



## Special Interest Articles:

- 2011 MnEBA Gun Raffle Calendars Now Available
- Board Meeting Minutes
- MnEBA Scholarship Winner
- 2010 NAEBA Annual Conference & International Antler Competition
- State of MN Press Releases
- Vet Corner
- U.S./Korea Trade Talks
- MnEBA Summer Picnic & Hog Roast
- Committee Reports
- Velvet Sales Activity



Partial funding for MnEBA News is provided through a cooperative agreement with the USDA Risk Management Agency.

## President's Message by Kaye Zebarth

Summer Greetings;

Just where has the summer gone? Is it flying by fast for everyone? It's soon time to score those big bulls that have been busy eating and growing big, impressive antlers!!!! And, soon time to think about weaning calves and planning the next breeding season.

Hopefully, by the time you read this, this year's crop of velvet is sold!!! Life on the farm is cyclical, isn't it; busy, and definitely never boring.

Let me pass on congratulations to Ike Pohlman, son of Sandy and Perry Olson. Ike was chosen by an independent committee of retired educators to receive MnEBA's first scholarship of \$500. There were five very qualified applicants and our thanks and best wishes go out to all the students who took the time to apply for this scholarship. This should be the first of many years to come that we will be able to offer a scholarship to one (or more) of the youth in our organization.

One of the reasons we were able to establish this scholarship is because of

your participation in the fund-raising events over the past few years, but, especially, because so many of you sold the gun raffle calendar. We have another calendar, hot off the press to distribute at the NAEBA convention the first part of August. Just think, if we would happen to sell out of calendars, we might be able to give more than one scholarship!!! The scholarship is just one of many, many projects that MnEBA accomplishes and is just one small way to give back to the membership by helping and encouraging the next generation of elk farmers!!!

Sometimes, we are asked to dig just a little deeper into our pockets to support an event or project, and I thank you for stepping up to the plate. It's easy to wonder, when asked to contribute a little more, "what's in it for me". It's good to remember that, with your annual support (dues), you are a member of one of the strongest, (if not the strongest) state associations, so your dues are at work every day in big and little ways to

promote not just the industry, but you as an individual. So when a special project does come along, I thank you in advance for agreeing to help the association, the industry, and yourself. We as an industry have not yet "topped out" with all that can be accomplished; there are always new opportunities just ahead that, if given the chance and support, will bring our industry into more public awareness.

Looking forward to seeing you at the NAEBA convention in Council Bluffs August 5-8 and at our summer picnic at Brian Wagner's farm on August 21!!!

Thanks for all your continued support.

### **MnEBA Summer Picnic & Hog Roast**

**August 21, 2010**

*Hosted by Brian Wagner, Black Velvet Elk Ranch*

*Howard Lake, MN*

*See Details on Page 16*

**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 15<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month.

### Board of Directors

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#### Director

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(952) 467-3303

#### Executive Secretary to the Board

Brenda Hartkopf  
(320) 543-2686

## 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.

## 2011 MnEBA Gun Raffle Calendars Now Available!

Calendars for the 2011 MnEBA Gun Raffle are now available to all members! MnEBA is looking to sell 750 calendars and needs your help!!! Calendars will be available at the NAEBA Convention & International Antler Competition in Council Bluffs, IA, and also at the upcoming MnEBA Summer Picnic. If you're unable to attend either of those events, please give the MnEBA Office a call and calendars can be mailed out to you. Also, if you have a board member who lives close to you or that you will be seeing in the near future, they may have a supply to hand out as well.

Thank you to all members who stepped up to sponsor a calendar month. The calendar could not have been possible without your support!

Calendars will be available for sale from now until sold out or until the January 8, 2011 drawing date at the MnEBA Annual Conference.

Details of the raffle include:

- Calendars will sell for \$40 each.
- A numbered raffle ticket stub will be on the back of each calendar. Fill in contact info on ticket, detach stub, collect funds and return to the MnEBA Office. Keep and enjoy the calendar!
- Names drawn will be returned to the drum where they can be drawn again.
- There will be a gun or cash option awarded every other Wednesday throughout the 2011 calendar year as designated on the calendar. There will be 26 guns or cash options awarded. Winners to be notified at the end of each calendar month and posted on the MnEBA web site.

One great selling point to know about is that The General Store (where gun certificates are redeemed), will allow the winner to trade the value of their winning gun for other store merchandise. This could be another gun or other hunting, fishing or camping gear, even clothing. They have a very wide assortment of items to please anyone who is lucky enough to be a winner!

The person who sells the most calendars will receive a FREE one-year MnEBA membership! Please contact Brenda Hartkopf at (320) 543-2686 or [info@mneba.org](mailto:info@mneba.org) or Kaye Zebarth at (320) 834-4064 or [oakpoint@gctel.com](mailto:oakpoint@gctel.com) to order your calendars or to offer your questions or comments.



## Board Meeting Minutes

### July 7, 2010 Phone Conference

The MnEBA Board of Directors held a phone conference on July 7, 2010. Kaye Zebarth, Wade Schimmelpfennig, Pat Prodzinski, Mark Lucas and Brenda Hartkopf were present. Zebarth called the meeting to order at 8:02 p.m. Brian Wagner joined the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Hartkopf submitted financials to date for board review prior to the meeting.

### Old Business

Board reviewed two gun bids which were submitted for the upcoming gun calendar raffle. Discussed the big selling point of the winner being able to trade the value of a winning gun for a different gun or other store merchandise if desired. Lucas moved to accept the bid from The General Store, Schimmelpfennig seconded, motion carried.

One sponsorship remains unclaimed for the calendar and all items need to go to the printer to meet the deadline. Wagner moved to go outside the membership to fill the last calendar sponsorship and require that person to become a member in order to sponsor. Prodzinski seconded, motion carried. Zebarth will make one last attempt to find a Minnesota sponsor.

Discussed the upcoming MnEBA Summer Picnic. Details are in place. No fundraiser is being planned.

Hartkopf updated the board on the status of paperwork filed on behalf of MnEBA. All forms are in the process of review or being completed by others at the present time.

Discussed MnEBA's participation in the upcoming Smokefest competition at Southwest State University

in September. Zebarth will follow up with Elk Marketing.

Zebarth reported that the MnEBA Scholarship winner will be chosen soon and announced in the August 1 newsletter.

### New Business

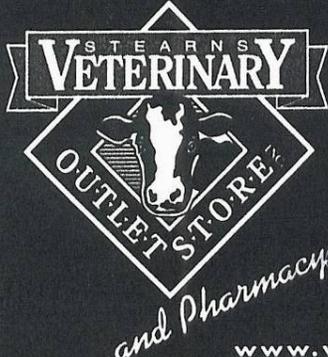
Hartkopf reported that MnEBA has secured a booth for the upcoming NAEBA Convention. Hartkopf to contact MnEBA members who are attending to help man the booth.

Discussed the Hein's memorial traveling trophy which has been awarded to the premier breeder of the North Central Antler Competition for many years. Since there is no North Central competition this year nor will there be in the foreseeable future, what should be done with the trophy? Decision was made to have it returned to the MnEBA Office for the time being.

Discussed the formation of a new working group for the Korea Free Trade Agreement organized by the Obama administration. Representative Erik Paulson, who represents Minnesota's Third District, is a co-chair of this group. Hartkopf to contact Government Relations chair Jim Byrne to follow up with Representative Paulson, NAEBA, NADeFA and others to discuss inclusion of North American velvet to these negotiations.

Prodzinski moved to adjourn, Schimmelpfennig seconded, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Hartkopf



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## MnEBA Scholarship Winner Announced

MnEBA would like to congratulate Ike Pohlman, son of Perry & Sandy Olson as this year's recipient of the first ever MnEBA Scholarship in the amount of \$500! Ike was one of five very deserving applicants who are currently seeking a secondary education in an ag-related field of study.

Ike has won numerous 4-H and FFA awards and was active in both concert band and choir, math league, hockey, baseball, track, National Honor Society and on the "A" honor roll throughout high school. He was also active in a number of community leadership activities.

Ike is planning to attend Dakota State University in Madison, SD this coming Fall to major in Biology. Future plans are to one day have an elk ranch of his own and maybe become an even larger operation than the Taylor Elk Ranch his grandfather owns!

### Scholarship Winner Ike Pohlman

Congratulations to Ike for all of his awesome accomplishments and on winning this year's MnEBA Scholarship. MnEBA wishes Ike all the best as he enters his freshman year of college and looks forward to maybe working with this outstanding young man sometime in the future!



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- Provides effective control of bleeding during the antler removal process.
- Provides analgesia equal to injected lidocaine. Provides more consistent results, safer, and easier to administer. *Simply wrapping a tourniquet around the pedicle will not give the same results. High tension compression is necessary to achieve effective analgesia.*
- Results in fewer adverse behavioral reactions during antler removal.



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# NAEBA's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Conference & International Antler Competition August 5 – 7, 2010



**Harrah's Hotel & Casino ~ Council Bluffs, Iowa**

The 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of NAEBA's Annual Conference and International Antler Competition will take place in just a matter of days! And what a convention it will be!!! There are new and old vendors alike, antler judging schools, a variety of seminars with top-notch speakers, live entertainment from Lee Cole – Comedian/Magician, the International Antler Competition, fun contests and more! There will also be a founding father's tribute with a number of founding fathers coming in for the celebration! Many old and new faces will come together to reminisce, learn the latest news in the elk industry, network and have a great time together!

As of this time, there will be velvet antler and hard antler buyers available to purchase your antlers. Offset the cost of the convention and hotel costs by bringing all the scrap antler that's piling up in your garage or shed. Get help with expenses and have a cleaner work area, what could be better!

There are many outstanding hunt offerings on the auction block at this year's convention, something for every hunter! There will be a special live auction on Friday evening and semen from the top bulls in the industry on Saturday evening. Don't miss out on these special opportunities to purchase the hunt of a lifetime or improve your breeding program in ways you can't imagine!

Check out all conference details, including the full schedule of events, registration form, hunts offered and other conference information on NAEBA's web site at [www.naelk.org](http://www.naelk.org). If you plan to attend the convention, please return your registration form before the convention to help in planning for meals, room set up and other details. It's a big help!  
See you in Council Bluffs!

## **NAEBA Convention Highlights!**

### **Thursday August 5<sup>th</sup>**

Antler Check-in  
Velvet Antler School  
Hard Antler School  
Hospitality

### **Friday August 6<sup>th</sup>**

Opening Ceremonies  
Regional Meetings  
Photo & Button Contests Begin  
Seminars  
Live Entertainment  
Fun Auction  
Hospitality

### **Saturday August 7<sup>th</sup>**

Seminars  
Meat Contest  
Antler Competition Results  
Awards  
Founding Fathers Tribute  
Semen Auction  
Hospitality

*If you haven't already  
made plans to attend,  
make your plans today!!!  
See [www.naelk.org](http://www.naelk.org) for  
more details.*

**20<sup>th</sup> Annual North American Elk Breeder's Association  
INTERNATIONAL ANTLER COMPETITION & ANNUAL CONVENTION**  
*August 5-7, 2010 ~ Harrahs Hotel & Casino ~ Council Bluffs, Iowa*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_

Children's Name (for badge) \_\_\_\_\_

Ranch/Business Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Full Registration** (*Registration includes meals, seminars and trade show. Prices in USD.*)

	<b>Until July 1</b>	<b>After July 1</b>	
Single	\$175	\$200	\$ _____
Couple	\$325	\$375	\$ _____
Day Pass	\$75	\$100	\$ _____
Child (7-18)	\$25	\$50	\$ _____
Child (6 & under)	Free	Free	\$ _____

**Exhibitor Booth Registration** (*Includes 10'x10' area, one 8' skirted table and two chairs*)

- Royal Exhibitor (*single booth and 1 full registration pass*) \$300 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - Imperial Exhibitor (*single booth and 2 full registration passes*) \$450 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - Monarch Exhibitor (*double booth and 2 full registration passes*) \$600 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- PLUS choice of premier exhibit booth location*

Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Name(s) on badges \_\_\_\_\_

Description of products or services offered \_\_\_\_\_

**Contributions/Donations**

This event is NAEBA's largest fundraiser! All donations and contributions generate revenue which will allow NAEBA to operate throughout the coming year. Please consider making a monetary or item donation to benefit NAEBA. Make sure to note your item(s) below to ensure your donation is included in the onsite conference program. The committee will decide whether the donations will appear in the LIVE or SILENT auction. Item description(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsorship**

To call attention to your company in a big way, several opportunities to sponsor convention events are being offered. **As an added bonus, anyone donating \$1,000 cash or more will receive a FREE convention pass!** Remember, ADVERTISING DOESN'T COST – IT PAYS!

- Trophy (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>) – \$75/each (*designate classes* \_\_\_\_\_) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Coffee Break – \$400 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Hospitality Suite Sponsor (*call for details*) \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Entertainment – \$1,500 (*includes (2) complimentary convention passes*) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*PLUS reserved banquet table*
- Evening Banquet – \$3,000 (*includes (3) complimentary convention passes*) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*free Royal booth, PLUS reserved banquet table*

**TOTAL DUE** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Hotel Information**

**Harrahs Hotel & Casino – Reservations** 1-800-HARRAHS (1-800-427-7247), mention Group Code S08NAEB to receive the discounted room rate of \$83 for Thursday, Friday or Saturday nights. Room block deadline – **July 20<sup>th</sup>**.

**Payment – USD Funds**

Circle one:    Check      Visa/Mastercard      Discover      American Express

Check number: \_\_\_\_\_ Credit card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Three Digit Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Card Holder Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please remit registration and payment to:

**NAEBA, 4985 West Blue Hill Road, Ayr, NE 68925**  
**(402) 756-3355 \* (402) 756-4356 Fax**

**CONTACTS:** Brenda Hartkopf, Convention Coordinator (320) 543-2686  
Eric or Kim Mohlman at the NAEBA Office (402) 756-3355



## News Release

### No CWD detected in Minnesota's wild deer; bovine TB results pending

**June 17, 2010** – All of the samples from wild deer taken last fall by hunters in southeastern Minnesota that were tested for the presence of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) have come back negative for the disease.

“This is good news for Minnesota,” said Dr. Erika Butler, wildlife veterinarian for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). “Extensive tests on wild deer in southeastern Minnesota and additional targeted tests of sick animals statewide all have been CWD negative.”

DNR conducted tests on 2,685 deer that hunters harvested last fall in southeastern Minnesota. An additional 28 deer from other parts of the state were sampled because they displayed clinical signs of an illness. None tested positive for CWD.

CWD naturally occurs in cervids, which include North American deer, Rocky Mountain Elk and moose. The disease belongs to a group of infectious diseases known as “transmissible spongiform encephalopathies” (TSEs). It is caused by an abnormal protein called a prion, which affects the animal’s brain and is invariably fatal. Usually, months to years pass from the time an animal is infected to when it shows signs of the disease.

CWD infected captive elk were discovered on a farm near Pine Island in 2009. As a result, the Board of Animal Health (BAH) and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) depopulated the farm’s elk and DNR conducted extensive testing for CWD in southeastern Minnesota wild deer during last fall’s firearms deer hunting season.

A high proportion of the samples were obtained within a 15-mile radius of the CWD-positive captive elk farm, as well as along the Minnesota-Wisconsin border where Minnesota deer are in closest proximity to an area of Wisconsin where CWD infection is established in wild deer.

“DNR has collected more than 33,000 samples in statewide surveillance efforts since CWD testing began in 2002 and all tests have been negative,” Butler said. “However, periodic surveillance in the vicinity of previous cases of CWD in captive cervids and along the Wisconsin border remains prudent.”

Surveillance efforts within a 15-mile radius of the CWD-infected cervid farm in Olmsted County will be repeated during 2010 firearm hunting season. Targeted surveillance of suspect deer will continue throughout the state.

Typical signs of CWD include drooping head or ears, poor body condition, tremors, stumbling, increased salivation, difficulty swallowing, or excessive thirst or urination. The disease was first discovered in Colorado and Wyoming, and has since been detected in wild or captive animals in Illinois, South Dakota, North Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Michigan, Nebraska, New York, Virginia, West Virginia, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Montana, Utah, Wisconsin, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

The World Health Organization and the U. S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention have found no scientific evidence to date that CWD can be transmitted to humans.

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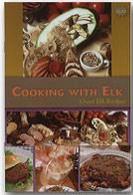
# Marketing Materials

*For all your marketing needs! Order online and pay by credit card at [www.mneba.org](http://www.mneba.org) or call (320) 543-2686 to place your order!*

## 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., \$10/each



### 3<sup>rd</sup> 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** are a general velvet antler brochure. \$12.50/pack of 50 (pictured)



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

**Velvet Antler Brochures** are a general velvet antler brochure, originally 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.

**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.

## HOME DÉCOR

Price includes shipping & handling.



**Elk Trashcan** (pictured) \$25 each

**Elk Rug (Small)** \$27.50 each

**Elk Rug (Large)** \$40 each

*Continued from previous page*

### Bovine tuberculosis (TB) results pending

One of 1,488 deer harvested by hunters during the fall of 2009 in northwestern Minnesota tested positive for bovine TB. From February to April of 2010, an additional 450 deer were removed by ground sharpshooting from a smaller area around where all previously bovine TB positive deer have been found. None showed clinical signs of the disease. Final lab results are pending.

As of June 10, 2010, bovine TB had been confirmed in 27 of 8,144 free-ranging deer tested over the course of six years. To date, all infected deer have been animals born during or before 2006 and taken within 10 miles of Skime, where a cluster of four bovine TB-infected cattle farms were found.

Aggressive population management utilizing liberalized hunting seasons will continue during 2010 in Deer Permit Area 101 as DNR continues to work with BAH and Agriculture Department officials to eradicate bovine TB in Minnesota. The DNR will continue to conduct fall disease surveillance annually until five consecutive years with no bovine TB-positive wild deer identified.



## Disaster Recovery and Assistance Programs for Farmers

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture offers the following recovery and assistance programs for farmers impacted by natural disasters. Information about these programs can be accessed online at [www.mda.state.mn.us](http://www.mda.state.mn.us).

- The **Minnesota Farmers Assistance Network (MFAN)** includes a telephone helpline that will connect farm families with the appropriate resources to address their needs.
- The **Farm Advocate Program** provides one-on-one assistance for Minnesota farmers who face crisis caused by either a natural disaster or financial problems.
- The **Rural Finance Authority** offers a variety of loan programs through an established network of cooperating local banks and financial lending institutions.
- The **Livestock Development Team** offers one-on-one assistance to producers who plan to rebuild.

### **The Minnesota Farmers Assistance Network**

MFAN volunteers are experts who will help farmers assess their needs and access a variety of services to get them back on their feet. All calls, discussions, financial information and decisions of the farm families are confidential. As needed, a certified financial analyst will provide one-on-one mentoring and financial guidance to farm families who are considering business reorganization or transition. There is no fee for MFAN services. The helpline is answered 24/7 by calling **1-877-898-MFAN (6326)**.

### **The Farm Advocate Program**

The Farm Advocate Program provides one-on-one assistance to farmers in crisis. These advocates understand the needs of our agricultural families and communities. They are trained and experienced in disaster programs, agricultural lending practices, mediation, lender negotiation, farm programs and crisis counseling. There is no fee for use of the Farm Advocate Program. **Call the Farm Advocate Hotline at 1-800-967-2474.**

### **The Rural Finance Authority (RFA)**

The RFA offers low-interest loans each with its own eligibility, terms and collateral requirements. They include:

- 1) The **Disaster Recovery Loan Program** is designed to help farmers affected by a natural disaster that has led to a federal disaster declaration. The funds are available to farmers for expenses not covered by insurance. The funds can be used to help clean up, repair, or replace farm structures and septic and water systems, as well as replace seed, other crop inputs, feed, and livestock, when damaged by high winds, hail, tornado, floods or excessive rainfall.

The Disaster Recovery Loan Program offers affordable financing to repair existing agricultural buildings to pre-disaster conditions. To replace means to construct a structure of the same functional purpose and capacity as the structure(s) that was destroyed. Current technologies may be utilized in the replacement structure. Loan proceeds may also be used to repair or replace septic and water systems, and replace destroyed agricultural buildings with similar capacity and function.

The RFA participation in a qualifying loan is limited to 45% of the principal amount up to a maximum of \$50,000. Interest rate on the RFA portion of the loan is currently set at 3.0%. Down payment and collateral requirements will be determined by the agricultural lender and the authority. Loan amortization will be scheduled on flexible terms not to exceed 10 years. Loan payments of interest

only are permitted for the first two years. There is no maximum on the size of loan that a participating lender may make under the program.

2) The **Livestock Expansion Loan Program** is another opportunity to help producers who may decide to rebuild after a natural disaster. This loan provides funding to pay for improvements to a livestock operation, including the purchase, construction or installation of improvements to land, buildings, and other permanent structures, including equipment. The purchase of livestock is *NOT* an eligible purpose for this program.

The RFA may participate on a loan up to 45% of the loan principal to a maximum of \$400,000. The loan proceeds cannot be used to refinance an existing debt.

The livestock producer works through their local lender. If the lender agrees to make a mortgage loan to the applicant, the lender and applicant will jointly complete an application for RFA participation. The RFA must have a completed Master Participation Agreement with the lender on file. **Contact the RFA at 651-201-6004.**

#### **The Livestock Development Team**

MDA staff can assist producers as they rebuild livestock barns, upgrade feedlots, or update existing feed or manure storage systems. This assistance will help producers navigate the permitting process at the local and state levels and consider options that result in fewer land use conflicts. MDA staff can also provide guidance to various funding opportunities, appropriate technical and cost-share assistance for feedlot projects and assist in identifying engineering consultants or legal counsel for the project plan.

**Contact the Livestock Development Team at 651-201-6456.**

## Words of Wisdom

*You will never find time for anything. If you want the time, you must take it.*

*You've achieved success when you don't know if what you are doing is work or play.*

*The happiest people are those who are too busy to notice.*

*When you give of yourself, you receive more than you give.*

*No one should be afraid of wasting time by learning something he is not required to know.*

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## MnEBA Kitchen

Here's a delicious twist on regular brown beans. Try this dish at your next picnic!

### Ground Elk Burger & Beans

1½ lbs. ground elk meat	1¼ cups ketchup
1 medium onion, chopped	2 Tbsp. mustard
2 celery ribs, chopped	2 tsp. garlic
2 tsp. beef bouillon	1 tsp. salt
½ cup water	½ tsp. pepper
2 cans (16.5 ounce size) baked beans	bacon bits



In an iron skillet over medium heat, cook ground elk, onions and celery until meat is no longer pink and vegetables are tender. Dissolve bouillon in water; stir into elk mixture. Add beans, ketchup, mustard, garlic, salt and pepper; mix well.

Cover and bake at 375 degrees for an hour or until bubbly; stir. Top with bacon bits.

### **Flavorful Grilling Tip** by Morrie & Daphne Evenson

**Alternative to marinade** – If you normally like to marinate your elk steaks before grilling, but didn't get around to it before grilling time, try this great alternative: Rub finely shredded, fresh ginger root onto both sides of the steaks right before grilling. Ginger root can be purchased in the produce section of most grocery stores and can be stored in the freezer. Just pull it out of the freezer and shred as needed, then place unused the portion back in the freezer when done. Fresh ginger root adds a different flavor which is really delicious with elk meat.

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## Restaurant Chain “Fuddruckers” Now Serving Elk Burgers

Dallas Observer Blogs – Hanna Raskin

**July 12, 2010** – A leader of the North American Elk Breeders Association says the newest addition to Fuddruckers’ menu could help push elk meat into mainstream.

The burger chain this summer introduced Fudds Exotics, a line of sandwiches made from meat that didn’t come from cows. The first entry in the series, a half-pound buffalo burger, was among the most successful new product rollouts in Fuddruckers’ history. The restaurant plans to start offering wild boar and ostrich burgers later this year.

But last week belonged to elk, as the chain unveiled its \$10 all-natural, free-range elk burger.

Prime cuts of elk have long been a staple of high-end menus. But North American Elk Breeders Association President Brian Wagner, who says fellow ranchers are always looking for buyers interested in the trim, doesn’t recall any major chain ever selling elk. “Elk meat’s becoming very popular,” he says. “It’s very healthy, and people are catching on.”

According to Wagner, elk is high in protein, low in cholesterol and very lean. “Hunters have been enjoying elk for years,” Wagner says. “It’s closer to beef than venison.”

But until Fuddruckers jumped into the elk meat game, most unarmed middle-class eaters would only encounter elk at the jerky counter, Wagner says.

Wagner says he’s not worried that the restaurant classifying elk as an “exotic” meat will doom it to novelty status. A former cattleman, Wagner enjoys elk three times a week. “I’m hoping it’s a long-term thing,” Wagner says of the Fuddruckers burger, which he hasn’t yet tried. “It’s a huge benefit to our industry.”



The Fourth Annual Southwest Minnesota State University Smokefest BBQ Contest will take place on Sept. 17-18, 2010, on the campus of SMSU in Marshall. This is a State Championship BBQ contest which serves as a national qualifying event. Officials expect over 50 BBQ teams from across the region to be participating. Along with the usual four categories which they must judge in order to be a State sanctioned event; pork ribs, pork butt, beef brisket, and chicken, a fifth category is being added this year, “Anything Elk”!

MnEBA has been asked to be a sponsor in the “Anything Elk” event. Anything Elk would be judged as an official entry into the contest. They would offer prize money and trophies for the winners in the Elk Category.

MnEBA will be taking part in this event and will likely also set up a booth. If you’d be willing to attend this event and help man the booth, please contact the MnEBA Office to discuss details.

You can find Smokefest information at [www.smsumustangs.com](http://www.smsumustangs.com). Click on special events to find the Smokefest link.

## **Vet Corner** by Glen Zebarth, DVM

### **Anthrax**

*A note from Dr. Zebarth: Anthrax has been seen in a few farms in elk. Anthrax tends to show up in late summer/early fall, but can show up in other months as well. Anthrax is a soil bug which tends to reoccur on the same farms or areas that have had a problem in the past. If you or a neighbor has had a problem, work with your veterinarian to vaccinate. The vaccine is for cattle, but seems to work well on elk. You would generally only vaccinate when Anthrax has occurred.*

*The following is a good article that explains more about Anthrax courtesy of the South Dakota Animal Industry Board:*

Flooding in various parts of the state has created conditions that may be favorable for Anthrax. Anthrax spores may lie dormant in soil for years, then surface after flooding. The most effective way to manage the disease is through routine preventative vaccination, as unvaccinated animals tend to die suddenly after exposure, with no apparent treatment.

The non-encapsulated live culture anthrax spore vaccine should be administered four weeks prior to the time the disease usually appears.

Immunity can develop in five days and is protective by 8-10 days. A second vaccination is required two to three weeks after the first dose in heavily contaminated areas.

Vaccinated animals should not be slaughtered for 42 days after last dose of anthrax vaccine. There is no withdrawal time for milk.

Any unexplained deaths of susceptible domestic and wild animals should be reported to the MN Board of Animal Health. Anthrax is a public health risk. If possible, do not move a suspect carcass. Measures should be taken to prevent the carcass from being opened (do not overlook scavengers). Anthrax is an organism that will grow under both anaerobic and aerobic conditions, but will form spores when outside the carcass.

Your veterinarian will report the confirmed Anthrax case to the State Veterinarian, who will issue a quarantine. No movement of animals onto or off of the affected premises is permitted during the quarantine period. The quarantine will be released 30 days after the last affected carcass is properly disposed of.

All affected carcasses must be burned and buried. All equipment, vehicles, and working facilities must be cleaned thoroughly in preparation for disinfectant. A 10% bleach solution is a recommended sanitizing agent for equipment and materials.

### **Calf Scours**

If your calves are having a problem with calf scours, you might want to test for coccidia. A fecal sample provides the best test, but it's not 100% so you might want to treat calves for coccidia even if they don't test positive.

Some whitetail deer farmers on the east coast have been having good success clearing up the problem with a product called "Marquis". This is a one-time treatment. Other products which are also used include Albon and Anproliun (Corid). All three of these products are off-label use for elk. If you're having a calf scours problem, visit with your veterinarian about possible treatment options and recommended doses.

## NCBA Welcomes President Obama's Call to Action On U.S.-Korea Trade

CattleNetwork.com

**June 28, 2010** – Over the weekend, President Obama directed the United States Trade Representative (USTR) to initiate new discussions with Korea to resolve outstanding trade issues prior to the President's visit to South Korea for the next G-20 meeting in November. According to USTR, "after the meeting and with those issues successfully resolved," the President plans to submit the Korea-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (KORUS FTA) to Congress in the following months.

"We're extremely encouraged that the Administration is making it clear to Congress that it's time to finally move forward on this critical trade deal," said National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) President Steve Foglesong. "The KORUS FTA could potentially be one of the most significant bilateral agreements in our history."

If implemented, the KORUS FTA would reduce Korea's current tariff from 40 percent to zero over fifteen years. The U.S. beef industry would see \$15 million in new tariff benefits in the first year alone, with about \$325 million in tariff reductions annually once fully implemented. In 2003, U.S. beef producers sold \$815 million in beef, beef variety meats and processed beef products to Korea. If KORUS enters into force, Korea could eventually be a one billion dollar market for U.S. beef producers.

Full text: <http://tinyurl.com/2ccehns>

## Paulsen to lead South Korea free trade effort

By Lauren Knobbe ~ Minnesota Post

**July 1, 2010** WASHINGTON - Rep. Erik Paulsen has been named co-chair of the new working group for the Korea Free Trade Agreement (KORUS), which has proposed to eliminate 95 percent of tariffs between the United States and South Korea within three years.

"A free trade agreement will grow business and create jobs here in the U.S.," Paulsen said. "At a time when unemployment is at record highs we need to do everything possible to grow our economy."

Paulsen aims to restart the initiative for this trade agreement which has stalled on concerns from the auto and beef industries that it will hurt fair trade.

KORUS was signed by the United States and Korea three years ago and is still pending. Legislation to ratify the agreement is expected to enter the House as a bill before it would need to move on to the Senate for a vote.

South Korea is the fifth largest market for agriculture products for Minnesota and the sixth largest agriculture market for the United States.

Full text: <http://tinyurl.com/36pttzu>

## MnEBA, NAEBA & NADeFA to meet with Rep. Paulson's Office

Representatives from MnEBA, NAEBA & NADeFA are seeking to have a meeting with Representative Paulson to discuss the possible inclusion of elk velvet to the free trade talks with Korean officials. Government Relations chair Jim Byrne has been in contact with Rep. Paulson's office and an August 4<sup>th</sup> meeting has been arranged with Rep. Paulson's aide. Rep. Paulson represents Minnesota's Third congressional district which includes portions of the west metro and surrounding areas.



# MnEBA Summer Picnic & Hog Roast

**Saturday August 21, 2010**

Black Velvet Elk Ranch – Brian Wagner  
Howard Lake, MN

Mark your calendars for a fun day of good eating, socializing, touring and learning!

## Schedule

9:30 – 11:30 am  
Noon

Open House Farm Tour at Lance & Brenda Hartkopf's  
Potluck Meal at Brian Wagner's – Meat, utensils and  
non-alcoholic beverages provided. Bring a dish to pass.  
Cold storage is available.

1:30 pm

MnEBA Summer Meeting

3:00 pm

TBD

4:00 pm

Antler Scoring Seminar / Competition Antler on Display

5:30 pm thru evening

Hospitality

## Staying Over

**Camping:** Anyone is welcome to set up a camper or tent overnight at Brian's.

**Local Hotels:** Room blocks expired on **July 21**.

**AmericInn Lodge & Suites** – 620 Elm St. East, Annandale, MN (13 miles north)  
Reservations: 320-274-3006

**Country Inn & Suites** – 1002 Hwy. 55 East, Buffalo, MN (14 miles east)  
Reservations: 763-682-5660

Attendees are encouraged to bring antlers for display which have been judged at the NAEBA International Antler Competition earlier in the month.

## Directions

Hartkopf – (9086 Keats Avenue SW Howard Lake, MN) – from Hwy 12 in town of Howard Lake, travel south on County 6 for 3 miles, turn west on County 30 for 1 mile, turn south on Keats Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> place on left.

Wagner – (8361 30<sup>th</sup> Street SW Howard Lake, MN) – from Hwy 12 in town of Howard Lake, travel north on County 6 for 4 miles, turn east on 30<sup>th</sup> Street. Farm is on right hand side <1 mile down the road.

## 2010 Minnesota State Fair Schedule



The Minnesota State Fair is just around the corner! Thank you to all who have signed up to work! Please take a moment to review the schedule to confirm your time, and if your name is not listed yet, consider signing up. There are still three open slots. Any and all help, for any amount of time, is greatly welcomed!

Working the State Fair booth has become a tradition for many MnEBA families and friends of elk producers. There are interesting things to do at the Fair for everyone! Consider making the State Fair one of your family traditions. If you've never worked the booth, sign up to work with someone already on the list or take an open slot. Or, consider bringing a friend to work with you. Contact Morrie Evenson at (320) 212-1479 or Daphne Evenson at (320) 894-2304 to sign up.

Date	Time	Workers	Date	Time	Workers
8/26	8 - 2	Morrie & Daphne Evenson & friends	9/1	8 - 2	Norman Schimmelpfennig, Larry Gerdes, Bill Knutson
	2 - 9	Glen & Kaye Zebarth		2 - 9	<b>OPEN</b>
8/27	8 - 2	Jon & Richard Aase	9/2	8 - 2	Jim Byrne, Dennis Wernsing
	2 - 9	Jon & Richard Aase		2 - 9	Jim Byrne, Dennis Wernsing
8/28	8 - 2	Kaplan Family	9/3	8 - 2	Jim Byrne, Martin Zacharias
	2 - 9	Kaplan Family		2 - 9	Jim Byrne, Martin Zacharias
8/29	8 - 2	Paul & Barbara Hartkopf	9/4	8 - 2	Prodzinski Family
	2 - 9	<b>OPEN</b>		2 - 9	Darrell & Sheila Turek
8/30	8 - 2	Sally Bergman & Evensons	9/5	8 - 2	Jerry & Joan Beier
	2 - 9	Fred & Eleanor Neubert		2 - 9	Lance & Brenda Hartkopf
8/31	8 - 2	Damon & Duane Melquist	9/6	8 - 2	Larry Gerdes & Greg Lubinski
	2 - 9	<b>OPEN</b>		2 - 9	Paul & Lynn Hueg

## Bull Needed for 4<sup>th</sup> Annual MnEBA Charitable Elk Hunt



For each of the past three years, MnEBA has organized a charitable elk hunt. These hunts have been made possible through Tony Beckel of Tony's Trophy Bull Hunt Ranch, the Langenfeld Foundation, local SCI chapters and many others who have made these "hunt of a lifetime" opportunities possible.

These hunts have been tremendously successful! They've provided a special lifetime memory for very deserving individuals and created positive awareness about the harvest preserve industry.

MnEBA is once again working to put together the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual MnEBA Charitable Elk Hunt. Tentative plans are to once again choose a war veteran for this very special opportunity.

MnEBA is looking for a bull scoring between 300-350 SCI for this hunt. As you make your final decisions on selling bulls this Fall, please consider donating one of your bulls to this very rewarding, worthy cause. The bull would likely be needed sometime in November or December of this year. Transportation can be arranged. If interested, please contact the MnEBA Office for more information.

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**THANK YOU  
for your support!**

## In Memory

**Mary Gerdes** - Mary Gerdes passed away Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at United Hospital in St. Paul, MN. She had been in hospitals and care centers since last winter, but ultimately suffered a severe stroke.

Mary was actively involved in the family elk and trout farm business and was well known for her ability to effectively organize all of her husband Larry's business endeavors. She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Mary was born on July 25, 1938 in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Mary is survived by her husband of 52 years, Larry, three children and seven grandchildren. Her funeral was held on July 20<sup>th</sup> at Eidsvold Lutheran Church in rural Bay City.

## Keep in Your Thoughts & Prayers

Longtime MnEBA member and former board member, Charles Francis has been battling an aggressive form of lymphoma for the past 19 months. After trying many other treatment options, Charles opted to have a bone marrow transplant which took place a few weeks ago.

Charles is recovering in the Twin Cities and is expected to remain close to the hospital the remainder of the summer. His recovery from the bone marrow transplant has been going relatively well, but it will take his body many months to heal itself from within.

You can follow Charles' recovery on Caring Bridge at [www.caringbridge.org/visit/charlesfrancis](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/charlesfrancis). Please keep Charles and his family in your thoughts and prayers!!

## Velvet Sales Activity at it's Peak

Velvet buyers are out in full force picking up, arranging for delivery and buying velvet antler. If you still have velvet to sell, make sure to contact the buyers as soon as possible before their containers are shipped out! Buyers in Minnesota include:

1. Scott Groen & Brian Wagner are currently buying velvet. \$20 per pound, picked up on your farm. Contact Brian at 612-366-5078 or Scott at 320-979-0911.
2. Scott Salonek is collecting velvet at this time. Regrowth included. Price no less than \$20 per pound. Contact Scott for more info at 612-850-8684.
3. There was a velvet collection at Valley Springs, Larry Gerdes, July 24 & 25. Regrowth included. Price was \$20 per pound. Contact Larry for more info at 715-594-3534.

MINNESOTA  
ELK BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

2010 Application for Membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Farm, Ranch, or Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(Residence) \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Premises ID# \_\_\_\_\_ # of elk owned \_\_\_\_\_ Referred by \_\_\_\_\_

=====

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY** (Check membership desired)

\$ 125 \_\_\_\_\_ ACTIVE (Must live in MN and own elk---full voting rights)

\$ 50 \_\_\_\_\_ ASSOCIATE (For out-of-state membership or MN residents who do not own elk---no voting rights)

\$ 50 \_\_\_\_\_ JUNIOR (18 yrs old & under who own elk---full benefits)

\$1,000 \_\_\_\_\_ LIFE-TIME (Entire lifetime membership)

Memberships run from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> each calendar year. Please make checks payable to:

Minnesota Elk Breeders Association  
9086 Keats Ave. S.W.  
Howard Lake, MN 55349  
(320) 543-2686

## Minnesota Elk Breeders Association

9086 Keats Avenue SW  
Howard Lake, MN 55349

PHONE:  
320-543-2686

FAX:  
320-543-2983

E-MAIL:  
[info@mneba.org](mailto:info@mneba.org)

OFFICE HOURS  
8:30-11:30 a.m.  
Mondays, Tuesdays &  
Thursdays

## Calendar of Events

**August 5 – 7, 2010** – NAEBA's 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention and International Antler Competition, Harrah's, Council Bluffs, Iowa

**August 21, 2010** – MnEBA Summer Picnic & Hog Roast, Black Velvet Elk Ranch, Howard Lake, MN

**August 26 – September 6, 2010** – Minnesota State Fair, State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, MN

**September 17-18, 2010** – Smokefest 2010, Southwest Minnesota State University, Marshall, MN

**January 7 – 8, 2011** – MnEBA Annual Conference, Holiday Inn, Alexandria, MN

**March 11 – 13, 2011** – Minnesota Deer Classic, St. Paul, MN

## Classified Ads

**For Sale:** Used wood posts, \$8 each. Also lots of telephone pole posts and used wire. Contact Mark Hendrickson at 612-599-7395.

**For Sale:** Fully accredited elk herd for sale. (23) animals altogether, (11) of which are bulls. Also for sale, complete handling facility. Contact Sunset Elk Farm, Paul Fuchsel, at (507) 895-2530 or [paulf@lacrossesign.com](mailto:paulf@lacrossesign.com).

**For Sale:** (2) Kiwi squeeze chutes and (1) Monte North hydraulic chute. Call Larry Gerdes at 715-594-3534.

**Wanted:** Meat animals wanted. Contact Brian Wagner at (612) 366-5078.

**Elk Hide Tanning:** Elk hide tanning, \$325 hair off or \$12.50 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](http://www.usafoxx.com) or email [info@usafoxx.com](mailto: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

9086 Keats Avenue SW  
Howard Lake, MN 55349