

MTA Membership Meeting
June 22, 2013
Jean Roll's Farm, Perry, Michigan

The membership meeting of the Michigan Taxidermist Association was called to order at 1:40 p.m.

Officers Present: Joe Miles-President, Pam Onken-Treasurer, Pat Walker-Secretary.

Board of Directors Present: Doug Aven, John Crabb, Keegan Crabb, Rob Haysmer, Jeremy Kennedy, Justin Pohl, John Proctor, Les Thomas and Orlando Villarreal.

Absent: Doug Veldhuis- Vice President and Jonathan Wright.

Others Present: Kathy Proctor-Membership Coordinator.

Welcome – Joe welcomed everyone and said it was great to see a large turnout.

Thank you – Jean for the use of her facility.

John & Kathy Proctor, Kurt Ainsworth & sons for getting the facility ready.

News – Wyatt, son of Tom Jaakkola, his counts are down but his spirit great...our prayers go out to him.

Elk that was mounted at the show was delivered; they were very pleased with it.

Justin's deer mount was delivered and they were so pleased. They gave a donation to MTA Dream Makers.

Keegan Crabb is graduating from high school and he is attending Baker College this fall -

CONGRATULATIONS KEEGAN!

World Show – multiple Michigan taxidermists attended. Jonathan Wright won Best in the World Game Bird. CONGRATULATIONS JONATHAN!

Treasury report – Treasurer announced balance amounts from each of our accounts.

Membership report given - currently have 176 members.

Future Meeting Dates -

Fall Membership September 29 2013

Midland Center for the Arts

1801 W. St. Andrews

Midland, MI

Board meeting December 8, 2013

Jeremy Kennedy's home

9580 Silver Creek Rd. Whitehall, MI

Winter Membership January 5, 2014

VFW Post #5602

2195 W. Fleck Rd.

Six Lakes, MI

Board meeting February 9, 2014

John Crabb's home

8859 Cork Rd., Morrice, MI

Convention

March 19-23, 2014
DeVos Place
303 Monroe Ave. NW
Grand Rapids, MI

1. Old Business:

- a. Discussion about the 501C3 status –all the information has been sent to the accountant.
- b. Discussion about that the “Why Join MTA” flyers were sent to the Michigan tanneries and they have started to distribute to taxidermists by inserting in shipments. Some members have received it in their shipment.
- c. Discussion on additional Membership drive ideas – possibly work with other state associations to have a “reciprocal” membership arrangement where another state association member would register for our show but no MI membership would be required because we would honor that they are already a member of another state’s taxidermy association and then in turn if our members would go to that state show then our members would not have to pay membership dues for their state show.
- d. Website update – Discussion that the board has decided to outsource the development and maintenance of our website.
- e. Fischer Insurance – Discussion that another insurance agency has approached us for our endorsement. Currently we endorse Fremont Insurance. They are putting together a package specifically for taxidermist.

2. 2014 Convention:

- a. Judging writer auction – Discussion to auction off writing spots that are needed to help judges during judging. Possibly auction off at the Winter Membership meeting.
- b. Discuss Judges –
 1. Masters:
 - Whitetails – Vincent Fleming is not available, trying to connect with Ed Piaskowski and will continue to secure 2 judges.
 - Fish – Bob Berry returning.
 - Mammals – Ken Walker not available but are working to secure a judge.
 - Birds – Jim Kimball returning.
 - Habitat – Kurt Ainsworth returning.
- c. Scoring – Discussed that we are eliminating “+ & -” so will use only 1,2,3.
- d. Hands On Seminars – Discussion on possible seminars, a snake mounting seminar with Dan Hudzik, a carving seminar with Josh Guge and mammal skin prep with Brenda Duvall.
- e. Seminars – Discussion that Doug Veldhuis is working on.
- f. Suppliers – Discussion that suppliers are being sent letters asking them to come.
- g. Friday Night – Discussion that there will be another surprise event and will possibly try to add something for youth. Plan to drop the music.
- h. Banquet – Discussion that Brenda Sears will coordinate and banquet rooms are reserved.
- i. 2D Wildlife Art – Discussion that our first year was a success.
- j. 3D Wildlife Art – Discussion that will be adding to the show. Wildlife art will be moved down on the main level alongside of the escalators.

3. New Business:

- a. MTA Wear & Promotional Items – Discussion that have enough in current stock, possibly add lanyards.

- b. Hands on Seminars around the State – Discussion about have seminars in different places, Jeremy Kennedy will handle. If anyone has a suggestion please contact Jeremy.
- c. Dream Makers – Discussion on possible walleye fishing outing for 13 year old with cerebral palsy. Doug Aven will handle.
- d. Current Trailer Maintenance – Discussion on having our trailer taken to be checked over.

5. Picnic:

a. Activities:

1. Auction – Charlie Walker.
2. Horse Shoes – see Justin Pohl. Horse shoes were not played – lack of participation.
3. Fishing – see John Proctor & Keegan Crabb.
4. Piñata – Jeremy Kennedy will be setting up.
5. Pie eating contest – need 7 volunteers, see Doug Aven or Orlando Villarreal.
6. Youth comp – Please Vote.
7. Mini comp – Please Vote.
8. 50/50 tickets – John Crabb will be coming around. Winner – Mark Esch.
9. Wedding of Evangeline & Kurt Ainsworth – share in the celebration.

With there being no other business of the Michigan Taxidermist Association Membership the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

ACTION: Motion made by John Crabb to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Jeremy Kennedy. Motion voted on and passed.

Respectively Submitted;

Pat Walker, Secretary