

Bee County Wildlife Management Association



Enhancing Quality and Quantity of Wildlife Habitat and Populations in Bee County, Texas

January 2007 Newsletter

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

<http://www.Bee-County-Wildlife.org>

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PRESIDENTS CORNER

It's late one evening last November. I'm sitting in a round blind of stacked hay bales planning the shot that will result in my next mature buck. My rifle's forearm is resting on a hay bale and the butt is in my lap when a buzz starts around my ears and I think I'm under attack by killer bees. The buzz stops when a Ruby Throated Hummingbird perches on the end of my rifle scope. About four seconds later the hummer is dive bombing my head again and I sit there wondering if that beak can pierce my ears. A minute later the hummer perches on my wrist, and a few seconds after that It's buzzing my ears again. In self defense I slowly fan my ears with both hands until the bird gets the message and departs the area. I'm left to conclude the hummer admired my pretty new red and green plaid shirt.

I've had numerous experiences that I hold dear and priceless during my life in the world of wildlife, and I hope all of you have had, or will have, many equally wonderful experiences during your lifetime. If enough of you are willing to share your unusual wildlife experiences we can include some of those in our newsletter and website. Just send them by email to ljones@bee-county-wildlife.org A snail mail note will also work. I might add that the wildlife at "HOOTERS" does not qualify as the type of experience we are looking for.

I reckon I better get on with the business of the upcoming annual dinner and election of four members to fill open slots on our Board of directors. This is the first year we will include a live auction and numerous raffles, as well as 3 door prizes consisting of crisp new \$100 bills. This is our first attempt at this type of event and if we have a few glitches I hope you will look upon the evening as a learning experience. We will work to make the evening run as smoothly as possible. I do regret that we have had to increase prices this year, but please remember this is our first and only fund raiser since forming BCWMA three years ago. We also plan to initiate a college scholarship program in 2007 and the proceeds of the auction will help fund that program. There are some neat items offered, so please come in a buying mood.

Good for a grin...

How do you say "Female Chauvinist"?

One day my housework-challenged husband decided to wash his sweat shirt. Seconds after he stepped into the laundry room, he shouted to me, "What setting do I use on the washing machine?"

"It depends," I replied. "What does it say on your shirt?"

He yelled back, "University of Oklahoma ."

And they say blondes are dumb...



A couple is lying in bed. The man says, "I am going to make you the happiest woman in the world."

The woman replies, "I'll miss you..."



"It's just too hot to wear clothes today," Jack said as he stepped out of the shower, "honey,

Regarding the election, there's an old adage that says "If you can't be a lifter, then don't be a leaner." Your board is in search of four "lifter" candidates that are willing to fully share the responsibility of making the Bee County Wildlife Management Association one of the best associations within the state of Texas. We need people who can and will make the association a top priority, attend all meetings, chair committees, and focus firmly on accomplishing association business during meetings. BCWMA was set up with a nine person board because that divided the work into manageable pieces. When a member slacks off the rest have to pick that person's the load. We are looking for energetic, motivated people that want to be involved, if you are interested or know someone who would fit the bill, let us know. FYI, the current board's cumulative age is probably 550 to 600 years of age. Best looking bunch of MEDICARE recipients I've ever seen.

Remember, to serve on the board of directors one has to be a Bee Co. land owner.

Recon I'll mosey on out of here and take these bones out to the pasture for another evening of pleasure. I may just take a rifle along too.

Pat True, BCWMA President

BCWMA ANNUAL MEETING IS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2007

Our 2007 Annual Meeting, Banquette, Election and Fund Raiser will be held Friday, February 9. Doors open at 6:30 and dinner will be served at 7:15. This is expected to be the largest wildlife oriented event to be held in Bee County in years. Our 2006 meeting attracted more than 135 people, and all indications are that the 2007 event will far exceed that. In addition to another interesting speaker and a great barbeque dinner, we have added silent and live auctions, raffles, and three \$100 cash door prizes.

Mitch Lockwood, Wildlife Biologist and Texas Parks & Wildlife's White-tailed Deer Program Leader, based in Kerrville, Texas, will be the featured speaker. His topic, Selective Harvest Strategies, will compare various strategies for managing buck harvests, including spread based criteria, the 8 points or better approach, and the current TPWD Antler Restriction Program. Mitch has a BS and MS from Texas A&M University (WFSC). He worked for the Florida Game and Fish Commission as Lead Area Biologist of the Blackwater Wildlife Management Area in Northwest Florida and served as a TPWD Private Lands Biologist in the central and western Edwards Plateau, where he oversaw 119 active Wildlife Management Programs covering a half million acres.

To support the fundraiser we are requesting donations of cash or merchandise from businesses and individuals. We plan to establish an annual scholarship program in 2007 to provide financial assistance to Bee County students that pursue degrees in wildlife related programs. The funds raised at this event will support the scholarship

what do you think the neighbors would think if I mowed the lawn like this?"

"Probably that I married you for your money," she replied.



Q: What do you call an intelligent, good looking, sensitive man?

A: A rumor



A man and his wife, now in their 60's, were celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary. On their special day a good fairy came to them and said that because they had been so good that each one of them could have one wish.

The wife wished for a trip around the world with her husband.

Whoosh!

Immediately she had airline/cruise tickets in her hands.

The man wished for a female companion 30 years younger...

Whoosh...immediately he turned ninety!!!

Gotta love that fairy!

fund and other ongoing activities of the Association.

BCWMA is an IRS 501(c)(3) tax exempt charitable organization. Part or all of donations may qualify as a deductible item on tax returns, donors should consult their CPA.

This is an excellent way to advertise your business or organization. Donations to the silent and live auctions and raffles will be accompanied by a sign recognizing the individual or business donating the item. Donors will also be listed in the event program, in this newsletter, and on our website at <http://www.bee-county-wildlife.org> Donations valued at more than \$250 allow donors to display a banner or sign in the banquet hall the night of the event.

Donations of items of any value are appreciated. Cash donations may be combined with other donations to purchase items for the auction, and the donor's names will be listed with that group.

Large items such as bird or deer hunts, fishing trips, guns, feeders and blinds will be used in the live auction and are especially appreciated. For a list of donors and donations see the list below. Additional items will be added as they become available.

The event will be held at the Bee County Exposition Center, Beeville, Texas. Tickets are \$12 for adults through February 4. Starting February 5 tickets will be \$18. Children 12 and under are \$6 anytime. Tickets are available at the Bee County Extension office, 210 E. Corpus Christi Street.. You can also mail your check and reservation information to BCWMA at P. O. Box 447, Beeville, TX, 78104 or call Larry at 361-362-0430. To donate items or cash you can also call this number. This event is open to the public and anyone interested in wildlife is welcome and encouraged to attend.

We suggest you invite neighboring property owners, and even pay for their tickets if necessary. It is an excellent way to introduce them to BCWMA and get them interested in joining BCWMA and you in managing wildlife.

2007 BCWMA Annual Meeting and Fund Raiser Donation List as of 1-7-07

Value up to \$100

- Bee Agricultural Co - 500 pounds of corn
- Brush Country Bad Boy Buggies - soft camo ice chest, Bad Boy tee shirts and Bad Boy hats
- Alinez & Perez Garage - 1 automobile lubrication
- CarQuest - 2006 Bobby Hamilton Model car, 1.24 scale Dodge Super truck
- Mineral Mercantile - 2 breakfasts
- Classique Cleaners - \$15 gift certificate
- Seminole Clothing Company - jacket with BCWMA logo
- Bee County Co-op - 500 pound of milo



Q: Why do little boys whine?

A: They are practicing to be men.



Q: What do you call a handcuffed man?

A: Trustworthy.



Q: What does it mean when a man is in your bed gasping for breath and calling your name?

A: You did not hold the pillow down long enough.



Q: Why do men whistle when they are sitting on the toilet?

A: It helps them remember which end they need to wipe.



Dear Lord,

I pray for Wisdom to understand my man;
Love to forgive him;
And Patience for his moods. Because,
Lord, if I pray for Strength, I'll beat

- Trophy Blinds - diamond knife sharpener

Value from \$100 to \$250

- Mineral Gun Shop - .22 Caliber Heritage Arms revolver with .22LR and .22 Magnum cylinders
- South Texas Implement - toy John Deere peddle tractor
- Ed Wicker - beautiful hand made hunting knife, sheath style
- Auto Zone - coupons good for 2 free 45 minute flights with "Chute Me Sky High"- get high on "the ride of your life!"
- Lucky S & L Ranch and Larry & Sandy Jones - two hand turned mesquite wine glasses, a wine bottle 2 glass holder made of mesquite, and a bottle of wine
- Lucky S & L Ranch and Larry & Sandy Jones - hand turned, spalted Texas hackberry vase
- Lazy Box 8 Ranch and Pat & Kay True - \$150 cash to be applied toward three \$100 cash door prizes
- Bill & Gail Frank - \$150 cash to be applied toward three \$100 cash door prizes
- First National Bank - \$200 cash to apply toward art items
- Comforts of Home, Rockport - wooden rocker
- Alex Kibler - wildlife photograph
- Dr. Hogue - wildlife photograph and *Wildlife in Focus* Book

Value from \$250 to \$500

- Fish Game Feeders.com and & Brush Country Bad Boy Buggies - Texas Hunter TF300 Automatic Deer Feeder with leg set and solar panel
- Fuller Tractor Co. - All Seasons 300# Automatic Feeder
- BCWMA - Herb Booth framed quail print
- BCWMA - John Dearman framed print "First Light"
- BCWMA - famous artist framed print TBD
- Capital Farm Credit - 4 San Antonio Spurs tickets for the March 10, 2007 Game
- Beeville Cycle Shop - 3.5KW 110 volt generator
- Pogue Seed - 4 bags of "Buck Buffet" food plot seed plus 3 bags of "Bird Buffet" food plot seed
- Pearl Guide Service, Mark Lyons - 5 hour (1/2 day) guided Bay fishing trip for 2 people in the Port Aransas area.
- Bevly Taxidermy - one whitetail deer shoulder mount

Value from \$500 to \$1,000

Value from \$1,000 to \$2,500

- South Texas Vet Clinic and Larry Moczygamba - Baffin Bay fishing trip for 4, two days of fishing for speckled trout and red fish based at a cabin in the Laguna Madre. All inclusive, your group will fish from two boats. This trip may be expanded to 6

him to death.

AMEN



Q: How do you keep your husband from reading your e-mail?

A: Rename the mail folder "Instruction Manual"

Did You Know...

...one study showed 26.4 million people hunted with a gun or bow last year?

...the National Shooting Sports Foundation found that the average American hunter spends over \$96,000 on the hobby in their lifetime?

...hunters spent \$703.8 million on hunting licenses in 2004?

...total sales of all sporting goods in 2002 came to \$53 Billion?

..in 1995 73 percent of Americans approved of hunting?

people and 3 boats.

- Speed Feed & Speed-Feed.com - SF125-EB630 Speed Feed Hopper with a EB630 Shindawia Blower, moves 100 # of corn per minute - "The feeder for your feeder"

Value from \$2,500 and up

- Wilke Tire Company (Corpus Christi) and Caribbean Expedition Tours - "The trip of a lifetime" Costa Rican tarpon and snook fishing trip for 4 to 6 people. Enjoy world class fishing at a remote jungle lodge. Includes 2 nights at the lodge and two nights in San Jose during the trip in and out of the country. Airfare to Costa Rica is not included. BCWMA Board Member and Treasurer Bill Frank has fished Costa Rica and says not only is the fishing beyond belief, but the scenery is worth the trip all by itself.

Notice

BCWMA reserves the right to modify this list without notice. Items may be added, modified or removed and the list is not final until actually offered the night of the event. The Costa Rica trip may be auctioned with a reserve (where a pre-determined minimum bid must be reached before the item will be sold). All items are offered and sold as is-where is by BCWMA. Warranties, if any, will be by the donor or manufacturer.

2007 ELECTION - BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINEES

Four directors will be elected at our February meeting. A list of nominees follows below. Additional nominations can be made from the floor the night of the election.

Board members have a significant amount of association work to do each year and will need to spend a considerable amount of personal time on those activities. As you evaluate the nominees consider not only their qualifications and experience but also their willingness, ability and commitment to regularly attend board meetings and to invest the time and effort required to complete assigned duties and tasks. Your association is only as effective as the people you elect to run it. Choose wisely.

We have four open Board Positions:

1. Tom Keller is ending his first term (3 years) and is not running again.
2. Ellis McKinney is ending his first term and is running again
3. Bill Frank is ending his first term and is running again
4. Alvin Rubottom is resigning for personal reasons

Nominees, in alphabetical order:

1. Bill Frank:

...in 2006 78% approved?

...72% more women are hunting with firearms today than 5 years ago?

...women account for about 15% of the hunting related marketplace?

...in 2005 only 31 hunting accidents were reported in Texas, or only 2.9 accidents per 100,000 hunters?

...boating and swimming are far more dangerous than hunting?

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Bill is a founding director and a charter member at the end of his first three year term. He served as Secretary-Treasurer all three years and has been one of the four most active, hardest working, and vital members of the Board. He actively participates in every phase of the management and running of BCWMA. His management skills have proved an invaluable asset to the Board. Bill raises cattle on his Hwy 59 and Mineral area ranches. He splits his time between his Beeville ranches and homes in Port Aransas and Alaska. In spite of many interests outside of BCWMA, Bill has attended virtually every Board and general meeting we have had in the past three years, and actively worked on every meeting, event and field day. He aggressively follows BCWMA management recommendations on his property each year and has achieved significant improvement in his deer herd.

2. Jamie Garza:

Jamie is 45 years old and is a Lead Operations Technician for Valero in Corpus Christi where he has worked for the past 20 years. He owns property in Northwest Bee County in the CR 327 area. He joined the association as a life member two years ago, and has attended a large majority of our meetings, which is one of the reasons for his nomination. He is motivated by his love of wildlife and a desire to foster that love in his children and grand children and to provide a quality wildlife experience for them on his property. His oldest son is at Texas A & M Kingsville in a Wildlife Management program. Jamie is a wildlife photographer and hunter and is especially interested in seeing more small landowners involved in the Association. He hears many small landowners complain about not seeing the quality or quantity of wildlife they did years ago, and is interested in working with them to do something about it.

3. Don Liska:

Don Liska grew up in Karnes City, Texas. He is a 1985 engineering graduate from Texas A & M University-College Station. He currently owns a construction company that specializes in building bridges. Don has had an interest in ranching and deer hunting all his life. He currently owns/operates a ranch in Bee County near Berclair, and he also owns a ranch in Webb County, which has been high fenced since December 2005. Don, with the help of Al Brothers, is actively managing the whitetail deer and their habitat on this ranch. His goal is to achieve quality whitetail deer in the near future. Don

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believes education is the secret to improving our wildlife and hunting experiences. He has committed to attending all meetings possible and is very enthusiastic about the possibility of serving on the BCWMA board.

4. Ellis McKinney:

Ellis is a charter member and founding director at the end of his first three year term, He served as Vice President for his first two terms. Ellis is a native of Bee County and a full time Cattle rancher in the County. He is a Board member of the Texas Farm Bureau, The Bee County Water Conservation Board, and the South Texas Weather Modification Board.

5. Mary Sklar:

Mary was born in Bee County to Lonnie and Nellie Gregorcyk and resided in Live Oak County for 13 years before moving to Goliad and finally to Jackson County where she now lives. Mary and her husband Darrel own property in the Hwy 202 area of Bee County. Mary developed a love for the outdoors at a very young age and has enjoyed hunting & fishing for years. She has been involved in the Jackson County wildlife management program for the past four years. Mary believes a successful game management program consists of all members working towards the final goal which is to have higher quality deer with superior genetics. This requires patience and a keen eye which is not always an easy task. Mary is excited that Bee County has formed a wildlife association and hopes the results will be equal to or succeed the great success of the Jackson County program. Mary has taught school for thirty years but she is retiring in the spring of 2007. She plans to spend much of her time at their ranch in Beeville enjoying the wildlife and being actively involved in BCWMA.

Per our By-Laws, after the board member election at our Annual Meeting the new Board will elect a President, Vice president and Secretary from their number by simple majority vote.

PRESCRIBED BURN SCHOOL AND DEMO BURN

The Coastal Bend Prescribed Burn Association (CBPBA) is holding a 2 day Prescribed Burn Workshop January 24 and 25, 2007 in Victoria, Texas. Workshop topics include burn laws and regulations, fire weather, fire suppression, developing burn plans, and planning and conducting prescribed burns on private land.

Day one consists of classroom work at the Patty Dodson Center in Victoria. The second day will be a hands-on prescribed burn at the Angerstein Ranch in Victoria County (directions provided day one).

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Lunch is included both days. Four CEU credits will be available for pesticide applicator license holders on completion of the workshop. Texas Prescribed Burn Board CEU's are also available.

The cost is \$25 per person. For more information or to register contact CBPBA Board member Chris Lindquist at (361) 572-8711 ext. 302. You may also register at the door the day of the workshop.

The CBPBA is a cooperative of landowners and interested parties in 12 Coastal Bend Counties, including Aransas, Bee, Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Jackson, Karnes, Live Oak, Nueces, Refugio, San Patricio, and Victoria. Additional counties may be added dependent upon interest in those Counties. Members share manpower and resources to help each other burn on their properties. The Association has a burn trailer available for rent at a very nominal fee that includes most of the equipment needed to conduct safe burns, including radios, drip torches, and fire suppression equipment.

Prescribed burning is one of the most effective and cost effective methods of brush management and wildlife habitat enhancement available to landowners. Many plants in Texas are highly burn adapted and respond very positively to burning. Burning was nature's way of maintaining a healthy and dynamic environment until man decided fire was bad. Reduced wild fires have produced uncontrolled brush expansion, degraded wildlife and livestock habitat, and reduced the quantity of useful forage available to wildlife and domestic animals.

Prescribed burning is a safe and economical habitat management tool when applied by knowledgeable people. CBPBA provides prescribed burn training opportunities and encourages the safe use of fire in the Texas Coastal Bend. Join CBPBA at the workshop, or send your check for \$25 (annual dues) along with your complete contact information to CBPBA, P. O. Box 447, Beeville, TX 78104. To join and attend the workshop pay \$50.

When: January 24-25, 2006, beginning at 9:00am both days

Where: Day 1- Patty Dodson Center, 2805 N. Navarro St., Victoria, TX
 Day 2- Angerstein Ranch in Victoria County

Cost: \$25 Make checks payable to CBPBA

LANDOWNER COOPERATION IS THE KEY TO BIG BUCKS ON SMALL ACREAGE

Virtually everyone is thrilled when they see a wild, trophy size whitetail buck. Just the sight of these majestic animals makes the pulse race and has helped make whitetail deer one of the most popular animals in the United States.

Most people realize that the only way to have trophy sized animals is to let the younger animals survive until they are old enough to fully develop their potential. If we want 180 class bucks we can't shoot them

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as babies. The certain result of killing immature bucks is that they will never become the trophy bucks we prize so highly.

Why then do hunters continue to kill so many young bucks every year? Why do they aggressively act in a way that is certain to keep them from ever harvesting, or probably even seeing, the trophy buck they so desire? Why do they feel compelled to kill the first animal they see with an antler?

Perhaps the most common answer to these questions is that many hunters correctly believe that "if I don't kill it the person next door will". Using this justification they continue, year after year, to join with that guy next door in assuring that neither of them, nor any of their neighbors, is ever likely to see a decent buck on their lease or property.

In the last 20 years or so many hunters and landowners have begun to recognize that by managing their deer herd properly they "can have their cake and eat it to." The result is that today a large number of hunters and landowners are "letting young bucks go so they can grow". They have been investing in the future and are now reaping the rewards from those investments.

Unfortunately, the ongoing fragmentation of land in Texas is resulting in smaller and smaller properties, and more and more small land owners. Very few of us today have sufficient property to effectively manage our deer by ourselves. Without the cooperation of adjoining landowners most of us do not have enough acreage to protect our young bucks from itchy trigger fingers and the uninformed when deer cross property lines.

One common defense against this problem is the high fence. Some land owners have the resources to isolate their property and thus protect themselves from the indiscriminate harvest of wildlife. High fences are not without problems, however, and there has been some controversy in Texas over their use.

Another time proven solution to this problem is the wildlife co-op. These associations consist of many landowners banding together to manage their deer in a consistent manner over large areas of combined acreage. They agree on harvest strategies that allow whitetails to reach maturity and that eventually allow for an on-going sustained harvest of quality animals. Close to two hundred of these organizations exist across Texas and their successes have been well documented.

The key to success in wildlife co-ops is for members to develop mutual trust and have a common management objective. Interacting at co-op meetings and learning about neighbor-members can build a relationship that allows cooperation and trust to develop. Sharing information about the animals observed in an area helps build confidence that each member will stick with the agreed upon game plan.

Emailing photos of identifiable bucks among neighbors, along with descriptions and comments, is one way. We could also create photo

albums for individual bucks in the Photo Gallery in the BCWMA website, along with comments about agreed upon management plans for each buck.

The difficult thing on small properties is for the landowners to act together to do the same things that the manager of a large ranch would do when managing his deer herd. Communication is one factor in making that happen.



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EVENTS

January 24 & 25, 2007 - CBPBA Burn Workshop & Demo Burn

Wednesday and Thursday, Victoria, Texas - see item above

February 9, 2007 - Annual Meeting, Election and Fundraiser

Friday, 6:30 PM, Bee County Exposition Center - see item above

Summer 2007 - Date and event to be determined

November 3, 2007 - Opening Day Whitetail Deer Event

Saturday, 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM, Hunters luncheon, deer aging session, spot light survey results and BCWMA harvest recommendations. Bee County Exposition Center

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Buddy Turner - OGT
Program Director

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and feed him for a
day...
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BCWMA Officers & Directors

President: Pat True: 361-548-5059

Vice President, Tom Keller, 361-375-2924

Secretary-Treasurer, Bill Frank, 361-877-4831

BCWMA Directors

Joe Doreck, 361-456-1125

Larry Jones, 361-362-0430

Ken Langford, 361-643-8878

Ellis McKinney, 361-358-3137

Alvin Rubottom, 361-375-2108

Randy Walls, 361-287-3376

D. Montemayor, (ex-officio, non voting) 361-362-3280

**Can You Donate a 2008 hunting trip to the BCMWA Annual Meeting and
Fundraiser on February 9, 2007?**

This is a great way for someone to assist you with your management harvest efforts by allowing them to take a doe or management buck while you support BCWMA.

BCWMA Member Application

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Cell #: _____
Address: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____
City/State/Zip: _____

Member's Cooperative Agreement

I own / manage (circle one) land on county/state road _____ containing _____ acres
(Note: This information is confidential. It is used to determine total acreage enrolled in the co-op)

I agree to cooperate with the goals and bylaws of the Bee County Wildlife Management Association.

This agreement does not give any unauthorized person the right to trespass on the above property.

I am in no way obligated to the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department or BCWMA. I may or may not agree with the management practices recommended. The only thing I have agreed to is that I recognize the need for wildlife management in order to improve the wildlife on my property.

This agreement is valid as long as I am a dues paying member of the BCWMA.

Enclosed is (circle one) \$20 Member \$100 Life Member \$250 Sponsor

Signature: _____

Make checks payable to BCWMA and mail to P. O. Box 1967, Beeville, TX 78104 Date: _____

BCWMA
Bee County Wildlife Management Association
P. O. Box 447
Beeville, TX 78104

