

CORA

NINTH EDITION
JUNE 1995



Promoting Outdoor Recreation

CAMPBELL OUTDOOR RECREATION ASSOCIATION

From The President

Tragic Events: Unanswered Questions and Where to Go From Here

By Lee Asbury

It seems to me that these articles are being called for by the editors weekly instead of quarterly. What to write about?

Since CORA is running smoothly and our relationship with TWRA is amicable

and productive, turning to current events seems the logical thing to do.

I know I speak for every CORA member in condemning the despicable and cowardly acts of the misguided Oklahoma bombers who slaughtered innocent men, women and children, apparently in an effort to further some misguided political objective.

What is it in our country that fosters such senseless violence that even infants are subject to destruction at the whim of some zealot?

Why is the idea growing that this kind of insane behavior, whether it be bombers in Oklahoma, misguided environmentalists setting spike traps to kill and injure innocent loggers, or demagogues of all types preaching hatred and fear, accomplishes any desirable end?

Can it be that more open forums are needed where people can come to express their fears and concerns, where frank discussion of issues can occur in a civilized and orderly manner and where real efforts to reach reasonable and fair solutions can occur?

Where do the best interests of most people lie? Obviously, extremism in any form is not the answer. The world cannot be divided into them and us, good guys and bad guys or white hats and black hats. There is, in final analysis, only "all of us" in one world.

Why am I asking so many questions and not trying to furnish any answers? I

want you all to think and I want us to start devoting a part of each meeting to discuss current issues of common interest. We just might be the place where some civilized discussion can lead to sensible solutions and be a forum where people with differing views can come together and seek reasonable solutions.

Some of the issues of current interest are gun control, hunter's rights, animal rights, uses of public and private property, how to make government more responsive and less authoritarian and plenty more.

Think about it and if you feel the same way I do about the need for more open discussion, we might make it a part of each meeting.

Don't forget to attend our election meeting in June.

Inside

PAGE 2

TWRA...Are We Too Late?

PAGE 3

Looking Back
A Coon Hunting Adventure

PAGE 4

Are We Too Late Continued
Looking Back Continued

PAGE 5

CORA Minutes

PAGE 6

Minutes Continued

PAGE 7

Tennessee Snakes

PAGE 8

Business & Professional Directory

PAGE 9

Business & Professional Directory
Tennessee Snakes Continued

PAGE 10

Coon Hunting Continued

**CORA to Hold
Annual Election
for
Board of Directors
June 6**

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
JANLIN
SUNBEST
POLARIS

YAMAHA



SUZUKI

THOMPSON'S

Tommy Thompson

Route 1 Box 2 Highway 63
 Huntsville, TN 37756

615-663-2222
 615-663-2600

TWRA...Are We Too Late?

Roads and Trails
 by Jack Ethridge

As a CORA committee member on roads and trails, I received a copy of a letter from TWRA's, Ron Saunders, "Changes for Royal Blue Permits and Fees." The letter went on to explain the proposed fees, changes, etc., which may become permanent for the ROYAL BLUE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA.

My immediate response was concern and...perhaps, a bit of panic, Will this be TWRA's plan with no further discussion? As President of the WINDROCK 4 WHEELERS, an ATV club, I contacted a

workable membership. I asked that they set out, immediately, to get all the input possible from all our members, and from as many users of the property as they could.

Our efforts produced the following; to which we respectfully request, that the TENNESSEE WILDLIFE RESOURCES AGENCY consider these opinions and suggestions, before, making their final decisions.

1- USE PERMIT; nothing wrong with that.

1A- \$30.00 per year; WRONG! \$10.00 to \$100.00 per year fees in accordance

with the destruction the vehicle or animal you are using.

Rail Buggies; \$100.00 bill if there ever was a reason. This can be the most damaging of the environment, second only to logging. If there ever was a contraption that needs a special closed in area this is it. On numerous old haul roads with two foot of stone bedding they have dug it out and the weather has helped excavate ruts they can't even travel now.

Trucks and Jeeps; \$75.00. The destruction of the roads, the maintenance that has to follow them, plus the roads that have to be built, the dumping of trash, garbage, etc. Now let's not get rambunctious and say we don't want the hunters to use their trucks. Go ahead and read the rest of it before you blow a fuse.

1B - HUNTING, FISHING, AND SMALL GAME LICENSE OR PERMIT. If you have these and you are on the area in the season then you don't need anything else, provided it is a closed area to everything except the hunting or fishing your permit covers. (You can't be riding around, just to be riding). This goes for all categories.

Motorcycles; \$50.00. These also need a special area. It is no fun to ride a dirt bike unless you are going hell bent for Georgia. If you aren't climbing a hill that is straight up or giving it every thing you got then it's just no fun to ride. We have at different times had dirt bikers to ask to ride with us and we have tried to explain to them it's like putting 4-

Published Quarterly by:

C.O.R.A.

Campbell Outdoor Recreation Association

3409 Henson Road
 Knoxville, TN 37921
 Telephone: (615) 584-1825
 FAX: (615) 588-7028

Newsletter Co editors:

Frank LaGreca 977-0645
 Terry Lewis 584-1825

To Place Advertisements, Please Call:

Lee Asbury 562-5886
 Frank LaGreca 977-0645
 Terry Lewis 584-1825
 Tom West 566-0179

OFFICERS 1994-1995

President Lee Asbury
 Vice President Harry Burden
 Treasurer Terry Lewis
 Secretary Frank LaGreca

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Harry Burden (Chairman)
 Robert Burden
 Bill Bruce
 J.C. Carden
 Tom Conner (Chairman of Activities)
 Gene Hinds
 Ray Ivey
 Reed W. May
 Mike McAfee (Publicity)
 Jim Rains (Plantings Co-ordinator)
 Hubert Y. Rollen
 Don Shelton
 Jimmy Shetterly
 Charles Vincent
 Fred Walker
 Tom West (Chaplin)

CAMPBELL CO. TWRA OFFICER

Ken Cutsinger 615-587-7037
 Brent Harrison 615-587-7037

ROYAL BLUE MANAGER

Stan Stooksbury 615-566-8557

LAKE CITY MARKET



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

JELICO DRUG STORE

Professional Prescription Services at Discount Prices

- 24 Hour Photo Finishing
- Seiko & Timex Watches
- Diamonds & Jewelry
- Cosmetics
- Hallmark Cards
- Small Appliances
- Gifts
- Veterinary Supplies
- Let Us Price Your Next Prescription

784-6226

COMPUTERIZED PRESCRIPTION SERVICE

COPYING SERVICE AVAILABLE

UPS SHIPPING CENTER

OWNER

John Baird, Registered Pharmacist

203 S. Main Street

5% off next purchase
with this ad

Looking Back At Where We Started

Group formed to lease Royal Blue

By Lowell Branahm

News-Sentinel outdoors editor

Taken from *The Knoxville News-Sentinel*,
Sunday, March 22, 1987.

Jacksboro - The Royal Blue area in Campbell County has been worked over pretty good down through the years.

The timber companies came first and sawed down the virgin forests. Then came the underground coal operations that punched holes in the earth like moles.

Last in line were the strip miners, and they've left the most obvious mark. There are numerous gaping high walls left from stripping done before passage of the federal mine reclamation law in 1977.

But a large part of the strip mining was conducted after the '77 law was passed, and those sites look pretty good. They've been returned to contour and seeded with grass and trees and wildlife shrubs.

However, not everyone who goes to Royal Blue wants to cut something off it or dig something out of it. In fact, the majority of visitors are more interested in recreation than exploitation.

For a while, it looked as if most of those visitors might lose their access to Royal Blue. Last year, the Koppers Company, long-time owners of the area, sold it to Worldwide Purchasing, Inc., of Magnolia, Miss.

Worldwide recently announced its intention of leasing the area, either in a block or in 500 acre tracts, for an annual fee equal to the property taxes. As was

reported here earlier, a number of sportsmen—led by Campbell County Circuit Court Judge Lee Asbury—have been trying to form an organization that would lease the whole tract.

Well, that group is now officially in existence. It's called the Campbell Outdoor Recreation Association, Inc. (CORA), and it's accepting membership applications. Judge Asbury is acting as pro temp president until a full slate of officers and a board can be named.

At a meeting last week in Jacksboro, it was indicated that at least 1,000 sportsmen were interested in joining in a leasing group. Worldwide property manager Tom Crutchfield told the meeting his firm would be willing to lease the whole tract for an annual fee of \$1 per acre.

There are 46,750 acres. With 1,000

sportsmen in the group, that would come to \$46.75 per head. It was decided to round the figure off to an even \$50 and let that stand as the initial membership fee.

If 2,000 members wind up joining, the cost would decline to around \$25. But since there were only 1,000 initial firm commitments, membership will start off at \$50.

The Royal Blue area lies on both the east and west sides of Interstate 75 from Caryville north to the old I-75 rest area that is now closed. It extends west to the Scott County line and east to Walnut Mountain.

It formerly was administered as a wildlife management area by agreement

Please see **LOOKING**, page 4

A Coon Hunting Adventure

By Jim Shetterly

It was around 6:30 in the evening when we stopped and let the dogs out of the truck and started off on another coon hunting adventure.

And it looked like it was going to be a good one as the dogs quickly picked up a trail and treeing a short time later.

And we never wasted any time getting to where they were; the only thing is we never found anything when we got there.

But as any good coon hunter knows you don't always find what you are looking for.

After looking for some time and not seeing anything we decided the coon must of went in a hole or something so we called off the dogs and continued the hunt hoping to pick up another trail.

Stopping every now and then, we listened for the dogs and talk about deer hunting, fishing trips, turkey hunting, and that other coon hunt we were on the night the dogs went off the mountain and treed in the city limits.

But as we were talking one of the fellows with us said, "What's making that noise?"

Please see **COON**, page 10

wheelers and horses together but they can't see it until they get back, and for you folks that have never ridden a dirt bike over stream beds, with round rocks at ten or fifteen miles an hour or tried to climb a hill at the same speed, or changed ten plugs in a day then let me tell you it's no fun. Dirt bikes also like to go around hill sides where it is rather steep and cut out ruts that eventually cause erosion.

Horses; \$25.00. According to statistics more people are hurt riding horses than any of the above, including ATVs. Horses dig out the trails because they all play follow the leader. If you stop and tie one up it will eat everything it can reach, saplings and all, and what it doesn't eat it will feces on. It is a definite fact they have no business being on the same trails as any of the other modes of transportation aforesaid.

ATVs/4-wheelers; \$10.00. One of the fastest growing sports in the United States today. 4-wheelers have out sold dirt-bikes since 93. They would have out sold them years before had it not been for the bad name the 3-wheelers placed on them plus the law suits the ATV people had to defend. There are a lot of people today who have never ridden a 4-Wheeler but would like to see them outlawed. 4-Wheelers do minimal damage to roads and trails. 4-Wheelers don't need any trails or roads maintained. 4-Wheelers don't need anything except trails and picnic areas, preferable on overlooks around waterfalls or unusual rock formations. The older ladies and gentlemen pick up on these sites more so than the younger ones. My experience tells me that if it weren't for 4-Wheelers a big bunch of the older people would never get there.

1AA - Youth under thirteen.

1BB - Youth thirteen to sixteen.

1CC - Adult over sixty-five.

None of these categories should matter since the vehicle or animal should have the permit. This could be accomplished by an aluminum tag, say a thirty second of an inch thick by three inches by two inches. Each category would be written out plus the fee. A single hole puncher would do to punch out the right category. A good glue would attach the tag or permit to the vehicle or to the bridle

of a horse. Each tag would have a number so that if the machine or animal was caught in the wrong place or whatever then it could be easily kept up with. This would also give the State a way of keeping up with what is using the area. To make it plain and simple I/we don't want our money going to other entities any more than, let's say the big game stamp people want their money going to GOLF courses. In other words let's say five years from now the State held meetings throughout the State to gather input from the public for the next five year RECREATION PLAN. If the aforementioned permit system had already been implemented a lot of money would not have been spent to find out what the public wanted (Ref. 1995 State Recreation Plan). The state should have a three day or thirty day pass/permit in case friends or relatives come in on vacation.

2 - Horses, bicycles restricted to trails and roads OPEN to motorized vehicles??? It won't work, you're inviting trouble.

3 - Area closed 16 days for deer hunt. Fine.

4 - We can agree to marked trails, roads as long as CORA membership is invited to discuss the closures. The only reason for this is strictly to keep open as many roads, trails as possible. We don't want a person who isn't an ATV fanatic just closing roads on a whim (See 1995

STATE RECREATION PLAN).

5 - SAND PIT. This is an example of what we mean about people closing an area because they don't understand 4-wheeling. Another good example of this is the gate North of THREE POLES. Just past the gate on the east side of the trail is a rock out cropping that was a favorite place. Was this gate discussed in an open meeting? Most all the ATV enthusiast had rather go to the sand pits than ride the flat boring roads of Royal Blue on the East Side. ATV folks ride trails for the challenge and/or to get from one scenic view to another so as to be sociable. Lets get together and discuss this.

6 - Does this mean we can't advertise our two rides a year in a magazine? ...other states do this. About all of your Western and Midwestern states have week long rides. Is it because we are antisocial or just can't stand change. In fact I don't know exactly but there is a five-day ride in West Tennessee somewhere.

7 - Since the folks on motorcycles don't ride for the view, only for the challenge lets discuss this. Yes at one time I rode motorcycles.

8 - Lets make it 25 miles an hour.

9 - TDR or TDS stickers speak for themselves.

Well, I know I have upset some people, but that was my intention, so as to get everyone thinking.

LOOKING, Continued from page 3

between Koppers and TWRA, but that agreement wasn't renewed after Koppers sold the property. TWRA Region IV manager Bob Ripley attended last week's meeting and pledged TWRA's assistance and support to CORA after a lease agreement is signed.

CORA will hold a general election meeting to elect officers and accept memberships at 7 P.M. Friday at the courthouse in Jacksboro.

If you're unable to attend, you can reserve a membership by clipping the attached application form and filling it out and mailing it—along with a \$50 certified check or money order—to the Campbell Outdoor Recreation Association, P.O. Box 66, Jacksboro, TN 37757.

Applications forms are also available at Lee Ford and at the Robert Baird Motorcycle Shop in La Follette and at Judge Asbury's office directly across the street from the courthouse in Jacksboro.

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

CORA Minutes

Meeting Minutes of February 7, 1995.

The board meeting commenced at 7:15 PM at the Campbell County Court House, Jacksboro, TN.

Invocation: by Chairman Harry Burden.

Board roll call: ABSENT...Gene Hinds & Tom West.

Excused Absences...J. C. Carden, Tom Conner, Ray Ivey, Reed May, Mike McAfee, Jim Rains, Jim Shetterly & Charles Vincent.

Jan. 3, 1995 Minutes were approved as read, as were the Treasurer's reports for the CORA GENERAL ACCOUNT & the NEWSLETTER ACCOUNT by Treasurer, Terry Lewis.

President Lee Asbury opened the meeting with a comment on Board vacancies as dictated by our BY-LAWS.

When a member decides to resign, he should tender his resignation with a brief letter or note stating his request and reason. Personal reason need not be described. The Board will consider the request and determine if the position must be filled or left vacant. The subject was reviewed at this time because of the extraordinary number of absences being noted.

"Every elected Board member, said Asbury, is a valued representative of CORA and its members. Your assistance in charting the future of CORA and directing its responsibilities must not be taken lightly."

That said, our next order of business was...Roadside pickup. Bob Burden & Jim Shetterly volunteered to Co-Chair the responsibility of setting up the next CORA trash p/u date.

Herbert Rollen reported that the CYCLE CLUB was holding their p/u day on March 6th, anyone wanting to help was welcome.

On the Road Committee, Ted Fields reported that "3-POLE" was closed, with NO signs announcing its closure or when it would reopen. He also reported that the gate across the CHESTNUT RIDGE ROAD, is still closed and was supposed to be removed.

His final comment...upon inspecting most of the roads, they appeared to be "okay," with no need to get involved doing any work on them at this time, and would report monthly on their condition.

Lee said, it was recently suggested to him that he consider organizing a mass special interests meeting of all the groups wanting to use ROYAL BLUE.

Each GROUP to supply two representatives who would consider discussing our working together for the common good of the AREA.

In addition, Lee would volunteer CORA to represent all the groups as one instrumental body to help coordinate their special interest activities.

The Board agreed to Host the "supper" meeting at some motel in Knoxville and appropriated \$260 to support the event on a date yet to be announced.

The two approved members to represent CORA: President, Lee Asbury & Treasurer, Terry Lewis. Lee accepted responsibility to make the contacts and confirm a date.

Terry Lewis proposed the idea of forming an all volunteer forest FIRE FIGHTING GROUP. All will and must participate in a three hour training session under the direction of the STATE FORESTRY DEPT. to qualify and be covered by WORKMENS COMP. CORA will consider the possibility of donating some money to purchase some minimal equipment for the group.

Lee was concerned about the physical condition of some of the volunteers for such a strenuous detail, and suggested the idea that perhaps, some local doctors might provide physicals to all who volunteer. An idea to be investigated. It was further suggested that, non-CORA members should also be given the opportunity to volunteer.

Publicity Chairman, Mike McAfee, said he would contact Channel 4 for assistance in getting the word out to the public.

Bill Bruce suggested we wait until the March meeting, when more members would be available, suggestion accepted. So far, Lewis reported, he had 7 volunteers and would like a whole lot more.

Two closing comments by Asbury...one, regarding the approved purchase of the remaining "DONUT HOLE" property in ROYAL BLUE was about complete.

The second was on the State's problem with Rock fish. He heard that the

Legislature is considering the possibility of taking control of the Rock fish controversy.

They're considering the idea of removing the size and limit rule on Rock fish to help control, if not eliminate, Rock fish.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM
Respectfully submitted, Frank LaGreca,
Secretary, Feb. 7, 1995.

Meeting Minutes of March 7, 1995.

The Board meeting commenced at 7:30 PM at the Campbell County Court House, Jacksboro, TN.

Attending were, 11 Board members and 38 members.

Invocation by: Board member Jim Shetterly

Board roll call: ABSENT...Chairman Harry Burden, J.C. Carden, Tom Conner, Gene Hinds, Jim Rains & Tom West.

EXCUSED ABSENCE...Frank LaGreca, Reed May & Mike McAfee

Due to the absence of the Secretary and the Minutes of the Feb. 7th meeting, a motion was made and passed to pass on the reading of the Minutes and the Treasurer's report until the April 4th meeting and proceed with the scheduled meeting.

Attending visitors were: Messrs, Rick Walker, TN Forest Service Area manager, Frank McCulla, TN Forest Service County Manager, Stan Stooksbury, TWRA, RBWMA Manager & John Mike, Conservation Officer & RBWMA Assistant Manager.

President Asbury asked Mr. Walker to speak about the need for a volunteer fire fighter group to work with the Forest Service.

Mr. Walker addressed the shortage of manpower needed to fight area fires. He asked about the possible use of CORA volunteers to help, should the need arise. Tools will cost approx. \$18 to \$20 for fire rakes. Some training will be provided by the Forest Service before any volunteers will be called to help, said Mr. Walker.

Mr. McCullas was asked what the ideal team size should be? He indicated that approximately six would be about right.

TRI-TOWN MARKET



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



I-75 Exit 141

Phone 566-3800

Manager: Brad Fisher

Hunters Special
1 Egg, 3 Pancakes, 2 Bacon or Sausage
\$2.29

MINUTES, Continued from page 5

President Asbury asked for a few days to assemble the volunteers for the training class.

A signature list was provided and (26) names were added as future potential volunteer fire fighters.

Lee Asbury asked Stan Stooksbury to discuss the volunteer work session scheduled for the next two weeks. Stan said that the 4 Wheelers were sponsoring a clean-up and garbage detail again this year. Anyone willing to help should be on hand for this years program. A dumpster will be provided for the clean-up and disposal of the trash.

On March 18th Quail Unlimited personnel will meet on Braden Mountain to work on planting Warm Season grasses and food plots.

Stan also discussed the proposed changes on the RBWMA, as outlined in the NEWSLETTER. An intense, orderly discussion followed with no deadline set on the proposal.

Member, Jack Ethridge announced a scheduled group, ATV trail ride through the mountains on April 29th. Direct your questions, if any, to Jack.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Acting Secretary, Terry Lewis

Meeting Minutes of April 4, 1995.

The Board meeting commenced at 7:25 PM at the Campbell County Court House, Jacksboro, TN with 11 Board members and 20 members.

Invocation by Chairman Harry Burden.

Board roll call: Absent...J.C. Carden, Gene Hinds, Charles Vincent.

Excused Absence...Reed May, Mike McAfee & Jim Rains.

The Minutes for February & March were approved as read. CORA general account and Newsletter treasury reports were reported by Terry Lewis and approved as read.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Newsletter: Terry Lewis reminded everyone that our two year anniversary issue will be our next publication. Everyone was asked to attempt to contribute an article for this special edition.

Also, all those who have advertisers who have not paid up to date, please make every sincere effort to collect.

Roads & Trails: Ted Fields reported that he had checked out the West side of the highway and found the need for three (3) gates to be installed.

- Chestnut Ridge, beyond the creek.
- Hackle Knob Road.
- Three Pole Johnson Rock area.

Jack Ethridge submitted an in depth response to the suggested user fees for ROYAL BLUE. The Newsletter editors have agreed to publish its highlights in our next edition.

A discussion ensued regarding the proposed fees and President Asbury asked that we recall a comment made by TWRA in Jan. of '94; when fees were mentioned, they said they did not want to collect anything from anybody. They've come a long way, said Asbury, they've accepted the fact that Users should pay their fair share for using the property. Lee expressed concern that to continue to hassle TWRA over this matter could be counter productive and might lead to some really unsatisfactory restrictions.

A point was argued as to..."why pay \$30 for a ROYAL BLUE only permit, when a hunting license was good through-out the State?"

Additional views were discussed, with most appearing to be directed to the more destructive users either not being allowed to use the property or paying more.

President Asbury at this point, decided to ask for a vote on the proposal as it stands. The vote was in favor of the proposal as written. Further discussion at this meeting was closed.

Terry Lewis discussed the organization of the FIREFIGHTER GROUP. He asked for and received names of a number of volunteers who agreed to take on the responsibility to help fight timber & brush fires in the ROYAL BLUE and surrounding area. The volunteers were scheduled to meet for orientation on April 11 at 7 PM at the Forest Service Headquarters in Jacksboro.

Hubert Rollen expressed his thanks and appreciation to Lee Asbury for allowing the use of his disk for planting a number of food plots in and around the area.

Jack Ethridge announced that anyone wishing to go on the up-coming trail ride, to call him at 435-4786.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Frank LaGreca, Secretary.

C.O.R.A. Meeting
June 6, 1995, 7:00 P.M.
Regular meetings
are 1st Tuesday
of each month

Tennessee Snakes

By James L. Byford, Professor
Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries

INTRODUCTION

Many people are afraid of snakes. The reason is obvious—they just don't know enough about them. Fear is caused by a lack of understanding of the unknown. Because of this fear and lack of knowledge, many superstitions about snakes have resulted, and then been handed down from one generation to another.

Snakes aren't really mysterious at all. They are cold-blooded, the same as fish, frogs, turtles and salamanders. Because they are vertebrates (animals with backbones), the same as humans, many features about snakes are similar to people—some of their organs, for example.

There is no question that venomous snakes should be respected, and you should be careful when you encounter one. However, of the 44 species and subspecies of snakes in Tennessee, only five are venomous, and no one county in Tennessee has more than four of these. Most counties have only two. The other 39 contain absolutely no venom, and are, therefore, completely harmless.

Identification

Five kinds of venomous snakes include two kinds of rattlesnakes (pygmy and timber), two kinds of copperheads (southern and northern) and one cotton mouth (western). All of these belong in a group called pit vipers. (The venomous coral snake is not a pit viper, but it is not found in Tennessee). There are two harmless mimics of the coral snake which do live in Tennessee.

The shape of the head is commonly believed to be one way to distinguish between pit vipers and all other snakes. Even though pit vipers have a triangular head (wide at the back, attached to a narrow neck) many other snakes which are harmless also have this feature. Head shape is not a good way to tell the difference. There are only three ways to distinguish between pit vipers and all harmless snakes in Tennessee (Figure 1). They are:

(1) All pit vipers have a deep pit on each side of the head, a little below an imaginary line between the eye and the

nostril—and about midway between. Harmless snakes do not have these pits.

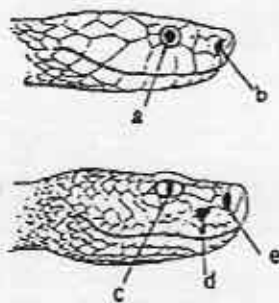


Fig. 1. Harmless snakes have a round pupil (s); location of nostril (b). Venomous snakes have an elliptical pupil (c) and a pit or opening (d) close to the nostril (e).

(2) On the underside of pit vipers' tails, scales go all the way across in one single row for most of the tail length. (However, part of the tail—usually at the very tip—may have two rows). On the underside of tails of harmless snakes, scales are in two rows from the vent of the snake to the tip of the tail. The shed skin of a snake shows the same characteristics. By simply turning the snake's skin over and looking at the underside from the vent to the tip of the tail, you can determine if the snake is venomous (Figure 2).

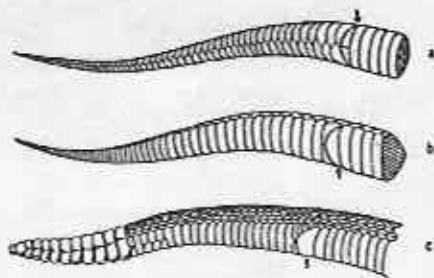


Fig. 2. Harmless snakes have divided scales on the underside of the tail ("a" above). Pit vipers in Tennessee have undivided scales on the underside of the tail, except sometimes on the tip where some may be divided ("b" and "c" above). Arrows indicate vent, where tail begins.

(3) The pupil (the black part in the center of the eye) of harmless snakes is perfectly round, whether dilated or not. The pupil of pit vipers is vertically elliptical (egg-shaped). In very bright light the pupil of pit vipers may be almost a vertical line, extremely contracted to shut

out the light. The shape of the pupil is easy to determine at a safe distance, since snakes cannot jump (completely leave the ground) and can strike no more than two-thirds of their body length. They can be safely observed two to three body lengths away. The shape of the pupil is easily visible at this distance and even further.

In Tennessee, pit vipers do not lay eggs. All their young are born alive, the same as some harmless snakes. If you find snake eggs around your home or in the garden, there is no cause for concern. They were laid by a harmless snake.

Snakebite

Some species of snakes will bite people and others won't. Ones which do, only bite to protect themselves.

Venomous: Venomous snakes have venom for two reasons: (1) to kill prey for food and (2) to protect themselves.

They are short, dumpy and clumsy, compared to other snakes. They catch prey by striking and injecting venom as the prey passes by. They won't bite anything except food unless surprised or cornered.

The venoms from venomous snakes vary in potency, depending on species, size and condition of the snake. The effect of a snakebite also varies according to the size and sensitivity of the victim, as well as the site and effectiveness of the bite. Contrary to popular belief, few snakebite victims die within the first few hours. About 70 percent of the deaths occurred from six to 48 hours after the bite.

Harmless: A harmless snake has absolutely no venom at all. Its bite can do no more harm than frighten the victim. After being bitten several thousand times by harmless snakes, the author and his students have never suffered any adverse reactions and no treatment has ever been used. Harmless snakes only cause problems by frightening some people who are not familiar with them.

A snakebite victim will have an almost immediate reaction from a venomous bite—in the form of swelling, tissue turning dark blue/black, a tingling sensation, nausea, etc. If these reactions

Please see **SNAKES**, page 8

Business and Professional Directory

Lake View Inn & Restaurant

P.O. Box 250
I-75 • Exit 134
Caryville, TN 37714

FRANK & BETTY DOSSETT (615)562-9456
TONY & TERINA BROWN 1 (800) 431-6887

Western Union • Micro/Fridge Available



**NATIONWIDE
INSURANCE**
Nationwide is on your side

EDWARD E. GRAY
Agent

P.O. Box 1300, LaFollette, TN 37766
Office: (615) 562-3348 Residence: (615) 562-9524
Claims: 1-800-421-3535



**LAFOLLETTE
CYCLE SHOP**

1316 Jacksboro Pike, LaFollette, TN 37766

COMPLETE SERVICE
ON ALL HONDA MOTORCYCLES

Robert A. Baird
Phone (615) 562-5239



Super Clean Performance
Open 24 Hours

EAGLE GAS & FOOD MARKET

Rt. 1, Box 851 • Jacksboro, TN 37757
(615) 566-2414

Tommy Higdon, Mgr.

Commercial Accounts

Buckhorn

Hunting and Fishing Supply



Fishing, Archery,
Muzzleloader Supplies
Guns and Ammo
Hunting and Fishing
Licenses

Hwy 297, West Industrial Lane
Oneida, TN 37841
(615) 569-9452

**LAFOLLETTE
SPORTS SHOPPE**

Guns & Ammo
Reloading Equip
Archery



Live Bait
Tackle
Camping &
Army Surplus

Owners
**RONNIE & SUSIE
CARROLL**

1115 Jacksboro Pike LaFollette, TN 37766
Telephone 562-0035

**HINDS
PLUMBING
& TRENCHING**

Rt. 1 Box 3791
Jacksboro, TN 37757

562-6371



WAYNE'S CYCLE & ATV

321 Industrial Lane, Oneida, TN 37841

Wayne Rogers

Mike Leath

Phone (615) 569-9285

CONOCO

HOTTEST BRAND GOING®

JERRY'S MARKET

Route 1, Box 107
Newcomb, Tennessee 37819
(615) 784-5095

OPEN
Mon - Sat.

CLOSED
Sundays

Hunt & Fish License
Big Game Check Station

**CARLOCK MYERS
141 FUEL CENTER**

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

Route 2
Caryville, Tennessee 37714

*Golden Girls
Restaurant*



Ann Golden Vowell
Jeanne' Golden Carden

2211 Andersonville Highway
Clinton, TN 37716
Exit 122 West off 75
(615) 457-3302



FARM BUREAU INSURANCE
ROGER WHITE - Agency Mgr.

200 S. Tennessee
LaFollette, TN 37766

Ofc. 562-2441
Res. 562-2007

Business and Professional Directory

KEY

Limestone Division

CLAIBORNE CONSTRUCTION & SUPPLY CO., INC.

RT. 3, BOX 340 • JACKSBORO, TN 37757
LA FOLLETTE 562-7415
TN WATTS 1-800-332-9166

John R.W. Brown Insurance

**Fleet Building
LaFollette, TN 37766**

AUTO • LIFE • FIRE • HEALTH

PHONE

Home (615) 562-3126
Office (615) 562-5754



That's the
Spirit
of Community Prides!

SERVING ALL OF CAMPBELL COUNTY

4 Convenient Locations

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

Member FDIC
Account Up To \$100,000



RAY'S



SUPERIOR FOOD MARKET

**Kentucky Side of Jellico
Symbol of Quality**

JACKSBORO BODY SHOP

P.O. Box 4
Jacksboro, TN 37757

(615) 562-2171

**Harry Burden
Owner**

CREEKMORE & SON SUPER MKT

202 South Main Street
Jellico, TN

615-784-6491

*"Where the Price is
Always Right"*

SNAKES, Continued from page 7

are not observed or felt, the bite was from a harmless snake. Also, bites from a pit viper will usually reveal two fang marks in addition to two rows of teeth marks (all snakes have teeth; only pit vipers have fangs). Harmless snake bites will often (but not always) reveal marks from four rows of teeth.

Habitat

Snakes are not very mobile, and even though some are fairly adaptable, most have specific habitat requirements. Some live underground (these are mostly small in size), while some others live primarily in trees (such as green snakes). In general, though, snakes like cool, damp, dark areas where their food is found. Areas around the home which seem to be attractive to snakes are:

- (1) Firewood stacked directly on the ground.
- (2) Old lumber piles.
- (3) Junk piles.
- (4) Flower beds with heavy mulch.

(5) Gardens.

(6) Basements, especially when cluttered with household items.

(7) Shrubbery growing alongside the house.

(8) Barn lofts, especially where feed is stored, attracting rodents.

(9) Attics in houses where there is a bird, rodent or bat problem.

(10) Stream banks.

(11) Pond banks where there are boards, innertubes, trees, planks or other items lying on the bank.

(12) Un-mowed lawns and abandoned lots and fields.

Food Habits

All snakes are predators and they eat many different kinds of food, depending on the species of snake. Rat snakes eat primarily rodents (such as rats, mice, and chipmunks), birds eggs and baby birds. King snakes eat other snakes, as well as rodents, young birds, and bird eggs. Some snakes, such as green snakes, eat primarily insects. Some small snakes, such as earth snakes and worm snakes,

eat earthworms, slugs, salamanders, etc. Water snakes primarily eat frogs, fish and tadpoles.

Aggressive Behavior

No snake is aggressive. With the exception of the racers, which occasionally bluff by advancing toward an intruder, no snakes charge or attack people. (Actually, racers will retreat rapidly, if challenged.) Snakes only react when cornered. They may react (depending on the species) in one of several ways: play dead by turning over on their back, hissing, opening the mouth in a menacing manner, coiling and striking, and biting, if necessary. In most cases, a snake will crawl away if it feels it can reach cover safely.

This article was reprinted from Wildlife.

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



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

POSTMASTER:

Address Correction Requested

FIRST CLASS MAIL

COON, Continued from page 3

Now we all could hear it and it sure wasn't dogs barking for you don't hear sounds like that around here in the woods that often, especially at night. But that's the way it is hunting at night, you never know what you're going to run into or what's going to happen.

The noise was getting louder and before long it was right over top of us.

It was the Army training in the area and they were flying Apache Helicopters.

They hovered over our heads and we watched to see what they were going to do and wondered how long they were going to stay around.

They probably thought we were going to attack them, as there was seven of us hunting together.

One of the fellows said, "What do you think we should do now, Harry?" Harry knew this was a good place to tree a coon and he wasn't about to give it up just because of a few little ole helicopters; besides, we had come too far to give up with out seeing a Coon.

I thought this hunt was just about over for the night as it was close to midnight and we hadn't caught anything.

But we all decided to hunt a while longer for things were looking better, and some of the helicopters had left.

It had been some time since we had seen or heard the dogs. I thought maybe they were off somewhere taking a break or maybe went back to the trucks for the night.

Then we heard dogs barking; they had picked up another trail and it was a hot one.

The race went on for about twenty minutes before they treed down next to the creek.

As we started down to where they were I wondered if it was a coon. We hadn't found anything when they treed earlier. But when we got down to where they were we could see that it was a coon this time and it was a big one. It must have weighed forty pounds.

I've been on a lot of coon hunts but I've never seen anything like this one. This coon was the biggest I've ever seen.

But there are bigger ones. I was talking to a fellow about coon hunting some time back and he said they get to be over 50 pounds up in Ohio.

So I told him, "Them's big coons, it's a good thing they don't get that big around here, for the one we treed almost whipped three dogs and seven people."

This hunt turned out to be a good one after all. In fact, it is the best one I've been on in a long time. Come to think of it, it is the last one I've been on. I won't count that time we were training the dogs.

It could be the dogs had a little something to do with this being a good hunt for they did most of the running and treeing. Who knows maybe one of these nights we will get some bigger dogs and go after one of those Fifty Pounders.

Jesus said, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."
John 12c., 32v.

Jail & Street Outreach Ministry