

MTA Membership Meeting
January 12, 2014
Six Lakes VFW, Six Lakes, Michigan

The membership meeting of the Michigan Taxidermist Association was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

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

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

Absent: Keegan Crabb and Justin Pohl.

Others Present: Kathy Proctor-Membership Coordinator.

Welcome – Joe welcomed everyone and introduced the officers and board members.

News – Brenda Sears having knee surgery in January...prayers to you, Brenda.

Mike Fales having shoulder issues maybe possible surgery...prayers to you, Mike.

Kurt Ainsworth having issues with a fish sting...prayers to you, Kurt.

Steve DeVaney having intestinal surgery...prayers to you, Steve.

Thank you Charlie Walker for calling members without email that meeting date changed.

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

Membership report given – Currently have 188 members which includes 2 new members.

Future Meeting Dates -

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. 501C3 status – Discussion about still working on – need to change the by-laws stating financials are open to the public – discuss at the membership meeting today.
- b. "Why Join MTA" flyers - Discussion that the fourth set will be sent to the Michigan tanneries. A few members have received it in their shipment.
- c. Website update – Discussion that the website has been updated and some pages are still in process. The convention packets will be added soon.
- d. Current Trailer Maintenance – Discussion that Mike Bush is currently getting maintenance done on it.
- e. Hands on Seminars-Around State – Discussion that there may be possibly a snake seminar around Picnic time.
- f. DreamMakers – Discussion that Doug Aven took a 14 year old on his first whitetail hunt.

2. 2014 Convention:

- a. Commercial Division – Discussion on appointing John Proctor as point person
- b. Judge Writing Auction – Discussion to start the auction to be a judge's writer at the convention. Bids are to be emailed or called into Pat Walker. Auction ends March 1, 2014 at 9:00 p.m. Updates will be put on MTA Facebook page and an email will be sent out as bids change. Winners of the final bid may direct the funds to a specific MTA use, ie: DreamMakers.
Jim Kimball
Jody Green
Gene Smith
Wendy Christensen
Bob Berry
Kurt Ainsworth
- c. Hands-on Seminars – Discussion on scheduled seminars.
- d. Wednesday Hands-on Seminar – Discussion that volunteers are needed.
- e. Seminars – Discussion that seminars will be provided by the judges, Randal Waites, Randy Budzinski, Paul Borkowski, possibly Commemorative Bucks & Melissa DiVietri with "Tech".
- f. Suppliers – Discussion that 13 suppliers are confirmed coming and calling others.
- g. Friday Night – Discussion that Brenda Sears is working on food, Mexican buffet, and the special event is being updated.
- h. Banquet – Discussion that Brenda Sears is working on food.
- i. Wildlife Art-2D & 3D – Discussion that 3D is being added for this upcoming convention.
- j. Veteran Mounting – Discussion that the Veteran mounting will be held on the main floor along with mounting for Hunt of a Lifetime and DreamMakers. A total of 8 mounts to do at the show.
- k. Awards – Discussed with members at the meeting about the idea of having one of each award available at the banquet for presentation purposes and then after the convention order the awards which could include the winner's name and the date.

ACTION: Motion made by Bobby Hamilton to table this issue for now and get more and better cost comparison information of purchasing the trophies before the convention as usual vs purchasing after the convention plus the cost to ship it. 2nd by Don Reeves. Motion voted on and passed.

3. New Business:

- a. Bylaw Update – Discussion on the 501C status. Working through accountants. Current by-laws do not state that our records are open for public review and this must be changed to complete 501C status.

ACTION: Motion made by Scott Derenski to give the Board the approval to make appropriate adjustments to the by-laws to comply with completing 501C status. 2nd by Rich Brown. Motion voted on and passed.

- b. Award of Excellence points on website – Discussion that the member is eligible when they achieve it, do not need to wait until they receive their plaque.

Chili Cook-off Winner – Pauline Fitch. Congrats!

Mini Competition Winners – 1st Place-Randy Budzinski, 2nd Place-Floyd Riegling, 3rd Place-Floyd Riegling.
Congrats everyone!

Membership attendance raffle was drawn, winning member – Paul Thompson...Congrats! Next membership meeting raffle will be worth \$25.

Auction will happen immediately following membership meeting.

Stay for today's seminar – Bird Mounting Techniques with Jonathan Wright.

With there being no other business of the Michigan Taxidermist Association Membership the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

ACTION: Motion made by Jonathan Wright to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Doug Aven. Motion voted on and passed.

Respectively Submitted;

Pat Walker, Secretary