



OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

BEND CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

July 2025

NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

Wednesday, June 11th
→ * 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
- ♦ Porcupine Project: you can help
- ♦ MVHS Trap Team Update
- ♦ Special deal on Benchmade knives! (see pg 11)
- ♦ OHA Tracker (no room this mo.)
- ♦ Photos & More!
- ♦ The Email to which you can send your photos, articles and other items for the newsletter. Thanks for your help!

Thank you, **Kevin Borst**, for the header photo. Some of the All Hands, All Brands crowd are gathering around the food table to nourish their bodies after all the work. Next month we'll have the recap.

President's Message

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

As of June 20, our total membership was at 510. We extend a warm welcome to our 5 new members. From Bend, we now have **Angie Campbell**, the **Ryan McGrew Family**, **Michelle Schmotzer**, and **John Wiley**, and from La Pine **Frank Zojonc** joins us. Thanks for becoming members and we hope to see you at an upcoming meeting, on a project or any of our other activities soon. We have 3 members who have missed their renewal date and are in danger of missing out on continuing to be a part of one of the premier conservation organizations in the state. Remember to check your membership expiration date that's on the address label of your Oregon Hunter magazine.

Here we are just beginning the summer season, and we're already seeing human caused wildfires. Many of you that know me personally know that I have been a long time volunteer firefighter here in central Oregon with the Cloverdale RFPD. Our small fire district was one of the early responders to the recent Alder Springs Fire where we sent 4 pieces of apparatus and 9 firefighters. I witnessed several retardant drops from multiple planes that afternoon and into the evening. That fire resulted in levels 1 through 3 evacuations that caused a lot of anxious Crooked River Ranch residences to be displaced from their homes. This human caused fire was the result of an extremely careless individual burning his TP. As I told our Task Force Leader after he'd told me the cause, if the person had buried it, no damage would have been done. As I've said in the past, be aware of your surroundings when you're out scouting or recreating, don't be "that guy".

Several members headed out into the Ochoco's early in the week for the **All Hands, All Brands** project, to do maintenance on guzzlers and check past years projects. Last years fire that swept through the area resulted in a lot of habitat loss, damage to some past buck and pole fencing and at least one guzzler being completely destroyed.

Saturday, August 2nd there will be a 3D archery shoot at the **La Pine Archery Park**. This is where what is being dubbed as a "mini ORPIC" will also happen. The chapter will have a booth there. Mark your calendar now so you don't miss out..

As always, Stay safe. Hope to see you out there.

Rex E Parks Sr
Bend Chapter President
Oregon Hunters Association

UPCOMING JULY MEETING INFO:

We look forward to seeing YOU at our next monthly chapter meeting on **Wednesday July 9th**. Our meeting location is **the VFW Hall** in Bend. Remember to arrive early so you can purchase dinner from a nearby food truck (Midtown Yacht Club) and enjoy it before the meeting. Food is also available onsite at the VFW bar when the food truck in the parking lot is not open. (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 July guest speaker will be **Isaac O'Casey**, Student Ministries Pastor at High Lakes Christian Church in LaPine. He will share how our grants have helped to support their SALT youth program, allowing them to take youth on hunting and fishing experiences.

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

June Meeting Recap

In case you were unable to attend our monthly meeting at Bend VFW on June 11th, here are a few highlights:

Our guest speaker, **Mikayla Bivona**, Acting Prineville Assistant Wildlife Biologist for ODFW, presented on data collected by Central Oregon ODFW staff in 2024 regarding wildlife call responses in the Deschutes and Ochoco districts. Overall, the Bend and Prineville offices responded to over 120 wildlife calls in 2024, roughly 80% of which involved deer. The leading report categories were "entanglement/attached item" at 31%, "Vehicle Collision" at 17%, and "Fence Injuries" at 12%. Overall, about 47% of the calls resulted in euthanasia, 29% release, 12% dead upon arrival, and 12% no action taken. The presentation focused on the prevention of these issues and how we can be more aware of the hazards our yards face. For example: don't feed the deer and elk since that is not their natural diet (this includes no grain from the feed store even if it's labeled for deer); clean up your yard of dangers such as hammocks, fencing, volleyball & badminton nets, etc.

See page 3 for the flyer on the Porcupine Project. Here is Mikayla's explanation:

ODFW will be conducting a porcupine research project in the Deschutes Watershed. Anecdotal evidence shows that porcupine populations are declining across the western United States. In Oregon, they are listed as an unprotected mammal, but they will be added to the list of Species of Greatest Information Need in 2025. There is currently minimal research published in Oregon regarding porcupines on our landscape. We're currently working to gather public

reports and confirm porcupine presence throughout the study area. Moving forward, we will be capturing and radio-collaring porcupines. The data generated will provide information on home range size, seasonal movements, mortality sources, den locations, and general habitat preferences.

Kevin Borst gave a recap of the Youth and Family Outdoor Day. (you probably already saw this in last month's newsletter) We had over 50 volunteers, including a dozen cadets from the Oregon Youth Challenge Program. There were about 130 attendees (only 4 families were no shows). **Brooke Snavelly** from Central Oregon Daily (KOHD) was kind enough to come and cover our event. (Thank you!) His segment The Great Outdoors recently aired. If you missed it, you can find it on the Central Oregon Daily website, in the weekly features section. It first aired June 25, 2025 and is titled: Families bond over bows, birdhouses and bass at Oregon Hunters Assn. Youth & Family Day

The Archery 3D Shoot at the La Pine Archery Park is scheduled for August 2nd. There will also be a mini ORPIC since the event at the fairgrounds was cancelled this Spring. A sign-up sheet was at the June meeting for anyone who is available to help "man" the Bend Chapter booth and/or help with set-up and take-down of the event. If you want to help, sign-up at the July meeting or talk to Don Clark.

Mountain View Trap Team submitted a request for our continued support. Rex announced that the board approved \$3500. (see page 10 for the results of the teams recent competition)

Bill Beckley's memorial is July 19th, 2:00, at Bend Golf Club

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.*

WANTED ALIVE: PORCUPINES

and their locations



Photo by teleported (iNaturalist)

ODFW is conducting a research project regarding porcupines in the Deschutes Watershed. Public reports will help us locate individuals to study!

Size:

About 2-3 feet in length, 10-30 pounds

Identifying Markings:

Soft guard hairs, sharp quills; rodent face

Coloration: brown, blonde, or black

Habitat:

Usually found in trees or rocks. Occasionally found wandering in the open



Photo by chelsie9473 (iNaturalist)



REPORT SIGHTINGS TO:

Mikayla Bivona at ODFW: 541-591-1629 or fill out the survey using the QR code →



We are also accepting reports of dead or roadkill porcupines.

Study area runs from The Dalles to south of Gilchrist, and includes areas as far east as Hampton and Supplee



Photo by jnelson (iNaturalist)



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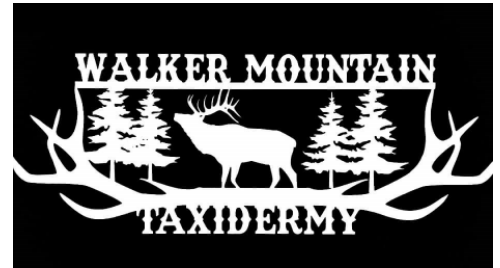
Each month, the link to the digital newsletter will arrive in your email inbox, as well as appear on our website: oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter Bob Buddenbohn sends the digital newsletter and his monthly announcements from his new email address: oha.budd@gmail.com By drastically cutting the number of newsletters that are printed and mailed, the Bend Chapter is saving about \$10,000-\$11,000 per year. 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 You can also turn to page 4 to learn how to update your info. Thanks for your help!



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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.

September Sight-In Clinics are on the Calendar

By Gary Lewis

Every September for as far back as I can remember, we host a sight-in clinic before deer and elk seasons. The event is open to the public and both COSSA members and non-members are welcome. There is usually a nominal fee. But the advice and the insight provided by COSSA volunteers is hard to put a price on.

Every year, I plan around the sight-in clinics. I attend some years to get help and other years to lend a hand. Last September I volunteered to help at the clinic and the first person to show up with his rifle was a 4-tour veteran of the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts.

We talked about his rifle, a 300 Winchester Magnum and discussed his upcoming elk hunt in Wyoming. We determined what ammunition he would use and the advertised drop at 200, 300, 400 yards and beyond. After a couple of shots at 25 yards, we found the point of impact and he began to build a group at 100 yards. It was a matter of a few minutes to zero the rifle and then, because we were on COSSA's 200-yard range, we were able to engage steel targets out to 500 yards.

I talked to the hunter at an event last month and he showed me a picture of a great Wyoming bull elk that he had tagged on that hunt last October. As it turned out, that session at the range helped him a lot, both on what rifle and load to bring, as well as how to employ the rifle and the optic at long range.

Be watching the calendar. COSSA will offer 4 days of sight-in clinics in September. It's a public service that you can tell your friends about. Bring hunting companions and young hunters or old hunters. It's a great time where a little personalized advice and personal attention can make all the difference on October and November deer and elk hunts.

The 2025 sight-in dates are:
Sept 13 & 14 and 20 & 21

Special events are being planned,
So stay tuned for more info
next month



Spread the word: have the kids in your life complete a Hunter Education class this Summer so they can attend the OHA Bend Chapter's Youth Upland Bird Hunt in October. Check out the ODFW website for details about the online course and upcoming field days.

The registration for our 22nd annual Youth Upland Bird Hunt begins the day after Labor Day at the Bend ODFW office. It is only \$10 and includes sporting clays before the hunt, 5 birds per hunter, a guide and dog, along with lunch! Hunter Ed cards are required.

We look forward to seeing you and your youth hunter at the OHA Bend Chapter's Youth Upland Bird Hunt on October 18th. Contact Kevin Borst for more details on this popular event 541.480.7323

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 **Carlie Holm** (interim)
 At-Large (Media) **Bob Buddenbohn** (817) 470-7018
 At-Large (Youth Events) **Kevin Borst** (541) 480-7323
 At Large (Outreach Coord.) **position available**
 Project Coordinator **Don Clark** (702) 460-3653
 Volunteer hrs. manager **Don Clark, Bill Littlefield**
 Banquet Chair **position available**
 Assistants to banquet coordinator: positions available
 Past President resigned

Website:

oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter

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CALENDAR

Check our website for Bend OHA event dates and more details

July 4	Happy Independence Day
July 9	Monthly Chapter Meeting, 6:00 PM
July 19	Bill Beckley Memorial at Bend Golf Club 2:00 PM
July 25	*Deadline to submit items for August newsletter*
July 30	Board meeting, 6:00 PM
August 1	Fall bear season opens
August 2	Archery 3D Shoot & mini ORPIC, LaPine Archery Park
August 13	Monthly Chapter Meeting
Sept 2	Youth Bird Hunt reg at Bend ODFW office begins
Sept 13 & 14, 20 & 21	Sight-in clinics at COSSA

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 TAG DEADLINES, HUNT END DATES, & EVENTS ACROSS OUR STATE

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Stay Informed

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oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter
and find the publications link to
read past issues of The Tracker.
We ran out of room to include
the Tracker in this newsletter, so
watch for it to also
appear on that link.

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It pays to attend our monthly chapter meeting:

Congratulations to **Troy Boyd** for winning the door prize at our June meeting.

Enjoy your \$25 Bi-Mart gift card!

Terry Jones of Bend drew for the June monthly membership prize (\$500 reimbursement towards any outdoor/hunting item) but was not present to win.



Please help us to
personalize this
informative newsletter:

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successful hunts, wildlife
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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!

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

August 2: Bowhunter warm-up/mini ORPIC
4th Saturday in September: National Public Lands Day
Oct 18: Bend Chapter Youth Upland Bird Hunt

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:

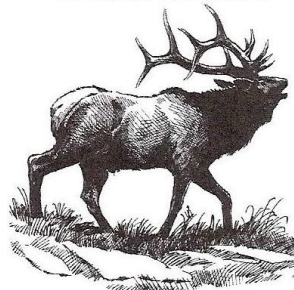
[Oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter](https://oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter)

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!



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MVHS Trap Team Update

Kim Hurt gave us an update on the Mountain View Trap Team's Spring Season:

We had 60 athletes on the team this spring making us the largest youth shooting team in Oregon. Our finished clubhouse has been great to have this season to keep us dry, warm, and even on some days, cool.



Despite having some clay target quality issues the team worked hard and finished their conference in 2nd place. We had 4 athletes finish in the top 50 in the state. **Taylor Goodrich** finished the conference season placing 2nd place varsity female and **Cole Hurt** finished in 2nd place varsity male. Lots of personal records reached and broken during the season which makes us so proud. We traveled to Hillsboro, Oregon to compete in the state tournament at the end of June, taking 4th in the varsity category and 2nd in JV. **Rylee Hurt** took home 1st place top female in JV. Everyone worked hard and did a great job! The state tournament

will be held locally at the Bend Trap Club next year.

We will be busy over the summer painting the clubhouse, weed control on the trap range, and attending additional trap shoots around the state. Everyone is looking forward to working hard over the next year and earning our state championship!

Thank you!!!



WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS

From **Bill Ham**:

Left: This is the second year the split ear doe has had a fawn in our meadow. Last year she gave us twins. Her mom had triplets and we watched her give birth in 2022.

With no live stock, the deer seem to like our place.

Right: An evening visit by two handsome bucks.



Wendy pulled this shot from Bill's video. The darling fawn jumped when it heard a rooster crow. The doe waited patiently for her little one to finish exploring and catch up.





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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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