

OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

BEND CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

November 2025



NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

Wednesday, November 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.
- ◆ Youth Upland Bird Hunt recap
- ◆ MVHS Trap Club update
- ◆ 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, **Eric Brown**,
for the header photo.
Enjoying elk chili and
sharing hunt stories
in the lunch area
at the Bend Chapter's Youth
Upland Bird Hunt. See page 3
for recap and more photos

President's Message

Hello to all our members of the Bend Chapter of the Oregon Hunters Association.
Our Mission: Protecting Oregon's Wildlife, Habitat, & Hunting Heritage

As of October 21, our total membership was at 512. Welcome to our newest member **Gary Day** from Gilchrist. Thanks for joining and we hope to see you at an upcoming meeting, on a project or any of our other activities soon. Unfortunately we had 9 who let their memberships lapse as of the end of September. Remember to check your membership expiration date that's on the address label of your Oregon Hunter magazine.

The weather looks to finally be taking that turn toward the cooler nights with morning frosts. If you're like me, you'll miss the longer days with their warm evenings, possibly not for the same reasons.

Our habitat project season has come to an end as well. Now comes the hard part. Our upcoming 33rd Annual Mule Deer Classic Banquet and Fundraiser.

Yes, it's that time of year again. Time for our members and friends to start looking ahead to our annual fund raiser. This year's banquet will again be held at the Bend Riverhouse on the Deschutes, on March 14th. We need to get our Banquet Committee Meetings started so we can get out to our donors and get those requests for their continued support. Our first meeting will be held at Abby's Pizza on 3rd street in the back room as we have in the past. The date for that first one will be November 19th, at 6:00 PM, that's the Wednesday following our regular November chapter meeting. Things may look a little different this year. We're always looking for more members to assist. If you think you can come and help out, be sure to get that date on your calendars.

A buck and pole fencing project for the weekend of June 6 and 7 in 2026 on the Elkhorn Wildlife Area is coming. More information will be available as it moves through the planning stages. Keep that weekend open if you are interested in helping out.

Stay safe. Hope to see you out there.

Rex E Parks Sr

Bend Chapter President
Oregon Hunters Association

UPCOMING NOVEMBER MEETING INFO:

We look forward to seeing YOU at our next monthly chapter meeting on **Wednesday November 12th**. 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 November guest speaker will be **Larry Ashton**, Wildlife Biologist with the BLM Deschutes Field Office. He'll discuss Wildland Urban Interface fuels reduction while balancing wildlife needs.

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

October Meeting Recap

In case you were unable to attend our monthly meeting at Bend VFW on Oct.8th, here are a few highlights:

Our guest speaker was **Mark Labhart**, who is one of 7 ODFW commissioners. The commissioners are from across the state. They are recommended by the governor and appointed by the legislature. They can serve up to two 4-year terms. Mark has been on the commission for 6 years. The commission meets monthly (except for November) all around the state. They listen to all sides of the story. If you would like to share your input on any issue or concern regarding fish and wildlife, here is Mark's contact info:

503-801-1704; marklabhart@gmail.com

The 1% for Wildlife bill will be re-introduced at the February session. This would increase the transient lodging tax in Oregon (ours is currently the lowest in the nation) and the funds would be managed by ODFW. These funds would cover a variety of needs such as anti poaching, wolf management (dept of agriculture reimburses if livestock is killed by wolves), conservation & recreation (trail access & BDA's), wildlife issues (including crossing structures)



Mark Labhart (left)
presenting the
Dave Lisha Award
to Bend Chapter
President
Rex Parks, Sr.

The Bend Chapter was honored in August with what Mark calls the most outstanding award that the commission presents: The Dave Lisha Award. We were mostly recognized for the maintenance of the wildlife fencing along Hwy 97 and the input/support for the new wildlife crossing structures. (I apologize, but I did not receive a copy of his presentation "speech" or the list of names that he announced, before this newsletter went to the printshop)

Mark distributed this article from the ODFW website, explaining the new changes to the 2026 Mule Deer hunt units:

myodfw.com/articles/eastern-oregon-deer-hunts

Rex, our chapter president, announced that he completed the letter to the OHA State Board Chairman, with the concerns and suggestions that we generated at the September meeting regarding the hiring of an Executive Director at the state OHA office. Thanks to everyone for your input.

Monty Gregg announced that next year's All Hands, All Brands will most likely be fire recovery work, such as rebuilding guzzlers and will probably *not* include BDA's (Beaver Dam Analog)

Reminder: We have positions available for you to join the board, let your voice be heard, and help this chapter to remain strong. We also have non-board banquet committee positions open. Come join the fun.

IT IS TIME GATHER DONATIONS FOR THE 2026 BANQUET! THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!

Please share your suggestions for future guest speakers with **Rex**. Perhaps it could even be you.

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.*

Wayne Elliott Memorial Youth Upland Bird Hunt

Thanks to Eric Brown for the following summary.
Thanks to Chris Ricci & Eric Brown for the photos.

Another great event with youth put on yesterday by your Bend OHA Chapter.



Arriving youth first received a thorough safety briefing then shot clay pigeons for a warmup off three different trap throwers. There were three fields for hunters with each field having a guide, hunting dog and safety officer. Two hunters were placed per field for an hour at which time they then went to the cleaning station where they were given assistance by Troy Boyd.



After that they were treated to BBQ burgers, Elk Chili and lots of Wendy Borst's baked goodies. (see header photo on front pg) There were a lot of smiling faces after the hunt. Once again, this event could never take place without the numerous volunteers.

(more youth bird hunt photos on pgs 5 & 9)

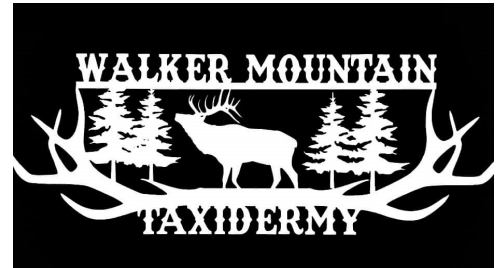


End of the Year Membership Drive:

Now that the gift-giving season is upon us, who might you gift with an OHA membership? A regular annual membership is \$35. For only \$15 more, you can have the gun calendar membership (\$50 per year), with weekly drawings to win a gun (52 guns will be given away again in 2026!) Thanks for your help in growing OHA's membership and giving the organization a bigger voice. Contact John Bambe 541-480-9848



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Send photos to:
wenb.oha@outlook.com

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.

SUCCESS IN THE FIELD!



Jaret Lorimor (right) led his friend **Ruben** into his first buck: a nice 5 x 5

A beautiful end to a successful Klamath County buck hunt. **Lori Miller**, with NWTF, volunteered at All Hands, All Brands; is a Bend Chapter Member; and is the lead Hunter Ed instructor for Klamath County. Hunter Ed instructors **Kevin Borst & Kalvin Schneider** traveled to Klamath Falls twice this summer to assist her team with their HE field days.

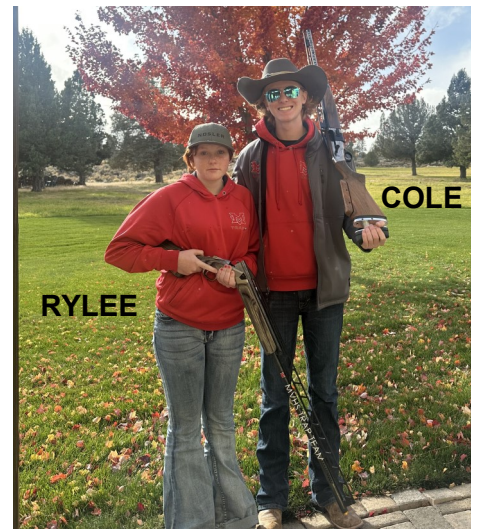


MVHS Trap Team Update:

Thanks to **Kim Hurt** for report & photos: Just an update on how our fall season went. It was a great season with the team finishing in 1st place in our conference. **Cole Hurt** taking 1st in state & **Brady Hadfield** taking 2nd place in state. The team took 6 spots in the top 50 of state competitors. **Rylee Hurt** took 1st place in conference female & #46 in state. The team worked hard this season and it really showed. We are very proud of their improving skills and their positive attitudes. They always show up to practice with smiles on their faces. Some highlights of our season were getting our clubhouse painted, the OHA bird hunt, and our last fun day playing Annie Oakley. Looking forward to a spring season where we will prepare to compete at the state tournament being held locally at the Bend Trap Club on June 27th & 28th.



After 32 hours of driving, on the end of his first day hunting, **Doug Stout's** brother **Mark** harvested this magnificent nontypical white tail in Kansas!



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) **position available**
 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

November 2	Daylight Saving ends
Nov 4	Election Day
Nov 8	W Cascade & 2nd Rocky Mtn elk seasons open
Nov 11	Veterans Day (thank you for your service!)
Nov 12	Monthly Chapter Meeting, 6:00 PM Bend VFW
Nov 15, 22	check OHA calendar: Coast elk & late deer bow seasons
Nov 19	Banquet planning meeting 6:00 pm Abby's Pizza
Nov 21	*Deadline to submit items for December newsletter*
Nov 26	Monthly Board Meeting (? Date might change)
Nov 27	Thanksgiving
December 10	Monthly Chapter Meeting

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

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Right: Check out those goggles!
Mike List's Chesapeake Bay Retriever, Buddy, on a duck retrieve in October. Mike will be our December speaker, sharing info on his patent pending water soluble shotshell wads

Below: Kimber, **Kevin Borst's** silver lab, keeping an eye on her chukar



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It pays to attend our monthly chapter meeting:

Congratulations to **John Bambe** for winning the door prize at our October meeting.

Enjoy your \$25 Bi-Mart gift card!

Louis Zettel of La Pine drew for the Oct. monthly membership prize (\$500 reimbursement towards any outdoor/hunting item) but was not present to win.



Please help us to
personalize this
informative newsletter:

*Requesting photos of your
successful hunts, wildlife
in your yard or on your
hike, your huntin' buddy
(bird dog)*

Send photos to:
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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!

Wayne Elliott Memorial Youth Upland Bird Hunt, cont'd



Young Baker and Jaxon, planning their first bird hunt. That banner kept them entertained for quite some time.

Thanks to
Eric Svendsen
for the photo

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:

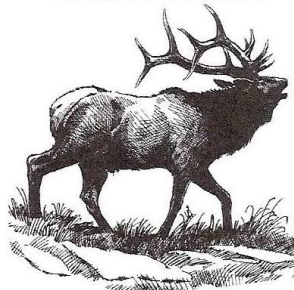
[Oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter](https://oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter)

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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OHA women from across the state gathered in Prineville Oct. 18-19 for a weekend of fun, food, and chukar hunting.

Women of OHA enjoy 2nd annual weekend away

By Amy Patrick, OHA Policy Director
Amy@oregonhunters.org

The second annual Women of OHA Weekend Away event Oct. 18-19 proved to be a big hit, as women from across the state gathered in Prineville for a weekend of fun, food, and chukar hunting.

This year 24 women participated in the chukar hunt portion of the weekend, which was put on with assistance from the Bend OHA Chapter. The evening prior to the hunt, the ladies gathered in Prineville for a catered meal, social event, and numerous giveaways donated by OHA chapters. One lucky participant won a Citadel 1911 .380 series pistol donated by Legacy Sports International.

This is the second year of the Women of OHA program and its annual Weekend Away event, which was supported by donations from OHA's Mid-Willamette, Umpqua, Tualatin Valley and Pioneer chapters, Legacy Sports International, and a grant from the Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's Outdoor Fund. The Bend OHA Chapter supported the event by donating their hunt location, volunteers, and expertise.

Planning has already begun for the 2026 event, which will be held next October. Subscribe to the Women of OHA newsletter for more information and to receive notices of event registration:

<https://oregonhunters.org/hunting/women-of-oha>

OHA weighs in on Minam area plans

By Mike Totey, Conservation Director
mtotey@oregonhunters.org



The Minam River Wildlife Area (MRWA) is one of the newest and biggest state wildlife areas in Oregon. ODFW, RMEF and OHA all supported the acquisition of the property (OHA contributed \$100,000). The area hosts many game species, access to the Minam River, and a variety of publicly available outdoor recreation activities.

ODFW has drafted a management plan for the area. The purpose of the plan is to share the goals and vision for the MRWA, document current condition of the MRWA, identify management needs, discuss management actions

(like timber harvest and grazing) and set the groundwork for public use. ODFW hosted a public meeting to introduce the draft management plan, then followed up with a specific meeting for OHA staff and board representatives. OHA offered several suggestions on everything from management, to funding, to hunting access.

Key questions still remain, such as how camping will be allowed, and areas for seasonal closures to protect wintering big game. OHA looks forward to continuing our partnership on the MRWA and contributing on future projects. See the draft management plan on the ODFW website:

<https://tinyurl.com/47m6wbh5>

Safe crossing projects shift into high gear

By Mike Totey, Conservation Director
mtotey@oregonhunters.org



OHA has been working across the state to address critical areas with a high density of wildlife/vehicle collisions. Work has been completed on Highway 97 at Gilchrist (where OHA invested over \$100,000), and projects are planned on the southern portion of Interstate 5, Highway 20 between Suttle Lake and Bend, and Highway 20 east of Juntura.

In northeast Oregon, two different highways are in need of work to safely get wildlife, specifically deer and elk, across busy highways. The first is Highway 82 in Wallowa County, between Wallowa and Enterprise, where way too many white-tailed and mule deer are struck

by vehicles every year. The second is Interstate 84 between Pendleton and La Grande. While elk and deer collisions are clearly a concern on the roadway here, GPS wildlife tracking has shown this interstate to be a barrier to migrational movement. Addressing this barrier will be a key factor to connect habitat, protect seasonal movement corridors, promote healthy elk and deer populations, and improve safety for motorists on this stretch of the interstate.

All of this work takes a tremendous amount of planning, time and funding to complete a project. In the end, wildlife collisions are decreased by over 85 percent, habitat stays connected, and travelers are safer.

TO DONATE TO OHA'S WILDLIFE FUND, VISIT [HTTPS://OREGONHUNTERS.ORG/DONATE](https://oregonhunters.org/donate)

OHA invites Vets to waterfowl hunt on Jan. 31

OHA, ODFW and OHA Citizen Landowner of the Year David Sill will host waterfowl hunts for veterans and active military personnel on Jan. 31 at Sill's waterfowl hunting property on the Tualatin River. The ODFW Duck Hunting Workshop at the Gervais Rod and Gun Club on Jan. 26 is required for selected participants, and a copy of their military ID or DD214 form (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) will be required when applying.

Six parties of two hunters each will be paired with an experienced mentor.

Experienced dogs are welcome (with the required dog license and vaccinations). Shotguns, ammo, waders and decoys are provided, or hunters may bring their own.

Hunters should provide their own food, drinks and the required hunting license and waterfowl stamps.

Applications will open at 7 p.m. on Dec. 1 and close when 12 qualifying applications have been received. Contact OHA State Board member Kelly Forney at w.kelly.forney@gmail.com

New '25 Gun Calendar winners announced

The latest winners in 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.

★ *Taurus Judge stainless .45LC*

Tyler Fagan, Capitol Chapter

★ *Howa 1500 Kryptek .223*

Trent Marsh, Hoodview Chapter

★ *Weatherby Badlands .270 Win.*

Bob Romine, Pioneer Chapter

★ *Howa 1500 carbon fiber barrel 6.5 PRC*

Joe Quashnick, Clatsop Chapter



OHA seeks 2 state board members

The OHA State Board of Directors is currently looking for two board members.

As a state board member, you will participate in monthly meetings (two in person annually, others virtual) and contribute on committees throughout the year. Meeting travel is compensated.

If you are interested in serving as an OHA State Board member, please contact OHA Vice President Cindy Rooney (cindyrooneyoha@outlook.com) for the application and nomination forms.

Please submit your application prior to Dec. 1, 2025. Terms begin Jan. 1 and run for three years.

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Drawing: 3pm 4/1/26, OHA Office,
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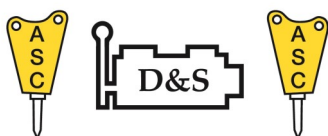
<https://oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter>

And our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/OHABend>



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