

OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

BEND CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2019

NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

July 10, 2019

Come join us on July 10, for the next chapter meeting! The meetings are now held at the :

Bend Golf & Country Club
61045 Country Club Dr
Bend Oregon 97702

Just a heads up— The limited dinner menu may change from month to month and the club requires us to issue one check at the end of the night for food, so until we come up with a preferred way of facilitating this, please pay John Bambe with cash or check for your meal as you order it so he can keep track. You pay your own bar tab. It's a great place for us to meet, has everything we need for a great meeting and the view is beautiful! Please come experience the Bend OHA meetings!

Junes Guest Speaker: JR Lorimor the President of Three Rivers Archers and the latest member of the Bend Chapter Board. You can visit their website at <http://3riversarchers.com>.

Welcome to Three Rivers Archers "Teaching skills and respect for hunting and the archery shooting sports". We are a local non-profit 501c3 youth archery club located in Southern Deschutes County. Our goal is to provide a curriculum to youth that will carry them through their life as well rounded outdoors people. We do this through a performance based wrist band system that teaches safety, marksmanship, navigation, wilderness survival, land stewardship and conservation among many other things. In order to provide the best possible means for this we are affiliated with the Oregon Hunters Association, ODFW through Scholastic 3D Archery

and our amazing sponsors and landowners.

Three Rivers archers is looking for additional coaches. They shoot every Tuesday during the season and have a field day every Thursday. There practices are in LaPine. They have a lot of boys and girls who have joined the program and advanced. Their shooters have competed in national and international events and done very well. It's important to recognize that they are not just a "shooting" club. They are a hunting skills club. When they bring in outside people to help teach the kids skills, they bring in experts not just folks who maybe participate in an activity for a hobby. Check them out on Facebook or Instagram too.

Your Chapter membership voted on a couple of spending items.

- 1) We were given an opportunity to purchase 3 large gun safes that were slightly used but in "Like new" condition. Greg Petsch and Bill Littlefield went to view and inspect the safes. They recommended that the chapter purchase two of them for future banquet 'Safe of Gun's' raffles and purchase the third one as a chapter safe to store guns in that the chapter purchase for various events throughout the year. The seller was willing to let them go to OHA for just \$1500 for all three. The motion was made and seconded and then voted on by the member present. The motion passed.
- 2) Your chapter board asked for a motion to spend \$1,500 for supplies for the Ochoco All Hands, All Brands project. The motion was passed.

Monty Gregg from the Forest Service provided an update on some initiatives that the Forest Service is working on.

1) Ochoco Elk Collar Study - This project will start this fall/winter by collaring 40 elk. We are proposing to request funding by unifying all the chapters of OHA through an adopt a collar approach as well as any other organization that would like to support this project. I will likely be supporting ODFW with drafting a proposal for OHA to consider.

2) Greater Williams Prairie Restoration – This project is a approximately 5,000 acres and is in the BMEI (Blue Mountain Elk Initiative) priority habitat area. The project will kick off in 2020, and will be conducted under a Stewardship Agreement. The Stewardship Agreement can only be entered with a non-profit, which the only two conservation non-profits we conduct stewardship agreements with are The National Wild Turkey Federation and the Mule Deer Foundation. The Stewardship Agreement allows us to use the timber value to pay for restoration items. So the restoration item includes thinning to improve forage, several miles of meadow/hardwood restoration to improve calving and fawning habitat, and road closures to improve wildlife security habitat. Although we are using the timber value to complete restoration work, funding and volunteer work will be needed to complete the project. This project provides the opportunity to use a "**All Brands**" for their **STRENGTHS** to support the Stewardship Agreement.

3) The FS is going to help educate and enforce the winter range closures and other road closures that are key to wildlife habitat and escapement in cooperation with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists.



From the Presidents' Chair

Bob Dixon

After many years of board service, **Richard Nelson** has decided to step down as the Chapter Advisor so that other members can step up and get involved. THANK YOU Richard for all the many things you have put so much effort into!

We look forward to seeing you at the meetings and other OHA events.

We would also like to thank **JR Lorimor** for volunteering and accepting the position of "Board Advisor for Youth".

JR is the founder of **Three Rivers Archers**, an organization Bend OHA enthusiastically helps support.

Welcome JR!

The June chapter meeting included elections for expiring board positions. Thank you to all members stepping up to keep our chapter performing at its current productivity.

The results are as follow:

1st Vice President

Doug Stout

2nd Vice President

Charlie Cookson

Project Coordinator

Eric Brown (outgoing) — Serving until a replacement can be found

Member at Large – Youth Events

JR Lorimor

Member at Large — Media

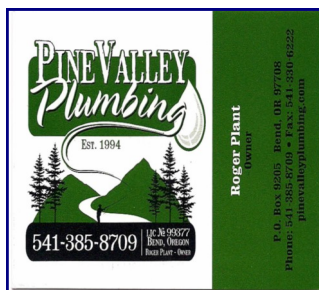
Bob Buddenbohn

Secretary

Wendy Jordon (outgoing) — Serving until a replacement can be found

Meal Notice

For our general meeting meals, we are switching to a buffet style dinner. Cost will be \$20 per person and includes the gratuity. We have a 20 meal minimum so please come and join us for dinner. The food at the Bend Golf & Country Club has been very good. The reason for the switch is this is the busy season for the Country Club with golf in full swing and the kitchen is too busy to support our chapter members ordering off the menu and their regular club members ordering off the menu too. They just can't keep up .



Upcoming Event



Your Bend OHA Chapter and Bridge 99 proudly present Shootin' the Bull on Monday July 29 from 5:30 – 8 pm. OHA members receive \$2 off per beer. Come and meet your fellow members and share stories.

Guest Speaker: TBD

Raffle: TBD

Bridge 99 Brewery

NW Corner of Empire and Layton





Eric Brown shot a nice turkey in Eastern Oregon while on a bear hunt. Yum!



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ALL HANDS, ALL BRANDS FOR YOUR PUBLIC LANDS – RESULTS

June 18 – 23, 2019

Reported by Eric Brown

RAFFLE SPONSORS

We had incredible sponsors and everybody should take note of who they were.

Legacy Firearms – Citadel RSS1 Shotgun

Nosler – T-shirts, Hats, Ammo Boxes and more

Sig – Sig 1800 yard BDX Rangefinder

Leupold – VX-R 4 – 12 x 50 Rifle Scope.

Work Sharp Outdoor Sharpeners– 1 Ken Onion Edition, 2 Power Knife & Tool Sharpeners and Numerous Guided Sharpening Systems and Guided Field Sharpeners.

Benchmade – 2 Altitude Knives.

Backcountry Hunters and Anglers – 1 Altitude Knife with BHA etched logo and BHA Hats.

Napa View – Custom etched Leather Apron, Hot Glove, small and large Cutting Board.

Oregon Pack Works – Bino Bro & Silipints

RMEF – Yeti Tumblers and 2 RMEF small Keg style containers.

Bend OHA Chapter – 2 Leatherman Skeletools.

NWTF – Cup and Hat.

USFS – Hats, Turkey Call Boxes, Silypints, and Insulated Water Bottles.

Robbie and Hannah Piehl - 6 pack of 10 Barrel beer in homemade wooden carrier with Ochoco National Forest burnt into side. Bottle Opener on wooden board with Ochoco National Forest burnt on side.



541-749-8910

(Continued next page)

Below are a few pertinent numbers:

- 79 Total number of people at our event. Does not count 2 three year olds however one (Elliot) was at the work party with his dad.
- 70 Total number of volunteers that participated in the work projects.
- 38 Number of people that participated in our Archery event.
- 46 Number of people that participated in our .22 rimfire event.
- 754** Total number of volunteer hours at the work projects.
- 474** Total number of volunteer hours driving from home to Sugarcreek C.G. and return.
- 3,200** **Approximate number of feet of fencing built on Saturday.**
- 3 Chainsaw recertification's completed
- 2 Musicians that played for us after the potluck and speeches.

COSTS

- \$1,360.08 Bend Chapter costs for T-Posts, Steaks and Breakfast.
- \$300.00 Capitol Chapter costs for Spikes.
- \$250.00 Backcountry Hunters and Anglers donation for T-Posts.

SPEAKERS

- Jim Akenson OHA Senior Conservation Director
 - Matt Keenan - ODFW Prineville
 - Karl Findling - OHA Conservation Director
 - Michael OCasey - TRCP Oregon Field Representative
 - Dominic Bachman - NWTF Wildlife Biologist
 - Julie Unfried - Pheasants Forever
 - Mikal Cline - ODFW Upland Game Bird Coordinator
 - Chris Henry - NWTF Central Oregon President
 - Elvira Young - RMEF Volunteer State Chair
 - Ian Isaacson - Backcountry Hunters and Anglers Oregon Chair
 - Gordon Brown - Hunter Education
 - Monty Gregg - USFS Ochoco Wildlife Biologist
 - Adam Smith - Darex, LLC. Engineering Tech II/Market Research Assistant
- Adam was not one of the speakers but he certainly should be mentioned as his company was very generous and Adam came to All Hands and worked side by side with all the different organizations.

For me the preparation for the All Hands event was one of nervousness. Did I dot the "I's" and cross the "T's"? Having our normal potluck which Bend, Capitol and Ochoco have done each year at our normal Ochoco work party added to the complexity of the event. Do we have enough steaks or did we order too many. How much food do we need to feed those that attend the Sunday morning breakfast? And can we get all the campers placed at Sugarcreek C.G. with motorhomes, trailers, campers, and people sleeping in tents and in the back of trucks. Will the majority fit into Sugarcreek C.G. turning the area into a small city and will everybody respect each other? Will those that have generators and dogs keep in mind that not everybody wants to hear a generator at 11 pm or a dog barking at 5 am? Do we have enough projects to keep everybody busy? How will we run the Archery and .22 shooting event and raffles? And can we get clear concise information to all so that everybody feels they know what is happening, when and where and will they go home with a feeling of satisfaction?

Fortunately several key people jumped in to assist. Bryan Cook knocked it out of the park with sponsor donations for our raffle which I insisted is free to those that came to work. Rod Adams and Eric Newman took the lead on the Archery event. Bill Littlefield took the lead on the .22 shoot with Steve Wilcox and John Bambe assisting. Rich Stutheit, Capitol Chapter took the lead on the projects making sure we had the correct items to get the fences built and he communicated with Fred Newton to coordinate purchases. Rich also built a second wire spreader to attach to a quad allowing one to be used at Salter's and the second on the Sunflower projects. And Rich brought his giant BBQ doing what he always does and cooking the steaks to perfection and again firing it up in the morning for bacon, pancakes and eggs. Robbie Piehl, Ochoco USFS Wildlife Biologist stayed in touch with us during the week before everybody showed up hauling supplies, picking up the breakfast goods and doing anything that we needed to make sure this project went well. The breakfast crew consisted of Robbie Piehl warming up the sliced ham and Eric Brown, Bill Littlefield, Kevin Borst, Rich Stutheit, Mayleen Thommen (13) and Finnegan Moore (8) cooking the breakfast.

Bend and Capitol Chapter members showed up at Sugarcreek C.G. as early as June 16 and then every day after in order to put out information signs, a kiosk with maps and locations of projects dispersed camping signs and to make sure the campground was ready for all the attendees. Debra Brown spent six hours removing the pine needles from the paved walking trail that is on both sides of Sugarcreek at the campground. Several of the guzzlers that Bend Chapter maintains were cleaned and/or repaired. On Thursday those present went to the two projects on Sunflower and prepped the perimeter where the fence would be installed by cutting out trees and brush, hauling rock for rock jacks and bringing in other materials needed for the projects. One hiccup occurred this day as we forgot to pick up Don Clark or make sure he knew where we were going so he did not go out into the field with us. This was a lesson with our communication and we did not let this happen again. Don likely forgot about this occurring when he saw a herd of elk on Friday while with Fred Newton. On Friday the same thing was done at the Salter's project while other members went out and maintained guzzlers.

Friday afternoon both Archery and the .22 shoot began where everybody seemed to enjoy themselves. A raffle was held for both events on Saturday. For Archery each participant would receive a raffle ticket. The same occurred for the .22 shoot however top score for men, woman and child was recognized along with a random draw.

Friday night we had a group meeting to discuss safety and divide the group into two with one group going to Salter's on Saturday and the second group being larger going to Sunflower in an attempt to complete the two projects in that area. A smaller group broke out to repair broken poles at two buck and pole projects near the Sunflower sites. All three projects were successfully completed by midafternoon allowing workers to come back to camp to relax or again participate in Archery or .22.

Our potluck was a highlight as always and maybe more so this time as that is when we held the raffle. Kathy Kinkel, Capitol Chapter won the shotgun while Michael OCasey, TRCP won the Leupold scope. John Bambe won the Sig Rangefinder. Ethan Barnett, 12 years old, won a Benchmade knife along with Libby Findling, 14 years old. Yes all minors that participated in the work party were placed into our raffle. Everybody went home with something however it was noted that Work Shop items were very popular.

Saturday potluck concluded with our listed speakers below giving short talks and then for those that stuck around the dinner area they were treated to music and song by Chad Marks-Fife, USFS and Mikal Cline, ODFW.

So was this project a success? We built a lot of fence and that alone was a success however this project was much more than that. Monty Gregg, Ochoco USFS Wildlife Biologist has for the past several years mentioned wanting to do something like what we did. Monty expressed a desire for different organizations to come together and learn about each other and show what we as a collective group can accomplish. With that said Monty's dream became a reality and I would submit that this project was a huge success! Thanks Monty for your vision and constant communication with the several different organizations. Feedback from those at the project has been positive with many saying that they would like to come back next year.

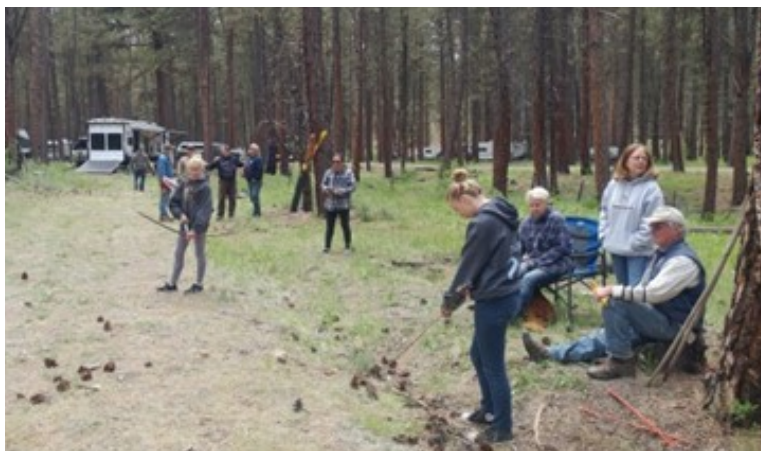
Who was at the project? For OHA the following chapters were present: Bend, Capitol, Ochoco, Tualatin Valley, Yamhill, Emerald, Mid Willamette, Union-Wallowa, Imnaha and state OHA members. Other organizations were: BHA, RMEF, NWTF, Pheasants Forever, TRCP, Work Sharp (Darex LLC), ODFW, USFS and outgoing ODFW Commission member Holly Akenson.

One of my most satisfying parts of this project was that we had 10 persons less than 18 years of age working at the projects and I lost track of how many times I was asked by them what they could do to help. They were always willing to jump in and help and it was very rewarding to see this. The parents are obviously doing something right.



Left: Saturday morning crew that built the fence near Salter's Cabin.

Below: .22 Shoot and Archery





Rock hauling for Rock Jacks being completed by the Findling girls on the left and other youngsters on the right.



Raffle Tables



Above: Bend OHA member Eric Newman with his son Elliot on his back and Mike Herb, Union-Wallowa OHA.



Right: Ellie Young, RMEF speaks to group after our potluck

Monthly Door Prize

The May door prize winner was :
Brandon ?? (Sorry, we missed the name)

Come to the meeting and win!
Seriously, Good Stuff!

JULY SPEAKER

Our speaker this next month will be:
Corey Heath head biologist ODFW of-
fice in Bend.


Come hear what all is going on and
how we are helping.

Volunteer



OHA member Fred Newton assists Ted Anderson with fence building.

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JUNE Membership Raffle

The name drawn for **\$350.00** worth of Sporting equipment was Henry Colin of Bend
(not present)

YOU HAVE TO BE AT THE MEETING!

We all have a nice evening at the meeting, come and meet the attending chapter members
and start having some fun by getting involved. (and bring your friends!)
(You can win raffles and get some new gear!)



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Presidents' Report

Hello Bend Membership,

Chapter officer elections were held at the June meeting. I want to welcome Charlie Cookson as our new 2nd Vice President and Bob Buddenbohn as our new Member At Large - Media. These are two very busy members who have elected to carve a little time out of their lives to serve in a leadership roll for your chapter.

I also want to thank Doug Stout for stepping up into the 1st Vice Presidents roll and Keven Borst for serving another term as our Member At Large - Youth Events.

We did not have any nominations or volunteers for the open positions of Secretary or Project Coordinator. We are very appreciative to Wendy Jordan and Eric Brown for continuing to fill those rolls until we can fill them. Wendy has served as the chapter secretary for two terms and Eric Brown has served in his roll for 3 1/2 terms. I also want to extend a big thank you to Dale Putnam for his service to the chapter as our past Member at Large - Media. Dale continues to mentor Bob until he is ready to take the reins.

Board member Richard Nelson resigned from his position on the board as an adviser to the board this last May. We want to thank Richard for his many years of service to the Bend Chapter of OHA. He held many positions in the chapter and is very appreciated and respected. One of Richards hopes is that we could fill the position with some new blood. I am very pleased to welcome JR Lorimor to the Bend Chapter Board of Directors as our new Member At Large - Youth Advisor. Even though Jr is a very busy man he comes to us with some great credentials and ideas. He is the founder and a coach of 3 Rivers Archers, a wrestling coach in La Pine and spends most of his time, when not at work or hunting with his family, working with youth. I see and hear his passion for working with youth every time I'm with him.

I appreciate all the new faces in the leadership of our chapter and the remaining officers filling in or taking on an additional term. We still have officer and board positions open. If you can carve out 5-10 hours a month to be part of the leadership of your chapter, please feel free to contact me or any other board member to answer any questions you might have.

See you at the next meeting.

Bob Dixon
Chapter President



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Share your harvests with your
fellow chapter members!
We want to see!

dixichick1@icloud.com





Blue Mountains Elk Initiative

2015-2020

Overview

The Blue Mountains Elk Initiative (BMEI) is a cooperative effort between Federal, State, private landowners and industries, Tribal Nations, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, sportsman and conservation organizations, and many other dedicated partners with the mutual goals of improving the habitat for elk and other wildlife across the Blue Mountains of Oregon and Washington.

The BMEI began in the spring of 1990, being officially chartered in March 1991. The Oregon and Washington Departments of Fish and Wildlife initiated the program with the Forest Service, and did so in a manner that welcomed participation of others. The Initiative emphasizes cooperation and coordination, places high priority on field projects, strengthens partnerships between all interests, and seeks increased support and understanding from the public.

Since its beginning 25 years ago, the BMEI has partnered with more than 60 agencies, organizations, corporations and thousands of individuals to leverage nearly 10 million dollars and accomplish more than 300,000 acres of habitat enhancement work across the Blue Mountains.

Mission & Goals

The mission of the Blue Mountains Elk Initiative is to more effectively manage elk and elk habitat in the Blue Mountains of Oregon and Washington.

Guiding the work are the goals of state wildlife agencies; Forest Service Land and Resource Management Plans; BLM Resource Management Plans; the needs of private landowners; Tribal Natural Resource Management Plans; the goals of Tribal governments and the trust responsibility of Federal and State agencies to Tribal Nations; desires of sportsmen, conservation, and other user groups; and the latest research and management information.

The Setting

The Blue Mountains Elk Initiative area encompasses 19 million acres within the Blue Mountains of northeast Oregon and southeast Washington. All public, private, and Indian Trust Lands within this area are potentially included, bounded roughly by the Pomeroy and Dayton areas to the north; state borders

to the east; Walla Walla, Heppner, and Prineville areas to the west; and Burns and Ontario to the south. These are approximate boundaries, and not intended to exclude any interested participants.

Elk of the Blue Mountains are an integral part of a lifestyle and economy driven by natural resources. The Blue Mountains support one of the largest sustainable elk populations in North America. More than 55,000 elk inhabit the forests and rangelands of northeast Oregon and southeast Washington. The health of these herds is intimately tied to timber and habitat management, ranching, farming, recreational, and subsistence hunting in the region.

In this setting, the prominence of elk is obvious. Some 72,000 elk hunters make the annual pilgrimage to the Blue Mountains each fall, many of whom travel hundreds of miles for the experience. Elk hunters contribute nearly 15 million dollars annually to communities in the Blue Mountains region.

TRCP write-up for June 2019 Bend OHA Chapter Newsletter

During the May meeting, Michael O'Casey, the Oregon Field Representative for the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership (TRCP) gave a presentation about TRCP and the work they are doing across the nation and here in Oregon to ensure all Americans have quality places to hunt and fish. TRCP formed in 2002 to unite and amplify the voices of the sportsmen community at our nation's capital. Since then, TRCP has grown to include a national coalition of 59 sporting and conservation organizations and almost 100,000 individuals, all united to ensure that Americans have quality places to fish and hunt.

TRCP is headquartered in Washington D.C and works to promote and advance sound policy in a non-partisan way to benefit fish and wildlife habitat, access and opportunity, and the outdoor recreation economy. We continually impress upon our nation's leaders the importance of hunting and fishing, both culturally and economically. National surveys have shown that there are over 40 million Americans who hunt and/or fish in the U.S. over 16 years old. More than 483,000 people are directly employed in the Hunting and fishing industry. To put that into perspective, there are about 180,000 directly employed in oil and gas. Collectively, those 40 million people out there who hunt and/or fish generate an annual economy worth more than \$61 billion.

Unfortunately, it's not all good news. National surveys also show the decline in hunting participation is not just an Oregon problem. In 2011, 13.5 million hunted and by 2016 the number of active hunters had dropped to 11.5 million. That's more than 2 million people who stopped hunting in just 5 years! This loss in hunters results not only in reduced funding levels to manage fish and wildlife abundance but could also leads to a loss of relevancy within our culture.

During the Presentation, Michael touched on some of the key issues here in Oregon related to fishing, hunting, and habitat for wildlife that TRCP and key partners, including OHA are working on. One of the biggest opportunities to improve wildlife habitat in Oregon is taking place right now in Southeastern Oregon. Since 2010, the Vale and Lakeview BLM district offices have been undergoing a process to write in a major amendment to their Resource Management Plans (RMPs). RMPs guide the management of the public lands within these district offices. Between Vale and Lakeview, there are almost 8 million acres of public lands that contain excellent habitat for antelope, deer, and big horn sheep among countless other species.

The amendment will address how the BLM manages for key three issues.

How will the BLM manage Lands with Wilderness Characteristics?

How will the BLM manage for off-highway vehicles?

Should the BLM offer a voluntary grazing permit relinquishment for willing permittees?

The TRCP and sportsmen groups such as OHA have been engaged with the BLM since 2012 to advocate for the BLM to use a proposal called Backcountry Conservation Areas (BCAs) for the management of some lands with wilderness characteristics. BCAs would preserve the intact, backcountry character of the landscape while still allowing for active habitat restoration and access. Designated routes would remain open to the public, grazing and other traditional uses would continue, but renewable energy and other large-scale development projects would need to be cited outside of the boundaries of BCAs.

On May 31st, the Vale BLM District issued their Draft Resource Management Plan Amendment. This is a significant step in the planning process and will help determine how and if habitat, outdoor recreation opportunities, and development are balanced on BLM land. In the draft plan the BLM proposes a variety of options for management and names one preferred alternative. In this case, the agency's preferred path does not resemble recommendations made by our coalition of sportsmen groups or the BLM's own Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council (RAC), a group of 15 individuals selected by the BLM with diverse backgrounds who worked together for more than 5 years to develop recommendations for the plan. Now that the draft is published, the public has 90 days to make comments and have their voice heard. The TRCP and OHA will continue to work together to write balanced comments on the plan that encourages the BLM to use an approach that ensures the backcountry character of this fantastic landscape while still allowing for other uses. Anyone interested in commenting on the plan can visit the trcp.org website and/or contact Michael O'Casey at 541-668-2316 or mocasey@trcp.org anytime.

Treasurer's Report

John Bambe was pleased to report that the current Bend Chapter's OHA checking account balance was \$95,220 as of June 1, 2019.

Come to the meetings and hear what OHA is doing!
Consider getting involved !
It really is gratifying and helps OHA
do the right things for Oregon Hunting, Habitat and
Wildlife.



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2nd VP	Charlie Cookson	(541) 280-7525
Treasurer	John Bambe	(541) 480-9848
Secretary	Wendy Jordan	(503) 572-2806
At Large (Youth Adv)	JR Lorimor	541-420-2741
At-Large (Y&FD)	Kevin Borst	(541) 388-7337
At-Large (Media)	Bob Buddenbohn	(817) 470-7018
Project Coordinator	Eric Brown	(541) 330-0140
Paulina Projects Coordinator	Fred Newton	(541) 389-1321
Banquet Chair	Open	
Past President	Bill Littlefield	(541) 429-2950

Website:

<http://oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter>

or

<http://oregonhunters.org>

CALENDAR

07/10/19	Bend Chapter Meeting
07/19-20/19	NW Womens' Hunting Camp
07/27-28/19	NW Womens' Hunting Camp
08/14/19	Bend Chapter Meeting