

MTA Membership Meeting
January 11, 2015
Six Lakes VFW, Six Lakes, Michigan

The membership meeting of the Michigan Taxidermist Association was called to order at 1:10 p.m.

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

Board of Directors Present: Doug Aven, Debbie Budzynski, Randy Budzynski, Mike Butler, John Crabb, Jeremy Kennedy, Ken Onken, John Proctor, Les Thomas, Charlie Walker and Jonathan Wright.

Absent: Joe Miles-President.

Others Present: Kathy Proctor-Membership Coordinator.

Welcome – Doug welcomed everyone and introduced the officers, board members, & membership coordinator.

News:

- Joe Miles is in South Carolina for his new job.
- Doug Aven's daughter will be having more surgery in the coming weeks – Prayers to her and her family.
- Phil Timmer's partner, Trish had a COPD attack that lead to a stress heart attack – Prayers go out to them.
- Doug Veldhuis announced that Kelly is retiring January 27, 2015 – CONGRATS Kelly...enjoy!
- Mike Butler was married January 9, 2015 – CONGRATUATION and BEST WISHES!
- Josh Barber, his wife and family welcomed a new baby – CONGRATULATIONS!

Treasury Report reviewed.

Membership report given - currently have 199 members.

Dates of future meetings:

Board meeting	February 8, 2015
Deb & Randy Budzynski's home	*****NOTE CHANGE OF PLACE*****
2175 Haslett Road, East Lansing, MI	
Convention	March 18-22, 2015
DeVos Place	
303 Monroe Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI	

1. 2015 Convention:

a. Judges – Assigned to Doug Veldhuis.

Professional/Master Judges:

1. Whitetail judges:

a. Jody Green – coming

b. Bill Yox – coming. Thank you Rick Steele for contacting Bill during the meeting.

2. Mammal judge:

a. Terry Rheinlander – coming

3. Fish judge:
 - a. Terry Weick – coming
4. Bird judge:
 - a. Tint Finazzo – coming
5. Habitat judge –
 - a. Randal Waites – coming

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. Pat Walker will do the auction through Facebook and email.
- d. Suppliers – Assigned to Jeremy Kennedy and Randy Budzynski.
 1. Currently have 10+ suppliers coming: Wildlife Gallery, Northern Pines Taxidermy, McKenzie, etc.
- e. Seminars – Assigned to Doug Aven. Doug announced some of the seminars that are already set up.
- f. Hands-On Seminars – Assigned to Jeremy Kennedy. Pam Onken announced that Kurt's is full-waiting list started; Dan's has 6 signed up and Michael P's has 2 signed up.
- g. Woodcarving – Assigned to Ken Onken and Charlie Walker.
- h. Wildlife Art – Assigned to Jonathan Wright. Doug Veldhuis announced that there will be two judges.
- i. Banquet/Hotel – Assigned to Brenda Sears and Pam Onken. Pam announced the hotel's blocked room rates and date it expires.
- j. Friday Night – Assigned to Joe Miles – Redneck theme...come in camo. Bring silent auction items-a bucket or basket filled with "goodies" to bid on.
- k. Competition Packets – Will not be handed out today-still working on. Packets will be mailed.
- l. HOL/Dream Makers – Assigned to Mike Butler. Discussion that we currently have 2 Dream Makers mounts and 1 Hunt of a Lifetime mount to be mounted during the convention. Veteran mounts to be mounted are being worked on.

Today:

1. Question from a member – How are the Award of Excellence points determined now that scoring is 1, 2, and 3?
2. Kurt Ainsworth announced that he is now on the board of the National Taxidermist Association. Discussed that many things have changed making the association better and stronger for the future. He did relay that they need to grow the membership and need the support of the states.
3. Membership drawing, \$75 – Winner is Rick Steele...CONGRATS! Next membership meeting drawing worth \$25.
4. Chili Cook off winner – Kathy Christensen...CONGRATS!
5. Open Mini competition winner – Jonathan Wright...CONGRATS!
6. Kicked off the Judges Writer auction. Auction closes March 1, 2015 at 9:00 p.m. Pat Walker will continue the auction and put updates on Facebook and email members.

With there being no other business of the Michigan Taxidermist Association Membership the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

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

Respectively Submitted;

Pat Walker, Secretary