

Protecting Oregon's Wildlife, Habitat and Hunting Heritage

ROGUE VALLEY REVIEW OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION



Oregon Hunters Association, Rogue Valley Chapter
PO Box 1748 Medford, OR 97501

March 1st, 2019
Volume 34; Issue #3

Membership Monthly Meeting: March 14th, 2019; 6:00pm
Eagles Club 2000 Table Rock Road, Medford, OR

**Speaker: Spring Turkey Hunting; Nate Bailey,
Southern Oregon Hunting**

**Menu: Steak, Baked Potato, Vegetable, Salad,
Dessert and Soft Drinks (\$12)**

Spring Is The Thing:

After months of idling along, if you weren't working on the banquet, spring is coming fast and with it, the opportunity to get afield is upon us again. It's spring turkey hunting season starting mid-April and thereabouts, spring bear, too. If you haven't already, it's time to get your licenses and controlled tag applications purchased using the latest ODFW whiz-bang software. In the meantime, there's opportunity to shoot, tune bows, hike and scout. Nothing quite like a nice walk in the turkey/bear/deer/elk/cougar/canid woods to stretch out those legs, and lungs. Oregon is an amazing place to take advantage of amazing scenery and miles and miles of public and permission-based, private lands - usually timber company land.

When we think about all of the ways RVOHA serves the community, we'd be remiss if we didn't talk about future generations of sportsmen and women. Let's take an inventory. Last spring we helped support almost 30 kids and their families learn about turkey hunting at the jointly-funded and executed ODFW/Hunter Education turkey clinic. Not long after that RVOHA hosted almost 120 kids, and extended family, for our YOH (Young Oregon Hunter) Day. Over the entire year, many RVOHA members, who also serve as Hunter Education volunteers, helped shepherd nearly 200 participants through their certification process. Somehow in all that process an enterprising teacher at Crater High School reached out with the fabulous idea of making Hunter Education certification a part of an Outdoor Experience, High School credit class, curriculum. Fall came and RVOHA stepped up again with significant investments of pheasants and volunteers to support the annual Denman Youth Pheasant Hunt. Not long after that, the kids from Crater were ready for their field day testing, and we helped support that as well - even bought them some student memberships so they, and their families, can learn more about what we do and who we are. Every step of the way, we showcased the OUTSTANDING people and attributes that make us who we are, and what we do - Road Cleanups, Work Parties, Membership Events, Local Shows, etc. We are good people with nothing to be ashamed of in our interests and avocations, yet we've been sportsman-shamed for certain.

So what? What does it all mean? Maybe it's time to turn the tables? Maybe rather than being under attack and being chastened for our interests and passions, maybe it's time for us to go on the offensive and celebrate any and all of who and what we are? We are unique and different in so many ways, but in one way we are all the same. We believe in the fundamental accountability of individuals. We believe in the rights and privileges of being American citizens. We believe that the outdoors and our ability to recreate is a lifestyle, and sense of being - if not for only a few precious vacation days a year - that hearken us back to the settling and foundation of this great nation. In our own way, we are trying to recapture what it must have been like to be self-reliant. Back then getting from the other side of the valley, river or mountain was no certainty - comfort was not as commonplace as we enjoy today.

RVOHA is among a few organizations that ambitiously cling to a moral and cultural compass borne by many fewer than just a generation ago. Spring is the time of renewal. A time of new growth with the promise of prosperity. Everything is fresh and vibrant, like the "new" RVOHA organization itself. Like we said to start, Spring Is The Thing. Let's do this...

Save the Date - March 30th for the first 3-D shoot at Denman:

RVOHA and ODFW are about to make local archery enthusiasts' day - on March 30th, in fact. ODFW has purchased over 30 3-D targets and is in the process of completing site review requirements to support establishment of a semi-permanent range in the TouVelle area of the Denman wildlife area. The progress is sufficient to announce the hosting of the first of what we hope will be many "open to the public" 3-D shoots. We anticipate a significant number of participants (~300) and will be learning this first time around. Registrations start at 8am, with the shoot scheduled as a shotgun start at 9am. The shoot is scheduled to run through 3pm.

Don Albrecht (Jackson County Area Coordinator, ODFW Hunter Education) Speaker Thank You!

RVOHA would like to extend a very special appreciation to Don for speaking during the February meeting, on very short notice. He did an excellent job translating the symbiotic relationship Hunter Education and RVOHA have on many fronts. He provided example after example of the ways in which ODFW Hunter Education and RVOHA leverage their unique positions in the sportsman's community with reach and resources that are complimentary to one another.

Stoneridge Tactical Drawing Thank You!

At our February Membership Meeting, Stoneridge Tactical (David Cunningham - (541)-499-4706) sponsored two winners of certificates, good for one year, representing free participation in Stoneridge's Tactical Handgun class (\$125 value; 8 hours) and a second \$50 gift certificate toward a non-law enforcement training class. We are thankful for Stoneridge Tactical's generous donation. Winners - Please pick up your certificate from the team at Stoneridge Tactical (411 N Front St, Central Point, OR). Presently poor participation may result in discontinuing this drawing - be advised.

Pays to Attend Raffle Drawing (2019):

The first two membership meetings and associated PTAD tickets are in the "books". For each member that attends the monthly membership meeting (second Thursday of every month - 6pm), they will be entered into a drawing to win a cerakoted, OHA-logo'd Legacy International Over/Under Shotgun. Good food, good information and good gun. Good grief, why aren't more than 70 people showing up to learn and be part of us taking back our America?

Oregon State Police Report:

On Friday, February 1st, a Grants Pass Trooper and the Central Point Fish and Wildlife Sargeant were patrolling the Illinois River for steelhead anglers. The Illinois is restricted to artificial flies and lures. A subject was observed angling with a rubber egg cluster, which meets the definition of bait. Upon contact, he admitted to using it and knew it was illegal. Subject was cited for angling prohibited method.

Two Troopers out of Central Point received information about a black-tail buck that had a net caught up in its antlers. Ashland PD first found the deer in the soccer net and cut it out. The buck still had enough of the net to cause it to tangle in some bushes and its own hooves, so it was decided to cut the netting off of it. Upon attempting to grab the net off the antlers, the buck rushed the troopers. One of the troopers clung to the antlers, and did not let go, preventing a goring. The netting was cut off the antlers, and the deer wandered off with no injuries.

Troopers from Grants Pass and Central Point offices teamed up to cover 21 miles of the Rogue River in Josephine County on a jet boat patrol. The troopers checked in excess of 40 anglers, more than a dozen boats and only one guide. Out of all these anglers only one steelhead was kept by the anglers. A few wild steelhead had been caught and released as well as a few snakey summer steelhead that were also released. The Rogue is, and has been, very slow for steelhead. The fact that only one guide was fishing a Saturday was indicative that fishing has been poor. Private anglers still fish the Rogue, however most of the Rogue guides are fishing the Umpqua and the coastal rivers, as has been the trend over the last several years. Retention of wild fish begins February in the upper reaches, so angler effort will likely increase.

Troopers, assisted by aircraft surveillance, contacted several violators of the Jackson road closure. They also contacted several camps consisting of about 40 people, at a couple of different bon fire parties. A couple of vehicle code violations were issued in, and around, the Jackson road closure area.

Two troopers were checking anglers on the Rogue River when they came upon a man panning for gold. The man claimed only to be panning and denied that he had tried any fishing. The troopers noticed that the prospector had laid his fishing rod down about 30 feet to his side on the ground and among a pile of sticks and limbs in an attempt to keep it from their discovery. When they brought this to his attention he denied the pole was his. They reeled the pole in with a wiggling worm still on the hook. He was advised that he was getting a citation regardless of his accepting responsibility or not. He admitted that the pole was his and that "He had to try", and that he "Doesn't like to lie". He was cited for No Angling license.

Mark your Calendars - ODFW/RVOHA Turkey Hunting Clinic:

This year's ODFW/RVOHA Youth Turkey event will take place on April 6th. Be proactive in contacting ODFW or RVOHA member/ODFW Hunter Education Coordinator Don Albrecht (541-601-0722) to learn more. The available slots will be limited. Additionally, we are **considering** expanding this event to a two-class format (morning and afternoon), with lunch sandwiched (like that?!) in between the two sections. The first section will be biased to youth hunters being introduced to the sport. The second section is imagined as an adult-onset hunter, family-biased opportunity to learn the thrill of turkey hunting. Please contact Don to learn more and express your interest in the opportunity to learn.

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State _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____ Email _____

Check ALL applicable boxes: New Membership Renewal *Referred by _____

Individual – Annual \$35 2 Years \$65 3 Years \$90 8 Years \$210 Junior \$10 Student \$12.50
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Upcoming Membership Meeting Presentations:

| | |
|------------|---|
| March 14th | Spring Turkey Hunting Tips and Techniques; Nate Bailey, Southern Oregon Hunting |
| April 11th | Oregon Wildlife Enforcement; Sgt. Jim Collom, Oregon State Police |
| May 9th | Protect Animal Migration; Cidney Bowman, Oregon Department of Transportation |
| June 13th | TBD |

Banquet Committee Members:

A huge shout-out to the team who helped to make the 2019 Banquet possible - you might like to acknowledge them. We have to start with Ted and Norma Morehouse. They are the diesels of this whole process - unbelievable work horses in terms of hours, patience and humor. Norma rallying all of the various donors and volunteers. She spends an immense amount of mindshare and emotional energy trying to diligently find the elusive paths to success in reconciling pride in service/donations balanced against hurt feelings/bruised egos, all while maintaining a consistent bearing on the strategic objective - raising the funds required to fund our mission. Ted managing an inventory of over 50 firearms, carefully evaluating and balancing the offer with an ambition of finding the right mix (buys/models/calibers) to elicit the best rates of return. Tirelessly canvassing people/businesses to collect donations, share information and encouragement. Finally, Richard Moyer, who works cheerfully behind the scenes in managing the dizzying array of receipts, checks as well as the mountain of regulatory paperwork. He is a godsend for his diligence and dedication. Then there's the rest of us: Patti Kaiser, Shirley Pritchett, Jeff Heil, Carol Heil, Ken Ogawa, Teresa Anderson, Russ Gallego, Kathy Gallego, Bill Fisher, Jr., Eric Jordan, Debbie Jordan, Ricky Clark, Zach and Ginny Lycett, Bev Walden, Bryan Coggins and Marcia Coggins.

Please send comments, questions or content suggestions to:

roguevalleyoha@gmail.com

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Check for Updates on Our Website at:

<https://oregonhunters.org/rogue-valley-chapter/>

ODFW Update:

The mandatory deadline to report all 2018 big game and turkey tags has been extended until April 15, 2019 (from January 31st) to give hunters more time to report under ODFW's new licensing system. The new deadline applies to all 2018 deer, elk, cougar, bear, antelope and turkey tags. Anyone who purchased one of these tags needs to report—even if they were not successful or didn't go hunting. Hunters are encouraged to report online at ODFW's Licensing page. New users can report after using the "Verify/Look Up Account" button to find their previously existing account which is now in the new licensing system. After verifying their account, hunters will be able to report and see other account information such as preference points, previous year's application history, and have the option of going paperless for 2019 license and tags.

<https://odfw.huntfishoregon.com/login>

Hunters can also report by phone to ODFW's Licensing Division (503) 947-6101. However, ODFW's Licensing Division is currently experiencing high call volumes from hunters who want to report by phone or have questions about the new licensing system. The deadline extension is intended to reduce hold times for customers, but please be patient in any case.

On a similar note, hunters should consider completing their controlled Hunt applications early this year to beat the rush. This is especially true this year as customers have been finding that the New Electronic Licensing System takes a little more time to locate their existing accounts and activate them with a password that participants will need to access their account in the future. There may be some lines, and/or wait time, at local ODFW offices assisting folks that wait until the last minute to take care of their controlled application business, so plan to get your applications completed early.

The first ever Denman Wildlife Area Archery 3-D target shoot is scheduled for Saturday March 30th at Denman Wildlife Area, off of Touvelle Road down by the Quonset Huts. Registration starts at 8:00 with a 9:00 shotgun start. The course will be open until 3:00pm. There will be over 40 targets on the course. Participants will be split into compound and recurve divisions, with cub, youth, adult and senior age divisions. There is a \$10.00 fee to participate. The event is sponsored by ODFW with the help of RVOHA volunteers. There will likely be some work parties related to set up and take down of the course. If you are interested in volunteering please contact RVOHA 3D Archery Chair Ricky Clark 530-905-1186.

ODFW/RVOHA/JCOHA Dasher Meadow Work Party:

Upcoming Habitat Work Day - Saturday, April 27th. Volunteers are needed to help pile slash and debris from a conifer removal project as part of restoration efforts at Dasher Meadows (Josephine County, 1 hour west of Selma on Illinois River Road -> NF-4105 -> NF-152). We will meet at the Ray's Parking lot in Selma at 9 am, and can carpool up to the project site. Please bring work gloves, sturdy boots, water, sunscreen, and snacks. Lunch will be provided, and we will work until mid-afternoon. We'll need a few heavy lifters (trunks may be up to 8 feet long and 10 inches wide), but there will also be plenty of work for the rest of us collecting debris and pulling saplings!

To sign up, please contact Jade Keehn, Habitat Biologist, at 541-826-8774, ex 232.

Recent Board Actions:

The RVOHA Board of Directors met on February 21st and here is our report out:

- Memorialized \$7500 in support of Bill Kirk Scholarship awards to be announced at the March 2nd Banquet. Winner will be awarded \$2500 with five (5) additional runner-up awards of \$1000 each.
- Memorialized participation (\$300 for goat carcasses) in the Southern Oregon Extension Service Hunt-to-Home event.
- Finalized Officer and Board Member Nominations. Vice President - Eric Jordan, Treasurer - Richard Moyer, Board Members - Ricky Clark, Zach Lycett, Ed Beres.
- Discussed the initial Arthur R. Dubs Foundation Grant Application to support Young Oregon Hunters (YOH) Day, Cascade Christian/Medford High School Trap Teams, Denman Youth Pheasant Hunt, Oregon Stewardship Program, Crater High School Hunter Education Class, Access & Habitat funding (C2 Ranch) that enables Youth Hunting opportunities (Turkey and Deer), Funding for the Bill Kirk Scholarship Program and Ducks Unlimited Greenwings.
- Discussed support and participation in the ODFW/RVOHA Youth Turkey Hunting Clinic (4/6).
- Established and confirmed a June 8th date for RVOHA's YOH Day. Ken Ogawa is the Chairman of this event.
- Discussed a recent BLM-affiliated land use - potentially unsafe shooting practices - issue on Anderson Butte.
- Received a presentation from the Medford HS Shooting Team, discussed/approved \$2000 in support regular season expenses to be divided equitably between the two local teams - shooter numbers are expected to increase!!!
- Memorialized \$1100 in ODFW Donated Equipment to support wildlife survey counts.

RVOHA Board Member /Officer Candidate Information:

Board Member Candidate - Ed Beres Volunteer Experience:

2000-2009 -- Coast Guard Auxiliary, Station Little Creek - Watch Stander, Crew Person, Engineer. Duties: After qualifying, performed the same duties as US Coast Guard personnel.
1999-2000 -- Coast Guard Auxiliary, Station NC Inlet & Elizabeth City, NC - Watch Stander
1962-1975 -- Junior Chamber of Commerce
1962-1975 -- Volunteer Fire Fighter, Vineland, NJ - Assisting full-time fire fighters in a city environment also worked on local fundraising projects to support the fire fighter’s association.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE - My love for the outdoors has always been part of my life. I still appreciate all wildlife, whether a squirrel or a deer. I’d love the opportunity to pass on what I’ve learned. I have hunted in at least ten states from coast to coast. I believe all this can be a help to R.V.O.H.A.

Board Member Candidate - Zach Lycett (Incumbent):

In my two years serving on the RVOHA Board I have taken on as much as possible. Everything from the election and banquet committees to running fence removal/pheasant pin restoration projects at Denman. I've also heading up the Sportsmans show for the last couple years where we gained or renewed 274 members.

I first ran on the premise of bringing my generation of folks to OHA and getting them involved with the heavy lifting. I hope you can see that I've kept that promise and will continue to work hard on that front. I plan on continuing my efforts in all ways and love the relationships that we've built as like minded folks. I hope we, as a fairly new Board, have given new energy and transparency to the mission. I truly believe we are just getting started. If you choose, I want to continue to serve as a BOD member for you. Thanks.

Treasurer Candidate - Richard Moyer (Incumbent): Declined to provide a narrative

Vice President Candidate - Eric Jordan (Incumbent): Declined to provide a narrative

Board Member Candidate - Ricky Clark (Incumbent): Declined to provide a narrative

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Oregon Hunters Face The Most Threats EVER in the Oregon Legislature:

Editorial: We just spent three days at the Sportsman's Show talking with Hunters from all walks of life. More declined to join OHA than did. Reading what follows, it's nearly impossible to fathom not joining...

The Oregon Hunters Association is currently tracking more than 100 hunting-related bills in the state legislature, and more are being introduced daily. Gun ownership continues to come under fire, as well as predator hunting and bird preserves. Bills to add or increase fees abound. Crossbows are back in bill form, as are tax-deductible gun safes. Hearings on bills started in late February, most notably on a cougar relief bill for which OHA rallied support. Here are the highlights of the latest news from Salem affecting Oregon hunters, habitat and wildlife.

Hearings Held on Cougar Bill

- Two hearings were held on HB 2795 on Feb. 21. The bill, if passed, would:
- Create a pilot program that allows a person to use dogs in the hunting and in the nonlethal pursuit of cougars within a county that elects to participate in the pilot program. Authorize ODFW to designate wildlife management areas of certain counties. These counties are: Umatilla, Wallowa, Union, Baker, Grant, Douglas, Coos, Curry, Josephine, Jackson, Linn and Marion.

The morning hearing included call-in testimony from Jim Akenson, OHA Conservation Director, explaining cougar science management and the need to do something about the growing cougar population. The evening hearing included testimony from those in favor of the bill and those opposed to the new plan.

Oregon Hunters Face The Most Threats EVER in the Oregon Legislature (Continued):

NEW BILLS INTRODUCED

- HB 2955 - Would require ODFW to allow a person meeting criteria to hunt game mammals using crossbow.
- HB 2950 - Would allow for subtraction from the federal taxable income for purchase of qualifying gun safe.
- SB 801 - Would authorize public schools to provide firearm safety and accident prevention class to all first graders.

HOUSE BILLS:

- HB 2069 - This bill would remove the requirement that ODFW issue unallocated game mammal hunting tags in order requested. Leftover tags would still be sold over the counter until they are sold out, but a purchaser of a leftover tag will only be able to have one tag per hunt series.
- HB 2072 - Would authorize ODFW to operate wildlife inspection stations for purposes of preventing spread of infections or infestations harmful to wildlife or of furthering wildlife management efforts.
- HB 2080 - Would raise boat registration fees by 32 percent, doubling them since 2015. Hunters who own motorboats should take note. New fee is almost \$6 per foot.
- HB 2082 - Would require Class II and Class IV all-terrain vehicle operator 16 years of age or older to carry and present both driver license and all-terrain vehicle operator permit.
- HB 2566 - Would require owner to register all-terrain vehicle with DMV, if vehicle is not otherwise registered in this state (Class II). Fees in addition to State Park ATV permit. Requires numbers or plates on ATV.

SENATE BILLS:

- SB 723 - Would prohibit a person from organizing, sponsoring, promoting, conducting or participating in contest, competition, tournament or derby that has objective of taking wildlife for prizes or other inducement or for entertainment. Requires transportation of injured wildlife to licensed wildlife rehabilitation facility or veterinarian. Would ban big "buck and bull" contests, might prohibit entries into Pope and Young, or Boone and Crockett.
- SB 47 - Would require a person operating a non-motorized boat to have a waterway access permit. Hunters with canoes, kayaks, layout boats or drift boats should take notice.
- SB 340 - Would require ODFW to annually establish special season during which holder of cougar tag or purchaser of SportsPac may use dogs to hunt cougars.
- SB 439 - This bill prohibits confining, restricting or exercising control over movements of game bird or game mammal for use in or promotion of hunting.
- SB 655 - Requires ODFW to report on Access and Habitat programs/projects. Prohibits persons from receiving program grants if fees are charged for access, or sites are closed to the public.

COUGAR BILLS:

- HB 2370, HB 2795, SB 306, SB 340 and SB 622 all deal with cougars and are various attempts to establish county-based programs, pilot programs or special requirements to allow the use of dogs to hunt cougars. There is a great deal of interest in cougars, and OHA is closely tracking and supporting these efforts.

ELK DAMAGE BILLS:

- HB 2067, SB 301, SB 302, SB 303, SB 398 deal with the issue of elk damage on private lands and the issuance of damage tags, kill permits and elk numbers. OHA is on this issue and will be working to protect hunters' interests.

GUN BILLS:

- HB 2505 and SB 275 - Recycled versions of Initiative Petition 44. Would require the owner or possessor of a firearm to secure the firearm with a trigger or cable lock or in a locked container. Makes failure to report theft (with serial number) a crime, with strict liability for any injuries/deaths that result. Negatively impacts youth hunting.
- HB 2251 - Governor Brown's gun bill. Defines "assault rifle." The bill also prohibits the transfer of a handgun or centerfire assault rifle to a person under 21 years of age. Makes background checks more restrictive. Creates crime of endangering a minor if a person under 18 has access to firearms, with 1 year in jail and 5-year prohibition on owning firearms if guilty.
- SB 5 - Would make shooting ranges subject to city and county regulations. Any person discharging a firearm at a shooting range strictly liable for injuries resulting from bullets that stray outside boundaries of the shooting range. Intended to address illegal shooting from a gravel pit, it makes things much worse for organized shooting ranges.
- SB 87 - Would prohibit sale or transfer of firearms or ammunition to persons under 21. Prohibits parent, guardian (or person with permission of parent/guardian e.g. grandparent) from giving a firearm to person under 21. Prohibits transfer of firearms to youth for hunting.
- SB 501 - This bill is a kitchen sink full of bad ideas that will negatively impact law abiding hunters and gun owners in Oregon. Requires permit from Sheriff before purchasing firearm (in addition to background check). More gun locks and theft reporting or you're a criminal. Ban on magazines over 5 rounds, or you're a criminal. Requires a background check to buy ammunition, limits sales to 20 rounds within 30 days, and much more. This is by far the biggest threat yet to gun ownership and our rights. OHA is strongly opposed and will work with other groups to stop these bad ideas from becoming law.

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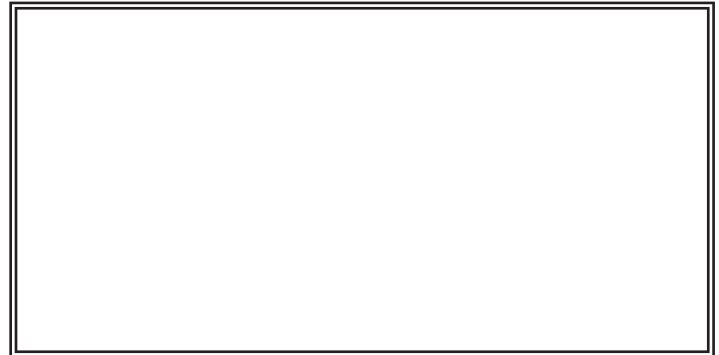
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 - 2nd Thursday of every month
 - Eagles Club, 2000 Table Rock Road; 6:00pm Dinner
- Chapter Board Meetings
 - 3rd Thursday of every month
 - 4175 Old Stage Road; 6:15pm
- **Newsletter Submissions**
 - Pictures, articles and event updates are appreciated
 - Deadline for newsletter submissions is the last Friday of each month

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Rogue Valley Oregon Hunters Association looks forward to seeing you at the March 14th membership meeting



Legislative Updates:

Oregon Hunter Magazine and other OHA/RVOHA social media outlets have highlighted a NUMBER of proposed/submitted bills RVOHA members might like to consider expressing a view about with ODFW, the Governor's Office and Federal/State Senators and Representatives. Several represent significant impacts - BE HEARD.

2019 Banquet/2020 Banquet:

By the time you are reading this message, the 2019 RVOHA Banquet will likely be in the books. We are hopeful it was an amazing fund-raising celebration that filled our coffers in a manner that allows us to pour out to others. We will attempt to summarize our successes (or not) in the April Newsletter. We'll share any important learning (good and not so) as we changed processes, venues, etc. Overall we are very excited to think about how our talents and efforts will translate to creating more funding for the important mission of RVOHA.

For those that appreciate the magnitude of the challenges culturally, we hope that you will consider supporting our efforts toward the 2020 banquet. The planning of which will also already be started by the time you read this message - seriously! It's no exaggeration to describe the incredible workload this event represents - completed, joyfully (for the most part), by unpaid folks who are motivated to promote and protect Oregon's Wildlife, Habitat and Hunting Heritage. RVOHA is changing and evolving, trying to meet the demands of the occasion(s), but we cannot meet those demands without explicit and emphatic partnerships among our membership, donors and those in similarly motivated organizations. The simplest of gestures in agreeing with our efforts is for everyone who hunts in the state of Oregon to be a member of Oregon Hunters Association. We ask ourselves, "Why wouldn't someone?"

As we consider our many blessings, we thank everyone for their support in membership, donations and attendance. If you have any questions or would like to get involved and support the efforts, please contact Norma Morehouse at (503)-250-3000, and she will gladly introduce you to our challenge and opportunity.