

MTA Board Meeting
February 15, 2015
Debbie & Randy Budzynski's home, East Lansing, Michigan

The board meeting of the Michigan Taxidermist Association was called to order at 11:00 a.m.

Officers Present: Joe Miles-President, Doug Veldhuis- Vice President, and Pat Walker-Secretary.

Board of Directors Present: Doug Aven, Debbie Budzynski, Randy Budzynski, Les Thomas, and Charlie Walker.

Absent (bad weather was a factor): Pam Onken-Treasurer, Mike Butler, John Crabb, Jeremy Kennedy, Ken Onken, John Proctor, Kathy Proctor and Jonathan Wright.

Welcome – Joe welcomed everyone. Thank you Debbie and Randy for hosting our meeting and for feeding us!

News:

- Rick Steele's father passed away and his mother is in the hospital. Prayers to Rick and his family.

Board and membership minutes from January 11, 2015 were reviewed.

ACTION: Motion made by Doug Aven to accept the minutes as is. 2nd by Charlie Walker. Motion voted on and passed.

Treasury Report – no report given.

Membership report – currently have 200 members.

Dates of future meetings:

Convention	March 18-22, 2015
DeVos Place	
303 Monroe Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI	

1. Old Business:

- a. 501C3 Status – All requested items have been sent in.
- b. Membership Drive – Tanneries/Postcards – Continue to send flyers to the tanneries.
- c. Website Update – Continuing to update as needed. Melissa DiVietri will be sending an email blast with convention and seminar updates.
- d. Fischer Insurance – Requesting a worksheet to have ready and available for the convention.

2. New Business:

- a. Boat Show Walk through – Friday, 2/20/15 at 6:30.
- b. Please SHARE Info – Discussion on asking all to "SHARE" MTA convention posts on Facebook.
- c. Board Communication – Discussion on asking all board members not to wait for board meetings, please continue communicating between meetings.
- d. Next Year Deadlines – Discussion on getting an earlier start on the convention packets and other convention jobs. Goal is to have the packets ready for the fall membership meeting in September. Doug Veldhuis has already started work on getting judges for the 2016 convention.
- e. Dates for 2015/16 – 2016 Convention will be March 16-20, 2016.

3. 2015 Convention:

- a. Judges – Assigned to Doug Veldhuis. ALL judges MUST meet with Doug Veldhuis and Joe Miles before they begin judging.
Professional/Master Judges:
 - 1. Whitetail judges:
 - a. Jody Green
 - b. Owen Eldred – replacing Bill Yox, Bill had to back out.
 - 2. Mammal judge:
 - a. Terry Rheinlander
 - 3. Fish judge:
 - a. Terry Weick
 - 4. Bird judge:
 - a. Tony Finazzo
 - 5. Habitat judge:
 - a. Randal Waites

- Novice Judges:
 - 1. Whitetail judges:
 - a. Chris Carls and Ken Onken
 - 2. Bird judges:
 - a. Calvin McLeod and Jonathan Wright
 - 3. Fish judges:
 - a. Paul Borkowski and Ron Acker
 - 4. Mammal judges:
 - a. Ann Euler and George Elekes
- b. Commercial Division – Assigned to Doug Aven.
- c. Judging Writer Auction – Assigned to John Proctor to manage at the convention. Currently the auction is in progress and will continue to March 1, 2015 at 9:00 p.m. Bids must be given to Pat Walker and can be placed through Facebook, email or call Pat.
- d. Suppliers – Assigned to Jeremy Kennedy and Randy Budzynski.
 - 1. Currently have 19 suppliers coming: Wildlife Gallery, Northern Pines Taxidermy, McKenzie, Ohio Taxidermy Supply, etc.
 - 2. Randy & Debbie Budzynski will purchase and bring the snacks/beverages with a cooler for the suppliers.
- e. Seminars – Assigned to Doug Aven. Doug will be calling all who are giving a seminar to confirm the scheduled date and time.
- f. Hands-On Seminars – Assigned to Jeremy Kennedy. Kurt's full; Michael P's 2 signed up; Dan's 7 signed up.
- g. Woodcarving – Assigned to Ken Onken and Charlie Walker.
- h. Wildlife Art – Assigned to Jonathan Wright.
- i. Ribbon Placing – Assigned to Pam Onken and teams she puts together.
- j. Banquet/Hotel – Assigned to Pam Onken and Brenda Sears. Pam has connected with hotel for the food options.
- k. Friday Night – Assigned to Joe Miles – Redneck theme, wear camouflage. Plan to have ticket games.
 - 1. Need to add more silent auction items-assigned board members to bring a bucket filled with "goodies" to auction.
 - 2. Debbie Budzynski is working on getting some large prizes.
 - 3. Need people to help with games.

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- j. Competition Packets – Assigned for Joe Miles/Doug Veldhuis/Pat Walker. The packets have been mailed and posted on the website.
- k. Awards – Assigned to Les Thomas.
- l. Public Choice Award – Discussion that voting slips will be available for the public. A table will be placed by the escalator with the voting slips and container to place ballots. Melissa DiVietri will manage and count votes.
- m. Sponsored Awards – Assigned to Jeremy Kennedy. Reviewed list.
- n. Area Layout and Set-up – Assigned to Les Thomas.
- o. Signage – Assigned to John Crabb.
- p. HOL/Dream Makers – Assigned to Mike Butler. Mike will be ordering Dream Makers t-shirts and hats. As of today, there are no HOL or veteran mounts to be worked on at the show.
- q. Photo Board of Judges and Board – Assigned to Debbie & Randy Budzynski.
- r. Set-up/Tear Down – Discussion that the set-up will be Tuesday, 3/17/15, at 4:30 p.m. and tear down will happen after the show closes on Sunday evening, 3/22/15.
- s. Trailer – Mike Bush will bring the trailer to DeVos Place on Tuesday, 3/17/15, at 4:30 p.m.
- t. Individual Jobs/Responsibilities – Joe Miles handed out and review jobs assigned to board members.
- u. Daily Walk Through – Discussion that all board members should walk through and clean and tidy up where necessary.
- v. Score Sheets – Pat Walker will make copies.
- w. Wednesday Lunch – Will do Subway sandwiches and some will bring chips, fruit, etc.
- x. Award PowerPoint – Amy Bush will be returning to put together the PowerPoint presentation.
- y. Sound System/Projector – Les Thomas currently has the sound system and projector. He will bring to the show. Large screen is in the trailer.
- z. Taping at convention – Debbie Budzynski stated that Michigan Outdoors will be coming on Thursday to do some interviews.
- aa. Develop List – Discussion on compiling a list of needed items for the convention for future reference.

With there being no other business of the Michigan Taxidermist Association Board the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

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

Respectively Submitted;

Pat Walker, Secretary