Oregon Hunters Association
Mid-Willamette Chapter

Protecting Oregon's Wildlife, Habitat and Hunting Heritage.

October 2021

Membership meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month. The * indicates a membership meeting, board meetings occur monthly.

*Nov 11

Dec - no meeting

*Jan 13 2022

Feb 10 2022

*Mar 10 2022

Meetings are held at the Old Armory Building, located at 4th and Lyons in Albany.

Board meets at 6:00 p.m.

Members meet at 7:00 p.m.

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Mid-Willamette Chapter Oregon Hunters Association.

Check out our website:

ohamidwillamette.webs. com

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Words from The President

Hunting seasons are in full swing, hopefully you are having success and creating memories. The January general meeting will have Greg Reed, the Adair Village district biologist speaking in regards to the recent deer and elk surveys and regulation changes. He will also discuss the new habitat division. Hope you can make it and hear what he has to say.

Jeff Mack— Willamette Chapter OHA President, training his new GWP puppy on birds.

Mid-Willamette Chapter Contributes $10,000

In the August newsletter there was an article and maps about the Minam River property acquisition. This property, which is in Wallowa County and borders Union County, is an important wildlife habitat area. OHA was asked to join other organizations to contribute to the purchase of the land with future management by ODFW. At the September meeting, members heard a presentation by Mike Totey, OHA Conservation Officer and Jennifer Ringo, ODFW Wildlife Restoration Coordinator. At the conclusion of the meeting the chapter board voted to contribute $10,000 in chapter funds towards the purchase of this important piece of land.

As a member of the chapter, you help provide support so the chapter can direct funds to improve habitat. Your dues, attendance and support at the annual fundraiser all help to give the chapter the funds to contribute to projects such as this. As a reminder the Mid-Willamette Chapter has also contributed a total of $10,000 to the Gilchrist Underpass project in 2020 and 2021. This project helps provide safe passage for migrating wildlife which will also reduce the number of animal and vehicle collisions.

Thank you, members, for your support of the OHA mission and improvements in habitat for wildlife!

Hunter Education Instructor and Support Person Recruitment

The need for hunter education classes is as critical as ever. The Covid-19 pandemic has gotten more and more people interested in outdoor activities like hunting and shooting. On top of that, roughly 3,000 students were given an exemption for completing the field day portion of their independent study course work so they could hunt in the 2020 season when many classes were cancelled or drastically reduced in size. These students are now in need of completing their field day courses and range time so that they can hunt in the 2021 season.

Hunter Education is a crucial step in the process of hunter recruitment, retention, and reactivation. For many adults and families, hunting and shooting is a new and exciting activity that they are just getting into. Hunter education is a great way to introduce these families and individuals to safe hunting and shooting activities.

If you've ever thought about becoming an instructor, now is a great time to jump in. If you enjoy working with great kids and their families, you will find hunter education to be very rewarding.

If you are not ready to lead a class or become an instructor you now have the option of volunteering as a hunter education support person. Many times, classes just need additional adults present to maintain two-deep leadership with the students. To ensure the safety of the students, instructors are not allowed to work with youth without an additional adult being present.

For more information on becoming a hunter education instructor or support person you can visit the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife website at: https://www.dfw.state.or.us/education/hunter/index.asp or call ODFW at 800-720-ODFW (6339). You can also contact Gordon Brown, OHA member, at 541-207-6793.

Students practice safely passing firearms over fences and learning how to determine what the gauge/caliber is on a gun

Foy Cochran - Local Knife Maker

Foy & Martha Cochran Selling Hand Crafted Knives

Foy Cochran, knife maker from Sweet Home sells quality hand crafted knives across Oregon and in a number of other states. Foy is an outdoor enthusiast who began hunting and fishing at the age of 12. He also made a few knives in those early years but as he says "they weren't very pretty". Fast forward several years and his knives have improved dramatically. Foy's creations are beautiful and functional outdoor knives, but he also makes a really nice looking and performing kitchen knife.

Foy and his wife Martha are a team in this business. They continue to sell at sports shows, when they can, but most business now is by word of mouth. A hunter or fisherman will see one of his knives in action and how it performs then wants one. There are also several Foy Knife collectors who want any new design that Foy creates. Martha does the paperwork part of the business, taking orders, scheduling shows and customer visits, mailing knives, and keeping numerous knife statistics.

The knives are crafted from steel, in several designs, but custom knives are also a specialty customers request. Most of Foy's knives have animal shin bone for the handle. Some customers bring their own elk or deer shin bone for Foy to use in their knife. Foy's favorite part of building a knife is selecting the perfect bone piece for the handle then finishing the knife to make it look just right. Foy has been creating and selling knives for about 50 years and sells about 90 knives per year so there are a lot of Foy Cochran knives working with hunters and fishermen.

Cochran handcrafted knife for 2022 banquet

Foy's knives are a work of art used throughout an owner's lifetime then passed on to the next generation.

If you have not had the pleasure of seeing a Foy Cochran knife, one will be on the Live Auction at the 2022 Mid-Willamette Chapter Banquet on Saturday, April 9.

70th Annual Youth Pheasant Hunt

Successful participant!

Pre-hunt safety discussion

On September 25th & 26th Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife hosted the 70th Annual E.E. Wilson Area Youth Pheasant Hunt. This event was a huge success with 77 Youth Hunters attending on Saturday and 58 on Sunday. The mornings started at 5:30 am with OHA volunteers and ODFW staff distributing 358 rooster pheasants throughout the wildlife area. At 8:00 am youth hunters arrived and after a safety talk, they spread out to find birds. Volunteer dog handlers were teamed up with youth hunters to assist in the hunting effort. After a full morning of hunting, participants were invited to return to the E.E. Wilson for a free lunch cooked by OHA volunteers while ODFW staff released additional pheasants for the afternoon hunt. When the youth were done hunting, they returned to the office to participate in a raffle where everyone received an outdoor related prize. Youth hunters also received help cleaning the birds they harvested and were provided ice to ensure that the meat could be enjoyed in a meal. In total, 128 pheasants were harvested, many more pheasants were able to escape shots fired by the novice hunters.

- Shawn Woods, E. E. Wilson Area Manager

<u>Raffle prizes were donated by:</u>

Sportsman's Warehouse – Backpacking stoves, water bottles.

Danner Boots – 5 Gift certificates for a pair of boots,

Coastal Farm & Ranch – two $75 gift certificates.

Patrick Whitaker's Game Bird Taxidermy

- 2 Certificates for a free game bird mount.

Oregon Hunter Education Instructors Association

– Hunting Supplies, Food.

<u>Partners who donated funds for additional pheasants:</u>

OHA

NAVHDA

Les Schwab Tires

Oregon Hunter Education Instructors Association

Mary's Peak Hound Club

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Save the date for fundraiser!

The Mid-Willamette Chapter 29th Annual Banquet and Auction will be on April 9, 2022. The banquet will be at the Albany Boys and Girls Club.

Most of the ticket holders from the cancelled 2020 banquet retained their tickets. These tickets and packages have been rolled into 2022. There will be a very limited number of tickets available for purchase in early 2022. The January newsletter will include an order form with the current pricing, tickets rolled over have protected pricing. If you do not have tickets and are thinking about attending, you are encouraged to respond immediately after the newsletter arrives as the limited tickets will sell out quickly.

November Chapter Meeting Features Ken McCall

Ken McCall, OHA State Board Northwest Director, will be the speaker for the November membership meeting. Ken will focus on current topics OHA is working on across the state and answer your questions on land and wildlife issues statewide.

The November Chapter Membership meeting is November 11, 7 PM at the Old Armory Building, located at the corner of 4th and Lyons Streets in Albany.

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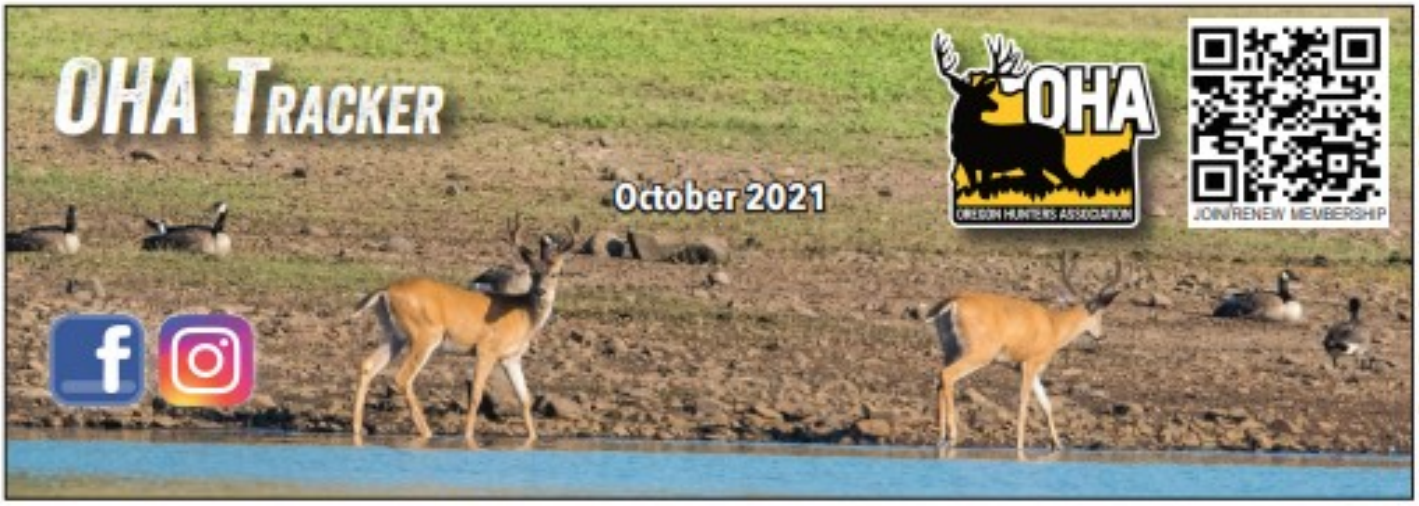
OHA



OHA battles anti-hunting petition

By Al Elkins & Amy Patrick, OHA Lobbyists
Alvinelkins@yahoo.com

The coming of fall brings forth many topics for OHA to follow as the Oregon Legislature returns with Legislative Days in September along with a one-day special session on the topic of redistricting.

The Latest on IP13, the Oregon Hunting, Trapping & Fishing Ban

In September OHA continued working with two like-minded coalitions to develop strong messaging to defeat IP13 should the proponents gather the 112,000 signatures needed by June 2022 to place it on the November 2022 ballot.

IP13 would criminalize hunting, fishing, and trapping in Oregon.

IP13 would implement a number of egregious changes to Oregon's animal abuse statutes, including criminalizing hunting, fishing, and trapping activities. It would classify many aspects of raising livestock as either animal abuse or sexual assault and turn Oregon into a no-kill, sanctuary state for animals.

OHA staff is creating a grassroots campaign aimed at keeping the initiative from reaching the ballot, and our membership will play a key role. Stay tuned; we will need your help to defeat this radical initiative.

For more information on our efforts to defeat IP13, visit the OHA website at: https://oregonhunters.org/initiative-petition-13

Just what Oregon needs – another new gun permit system, right?

Gun control petitions collecting signatures

Petitioners have begun gathering signatures on gun control initiative petitions IP17 and IP18.

IP17 imposes a new permit system to purchase a firearm and prohibits possession or use of magazines over 10 rounds.

IP18 prohibits manufacturing/possession/transferring of many semiautomatic firearms and their use on public lands.

The petitioners need to obtain 112,000 signatures by June 2022 to get their measures on the November 2022 ballot.

OHA is working closely with gun advocate groups to defeat these petitions.

Sportsmen's Caucus planning fund-raiser

The Oregon Sportsmen's Caucus, a group of legislators and lobbyists, is planning a virtual fundraiser for January of 2022. The group meets on a regular basis during legislative sessions to take positions on bills that affect hunting, fishing, and wildlife.

DONATE TO OHA'S VICTORY FUND AT
www.oregonhunters.org/donate

OHA moves camp!

After 27 years on the same corner in Medford, OHA has moved our state office – to the opposite corner of the same block. You can find us now at 301 Crater Lake Ave. Suite C in Medford.

Our other contact info stays the same.

Karma for the landlord who wanted the space for their own use and insult to injury for OHA, between the eviction notice and the move, this tree fell on the old OHA office. Probably some nice gun stocks in that walnut.

Kids Color Corner

P.O. Box 951
Albany, OR
97321

HUNTING PHOTO CONTEST

Share your hunting photos with us! The Mid-Willamette Chapter announces a photo contest for the fall hunting season. The winning photos will be in the January 2022 newsletter. Rules are simple:

Submissions to be made by members only. Photos can be of friends or family. For electronic format, use pdf or jpeg format. Include location photo was taken. Name and contact number to be available for any winning photos as permission will need to be obtained to print in the January newsletter. Contact information will not be included in the newsletter.

Submissions to be emailed to oha.mid.willamette@gmail.com or mailed to the chapter mailbox which is PO Box 951, Albany, OR 97321.

Entries must be received by December 27, 2021.

Prizes for the top three entries:

Extra large camo dry bag with carry straps
Coast Portland set of folding pocketknife and LED light
Gerber Exo-Mod Caper knife