JAN-MARCH 2016

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message	
Central Oregon Update 2	
New Premium Hunt Tag 2	
Northeast Region 3	
Duck Hunting 4	
OHEIA Website Benefits 5	
Southeast Region 5	
Kids Need Fishing License 6	
K-Falls Checks In 6	
President Elect Message 7	
Northwest Region	
Lane County Checks In 8	
Southwest Region 9	
A Word from the Treasurer 10	
Membership Application 10	

WEBSITE ADDRESS

WWW.OHEIA.ORG

OHELA **NEWSLETTER**

The mission of the Oregon Hunter Education Instructors Association (OHEIA) is to continually strive to improve the teaching of safe, ethical and responsible hunting through the Hunter Education program.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DAVID GANSKOPP, OHEIA PRESIDENT

It seems my 2-year term as OHEIA President is winding down, and Mr. Chris Friend, our current President Elect, will be taking the helm on April 30, 2016. Perhaps it's my advancing age that causes a year to only last 6 months, or possibly Einstein was wrong and time can accelerate. Regardless, it feels as though I've been about for only a few moments. The years have passed, however, and our bylaws dictate others be given the opportunity to shape and direct OHEIA's endeavors. That being, you will be receiving our election materials, and I ask that you give things close scrutiny and please return your ballot as quickly as possible.

OHEIA's offset board appointments and our President Elect position lend a high degree of continuity to our organization. Chris Friend has been an involved board member for several years, served as President Elect for this recent biennium, and chaired our Fundraising Committee for our most recent (2015) Statewide Hunter Education Conference in Pendleton. Chris is extremely enthusiastic about OHEIA, and has several thoughts in mind for enhancing our visibility and impact. Please give him your full support, and feel free to route one's needs and ideas his way as he assumes the Presidency.

As I draft this note (2-29-2016), we have Gregg Barron, a current Board Member, as a candidate for President Elect, and Jeanne Littleton, a current Board Member and incumbent Secretary, expressing a desire to continue in that role. To date we do not have a candidate for Treasurer. If we have an interested member out there, please express your desires and rapidly organize a write-in campaign. If our treasurer's position is not filled, our bylaws allow another officer to wear two hats, but we would like avoid generating an undue workload for any one person.

As I vacate this office, I'd like to express appreciation to the OHEIA membership, our Board members, and the Salem ODF&W Hunter Education staff for their commitment and enthusiastic support over the past two years. Statistics suggest we do make a difference. When it comes to our students, the best news ever is no news at all.

Thank you all, and keep up the good work.

Dave Ganskopp President

CENTRAL OREGON UPDATE

BY BRIAN FERRY, CENTRAL OREGON DIRECTOR

Welcome to sunny Central Oregon! Things were anything but "sunny" back in December and January, and as wise instructors, we took advantage of the cold winter weather, exercised good judgment, and stayed indoors making plans for our 2016 courses. Later in January some of us attended and enjoyed a meeting at Kahneeta of County Area Coordinators and ODFW Staff to review last year's Hunter Education Program results, and changes and updates planned for 2016.

Like you, instructors in Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson County are now fully engaged teaching courses and a variety of other activities to benefit the hunter education program. Prineville and Redmond offered and completed the earliest courses. As I prepare this, courses are ongoing, or planned, for March in Bend and Redmond, with additional offerings planned for April, May, July, August, September, and October.

Locally, we did have an unexpected setback with our initial set of courses offered in Redmond and Sisters. Originally we had 2 Redmond courses (conventional and independent study) and a Sisters conventional course planned for February. Unfortunately we had to cancel the Sisters class, and the independent study class in Redmond for lack of students. This is the first time we have had this happen (and hopefully the last!). These classes were posted early, and were advertised both locally (newspaper, posters, etc.) and on ODFW's website. We were disappointed at having to cancel the classes, and hope this is just a fluke occurrence.

In addition to teaching courses, instructors are figuring prominently in other important activities including:

- Helping ODFW promote the hunter education program by staffing ODFW's booth at the annual Central Oregon Sportsman's Show at the Deschutes Fairground March 3-6. Nineteen instructors have signed up to help setup, takedown, and staff ODFW's booth during this 4 day event.
- ➤ It's the banquet season for a variety of important local organizations that support hunter education. Local instructors are heavily involved helping OHA (Bend, Redmond, Prineville) Chapters and the Redmond Rod and Gun Club with their fundraising banquets.
- ➤ Tim McCormick has stepped up and secured the Mount Jefferson Rifle, Archery and Pistol Ranges Indoor Range and Clubhouse on May 7 for one of this year's ODFW Regional Instructor Meetings. More information will follow from ODFW for all the regional meetings, so mark your calendars.

Have a great spring and summer, and don't forget your tag applications and to vote in OHEIA's elections!

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Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Apply by May 15 for <u>new Premium Hunts</u> for deer, elk and pronghorn

SALEM, Ore.—Some hunters pay thousands of dollars to win special raffle tags that offer the chance to hunt deer, elk and pronghorn during a months-long season. But beginning this fall, it will cost a few lucky hunters just eight bucks.

New in 2016, ODFW is offering Premium Hunt tags for deer, elk and pronghorn. Hunters who draw these tags get a two or threemonth season hunt (Sept. 1-Nov. 30 for deer and elk, Aug. 1-Sept. 30 for pronghorn). The bag limit is either-sex with no antler restrictions. Premium Hunts are also additional hunting opportunities, meaning hunters who draw them can still get a regular controlled or general season tag.



As with other controlled hunts, hunters need to apply for Premium

Hunts by May 15, 2016. Apply <u>online</u>, at a <u>license sales agent</u> or using the <u>mail fax order application</u>. Choose L Series for deer, M series for elk, and N series for pronghorn.

See page 17 of the Oregon Big Game Regulations for a full list of hunt numbers and please be sure to include at least a second choice in each series when you apply.

As only one tag for each hunt is likely to be available in 2016, no party applications are allowed. Non-residents may apply for any tag and have the same chances to draw it as a resident, as state statute says both have an equal chance when only one tag is available for a hunt.

Hunters should note that the Premium Hunts will not use the preference point system. Every hunter will have the same chance every year in the random draw. Also note these are not once-in-a-lifetime hunts, so hunters who draw the tag can apply again the following year.

For more information on Premium Hunts and other controlled hunts available, see the <u>Oregon Big Game Regulations</u> or ODFW's <u>Hunting Resources page</u>.

NORTHEAST REGION

BY GREG BARRON, NE REGION DIRECTOR

This is a busy time for Oregon Hunter Education Instructors. In Eastern Oregon we have conventional classes going on right now and several more to come this spring and summer. Currently, we have 12 conventional classes scheduled to be taught in Eastern Oregon spanning Baker, Grant, Umatilla, Morrow and Wallowa Counties. There will be more classes as we get closer to the fall hunting seasons. We have more field days offered this year with one each in Baker and Union Counties and 5 in Umatilla County.

We are looking at one Bow hunter Education Class in Hermiston and one Master hunter Class to be offered also in Hermiston. The teaching team of Emmett Walker does an excellent job with those classes. I took Emmett's Bow hunter Education Class and found it to be educational and fun. I even got lucky and my arrow missed the hard metal bear target and passed right through the vital area...probably more luck than skill...very intimidating. This is also a time when area coordinators are circling the wagons with their respective county hunter education instructors to talk about this past year's success and the successes yet to come with the new year.

The Oregon Hunter Education Instructor's Association (OHEIA) is having Board member elections. Up for nomination are the positions of President-elect (which yours truly is running for), Secretary and Treasurer. When you receive your elections materials, please take the time to vote, your participation in OHEIA events is valued.

OHEIA is working on many key issues. One key item is efforts to establish an academic scholarship for Junior Instructors. We encourage you as members and non-members to visit our website at www.oheia.org. The webmaster is Darlene Marquardt, who has spent many hours designing it as well as keeping the website up-to-date. If you visit the website, all you current members can upgrade your membership to a "life" membership for \$100. It sure beats paying \$10 a year and all you non-members can join up, too.

You ask, what do you get from being a member of OHEIA? Well, this newsletter is a great clearinghouse of hunter education information. We act as a liaison between the instructors and the ODFW Outdoor Skills Program. We raise money and issue Grants to instructors who need something special for their classes that the Outdoor Skills Program can't provide and the instructor can't afford. You can find a grant application on the website.

As busy as we are teaching hunter education classes, remember to take a little time for yourself and enjoy the fruits of what you are instilling in your students. Head out and shed hunt, turkey hunt, bear hunt, cougar hunt, shoot at a few targets, but get out there and take a little time for the important things in life that only the out-of-doors can offer. Speaking of shed hunting, ODFW just put out a news release on rules to follow when shed hunting. Great handout for your hunter education classes.

Don't forget about the <u>Regional Hunter Education Instructor meetings</u> around the state in 2016. The Northeast Region Meeting will be held in Baker City. Look for updates about these meeting on the OHEIA website.

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DUCK HUNTING

SUBMITTED BY GREG BARRON, NE REGION DIRECTOR



The hunters in the picture from left to right are Eloy Delacruz, Pat Barron, Michael Pederson, Greg Barron and Roger Molsbarger.

This was a goose hunt that happened on Sunday January 10, 2016 on a farm near Boardman, Oregon. The goose hunting has been excellent in the Columbia Basin this season. We scouted the day prior and determined that this certain winter wheat field was where the birds wanted to go. We started setting up our full bodied goose decoys around 5:30 AM the following morning. After putting out roughly 350 decoys we arranged and covered our lay-down blinds with natural vegetation.

Around 8 AM we had a double come in and easily downed the pair of Canadians. After that, all hell broke loose with geese fogging in to our decoys by the hundreds. As a bonus, Widgeon started to bomb our decoys and we wasted no time collecting our limits.

We were limited out before 10 AM, with birds still wanting to drop in, as we called it a day and picked up our decoys. Having hunts like this make scouting and getting up at O-Dark Thirty worth it...and it's always nice to go hunting with your son and his friends.

OHEIA WEBPAGE BENEFITS

BY DARLENE MARQUARDT, WEBMASTER



I took a walk out in my yard this morning, I saw my daffodils with little closed blooms ready to pop open and my tulips were coming up and will soon be ready to shower the yard with color. My rose bushes have nibs on them, telling me that soon there will be leaves and then fragrant roses. My rhubarb plant is poking its head out of the ground letting me know that soon some strawberry rhubarb pies will be in the oven.

I also recently went to Wal-Mart and renewed my pioneer fishing/hunting license. All of this brings excitement because it tells me that it will be soon time to be standing again in front of a classroom full of anxious Hunter Education students.

About a week ago from when I am writing this article, we met with other Hunter Ed instructors from Northeast Oregon, led by Greg Barron, our Morrow County area coordinator. It is always a great pleasure to get together with other instructors and find out what is new and what is going on with their plans and classes.

As your OHEIA webmaster, I encourage all of you to take advantage of the resources that are on our webpage and by all means if you run across other resources that would be good to have listed there, email me (at darlene.marquardt@gmail.com). I also would love some photos of you teaching, your students (with permission of course), maybe their animals -- most of them get so excited when they get that first buck.

Do you do Facebook? Did you know that OHEIA has a facebook page? If you are on facebook you should be able to find it. LIKE it and add comments and resources there, too.

I hope to make contact with all of you in some way or another throughout this next year. Don't forget to send in your ballots. What you all do is so very important to keep the hunting tradition alive and meaningful and to keep our young people as well as adults safe and ethical out there in the field. ###

SOUTHEAST REGION

BY DAVID GANKSOPP, SE REGION DIRECTOR

Harney County recently completed a traditional class (N=22) on February 26, has a class scheduled in the remote Diamond community beginning March 18, and a third class scheduled in Burns starting April 4.

Given our rural nature, we have better luck rounding up students during the school year. Dispersing classes across the various school sports seasons helps as well.

Our basin snows have melted and the earliest of the spring migrants are arriving in fair numbers with Ross's geese and lesser sand hill cranes being most abundant. ####





Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Kids now need fishing license at age 12

March 1, 2016

SALEM, Ore. – As families venture to the outdoors this spring, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife remind parents that <u>youths between the ages of 12 and 17 need a license if they plan to hunt, fish or shellfish.</u>

Although fishing now requires a license two years earlier than in the past – at age 12 instead of age 14 – the cost of the license is significantly less than it was in years past.

Now a combination youth hunting/fishing/shellfishing license costs just \$10. For just \$5 more, youngsters can also purchase a tag that will allow them to catch salmon, steelhead, sturgeon and halibut. The \$15 combined cost of a youth license and tag in 2016 compares to a cost of \$41.75 last year, a cost reduction of 64 percent.

The youth license was developed to simplify the youth license requirements for hunting and fishing. "There was way too much complexity involved for parents to get hunting and fishing licenses for their kids," said Rick Hargrave, administrator of ODFW's Information and Education



Youngsters ages 12 to 17 need a youth fishing license to catch trout in Oregon this year. Above, Zane Nilssen is all smiles after catching his first fish ever at an Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife family fishing event at Canby Pond. (Photo by Rick Swart/ODFW)

Division. "We removed those barriers and came up with a single, significantly discounted, youth combination license for kids 12-17. Under the new fee structure, a single license permits youth license holders to take part in all three activities – hunting, fishing and shellfishing. Previously, a separate license was required for each of these activities.

"We believe this an amazing value and a meaningful investment in getting kids and families out and connected with nature," said Hargrave.

There is no distinction in the fee structure between resident and nonresident youths – they pay the same for hunting/fishing licenses and tags.

K-FALLS CHECKS IN

BY RUTH JOHNSON, AREA COORDINATOR

Klamath County has experienced some exciting changes. Recruitment is booming with a roster of 18 instructors. At our recent county planning meeting, Ryan Niehus gave us an update on the A/C conference (which he gracefully agreed to attend in my place) and the many changes coming to the HE program. We had two attendees who just submitted applications and two others that plan to soon.

We scheduled six Independent Study Field Days, three conventional classes (one in Malin, OR), and two Bowhunter Ed classes beginning March 12. The Bowhunter Ed classes are of particular note as there were only three in the entire state last year. I anticipate that we will be able to hold classes throughout the winter months in addition to our normal spring/summer classes.

Mike Hagen, Ryan Niehus, Sierra Niehus and Mike's grandson C.J. received gifts and a special thank you for going above and beyond the call of duty. Of special note, Mike, one of our newer instructors, has taken up the baton and rocked the show acquiring and procuring all goods for a trailer to be located in Klamath County that will not only be used for our normal hunter education classes, but also for our Bowhunter Education program which Mike has been busily ramping up. He orchestrated our presence at the Play Day in January and almost had to man it himself until Ryan and Sierra stepped in and helped him.

JANUARY-MARCH 2016 NEWSLETTER Page 6

In addition, Mike orchestrated purchase of a shed for our additional equipment out at the wildlife area. Woo Hoo! Now I can make some room in my garage... Mike, thanks from all of us to you! You are an invaluable asset! A great big shout out and thank you to ALL of our instructors...you are a joy to work with and make my life easier! Happy Hunter Education Season to you all!

PRESIDENT-ELECT MESSAGE

BY CHRIS FRIEND, PRESIDENT-ELECT

On behalf of the Board of Directors, as well as myself, I want to take this time to express our appreciation to our outgoing President, Dave Ganskopp, and Treasurer, Diana Ackerman, for their service to the board, our membership, and the Hunter Education program. These positions carry decisive responsibility for OHEIA's continued success. Dave and Diana, we thank you for all you have done and will continue to do in the future.

As the last two years have wound down to months and now to weeks, I have given time to thinking about what I would like to accomplish during my two-year term as president. We have tackled many projects over the last few years that often are behind the scenes and not always entirely exposed to our membership. One of my goals is to bring OHEIA closer to its membership, as well as the statewide Hunter Education Instructors. The OHEIA board has already begun brainstorming some of these ideas. I am excited to lead the board forward in our efforts to put some new things into action and continue to improve on our current projects.

We always want feedback from our membership, and I, personally, would like to encourage you to give us feedback on how we can further improve and serve you better. I anticipate sending out an email survey sometime in April and would appreciate your feedback. New ideas are welcome, or perhaps there is something you think we can improve in our role as the association for hunter education instructors. Please, share that with us.

As you have read or heard, we still need viable candidates for our treasurer position. If you, or someone you know, may be a good fit, please let us know. We would welcome you to our team.

Thank you for your continued support, time and efforts. I am looking forward to serving as your president.

###

NORTHWEST REGION

BY JESSE WALLENMEYER, NW REGION DIRECTOR

TIME WELL SPENT LASTS A LIFETIME

So, when was the last time you took one of your kids to anything other than a school or sports related activity?

I recently took my eldest daughter to the sportsman's show in Portland for the first time since she was in a stroller. (She is now 24, graduated from OSU with a double degree and a minor, spent a year in Tennessee obtaining a master's, and will be off to veterinary school later this year.) It was interesting to watch her walk the aisles and see what piqued her interest. She checks out each and every live animal to see how well they are being treated and kept. At a display of cleaned and bleached skulls she is like a moth to a flame, looking over the collection and starting to identify each one. Striking up a conversation with the booth holder over the identity of his more unusual specimens and actually being stumped by a hippo tooth (which dad properly identified, I might add).

As we continue to peruse the views, she begins to develop an opinion of the different taxidermy mounts that every other booth seems to have on hand. She is doing a critical comparison, mostly to James August, who does exceptional work. She asks why there can be so much difference in the mounts. I reply that not all mounts are cared for the same, and not all taxidermists are as good as others.

At one booth with information about hunting dogs, she waits for almost a half an hour to talk to the proprietor about his dog's pedigree. I think that overall the impression I walked away with is that my daughter just wanted to spend time with her old man and found those items that interested her most to investigate and discuss. The sportsman's show was a perfect backdrop and provided an entire day at her disposal.

So, I return to the original question. When was the last time you did spend time with your kids? Or grandkids, or great grandkids? Or any kids? Personally, I find that as my four kids have grown and develop their own tastes, and I often struggle to keep up with the changes and needs. Over the weekend I had the opportunity to spend time at the local Cabelas helping with an archery and BB gun opportunity for kids and flying the hunter safety colors. I realized that I need to pay more attention to my kids' directional moves, even as the needs of keeping my business operational and flowing often interfere -- especially in the time category.

I keep extending invitations to my kids to spend time with me as I work with hunter safety classes and field days. It has sometimes been a hard sell, however I keep in the back of my mind that whenever I have the opportunity to offer a chance to burn powder to my kids, they usually jump at the chance. Thankfully, I know a place to go that only requires a phone call for permission, and I have another opportunity to share, teach and learn with my kids.

We, as hunter education instructors, teach other folks' kids how to be safe, are we doing the same with our own? Kids are committed to us for a short time, or for some, perhaps a longer time – whether our own or someone else's.

What's a little lack of sleep or a few extra dollars to provide opportunities for them to follow in our footsteps with the activities we enjoy, or to help the young develop their own. The time we invest in Hunter Education as instructors and as mentors is time well spent. Thanks to all our volunteer instructors for their dedication. ###

LANE COUNTY CHECKS IN

BY TED BORK, WILLAMETTE VALLEY REPRESENTATIVE

HOW IMPORTANT IS HUNTER EDUCATION? HOW IMPORTANT IS MENTORING?

I had young man come through my class a number of years ago, he had never hunted before. He had a used bow, arrows of all different makes, hardly any gear, a borrowed rifle and no experience. So we scouted, explored, learned the game regulations, went to the range and practiced, and then went hunting.

We shot, we missed, but we learned and we got better. And then we became successful, now and then, and our confidence grew. We acquired better equipment, we became more accurate, we became better hunters and truly fell in love with the sport.

Last year we went to Wyoming and Mike shot his first mule deer buck. All the practice and patience paid off with a good 300 yard shot and he has the memory of a lifetime.

See that picture? Is that a happy guy or what?! When I see my former students and hunting buddies I have taught posing with their trophies, I can't tell you how that warms my heart and makes me feel a part of their success.



CONGRATULATIONS, MIKE BAKER

Want to change a life? Teach, mentor and share the hunt. Show someone how to love this sport. ###

SOUTHWEST REGION

BY DON ALBRECHT, JACKSON COUNTY AREA COORDINATOR

JACKSON COUNTY CHECKS IN

Jackson County Hunter Education Instructors spent the weekend of February 26th to 28th working a booth at the Jackson County Sportsmen and Outdoor Show. We entertained countless families with the Laser Shot games while providing information about ODFW Outdoors programs to hundreds of people.

No matter the metric by which you gauge success, this event was successful. We distributed 99 Independent Study Field Day packets, registered 68 participants for Hunter Educations activities and received several inquiries regarding the application process to become an instructor.

One of the activities registered for at the show is the 2nd annual Jackson County Youth Turkey Hunting Clinic on April 2nd. This clinic was started last year as a senior project by HE Junior Instructor Hunter Albrecht. His project was so well received by our community that we have decided to continue it. An email from the mother of a girl at the clinic told the story of how she came home so excited to hunt turkeys that she cracked open her piggy bank then went and bought her own license and turkey tag.

Working with help from Mark Newell and Darlene Sprecher from ODFW Outdoor Skills we are growing the clinic to include more participants. They have done a great job of creating curriculum and lesson plans for events like our turkey clinic. If you have an interest in expanding your hunter education activities beyond just teaching classes give them a call. The rewards that you find teaching Hunter Education are amplified when you work with kids to help them develop advanced skills. ###

If you don't read the newspaper you are uninformed, if you do read the newspaper you are misinformed. -- Mark Twain

If you think health care is expensive now, wait until you see what it costs when it's free!

-- P. J. O'Rourke





A government big enough to give you everything you want, is strong enough to take everything you have. -- **Thomas Jefferson**

Diana Ackerman, Treasurer

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PRICE LIST FOR OHEIA ITEMS:

- OHEIA Patch \$2.25
- OHEIA Decal \$1.00
- OHEIA Lapel Pin \$2.75
- OHEIA T-Shirts \$15.00
- OHEIA Caps \$15.00
- One year membership \$10.00
- Two year membership \$20.00
- Life Membership \$100.00

Freight charges apply to ship orders. Orders require street address.

Order forms are available on OHEIA website.

A WORD FROM THE TREASURER

BY DIANA ACKERMAN

Just a reminder, OHEIA dues go from May 1 to April 30. Yearly dues are only \$10, or a life membership is \$100.

OHEIA members are eligible to apply for a grant to help you in the classroom. Forms and instructions on applying are available on our Webpage at www.oheia.org.

If you have questions or need some assistance, please contact one of the board members or one of the executive officers.

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Membership Application

OREGON HUNTER EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION, INC. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

If this is a renewal, you may CHECK AMOUNT and enter your NAME. E-MAIL ADDRESS, and YEAR PAID only.

NAME	INSTRUCTOR #	
ADDRESS		
	STATE	
PHONE	COUNTY	
E-MAIL		
YEAR/YEARS PAID	CHECK #	CASH \$
Lam enclosing my \$10.00 annual	\$20.00 for two years, or \$100.	00 Life membership dues. Membership
May 1-April 30. Membership dues are r	, \$20.00 for two years, or \$100. not prorated. renewal dues to OHEIA Secretary,	
May 1-April 30. Membership dues are r Please mail 2016 new or	not prorated.	at P.O. Box 434, Creswell, OR 97