



# OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

## BEND CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

March 2025

### NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

**Wednesday, March 12th**  
**→ \* 6:00 pm \***  
**Bend VFW**

**(come early if you want to purchase dinner)**

Please turn to *page 2* for *more details* on our upcoming monthly chapter meeting.

We look forward to seeing YOU there!

### LOOK INSIDE FOR:

- ◆ Meeting recap
- ◆ Bend Chapter info.
- ◆ Volunteer opportunities
- ◆ Beckley Scholarship info
- ◆ OHA Tracker
- ◆ Photos & More!
- ◆ The Email to which you can send your photos, articles and other items for the newsletter. Thanks for your help!

Thank you, **NWTF**, for the header photo. Do these faces look familiar? If not, you might recognize their names. Turn to page 9 to learn why our partners and friends **Robbie Piehl** and **Monty Gregg** were honored

### President's Message

Hello to all our members of the Bend Chapter of the Oregon Hunters Association.

As of February 21st, our total membership number stood at 534. This month we had all 4 new members join us from Bend. Please join me in welcoming the **Daniel Kusch Family**, **Dave Perrine**, **Elliott Saul**, and the **Justin Wilks Family**. Thanks for joining and we hope to see you at any of our chapter meetings the second Wednesday of every month. Remember, our new location for meetings is the Bend VFW Hall, on 4th Street. If you can't make our meetings, maybe you can make it to one of our projects, or any of our other activities soon. We had 8 members that missed getting their renewal in on time. No problem, just be sure to follow up and get that membership taken care of soon. Remember to check your membership expiration date that's on the address label of your Oregon Hunter magazine.

It's March, and your chapter committee is busily getting the final pieces in place for our Annual Mule Deer Classic Banquet and Fundraiser at the Riverhouse Convention Center on March 8th. If you haven't already gotten your registration in, it may be too late by the time you receive this newsletter. If you want to check to see if you can still be registered, contact our treasurer John Bambi at (541) 460-9846. Check out our webpage at [www.oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter](http://www.oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter). If you follow our Facebook page, you've seen a hint of some of the great items participants will have the opportunity to bid on or win at this year's event.

I recently traveled over the mountain to Eugene, where the Bowtech World Headquarters hosted the first ever Oregon High School Archery League Championships. Team members from Marshfield, Prospect, St Mary's Academy, Bend, and the team we helped sponsor, the LaPine Hawks were all present. A total of 42 competitors participated in this year's championships. All the first place winners will have theirs and their teams' names enshrined as the Oregon High School Archery League Record Holders. All of these youth, their parents and the coaches can be proud of the camaraderie and sportsmanship that they have shown. And a big shout out to the ODF&W for sponsoring the awards for this event. Special thanks to **Carolyn** and **JR Lorimor**, who along with a group of dedicated individuals, were instrumental in getting this winter indoor high school archery league organized and the championships completed. Now comes the spring outdoor league and the reason our chapter will be losing both of these members from our board on April 1. To take on a project such as this, to see it's growth and potential, is extremely time consuming. As you all know, there are only so many hours in a day. All of us have our priorities. This is a fine one. Stay safe. Hope to see you out there.

**Rex E Parks Sr**  
Bend Chapter President  
Oregon Hunters Association

## **UPCOMING MARCH MEETING INFO:**

We look forward to seeing YOU at our next monthly chapter meeting on **Wednesday March 12th**. Our meeting location is the **VFW Hall** in Bend. Remember to arrive early so you can purchase dinner from a nearby food truck and enjoy it before the meeting. Food is also available onsite at the VFW bar. (You are welcome to bring food with you) Arriving early also gives you the chance to visit with old friends or meet some new ones. Doors open at 5:00pm. **START TIME is 6:00pm**

### **GUEST SPEAKER:**

Our March guest speaker will be **Andy Hamilton**, ODFW Hunter Recruitment Specialist. He will give us insight to the various ways our chapter can volunteer at his upcoming classes and workshops

Your attendance is important to us and you might even win a prize. (see page 8 for last month's winners)

## **February Meeting Recap**

In case you were unable to attend our monthly meeting at Bend VFW on Feb 12th, here are a few highlights:

Our guest speaker was **Kristin Fratella**, who shared with us just about everything we needed to know about Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). She also brought an ODFW co-worker, **Zac Kendall**, who helped answer our questions on other topics as well. Since there is minimal space here to summarize the presentation, you can find more details on the ODFW website. CWD has been around since the 1960's and is caused by a protein. The animal can appear healthy for up to 2 years, yet it is 100% fatal and there is no cure or vaccine. No more captive facilities are allowed in Oregon, so as permits expire, they will not be renewed. Testing is encouraged on harvested animals and the sampling process takes less than 10 minutes of your time. Results take 3-5 weeks. ODFW has a goal of 4,000 samples. They are at 3,800 samples and the year doesn't end until July. Some taxidermists and meat processors can take samples for you, as well as pop-up check stations during hunting seasons and drop bins at local ODFW offices. It has not yet been detected in Oregon, but it has been found in our 3 neighboring states. The disease has been detected in deer, elk, moose, caribou. White tail are more susceptible than mule deer or elk. If you hunt where CWD is prevalent, wear gloves, avoid cutting thru bone and leave your carcass. You can soak your tools in a 50% bleach solution. Besides the obvious modes of transmission (nose to nose, saliva, feces, urine, in utero), the disease can get into the soil, be absorbed by the plants and then consumed by the animal. Currently there is no indication that a human can contract the disease.

In 2026 there will be new deer hunt areas. The 47 current units will be reconfigured to 30 larger units.

Each month, the link to the digital newsletter will arrive in your email inbox, as well as appear on our website: [oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter](http://oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter) Bob Buddenbohn sends the digital newsletter and his monthly announcements from his new email address: [oha.budd@gmail.com](mailto:oha.budd@gmail.com) By drastically cutting the number of newsletters that are printed and mailed, the Bend Chapter is saving about \$10,000-\$11,000 per year.

ORPIC was cancelled for this year because no one was able to take over the reigns in time.

We are working on making some changes to the chapter by-laws in order to streamline the grant/funding process, while still enabling the board to fulfill their fiduciary responsibility.

Have you been thinking about becoming a board member? Now's your chance! As you read in Rex's president's letter on the front page, JR & Carolyn Lorimor will need to step down from their board positions as of April 1st. Although we will greatly miss their dedication, skills, and support to the board, we understand the importance of dedicating their focus and time to the High School Archery League. The main focus of Carolyn's Secretary position is taking notes at meetings and producing the minutes from the board meetings. JR has been the Outreach Coordinator and also helps to schedule the speakers for the monthly membership meetings.

You missed out if you weren't at the meeting! Please join us at a monthly meeting. You might learn something new, have a good time, give us some valuable input . . .



*Protecting Oregon's wildlife, habitat  
and hunting heritage.*

Thank you to all of our generous donors! We look forward to another successful Mule Deer Classic Banquet, our annual chapter fundraiser.

Stay tuned . . .  
We will publish a follow-up report in the April newsletter.

**IMPORTANT:**

*As requested by the OHA state office, our chapter is sending our newsletter via email. Just like last month, this issue will be mailed to only 1/4 of the usual recipients. Everyone else will receive an email with a link to retrieve the newsletter online. Thanks for your patience during this transition. If you receive a hard copy, either you requested it, or we don't have your email address. If you didn't receive the email with the link, then we don't have the correct email address for you. Please inform Wendy Borst of any problems and she will pass along the info to the correct person (s). [Wenb.oha@outlook.com](mailto:Wenb.oha@outlook.com) You can also turn to page 4 to learn how to update your info. Thanks for your help!*



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[wenb.oha@outlook.com](mailto:wenb.oha@outlook.com)

**Volunteer Opportunities**

Sometimes last minute volunteer opportunities arise. If you would like to be notified of such projects, please contact **Don Clark** @ 702-460-3653

If you have an interest in helping with wildlife fence maintenance please contact **Eric Brown** @ 541-647-0424

**SAVE THESE DATES**

**March 8, 2025:** Mule Deer Classic Banquet and Fundraiser (many volunteer opportunities available)

**May 31:** Youth & Family Outdoor Day

**June 27-29:** All Hands, All Brands

**August 2:** Bowhunter warm-up/mini ORPIC

**4th Saturday in September:** National Public Lands Day

**Oct 18:** Bend Chapter Youth Upland Bird Hunt

**Stay tuned:** We are working on a calendar to better inform you of more volunteer opportunities. There are many activities and events each month where we can *invest our time to pass on the hunting heritage, teach skills, improve habitat, promote OHA by setting up a table at the event, lend a helping hand, etc.* Thanks in advance for your participation whenever and wherever you are able.

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**IMPORTANT:**



Staying in touch with members is vital to our mission, so if you have not been receiving Email Alerts and Reports from OHA Bend Chapter once or twice a month, then please scan this QR code or go to <https://oregonhunters.org/bend-membership-update> to **input your email**, phone and mailing address. If you are unable to do this, then call 817-472-4272 where we'll take your information over the phone.

# **Bend Chapter OHA Charles L Beckley Scholarship**

**It's time for your student to apply for our annual scholarship! Application packets must be postmarked by April 15th. The link is on our website. Here is a bit of history:**

The Bend Chapter of the Oregon Hunters Association, in partnership with **Bill Beckley**, has established this scholarship for higher education honoring the life-time member **Charles L Beckley**, who passed away in 2004. Mr. Beckley was a dedicated OHA member and was among the first hunter education instructors in the state of Oregon.

This scholarship assists young men and women in reaching their educational goals.

Charles Beckley, who graduated from Oregon State University, was instrumental in bringing FFA (Future Farmers of America) to Central Oregon as Bend High School's first vo-ag instructor and FFA advisor in 1952. He was chairman and founder of "Red Hat Days" in the late 1950's as a precursor to hunter safety. He became one of the first hunter safety instructors in the state when he began teaching hunter safety to his ag students in the early 1960's. In 1962, he became the first high school teacher in the state of Oregon to teach wildlife and forestry fulltime. He created his own curriculum which he later expanded to include hydrology, ecology, and conservation. Among his many affiliations, he was most proud of his lifetime memberships in the Oregon Hunters Association and National Rifle Association. We honor his memory with this scholarship.



Charles L. Beckley



Mr. Chuck Beckley directs the attention of his conservation class to the study of a stuffed owl

**At the Mule Deer Classic (Bend Chapter Banquet), please stop by the Beckley Scholarship table to *purchase your raffle tickets*, which support this scholarship fund. You will then have the chance to win a rifle or other prizes. You can also *pick up a scholarship application* for the college student in your life. Or print the application from our website: [Oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter](http://Oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter)  
Thanks in advance for your participation and support!**

## OHA Bend Chapter Officers

President **Rex Parks Sr** firelt602@gmail.com (541) 480-0230  
 1st VP **Doug Stout** (541) 312-8332  
 2nd VP (newsletter editor) **Wendy Borst** (541) 480-0748  
 Treasurer **John Bambe** (541) 480-9848  
 Secretary **Carolyn Lorimor**  
 At-Large (Media) **Bob Buddenbohn** (817) 470-7018  
 At-Large (Youth Events) **Kevin Borst** (541) 480-7323  
 At Large (Outreach Coord.) **JR Lorimor** (541) 420-2741  
 Project Coordinator **Don Clark** (702) 460-3653  
 Volunteer hrs. manager **Don Clark, Bill Littlefield**  
 Banquet Chair **Greg Petsch** (541) 330-6218  
 Assistants to banquet coordinator: positions available  
 Past President resigned

### Website:

[oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter](http://oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter)

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Steve Mathers  
Owner



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mathers@bendnet.com



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Info@hdfirearmsusa.com

OFFICE: (541) 408-0003

## CALENDAR

Check our website for Bend OHA event dates and more details

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| March 8  | Mule Deer Classic Banquet and Fundraiser  |
| March 9  | Daylight Saving begins  |
| March 12 | Monthly Chapter Meeting   |
| March 17 | St. Patrick's Day   |
| March 20 | Spring begins   |
| March 23 | *Deadline to submit items for April newsletter*   |
| March 26 | Board meeting   |
| April 9  | Monthly Chapter Meeting   |
| April 15 | Online reg begins for Youth & Family Outdoor Day;<br>Beckley Scholarship Application deadline |

CHECK YOUR OREGON HUNTER'S CALENDAR FOR  
TAG DEADLINES, HUNT END DATES, & EVENTS ACROSS OUR STATE

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**FYI: Centerfire Gunworks**  
has moved to Redmond



**Send photos to:**  
[wenb.oha@outlook.com](mailto:wenb.oha@outlook.com)

## NRA R.S.O. CERTIFICATION

Would you like to earn the  
NRA Range Safety Officer Certification?  
The Bend Chapter will offer  
the 1-day course later this year.  
If you are a Bend Chapter OHA member,  
then the curriculum will be paid for by  
the chapter. The NRA Certification & card  
(application fee) is paid for by the student.

Please contact  
**Doug Stout** 541-312-8332 or  
**Kevin Borst** 541-480-7323  
so they can add you to the list.



**UPDATE:**

**Eric Brown** recently spoke  
with **Sgt. Lea**, OSP F&W  
Sgt, who expressed his  
gratitude for the  
donation that our chapter  
made last year. The thermal  
binoculars have been  
especially helpful.



***It pays to attend our monthly chapter meeting:***

Congratulations to **Harold Springs** for winning the door prize at our Feb. meeting.  
Enjoy your \$25 Cabela's gift card!

**Guy A. Fronk** of Bend drew for the February monthly membership prize (\$500 reimbursement towards any outdoor/hunting item) but was not present to win.



## STICKS & STONES

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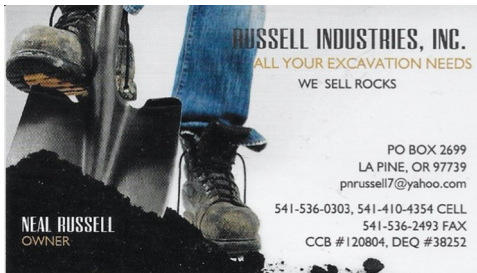
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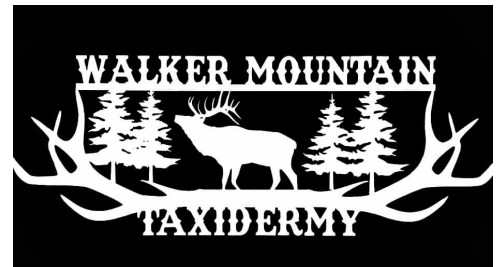
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*Please help us to  
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*Requesting photos of your  
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(bird dog)*

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### REMEMBER TO RENEW!

When does your membership expire? Check the address label of your Oregon Hunters magazine for your expiration date.  
Welcome to any new members!

**ONLINE REGISTRATION BEGINS  
APRIL 15th for our  
YOUTH & FAMILY  
OUTDOOR DAY!**

[www.oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter](http://www.oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter)

If you register on that first day, you will receive *free* raffle tickets! If you are the first family to register, then you will receive *even more* raffle tickets!

**ONLY \$5 per person!**

**Our 11th annual event will be  
Saturday, May 31st**

## Volunteer Hours:

A new procedure to report them

In order to keep better track of the Bend Chapter's volunteer hours, Bill Littlefield created an online reporting system. By scanning the QR code or using the URL below, volunteers can easily complete the online form.



<https://forms.gle/Bghi5dBzor8t8CbJ8>

The QR code and link are also on our chapter website:


[Oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter](http://Oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter)

The details have been printed on business cards so you can pick up one at the project/event and easily report your volunteer hours on your phone, tablet, or computer.

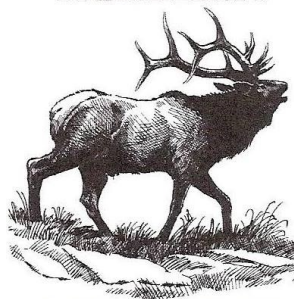
Thanks for your help!

## NWTF HONORS ROBBIE PIEHL & MONTY GREGG

Last month two local Forest Service employees were honored with one of the National Wild Turkey Federation's Making Tracks with the USDA Forest Service awards, which recognize people and projects that best incorporate conservation education, partnerships and wild turkey management. **Robbie Piehl** and **Monty Gregg** received the Habitat Management Program Award for their efforts to improve habitat in the Paulina Ranger District of the Ochoco National Forest. The focus of the project is to remove western juniper to enhance and restore sagebrush and bitterbrush habitat, to create foraging potential for several species, including turkey, elk, deer, sage grouse and pronghorn. The first phase of the project began in October 2024, just over a year after signing the stewardship agreement with the NWTF. This project was successfully carried out despite delays from wildfires in the area. Robbie and Monty both worked hard to secure partner funding for the project, using several partners including the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Oregon NWTF State Chapter. The Oregon Hunters Association also helped to support this endeavor. \$10,000 from OHA BMEI funds went towards this project. (Thank you to NWTF and **Eric Brown** for the details of this article)

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An artist's rendering shows the future wildlife crossing over Interstate 5 south of Ashland, which will be Oregon's first wildlife overpass. A similar new overpass in Idaho is already showing impressive results.

## OHA to help build massive wildlife crossing over I-5

By Tyler Dungannon, Conservation Coordinator  
[TD@oregonhunters.org](mailto:TD@oregonhunters.org)

Oregon's first wildlife overpass will be built on I-5 at milepost 1.7 south of Ashland, thanks to a coalition of conservation groups, including OHA, and agencies that successfully obtained a \$34 million federal grant.

Federal funding is paused, but state funding that was secured is moving the project forward until federal funds arrive (hopefully in 2027).

State OHA has worked with the Southern Oregon Wildlife Crossing Coalition since 2021 on this effort to reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions and improve habitat connectivity. OHA has played a critical role in providing relatively small amounts of funding for the project's feasibility study, attaining support from Jackson County Commissioners, supporting state legislation, and committing to oversee minor fence repairs associated with the new structure.

Each year in the western United States, wildlife-vehicle collisions account for an estimated \$10 billion in vehicle damage, medical expenses, and hundreds of thousands of dead animals. These staggering numbers are derived from reported crashes, so the actual costs are likely much higher. Wildlife-vehicle collisions are a huge problem for Oregon's deer and elk, and we hope that this project will pave the way for construction of additional structures across the state.

## OHA backs bill to limit ballot-box wildlife management

By Amy Patrick, OHA Policy Director  
[Amy@oregonhunters.org](mailto:Amy@oregonhunters.org)

As the legislative session progresses, OHA continues to work in the Capitol on behalf of the sportsmen and women of Oregon.

OHA has authored two concepts for the 2025 session. Working with Senator Nash and Representative Owens, we have brought forward SJR 30 and HJR 11, concurrent bills that would require a higher number of signatures for initiative petitions to reach the ballot while also requiring those signatures to be gathered in all six congressional districts. The bills have strong bipartisan support in both the House and Senate.

Working again with Representative Owens, OHA has authored HB 3596, a bill to extend a current ODFW study on mule deer population metrics to include the Steens Mountain area. The data gath-

ered in this study may help shape population management decisions in the future.

Notable bills that OHA has engaged on thus far:

**SB 769** - This bill would allow counties to vote to exempt themselves from the statewide ban against hunting cougars with hounds. This bill had a public hearing on Feb. 11 with OHA staff providing the presenting testimony.

**HB 2170 & HB 2982** - These bills address funding for the invasive species inspection and the efforts to keep potentially devastating invasive species, such as quagga mussels, from entering the state. Both bills had a public hearing on Feb. 10.

**SB 812** - Removes the sunset on the Landowner Preference Program. OHA

provided supporting testimony at the public hearing on Jan. 30.

**HB 2167** - Funding for OSU's College of Veterinary Medicine and the Oregon Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (OVDL). OHA is strongly supporting this bill as it continues vital funding OHA secured for the OVDL in the last legislative session to begin in-state testing for chronic wasting disease samples.

Several bills important to the hunting community remain on the horizon: HB 2342, the ODFW fee increase bill; HB 2977, an alternative funding source for ODFW; and HB 5009, ODFW's budget. OHA will continue to engage on these bills, and many others, as the legislative session progresses.

**Several bills important to the hunting community remain on the horizon.**



OHA banquets in 2025 will feature a Coastal Farm & Ranch Raffle for a Weatherby Vanguard First Lite Specter .300 WM.

## YOU'RE INVITED TO AN OHA BANQUET NEAR YOU SOON!

Enjoy a fun evening among friends and check out auctions and raffles featuring trips, great gear and more at an OHA chapter banquet near you soon.

What we raise here stays here to support OHA's mission of Protecting Oregon's wildlife, habitat and hunting heritage.

Watch for 2025 fund-raiser updates at:  
<https://oregonhunters.org/events-2>

### MARCH 1

Pioneer **SOLD OUT!**

### MARCH 8

Bend 541-480-9848

### MARCH 15

Capitol 503-990-2978

Rogue Valley 541-773-8736

Union-Wallowa 541-786-1283

Yamhill County 503-490-2489

### MARCH 22

Josephine County 541-761-1852

### MARCH 29

Tualatin Valley **SOLD OUT!**

### APRIL 5

Baker 541-403-0402

Clatsop County 503-440-9934

Lake County 541-417-2983

Tioga **SOLD OUT!**

Mid-Willamette 541-971-3351

Umpqua 541-430-7324

### APRIL 26

Klamath 541-891-3549

Curry 406-499-2234

### MAY 3

Tillamook 503-812-3832

OHA State Convention, :

Chinook Winds Casino, 541-772-7313

### MAY 10

Columbia Co. 949-533-7271

: A&H Statewide Deer Tag auction

: A&H Statewide Elk Tag auction

## OHA Spring Youth Events

### APRIL 5

YOUTH TURKEY CLINICS:

White River Wildlife Area,

503-358-7821;

Denman Wildlife Area,

541-857-2407

### APRIL 26

Pioneer Chapter Youth Day,

503-936-4718

### MAY 3

Tioga Chapter Youth Day, 541-294-7912

### MAY 17

Tillamook Chapter Youth Trap Shoot,

503-842-7153

### MAY 31

Bend Chapter Youth Day, 541-480-7323

### JUNE 7

Josephine County Chapter Youth Day,

541-218-2836

### JUNE 7

Tualatin Valley Chapter Youth Event,

503-701-2852

### JUNE 28

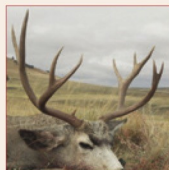
Lake County Chapter Youth Event,

541-417-0042

## WIN 1 OF 3 2025 DEER OR ELK HUNTS

ON THE NATURE CONSERVANCY'S

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FOR EACH SEPARATE RAFFLE:

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**Drawing: 5/3/25,**

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**Tickets & info:**

**call 541-772-7313 or visit**

[WWW.OREGONHUNTERS.ORG/STORE](http://WWW.OREGONHUNTERS.ORG/STORE)

**NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN**

## New '25 Gun Calendar winners announced

The first winners for OHA's 2025 Gun Calendar Raffle have been announced, and the 2026 OHA Gun Raffle Calendar is on sale now! Call 541-772-7313 or visit <https://oregonhunters.org/shop/#raffles>

See weekly winners on OHA's website or download our app, which you can also use to enter OHA contests and get timely notifications.

★ **Citadel 1911 RWB Flag .45 ACP**

George Krumm, Hoodview Chapter

★ **Christensen Mesa .28 Nosler**

Jeffrey Phillips, Yamhill Chapter

★ **Browning A-Bolt 3 Composite Stalker 7mm**

Trevor Humes, Pioneer Chapter

★ **Pointer Acrius O/U 12 ga.**

Jennifer Taylor, Pioneer Chapter

★ **Sig Cross 6.5 CR**

Dennis Cabatic, Mid-Willamette Chapter

★ **Howa 1500 Carbon Fiber Barrel 6.5 PRC**

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\$300 Habitat Destruction  
\$200 Illegally obtaining Oregon hunting or angling license or tags  
\$200 Unlawful Lending/Borrowing Big Game Tag(s)  
\$200 Game Fish & Shellfish  
\$200 Game Birds or Furbearers  
\$200 Spotlighting  
\$200 Snagging/Attempt to Snag



#### ODFW Preference Points rewards

5 Points-Bighorn sheep  
5 Points-Rocky Mountain goat  
5 Points-Moose  
5 Points-Wolf  
4 Points-Elk  
4 Points-Deer  
4 Points-Antelope  
4 Points-Bear  
4 Points-Cougar



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