OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

BEND CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2018



NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

The next meeting will be Dec. 12th at

the King Buffet Restaurant in Bend. The Chapter meetings will be held at the King Buffett on the second Wednesday of each month through March 2019. If you are aware of a facility that could accommodate our group for little or no charge please contact a board member. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

Come at 6:00 have some dinner and socialize before the meeting.



Once again the chapter voted this year to donate all raffle funds from November and December's meetings to the

Bend Soup Kitchen. Please consider attending the meetings and contributing to this great cause.

What's a Grebe & Summer Lake Wildlife Refuge

Imagine it's one of those cool, crisp but absolutely gorgeous mornings out on the Summer Lake Wildlife Refuge one fall day. You got up early just for the peace and quiet, and serenity of such a lovely place. Your target species is not quite out, so you really are just enjoying the sights, sounds, and experience.

Though I grew up hunting and getting to know those certain species we hunted, I now wish my dad had taught me about some of the other birds and wildlife we got to see in the Alaska wilderness. Some of my favorite birds are in the grebe and loon family. Let me introduce you to three of my favorite birds you would get the pleasure of observing during your time at one of Oregon's best waterfowl hunting locations, Summer Lake WR.

Common Loon

This enchanting, charismatic, and gorgeous bird does not nest in Oregon. It requires a huge lake to forage for its territory and thus only migrates through. So, during the fall season you will see large numbers of these birds as they move toward the Oregon coast where they winter on the ocean. As a wildlife rehabilitator, I get this type of 'water bird' during their migrations when they make emergency landings on pavement (confusing it with water or rivers). These are not a huntable species - and would taste awful quite frankly – but there is nothing like the sound of the loon's call to make you feel the wild in your soul.



Western, Pied-billed, & Eared Grebes:

These all other types of water birds that migrate through Summer Lake. Westerns head to the coast, where they also endure the frigged sea for months on end and feed on fish. These birds do breed in Oregon - you can watch the Westerns doing their very entertaining breeding 'dances' on Klamath Lake in the Spring, and sometimes Wickiup.

Eared Grebes

Eared Grebes are heading down to Mono Lake in CA or the Salton Sea, where they eat brine shrimp and can somehow handle the level of salt in these briny water bodies. Lake Abert is a critical migratory stopping spot on their route. Tens of thousands of Eareds have used the brine shrimp of Lake Abert (just to the south of Summer Lake) to fuel up for their trips to the Salton Sea.

The Pied-billed

The one grebe that is accidentally confused with a duck during hunting season - is looking for a warmer inland lake, generally on the west side of the Cascades. Our warmer winters have found a few on this side however. These birds have heavy bills that allow them to eat crustaceans, fish, and larger insects. You might see them churning up the water at a pond edge dislodging crayfish or insects to eat. They are much smaller than any huntable species, though close in size to the Ruddy duck. Coloration though is very different.



Downed Grebes: These birds cannot walk on land – that is how adapted to water they are, living their entire lives on ponds, lakes, or oceans. Anatomically, grebes are unique because their feet are positioned at the rear of their bodies, like a penguin. This allows them to propel themselves underwater; in the case of the Western, so fast they can spear their fish. But, that position along with the weight of their bodies and wing size (adapted so they are expert swimmers) means they cannot take off from land. Small grebes need at least 20 feet of water to run on for take-off; Westerns and Loons 40-60 feet is needed.

If you ever see one of these birds on the side of a road, or out on land, even if at the side of a lake, try to rescue. Poor body condition and hypothermia is always an issue with downed grebes, and they always have lost their waterproofing. I must use recirculating and filtered pools to rehab these extraordinary birds as they cannot spend much time on their chests as they get sores from the weight. Continued...



Red Tailed Hawk



Black Necked Stilt

Below: Summer Lake, Oregon

Summer Lake WR: An incredibly diverse wetland and refuge, Summer Lake WR provides this short list of other birds you will get to enjoy, in addition to the species you are there for: "Shorebirds - American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Willet, Snowy Plover, Wilson's and Red-necked Phalarope, Killdeer, Long-billed Curlew, least and Western Sandpipers, Dunlin. Water birds - Sandhill Cranes, American Coot, Western, American White Pelican, Caspian and Forster's Tern, Great Egret, Great Blue Heron, White-faced Ibis." And of course songbirds - Brewer's, Red-winged and Yellow-headed Blackbirds, Marsh Wren, Song Sparrow, common Yellowthroat and 4 species of Swallow (Bank, Barn, Cliff, Northern Rough-winged and Tree). Finally, raptors are always seen soaring over the area looking for dinner - Northern Harriers, Red-tailed Hawks and Bald Eagles are fairly common.

If you have not visited Summer Lake WR, I encourage you to go. It is a special place created for wildlife, for hunters, and other conservationists, like birders. It is an extraordinary wetland habitat and absolutely beautiful. Drop by the Refuge Center office to see a full size Trumpeter Swan in flight! My blog <u>www.nativebirdcare.org</u> talks about this if curious about what I do exactly.

"Guzzlers" are an excellent and lifesaving resource for many animals. One trick to make sure that all can benefit safely, is to place a stickm board, or log into the water so that birds (like quail) can safely drink and not fall in and drown (which is a common occurrence) Pine or Juniper are both safe.



Snowy Plover



Great Blue Heron



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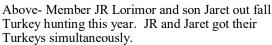
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Duck hunting last month are new Bend members Justin Joo, Dustin Bryant and soon to be a bend member Jared Bostick. Nice harvest fellas!



Josh Scroccaa Bend Chapter member having a great year hunting! Left- His Buck was from an Imnaha Unit Controlled hunt. Right- The Bull was harvested on a LOP Tag in the Melrose Unit. His next hunt was in Murderers Creek Unit, we are waiting to hear how that went! Nice animals, great pictures Josh! Thanks for sharing.





Left– Greg Petsch with his Wyoming Antelope.

Left- Dave Jarschky with his Wyoming Antelope.

Looks like this was good hunting trip!



Above- Eric Brown coming off a ridge in Eastern Oregon with a pack full of Elk meat.

"O was not the shooter, but the pack out was a team effort."



Your picture could be on this page! Send it to: <u>Dixichick1@icloud.com</u>

Volunteer



3 Rivers Archers, JR Lorimor, Jaret lorimor, Kyle Lohner and Crystal Lohner volunteered to set up a table at Sportsmans warehouse for the bend Chapter OHA for a membership drive Saturday, November 17. They sold OHA memberships with gun raffle calendars. "We all did great, Jaret a 3 Rivers participant was awesome, he grabbed everyone who walked into Sportsmans and gave them a sales pitch for OHA". Warm thanks to 3 Rivers Archers, you are just what we needed! 21 memberships were sold. That was every single calendar!

Thank you for Volunteering for OHA!



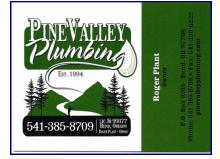
Before repair



After repair









On November 14, eight dedicated Bend chapter volunteers re-built a Guzzler apron located between Gilchrist and La Pine. This was a guzzler that Bend OHA built approximately ten years ago and recently thieves stole several of the T-posts holding up the apron of the guzzler.

This time, T-posts were driven deep into the ground and the 2 x 6 cross supports were also supported by rounds of wood. Bend ODFW donated all the supplies. The eight volunteers combined drove approximately 660 miles, spent \$160.00 in fuel and volunteered 58 hours of their time. One of our new members, Don Clark came out to help and it was nice to see a new face. This was a worthwhile project that did not take a lot of time due to an outstanding crew of volunteers.

Think you might want to get involved in a project? Give us a call sometime.

Pictured: L to R: Dick Masters, Don Clark, Dick Nelson ,Bob Buddenbohn, Craig Nelson, Roger Points and Greg Petsch. Photo by Eric Brown, Project coordinator-541-647-0424

> 660 miles were driven total, \$159.99 was spent on fuel with a total volunteer hours -58.



Mule Deer Classic 2019

The Bend chapter Oregon Hunters Associations announces its

"27th annual Mule Deer Classic"

The banquet/fundraiser will be held at the Bend Riverhouse and Convention Center March 16th, 2019

This is the main fundraiser for the year and it enables us to fund chapter habitat projects, scholarships, youth programs and more.

You can help make it a success with a donation or by volunteering at the banquet!

Planning meetings are underway and scheduled to be held at Round Table Pizza, Bend, on January 2, 16, 30. February 20th, 27th, and March 6th. 6:00pm with pizza and soft drinks provided.

If you have been looking to get involved in chapter activities, this is a fun and meaningful way to contribute.

Please bring donations to the meetings so **Eric Brown** can get them entered in the database, or give then to a banquet committee member.

If you have any questions about the banquet, please contact

Greg Petsch at

g.petsch728@gmail.com

Or call <u>541-330-6218</u>

We appreciate your help and look forward to seeing you there!



From the First Vice Presidents' Chair

Happy Holidays Bend Chapter



This past year has been a busy year for the chapter with plenty of volunteer opportunities on habitat projects, youth and women's hunting camps, and youth hunts. As we do every year we start off with our annual banquet in March which involves a many of volunteer hours and commitment by a hardy group of volunteers committed to putting on one of the most profitable banquets in the state. Without it, we would not be able to do the projects we do and donate to projects that enhance habitat and support groups that promote our heritage of hunting. A large portion of funds went towards the Ochoco law suite which is looking very good, a potential victory for habitat.

This past year dedicated members contributed 3,823 volunteer man-hours from January thru August. As we approach the end of the year I'm confident that this figure will increase substantially. The Bend Chapter of OHA is a very active chapter when it comes to support, working on habitat projects and promoting our hunting heritage. Like all organizations there is a core of people who routinely volunteer out of a very large number of members. In the month of November the Bend Chapter for the first time surpassed the 500 member mark. This has had a lot to do with the OHA Calendar Membership Drive. I'm not certain on the exact number at this time, but the Bend Chapter has sold close to 200 Calendars adding 200 new OHA members across the state. I believe the stats are close to selling all 2000 calendars.

Our chapter is in need of new fresh blood in the volunteer pool and leadership rolls. We have a strong desire to get a broader range of age groups involved. Most of the volunteers we see time after time are 50 and older, some in their 80's. We now have a young man who has stepped up to communicate with our chapter youth and youth (not members of OHA) on their media platforms to promote the organization and encourage getting involved.

At this time we have two officer vacancies. We had three, President, Treasurer and Member at Large - Media. Treasure, John Bambe and Member at Large, Dale Putnam have remained in their respective positions until replacements could be found and voted on. There have been no volunteers or nominations for those positions. At the last general meeting, John Bambe volunteered to remain in his position for a third term. The vote was unanimous. John deserves a huge thank you for stepping up again. I want to thank Dale Putnam for hanging in there. The President's position is still vacant and there has not been any nominations or volunteers for this position. Our Banquet Chairman Greg Petsch has announced that this will be his last year to be chairman and the chapter is actively searching for individual (s) who might be interested in this position and mentor with Greg this year. Please let us know if you can help fill this vital position!

We hope to see more of you in the future getting involved as a volunteer or considering a leadership role. If you have any questions about any of the chapters' activities or leadership positions, please feel free to contact me or any board member listed on this newsletter. We are starting up the banquet preparations and this might be a great time to get involved.

Respectfully, Bob Dixon Bend Chapter 1st Vice President





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Monthly Door Prize

The November door prize winner was **Dick Masters.**

Dick won a \$25 gift certificate from Sportsman's warehouse

Come to the meeting and win!

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Elk Season 2018

We had hunted 5 days in the Silvies Unit without even seeing an elk. Neither had any other hunters we talked to. So, we decided to take my friend, Dan's side-by-side and scout some new territory. We left camp early afternoon and headed out along with my 19 year old son, Mikey and 11 year old grandson, Mateo. Mistake #1, we left our packs behind since we didn't plan to hike. Mistake #2, we didn't take a second ATV. We headed up a main gravel road, then turned off and started taking

dirt roads. We were all enjoying the ride, even though we didn't see a single elk. Just before dark, Dan said we should probably head back to the main road since it was starting to get cold. Temperatures had been dropping to zero every night. That's when we realized, we weren't sure which of dozens of dirt roads would take us back to the main road. By now it was dark and each road we tried didn't take us where we needed to go. We had passed an old homestead a few miles back where there was a fork we hadn't tried yet. So we turned around again, and headed back to the homestead to try the other fork in the road. About a mile past the homestead, we tried to cross a small stream. In the dark, the ground looked solid but it was a mud swamp. We buried the ATV passed the hubs and were stuck. We all jumped out to push and immediately sank up past our knees in mud and water. Now we were wet and miles from camp and no one knew where we were. Dan tried to call out on his cell but the battery went dead and my cell had no reception. Looks like we will have to spend the night out here. Since the homestead was only a mile back, we walked back to find some shelter. Luckily, we found an old rusty barrel and there were lots of old boards we could burn. In the meantime, our friends had started looking for us. They were concerned we might have had a wreck and might be injured. They spent the whole night driving around and trying to reach us on the radio. At first light we decided to try to get the ATV out of the mud since everything was now frozen solid. We took some boards from the homestead to use and were in the process of freeing the ATV when one of our friends with an airplane showed up over head. Our rescue party was only a couple miles away and they were very happy and relieved to find us. Even though we should have taken our packs and a second ATV, we did have water, extra gas, radios and a way to start a fire and my grandson will have a great story to tell about survival on an elk hunt.

Dennis Hungerford



Our December speaker will be Laura Handy with Heart of Oregon Corp. (Dec 12)

Laura will speak to us about youth work in the forest. Please join us this month

NOVEMBER Membership Raffle

The name drawn this month for \$350.00 of sporting merchandise was Jeff Wedl of Bend. Jeff was not present to win!

We give this raffle away every month but you have to be at the meeting to get it!

What were you doing that evening? This is an exciting raffle to win! Come to the meetings, it may be your name drawn!

When you and your friend both mess up but at least you're in it together



Vice Presidents Report

The Bend chapter has 500 members as of November 15.

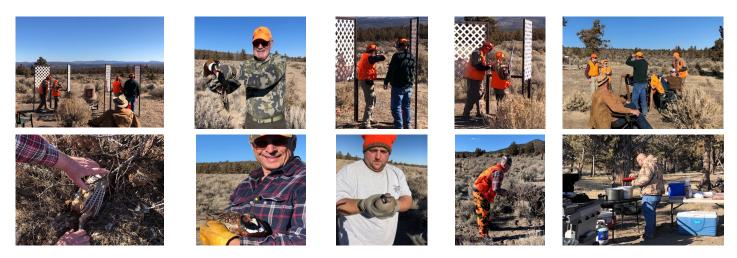
Welcome all new members! Be sure to pay your annual dues and keep your memberships current, you don't want to miss out!

The chapter would like to encourage all members to come to the monthly meetings and join in on our many chapter activities!

> Come and benefit from all that OHA is doing to Help Preserve and Improve Hunting in Oregon!

> > (and you'll have a good time!)





The Bend Chapter's 15th annual youth upland bird hunt was on Saturday, November 17th. We are happy to report that the number of participants was back up to near capacity this year. Forty youth hunters were registered, with a maximum of 42. Due to illness or other unforeseen circumstances, 6 hunters had to cancel at the last minute. Over 30 volunteers helped our day run smoothly. The bird planters released a total of 190 birds. Two pheasants and 3 chukar were "planted" for each hunter. The guides and their faithful canine companions were indispensable in helping the hunters harvest their birds. The Hunter Education instructors were an integral part in keeping our event safe and training the youth for success in the field. The lunch staff did their best to ensure that no one went hungry, the chili was excellent and we offered a cozy campfire so that attendees could warm up in the crisp fall air. We were blessed with beautiful clear blue skies and only a slight breeze.

Thank you to ALL of the volunteers. We could not offer this fun, popular, worthwhile event without your help!







<u>The Bend Chapter of the Oregon Hunters Association</u> would like to thank:

Alan Ritchey & Ken Moye for donating the elk for the chili, Troy Boyd for picking up the birds in Maupin, Greg Petsch, Dave Jarschke, Dale Putman, Spence Tabor for helping Kevin Borst set up on Friday, Dale & Terree Putman, and Kalvin & Colleen Schneider for helping Kevin & Wendy Borst chop chili ingredients, ALL of the volunteers and dogs, who gave us their Saturday (we could not offer this event without YOU); Kevin Spencer for the use of the property, ODFW, Bend office, for handling the pre-registration, the youth hunters and their adult companions— thank you for your participation!

Please encourage your friends/family to take a Hunter Education class next year so that they can join you at our 2019 Youth Upland Bird Hunt!







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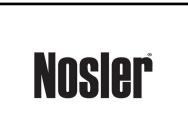
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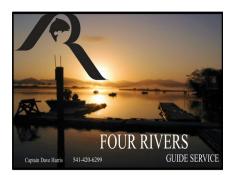
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President	(position not filled)	
1st VP	Bob Dixon	(503) 572-2805
2nd VP	Doug Stout	(541) 312-8332
Treasurer	John Bambe	(541) 480-9848
Secretary	Wendy Jordan	(503) 572-2806
At-Large (Y&FA)	Kevin Borst	(541) 388-7337
At-Large (Media)	Dale Putman	(541) 410-6821
Project Coordinator	Eric Brown	(541) 330-0140
Paulina Projects Coordinator	Fred Newton	(541) 389-1321
Banquet Chair	Greg Petsch	(541) 330-6218
Past President	Bill Littlefield	(541) 429-2950
Chapter Advisor	Richard Nelson	(541) 382-8520

Our Website: www.ohabend.webs.com



CALENDAR

12/12/2018 December Chapter meeting 12/25/2018 **MERRY CHRISTMAS!** 01/01/2019 **HAPPY NEW YEAR!** 01/02/2019 **MDC Meeting January Chapter Meeting** 01/09/2019 01/16/2019 **MDC Meeting** 01/30/2019 **MDC Meeting February Chapter Meeting** 02/13/2019 02/20/2019 **MDC Meeting MDC Meeting** 02/27/2019 03/06/2019 **MDC** Meeting 03/16/19 Mule Deer Classic Banquet