAGE 2

Crooked Finger Turkey Story

PAGE 3

Annual Membership Drive

PAGE 4

CORA Minutes

PAGE 5

CORA Minutes, Continued

PAGE 6

Best Management Practices
CORA Minutes, Continued

PAGE 7

Quality Deer Management

PAGE 8

Quality Deer Management, Continued

PAGE 9

Quality Deer Management, Continued
Petition

PAGE 10

Business & Professional Directory

PAGE 11

Business & Professional Directory

PAGE 12

U.S.F.S. Road Moratorium Update

Please see ORV Riding, page 12

TWIN COVE MARINE SALES

Rt. 2, Box 265 • Caryville, TN 37714

Sales: 562-4984 Service: 562-5450

PONTOON BOATS • FISHING BOATS • PLEASURE BOATS
ALL POWERED BY EVINRUDE

PROFESSIONALLY RIGGED BASS BOATS
JIM CONNER, OWNER

EVINRUDE
JANSEN
OLDS
POLARS

YAMAHA



THOMPSON'S YAMAHA

Tommy Thompson

2915 Baker Hwy.
Huntsville, TN 37756

423-663-2222
423-663-2600

The Great Crooked Finger Turkey Story

Story told by Perry Visant, Written by grandson Josh Longmire

A couple of seasons ago my brother Bill and I went turkey hunting and what a time we had! It started when my brother came in to visit from Ohio. I want you to know I love my brother a lot. He's one of those people that can really make you laugh because of some of the goofy things he does.

Well, as I was saying, my brother wanted me to take him turkey hunting. I thought this was a good idea because

the women had included us in their shopping plans. So the two of us quickly loaded up our guns, our turkey callers and of course, plenty of food.

So we arrive on Royal Blue Mountain and plant ourselves in a spot where I knew a lot of turkeys passed through each day. After a few hours we finally heard our gobbler off in the distance. I kept calling out to lure him closer so I could get a clean shot.

After a lot of calling I knew our bird was close but I still couldn't see it. Bill was the first to spot it. "Perry, Perry," he choked out, "I see it."

"Where Bill?" I asked, trying to keep my voice low.

"Over there," he said looking straight ahead but pointing to his left. At this point I need to tell you about an unusual feature of Bill's. He has a crooked finger!!

Bill was pointing straight ahead but that finger of his looked as if he was pointing to the left. I kept asking, "Where is it Bill?" "Over there," he would say still pointing to the left. Finally after all that frustration I saw it under some grapevines. I said to Bill, "Stay still Bill," and he froze that finger still pointing to the left! I got my shot at the bird, made a direct hit but watched helplessly as it started flopping down the mountain. I chased after it but noticed Bill still standing up there pointing dead left. In rapid pursuit I managed to trip and hurt my ankle. I didn't notice however, because I was so darn excited about the turkey.

Two weeks and several pain pills later I learned my ankle was broken. I can still manage to look back on this event and laugh. Thus concludes the great turkey hunt involving the crooked finger and the broken ankle. The ankle is fine now. Bill continues to point to the left.

Published Quarterly by:

C.O.R.A.

Campbell Outdoor Recreation Association

3409 Henson Road

Knoxville, TN 37921

Telephone: (423) 584-1825

FAX: (423) 584-3384

Newsletter editor:

Terry Lewis 584-1825

To Place Advertisements, Please Call:

Lee Asbury 562-5886
Harry Burden 562-2171
Terry Lewis 584-1825
Perry Visant 562-9379

OFFICERS 1996-1997

President Lee Asbury
Vice President Harry Burden
Treasurer Terry Lewis
Secretary Ray Wilson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Harry Burden (Chairman)
Robert Burden (Chairman of Membership)
Bill Bruce (Chairman of Activities)
Don Dillbeck
Jack Ethridge
Ted Fields (Chair Roads & Trails)
Leonard Hooks
Ray Ivey
Jerry Lane
Ernest Lester
Mike McAfee (Publicity)
Hubert Y. Rollen
Pete Shelton
Jimmy Shetterly (Chaplain)
Perry Visant (Newsletter & Distribution)
Fred Walker
Galen Wiseman

CAMPBELL CO. TWRA OFFICER

Ken Cutsinger 423-587-7037
Brent Harrison 423-587-7037

ROYAL BLUE MANAGER

Stan Stooksbury, Mgr. 423-566-8557
John Mike, Asst. Mgr. 423-569-6655

LAKE CITY MARKET



Hwy 441 & 25W
Lake City, TN
Gasoline & Diesel
Convenience Store
Open 24 Hours

TRI-TOWN MARKET



Hwy 61 & I-75
Clinton, TN
Gasoline & Diesel
Truck Stop - Convenience Store
Open 24 Hours

Annual Membership Drive

Dear CORA Member,

The Campbell Outdoor Recreation Association (CORA) membership drive is underway. Annual membership dues are \$10.00

CORA continues to enjoy broad-based public support from hunters and many other outdoor enthusiasts interested in keeping lands open and available to the public for multiple use activities.

The CORA Officers and Directors greatly appreciate each and every person for their continuing support of CORA over the years. Since 1986, CORA has been directly involved in the preservation and long-term responsible use of 180,000 acres of land for public hunting and recreation. It is only through shared interests, a strong membership and active participation that results such as this are possible.

Please mail a check, made payable to CORA, in the amount of \$10.00, at your earliest convenience. A membership card will be mailed to you.

Alternately, membership dues can be paid at CORA monthly meetings.

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month, 7:00 PM, at the Campbell County Courthouse.

Additional information about CORA can be obtained by writing CORA, PO Box 66, Jacksboro, Tennessee 3757 or by

calling Lee Asbury at (423) 562-5886 or Harry Burden at (423) 562-2171.

Sincerely,

Lee Asbury
President, Campbell Outdoor
Recreation Association

If you wish to join the C.O.R.A. Group, Please cut out this form, Fill out and Mail along with \$10.00 for 1 Year Membership to the Address Below.

Campbell Outdoors Recreation Association

P.O. Box 66, Jacksboro, TN 37757

C.O.R.A. Membership

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Date Submitted: _____

Sports Bar

OWNER: EDDIE BRUCE
PHONE: 423-566-6810
LAFOLLETTE TENNESSEE



WINSTON CUP



President
Jack Etheridge
435-7486

Vice-President
Cliff Partin

CORA Minutes

CORA MINUTES June 2, 1998

Invocation by Jim Shetterly.

Board Roll Call

Excused Absence: Perry Vincent, Mike McAfee, Galen Wiseman

Absent: Jack Etheridge, Jerry Lane, Ernie Lester, Don Shelton, Charles Vincent, Fred Walker

May Minutes and Treasurer's Reports were approved as read.

Lee Asbury made a motion to absolve the newsletter account of its obligation to repay the general CORA account - motion passed.

A general discussion was held about increasing our newsletter ads. It appears that the newsletter should now break even.

A motion was made for Ray Wilson to take Frank LaGreca's position as secretary for the remainder of his term. Motion made and approved.

Mr. LaGreca had faithfully executed the duties as secretary since 1992. His faithfulness and attendance has set an example for all of us.

Mr. Terry Lewis presented a plaque to Mr. LaGreca in appreciation of his many years of distinguished service to CORA.

Frank expressed his appreciation for the honor he received and stated that he was pleased to be a part of service to the outdoors for the future generations.

Frank mentioned among other things that the CORA organization should be proud of their accomplishments.

A motion was made by Terry Lewis and seconded by all attending that Frank be made a lifetime member. Motion passed.

Old Business

Proxys were distributed to attending members to be returned at the next meeting for election purposes.

Cove Creek Boat Ramp

Lee Asbury suggested that we make a contribution to TWRA towards the \$1500.00 processing fee.

Ted Fields made a motion that CORA should contribute \$500. Motion passed.

Terry Lewis is to arrange a meeting with Bob Hodge with the News Sentinel in the near future.

Terry also requested articles for the newsletter.

New Business

Hubert Raccor informed members that he has available a substantial amount of food plot seed. CORA will apply for seed that will be available to members.

CORA MINUTES of July 7, 1998

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

Invocation by Harry Burden.

Board Roll Call by Secretary Ray Wilson

Absent: Jack Ethridge, Jerry Lane, Don Shelton, Jim Shetterly

Excused Absents: Lee Asbury
June Minutes and Treasury Reports were approved as read.

Committee Reports:

Publicity: Chairman Mike McAfee reported that information regarding the election of officers and notification of the August meeting had been published in the LaFollette press.

Activities Chairman Bill Bruce: No Report.

Newsletter: Editor Terry Lewis reported that the 17th edition was out from the printers and he thanked all those who helped with articles and information they submitted. Terry asked that all members who sold ads review the ads and advise as to any corrections that need to be made. A discussion followed about the newsletter distribution and feedback from the advertisers.

Newsletter Distribution and Advertising: Chairman Perry Vinsant was absent and Bob Burden volunteered to assist Perry Vinsant in verifying the advertisements and in getting the corrected information to Terry Lewis before the next newsletter is published. Board members took the newsletters to be distributed to the advertisers under the guidance of Mr. Burden.

Roads and Trails Chairman Ted Fields: No Report.

Membership Committee Robert Burden had no report. A motion was made by Terry Lewis that letters be sent to all current and former members advising them that membership has expired and request that all be renewed.

Old Business:

Cove Creek Boat Dock: Terry Lewis advised that to his knowledge the check for \$500.00 had not been issued.

New Business:

Terry Lewis advised that Bob Hodge had been on vacation and will meet with us later.

The July election was postponed to the August meeting. Proxies were collected to be turned over to Lee Asbury.

New TWRA officer Mr. Danny Akins was introduced by Mr. Fred Jordan. Mr. Akins said he was well received by people working in Campbell County and looked forward to working with CORA in the future.

Motion was made by Hubert Rollins to pay any outstanding bills - second by Bob Burden.

Motion to Adjourn by Harry Burden was seconded by Bob Burden.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:45 PM

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Ray Wilson July 7, 1998

CORA MINUTES of August 4, 1998

The board meeting commenced at 7:05 pm at the Campbell County Court House, in Jacksboro, TN.

Invocation by Jim Shetterly.

Board Roll Call by Secretary Ray Wilson

Absent: Jack Ethridge, Jerry Lane, Don Shelton, Ted Fields, Leonard Hooks and Ernie Lester

Excused Absent:

July Minutes and Treasury Reports were approved as read.

Committee Reports:

Publicity Chairman Mike McAfee reported on the Pro's and Con's of CORA going on the Internet. Much discussion followed. It was generally agreed that no action should be taken at this time.

Activities Chairman Bill Bruce no report.

Newsletter Editor Terry Lewis asked for articles for the next issue due out in October.

Newsletter Distribution and Advertising Chairman Perry Vinsant advised that the newsletter has been

distributed and one new advertiser had been added to our list.

Roads and Trails Chairman Ted Fields was absent. No report.

Membership Committee Robert Burden had no report. A motion was made by Terry Lewis that letters be sent to all current and former members advising them that membership has expired and request that all be renewed.

Old Business:

Cove Creek Boat Dock: Meeting Tonight 9/2/98.

CORA has been asked to host a meeting for TWRA regarding fishing in Norris Lake. This meeting is scheduled at 7:00 PM Oct. 15, at the Campbell Co. Court House. Reports concerning the meeting will not be available until this time. Terry Lewis suggested that this would be a good opportunity to recruit new members.

Election of Officers and Board

Members: Elections were held and elected members will be announced and confirmed at the Sept. 2 meeting.

New Business:

Motion made and seconded for the Membership Committee to send letters to the expired membership asking for them to renew their membership.

Mr. John Young, a resident of the Racetrack Hollow area was present. Mr. Young stated that access to Norris Lake at Racetrack Hollow had been severely limited by dock anchors cables and stairs which were installed below the 1040 line and extending across the former access road to the adjoining properties.

Chairman Burden appointed a committee of Jim Shetterly, Bob Burden, Ray Wilson and Bill Bruce to look into the matter and report their findings.

Motion to Adjourn by Harry Burden.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 PM

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Ray Wilson August 4, 1998

CORA MINUTES of Sept 1, 1998

The board meeting commenced at the Campbell County Court House, in Jacksboro, TN.

Invocation by Chaplain Jim Shetterly.

Board Roll Call

Absent: Jerry Lane

Excused Absents:

August Minutes and Treasury Reports were approved as read.

Committee Reports:

Activities Chairman Bill Bruce asked for suggestions of date and times of the annual pig roast. After some discussion a motion was made by Ernie Lester and seconded by Terry Lewis that it is held at 4 pm October 17, 1998 at the shed near the Caryville Ind. Park at Royal Blue, all approved.

Newsletter Editor Terry Lewis asked that any new advertisements or articles for the newsletter should be submitted on or before the Oct. meeting.

Robert Burden a member of the committee appointed to look into the Public Access problem at the Racetrack Hollow gave the committee findings which paralleled the statements made by Mr. John Young at the August meeting. The TVA representatives George Humphrey and Kathy Robinson who were present, stated that they would study the ownership pertaining to this location. We were told that uniformity of possession does not exist on Norris Lake. TVA will return and hold a public meeting. The time and date will be announced.

Ernie Lester inquired why the road from Fork Mountain to Tidus Creek is closed. Lee Asbury is to check with the area manager and report back at the Oct meeting.

New Board members were announced including Jack Ethridge, Ernie Lester, Jerry Lane, Don Dillbeck and Pete Shelton.

Prior to the meeting CORA had been host of a public meeting by TWRA and TVA concerning the boat ramp and Matty Randolph Hollow. This was attended by TWRA personnel Bob Ripley, Steve Bennett, Fred Jordan, Ron Overby, Ken Cutsinger and Danny Akins. A standing room crowd attended the meeting and many stayed for our regular meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Ray Wilson

CORA MINUTES of October 6, 1998

The board meeting commenced at 7:05 pm at the Campbell County Court House, in Jacksboro, TN.

Invocation by Jim Shetterly

Due to Secretary Ray Wilson's absence the Board Roll Call and Minutes were provided by Treasurer Terry Lewis.

Absent: Jack Ethridge, Jerry Lane, Ernie Lester, Hubert Rollins and Fred Walker

Excused Absents: Ray Wilson, Robert Burden and Galen Wiseman

September Minutes and Treasury Reports were approved as read.

Committee Reports:

Publicity Chairman Mike McAfee submitted draft of newsletter announcements of pig roast and a draft of membership renewal letter for review.

Activities Chairman Bill Bruce: Serious planning is underway for the pig roast. Discussion on responsibilities and logistics.

Newsletter Editor Terry Lewis: No articles have been submitted since the last meeting. Perry Visant is to update the advertising list.

Newsletter Distribution and

Advertising Chairman Perry Vinsant: Most advertising companies and organizations are up to date with fees.

Roads and Trails Chairman Ted Fields: Roads and trails are well used, dry and dusty. One road that had been closed is now open.

Membership Committee Robert Burden: Absent. No Report.

Old Business:

Membership letter for renewal of last year's membership needs to be reviewed for approval.

Norris Lake Fish Report: Date Oct. 15, 1998. Time 7:00 pm.

Location - Campbell County High School

CORA has been asked to moderate the meeting. The report will be made public for the first time at the meeting. President Asbury will serve as spokesman for CORA.

Other Old Business:

President Asbury discussed the following four topics:

1. TWRA reports that the Matty Randolph boat ramp will be built at some point in the future. TWRA reported public input 95% favorable.

2. Asbury discussed the opening of Fork Mountain Trail with TWRA, Royal Blue Manager, Stan Stooksbury. Stooksbury has serious reservations about opening that particular trail due to safety and environmental concerns.

Best Management Practices (BMPs)

BMPs are effective in minimizing adverse impacts to soil and water resources, concludes a recent study conducted at the U.S. Forest Service Experiment Station at Parsons, West Virginia.

The BMPs used included broad-based dips, culverts and waterbars to control water; seeding roads and landings to control erosion; and traffic regulation during wet weather. In addition, the entire road system was preplanned and laid out carefully on the ground prior to the timber harvest. This preplanning was considered the single most important procedure for reducing impacts to the soil and water.

On most sites, preplanning allows roads and landings to be located well away from streams, minimizes road grades and lengths and assures a large roadless streamside management zone (SMZ) around perennial streams. Although timber is removed from the SMZ maintaining enough residual trees and understory shrubs to shade the stream prevents significant increases in temperature.

Hydrologic response, i.e. the movement of water through the soil into streams, was minimally affected by the managed timber harvest. Neither peakflows nor total annual stormflow volumes were changed by the harvesting and related activities. Both of these, however, did increase during the post harvest growing seasons, likely due to reduced transpiration following tree removal.

Sediment losses from the site were largely influenced by extreme storms. One storm resulted in sediment losses equal to five years of the baseline losses (losses from the undisturbed control). In fact, 84 percent of the sediment losses for that year (1985) were caused by that single event. Out-of-bank flooding transports large quantities of sediment, and occurs every couple of years in Appalachian watersheds. The occurrence of these events emphasizes the use of BMPs at all times on small watersheds.

Monthly suspended sediment loads increased over preharvest levels during

the first two-post harvest years, with exports approximately doubling during the first year compared to the average of the three-year pretreatment years, which excluded flood data. Most of this was probably the result of three extremely wet months that occurred in 1986, the first year after the harvest. Most of the sediment exported from the watershed is believed to have originated along the stream channel, and sediment associated with the harvest likely originated from four stream crossings rather than from the harvest area itself. (This emphasizes the importance of minimizing the number of stream crossings.) When the data were projected to a 100-year rotation requiring three harvests, less

than 5 percent of the total sediment exported from the experimental watershed was estimated to result from harvesting operations.

The timber-harvesting operation had relatively minor effects on stream-water chemistry. Nitrate exports increased due to the timber harvest, but returned to preharvest levels in three years. These increases were attributed to growing season flows, increased leaching and nitrogen fertilization during roadbed/landing seeding. Maximum concentrations of nitrate however, never exceed allowable levels for potable water. Exports of calcium also increased after harvesting, but was primarily due to lime applied during road seeding.

MINUTES, continued from page 5

3. TWRA Director, Gary Myers invited President Asbury to discuss roads and trails and the agencies views on the subject. Myers and TWRA does not have the responsibility for recreational activities. He also informed Asbury that Royal Blue was the only existing area that allows virtually unlimited trail riding. Myers will call a high level meeting with several State of Tennessee Organizations to determine what position they will publicly take on trail riding and other multiple use activities. The information provided by Myers sheds some light on why trail riders are so interested in Royal Blue. It is essentially the only public area available. TWRA is getting all the "Pressure." One of the issues is the definition of what trail riding is. Is trail riding a legitimate and lawful sport? Yes or No? Asbury stated he believes this is an important subject and CORA should participate in any discussions with State of Tennessee Organizations. Asbury asked for input on the subject from the board.

4. President Asbury talked to Cathy Robinson from TVA. She requested that CORA submit suggestions on large areas of Norris Lake that need additional access. She will research the suggestions and then hold a public meeting to discuss. Suggestions from the Directors:

- 1) Hiwassee II Deerfield
- 2) Cove Norris Shanghai Landing
- 3) Stones Mill (both sides) Cape Norris
- 4) Big Creek (both sides)

The directors also discussed the position CORA may need to establish on the future development and sale of the remaining shoreline. The directors pointed out that most of the development on Norris is on the Campbell County side of the lake. The other side contains large tracts such as Chuck Swan that will remain undeveloped. Much discussion ensued regarding issues between public use and rights on Norris Lake vs. private land owner rights.

Motion to Adjourn by Terry Lewis.
Meeting Adjourned at 8:20 PM
Respectfully submitted by Secretary
Ray Wilson Nov. 6, 1998

AMERICAN LEGION POST 58

La Follette, TN

Veterans and Guests

Welcome

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Friday and Saturday nights

Quality Deer Management 101

by Mike Black, R.F., Chairman TCL Conservation Policy Board

I cannot imagine a deer hunter in Tennessee who has not heard, read or seen something about Quality Deer Management (QDM) in the last year. Whether you are a deer hunter who logs 100 plus hours per year in your favorite stand, or the casual opening day sportsman you have probably heard something about QDM. Unfortunately, however, as with many other acronyms and buzzwords, QDM is also frequently a very misunderstood subject. Even national magazines and TV shows often inaccurately discuss Quality Deer Management. No wonder hunters are confused!

Welcome to Quality Deer Management 101! QDM is a hot and often discussed topic among Tennessee deer hunters, and I have decided to take a few minutes to provide some factual information and clear up some misconceptions. We deer hunters take our sport seriously in the Volunteer State and we need to have an accurate understanding of what QDM is, and is not, to effectively discuss and pass judgement on this form of deer management. Many sportsman and sportsman's groups have lobbied hard to encourage the TWRA to adopt this management philosophy in 1998 and it is vital that we all understand what Quality Deer Management is really all about.

I have broken this presentation into five areas and will finish with a brief summary. The first section will discuss what QDM is, the second will focus on the value for QDM in Tennessee, the third on what QDM is not, the fourth on the basic requirements for a QDM program and finally some examples of how QDM can fail and how to avoid them. Note: This article is not a comprehensive discussion on Quality Deer Management, but rather intended as a brief summary. For more information on QDM in Tennessee, contact the Tennessee Conservation League, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, or the Quality Deer Management Association (QDMA), PO Box 227, Watkinsville, GA 30677, 1-800-209-DEER.

WHAT IS QDM (QUALITY DEER MANAGEMENT)?

Quality Deer Management is the hunting of quality animals on QUALITY habitat under a QUALITY hunting experience.

QUALITY animals consist of a population of deer at a density equal or less than the carrying capacity of the land with balanced sex ratios and a higher proportion of mature bucks in the herd structure than that of a non-QDM managed herd. QUALITY habitat is that of nearly optimum year round food sources, year round cover and the proper arrangement on a home range basis to optimize health and growth of the deer population. A QUALITY hunting experience is a hunt of higher ethics, and respect than the minimum experience of meeting the state regulations.

WHY QUALITY DEER MANAGEMENT?

Tennessee is entering what many sportsman consider to be the third period of deer management in Tennessee. The first period was that of restocking herds beginning in the 1950's. Most deer hunters in Tennessee today never realized those times. In many counties, or whole portions of the state, the sight of a deer track, rub, etc. was the cause for great excitement. To actually SEE a deer, was an event not to be forgotten! The TWRA, then Game and Fish, and the employees, landowners and others who worked to restore the deer herd in Tennessee have never received the credit due to them. Unfortunately, the modern deer hunter in Tennessee has forgotten the sacrifices these early individuals made. Deer management at this time focused on herd protection, particularly does, and when hunting was allowed it was limited to the harvest of antlered animals.

The second phase began in the late 1970's in much of the state and spread east through the 1980's and 1990's. The form of management changed to more of a managed hunt system to control the fast growing deer herds in much of the state. Seasons were liberalized, areas

opened, and most importantly the harvest of does was encouraged through archery and muzzleloader seasons and special hunter and permits during rifle season. This is the system of management that is familiar to most deer hunters in Tennessee today. Under this system record harvests have been achieved and deer hunting has become available to almost anyone in the state. However, herds have increased to the point of causing concern and conflict farmers and other landowners in much of the state and many hunters have tired of the opportunity to harvest several, but probably yearling bucks each year.

Enter the third phase, Quality Deer Management. The TWRA has listened to sportsman and sportsman groups and has adopted a major change in policy this year with deer management in Tennessee. The change has been made to assist sportsman in their interest in the opportunity to take more mature bucks and also to work with landowners more closely to maintain herds at or below carrying capacity to avoid crop depredation, etc. Will QDM work? We cannot tell in one year, but rather we sportsman as a group need to allow this system time to work. Most QDM programs show results in about three years.

So what is the philosophy of QDM? Primarily two fold. First, to allow bucks to reach an older age class before harvest. The vast majority of bucks harvested in Tennessee each year are 1.5 years of age. By limiting the statewide harvest to two antlered bucks, the hope is that many hunters will let the younger bucks walk and mature another season. It is the sportsman demanding higher quality bucks for harvest and of the three factors of age, nutrition, and genetics, age is the easiest variable to control by a sportsman. The second goal of QDM is to harvest more does to correct the unbalanced sex ratios in many herds across the state. Ironically, this will lower the deer herd, but also increase the

Please see QUALITY on page 8

recruitment rate that determines the animals available for harvest. Doe harvest restrictions have been reduced by encouraging harvest in muzzleloader, the second half of rifle season in many Unit A counties, and a dramatic change in tagging procedures which allow multiple harvests on one tag.

Under QDM, the hunter truly takes a more active role in the management of the deer herd, instead of merely being a participant.

WHAT QDM IS NOT!

1. QDM is not to be confused with two other common deer management systems. The first is pure #’s management, with goal to maximize the number of deer on the property and hence available for harvest. QDM attempts to actually keep the deer herd below carrying capacity of the land to not only protect the long term health of the habitat, but also the health of the herd and individual deer.

2. QDM is not "Trophy Deer" management. Let me repeat, QDM is NOT "Trophy Deer" management! Often I meet with clubs or sportsman's groups who have a "Big Buck" program that is not either QDM or Trophy Deer management. QDM encourages bucks to be in the 2.5 year age class or above before harvest. These are considered by most sportsman to be a good, quality buck. Bucks rarely put much growth to body weight or antler development until this age or above. Trophy Deer management, however, is the management of a deer herd on a tract of land for what is often a single individual of record book status, often of 140 B&C or above. What most sportsman and clubs fail to realize is that many good "shooter" bucks will die of old age, most lands will only allow the harvest of an occasional buck on not even a year to year basis, some lands will never produce a buck of this level, and many hunters

are not capable of harvesting this type of animal. Further, this form of management often requires extremely intensive management of food sources such as food plots and supplemental feeding, and at a level far above what most clubs or sportsman would expect or could afford. Trophy deer management often provides limited success to most hunters and club members.

3. QDM is much more than food plots! Food plots are the last item on the list for most deer management programs. Food plots are useful for two purposes. First, to fill in the missing "link" of food for the herd which is typically the summer months in Tennessee. Second, they are helpful in the muzzleloader or rifle seasons for doe harvest purposes to meet QDM objectives. However, the overall habitat on a year round basis is the most important factor and this is achieved through a sound forest management program to meet these habitat objectives. Food plots are the most expensive, time consuming, sweat and blood producing activity that most clubs or landowners can undertake with the least return. Food plots can, under very intensive management, have an impact on body size and antler growth, but they rarely provide cover or can fix problems with unbalanced sex ratios. THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS THE MAGIC SEED. Food plots are a part of an overall management plan, and not QDM in itself.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR A QDM PROGRAM.

1. Land, a minimum of 2-5,000 acres. At that comment, I am sure that many readers have come out of their chair! Let me explain. Deer live and survive on a home range basis that amounts to around 250 to 400 acres, provided that all habitat components are available to meet their needs. Therefore, on a tract of 1000 acres or so, you are really only managing the population in the "core" area, since those on the fringes readily go back and forth across property lines.

Does this mean that if you only own or control 300 acres that you can forget about attempting QDM? Not at all. Instead you need to meet, discuss, and try to work with adjoining landowners and clubs - all of whom are individuals that you probably need to meet and find common objectives with anyway. One of

the greatest benefits to QDM rarely discussed is that it can create strong friendships and relationships between landowners, sportsman, and others in the area.

2. QDM requires a **true** commitment by **all** affected hunters, clubs, landowners, etc. to be effective.

3. Harvest Guidelines need to be established that are reasonable and effective. These need to be with similar intent on surrounding lands for your program to be successful. These guidelines can be generally broken into three categories.

• **"Quality," "Mature," or "Shooter" buck designation.** The goal here is to protect bucks in the 1.5 year age class. Most groups use the "eight-point" or better rule, "inside spread past the ear's," etc. Any of these or others can be successful, provided that they truly allow bucks to live through this critical harvest year. Personally, I prefer a general "guideline" such as the above in the field, but actually get all involved together at the end of the year in the spring and score racks (mounts or antlers w/skullcap). Most clubs or groups would do well with a goal of 100-120 gross B&C as the minimum for harvest. Notice I am talking about gross, and not net, scores. The objective with using a figure of 100-120 is that you may have deer that are two and one-half years of age that are heavy, wide raked six-pointers, as well as narrow, light-raked 10 pointers. Managing for points, etc. is not realistic since this is often genetic and only indirectly related to age. For instance, if your group only harvests 10 point bucks, many outstanding eight point deer will never be available for harvest. *Remember, common sense in the guidelines for what is and is not a harvestable buck is what is important, not the details. The key is getting the bucks into the 2.5 year age class and above where more annual growth can go into body weights and antler development.*

• **Protection of buck fawns (button bucks).** Many clubs or groups do a good job with protecting the yearling bucks and a fair job harvesting does, but fail to protect the fawn bucks. This takes some practice and the hunter under QDM needs to stop assuming that every

Please see QUALITY on page 9

JOIN CORA

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD
BY A GROUP STRONG
ENOUGH TO MAKE
THE DIFFERENCE.

antlerless animal is a doe! Prior to the shot the hunter needs to determine whether it is a doe, or actually a buck fawn. If the buck fawn is shot at this stage it will surely never achieve the older "quality" buck status.

• **Doe harvest requirements.** Under QDM the hunter has a responsibility to harvest does to keep sex ratios in balance and to maintain the deer population below carrying capacity. Buck harvest alone will never achieve this. Under QDM, a doe is just as important to the hunter to enjoy - both in the field and at the table.

4. Records, records, records!! And you thought you left paperwork at the office! Remember, under QDM the hunter becomes a manager of the herd and no longer a mere participant. In order to determine if QDM is successful, records of harvest and sightings is vital and necessary. This topic is SO important, I will devote a later article to just this topic in *Tennessee Out-of-Doors*.

However, here are a few basics to think about. First, records from pre-QDM management. You have been keeping records, haven't you? It will be impossible to make a determination on the success or failure of your QDM program on your land or club leases, etc., if you cannot compare it accurately to the past seasons. Harvest records need to be kept as to sex, weight, antler score and age. These are minimums and will be explained in far greater detail in an upcoming article. However, as important as this information is, it is only available from harvested animals and is only a cross-section of the harvested population, not necessarily the actual population in the field! Therefore, sighting and participation data needs to be collected from every hunter on every trip such as hours hunted, types of deer sighted, etc. Again, the exact details will be discussed in a later TOD article. This is important data since an increase in the number of animals harvested or in the quality of the animals may also be due to a change in hunter participation and not in the success or failure of your QDM program.

WHY DOES QDM FAIL?

Sometimes a QDM program fails, or appears to fail. Typically, this is not a fault

of QDM management philosophy, but rather that QDM is never actually allowed to develop due to the following:

Secondary Factors...

• Poor records, or no records. You cannot possibly determine the success or failure of QDM, or any deer management system, without accurate and complete records.

• Poor use of records. A very common mistake is to make judgments based upon a year to year change. Trends over a minimum of three to five years should be analyzed before judgments are made as to the success or failure of deer management system, including QDM.

• Insufficient protection of immature (yearling) bucks.

• Insufficient protection of fawn (button) bucks.

- Trespassing or poaching.
- Incompatible state regulations (not an excuse anymore in most of the state!)
- Managing only the does or only the bucks (half management is never QDM)
- Unable to cope with more challenging hunting (many hunters are used to taking several deer per year, but generally yearling bucks. Older bucks, and also often times does in general, are more difficult to hunt.)

Primary Factors...

- Not enough land under QDM management
- No commitment, or incomplete commitment to QDM by hunters, landowners, etc.

Petition

Preservation of Norris Lake

We, the people of East Tennessee, (specifically the people who live around and use Norris Lake) ask that something be done to help protect the use and stop the pollution before it is too late.

You can no longer walk or fish from the banks because of numerous cables, steps, and structures of all kinds. According to TVA, the shoreline below the 1044 mark is reserved for their use and the public has recreational right to this property.

There are no regulations as far as idle zones, no control over jet ski water craft or ski zones. Since no regulation of these exist, the shorelines are being destroyed by people who do not care about the preservation of the lake or its use by others.

Raw sewage and other pollutants have become so bad that is unhealthy to swim in the lake. The fish are developing sores and parasites making them unfit to eat.

There should be inspections of all marinas that own or moor houseboats and all other boats with marine toilets.

There should be a review of septic systems that are used by the people who own homes on the lake.

Norris Lake used to be so clean and the water was so clear that it was considered one of the cleanest in the country. Cumberland Lake in Kentucky also possessed these same qualities before it was developed and turned into a residential sump pit by the same people who have migrated to Norris.

The merchants, business people, and local politicians are turning their heads to this outrage, because of money being generated now, but in the very near future when it becomes too late to stop the pollution, where will we be?

We ask that TVA, TWRA, and the State of Tennessee, put in place regulations that will protect the natural beauty and condition of the lake and also keep available public access to all shorelines.

If you are in agreement with the above conditions and course of action suggested, please sign your name and address to the petition below.

Business and Professional Directory

LAKE VIEW INN

"Come As a Guest and Leave As a Friend"

I-75 • Exit 134
276 John McGhee Blvd.
P.O. Box 250
Caryville, TN 37714

John A. (Tony) & Terina Brown
(423)562-9456 • 1 (800) 431-6887



NATIONWIDE INSURANCE

Nationwide is on your side

EDWARD E. GRAY
Agent

P.O. Box 1300, LaFollette, TN 37766
Office: (423) 562-3348 Residence: (423) 562-9524
Claims: 1-800-421-3535

18 Years Experience Real Estate
Estate & Liquidation Auctions



LONGMIRE

REALTY AND AUCTION, CO.
132 Coolidge Road • LaFollette, TN 37766
423-566-0471

DAVID LONGMIRE
Broker • Auctioneer

Mobile: 907-4236
Home: 423-562-3335

Cain
Ford
LINCOLN • MERCURY



LOW OVERHEAD. GREAT PRICES
LARGEST VOLUME DEALER IN CAMPBELL CO.

HWY. 25 WEST • LAFOLLETTE
562-3301 LAFOLLETTE
522-0054 KNOXVILLE

I-75 NORTH
30 MILES
EXIT 134
5 MILES EAST

Poor Boy Restaurant

Open 24 hours a day
Good Food
562-0061

Fred Hatmaker, Owner

Vernon L. Wright
Owner

#22-A757

BMUS Electronics
2460 West Central Ave.
Jacksboro, TN 37757
(423) 562-9652
Fax (423) 566-8642



RadioShackSM
Associate Store

Major Credit Cards Accepted
23 1/2 Hr Towing

LYK-HU

Auto Collision & Service Center
1215 Old Jacksboro Pike
LaFollette, TN 37766
(423) 562-5156 • (800) 773-1763

JACKSBORO BODY SHOP

P.O. Box 4
Jacksboro, TN 37757

(423) 562-2171

Harry Burden
Owner

BAIRD & WILSON SHEETMETAL

2703 Bond Street
Knoxville, TN 37919
FAX: (423) 523-4531

Ronn Baird (423) 523-9982

CARLOCK MYERS 141 FUEL CENTER

I-75 @ exit 141
in center of
Royal Blue Wildlife
Management Area

Route 2
Caryville, Tennessee 37714

Cars • Trucks • Small Buildings

MILLER TOWING

125 N. 13TH STREET
THE OLD NAPA BLDG.
423-562-4939

HOME
423-562-4787
SAMMY MILLER, OWNER



FARM BUREAU INSURANCE
ROGER WHITE • Agency Mgr.

200 S. Tennessee Ofc. 562-2441
LaFollette, TN 37766 Res. 562-2007

Business and Professional Directory



Any of Your Automotive Needs
Sales, Parts & Service

**LaFOLLETTE CHRYSLER-PLYMOUTH-
DODGE-JEEP-EAGLE CO. LLC**

830 Jacksboro Pike
LaFollette, TN 37766
(423) 566-9977 • FAX (423) 566-0708
Toll Free 1-888-566-9977

John R.W. Brown Insurance

**Fleet Building
LaFollette, TN 37766**

AUTO • LIFE • FIRE • HEALTH

PHONE

Home (423) 562-3126
Office (423) 562-5754



That's the
Spirit
of Community Pride!

SERVING ALL OF CAMPBELL COUNTY

4 Convenient Locations

• Jacksboro Main Office 562-7443 • LaFollette 562-8404 • Caryville 562-3370 • Jellico 784-9463

Member FDIC
Account Up To \$100,000



Artco. Signs

T-Shirts with Logos - Caps
Magnetic - Vinyl Truck Lettering
Vinyl Sign Lettering - Windshield
Logos - Car Tags - Banners

562-3559

The Back Door Cafe

Woodson's Mall
LaFollette, TN

Ridgewood Machine Shop

Route 1
Caryville
Tennessee
37714
423-426-6963

TED SMITH
BILL SMITH

SUBURBAN DISCOUNT WALLCOVERING

(423) 690-7327

8025 Kingston Pike
Knoxville, TN 37919

Mining & Industrial Supplies

LA FOLLETTE MINE SUPPLY
P.O. BOX 449 TOWESTRING RD.
LA FOLLETTE, TN 37766
562-0080

Rob Christian, Manager
Home: 562-0396

Bill Ball, Owner
Home: 562-0307



TOYOTA
(423) 457-1773
1-800-654-7576

CHEVROLET
(423) 457-0915
1-800-825-0915

"Celebrating Our 20th Anniversary"

CHARLEY'S PIZZA PARLOR

Mon-Thur 11am - 11pm
Fri. & Sat. 11am To 12 Midnight

Established in 1976

Hwy. 25 • Jacksboro, TN 37757
(423) 562-0116

WAYNE'S CYCLE & ATV ARTIC CAT DEALER

(423) 569-9285



321 INDUSTRIAL LANE
ONEIDA, TN 37841

OWNER - WAYNE ROGERS
SHANNON ROGERS

COMMERCIAL

RESIDENTIAL

CAMPBELL COUNTY HEATING & A/C

1722 Old Jacksboro Pike, P.O. Box 1758
LaFollette, Tennessee 37766

Air-Ease
American-Standard
Heating
Air Conditioning

**ELBERT
TRAMMELL
423-562-4208**



Campbell Outdoor Recreation Association
3409 Herson Road
Knoxville, Tennessee 37921
Phone: (423) 584-1825

POSTMASTER:

Address Correction Requested

FIRST CLASS MAIL

U.S. Forest Service: USFS Road Moratorium - update

At the time of this publication of TRACKS, the U.S. Forest Service's proposed moratorium on the construction of new roads within roadless areas in the national forests has not been finalized. Earlier this summer the FS agreed to complete an Environmental Assessment (EA) of the proposal, as is required by law under the National Environmental Policy Act. This EA should be released within the next 2 weeks according to TCL sources.

However, since April of this year, the Regional Forester has ordered that all new road building within roadless areas be suspended for the national forests of the Southern Appalachians. This is in effect a "de facto" implementation of the proposed "Road Moratorium" policy. The League is investigating whether this order may be in violation of federal law. Typically, it is illegal for any federal agency to proceed with an activity that has been deemed worthy of NEPA review.

Lastly, the second Federal Register notice issued by the USFS regarding the

road policy for the agency has not been finalized either. TCL will provide updates regarding this issue as they arrive.

ORV Riding, continued from page 1

The answer to question 4 is: that every agency, owning or controlling public lands should address this question and allow use subject to particular situations and reasonable regulations.

Question 5 is: the use of general public funds to create areas for exclusive use by relatively small numbers of citizens to the exclusion of the public should be prohibited.

I understand that some preliminary discussions at high levels may have already occurred.

This question needs to be looked at from a "Big Picture" standpoint. If this article provokes some meaningful discussions and realistic assessments by all concerned it will be a step in the right direction.

Ignoring the problem is certainly no solution.

CORA, its Publishers or Editors are not responsible for the accuracy of facts surrounding the articles published in this Newsletter.

*Please support
C.O.R.A. advertisers
as they make this newsletter possible*

C.O.R.A. Meeting

Dec 1, 1998

7:00 P.M.

Regular meetings

are 1st Tuesday

of each month

See You There!