

Crack & Crevice

OREGON PEST CONTROL ASSOCIATION

March 2021 Edition

Life and Pest Control

Message from the OPCA President

Pest control is about life, it is not about death. It is about preserving a high-quality human life, it is about protecting our food, our structures, our health and our sanity. Even the little things we do that seem insignificant, like fixing an on-going rat problem by replacing a missing sewer plug



Bernard Black, OPCA President

can add real relief and even joy to the public we serve. There are significant life-saving events you perform every day.

Just consider the bubonic plague. In the mid 1300's bubonic plague arrived in Europe. Within 5 years it killed about thirty percent of the population. It continued for years, showing up, creating great fear, social and economic turmoil. It's various types (bubonic, septicemic and pneumonic) had a mortality rate of between fifty and one hundred percent for those unfortunate enough to contract it. Because of pest control and other institutions, this undisput-

Consider the value of the services we provide to the quality of life we have in Oregon.

Continued on page 3

Northwest Conference Slated for March 25-27, Hood River

By Sean Bergman

Hello Everyone! Thanks for your patience this winter regarding the delay of opening up registration for the **Pacific NW Pest Management Conference!**

Our goal has been to get a pulse on the interest in holding an in-person conference this year even if we had to push the dates out a month into March. We surveyed past attendees on their preferences on dates and there was overwhelming response to try holding an in-person conference in Hood River, Oregon.

REGISTER NOW
www.pnwpmc.org

There was also strong support for either an entirely in-person conference or a hybrid conference with limited in-person business attendees and a virtual conference Saturday over the big screen in the Gorge room via Zoom.

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Quick Calendar

Pacific Northwest Conference
March 25-27, 2021
Best Western Hood River
(Tech seminars virtual)

High Desert Seminar
June 4-5, 2021
Mt. Bachelor Village
Bend, OR

Fall Beach Seminar
September 18, 2021
Best Western PLUS
Agate Beach Inn
Newport, OR

Southern Oregon Seminar
November 19, 2021
Evergreen Savings "Bear Hotel"
Grants Pass, OR

Government Affairs Update: Oregonians for Food and Shelter

From OFS Newsletter, Feb. 26, 2021

Governor Extends Oregon's State of Emergency

PORTLAND — Gov. Kate Brown on Thursday extended Oregon's declaration of a state of emergency until May 2 as confirmed COVID-19 cases drop, but hundreds of new cases continue to be reported daily. "Throughout the pandemic, Oregonians have made smart choices that have protected our families and loved ones," Brown said. "Our infection and mortality rates have consistently remained some of the lowest in the country. And, for the first time, COVID-19 critical care units are seeing fewer and fewer patients."

The Oregon Health Authority on February 25 reported 553 new confirmed COVID-19 cases, bringing the state total to 154,554. The state's death toll is 2,204. The agency's weekly COVID-19 report, which was released Wednesday, shows a sharp decrease in daily cases, hospitalizations and deaths from the previous week.

Senate Republicans Stage One-day Walkout

A one-day Republican walkout in the Oregon Senate on February 25 was sparked by Gov. Kate Brown's announcement that she will extend the COVID-19 state of emergency until May 2.

"We had to get their attention," said Sen. Tim Knopp, R-Bend, one of the lawmakers who was not present for Thursday's scheduled session.

The Republicans sent a letter to Brown protesting her decision and other COVID-19 restrictions and calling on her to support reopening the state Capitol, which has been closed since March 2020.

"We need an open process for our constituents to engage in testimony on bills," said Sen. Bill Hansell, R-Athena. "We want transparency so people can have a voice in what is going on."

Bill Would Allow Workers to Enforce Oregon Labor Regulations

Workers could enforce regulations and recover fines on behalf of Oregon labor agencies under a bill that's alarmed the agriculture and timber industries.



Continued on page 4

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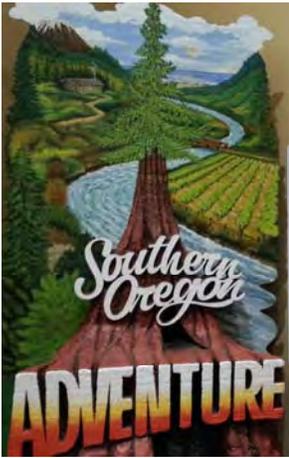
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Save the Date:

OPCA Southern Oregon Seminar

Nov. 19, 2021

In Person
(hopefully!)

President’s Message,

Continued on page 1

ed existential threat has essentially been eliminated. It is not gone; it still waits for an opportunity to start again, but a lot of good people are vigilant about keeping it at bay.

Pest control professionals didn’t stop the plague alone, they had the help of research scientists, medical discoveries, sanitarians, new building techniques, and many other trades, but we were and continue to be a crucial cog in this machine. In other words, we don’t live or work in a “bubble.”

I would encourage all of you to consider the value of the services we provide to the quality of life we have in Oregon. Your business does a lot more good than you realize and the wisdom you have about life in general is valuable. Don’t ever be afraid to share your opinions on pest control or on other things you have learned about life. Share your thoughts with your family, friends, elected officials and each other.

We need to encourage others to promote a high-quality life for people, not fear and demise.

*Sincerely, Bernard Black, B.C.E.
President OPCA 2020-2021*



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Got Swag?

Show your pride! OPCA purchased a small batch of **flex fit hats, uniform patches and truck decals**. These items are available on OPCA’s website. We only got a small batch of hats for now, but if they are popular the cost will decrease. We also have a limited number of **OPCA hooded sweatshirts and T-shirts** – mostly mediums and XXX large. But, they are only \$5.00 (or 3 for \$20).

Contact OPCA at **503-363-4345** or visit our website for more information at



800-621-8829 (USA/Canada) or 859-254-1221
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Government Affairs, *Continued on page 2*

While business groups fear House Bill 2205 will result in a cascade of new litigation against employers, proponents claim the legislation will help the state government become more efficient. Lawmakers have enacted numerous statutes intended to ensure the “dignity and respect” of workers in recent years, such as requiring paid sick leave and predictive scheduling, said Rep. Barbara Smith-Warner, a Portland Democrat.

“Passing these laws is important. And it’s even more important to make sure they’re enforced. Our state agencies do work hard and their staff are extremely dedicated, but they cannot be everywhere at once,” she said during a recent legislative hearing.

Lawmakers to Reconsider Coyote-hunting Derbies

A bill outlawing coyote-killing contests has made its way back to the Oregon Legislature. Oregonians can hunt coyotes year-round, and current regulations do not limit the number of coyotes hunters can kill.

Rep. Mark Owens, R-Crane, said coyotes are predators that affect the livelihood of ranchers. He said the hunting contests are one way to keep the populations down. Owens said, in the past, the state has put bounties on coyotes.

Owens said doing away with coyote derbies takes away an economic opportunity for the communities in his district. When a coyote-hunting contest comes to Burns, he said some restaurants, bars and hotels make just as much money as they would during the biggest weekend of the year at the fair and rodeo.

Bright Idea? Bill Calls for Headlights at all Times on Oregon Highways

CLACKAMAS COUNTY, Ore. (KOIN) — A bill that would require Oregon drivers to use headlights anytime they’re on a highway had a public hearing Thursday in the Joint Committee on Transportation. Senate Bill 166 is sponsored by state Sen. Lee Beyer, a Democrat from Springfield, and written at the request of a citizen.

Jeff Simons’ original complaint was specific to large trucks — such as commercial vehicles and logging trucks — and aimed at increasing safety on Highway 126. Currently, motorcycles and mopeds must use headlights at all times under Oregon law, and all states require that vehicles use headlights between sunset and sunrise, according to legislative analysts.

SB 166 would apply to all motor vehicles, though, and would require headlights be used at all times when a vehicle is driven on a highway, even during the day.

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The evolution of pest control
CERTUS

Certus Pest Inc. is excited to announce the acquisition of Shore-Line Pest Control, Inc. which is based out of Payette, ID. This further strengthens the footprint of Certus in Idaho & Oregon.

Owners Rory & Michelle Clinton worked through the evaluation process with Certus earlier in 2020 but timing simply wasn’t right. As small business owners, it was important for the Clintons that they were prepared. Timing is key and often does not play out as everyone wishes.

It was important for Rory and Michelle that their exit was a Win/Win for all parties especially for the staff that had become like family. When the stars aligned it only took a little further tweaking to cross the finish line. Rory and Michelle explained “*We are excited for our staff who now have Health Benefits, something that we were unable to provide. In addition, as a small business an employee’s career path is limited – with Certus our employees have the opportunity to grow and develop their professional skills.*”

Contact information: Steve Wittig, Vice President at 206.833.8544 or steve.wittig@certuspest.com

Fire, and Now Ice, Batter Oregon's Timber Industry

Oregon's timber industry was already contending with the aftermath of last year's fires when forestland owners were recently hit with an ice storm that snapped and knocked over trees.



The double dose of destruction is expected to bring more damaged logs onto the market at a time when many loggers and sawmills already have their hands full, experts say.

Some mills have reduced their log purchases to focus on cutting trees from their own properties, so it's not an ideal time to be selling salvage timber, said Gordon Culbertson, international development director at the Forest2Market consulting firm.

"You'd be competing with all the logs already on the market," he said. "There's plenty of logs available right now."

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Crack and Crevice, OPCA's quarterly newsletter reaches OPCA members and their employees.

Crack and Crevice has a long shelf life. Issues are frequently handed out at member events and sent in member kits to new members. Exposure lasts longer than typical newsletters.

Rates

Business Card—\$75
 Quarter Page—\$125
 Half Page—\$200
 Full Page—\$375

Publication Calendar

March Pacific NW Conference
 June High Desert Seminar
 Sept. Fall Beach Seminar
 Dec. So. Oregon Seminar
 Jan. Winter Seminar

For additional information and ad deadlines contact...

OPCA 503-363-4345 | exec@opca.org



Virtual Access Gives Everyone A Way To See What's Going on at the Capitol

By Harvey Gail, OPCA Executive Director

While the Zoom year we have been having seems like its getting a little long winded, there is a silver lining that many people have not become aware of. More than ever, you have much easier access to see what's going on in the Oregon Capitol.

Starting in 2020, the Oregon Legislature had to pivot to virtual committee meetings. While many complain this has reduced citizen input (and in some cases it has) it also allows people easier access to see what's actually being done in committees. It's much easier now to dial in from your computer and watch hearings and enter testimony. The Oregon Legislature's website has a beefed up page on citizen engagement:

https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/citizen_engagement

Under "Committee Information" and "Process" there are several "how to" tabs. For example, to view a hearing, you'll go to the home page and click on "Today's Events." You can watch hearings live. They also tape hearings.

If you've never seen the "sausage being made" this is a great way to get a peek behind the legislative curtain. You'll want to research which committee the bill you are curious about is in, but once you figure that out give it a try!



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Hood River Conference

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Fortunately, the trend in Hood River County is moving in the right direction and gives us hope that we could be in a position to hold a hybrid conference if the trend of COVID cases continues to go down with the combination of vaccine distribution. The max occupancy allowed for an in-person conference will most likely be set at 50 or 100 attendees depending on the Oregon Risk Level for our conference dates of **March 25th–27th, 2021**.

All this is to say, we are now opening up "Pre-registration" for only business attendees, with a maximum limit of 2 persons per company. **Registration will be first come first serve** so please don't delay in signing up; ASAP! Here is the link to register on the Northwest Conference site: <https://www.pnwpmc.org/registration-overview.php>.

As we get closer to the conference date, we will contact you to log back into the NW Conference site to pay for your registration(s). Also, **please make sure to make your reservations with the Best Western Plus Hood River Inn** as soon as possible. Their link is www.hoodriverinn.com/.

See you in Hood River!

OPCA Membership Report

OPCA member renewals as of March 1, 2021

- Active members: 57 (of 60 renewed)
- Allied members: 8 (of 14 renewed)
- Associate (home inspectors): 2 (of 4 renewed)
- Honorary members: 3

Membership Application: Know of any companies that should be members? www.opca.org/join.

Lapsed Membership Policy: OPCA's policy is member companies that have lapsed for one full year must **re-apply** for membership in OPCA.

Dues Paid by Corporate Offices: If your corporate office is in another state and pays your dues, let us know!

OPCA's Dues Year: July 1—June 30. Once a member pays, we will notify the national association of the status.

New Members: OPCA Companies applying for OPCA membership are posted for the members to comment for 15 days. Then, the OPCA board votes to accept their membership.

Joint State Members: Active Members pay their NPMA dues at the same time as OPCA dues. Those dues are sent in to NPMA once a month.

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Mt. Bachelor Village Set for High Desert Seminar June 4-5

As restrictions from COVID-19 have started to retreat a little, it looks like the meeting in Bend is a go. After consulting with **Mt. Bachelor Village Resort**, as of March, it is possible to seat 50 people in the main room and extend more seats out into the covered area right next to it. By June, its quite possible we will be able to seat 75 in the room.

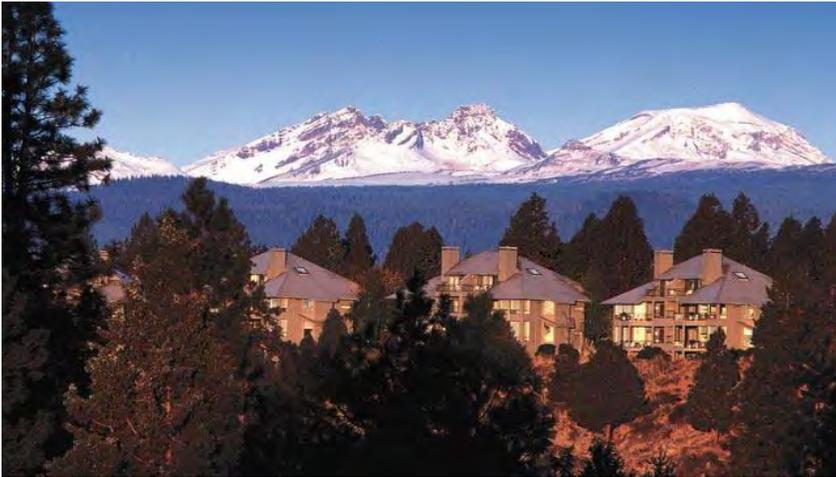
Several measures will be taken to create social distancing including having “traffic flow” set up, requiring masks, and spacing out the exhibit tables.

We will also plan for a socially distanced golf tournament. The course will be chosen later, but we have had fun at River’s Edge. They’ve been very nice to us and it’s a fun challenging course. The other option is Widgi Creek which is a little closer. Its not clear yet whether we can offer the raft trip, so stay tuned on that.

Also, the welcome barbecue is up in the air. We might have to wait to determine if we can hold that in the location that its been held in the past which is by the pool.

OPCA is also looking into providing a virtual option for attendees. This would require some additional AV setup, but it could allow people to view the sessions remotely.

While there are some uncertainties, one thing is for sure, we all want to get back together and Bend is it. See you in June!



Mt. Bachelor Village Resort, Bend, OR.

This Industry Lost a Legend

My father, Daniel (Dan) Leroy Reed passed away on Sunday January 31st, 2021 in his home in Portland, Oregon. Dan is survived by his wife, Robin Reed of 37 years, 3 Children, 7 grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren. As per Dan’s request there will not be a funeral service. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Dan followed in his dad’s footsteps, and became a 2nd generation Pest Control technician/Owner.

In the 1980’s Dan met my mother, Robin. They started A&A Pest Control in 1984 with a wealth of knowledge, and very little funds. People who knew Dan either loved him or hated him, but either way he was well respected. Dan was a grandfather in the Pest Control industry, where many people were able to learn from him. He was very passionate and cared deeply about the pest control industry.

Dan was an active member of the OPCA (Oregon Pest Control Association), he was also the president many years ago. Dan was also an active member of the NPMA (National Pest Management Association), and he was well known by fellow attendees of the PNWPM (Pacific Northwest Pest Management). He will be forever missed by many. I am truly grateful to have been able to call Dan my father, I have learned so much from him.



Submitted by Dannielle Nieves

Need Help with Education Costs? OPCA Can Help

Do you have a family member enrolled in college who could use financial help? Apply for the **OPCA scholarship**. Your college student could get **\$1,000**. Applications require a letter of recommendation from an OPCA member and a statement about how the funds will be helpful. There is no requirement for major of study—they don’t have to be enrolled in pest control related classes.

Applications are reviewed by the scholarship committee and a decision will be made in April or May. Apply no later than **April 30th!**

Get the form off the OPCA website:

www.opca.org/page-1797047



OPCA Winter Seminar—indoors and out of the ice and snow

Well, sometimes going virtual is the right thing to do regardless of the COVID-19 situation. The second annual Winter Seminar was held virtually, and thank goodness. Oregon suffered its worst snow and ice storm in years. Had we held it at the Holiday Inn in Wilsonville we would have had to cancel it anyway.

Fortunately, we were able to hold the seminar despite a number of connectivity and electrical outage issues. A big thank you goes to **Bernard Black** who took over the seminar hosting when the Internet went out at the OPCA office and at Harvey Gail's house.

Speakers included: **Scott Harris, Zoecon** - Flea Management; **Josh Shoemaker, Bayer** - Biology and Control of Bed Bugs; **Sylvia Kenmuir, BASF** - IPM for Ant Control; **Ashley Freeman, Bell Labs** - Rodent Control and Regulatory Update; **Paul Bello** - Powder Post Beetles and Conducting your best WDO Inspection.

All the speakers except **Larry Durant** were able to hold their seminars. Larry was in the dark and off the grid (and was for several days after). However, sitting in for Larry Durant, Bello also did an impromptu seminar on managing flies in commercial kitchens.



At least little birds had a place to hide.

We'd like to give a big thank you to our sponsors and virtual exhibitors: **Jim Shaver, Catchmaster**; **Vince Romao, LiphaTech**; **Scott Harris, Zoecon**; **Michael Kennedy, Briostack**; **Matthew Bloom, BASF**; **Jon Paulsen, Vesperis**; **Matt Faulconer, En-systex**; **Ashley Freeman,**

Bell Labs; **Steve Wittig, Certus Pest**; and **Rennie Kubic, AMVAC**

You can still take a look at the **Virtual Exhibit page** from the seminar.



Ice storm damage at OPCA Exec Director Harvey Gail's House February 13.

Save the Date:
OPCA Fall Beach Seminar
Sept. 17-18, 2021
Best Western Agate Beach Inn, Newport



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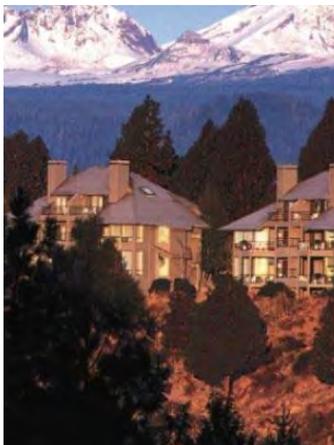
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Save the Date:

**OPCA High
Desert Seminar**

June 4-5, 2021

**Mount Bachelor
Village, Bend, OR**

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