



**MISSOURI TAXIDERMIST
ASSOCIATION**
**Improving the Art of Taxidermy
Through Continuing Education Since 1980**

JANUARY 2010 NEWSLETTER

The winter seminar/business meeting was held on Jan. 16th at Curt Shahan's shop. Thank you to Curt for hosting us once again, and
A very Special Thank You to Garland Lessley who did a very informative seminar on casting. Although things didn't go quite as he'd planned, we all learned some very valuable lessons. Nearly 20 members attended, and I'm certain that each of us learned something new. As with any gathering of our members, we always find that we can all learn from each other.

We will be running a paid advertisement for The Wildlife Gallery Inc. as we've done for others in the past.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MISSOURI DEER CLASSIC

The Missouri Deer Classic is going to be held the weekend of March 5th-7th, 2010 at the Boone County Fairground just north of Columbia. Although the MTA is not a sponsor this year, several of our members have shown interest in attending and setting up their own individual booth. The new Classic manager, Ron Roper, told Doug that any MTA members who want a space can get one for \$150.00. Call Doug or Debbie Cross for information, if you're interested. (Also, be sure to ask Ron about group hotel rates for "vendors" during the Classic.)

Also, the MTA will have its own booth at the Classic. This decision was made during the Jan. meeting to help keep our Association in the public eye, and give people interested in joining the opportunity to do so. Ron made us a deal on booth space because Doug & Curt are putting their booths on each side of the MTA's; so it will only cost the Association \$100.00. Bill Zimmerman has volunteered to help "man" the booth and will bring a backboard to hang the banner on. Any members present are asked to help. *(There will be no seminar or meeting held at the Classic.)*

MARCH SEMINAR/MEETING

Our **March seminar/meeting will be March 20th, 2010 at Curt Shahan's shop, Woodland Wonders, located on the South side of I-70 approx. 7 miles East of Columbia. Turn at the Millersburg exit. Take a right onto the service road. Go about 1/2 a mile to Curt's shop. The seminar will be given by Bruce Owens on mounting a duck "From Start to Finish". Bruce has graciously volunteered to do this seminar. He will skin the duck, tan it, and mount it during the day. Our meeting will take place immediately after the seminar. (This is a one-day seminar, and is free to all members.) **Also, Doug plans to have a Bar-be-que dinner for those attending; so please R.S.V.P. by or before March 1st to let us know how many to expect for the meal. A form has been provided at the end of this newsletter, or you may call Debbie Cross. Thank you.****

RIVER HILLS SHOOT

Jim Cook has set us up for the annual shoot at River Hills **May 22nd, 2010 at the River Hills Sporting Clays**. We will begin the shoot at 10 am. Everyone who wishes to shoot is urged to come a little early to get set up. Information about prices and directions will be included in the March

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Newsletter. *We also plan to do a mailing to all of the licensed Missouri taxidermists who are not members.* It was agreed upon at last year's shoot to do this as a membership drive. Anyone who is willing to help stuff envelopes, etc. will be warmly welcomed!!

2010 MTA COMPETITION & CONVENTION

We had a lot of excitement at last year's convention; so let's keep it going! A reminder, this year's convention will be held on **July 30 – August 1, 2010** at the **Truman Hotel & Conference Center-Jefferson City, MO**. We will have more space reserved than ever before at a great rate that will save the MTA, and these lower rates extend to the cost of rooms for the members. **The rate for a room is \$65.00 + tax.** Anyone who would like to reserve a room now may call **(573)635-7171** or go online to: www.trumanjeffersoncity.com. Be sure to mention you are with the Missouri Taxidermist Association to receive your group rate. *(More complete information will be forthcoming in the May Newsletter & Convention Packet.)*

MTA BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 16, 2010

The meeting began with the reading of the minutes from the August meeting. Then the financial report was given. Vice President, Lee Smith made a suggestion to either open a new CD worth \$4,000.00 or possibly add that amount to the CD the MTA already has which is due Jan. 23rd. Bill Zimmerman made a motion to do whichever will be most profitable to the MTA. Motion was 2nded and passed.

MTA President, Doug Pettig told us that we were not asked back to the Missouri Deer Classic as a paid display largely he believes due to the Conservation Dept. bringing a Big Buck display this year. However, Doug contacted Ron Roper during our meeting, and Ron told him that any MTA member who wants to put up a booth at the Classic may do so for a lower price of \$150.00. A vote was taken to have an MTA booth at the Classic in order to keep the association in the public eye, and to allow people who may be interested in joining access to us. Also, Doug & Curt Shahan had planned to put their own booths up at the Classic, and they said they would put the MTA booth between to help run it. Bill Z. has also to help run the booth for us. He will also bring a backboard for the MTA booth. Any other members interested in helping run the booth will be welcome. *(Everyone still has to pay their own entrance fee unless you have your own booth.)*

A March seminar/meeting has been arranged on March 20th, 2010 to be held at Curt Shahan's shop. Bruce Owens will do a duck "From Start to Finish". He will skin it, tan it, and mount it throughout the day. Our meeting will begin after the seminar.

Jim Cook who was present at the meeting volunteered to schedule the shoot at River Hills for us. We plan to have it a little earlier this year to give us more time to prepare for the convention.

The judges for the 2010 Competition & Convention are: Manny Chavez-Gameheads & Mammals, Ken Bauman-Whitetails, Randy Pike-Fish & Amateur, & Kent Reedy-Birds. The judges' seminars are unknown at this time.

Garland & Cole who are in charge of contacting Vendors & Suppliers this year gave us a few possible suppliers' names: McKenzie, Research, Ozark Woods, Matuska, Tohickon and possibly Dixieland. They have spoken to these supplier's, but nothing is definite as of yet.

The meeting adjourned.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I just want to say I hope everyone is gearing up for the State Competition this year. I feel like this is going to be one of the best organized events we have had. We have several people working on different aspects of the show to make it as strong as possible. I want to thank every one of you that took on the responsibilities and can't wait to see the outcome.

Another thing to keep in mind: This is an election year so discuss with other members who you would like to see as your leaders of the MTA. These are important positions and shouldn't be taken for granted. There is a lot of work involved in this and a lot of responsibility.

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Yes, I will be attending the March Seminar/Meeting. There will be _____ of us present for the meal. R.S.V.P. before March 1st, 2010.

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Mail to: Debbie Cross, MTA Sec/Treas., 1659 Little Bay Rd., Hermann, MO 656041

Secretary's Note

2009 was a difficult year for many of our members. Some experienced personal loss, others economic concerns. Let us keep them all in our prayers, May The Good Lord comfort you and bless you richly in this new year.

The Association had an exceptional year on the whole. The Classic cost us money last March, thus the decision to step-down as sponsor. But our own Convention & Competition did extremely well. We were able to set aside money in a CD last January, and will be doing so again this year. We also have several new members and the return of several well known faces. We welcome you all, and hope more of you will attend the seminars and make the most of the opportunities the Association offers. For those who have been members for 3 full consecutive years or more, don't forget to send me a scholarship application. If you don't have one and would like to fill one out, a copy will be in the next newsletter.