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Special Interest Articles:

- Velvet Watch
- Director Spotlight
- July 10 Board Meeting Minutes
- August 7 Membership Meeting Minutes
- 2008 North Central Antler Competition
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President's Message by Jim Byrne

Last year I said about the same thing. August! Eight months of the year gone and I can't figure out where the other seven went. This has been a very busy year so far, and I don't think it will slow down much as we now get ready for the breeding season. So far this month we have had both the North Central Antler Competition and the International Competition. Eileen and I just returned from a week in the Ely area enjoying the great fishing and the beautiful weather. Next on the schedule is the State Fair. And, somehow, I have to figure out time to put in at the office to support all this activity. Maybe September will slow down. (I doubt it.)

Looking back at the legislative session, we were able to successfully avoid any action on banning harvest preserves. Early actions by the membership to bolster

our position with the legislature and the unfortunate finding of TB in cattle and deer in northern Minnesota made harvest preserves a non issue in this session. I think it is now time to redirect our energies to the pending Federal CWD Final Rule and push for passage at the earliest possible opportunity. We will have to start working on strategies to accomplish this goal. Utilizing the expertise of our Cervidae Advisory Committee

and the Minnesota Board of Animal Health should help us in direction and efficient use of our resources toward this end.

We have accomplished a lot so far, but there is yet much to do. With the energy and abilities this association possesses, the remainder of this year will be productive and fun. The best of luck in the breeding season. I wish you all safety and health in the months ahead.



Competition attendees checking out antler on the table.

MnEBA News is a bimonthly publication of the Minnesota Elk Breeders Association. It is mailed out on the first day of February, April, June, August, October, and December. Deadline for information, articles, and advertisements is the 15th of the preceding month.

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Brenda Hartkopf
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MnEBA

Mission Statement

The Minnesota Elk Breeders Association represents a unified voice that strengthens the Elk farming industry in Minnesota by creating awareness about Elk production and promotion and consumption of Elk products.

Velvet Watch

2008 is proving to again be a different kind of year for velvet sales in the U.S. There is still a lot of velvet left in Minnesota which is unusual for this time of year. Several factors are emerging which are reportedly slowing velvet sales. One big event is the 2008 Olympics which is currently being held in Beijing, China. This event has locked down Chinese borders and has cut velvet traffic to a standstill. It is speculated that there will be more interest in North American antler once the Olympics are over, but at this time, it is only speculation. Other factors appear to be world economics and world supply/demand issues.



Global Velvet held a buying weekend at the farm of Larry & Mary Gerdes in Bay City, WI on August 2nd & 3rd, offering \$10 per pound but are no longer buying. Scott Salonek offered the Elk Marketing office as a collection point for velvet antler and is currently negotiating a price. As of now, one buyer involved wants to buy on a consignment basis.

Canadian velvet sales are reported to be much the same as in the U.S. Very little pricing is being quoted, but what is being quoted is very low. Buyers there are also saying to wait until after the Olympics to see if there is a change for the better. The good news is that there are buyers and that they do want antler.

Stay tuned for more info as it comes in. Also, stay in touch with those individuals who are working to coordinate velvet sales in Minnesota.

1. **Scott Groen** – Can be reached at 320-979-0911
2. **Scott Salonek** – Can be reached at 763-428-8561

Director's Spotlight by Pat Prodzinski

Well we have just returned from the North Central and NAEBA antler competition and convention. The Wisconsin group did an excellent job hosting the regional competition; the facility and area were great and there were lots of activities in the area to keep everyone busy when they weren't involved in convention activities. Minnesota was well represented. Thanks to all that could attend and we missed all that were unable to attend. The convention itself was very successful and there were a lot of great bulls represented in the competition. Now that we are home and fall is rapidly approaching we will need to be planning

our breeding strategies and waiting for one of the most anticipated times of the year when the rut is on and the bulls start bugling. I would like to encourage everyone to visit the new improved MNEBA web site and the new members only section.

I will leave you with the answer to a riddle that I found in the Wapiti Whisperings magazine.

Throughout the ages, men have been trying to unlock the mystery to why their wives, who accepted them as they were before they got married, begin the quest to change their behavior and life-style once their vows are exchanged.

Finally, the riddle is solved. A social scientist arrived at a simple and logical explanation.

When the bride, accompanied by her father, starts to walk slowly down the long aisle, she sees the altar at the end and hears the choir singing a hymn. Walking down the aisle, the conditioning process where the brain absorbs these three stimuli: aisle, altar, hymn...aisle, altar, hymn...aisle, altar, hymn. And finally, as she stops beside the groom, the conditioning process is complete. She looks up at him smiling sweetly and keeps saying to herself... 'I'll Alter Him'.

Have a great Fall.



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July 10, 2008 Board Meeting Minutes

The MnEBA Board of Directors held a phone conference on July 10, 2008. Jim Byrne, Mark Hendrickson, Pat Prodzinski, Charles Francis, Brian Wagner and Brenda Hartkopf were present. The meeting began at 8:05 p.m. In the interest of time, the Board agreed to review the May 3rd secretary minutes and treasurer's report at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Byrne asked Hartkopf to update the Board on where things were at with the raffle. Hartkopf reported that there were two bull bids submitted by the membership and asked the Board to consider which bid to accept. After acceptance of the lowest bid, discussed other prize offerings. Hendrickson and Hartkopf to follow up on securing remaining prizes. Hartkopf to update Board via email on the final proposed line-up of prizes and once approval is given, get tickets made to hand out at the upcoming summer membership meeting. Wagner will pursue an idea for the fundraiser at the annual conference in January.

Discussed the new Member's Only section of the MnEBA web site and also the addition of the MnEBA video to the Home page of the web site. Byrne asked if we could expand the window to the video. Hartkopf reported that to make it larger, it would significantly slow down the download time. Decision was made to leave as is. Hartkopf to check to see if we can add a "remember password" function to the member login page.

Byrne reported that the Minnesota Deer Breeders Association has asked if MnEBA would be interested in sharing Tony Kwilas as a lobbyist for both organizations. Byrne was unable to reach Kwilas prior to the meeting to discuss this request, but will keep trying. Board made the decision to decline this request. Byrne to follow up.

Discussed having a MnEBA booth at the NAEBA Convention. Hartkopf reported that MnEBA will be charged the regular fee to have a booth at the convention and that the booth fee includes a free registration. Hartkopf was directed to purchase a booth space for MnEBA. Wagner will look into selling the registration that goes with the booth.

Board discussed trade-marking the Minnesota elk branding logo in the U.S. Hartkopf reported that MnEBA has been advised to have a lawyer take care of the paperwork because a lot of background research needs to be conducted. Hartkopf received a \$1,000 estimate to have the Minnesota elk logo researched and trade-marked in the U.S. Board made decision to table trade-marking the logo until there is a request to use it, in which case, trade-marking would be reconsidered.

Hartkopf reported that the Elk Marketing Council has no plans at this time to make new headbands like the ones distributed at last year's Minnesota State Fair. Elk Marketing would consider sharing in cost to have additional headbands made. It was decided that there are not enough funds in this year's budget for MnEBA to cost share in making new headbands.

Hartkopf asked the Board if they had any ideas for making improvements to the Minnesota State Fair booth? While none were forthcoming, Board will think about it and get back to the committee with ideas.

Wagner and Hartkopf reported they are working closely with the Wisconsin Commercial Deer and Elk Farmers Association to host the upcoming North Central Antler Competition. Plans are well underway.

Hartkopf asked the Board if the next newsletter should go out on August 1st as usual or be delayed until after the North Central Antler Competition and summer membership meeting? The concern is that this information would be printed in the October 1st newsletter, long after the competition and summer meeting has ended. Board agreed to have the August 1st issue delayed until after this event.

No other business was brought forward. It was agreed to adjourn at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Hartkopf

August 7, 2008 Membership Meeting Minutes

Ho-Chunk Casino Hotel & Convention Center, Baraboo, WI

The membership of the Minnesota Elk Breeders Association held their summer meeting on August 7, 2008. Jim Byrne called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Jim asked for additions or corrections to the January 12, 2008 secretary report as presented. Morrie Evenson moved to accept the report, Pat Prodzinski seconded, motion carried.

The treasurer's report was reviewed showing a current balance of \$20,513.11. Jon Aase moved to accept the treasurer's report, Wade Schimmelpfennig seconded, motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Government Relations: Jim Byrne reported that the joint meeting between the MN Deer Breeders Association, MnEBA and DFL Senate leaders this past February was very successful. He reported that Dr. Hartmann was also in attendance and that he did an excellent job explaining the regulations which cervidae producers already abide by.

Jim also reported that the TB in cattle issue was in the forefront of ag legislation this year at the State Capitol. MnEBA's lobbyist, Tony Kwilas worked diligently to assure that the elk industry was well represented during TB legislative discussions.

Jim is tentatively planning to attend the upcoming USAHA meeting in October to learn more about the CWD Supplemental Rule and to work with other farmed cervidae leaders to push for a final resolution to the federal CWD rule issue.

Health: Jim shared a health report submitted by Glen Zebarth. Glen reported that ERC is currently working with NADEFA on a project to develop a blood test for TB.

Glen also pointed out that the last case of CWD in farmed cervidae in the U.S. was in a whitetail deer in Madison, MN three years ago. The lack of findings in the U.S. since then shows that the emergency program is working well.

Lastly, Glen reported that the USDA is still working on the UM&R for CWD but that now they are proposing a Supplemental Rule. This rule may go to requiring participation in the CWD program for five years before movement would be allowed. State concerns over CWD endemic areas and preemption of state rights versus USDA control is at the forefront of the delay in getting things finalized.

Fundraising Raffle: Brenda Hartkopf reported that tickets are now available for the 2008 raffle. Five prizes are vacation packages with the final prize being \$500 cash. Brenda thanked this year's donors, Tony & Patty Beckel – hunt facility and guide service, Timber Ridge Outfitters – Kansas Turkey Hunt, Mark & Sue Hendrickson – Bahamas Treasure Cay Island Villa, Sportsman's Lodge – Lake of the Woods guided fishing trip, and Fred & Eleanor Neubert – Red Lake guided fishing trip. Winning tickets will be drawn the evening of January 10th at the MnEBA Annual Conference.

Promotions: Brenda Hartkopf reported she and Tony Beckel gave a presentation at the SCI Convention at the Northland Inn last February on the farmed elk industry with a special focus on harvest preserve opportunities in Minnesota.

Brenda reported that the Houston County Farm Bureau requested elk information for the Farm Bureau booth at the Houston County Fair.

The new Minnesota Elk DVD's have been doing very well. The first batch of 75 were quickly distributed and a second batch was ordered.

The new MnEBA Member's Only site was reviewed as well as the Minnesota Elk DVD which has been uploaded to the MnEBA web site.

Lastly, Brenda reported that the meat brochure inventory is running low. There are credits available through Minnesota Grown to have new meat brochures created. Brenda asked for suggestions on improving the current brochure. Suggestions included creating a different look to the brochure, to have more recipes (4 all together) and to keep a space open for producers to put their stamp or name on the brochure.

State Fair: Daphne Evenson reported that there are still 3 fully open days for the State Fair booth. She also made the recommendation that MnEBA should sell off the old, less sturdy brown tables and replace them with two more white tables. She also asked the Board to consider offering free tickets to members who work the Fair booth. President Byrne said he would take these recommendations to the next Board meeting. The 2008 State Fair runs from August 21 – September 1.

Annual Conference: Brenda Hartkopf reported that the 2009 Annual Conference will be held at the Holiday Inn in Mankato, MN on January 9-10. She asked members to offer suggestions for seminars, fundraisers and any other comments to Kaye Zebarth or herself.

NAEBA REPORT

Mark Luedtke reported that the March Mingle was successful and that the NAEBA Board is planning to hold it once again. There will also likely be another auction.

He also reported that there are several NAEBA committees which are looking for volunteers and encouraged anyone interested to get involved.

Mark was filling in a temporary position from another region and reported that he was not planning to run again.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was brought forth.

NEW BUSINESS

Jim reported that the MnEBA member who had been conducting an annual review of MnEBA books is no longer a member or providing this service. MnEBA has inquired with several accountants about pricing for different levels of service including compilation, review, and audit. Jim reviewed these options and pricing with the membership. Jim will bring membership comments back to the Board for further consideration.

Jim reported that MnEBA is working on coordinating an elk charity hunt for a disabled Vietnam veteran. Tony Beckel has agreed to donate his guide service and facility and Mark Hendrickson has agreed to haul the bull to the facility in Baudette. MnEBA is still looking for a bull to be donated for this event. The bull can be donated by an individual farm or a group of individuals can go together to purchase a bull. The hunt would be scheduled in late October or early November.

Morrie Evenson moved to adjourn, Mark Luedtke seconded, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Brenda Hartkopf, Executive Secretary

2008 North Central Antler Competition



Antler judge Brian Wagner sharing detailed information about the judging process for each set.

The Wisconsin Commercial Deer & Elk Farmers Association were the hosts for this year's North Central Antler Competition. They did a fantastic job and it was a great competition!

Altogether, 25 velvet sets and 31 hard antler sets for a total of 56 sets were entered into the competition. There were many highlights including (4) 20+ lb. two year old velvet sets, a 52+ lb. 6 year old velvet set, and a three year old breeders three set averaging 439 1/8 SCI! Congratulations to Richard & Sandra Spanton of Golden Bear Monarchs who won the Premier Breeder Award!

A big THANKS goes out to several MnEBA members took time out to help with competition including Brian Wagner, Lance Hartkopf, Bill Bauer, Wade and Norman Schimmelpfennig.

Every year the bulls entered into competition get better and better. It's very exciting to see good breeding programs at work. What new records will we see in the future?

"Top Three" 2008 NCAC Velvet Antler Winners

Category	Bull's Name	CWI Points	Bull's Sire	Owner
Velvet 2 Year Old				
1 st	Cadillac	92.76	Undenya Bull	Bill & Karen Knutson
2 nd	Tequila	89.40	Amber Yoda	Mark & Sue Hendrickson
3 rd	Amarillo Sky	87.68	Montana's Sky	Lance & Brenda Hartkopf
Velvet Antler 2 Year Old Breeders Three				
1 st	LLE 603	75.02	GEF Braetak	Mark & Lisa Luedtke
	LLE 618	73.70	GEF Braetak	Mark & Lisa Luedtke
AVERAGE 74.77 CWI	LLE 611	75.60	GEF Braetak	Mark & Lisa Luedtke
2 nd	LLE 616	72.14	GEF Braetak	Mark & Lisa Luedtke
	LLE 615	66.65	GEF Braetak	Mark & Lisa Luedtke
AVERAGE 68.99 CWI	LLE 602	68.19	GEF Braetak	Mark & Lisa Luedtke
Velvet 3 Year Old				
1 st	LLE 504	91.81	GEF Braetak	Mark & Lisa Luedtke
2 nd	SPR 514R	89.64	SPR Casey	Lance & Brenda Hartkopf
3 rd	SPR 505R	89.55	SPR Blake	Lance & Brenda Hartkopf
Velvet 4 Year Old				
1 st	LLE Cleaner	110.85	GEF Scorch	Mark & Lisa Luedtke
2 nd	LLE Jazz White	90.51	SHR King 26	Mark & Lisa Luedtke
Velvet 6 Year Old				
1 st	The Bounty King	152.93	Clearstone Bounty	Brian & Ruby Lawler
2 nd	H.I.E. Elvis	120.02	Elliot W.A.	Brian & Ruby Lawler
Mature				
1 st	WLA OR8L	116.45	Smokin Ash	Greg & Deb Jurowski

“Top Three” 2008 NCAC Hard Antler Winners

Category	Bull Name	SCI Points	Owner
Spiker			
1 st	Cadillac	209 5/8	Bill & Karen Knutson
3 Year Old Typical			
1 st	GBM Impressive	397 1/8	Richard & Sandra Spanton
3 Year Old Non-Typical			
1 st	GBM Hulk	427 0/8	Richard & Sandra Spanton
Hard Antler 3 Year Old Breeders Three			
1 st	GBM Duke	463 5/8	Richard & Sandra Spanton
	Sir Richard	439 6/8	Richard & Sandra Spanton
AVERAGE SCI 439 1/8	GBM Prince	414 1/8	Richard & Sandra Spanton
4 Year Old Typical			
1 st	Impressive	417 7/8	Richard & Sandra Spanton
2 nd	Diamond Jack	396 2/8	Ted Rea
3 rd	Cactus Jack	358 4/8	Ted Rea
4 Year Old Non-Typical			
1 st	GBM Grand Slam	444 5/8	Richard & Sandra Spanton
2 nd	Heritage 13	439 3/8	Ted Rea
5 Year Old Typical			
1 st	Y35M	417 2/8	Jim & Mary Kay Kotschevar
2 nd	The Bounty King	406 1/8	Brian & Ruby Lawler
3 rd	Titan 42M	372 5/8	Wade Schimmelpfennig
5 Year Old Non-Typical			
1 st	EME Matrix 11	406 5/8	Ted Rea
2 nd	7M	389 1/8	Fred & Brenda Neitzel
6 Year Old Typical			
1 st	Yellow 88	430 5/8	Lynn Steinbrink
6 Year Old Non-Typical			
1 st	WLA OR 8L	429 4/8	Greg & Deb Jurowski
Mature Typical			
1 st	King Jr.	445 6/8	Brian Wagner
2 nd	Drifter 026K	435 7/8	Joel & Cheri Espe
3 rd	Honest Jack	419 2/8	Kim & Cindy Kafka
Mature Non-Typical			
1 st	Matador	498 4/8	Ted Rea
2 nd	Reno Red 76K	482 4/8	Jim & Mary Kay Kotschevar
3 rd	Zeus GEF 030	470 4/8	Richard & Sandra Spanton



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“Top Three” 2008 International Antler Competition Winners

Congratulations to the following MnEBA members who competed and placed in the Top 3 of the International Antler Competition!

Category	Bull Name	CWI / SCI	Bull Sire	Owner
Velvet 2 Year Olds				
1 st	Cadillac	92.76 CWI	Undenyabull	Bill & Karen Knutson
2 nd	Tequila	89.40 CWI	Amber Yoda	Mark, Sue & Jeremy Hendrickson
3 rd	King Cove	85.10 CWI	King Jr.	Brian Wagner
Velvet Antler 2 Year Old Breeders Three				
1 st	LLE 603	75.02 CWI	GEF Braetak	Mark & Lisa Luedtke
	LLE 618	73.70 CWI	GEF Braetak	Mark & Lisa Luedtke
AVERAGE 74.77 CWI	LLE 611	75.60 CWI	GEF Braetak	Mark & Lisa Luedtke
Velvet 3 Year Olds				
1 st	LLE 504	91.82 CWI	GEF Braetak	Mark & Lisa Luedtke
Velvet 4 Year Olds				
1 st	LLE Cleaner	110.85 CWI	GEF Scorch	Mark & Lisa Luedtke
2 Year Old Non-Typical				
3 rd	Red O29R	348 1/8 SCI	637L Gunner	Don & Jane Berg
4 Year Old Typical				
2 nd	Oak Creek Jack	409 4/8 SCI	SHR King	Don & Jane Berg
5 Year Old Typical				
2 nd	Y35M	408 5/8 SCI	Justin	Jim & Mary Kay Kotschevar
6 Year Old Non-Typical				
2 nd	Oak Creek Frisco	506 7/8 SCI	Acceleration	Don & Jane Berg
Mature Typical				
2 nd	King Jr.	446 0/8 SCI	SHR King	Brian Wagner



Wapiti Labs Velvet Antler Products Debuts on Lifetime's “The Balancing Act”

Earlier this summer, Wapiti Labs, based out of Ham Lake, MN, was featured on Lifetime Television's “The Balancing Act”. Hosted by renowned Dr. Wendy Walsh, this daily television show focuses on women, careers, entertainment, family and lifestyle.

The Balancing Act invited Wapiti Labs to join the show to focus on natural and alternative pet health. To view the segment, visit www.wapitilabsinc.com.

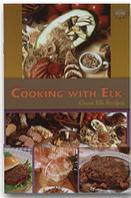
MnEBA Promotional Materials

The following items are available for promotional purposes. To see the full line of MnEBA promotional offerings, check out www.mneba.org and click on the "Promo Materials" button.

You can order online and pay by credit card or print off an order form and mail it to the MnEBA office along with a personal check. Contact info@mneba.org or call the MnEBA office at (320) 543-2686 with further questions.

MEAT PROMOTIONS

Elk Meat Poster 11" x 17" laminated poster in full color featuring elk burger and steak. Can personalize free of charge, no minimum order. \$5/each.



"ELK, Meat for a Healthy Life" Brochure 50 ct. bundle, \$10/each

3rd Edition "Cooking With Elk" Cookbook

1-9 copies, \$2.00/each; 10-99 copies, \$1.50/each; 100+ copies, \$1.00/each (*pictured*)

Table Tents feature a juicy elk burger, a MUST HAVE for restaurants selling elk burgers. Sold in packs of 20 for \$5.

VELVET PROMOTIONS



Velvet Antler for People Brochures is an updated, general velvet antler brochure. \$12.50/pack of 50 (*pictured*)

Velvet Antler for Pet Brochures is a first of its kind general info brochure about velvet antler & pets. \$12.50/pack of 50

Velvet Antler Brochures is a general velvet antler brochure produced by NAEBA. \$.30 each

GENERAL INFORMATION



Elk Info Brochure with general elk health and market info. FREE to MnEBA members up to 100 copies. \$.50 each to non-members. (*pictured*)

Raise the Legend Book, a general info booklet specifically created for the new breeder or those contemplating raising elk. Up to five copies FREE to MnEBA members!

Elk, America's Greatest Animal – Minnesota Elk DVD (NEWLY REVISED!) A DVD promoting all elk markets, with special emphasis on promoting Minnesota grown elk. Great tool for speaking to civic groups and classrooms. \$5 each.

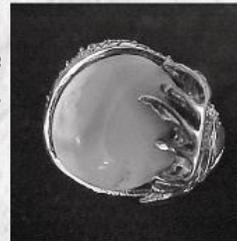
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NORTH DAKOTA ELK GROWERS' PAGES

North Dakota Campaign Update

As we begin the seventh month of the campaign to protect the Cervid and Bison industry in North Dakota, I wanted to thank our fellow Producers and State Associations for their support and provide a campaign update. Last August, an extremist group of residents received permission and began circulating signature petitions related to banning both hunting and processing operations of Cervid and Bison operations.

In October 2007, we outreached to Whitney O'Daniel, a campaign consultant to the NRA on how to best form a campaign committee and build a campaign plan to defeat this onerous ballot measure. Since that time, we have organized a top-notch campaign team in the state from both sides of the political spectrum.

In January, we formed a campaign committee to officially fight this ballot measure. The committee, Citizens to Preserve North Dakota Property Rights is led by producers of the Deer and Elk Associations with support from the NRA, SCI, Bison and other Agriculture industries.

We then built our grassroots organization generating and responding with letters to the editor from our fellow Cervid producers. In February, we attended agriculture and sport shows with a brand new show booth to expand our outreach and build awareness. Following our successful sport show and letters to the editor beginnings, we then participated in a public forum in Jamestown, ND (in the heart of where the extremists live) between both sides of this campaign. It was quite evident the crowd was solidly behind our efforts to protect our industry and protect private property rights. Many viewed this as a "first-step", by the anti's.

In June we publicly launched our campaign across the state and in July we set up a booth at the ND State Fair to educate the public and try to prevent our opposition from getting the last of the required signatures. We want to give wholehearted thanks to those who helped with the booth at the Fair in Minot. As of the date of this letter, the opposition obtained the required number of signatures, but the measure has not been approved to go on the ballot due to several deficiencies in the petition. However, under ND State law, there is a process by which this signature deficiency can be "cured." If the defects are corrected by August 27, the initiative will be approved to appear on the 2010 statewide ballot.

As for the extremists working to end our livelihood, we first picked up intelligence the Humane Society of the United States was engaging in this effort because of a printed letter to the editor in early March. Now, Wayne Pacelle, the CEO sent an email out to their membership in North Dakota asking them to help gather signatures for the ballot measure.

https://community.hsus.org/humane/notice-description.tcl?newsletter_id=22083277

It is our intent to expose HSUS's real agenda and the negative impact it has on our industry, agriculture and hunting rights. Just this year in Colorado, Idaho and Missouri, HSUS drafted and had legislators introduce High Fence hunting bans.

While we appreciate everyone's support, we have a very long way to go before November. That is why your contributions are so critical and welcomed to fight them in North Dakota. We have completed a statewide political poll to determine how voters feel about this issue. At this time, we have good polling numbers that indicate we can WIN this campaign!

We will win to show HSUS that our industry is not easily beaten. Your help will not be forgotten and we can assure you that we will join your fight, should HSUS come knocking on your door!

Again thank you for your support, and until next time be vigilant in defending our industry at home and elsewhere.

Wayne Laaveg & Shawn Schafer
Co-Chairmen
Citizens to Preserve North Dakota Property Rights
PO Box 4025
Bismarck, ND 58502-4025
www.ndpropertyrights.com

For sale: Quality monitored elk herd (approximately 30 animals) consisting of mostly cows and yearling bulls. If interested, please contact Steve & Brenda Houston, Garrison, ND 58540 (701) 337-5516 or sakelk@restel.net

For sale: Quality monitored whole elk herd. Approximately 11 bulls and 14 cows. Contact Dale Varnson at (701) 259-2143 or (701) 739-0920.

For sale: The Bounty King, limited semen available, also young bred females this Fall bred to The Bounty King. Contact Gerald Lawler, Hansboro, North Dakota at (701) 266-5341.



<p>REGISTERED Rocky Mountain Elk</p>  <p>N.A.E.B.A. Herd # 1189</p> <p>Mark, Sue & Jeremy Hendrickson</p> <p>952 • 448 • 6336</p> <p>15590 County Rd. 40 Carver, MN 55315</p>	<p>* Buying Hard Antler Bulls – Paying Top \$\$\$</p> <p>* Measuring Hard Antler Bulls</p> <p>* Hauling Hard Antler Bulls</p> <p>* Selling Velvet Antler, Breeding Stock, Elk Meat, Hard Antler, Semen, & Breeder Bulls</p> <p>* Seven years CWD Monitoring</p>
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MnEBA Kitchen

Salisbury Steak Deluxe with Ground Elk

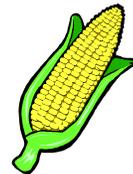
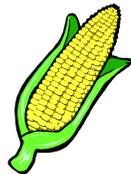
A good hearty meat dish for the cooler Fall days!

1 can Cream of Mushroom soup
1 Tbsp. mustard
2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
1 egg
¼ cup dry bread crumbs
1 small onion, finely chopped

½ tsp. salt
Dash pepper
1 ½ lbs. ground elk
½ cup water
2 Tbsp. chopped fresh parsley



In a bowl, combine the soup, mustard, and Worcestershire sauce; blend well. Set aside. In another bowl, lightly beat the egg. Add bread crumbs, onion, salt, pepper and ¼ cup of the soup mixture. Add ground elk, mix well. Shape into 6 patties. In a large skillet, brown the patties. Combine remaining soup mixture with water; pour over patties. Cover and cook over low heat for 10 – 15 minutes. Remove patties to a serving platter; spoon sauce over meat. Sprinkle with parsley.





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2nd Prize: 2 person / 3 day guided Kansas Turkey Hunt on 2,500 private acres at Timber Ridge Outfitters (*sponsored by Timber Ridge Outfitters*)



3rd Prize: Up to 5 people / 7 day Bahamas Treasure Cay Island Villa, airfare not included (*sponsored by Elk Unlimited*)



4th Prize: 2 person / 2 day / 3 night charter guided fishing trip at Sportsman's Lodge on Lake of the Woods (*sponsored in part by Sportsman's Lodge*)



5th Prize: 2 person / 2 day Red Lake guided fishing trip (*sponsored by Indian Hills Elk*)



6th Prize: \$500 cash

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Vet Corner by Glen Zebarth, DVM

USDA AND COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY RESEARCHERS DEVELOP FIRST LIVE TEST FOR CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE IN ELK

FORT COLLINS, Colo., May 30, 2008--Researchers from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and Colorado State University (CSU) recently completed their third year of evaluating and validating the first live rectal-tissue biopsy method for detecting chronic wasting disease (CWD) in captive and wild elk.

To date, researchers have collected over 1,500 biopsies from captive elk in Colorado and used the technique to find 15 elk that were positive for CWD. As compared to proven post-mortem diagnostic tests, this live test appears to be nearly as accurate.

"The key advantage to the rectal biopsy test is that it can be performed on live animals. Until now, there was no practical live test for CWD in elk," said research wildlife biologist Dr. Kurt VerCauteren with APHIS' Wildlife Services (WS) National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC). "With this technique we can detect CWD in animals not showing any signs of the disease and, thus, remove them so they are not left to infect other individuals and further contaminate the environment."

The research is a collaborative effort between APHIS' WS and Veterinary Services programs, the Agricultural Research Service, and the Colorado State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory within the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

The majority of the research was conducted on the Velvet Ridge Elk Ranch, owned by Dennis and Stephanie White, near Fort Collins, Colo. In 2002, an elk on the ranch was confirmed to have CWD and since that time the Whites have worked closely with NWRC and other collaborators to learn more about CWD and to develop methods to manage it in captive and wild settings.

"The use of this new live test in the initial screening, surveillance and monitoring of CWD will greatly aid in the management and control of the disease in the wild, as well as in captive settings," said VerCauteren.

CWD is a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy whereby abnormal proteins accumulate in the central nervous and lymphatic systems of infected animals causing a degenerative lack of control and a "wasting-away" death. Currently, there is no cure for CWD.

CWD has been reported in captive and free-ranging mule deer, white-tailed deer, elk and moose. CWD has been a devastating disease to the captive elk industry. An estimated 12,000-14,000 captive elk have been killed in the western United States and Canada in the past 7-8 years to control CWD. Several thousand free-ranging mule deer, white-tailed deer and elk also have been killed in attempts to reduce the disease in the wild.

The NWRC is the research arm of USDA's WS program. It is the federal institution devoted to resolving problems caused by the interaction of wild animals and society. The center applies scientific expertise to the development of practical methods to resolve these problems and to maintain the quality of the environments shared with wildlife. To learn more about NWRC, visit its Web site at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wildlife_damage/nwrc/.

Bull Needed for Elk Hunt for Disabled Vietnam Veteran

Last year, MnEBA coordinated an elk charity hunt for a disabled man through The Langenfeld Foundation. The Langenfeld Foundation chose the recipient, Tony Beckel donated his facility and services, and Mark Hendrickson and Don & Perry Olson worked together to come up with a bull. This event was videotaped and promoted at the Minneapolis SCI Convention and also mentioned on the Kent Hrbek Outdoor Show.



This year, the goal has been to sponsor an elk hunt for a very deserving Vietnam veteran. His name is Jim Sursely, a combat-disabled veteran of the Vietnam War. His bio reads: *A native of Rochester, Minn., Mr. Sursely enlisted in the U. S. Army in 1966. He volunteered for duty in Vietnam in 1968 and was assigned to the Americal Division's 17th Armored Cavalry. During a combat mission in January 1969, he stepped on an enemy land mine. His wounds resulted in the loss of his legs above the knee and left arm above the elbow. Following emergency helicopter evacuation to the 95th Evacuation Hospital at Da Nang, hospitalization in Japan, and extensive recuperation at Fitzsimons Army Medical Center in Colorado, he was medically discharged.*

Mr. Sursely was honored as the DAV Outstanding Disabled Veteran of the Year for 1993 and received the DAV Freedom Award at the 2001 National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic. Jim was also named Lourdes High school (Rochester MN) Alumni of the Year in 2002. He has returned to LHS several times to address the students in assembly. He has

also been a frequent visitor to the Minneapolis and other VA medical centers. Jim is also a member of MN DAVs Mayo Chapter 28 in Rochester.

Tony Beckel has once again donated his facility and guide services for this special hunt. Mark Hendrickson has agreed to haul the bull to Tony's facility. However, a bull is needed to make this special event, a reality. The goal is to schedule this event for the end of October or early November, thus, time is running out.

Please consider donating a bull for this special project. The Langenfeld Foundation is working to once again videotape the event and they are working with the Kent Hrbek Outdoor Show to feature a segment about it. The bull can be donated by one individual or a group of producers can go together to make this dream a reality for a very deserving individual.

If you can help, please contact the MnEBA Office as soon as possible. THANK YOU for your consideration!

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In The News

Federal Farm Bill & Farmed Cervidae

This past May, the 2007/2008 Farm Bill was signed into law. While the final version of the bill was passed by both chambers of Congress and sent to the President, the President vetoed the bill. Ultimately, each chamber of Congress was able to pass the legislation again with enough votes to override the President's veto. The legislation became law on May 22.

This Farm Bill is important for farmed cervidae producers on two fronts. First, it includes language supporting the completion of a CWD rule. Under Title XI - Livestock, it reads: *CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE - The Managers expect the Secretary to promulgate, as soon as practicable, a final rule to establish a herd certification program to combat chronic wasting disease in farmed and captive deer, elk and moose. The Managers expect the rule to include appropriate certification procedures to allow for the interstate movement of participating deer, elk, and moose.*

Secondly, the bill also includes authorization for a cervidae-specific research initiative. In particular, the bill contains language to support the establishment of the Center for Infectious Disease and Applied Genetics of Farmed Deer including a "High Priority Research and Extension Areas" section of the Farm Bill. The legislative language is as follows: *DEER INITIATIVE - Research and extension grants may be made under this section to support collaborative research focusing on the development of viable strategies for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of infectious, parasitic, and toxic diseases of farmed deer and the mapping of the deer genome.*

Many leaders in the U.S. cervidae industry made this work possible. Washington D.C. fly-ins by members of NAEBA, NADeFA, TDA, EWA, NTFARC, WCDEFA, WOW, and the Cervid Livestock Foundation were instrumental in addressing these issues with federal officials. NADeFA's national lobbyist and Wisconsin's lobbyist were instrumental in organizing the fly-in's, scheduling appointments and keeping the dialog flowing to federal legislators throughout the year.

Congratulations and thank you to all for a job well done!

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NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, July 1, 2008

CONTACT: Margaret Hart, Communications Coordinator, 651-201-6131

Grant program will boost state's livestock industry

ST. PAUL, Minn. – The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is now accepting applications for the Livestock Investment Grant Program, a new program to help support the state's livestock industry. Livestock producers can apply for the funding to help offset the costs of improving or expanding their operations.

Qualifying producers would be reimbursed ten percent of the first \$500,000 of investment, with a minimum investment of \$4,000. Qualifying expenditures include the purchase, construction, or improvement of buildings or facilities for the production of livestock, and the purchase of fencing as well as feeding and waste management equipment. Improvements made since January 1, 2008 are eligible for consideration.

MDA Commissioner Gene Hugoson says the livestock investment grants will give the state's livestock producers a boost to help them compete in the global marketplace.

"Many of our livestock producers have considered making investments in their operations and this grant program will provide some incentive for them to proceed," said Hugoson. "Minnesota is in the top ten states in livestock production and to remain competitive we need to ensure farmers are able to make investments that will help them not only maintain and but also enhance their operations."

Qualified grant applications will be awarded competitively through an evaluation committee. The grant will not pay for the cost of purchasing livestock or the cost of debt refinancing. Applications must be postmarked by September 15, 2008.

More information about the Livestock Investment Grant Program can be found on the MDA website at www.mda.state.mn.us.

Welcome New Members!

Melvin Ferguson & Sophia Re'Bon-Ferguson

Ceder Post Elk Ranch, P.O. Box 434,
Kyle, South Dakota, 57752, (605) 455-2427 (Home), (605) 454-2867 (Work),
srebon@yahoo.com

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Committee Reports

2008 MN State Fair Booth

By the time you receive this newsletter, the MN State Fair will already be underway. THANK YOU to all who have signed up to help. Every year the committee wonders if all the spots will get filled and every year, the membership steps up to help out. Your help is very much appreciated!

If you would like to help out in this year's State Fair booth but your name is not on the list, more help is always needed. MnEBA has a corner booth so people come from two sides. To keep up with meat sales, it is always helpful to have extra hands. This would be a great opportunity for someone who has never worked the Fair before to work with another person and see what it's all about. Any and all help, for any amount of time, is greatly welcomed! Contact Morrie Evenson at (320) 212-1479 or Daphne Evenson at (320) 894-2304 to sign up.

Once again this year, the booth will be set up with the meat products more inside the booth where workers can keep a better eye on them. It is also asked that all meat be put back into the trailer at night. Last year's sales were down a bit using this method, but there was very little product loss compared to previous years. The MnEBA booth is becoming a well known attraction for purchasing snack meats. It is more work, but it does reap good financial rewards for the association.

If you find that you cannot work at your scheduled time, please find a replacement or trade with another producer as soon as possible. Enjoy your time at the Fair!!!

MnEBA COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Annual Conference	Kaye Zebarth (320) 834-4064
Nominating	Fred Neubert (320) 352-6733
Government Relations	OPEN
Antler Competition	Kaye Zebarth (320) 834-4064
Health	Dr. Glen Zebarth (320) 834-4064
Auction	Jerry Strodman (507) 451-3107
Awards	Patty VanGundy (507) 896-2380
Promotions	Brenda Hartkopf (320) 543-2686
Shows	Morrie & Daphne Evenson (320) 354-5156
Fundraising	Brenda Hartkopf (320) 543-2686

MN State Fair MnEBA Booth Schedule

Date	Time	Workers	Date	Time	Workers
8/21	8 - 2	Morrie & Daphne Evenson & friends	8/27	8 - 2	Jerry & Joan Beier
	2 - 9	Glen & Kaye Zebarth		2 - 6	Jerry & Dick Strodman
8/22	8 - 2	Jon & Richard Aase	8/28	8 - 2	Jim Byrne
	2 - 9	Jon & Richard Aase		2 - 9	Jim Byrne
8/23	8 - 2	Kaplan Family	8/29	8 - 2	Jim Byrne and Martin Zacharias (10 am - 5 pm)
	2 - 9	Kaplan Family		2 - 9	Jim Byrne
8/24	8 - 2	Mark & Michelle Lucas and Dennis & Ann Goebel	8/30	8 - 2	Kaplan Family
	2 - 9	Dan Groothuis and Charles Francis (2 - 7 pm)		2 - 9	Kaplan Family
8/25	8 - 2	Sally Bergman and Evensons	8/31	8 - 2	Pat & Rita Prodzinski
	2 - 9	Fred Neubert & Cole		2 - 9	Lance & Brenda Hartkopf and Paul & Barbara Hartkopf
8/26	8 - 2	Duane & Damon Melquist	9/1	8 - 2	Larry Gerdes and Greg Lubinski
	2 - 9	Larry & Sherry Winter & grandkids		2 - 9	Paul, Lynn & Travis Hueg

2008 MnEBA Raffle



Tickets are now available for the 2008 MnEBA Raffle. This year's prize offerings are primarily vacation packages! For all those who like to get away from it all, this ticket has a vacation for everyone. And if that isn't enough, the 6th prize is \$500 in cash! This year, only **250** tickets have been printed, versus 300 tickets in previous years.

All members who sold tickets last year will automatically be receiving the same amount tickets to sell this year. If you weren't able to sell tickets last year, but have a buyer or two for this year or need more tickets than you received, please contact the MnEBA Office to request more tickets.

2009 MnEBA Annual Conference

Plans are underway for the 2009 MnEBA Annual Conference which will be held on January 9-10, 2009 at the Holiday Inn in Mankato, MN. Seminars are beginning to be lined up.

Have you been interested in learning to make antler crafts but don't know where to begin? Paul Ristau will be joining us to demonstrate the basics about making antler crafts. Paul is a self-taught antler crafter and makes beautiful antler art items for Don & Joyce Kaplan of Okaman Cervidae to sell in their gift shop. Another tentative speaker is Charly Seale who will be discussing the private property rights issue which is so important to all of us.

Do you have any other ideas for seminar topics? Do you have ideas for fundraisers or any other suggestions? Please contact Kaye Zebarth at 320-834-4064, Rita Prodzinski at 507-452-1282 or Brenda Hartkopf at 320-543-2686 with your ideas!

Thank You

Thank you to all who helped in the MnEBA booth at the NAEBA Convention. A special thank you to Pat Prodzinski for coordinating the booth and workers. Over \$800 was generated in promotional materials sales!

Helpers included Pat & Rita Prodzinski, Morrie & Daphne Evenson, Jerry Beier (and grandson), Wade and Norman Schimmelpfennig, and Jim Byrne.

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MnEBA Newsletter Advertising Rates

	Full Page	Half Page	Quarter Page	Business Card
1x	\$75	\$50	\$30	\$20
6x	\$400	\$300	\$180	\$120
Size	9 ¼ x 7 ¼	4 ½ x 7 ¼ or 9 ¼ x 3 ½	4 ½ x 3 ½	2 x 3 ½

Ads must be camera ready. To place an ad, call the MnEBA Office at (320) 543-2686.

Minnesota Elk Breeders Association

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Calendar of Events

August 21 – September 1, 2008 – Minnesota State Fair, St. Paul, MN

January 9 – 10, 2009 – MnEBA Annual Conference, Holiday Inn, Mankato

Classified Ads

Wanted: MnEBA is looking to sponsor an elk hunt for a Vietnam veteran through the Langenfeld Foundation and is seeking an elk bull to be harvested at Tony's Trophy Elk Hunt Ranch in Baudette, MN. A live bull donation or monetary donations to go towards purchasing or hauling a bull to Baudette would be gratefully accepted. Think about getting a group of producers together to offset the per person cost. This donation will go to a very admirable cause and is a great way to promote a positive image for the Minnesota elk industry. Contact the MnEBA Office at (320) 543-2686 or email info@mneba.org if you can help out.

For Sale: Breeder bulls available. Contact Luckyland Elk, Mark & Lisa Luedtke at (320) 573-2577.

For Sale: Elk rings for men & women. 14 kt solid gold bandset with an ivory tooth, or, elk antler bandset with an ivory tooth. Call Okaman Elk Farm for pricing at (507) 267-4054.

Wanted: Wanted 16 foot wide x 7 or 8 ft. high elk gate, also 25/30 treated wood fence posts x 10 ft. long. Okaman Elk Farm (507) 267-4054.

Elk Hide Tanning: Elk hide tanning, \$150 hair off or \$7.50 per square foot, hair on. We can also make jackets, vests, gloves and more from your hides. Call for free catalog or for more information at (800) USA-FOXX. Check out our web site at www.usafoxx.com or email info@usafoxx.com. USA Foxx & Furs, Duluth, MN.

Advertise Here Free: If you are a MnEBA member, you can advertise here free of charge. If you are not a member but are interested in advertising, the cost is \$25 up to 25 words and \$.45 per word over 25 words. For more information, contact Brenda Hartkopf at (320) 543-2686.

MINNESOTA ELK BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

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