

NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

Wednesday, December 10th

* 6:00 pm *

Bend VFW

(come early if you want to purchase dinner)

PLEASE CARPOOL

Bring cash for the raffle (proceeds benefit local charity)

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.
- Mule Deer Classic Banquet (pg 3)
- Your Chapter at Work
- 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. Turn to page 5 for more details on the fence repair. **Bill Littlefield** and **Greg Petsch** are in the photo above, winching a post

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 November 21, we had a total membership of 515. We have four new members to our Bend Chapter. From Prineville, welcome **Justin Latham**. From Bend, please welcome **Sam Sobotta**, the **Jeff Amaral Family**, and **Jared Myers and Family**. Thank you all for joining and we hope to see you at any of our upcoming meetings, on a project or any of our other activities soon. Again this month we have some members that have let their membership slip by and not renewed. Remember to check your expiration date that's on the address label of your Oregon Hunter magazine if you don't want to let your membership lapse.

Our December meeting promises to be a good one. Our speaker will be **Mike List** from Oregon Shotshells. Mike has applied for and received a provisional patent on a water soluble shotshell wad. Come to our December meeting and see what he has to tell us about them.

Since the December meeting is the last one of the year, we'll be having three drawings that night. The first one will be from the full membership as always. That's followed by the door prize drawing. After that is when we'll take all those door prize tickets from all the meetings from this year that you've been writing your name on and add them into our tumbler. We'll draw a ticket until we get one that has the member on it that is present at this meeting to win the \$500 reimbursement for outdoor related items. It could be the first one drawn, it could be the 15th. It works just like the drawing from the full membership that we do at each meeting, the member drawn has to be present to win.

We have started our Mule Deer Classic Banquet Committee meetings. If you missed our November 19th meeting and would like to be a part of this committee, you can join us for our next meeting on December 17th at 6:00 PM in the back room of the Abby's Pizza on 3rd Street in Bend. If you aren't sure how you can help, come to the meeting to hear what this committee does first hand and see how your assistance will be appreciated. The banquet will be here before you know it. Just 3 months away now.

Since it's December, that also means you need to be sure and purchase

your new hunting license for 2026 by the end of the month if you plan to be out hunting on January 1st.

Stay safe. Hope to see you out there.

Rex E Parks Sr

Bend Chapter President

Oregon Hunters Association

UPCOMING DECEMBER MEETING INFO:

We look forward to seeing YOU at our next monthly chapter meeting on Wednesday December 10th. 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 PLEASE CARPOOL

All the door prize tickets from the whole year will be combined in a drawing for \$500 reimbursement for any outdoor item purchase. Tickets will be drawn until we have a winner

GUEST SPEAKER:

Our December guest speaker will be **Mike List**, with Ochoco Shotshells. He has a provisional patent for a water soluble shotshell wad.

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

November Meeting Recap

In case you were unable to attend our monthly meeting at Bend VFW on Nov.12th, here are a <u>few</u> highlights:

For those of us who weren't out on an elk hunt adventure, guest speaker **Gary Lewis** shared his insights on how to maximize your hunting time. It's always a treat to get a visit from Gary. His enthusiasm for hunting, helping others and life itself is so contagious. Gary is a prolific writer. He has published 17 books, including Bob Nosler's life story, "Born Ballistic." He has written articles for numerous publications including the Oregon Hunter magazine and The Bend Bulletin. He is also the host of the tv show Frontier Unlimited. Check out his website for more info: garylewisoutdoors.com

His presentation was filled with stories and good advice. If you don't draw a big game tag, there are still numerous ways for you to enjoy the season: be the camp cook instead of staying home; go bird hunting; teach someone to shoot, make a new hunter, and assist them on their hunt. Investing in others is not only rewarding for you, it can also be life changing for them. If you'd like to try hunting outside of Oregon, Gary has many recommendations. East of the Mississippi, tags are cheaper, you purchase them over the counter, and there are more deer. You can hunt pigs in California, Texas, Florida, or Hawaii. Alaska has Sitka black-tailed deer and bear. March through October is the time to hunt in Africa. Plan a New Zealand hunting trip in March through early July. With Gary's strategies, you can practically hunt year-round.

See page 9 for more advice from Gary

Since **Kevin Borst** was on an elk hunt, Wendy gave a report on the Bend Chapter's Youth Upland Bird Hunt. There were 27 young hunters who registered. The youngest was 10 years old and the oldest was 17. We had at least 27 volunteers that day.

Since several of our chapter's members have experience in the construction of buck and pole fencing, Rex was consulted as to which weekend would work best for the Ellkhorn Wildlife Area Buck and Pole Fence Project. It is schedules for June 6-7, 2026

After considering the views from chapters across the state, the OHA State Board voted to reduce the increase in % from each chapter's banquet proceeds. Now each chapter will turn over 40% instead of 45% to the OHA state office.

The Bend Chapter board voted to buy trail cameras for OSP to assist Officer James Hayes in La Pine.

The last chance to buy the gun raffle membership is the Dec 10th meeting. Buy a gift for someone or renew your own.

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.



COMING SOON: The Bend Chapter's Mule Deer Classic Fundraiser Banquet

MULE DEER CLASSIC 2025

The Bend Chapter of the Oregon Hunters Association announces its "34th annual Mule Deer Classic"

The banquet/fundraiser will be held at the Bend Riverhouse Convention Center March 14, 2026

This is the main fundraiser for the year and it enables us to fund chapter habitat projects, scholarships, youth programs & more.

You can help make it a success with a donation or

by **volunteering** at the banquet!

If you have been looking to get involved in chapter activities, this is a fun and meaningful way to contribute.

Watch for the registration form and more details coming soon in an email, a separate mailing, or on our website:

oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter

You don't want to miss this worthwhile and fun event!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!

Pricing is the same as last year.

The statewide A & H Elk Tag call-in raffle will be at our 2026 banquet.

Banquet planning meetings are 6:00pm at Abby's Pizza on Dec 17 & Jan7 Thank you to everyone who gets involved

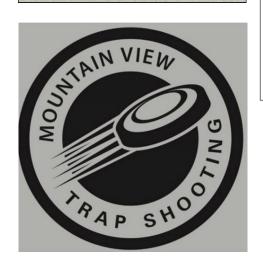
Bill Littlefield & Cristi Ouelette will be the Co-Chairs of the 2026 banquet Thank you both for your dedication

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







Send photos to: wenb.oha@outlook.com



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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.

Your Chapter at Work

Enhancing Habitat Protecting Our Hunting Heritage



Pictured is **Darren Bean**. Helping him is **Mark Crisp** but no pic of Mark.

A couple of Bend OHA volunteers from the Gilchrist area made repairs on the wildlife fence yesterday that is just north of Gilchrist. Today (Nov 12) they went out and did some service on a guzzler where they removed the top of the tank in order to clean the interior. They shovel a lot of muck out of the tank which builds up over time from the water/dirt run off on the apron to the tank. Likely the only place this is done.

Thank you to our dedicated volunteers. Thank you to **Eric Brown** for the reports on this pg.

On Saturday November 29 I was advised by Warren Nelson, ODOT, that elk had gone through the fence North of Vandevert road causing damage. I drove to the site and inspected the damage and then coordinated with Warren for me to enter the Bend ODOT yard later in the day to pick up T Posts. I acquired 9 posts and will keep them at my house and use them when needed.

On Tuesday December 2 three Bend OHA volunteers made repairs at 4 different locations along the fence that ODOT had flagged for us. Two of the locations damage was caused by elk and one site had a tree that fell onto the wire. Two T Posts were replaced and we will attempt to bend the two damaged ones back into a usable condition.

Photo on front cover: This section is just south of the southern most underpass. Several T Posts along with 1 pipe had to be winched back into place. One T post was replaced at this site. **Bill Littlefield** and **Greg Petcsh** are in the photo



Greg Petsch and **Eric Brown** inspect the section where the tree went over the fence in order to make a plan for repair

On December 3 **Roger Points** and **Eric Brown** patrolled the fenceline doing additional repair work. The previous day I believe ODOT cut two trees off the fenceline at different locations and flagged those spots. Today we removed the rest of the trees from our side of the fence and made repairs.

By far a majority of our fence repairs are due to trees falling over the wire. Next year we need to do some brush thinning which is on the trail/road that we patrol on. There are places where the brush is making it dangerous for us to pass through. Today a large was struck doing some damage to the SxS steering arm. This trail is the only real way we have to patrol and repair the fence safely.

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

John Bambe Treasurer (541) 480-9848

Secretary Carlie Holm (interim)

At-Large (Media) position available

At-Large (Youth Events) Kevin Borst (541) 480-7323

At Large (Outreach Coor.) position available

Project Coordinator Don Clark (702) 460-3653

Volunteer hrs. manager Don Clark, Bill Littlefield **Banquet Co-Chairs** Bill Littlefield, Cristi Ouelette

Assistants to banquet coordinator: positions available

Past President resigned

Website:

oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter











CALENDAR

Check our website for Bend OHA event dates and more details

December 1 Bobcat season opens

Dec 10 Monthly Chapter Meeting, 6:00 PM Bend VFW

Dec 15 Happy Hanukkah

Dec 17 Banquet planning meeting 6:00 pm Abby's Pizza

Dec 21 *Deadline to submit items for December newsletter*

Dec 24, 25 Christmas Eve; Merry Christmas

Dec? Monthly Board Meeting (? Not yet scheduled)

Dec 31 pheasant, cougar, and bear end; New Year's Eve

January 1, 2026 Happy New Year

Banquet planning meeting Jan 7

Jan 14 Monthly Chapter Meeting

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





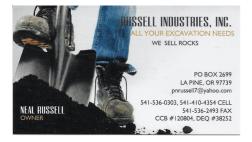


FENCE CENTER



Send photos to: wenb.oha@outlook.com









SUCCESS IN THE FIELD!



Ted Danigelis with his first elk. His perseverance has paid off after 6 seasons.













It pays to attend our monthly chapter meeting:

Congratulations to **Greg Petsch** for winning the door prize at our November meeting. Enjoy your \$25 Sportsmans gift card!

Eric Brown of Bend drew for the Nov. monthly membership prize (\$500 reimbursement towards any outdoor/hunting item) and he was 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: wenb.oha@outlook.com

















TROPHY PRICE LIST

debbie@nbsafaris.com www.nbsafaris.com +27 82 962 2183

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!

November Meeting Continued

Here is more info from Gary Lewis' presentation:

Find areas where there is no parking and figure out how to access it (rather than just parking at the end of the road, which everyone does)

Consider: where is the water, feed, high spots; where is the animal bedding, what is he watching, what does he want to smell

Approach the hunt with a scientific method; begin scouting from your kitchen counter, mark up your maps; when scouting in the field, journal & GPS animal sightings and other data; be prepared to go from observation mode to predator mode at a moment's notice. ETC











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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.



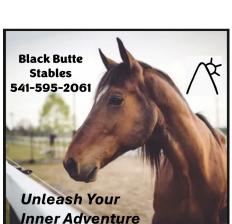
https://forms.gle/Bghi5dBzor8t8Cbj8

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

Oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter

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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Hunters get CWD test results faster

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

OHA's diligent work in the Capitol has produced important results for Oregon's hunting community yet again. This fall, the Oregon Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (OVDL) at Oregon State University began testing deer samples collected in Oregon for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), with elk samples to be online soon.

In 2023, OHA worked with Oregon legislators to author the original funding bill to establish in-state testing at the OVDL. It took two sessions of work to finally pass the bill in 2024 and allocate \$2.7 million in state funds toward monitoring and testing for CWD. Of that funding, \$1.9 million went to the OVDL for personnel, training, and equipment to set up their laboratory for CWD testing; the remaining funds were directed to ODFW for sample collection and monitoring efforts.

With in-state testing at the OVDL, hunters no longer must wait 7-8 weeks for results, as was previously the case when samples were sent to Colorado State University. Now, the OVDL has the capacity to turn around results within a week of receiving the samples. The speed of the results not only benefits the hunting community but also allows for a much faster response time from ODFW, should a positive sample be found.

OHA will continue to advocate for funds to maintain and expand the OVDL's capacity to assist the hunting community and to ensure our wildlife populations remain healthy.

OHA hires Executive Director

Dr. Todd Adkins will bring experience from Sportsmen's Alliance, NRA to work for OHA

The Oregon Hunters Association Board of Directors has approved the hiring of Dr. Todd Adkins as OHA's new Executive Director, effective immediately. After an extensive national search and comprehensive evaluation process, Dr. Adkins emerged as the exceptional

candidate our organization needs during this critical period of transformation and growth. His track record in strategic leadership, fundraising excellence, stakeholder Dr. Todd Adkins management, and



conservation advocacy makes him ideally suited to lead OHA into the future.

"Throughout the search process, Dr. Adkins kept rising to the top of our candidate pool," said Fred Walasavage, OHA's Chairman of the Board of Directors. "He has a unique combination of training, experience, and dedication that make this a very exciting time at OHA, especially when we look to the future and how this key hire will prove vital to our continued growth."

Dr. Adkins brings an impressive combination of academic credentials and practical executive leadership experience, including a PhD from the University of Notre Dame and a law degree from the University of Iowa. Together with his nearly 30 years of work on behalf of hunting and conservation for organizations large and small, he is ideally suited to lead OHA at this pivotal time.

Most recently, Dr. Adkins was Senior Vice President of Sportsmen's Alliance, where he oversaw a major expansion of staff and resources dedicated to protecting hunting (and hunters) in every corner of the country. He is also a former Managing Director of State & Local Affairs for the National Rifle Association's Institute of Legislative Action (NRA-ILA), overseeing 25 staff members and an eight-figure budget. Throughout his career, Dr. Adkins has led significant organizational change, but always with an eye on improving member service, satisfaction, and solidarity.

Dr. Adkins is a life-long hunter and angler, was a hunting guide on Maryland's Eastern Shore for several years and spends all of his free time in the outdoors. His decision to dedicate his life to hunting and conservation has been a guiding polestar throughout his professional life.

"I wake up every day thinking about how to protect hunters and our amazing conservation legacy, so I am honored by the Board's decision to appoint me as OHA's executive director," Adkins said. "We have a fantastic opportunity before us, and working with OHA members throughout the state, we will get there, of this I have no doubt."

Dr. Adkins will be reaching out to chapter leaders and other members in December to introduce himself personally and learn about OHA's chapters, challenges, and aspirations. We ask for your partnership in welcoming him to the OHA family and supporting this important transition.

TO DONATE TO OHA'S HUNTER VICTORY FUND, VISIT HTTPS://OREGONHUNTERS.ORG/DONATE

New ODFW Commissioners confirmed

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

With the confirmed appointments to the Fish and Wildlife Commission in November, the Commission is back to full capacity after nearly a year of operating with a vacant position.

Dave Moldal and Hugh Morrison were appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate to serve as the Commissioners from the Northwest Region. They replaced Commissioner Kahlil, who stepped down in January due to moving out of state, and Commissioner King, who was not reappointed for a second term.

Latest Gun Calendar winners announced; last call for 2026!

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

The deadline to bag a 2026 calendar is Dec. 23, so don't be slow on the draw!

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

- ★ Ruger American Go Wild Bronze 7mm PRC Erik Parks, Emerald Valley Chapter
- ★ Stoeger M3000 2023 Max 7 Camo 12 gauge Jeff Vian, Pioneer Chapter
- ★ Browning A-bolt 3 Hunter Grade II .30-06 Shawn Toot, Tualatin Valley Chapter
- ★ Sig Sauer P320 M18
 Ed Netter, Pioneer Chapter



The sportsmen's community participated in the appointment process, working with the Governor's office to provide input on potential candidates. During the process, the new Commissioners met with stakeholder groups and sportsmen's organizations with none of the groups voicing concern at their appointment.

Both Moldal and Morrison have backgrounds in conservation, wildlife management, and working with private landowners. Both have experience in hunting, fishing, and the outdoors. OHA looks forward to working with them in their new capacity as Fish and Wildlife Commissioners.



ENTER TO WIN A GUIDED MAINE BEAR HUNT FOR 1 IN 2026! Lodging, Meals & Airfare from PDX to Bangor included!

Hunt over bait in Maine's backcountry for 4 weekdays in mid-September. Includes transportation to and from cabin, Big Game License & Bear Permit.

Tickets: \$20; 7 for \$100.500 offered. Value \$4,999. Drawing: April 1, 2026.

Drawing: 3pm 4/1/26, OHA Office, 301 Crater Lake Ave. #C, Medford, OR. Need not be present to win.

Call 541-772-7313 or visit oregonhunters.org/shop/#raffles

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Oregon Hunters Association Cash rewards

\$2,000 Bighorn Sheep, Mountain Goat & Moose

\$1,000 Elk, Deer & Antelope

\$600 Bear, Cougar & Wolf

\$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





Visit our website:

https://oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter

And our Facebook page:







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