



NORTH DAKOTA FUR TAKERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

A Message From Our President - Sheldon Cieslak

Our meeting on February 6th went very well even with the small attendance. We had a lot of good food courtesy of the attending members and even Rick Wiege stepped in and made coffee since Michelle Thomas could not attend. We sure missed her.

Stephanie and Chad Tucker discussed various topics besides those listed in our minutes. One of great interest was the aerial hunting of coyotes in the South West part of the state and checking the harvested coyotes for tuberculosis. Stephanie said coyotes can be a carrier of TB but they will not succumb to the disease.

Stephanie also mentioned that the collar on the male cougar they have been studying over the past three years went dead in January. Stephanie said the Game and Fish will always have collars on hand in case the opportunity arises to collar another lion.

The furbearer work group will meet in March or April so if any one has any questions or comments contact Stephanie or my self. Stephanie would also like comments on how to make the fur harvester questionnaire better.

The fall Rendezvous was discussed. It will be August 27th and 28th in Glen Ullin and follow the same format as last year with the exception of ending Saturday evening instead of Sunday morning. The raffle will have the same format as in the last couple of years so be watching for tickets. It was also mentioned that maybe we should try roasting a raccoon or a beaver and give it a try.

We hope that Chad and Stephanie Tucker will give one of our demos and Gary Jepson will give a demo on gland collecting. We need at least two more demos so if anyone has some ideas let us know.

Any questions or comments please get in touch.

Sheldon

Membership Application NORTH DAKOTA FUR TAKERS CHAPTER 3

Michelle Thomas, Treasurer
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Circle One:
New
Renewal

Date: _____

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| F.T.A Dues Only..... | <u>Circle One:</u> \$30.00 |
| ND Chapter 3 Dues Only..... | \$15.00 |
| F.T.A. & ND Chapter 3 Dues..... | \$45.00 |
| ND Chapter 3 Life Membership..... | \$125.00 |

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Minutes of 2009 Rendezvous Meeting

North Dakota Fur Takers Annual Meeting, September 22, 2009, Glen Ullin Park, Glen Ullin, ND

The annual meeting started out with special guests Greg Link, Assistant Division Chief with the North Dakota Game and Fish Dept. and Stephanie Tucker, Furbearer Biologist. Greg Link gave the attendants a broad overview of what has been happening with the Game and Fish department in the last year and some of the things that they hope to carry out in the future. Stephanie Tucker gave an introduction of her education and past positions and projects that she has worked on. Stephanie has done some trapping in past positions so she can relate to some of the things that we as trappers face and that is a great asset in a Furbearer Biologist.

President Sheldon Cieslak called the meeting to order.

Michelle Thomas presented the treasurer's report. Rich Ackerman made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Rick Weige seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Brent Kuss read the minutes from the last annual meeting. Gary Jepson moved to accept the reading of the minutes. Bill Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Gary Jepson addressed the attendants on a new project being done by the National Fur Takers of America. They will have 72 trapping promotions airing on the Outdoor Channel. This shall be a great promotional effort that will cover a vast number of viewers. Rich Ackerman made a motion to give \$500 to help offset the start-up costs for this effort. Warren Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carried.

New Business:

Gary Jepson made a motion to renew our membership to the North Dakota Stockmen's Assc. and the North Dakota Lamb and Wool. Tom Kitzan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Reciprocal trapping: There was some discussion on having a reciprocal trapping agreement with Wyoming. The topic was tabled until we receive more information from the Game and Fish Dept.

2010 Rendezvous and Raffle: Gary Jepson made a motion to select a committee for the raffle and rendezvous and to have them report back to the board. Warren Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Top Sets of Top Trappers: Ken Stoppler made a motion to seek approval to post sets from the books of Top Sets of Top Trappers on our web page. Bob Gangl seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Election of officers:

Vice President: The floor was opened for nominations. Rick Weige nominated Gary Jepson. Tony Brandenburger seconded the motion. Seeing no more nominations, nominations cease. Gary Jepson will be vice president.

Director West: The floor was opened for nominations. Ken Stoppler nominated Warren Thomas for Director West. Gary Jepson seconded the motion. Seeing no more nominations, nominations cease. Warren Thomas will be director west.

Director East: The floor was opened up for nominations. Tom Kitzan nominated Joe Maertens for director east. Seeing no more nominations, nominations cease. Joe Maertens will be director east.

Secretary: Gary Jepson nominated Ken Stoppler for secretary. Bob Burns seconded the motion. Seeing no more nominations, nominations cease. Ken Stoppler will be secretary.

Rick Weige made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bob Gangl seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Minutes of February Board Meeting

February 6th 2010

Board meeting, Bismarck North Dakota

Present: President Sheldon Cieslak; NTA rep and Vice President Gary Jepson; Directors Joe Maertens, Rick Wiege, and Tony Brandenburger; and special guests Stephanie and Chad Tucker from The North Dakota Game and Fish Department.

The treasurer's report and minutes of last meeting were approved.

Because of the weather and illness attendance was light so Sheldon filled in for Treasurer Ken Stoppler.

Motion was made and approved to purchase for a sum of \$500 the equipment from a member and auction said equipment at our 2010 Rendezvous.

A lot of time was spent discussing the 2010 rendezvous and some of that discussion will be covered in the Presidents report.

Also discussed at length was the otter avoidance brochure. Rusty Trosen and Brent Kuss gave input by phone and Stephanie noted our suggestions along with stating that if anyone else has comments there is time to submit them to her or to Sheldon Cieslak.

Meeting adjourned at 2:16 PM CST.

2010 Trappers Hall of Fame Inductee

Elsie Pierce

Hatton, North Dakota

I was married to Wilbert Pierce in 1940. As you know he was a trapper. The first year I followed him on his trap line, I thought this looked like fun. I told him I wanted to trap by myself. He told me I had to learn how to set traps. He told me I would have to try trapping muskrats, as I didn't need such heavy traps. After a few caught fingers and I figured it out. We had a slough with muskrat houses and push ups in it. That year I caught 50 muskrats.

I spent the next four years trapping muskrats and we were lucky enough to catch a few mink that had drilled into the muskrat houses. I skated around the slough and the lake pulling a sled so I didn't have to carry a heavy load. Then I got a job stretching muskrat hides for a mink rancher, so I didn't do much trapping after that.

In 1960 we moved from Pelican Rapids, Minnesota to Hatton, North Dakota. I got affiliated with Ardell Grawe when they were starting the Fur Takers Association. Ben Zastoupil was secretary and he wanted to give it up. I got the job as Secretary-Treasurer and did the job for 14 years. I also started writing a short column in the national Fur Takers paper. That seemed to be a hit. I got a lot of notes back from different members saying they enjoyed it. We started organizing fur sales. Some were pretty good. I still have my books if anyone wants to know who belonged and what furs they sold.

I am a life member of Fur Takers of America.

2010 Trappers Hall of Fame Inductee

Richard E. Severson

Stanley, North Dakota

Thirty-six and one half years of federal service including three years in the U.S. Paratroopers, 101st Airborne Division, 1955-1958.

Past President of the North Dakota Fur Takers Association, member of the Idaho Trapper's Association, and the United States Sportsmen's Alliance.

Over the years Rick has taken over 7,000 coyotes by all methods, 600 plus by calling on farm and ranch complaints and requests for assistance. Hundreds of other complaints on waterfowl, blackbirds, beaver, fox, etc.

Worked at Twin Falls, Idaho for Denver Wildlife Research Center developing coyote control tools, tranquilizer tabs, lures, electric fencing, guard dogs, coyote characteristics, etc.

Developed methods of tranquilizing and capturing live coyotes from helicopter, for use at various research institutes. Published in "Wildlife Management Journal".

Have conducted hundreds of classes and demonstrations to promote trapping, snaring, disease suppression, bird and animal damage reduction, etc. to sportsmen's clubs stock growers associations, FFA classes, 4-H clubs, youth summer camps, high schools, elementary schools, cities, towns, civic groups, and individuals.

After retirement, worked eleven years for Delta Waterfowl Foundation controlling predators to determine effects on ground nesting birds, primarily waterfowl.

Hello Fur Takers,

Well, the spring newsletter has turned into a summer newsletter. The fall newsletter will be coming soon, also.

First of all I would like to congratulate the 2010 Trappers Hall of Fame inductees these two individuals are very deserving for all of the time they have dedicated to the North Dakota Fur Takers and their events.

Mark your calendars! The Rendezvous is scheduled for August 27th and 28th. It will be at the Glenn Ullin Park, which is the same location as last year. There will be a full schedule of events and times in the fall newsletter. From what I've seen so far there looks to be a great set of demos in the works. Hope to see everyone there.

There are a few board positions open again this year, so if you have the time to help the organization, consider throwing your name in the hat.

I'd again like to thank our advertisers that help to keep this newsletter coming. Try to keep these businesses in mind when you need supplies, guns, ammo, taxidermy or if you're looking for a fur buyer to sell your furs to. They have all helped to make this a success and they are all great to work with.

If there are some topics you would like discussed in the newsletter drop me an e-mail or give me a call. I'm open to any ideas.

Brent Kuss, Newsletter Editor
701-752-4354
bckuss@daktel.com

**Deadline for the next newsletter is
July 25, 2010.**

NDFTA Board Members

President-Sheldon Cieslak (701) 748-6248
Vice President-Gary Jepson (701) 863-6535
Secretary-Ken Stoppler (701) 282-6731
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Directors-Tony Brandenburger (701) 349-4122
Rusty Trosen (701) 464-2245
Joe Maertens (701) 277-0883
Rick Wiege (701) 878-4878
Mark Monti (701) 453-3427
Warren Thomas (701) 575-2209

ND Fur Takers Rendezvous

August 27-28, 2010

Glen Ullin Park

2010 FTA Trapper's College

September 12-18, 2010

YMCA Camp Potawatami
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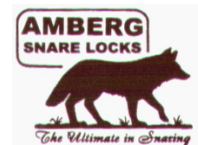
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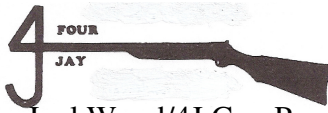
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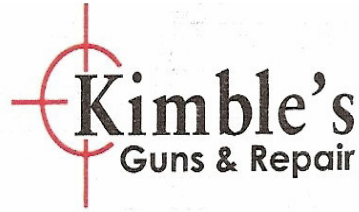
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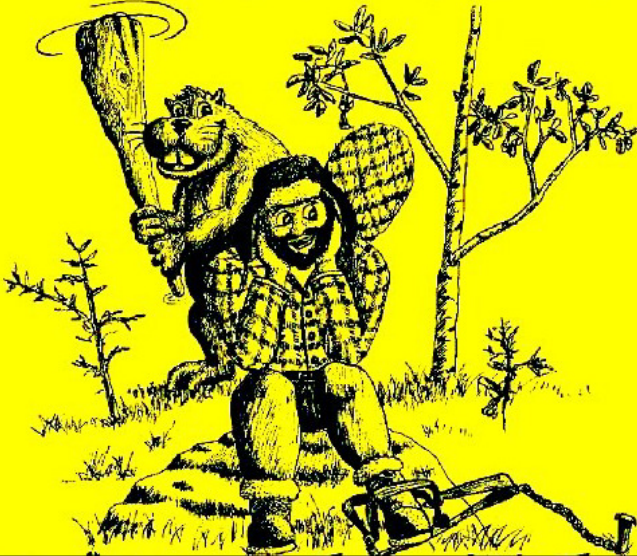


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