



NORTH DAKOTA FUR TAKERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

A Message From Our President - Sheldon Cieslak

Hope everyone had a great summer. Fishing has been great on the Missouri river when I can get away from work and coaching baseball.

I was treated to an enjoyable sight today at work. There has been a Muley doe hanging around the buildings at work and I could get close enough to see she was carrying a good supply of milk. This afternoon I found out why she was so heavy. She finally brought her fawns out and there are three of them. I told my supervisor and four of us watch them until the fawns melted out of sight. No matter how often I see Mother Nature at her best I still have to stop and enjoy her blessings.

It's my understanding we have a new furbearer biologist. Her name is Stephanie Tucker and is a Glen Ullin native. She is an outdoor girl who hunts and fish's and to my understanding is well versed on bobcats. She is a graduate of NDSU and received her M.S. from Iowa State University. I will give her an invite and hopefully Stephanie can attend our Rendezvous.

Speaking of rendezvous, do not forget ours on August 22nd in Glen Ullin. It will be a great time.

I would like to close with mentioning our two newest inductees into the NDFTA Hall of Fame. Mr. Gary Jepson and the late Mel Mittelsteadt. I personally cannot think of two more deserving individuals then these two gentlemen. The event was well attended and all had a good time.

Hope to see very one in Glen Ullin and sell those raffle tickets,

Sheldon

Membership Application NORTH DAKOTA FUR TAKERS CHAPTER 3

Michelle Thomas, Treasurer
211 3rd St NW
Belfield, ND 58622
701-575-2209

Circle One:
New
Renewal

Date: _____

F. T.A Dues Only.....	\$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

Circle One:

Name _____ Phone _____

Street _____

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2009 Trappers Hall of Fame Inductees

Gary Jepson- by Brent Kuss

Gary Jepson is a long line trapper from Killdeer that hardly needs an introduction to most members of the North Dakota Fur Takers.

There are few people in this organization that have dedicated as many hours to the ND chapter let alone the hours that he spends on the national level serving on many committees and as Vice President of both the state and national organizations.

Gary's hard earned knowledge has been shared with many trappers in North Dakota and beyond at rendezvous', through private trapping instructions, at countless other state and national conventions and as an instructor at the Fur Takers College.

Gary has a passion to make sure our trapping heritage will be preserved. He uses his many years on trap lines in many states and at home to dispel false information used to damage fur harvesting and to promote ethical means of harvesting fur as a natural resource for the present and future trappers to come.

The selection committee inducted two more great men into the Trapper's Hall of Fame.

Mel Mittelsteadt – by Sheldon Cieslak

One of the highest compliments you can bestow upon a man is that you felt you knew him well before you met him. The highest compliment you could pay said individual is that when you finally got to know him, everything that you heard about him was true.

Both compliments fit Mel Mittelsteadt. Mel was more than an exceptional trapper and snare man, he was a great human being. He was generous with his time and knowledge. More than one person spent time in his fur shed learning the finer points of fur handling, lure making, and proper techniques to harvest fur.

You never knew where Mel would show up, selling raffle tickets and promoting the North Dakota Fur Takers of America. He was always spreading goodwill and speaking of sound wildlife management.

Mel was exceptional with young people. He showed great patience and offered steep discounts on traps to young people who were just starting out in trapping. No questions that were asked went unanswered.

The fur harvesting community and the world as a whole could use a few more Mel's.

Meet your director – Michelle Thomas

Hello everyone! My name is Michelle Thomas & I am your new treasurer. I'm married to Warren Thomas, one of your western district reps. We have 4 daughters; Heather, Amanda, Charlene and Nicole. They all have helped me over the last few years with the meals at the Rendezvous. I really enjoy getting to meet the members and visiting with them at the Rendezvous every year.

I am still trying to get the hang of being treasurer, so if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me. Thanks very much for giving me this opportunity of being treasurer. Hope everyone has a great year of trapping this coming season. Hope to see you all at the rendezvous this August.

F. Y. I.

Trapping is coming to television. Fur Takers of America is promoting trapping on the Outdoor Channel. There will be some sort of informational or educational spot 72 times a year. Watch for it!!!

2009 Rendezvous Schedule

AUGUST 21 – 23, 2009

GLEN ULLIN PARK

On HWY 10

GLEN ULLIN, ND

Friday Evening:

Set-up camp

7:00pm

Set traps for the trapping contest.

(\$10 entry fee to be used to pay prizes, also remember to **have a valid trapping license**).

Supper upon return.

Saturday:

6am - 8am

Breakfast - Bring your own sausage, Fur Takers will furnish the rest.

7am

Leave to check traps and be back by 9:00 for demo

9am

Turn in your beaver tails to Rusty Trosen and Mark Monti for the largest beaver tail contest.

9am – 10am

Demo

10am – 11am

Demo

11am – 12pm

Demo

12pm – 4pm

Potluck Dinner - Bring a salad or desert with serving utensils, we'll supply the rest.

Auction – Bring donations items.

Annual fall meeting

Raffle drawing – **Don't forget your raffle tickets!**

4pm-

Demo

6pm – 7pm

Potluck Supper - Bring a salad or desert with serving utensils, we'll supply the rest.

Sunday:

6am – 8am

Breakfast - Bring your own sausage, Fur Takers will furnish the rest.

8am

Clean up

Camping at the park for tents & campers for a fee.

Motels/Hotels:

Brick City Motel

507 South Avenue, Hebron, ND

701-878-4467

Bed & Breakfast:

The Rock Roof Inn

213 S 5th Street, Glen Ullin, ND

701-348-3877

<http://rockroofinn.com/>

Hello Fur Takers,

I hope everybody had a great summer and hopefully we will have a long fall.

As you read your newsletter look over the advertisers, as they are the ones that help bring these newsletters to the members and if we can patronize them back, it's good for our organization. Once again we have a great mix of ads with trapping supply dealers, gun/ammo dealers, taxidermists and fur buyers. A big THANK YOU to them.

It's rendezvous time again. Our Fall Rendezvous will be in Glenn Ullin at the park. This is located on old highway 10 west of town. There will be a great mix of demos Saturday. We will also have John Graham with Fur Country Lures and Dusty Hough with The Fur Shed setting up with trapping supplies. If there is anything you would like them to bring for you contact them ahead of time and they can save you some freight money. They both have ads with their contact information.

We will have a special guest this year as Tim Julian will be at our rendezvous to do demos and answer questions. Tim is an excellent trapper and specializes in nuisance and damage control work. He is an instructor for the Fur Takers College, has participated in the national coyote trapping contest many times, has a trapping supply dealership that specializes in nuisance control work and his own line of lures and is also the general organizer for the national Fur Takers of America. There are few trapper with more knowledge and stories of the situations a trapper can get into than Tim, and he is an all around nice guy that I have had the pleasure to meet and look forward to seeing at the rendezvous.

We will be voting on the following positions at the annual meeting this year: Vice President, Secretary, and an East and West Director. If you would be interested in a position let a board member know.

Hope to see all of you in Glen Ullin.

Brent Kuss, NDFTA Secretary
701-752-4354
bckuss@daktel.com

**Deadline for the next newsletter is
February 22, 2010.**

NDFTA Board Members

President-Sheldon Cieslak (701)748-6248
Vice President-Gary Jepson (701)863-6535
Secretary-Brent Kuss (701)752-4354
Treasurer-Michelle Thomas (701)575-2209
Directors-Tony Brandenburger (701)349-4722
Rusty Trosen (701)469-2245
Joe Maertens (701)277-0883
Rick Wiege (701)878-4878
Mark Monti (701)453-3427
Warren Thomas (701)575-2209

FTA Trappers College
September 13-19, 2009

YMCA Camp Potawatami

7255 E 700 S

South Milford, IN

National Convention **2010 Fur Takers of America** **Rendezvous**

June 10-12, 2010

Bartholomew County 4-H Fairgrounds
Columbus, IN

You can get more details @
www.furtakersofamerica.com.

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Put your ad here for \$25.00 a year.
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Contact Brent @ 701-752-4354.

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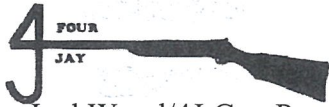
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7th Annual Beaver Bash
Saturday, October 3, 2009

You're invited to our 7th Annual trapper appreciation day for our most loyal customers and fellow trappers.

Demos will begin at 10:00am and will continue throughout the day.
Make sure to bring your appetite, because there will be a hog roast served at 1pm.
Tailgater's welcome!



For more info (218)937-5628

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