



MISSOURI TAXIDERMIST ASSOCIATION

Improving the Art of Taxidermy
Through Continuing Education Since 1980

AUGUST 2011 NEWSLETTER

The 31st Annual MTA Competition & Convention

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We had another outstanding show this year. Everyone who attended had a great time, and learned a lot. Our judges did a wonderful job with their judging, seminars, and critiques. Thanks again to Ken Bauman, Mitch Webb, Randy Pike, and Kent Reedy. We had over 50 registrants (eight out of state competitors). We're glad to see folks of all ages attending. With 134 entries in the competition, there was variety and some really good quality work on display. Our vendors and suppliers were good this year. The supply area was filled, and everyone was able to find things they needed and save a lot on shipping plus the show discounts. Thanks to all of our vendors for making this such a great show!! A big thank you for all of the donations made toward the Live & Silent Auctions and door prizes. We had another good year with the auctions. We had 65 items in the silent auction and several in the live auction. Thanks to those who donated items and to our competitors and others attending for bidding and bringing our total for this year's auctions to nearly \$1,600!! *Thank you to Connie Lessley & Christine Pettig for running the Silent Auction again this year. Thank You, to Bill Zimmerman, our in house talent, for auctioneering during the live auction. We also thank Brian Pettig for his help with collecting banquet tickets and Jeri Lou Zimmerman for keeping record of the live auction items & bids. Thank you all!!*

Our banquet this year was good as ever, I believe. The food was delicious, and we had great attendance, selling over 100 tickets. Thanks to all those who contributed by buying a ticket.

As always, our unsung heroes are those gents who unfailingly show up early Friday morning each year to set up backboards and tables in the competition, & supply rooms. I won't name each of you for fear of leaving someone out, but I want you to know how much you're appreciated. Without these members we wouldn't have a show. Thanks to Bill for hauling our MTA trailer each year! **THANK YOU ALL!!!** There are several ladies who help run the registration desk from early Fri. morning until the show closes on Sun. These ladies help whenever and wherever they can. They help make our show a success, and I want to take a moment to thank you all on behalf of the association and myself. Thank you!! A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU to Christine Pettig for her heroic efforts in keeping the hospitality suite running smoothly. She makes all of the runs to refill coolers and snacks; so be sure to thank her next time you find something cold to drink or yummy to eat.

Notice: Several of our members (25+) are late paying their dues this year; so rather than leave them off of our membership list we will postpone sending it out until January. **Yellow notices are being sent to those members who haven't paid for 2011-2012.** Please take this opportunity to keep your membership current.

MTA NEWS

The **January 2012** seminar is a free, one day seminar **date and time to be announced**, hands-on Molding & Casting Fish. Supply Kits will be For Sale for those wanting to attend. It will be held at Curt Shahan's shop, Woodland Wonders, located 10 miles East of Columbia South of I-70. Take the Millersburg **exit #137**. Turn Right at the first road; go approx. ½ mile west to Curt's. **The business meeting will follow the seminar.** All members are encouraged to come.

The date of August 3rd, 4th, 5th, has been chosen for the 2012 MTA Competition & Convention. Everybody needs to start planning for it now. Save so it won't be such a burden later, and begin your pieces while the things you learned this year are fresh in your mind. Hope to see you all there.

**MTA AUGUST 2011
Business Meeting Minutes**

The meeting began with a reading of the May meeting minutes. The financial report was given. A motion was made and passed for the 2012 Competition and Convention to be moved to the Lake of the Ozarks. It will be held at the Country Club Hotel & Spa. Room rates will be slightly higher. Members will need to reserve their rooms early. Doug delegated Don Cross to contact judges for next year's show, and Garland Lessley will be contacting the suppliers, Cole Cruickshank will take care of the awards, and DeWayne Bauer will be in charge of the seminars. Codi Wissman agreed to take photos of the winners again next year.

A motion was made and passed to have a MO/KS Live Mount Competition. Cole Cruickshank and Cindy Cunningham will get together on details. Another motion was made and passed to pay for registration ONLY for non-judges' seminars. A motion was made and passed to add to existing Category Rep/Amp Other. It was decided to have one of our seminars be hands on Molding & Casting Fish. Cole Cruickshank will have supply kits for sale for those attending. A suggestion was made to check on NTA/WTC score sheets and the cost to switch. Garland Lessley will keep us informed. Another suggestion for seminars was to finish repair on our backboards.

Meeting Adjourned!!!!

2011-2012 Election Results

Board Member-Don Cross

Board Member-Dewayne Bauer

Note: President, V.President, Secretary/Treasurer, and 2 –Board Member positions will be up for election next year at the show. Be thinking of who you want to elect.

Thank you to our sponsors for the awards, and a special thanks for those who came to present them.

**THE 31st ANNUAL COMPETITION
AWARDS WINNERS**

Masters Division

Lance Van Dusen- Best of Show, Best of State, Breakthrough Award, Master Best of Category-Large Mammal, and State Champion Award- Mammals, State Champion Award- Gamehead, Al Holmes Habitat Award, McKenzie Award- Mammals, MO Conservation Agents Award- Master, MO Trappers Association Award- Master, Matuska Competitor's Award.

James Graham- Masters Best of Category-Whitetails, George Wallace Award, Wasco Award, State Champion Award- Whitetails.

Dave Williams- McKenzie Award-Gamehead/WT, Whitetails Unlimited Award-Master, Walnut Creek Hardwoods.

Mike Goodman- Best Out of State

Cole Cruickshank- Polytranspar Award, State Champion Award-Fish.

Jimmy Lawrence- McKenzie Award - Fish

Blake Reminger- Best of Category-Turkeys, McKenzie Award-Birds, NWTF-Master, State Champion Award-Birds.

Stephen Dotson- Best of Category - Birds

Devin Amelunke- Best of Category-Small Mammals, Van Dykes Award, Groundhog Challenge Winner.

Dan Hudzik- Best of Category-Reptile/Amphibian/Other, Art Rocks Award.

Garland Lessley- Best of Category- Reproductions, State Champion Award- Reptiles.

Awards Cont...

Professional Division

James Wood- People's Choice- Whitetails/GH, Matuska Award.

Codi Wissman- Best of Category- Lg Mammals

Barb Boschert- People's Choice- Birds

Craig Sloan- Whitetails Unlimited Award

Mickey White- Best of Category- Sm Mammals, Conservation Agents Award-, Walnut Creek Hardwoods-, MO Trappers Association Award, People's Choice- Mammals.

Aranda Amelunke- NWTF Award

Dave Bartlett- Best of Category- Reproductions, Lifetone Award, Best of Category- Turkeys, Best Professional Mount.

Ron Terry- Best of Category- Whitetail

Manny Saldana- People's Choice - Fish

Devin Amulunke- winner of the "Groung Hog" Challenge was awarded the purse & picked the 2012 animal, the **River Otter.**

Amateur Division

Dan Cummings- Best Amateur Mount, & Research Amateur Award.

Jeff Bailey- MO Trappers Association Award, Conservation Agents Award.

Jeff Gibson- Whitetails Unlimited Award

Anna Mae Amelunke- Paul Schwarz Award, NWTF Award, Walnut Creek Hardwoods.

Wailan VanDusen- Youngest Entry

FOR THESE LAST TWO AWARDS THERE IS NO DIVISION. . .

RANDY PIKE-MCKENZIE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Given to a member, in good standing, who promotes professionalism, advances the art of taxidermy, depicts taxidermy and hunting in a positive image, shares knowledge of taxidermy, improves the quality of his work, and promotes the goals of the state association.

GARLAND & CONNIE LESSLEY- PRESIDENT'S AWARD

This award is presented by the president to an outstanding member whose service and dedication to the association is well proven.