

MARCH 2013

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OHEIA 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.

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President's Message

By Brian Ferry, President

Fellow Members:

When you received this edition of your newsletter you probably wondered why such a bulky package from OHEIA! By now you will have figured out that while the package was thicker, our newsletter has been shortened to focus on two main issues: Planning for this year's annual instructor conference and updating OHEIA's Bylaws. My address will focus on the latter of these two topics.

The Amended Bylaws and associated attachments are the reason for the bulkiness of this mailing. Back in late 2011 the Board asked yours truly, and Past-President Hedge Jarvis, to review and offer revisions to the Bylaws to reflect changes that have taken place in OHEIA and Oregon's Hunter Education Program since the existing Bylaws were adopted. In accomplishing this we used the philosophy **"don't change or fix anything that ain't broke."** We were fortunate to have OHEIA's legal advisor, Fred Kowolowski available for help. During this process we asked him to review the

current Bylaws for his suggestions, as well as to carefully consider any potential changes we identified. We needed to be make sure that whatever was done would be consistent with our non-profit status, and keep the Board, OHEIA, and the membership out of legal problems. Fred, an attorney, and veteran hunter education instructor and life OHEIA member, donated hours of his time helping with this endeavor. OHEIA is indebted to him for his help and expertise. If you see him at the May annual instructor meeting please thank him. I am happy to report that after months of effort and some 14 drafts, the Board approved sending the attached Amended Bylaws to the membership for approval. These Amended Bylaws are not intended to change how OHEIA operates as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, or in any way affect our mission or objectives. So you are probably wondering why this amended version? We believe these Amended Bylaws are better organized,

more understandable, eliminate unnecessary language and duplications, and provide updated descriptions of officer responsibilities. A new "Conflict of Interest" section was added at Fred's suggestion. What we have aimed for is to make our Bylaws more concise and consistent; improve the organization and wording of the provisions; and update them to reflect today's OHEIA. I hope you will like and support what we have done.

Included in this Newsletter you will find a copy of the Amended Bylaws, a cover letter with more information, a ballot for you to indicate whether you approve of the Bylaws as amended, and an envelope for returning your ballot. **Please review this Bylaws material, vote, and return your ballot by April 6.** Amending the Bylaws must be approved by a two-thirds majority of those members voting.

The Board supports these changes, and we hope you will too! On behalf of the Board, thanks.

Brian Ferry
President, OHEIA

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WHAT'S GOING ON!!

Sportsmen's Show Dates

Redmond — March 7-10, 2013
Pendleton — March 8-10, 2013

Portland, Eugene, Roseburg and Medford were held in February with good attendance.

HEd Instructor Handouts

Be sure to check the ODFW website for information to hand your classes:

- Excellent article on Wolf – Human Interactions.
- Turkey Hunting clinic for kids age 8-17 April 6 in Tygh Valley.

Hunter Ed Instructor Statewide Annual Conference May 3-4-5, 2013 Inn at the Seven Mountain, Bend, Oregon

As these dates come closer we can anticipate a mailing from ODFW with registration materials. Plan to attend. This conference is hosted for our benefit. If you have any suggestions for speakers or topics that would be helpful to you as an instructor, send an email to James Reed. Your input is important.

Training & Development Workgroup—Meeting at AC Conference in Bend January 25-28, 2013

The conference agenda included a meeting of the Workgroup. Important items on the agenda included:

- Development of a manual for use by HE instructors.
- Discussions centered on current training and current teaching aids.
- Recruitment/retention of HE instructors.
- Milestones developing a training program, identifying resources for new instructors, and Phase II training.
- Develop a time line for milestones.

Expect more at Annual Conference.

Highlights of Area Coordinator Conference

Agenda items included:

- Debbie Colbert, Deputy Dir of Administration. Debbie shared Legislation activities, funding issues and budget approval. Announced ODFW moving from a leased site to building owned by ODFW in south Salem in August 2013.
- Roger Fuhrman, I&E Adm, addressed a retention focus of ODFW on future activities.
- James Reed introduced HE staff present at conference. Expanded staffing in HE Dept to better respond to needs of HE instructors.
- Chris Willard, newly appointed Recruitment & Retention Coordinator shared the recruitment retention and reactivation action plan envisioned to provide more services to customers and goals of implementing plan. Will definitely be on the statewide conference program.
- Tom Thornton. Game Program Manager, Wildlife Div, shared growth stats of wildlife in Oregon. Concerns of fire devastation and the impact of invasive grasses, decline in mule deer attributed to habitat, backtail monitoring, elk and damage on habitat. Spoke to mandatory harvest reporting. Reported moose were not doing as well as expected in NE Oregon.
- James Reed gave updates on on-line registration efforts, changes in forms and asked instructors to look at HE instructor website for catalog.
- Brian Ferry, Pres of OHEIA, introduced board present, spoke to efforts of the Association.
- Emmett Walker and Charlie Rutkowski reported on bow hunter classes offered, changes.
- James Reed held roundtable discussions on draft of policy and procedures manual.
- On-line registration system training offered for those who wished to attend this workgroup.
- On Sunday morning, Dave Oakes, guest speaker spoke on "The Guide to Powerful Public Speaking." This will be a video that can be used as a training tool soon to be available.
- Dave Oakes also addressed effective team work strategies. Also a coming training video.

Needless to say, it was three days packed with a focus on updating, training, and sharing. It's a little peek at what's coming at the statewide annual conference in May. ##

WEBSITE NEWS

On the website you will find:

- Amendment changes to Bylaws
- Current Board Members
- Links to other sites

The Instructor Page:

- Grants Application
- Grants Program Information
- TIP Poster
- Bookkeeping Aids

Hunter Ed Program Topics:

- Mule Deer Study
- Changes in ATV Regs

Check out our website:

www.OHEIA.org

OHEIA FUND RAISING

The OHEIA board has been actively involved in building a fun night of activities at our Saturday banquet for our annual grant fundraising efforts.

**Have an idea? Share it!
Have a donation for the raffle and
auction events? Let us know!!**

You can contact any of us at the email addresses provided in this newsletter. We appreciate your involvement.

We have a number of items that include a blackpowder rifle, a Weatherbee rifle, some worthy silent auction items, several gorgeous paintings, Nancy's famous quilt, camping equipment, etc. We will also be offering a T-shirt or hat (or both) imprinted with our OHEIA Logo. We're working on some great items for the ladies as well.

**Plan to be there!
Be part of this worthy activity.**

**I haven't lost my mind,
it's on a disk somewhere!**