



## Special Interest Articles:

- Market Watch
- Summer Picnic Fun
- Membership Meeting Minutes
- MnEBA Officer Blog
- 6<sup>th</sup> Annual MnEBA Charitable Elk Hunt
- 2013 MnEBA Gun Raffle Calendars
- NAEBA Annual Conference & International Antler Competition
- Federal CWD Rule Out for Comment
- USAHA News Alert Summaries
- 2012 MnEBA State Fair Booth
- Vet Corner
- Committee Reports

## President's Message by Mark Lucas

My family had an interesting experience this past week. We took a short vacation to visit friends in Montana. Since none of us had ever taken a train before, we thought that would be a fun way to travel and a new experience for us all. The train takes slightly longer than by car under ideal conditions, regardless we thought we should give it a whirl. Well, no one told us, but "ideal conditions" are apparently unusual for a train. The arrival on our way out was about 2 hours late and closer to 5 hours late on the way back. So a word of advice regarding train travel, do not plan to be somewhere at a specific hour, be happy with narrowing it to a specific day. I guess the heat causes issues with the track expanding and they at times have to slow the train down to a crawl to prevent derailing. Derailing is a bad thing. All in all it was a very relaxing way to travel. I actually had time to start and finish a book in one day! I have not done that since college. One drawback of train travel is no showers. On a trip of over 27 hours it would have been nice.

So why do I expound on our recent vacation in the MnEBA news letter? The delay on our return trip was the reason I did not make it to the MnEBA picnic on

Saturday. I scheduled everything so we would supposedly be back in time to clean up and get there early. I love pot luck; it is my favorite meal bar none and I certainly didn't want to miss it. But there was the train factor. I may have been able to get there by midafternoon, but without a shower for a day and a half in this heat? No, better not. It sounds as though all went well and there was good attendance. I want to thank Double A Elk Farm and the Zajacs' for hosting the picnic. The summer picnic has been a great way for the members to mingle and at the same time snoop around others farms to pick up an idea or two that can make life easier on your own operation. I also want to thank Vice President Jim Byrne for filling in for me at the membership meeting.

The summer picnic also marks the beginning of the MnEBA calendar raffle sales for the new year. Brenda has done another great job organizing the calendar which is no small undertaking. This has become one of our best fund raisers for the Association and it is really pretty easy to sell. I have found the earlier you make the rounds with the calendars the easier the sales are in many cases. If you get out with the calendars now, people have

not been hit up by others selling raffle calendars and are more likely to purchase. The purchase gets a little more difficult to justify if you already have several 2013 calendars I suppose.

Last, I want to encourage all of you to attend the 2012 North American Elk Breeders Association 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference and International Antler Competition right here in your backyard. It is August 2-4<sup>th</sup> at the Marriott in Brooklyn Park. Minnesota has often boasted being #1 in the elk industry and this is a great opportunity to show our enthusiasm and support for the industry by your attendance and participation.

With the renewed vigor brought on by better velvet prices and higher meat prices there will be a NAEBA sponsored animal sale, which has not taken place in years. The Minnesota Elk Breeders are leading one of the sessions to help introduce elk farming called Elk 101 in hopes of drawing in new blood and answer any questions folks may have. There are many opportunities to help out if you so desire, so just give Brenda a call and discuss how you can assist to make this a great event. Hope to see you all there.

Mark Lucas

*Many thanks to the Zajac family for hosting the 2012 MnEBA Summer Picnic! It was a great day!!!*

**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.

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(320) 543-2686

## Market Watch

### VELVET

This velvet buying season has been unlike any buying period in the past 20 years. An early U.S. price of up to \$31.50 made the season look promising. Then suddenly no one was able to buy which leaves many producers waiting and wondering what's going on.

As of this printing, the wait continues. The only known U.S. buyers at this time are Scott Salonek and Brian Wagner & Scott Groen, all of whom are not currently purchasing antler. All indications are that producers in Canada are having a similar experience.

The Alberta Elk Expo is the last weekend of July and will have taken place by the time this newsletter is received. There is optimism both in the U.S. and Canada that there will be movement on purchasing antler after this event.

The MnEBA Office will send out an email alert as soon as anything concrete is known. If you have questions in the meantime, please contact the buyers directly.

Scott Salonek – (612) 850-8684

Brian Wagner – (612) 366-5078  
Scott Groen – (320) 979-0911

### Larry Gerdes Online Elk Farm Auction

Larry Gerdes is having an on-line auction of elk-related and other misc. items. If you're interested in seeing what is on the sale, please see the link to his on-line auction below. On-line bidding of this sale ends on Monday August 6<sup>th</sup>.

<http://smithsales.auctionflex.com/showlots.ap?co=11217&weid=25249&weiid=0&archive=n&iso=lotnumasc&pagenum=1&lang=En>

## 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.

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# Summer Picnic Fun!!!

On Saturday July 21st, Rick & Deb Zajac hosted the MnEBA Summer Picnic near Hillman, MN. Although so many of the days in July have been hot and extremely muggy, Rick & Deb had a nice cool location prepared for attendees which made it great for catching up with everyone! Their son and daughter-in-law Adam & Allyson grilled up some mouth-watering burgers and attendees brought a dish to pass for lots of great food for all! Many thanks to Rick & Deb and their family for providing the delicious elk burgers and beverages.

After the membership meeting, Rick took attendees out to see his facility and animals. It's always interesting to see how other producers set up their farm.

Thank you again to the Zajac family for hosting this year's picnic. It was a wonderful day and enjoyed by all who attended!



Wade Schimmelpfennig & Brian Wager at the food table.



To the left, Don Kaplan, Marie Johnson, Daphne & Morrie Evenson and to the right, Pat & Rita Prodzinski.



To the left, Fred Neubert, Lance Hartkopf & John Johnson and to the right, Rick Zajac & Eleanor Neubert.



From left to right, Eileen Byrne, Roxy Lubinski, Deb Zajac, Eleanor & Fred Neubert.

## Membership Meeting Minutes

### July 21, 2012 Summer Membership Meeting

The membership of the Minnesota Elk Breeders Association held their summer meeting on July 21, 2012 at Double A Elk Farm in Hillman, MN. Vice President Jim Byrne called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

Byrne asked for additions or corrections to the January 7, 2012 secretary report as presented. Pat Prodzinski moved to approve, John Johnson seconded, motion carried.

The treasurer's report was reviewed. The July 20<sup>th</sup> checkbook balance was \$20,921.92. Morrie Evenson moved to accept the treasurer's report, Don Kaplan seconded, motion carried.

Byrne then took a moment to thank Rick & Deb Zajac for their fine hospitality and for offering their farm to host the summer picnic.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Health/Government Relations:** Jim Byrne reported that these two reports overlapped for this meeting and that he would give a combined update. The new federal CWD Herd Certification Program has been released and is available for comment. The program has changed from being an eradication program to being a control program. There is no federal indemnity available.

Jim reported that the Minnesota farmed cervidae program will be reviewed by federal officials to see if the program can become certifiable according to the new federal standards. The programs are relatively similar and there are no problems expected. Jim referred attendees to a memo written by Dr. Anderson explaining what the new rule would mean for Minnesota breeders. While the deadline for comments was recently extended, the implementation date of the rule still stands at August 13, 2012 with a compliance date beginning December 10, 2012.

The Minnesota Board of Animal Health has completely rewritten their entire rulebook, including the farmed cervidae portion. The Cervidae Advisory Board has spent many meetings discussing the rewritten rules. This handbook is now out for comment.

Lastly, Jim reported that Dr. Patrice Klein, federal CWD Program Manager for USDA/APHIS, will be

giving a presentation at the upcoming NAEBA Convention on Friday August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:30pm.

**Fundraising:** Brenda Hartkopf reported that a total of 534 raffle calendars were sold for the 2012 campaign. This was the highest number of calendars sold to date! The 2013 gun raffle calendars are now available. There are over \$15,000 worth of guns and also 4 bonus days, each with the chance to win \$100 cash.

New this year, anyone who sells 30 or more calendars and returns the stubs and money to the MnEBA Office by December 31, 2012 will receive a free 2013 MnEBA membership, up to a \$125 value.

**Promotions:** Brenda Hartkopf reported that the Minnesota Farmed Cervid Economic Impact Study was completed in February and that MnEBA and the Minnesota Deer Breeders Association worked with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to put out a press release about the results. She distributed copies of the study for anyone who was interested.

Brenda also reported that the Raise the Legend book was placed on the MnEBA web site. The board determined that the content is still current and that when more copies are needed, the current version will be reprinted. There were minor updates made to the "Contacts" section.

MnEBA will be giving an Elk Farming 101 seminar at the upcoming NAEBA Convention on Saturday August 4<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. Mark Lucas and Jim Byrne have offered to give the presentation. MnEBA has placed the seminar information on related web sites and in local print publications in both free and paid advertising. MnEBA used \$500 worth of MN Grown credits to go towards paid advertising in the outer counties of the metro area, in the southern edition of The Land publication and also the Western Peach in central Minnesota. A Minnesota Department of Agriculture press release relating to this seminar was also sent out on July 19<sup>th</sup>.

**State Fair:** Daphne Evenson thanked everyone who has already signed up and encouraged those who haven't to consider helping out. She reported that the State Fair board has moved MnEBA along with the bison and alpaca associations across the street and down one block next to the Horse barns.

MnEBA will be offering Atomic Chef spices in addition to the usual meat products and dog chews. A chef from Atomic Chef will be on hand in the booth from Noon-6pm each day of the Fair promoting the use of elk meat along with a great way to season it.

**NAEBA:** Brian Wagner reported that things are going well with NAEBA and that they are looking forward to the upcoming convention at the Marriott in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota on August 2-4. Since the event is being held in Minnesota this year, he strongly encouraged everyone to attend!

Brian also reported that the NAEBA purity test is up and running and that there is a discount for this service if you are a NAEBA member.

### OLD BUSINESS

Brenda Hartkopf reported that there were (4) applicants for the 2012 MnEBA Scholarship. The board changed the criteria slightly to include any post-secondary field of study, with an ag-related field still preferred. Kaitlin Hartkopf, a senior student in the Dairy Science program at South Dakota State University, was this year's recipient.

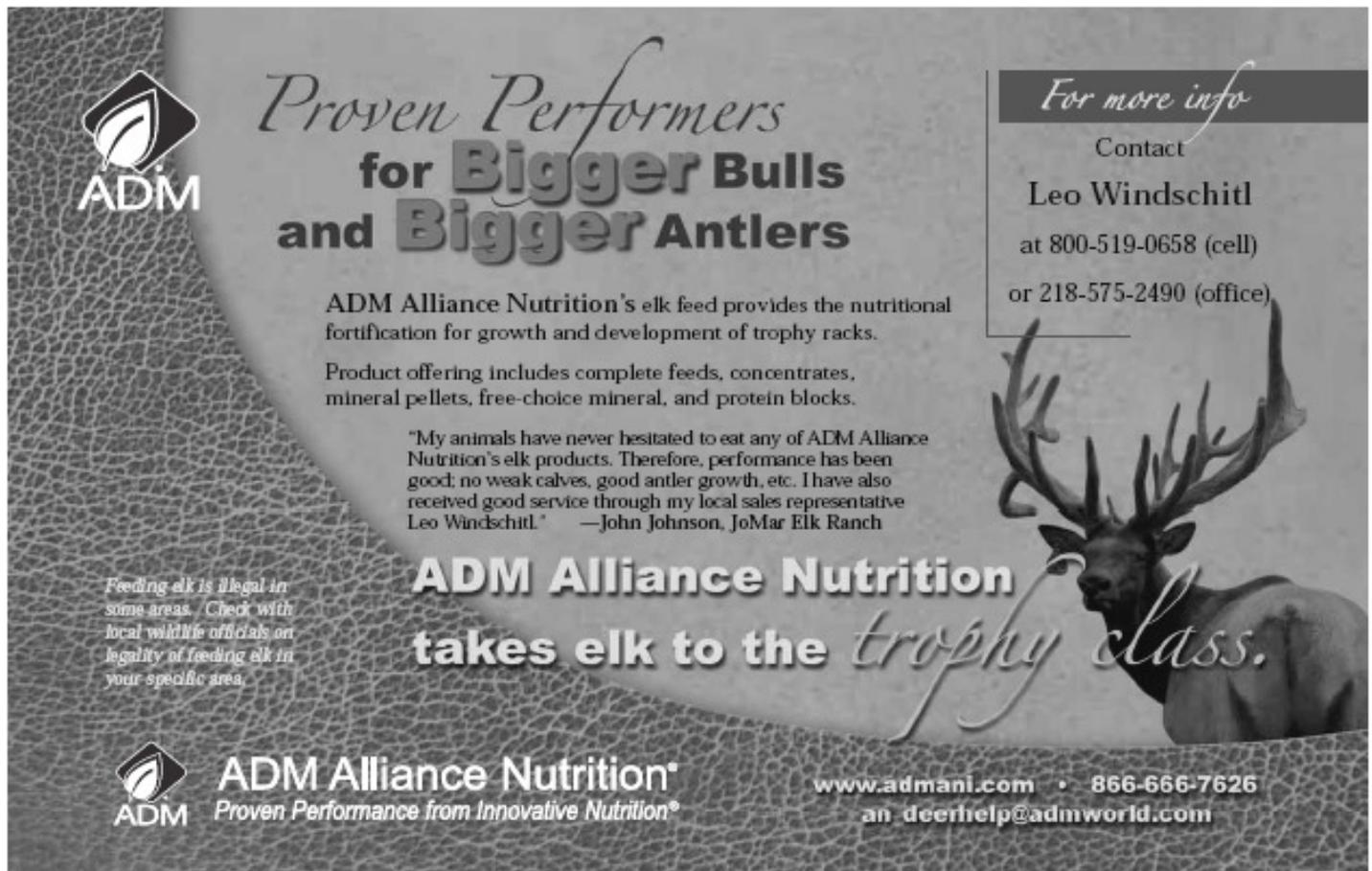
### NEW BUSINESS

Brenda Hartkopf reported that the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Charitable Elk Hunt is in the planning process. Tony Beckel has agreed to host the hunt and Lance & Brenda Hartkopf have offered a bull, however, they are looking for someone to help transport the bull as they do not have a trailer. The next focus will be to find a Minnesota veteran for the hunt.

Brenda Hartkopf announced the MnEBA Annual Conference will be held at the Holiday Inn in Alexandria, MN on January 11-12, 2013. This is MnEBA's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference. Hartkopf asked for any ideas on how this anniversary might be celebrated. It was suggested that all members who were inaugural members from 1993 be recognized. It was also suggested that MnEBA might consider a restructured fee as an added incentive to attend the special anniversary conference.

Brian Wagner moved to adjourn, Joyce Kaplan seconded, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Hartkopf, Executive Secretary



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## MnEBA Officer Blog by Wade Schimmelpfennig, MnEBA Director

Hello everyone! I hope everybody is having an enjoyable summer so far. By now we should have all of the calves on the ground and running around. That's what makes it my favorite time of the year.

Compared to most of the country, we have had it pretty good as far as the rains are concerned. The recent rainfall has helped out with pasture growth a bunch at my farm. I can only imagine what is going to happen to the price of hay this fall. It wouldn't be a bad idea for us all to be sure we have enough hay to make it through the winter before it gets too late and the scarcity of it will put more pressure on our feed bills.

I was glad to be able to see a few people at the summer picnic by Foley on the 21st. A special thanks goes out to the Zajac family for hosting it this year for us all.

I hear a few more people have tried using the granulated garlic in their mineral rations. It sure has made a big difference in the fly control at my place, while also helping us to keep our products as natural as possible.

I hope to see many of you at the Marriott in Brooklyn Park, formerly the Northland Inn, this coming weekend. From what I hear you can still get hotel reservations for the event.

Brenda has the new calendars ready to go for us all to start selling for next year. Just a reminder, anyone who sells 30 or more gets a free membership up to \$125. Remember, this is the largest revenue source our organization has. Let's make it a good fundraiser.

Have a great summer, and I look forward to seeing many of you at the international.



### 6<sup>th</sup> Annual MnEBA Charitable Elk Hunt

Plans are now underway for the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual MnEBA Charitable Elk Hunt for sometime in later November or December of 2012.

Tony Beckel has agreed to host this year's hunt and Lance & Brenda Hartkopf have pledged to donate the bull. Lance & Brenda do not own a trailer and are looking for a trailer to possibly borrow or if anyone would be willing to haul the bull from Howard Lake to Baudette, that would be good too! Please let Lance or Brenda know if you can help out at [bhartkopf@embarqmail.com](mailto:bhartkopf@embarqmail.com) or (320) 543-3664.

Ron Welle of Midwest Outdoors Unlimited is once again helping MnEBA locate a Minnesota veteran and has put together an application for veterans to apply. If anyone knows a veteran who would be interested, please contact the MnEBA Office and an application will be emailed or sent out to you. Applications are being accepted through October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Many thanks to Tony Beckel for his continued support of this project! This will be the 6<sup>th</sup> hunt he has conducted on MnEBA's behalf! That's awesome!!!

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608-526-4477 or [miniman41@centurytel.net](mailto:miniman41@centurytel.net)

*We look forward to working with you in the future.*

## 2013 MnEBA Gun Raffle Calendars are now Available!!!



A big thank you to all members who purchased sponsorships for the 2013 MnEBA Gun Raffle calendar! Calendars were made available at the MnEBA Summer Picnic where 346 calendars were handed out!!! Members can pick them up at the upcoming NAEBA Convention in Brooklyn Park, MN, or, contact any board member who may live near you, they usually have extras. If those avenues do not work for you, contact the MnEBA Office at (320) 543-2686 or [info@mneba.org](mailto:info@mneba.org) and calendars can be mailed out to you.

**BONUS!** New this year, you could be eligible for a free membership! Anyone who sells 30 or more calendars and returns stubs and money by December 31, 2012 to the MnEBA Office will receive a free 2013 membership, up to a \$125 value! There is no limit to the number of members who could benefit except in the case of when calendars are gone, there would be no more to sell.

Calendars will be available for sale from now until sold out or until the January 12, 2013 drawing date at the MnEBA Annual Conference.

Details of the raffle remain the same as in years past and will continue to feature FOUR additional bonus prizes!!

- 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 2013 calendar year, plus four bonus prizes of \$100 cash each. There will be 26 guns or cash options awarded. Winners will be notified at the end of each calendar month and posted on the MnEBA web site.

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There are over \$15,000 worth of guns on this year's raffle, the most ever!!! One great selling point to remember 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!

Please contact Brenda Hartkopf at (320) 543-2686 or [info@mneba.org](mailto:info@mneba.org) to order your calendars or to share your questions or comments.

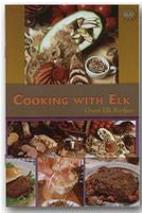
## MnEBA Promotional Materials

The following items are available for promotional purposes. To see the full line of MnEBA promotional offerings, check out [www.mneba.org](http://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](mailto: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., \$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** 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.

### HOME DÉCOR

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

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

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

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## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Thursday, July 19, 2012  
Coordinator

### CONTACT:

Margaret Hart, Communications

651.201.6131, [Margaret.Hart@state.mn.us](mailto:Margaret.Hart@state.mn.us)

### Elk farming class being offered to encourage more production of elk

ST. PAUL, Minn. – The Minnesota Elk Breeders Association and the Minnesota Grown Program are offering a class on raising elk in an effort to encourage future elk production in the state. The Elk Farming 101 class will be part of the North American Elk Breeders Association Annual Conference and International Antler Competition to be held August 2 – 4 in Minneapolis.

Minnesota Elk Breeders Association Executive Secretary Brenda Hartkopf says there is currently a shortage of animals to meet the public demand for domestic elk meat.

“With wholesale elk meat prices at an all-time high, it’s a good time to consider starting an elk herd,” said Hartkopf. “The Elk Farming 101 class, plus a marketing seminar and the antler competition will provide a great opportunity for people to learn about all aspects of the industry.”

There will also be a Select Quality Elk Sale, the first of its kind in over ten years. Hartkopf says the sale showcases elk with some of the best antler genetics in the U.S. She says while meat production is the end market, antler production is what drives the industry.

The Elk Farming 101 class is being offered at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 4 at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest (formerly The Northland Inn), 7025 Northland Drive North, Minneapolis, MN 55428. The entire national event runs from August 2 - 4. For a registration form, full schedule of events and more information, see the North American Elk Breeders Association web site at [www.naelk.org](http://www.naelk.org), or call the Minnesota Elk Breeders Association at (320) 543-2686.

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# NAEBA's 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Annual Conference & International Antler Competition

**August 2 – 4, 2012**

**Minneapolis Marriott Northwest (formerly Northland Inn)  
Brooklyn Park, MN**



The 22<sup>nd</sup> NAEBA Annual Conference and International Antler Competition will take place in just a matter of days! It has been a few years since it's been in Minnesota and MnEBA is busy getting ready to be the host state for this big event!

MnEBA is taking an active role in this year's convention by welcoming attendees, sponsoring a break, and by sponsoring the Elk Farming 101 seminar on Saturday morning of the convention. MnEBA has spent a good amount of effort in locally promoting the Elk Farming 101 seminar through print and web advertising. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture and Minnesota Grown have also been instrumental in helping to get the word out! If anyone knows of new or potential breeders in Minnesota, make sure to let them know of this great opportunity to learn more about the industry!

For many members, this is one of those rare chances to attend the national convention close to home to where you're only a couple of hours away! Come experience the antler judging schools, a great variety of seminars, live entertainment, fun contests, and the International Antler Competition! There will be antlers you just need to see to believe at the competition! You're sure to find just the right bull to cross with your females for the 2012 breeding season which is just around the corner!

NEW this year is the Select Quality Elk Auction, the first of its kind to be held in the states in over 10 years! These animals are outstanding! All NAEBA members will be receiving by mail, the Convention Program which also contains the animal sale lots. If you want to take a look at the animal offerings sooner, go to [www.naelk.org](http://www.naelk.org) and click on "Convention Program".

There are many outstanding hunt offerings on the auction block at this year's Fun Auction which takes place on Friday night. Semen from the top bulls in the industry will be on the auction block on Saturday evening, in conjunction with the animal sale. 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 and registration form on NAEBA's web site at [www.naelk.org](http://www.naelk.org). If you plan to attend the convention and have not registered as of yet, please let the NAEBA Office know you're coming. It's a big help in planning for meals, room set up and other details. See you in Brooklyn Park!

## **NAEBA Convention Highlights!**

**Thursday August 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
Antler Check-in  
Velvet Antler Cutting School  
Hard Antler School  
Hospitality

**Friday August 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
Opening Ceremonies  
Regional Meetings  
Photo Contest  
Seminars  
Comedian Jerry Frasier  
Fun Auction  
Hospitality

**Saturday August 4<sup>th</sup>**  
Seminars  
Meat Contest  
Antler Competition Results  
Awards  
Special Guest Key Note Speaker  
Select Quality Elk Sale &  
Semen Auction  
Hospitality

**Minneapolis Marriott NW**  
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**Guest Room Reservations:**  
(763) 536-8300. Ask for the Elk  
Breeders Association guest room  
rate of \$99.  
*This is an all-suite hotel!!!*



# NAEBA's 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference & International Antler Competition

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Up, Up & Away! Elk are on the Rise!

#### Thursday, August 2

Noon – 9 pm	Exhibitor Set-up
Noon – 9 pm	International Antler Check-in
1:30 – 3:30 pm	NAEBA Board Meeting
4 – 5 pm	Velvet Cutting School
7 – 9 pm	Hard Antler Judging School
9 pm	Hospitality – <i>sponsored by Black Velvet Elk Ranch, Mohlman Elk Farm, Splendor Ridge Elk Farm, Hawk's Hill Elk Ranch</i>

#### Friday, August 3

8 am – 8 pm	Antler Judging Tradeshow Silent Auction NAEBA Info Desk Elk Meat Products Entry Photo Contest Entry & Voting
8:15 – 9:15 am	Continental Breakfast
9 am	Welcome to Minnesota
9:10 – 10 am	General Membership Meeting
10 – 10:30 am	Break – <i>sponsored by Exotic Wildlife Association</i>
10:30 – 11:30 am	Regional Meetings Western Northeast Central North Central Southern
11:30 am – 1 pm	Lunch On Own
1 – 2 pm	SEMINAR – New CWD National Herd Certification Program Review - <i>Dr. Patrice Klein</i>
2 – 3 pm	SEMINAR – Axioms of Elk Production by <i>Ian Thorleifson</i>
3 – 3:30 pm	Break – <i>sponsored by Minnesota Elk Breeders Association</i>
3:30 – 4:15 pm	SEMINAR – Keeping Your Pastures Productive & Profitable - <i>by Troy Salzer</i>
4:15 – 5 pm	SEMINAR – Industry Public Relations Campaign - <i>by Charly Seale</i>
5 pm	Cash Bar Opens
6 – 7 pm	Evening Banquet
7 – 8 pm	Entertainment – <i>Comedian Jerry Frasier</i>
8 pm	NAEBA's Fun Auction

10 pm

Hospitality – *sponsored by Black Velvet Elk Ranch, Mohlman Elk Farm, Splendor Ridge Elk Farm, Hawk's Hill Elk Ranch*

#### Saturday, August 4

8 am – 9 am	NAEBA Board Meeting
8 am – 7:30 pm	Antler Judging Tradeshow NAEBA Info Desk Photo Contest Continues Silent Auction Continues
8 am – 3:30 pm	Continental Breakfast
8:15 – 9:15 am	SEMINAR – Elk 101, Taking Flight with a New Elk Farm <i>by Minnesota Elk Breeders Assoc.</i>
9 – 10 am	Break – <i>sponsored by Plateau Valley Elk Ranch</i>
10 – 10:30 am	SEMINAR – Elk Economics, The Sky's the Limit! <i>by Ian Thorleifson</i>
10:30 – 11:30 am	Lunch On Own
11:30 am – 1 pm	Velvet Antler Competition Viewing & People's Choice Awards Voting
1 – 2:45 pm	Break - <i>sponsored by BioTracking</i>
2:45 – 3:30 pm	Elk Meat Contest - <i>sponsored by Cervid Livestock Foundation</i>
3:30 pm	Meat & Photo Contests and Silent Auction Ends
3:30 – 5:30 pm	Hard Antler Competition Viewing & People's Choice Awards Voting
5:00 pm	Cash Bar Opens
6 – 7 pm	Evening Banquet
7 – 7:30 pm	Announce Winners of Photo & Meat Contests, Silent Auction Results, NAEBA Awards & Premiere Breeder Awards
7:30 – 8 pm	Key Note Speaker – Update on National Cervid Industry Public Relations Campaign – <i>by Special Guest Speaker</i>
8 – 9:30 pm	NAEBA Select Animal & Semen Auction
9:30 – 9:45 pm	Closing Remarks
9:45 pm	Competition Antler Check-Out
10:00 pm	Hospitality – <i>sponsored by Black Velvet Elk Ranch, Groen Elk Farm</i>

## Tequila's Early Developing Genetics Pays Huge Dividends!

Who's Got 8 Years To Wait On Late Developing Genetics?

With Skyrocketing Feed Cost Get Bulls Big Young and Off the Farm.

Tequila is proving yet again that his sons are bigger~younger!!

First two 3 year old sons grown out could flirt with both the  
3 Yr Old Typical and NonTypical Records for Hard Antler!

### STYX

24.82# @ 2—1st NAEBA 2011 Comp.

Judges thought Styx was undercut by several days!

Grown out 2012, worst heat and drought in 100  
years. Still going to be over 400 Typical at 3.

50"+ Wide—No Flared Beams Either



### ZEUS

20.08#@2—2nd NAEBA 2011 Comp.

Grown out 2012. Conservatively field scored between  
475-495 NonTypical at 3. 45-48" Wide. Drops on both  
sides over 18". Great combination of velvet weight, fine  
length and width. Estimated 75" outside spread.

Tequila is a genetic magnifier bull. Breed him to big typical cows and get big framed typical bulls, breed him to more nontypical cow lines and he's going to throw huge nontypical sons. The best thing about breeding to Tequila is his width is coming through even on narrower cow lines. Big boxy framed bulls.

Semen is in the tank drawn by Dr. Martin Wenkoff. Ask about quantity discounts.

MOHLMAN ELK FARM / LUNDBERG DEER & ELK FARM

Eric Mohlman 402-469-1831 / Josh Lundberg 620-224-3522

## ZEUS

3 year old Tequila son cut 20.08# at 2 in 2011 placing 2nd behind Styx  
Grown out at 3 in 2012, field scored between 475-495" with 45-48" inside spread  
and estimated outside spread of 75".

Great tine length and placement, beam diameter, width and high scoring genetics  
all in one package.

How many bulls can cut velvet, score this high Non-typical and be this wide at 3?  
Pretty short list that can do all three—Zeus!

Shooter ranches love the bulls with big drops Zeus has had them both years.  
Excellent quality semen drawn by Dr. Martin Wenkoff ready for 2012 breeding.



### MOHLMAN ELK FARM

Eric, Kim, Chase, and Kyra Mohlman—402-469-1831

Ayr, Nebraska—mohlmnelk@gtmc.net

## Federal CWD Rule Out For Comment

[Federal Register Volume 77, Number 140 (Friday, July 20, 2012)]

[Rules and Regulations]

[Page 42625]

From the Federal Register Online via the Government Printing Office [[www.gpo.gov](http://www.gpo.gov)]

[FR Doc No: 2012-17726]

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

9 CFR Parts 55 and 81

[Docket No. 00-108-9]

### **Chronic Wasting Disease Herd Certification Program and Interstate Movement of Farmed or Captive Deer, Elk, and Moose**

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Interim final rule; reopening of comment period.

SUMMARY: We are reopening the comment period for our interim final rule that will establish a herd certification program to control chronic wasting disease (CWD) in farmed or captive cervids in the United States. The interim final rule requested comment on our decision that our regulations will set minimum requirements for the interstate movement of farmed or captive cervids but not preempt State or local laws or regulations that are more restrictive than our regulations, except any such laws or regulations that prohibit or further restrict the transit through a State of deer, elk, and moose that are otherwise eligible for interstate movement. This action will allow interested persons additional time to prepare and submit comments on our preemption policy with respect to CWD. This document also indicates that we will consider comments on issues other than our preemption policy for future rulemaking.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before August 13, 2012.

ADDRESSES: You may read the document and submit comments by going to the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=APHIS-2006-0118-0199>. To read comments already made, go to <http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=APHIS-2006-0118>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Patrice Klein, Senior Staff Veterinarian, National Center for Animal Health Programs, Veterinary Services, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 43, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 851-3435.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On June 13, 2012, we published in the Federal Register (77 FR 35542-35571, Docket No. 00-108-8) an interim final rule that will establish a herd certification program to control chronic wasting disease (CWD) in farmed or captive cervids in the United States. The interim final rule will be effective on August 13, 2012.

In the interim final rule, we requested comments specifically on our decision not to preempt State and local laws and regulations that are more restrictive than our regulations with respect to CWD, except any such laws or regulations that prohibit or further restrict the transit through a State of deer, elk, and moose that are otherwise eligible for interstate movement. That decision was discussed in section III of the Background section of the interim final rule, under the heading ``APHIS' Decision Not to Preempt More Restrictive State Requirements on Farmed or Captive Cervids With Respect to CWD, beginning on 77 FR 35545.

Comments on our decisions regarding preemption of State and local laws and regulations were required to be received on or before July 13, 2012. We are reopening the comment period on Docket No. 00-108-8 until August 13, 2012. This action will allow interested persons additional time to prepare and submit

comments. We will also consider all comments received between July 14, 2012, and the date of this notice.

The interim final rule indicated that we will publish another document in the Federal Register after the comment period closes that will include a discussion of any comments we receive on our preemption policy and any amendments we are making to the rule. We still plan to do this. However, we have received comments on aspects of the interim final rule other than our preemption policy. While we will not address these comments in our document discussing our preemption policy, we will consider these comments to determine whether future rulemaking may be necessary, and we encourage commenters to address any aspect of the interim final rule that they wish to.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 8301-8317; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.4.

Done in Washington, DC, this 16th day of July 2012.  
Kevin Shea, Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.  
[FR Doc. 2012-17726 Filed 7-19-12; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

## Memo From Minnesota Board of Animal Health

Date: June 25, 2012  
To: Minnesota Farmed Cervidae Advisory Committee  
From: Paul Anderson, DVM  
Minnesota Board of Animal Health  
Subject: **New Code of Federal Regulations 9 CFR parts 55 and 81**

To all,

The new federal regulations for CWD herd certification and interstate movement of cervidae have been published (Federal Register June 13, 2012) and will change the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 9, parts 55 and 81. Comments can be made as directed in the Federal Register until July 13, 2012. These new laws will be effective on August 13, 2012 and will be enforced by the federal government beginning December 10, 2012.

Attached is a complete copy of the way I think these regulations will read. I did my best to put it all together in one piece so that we can understand it. The highlights for us are as follows:

1. Two forms of identification will be required on each animal for herd certification and interstate movement.
2. All animals over 12 months of age that die or are slaughtered must be tested for CWD.
3. Producers may continue to collect CWD samples.
4. Ear tags with premises numbers on them will continue to be recognized as official.
5. Five (5) years of CWD surveillance, Level 6 status, will be required for interstate movement.
6. State laws that are stricter will not be preempted by federal regulations, with one exception. The exception is that states will not be allowed to prohibit the transport of cervidae through the state if they are not unloaded in the state, meet the new federal requirements and otherwise meet the import requirements of the state of destination.
7. The federal government will no longer view the CWD program as an eradication effort. It will now view the program as a control program to prevent the interstate spread of the disease. This means that there will no longer be an effort from the federal side to depopulate infected herds, prohibit the addition of cervidae to infected herds, or require fencing to remain around infected herd sites. There will also be no requirement to do surveillance in wild cervidae as a condition for states to have a CWD herd certification program.

*(Editor's Note: As noted in the Federal Register announcement on the previous page, the comment period was extended to August 13, 2012. Other stated deadlines remain in effect.*

## USAHA News Alert Summaries

### CWD continues to be found in new captive and wild locations

#### Deer with chronic wasting disease found in Iowa [edited]

Mason City Globe Gazette

July 21, 2012

**DES MOINES (AP)** - State officials have verified the first case of chronic wasting disease in the state in a white-tail deer on a hunting preserve in southern Iowa. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources said Friday the deer in Davis County was verified with the disease this week. Officials said it is an isolated case.

The Davis County facility where the animal was held is quarantined. It is surrounded by an eight-foot fence. The facility has been inspected by the DNR and the Iowa Department of Agriculture to ensure that any remaining deer are contained.

"We have a CWD surveillance program in place to test deer, elk and moose at the facilities that raise farm deer and we have worked closely with DNR to plan for a possible finding of the disease," said Iowa State Veterinarian David Schmitt.

Full text: <http://tinyurl.com/cfnr82a>

#### Chronic wasting disease found in Sumner County deer [KS]

Kansas.com [blog]

July 18, 2012

Chronic wasting disease has been detected in a Sumner County deer, according to state wildlife officials. Shane Hesting, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, wildlife disease coordinator, said the deer was a yearling whitetail doe that was killed by a hunter last deer season. It's the first time the disease has been recorded in south-central Kansas.

CWD is a fatal disease that can effect all members of the deer family, including elk, moose, whitetail and mule deer. Even though it's closely related to Mad Cow Disease, there's no proof it can jump to other kinds of animals or humans, said Lloyd Fox, Wildlife and Parks big game program coordinator.

Nine deer tested positive for the disease out of more than 2,400 Kansas samples sent for testing last year. Results have just returned from state and federal laboratories. Six were in northwest Kansas. First-ever cases were reported in Ford, Stafford and Sumner counties.

Full text:

<http://blogs.kansas.com/outdoors/2012/07/18/chronic-wasting-disease-found-in-sumner-county-deer/>

#### Chronic wasting disease detected in far West Texas

Texas Animal Health Commission

July 10, 2012

**AUSTIN** – Samples from two mule deer recently taken in far West Texas have been confirmed positive for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). These are the first cases of CWD detected in Texas deer. Wildlife officials believe the event is currently isolated in a remote part of the state near the New Mexico border.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) and the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) implemented regionally-focused deer sample collection efforts after the disease was detected in the Hueco Mountains of New Mexico during the 2011-12 hunting season. With the assistance of cooperating landowners, TPWD, TAHC, and USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services biologists and veterinarians collected samples from 31 mule deer as part of a strategic CWD surveillance plan designed to determine the geographic extent of New Mexico's findings. Both infected deer were taken from Heuco Mountains of northern El Paso and Hudspeth counties.

"Now that we have detected CWD in Texas, our primary objective is to contain the disease," said Carter Smith, TPWD Executive Director. "Working collaboratively with experts in the field we have developed protocols to address CWD and implementation is already underway."

Full text: <http://www.tahc.state.tx.us/b>

## MnEBA Kitchen

Here's a quick, healthy meal to make for families on the go!

### Bugling Elk Burritos

1 lb. ground elk  
1 tsp. cumin  
1 tsp. chili powder  
½ tsp. salt

1 cup brown rice (cooked)  
2½ cups refried beans  
4 tortillas  
½ cup shredded cheddar cheese

Add spices and salt to ground elk meat and cook until done. Combine beans and rice in a saucepan and heat on low until warmed through (or microwave). Put tortillas in a folded, damp towel and place in the oven on low for 5 minutes. Place a warm tortilla on plate, keeping other tortillas covered. Put ¼ bean mixture and meat on flat tortilla, leaving 2 inches at bottom of tortilla so it can be folded up. Add 2 Tbsp. cheese, salsa, sour cream, lettuce, tomato, or anything else you like. Fold up the bottom and roll the sides around.



## 2012 Minnesota State Fair Schedule

The summer is flying by! We're already into August and the MN State Fair will be here before we know it! Thank you to all who have already signed up to work this year's fair! The fair schedule to date is shown below; there are several time slots still open. Any and all help, for any amount of time, is needed!



After many years in the same location at the fair, the State Fair board has decided to move the MnEBA booth along with the buffalo and alpaca booths across the street and down one block, alongside the Horse barn. This change was not requested, but the committee will work with the space offered and make it another great showing! Any and all help with set-up would be very much appreciated!

Elk sausage, sticks and jerky, along with dog chews will once again be sold from the MnEBA booth. A new item has been added, Atomic Chef spices which are designed for elk and other wild game. The chefs from Atomic Chef will be on hand each day of the fair from Noon-6pm to promote elk meat and answer questions on meat preparation. The committee is excited with the new addition of a non-industry chef to promote elk meat!

Contact Morrie Evenson at (320) 212-1479 or Daphne Evenson at (320) 894-2304 to sign up for one of the open slots below, or to offer your assistance with set-up.

Date	Time	Workers	Date	Time	Workers
<b>Pre-Fair</b>		Set Up – Paul Hueg OPEN for additional volunteers	<b>8/29</b>	8 – 2	Norman Schimmelpfennig
<b>8/23</b>	8 - 2	Morrie & Daphne Evenson & friends		2 – 9	OPEN
	2 – 9	OPEN	<b>8/30</b>	8 – 2	Jim Byrne / Martin Zacharias
<b>8/24</b>	8 – 2	Jon & Richard Aase		2 - 9	Jim Byrne / Martin Zacharias
	2 – 9	Don & Joyce Kaplan	<b>8/31</b>	8 – 2	Jim Byrne / Glen & Kaye Zearth
<b>8/25</b>	8 – 2	Don & Joyce Kaplan		2 - 9	Jim Byrne / Glen & Kaye Zearth
	2 – 9	Don & Joyce Kaplan	<b>9/1</b>	8 – 2	OPEN
<b>8/26</b>	8 – 2	OPEN		2 – 9	OPEN
	2 – 9	Hartkopf Family	<b>9/2</b>	8 – 2	Prodzinski Family
<b>8/27</b>	8 – 2	OPEN		2 - 9	Prodzinski Family
	2 – 9	Neubert Family	<b>9/3</b>	8 – 2	Greg & Roxy Lubinski
<b>8/28</b>	8 – 2	OPEN		2 – 9	Paul & Lynn Hueg
	2 – 9	OPEN			

## Vet Corner by Glen Zebarth, DVM

### Research Article

## Evaluation of Serodiagnostic Assays for *Mycobacterium bovis* Infection in Elk, White-Tail Deer, and Reindeer in the United States

Jeffrey T. Nelson,<sup>1</sup> Kathleen A. Orloski,<sup>2</sup> Audra L. Lloyd,<sup>1</sup> Mark Camacho,<sup>3</sup> Mark A. Schoenbaum,<sup>2</sup> Suelee Robbe-Austerman,<sup>1</sup> Bruce V. Thomsen,<sup>1</sup> and S. Mark Hall<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>National Veterinary Services Laboratories, Veterinary Services (VS), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), United States Department of Agriculture, (USDA), Ames, IA 50010, USA

<sup>2</sup>VS, APHIS, USDA, Fort Collins, CO 80526-8117, USA

<sup>3</sup>VS, APHIS, USDA, Raleigh, NC 27606, USA

Correspondence should be addressed to Jeffrey T. Nelson, [jeffrey.t.nelson@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:jeffrey.t.nelson@aphis.usda.gov)

Received 6 February 2012; Accepted 11 April 2012

Academic Editor: Mitchell Palmer

In 2011, the United States Department of Agriculture conducted a project in which elk (*Cervus elaphus* spp.), white-tailed deer, (WTD) (*Odocoileus virginianus*), and reindeer (*Rangifer tarandus*) were evaluated by the single cervical tuberculin test (SCT), comparative cervical tuberculin test (CCT) and serologic tests. The rapid antibody detection tests evaluated were the CervidTB Stat-Pak, (Stat-Pak), and the Dual Path Platform VetTB (DPP). Blood was collected from presumably uninfected animals prior to tuberculin injection for the SCT. A total of 1,783 animals were enrolled in the project. Of these, 1,752 (98.3%) were classified as presumably uninfected, based on originating from a captive herd with no history of exposure to TB. Stat-Pak specificity estimates were 92.4% in reindeer, 96.7% in WTD, and 98.3% in elk and were not significantly different from SCT specificity estimates. Using the DPP in series on Stat-Pak antibody-positive samples improved specificity in the three species. Thirty one animals were classified as confirmed infected, based on necropsy and laboratory results, and 27/31 were antibody positive on Stat-Pak for an estimated sensitivity of 87.1%. The study findings indicate that rapid serologic tests used in series are comparable to the SCT and CCT and may have a greater ability to detect TB-infected cervids.

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## Minnesota Animal Health News

### Comment Period Now Open for Proposed Board of Animal Health Rules Change

July 18, 2012

The Minnesota Board of Animal Health is proposing changes to the existing rules as they apply to animal health. The Dual Notice of Intent to Adopt Rules will be published in the State Register on July 23, 2012. The comment period will end on August 23, 2012.

The Board of Animal Health (Board) proposes to amend all of its rules in order to (1) eliminate obsolete or confusing language, (2) clarify and generalize the Board's authorities, (3) consolidate all of the rules into a new chapter that is organized and written in a way that is easier to read and understand, and (4) add new sections on topics that are not currently addressed.

To review the newly proposed rules and relevant documents, go to the home page of [www.bah.state.mn.us](http://www.bah.state.mn.us). The "farmed cervid" portion of the rules can be found on pages 42-54 under the *Proposed Rules* link.

# Committee Reports

## MnEBA COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Annual Conference	Kaye Zearth (320) 834-4064
Nominating	Fred Neubert (320) 352-6733
Government Relations	Jim Byrne (507) 358-6505
Antler Competition	Kaye Zearth (320) 834-4064
Health	Dr. Glen Zearth (320) 834-4064
Auction	Jerry Strodman (507) 451-3107
Awards	Patty VanGundy (507) 896-2380
Promotions	Brenda Hartkopf (320) 543-2686
State Fair	Morrie & Daphne Evenson (320) 354-5156
Fundraising	Brenda Hartkopf (320) 543-2686

## 2013 MnEBA Annual Conference

The 2013 MnEBA Annual Conference will be held at the Holiday Inn in Alexandria, MN on January 11-12, 2013.

This will be MnEBA's 20<sup>th</sup> annual conference! What would you like to see to make it an extra special anniversary conference? Do you have any speaker and/or fundraising ideas?

Contact Kaye Zearth at (320) 834-4064 or [oakpoint@gctel.com](mailto:oakpoint@gctel.com), Rita Prodzinski at (507) 452-1282 or [rprod@hotmail.com](mailto:rprod@hotmail.com), or Brenda Hartkopf at (320) 543-2686 or [info@mneba.org](mailto:info@mneba.org) with your ideas!

## A Big Thank You

Thank you to Larry Gerdes for providing some new velvet samples for the MnEBA booth, just in time for the Minnesota State Fair! Seeing velvet in person and being able to touch it is probably the most popular part of MnEBA's booth! Thank you so much for your generosity!

## Ever wonder???

Why the sun lightens our hair but darkens our skin?

Why don't you ever see the headline 'Psychic Wins Lottery'?

Why is it that doctors call what they do a 'practice'?



Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?

If flying is so safe, why do they call the airport a terminal?



## Advertiser Index

Stearns Veterinary Outlet  
Page 2

ADM Alliance Nutrition  
Page 5

Spring Coulee Freeze Drying  
Page 6

Farm Bureau Financial Services  
Page 7

Mohlman Elk Farm  
Page 12-13

**THANK YOU**  
for your support!

## MnEBA Newsletter Advertising Rates

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

Ads must be camera ready. To place an ad, call the MnEBA Office at (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 2 – 4, 2012** – NAEBA Annual Convention & International Antler Competition, Minneapolis Marriott NW, Brooklyn Park, MN

**August 23 – September 3, 2012** – MN State Fair, State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, MN

**January 11 - 12, 2013** – MnEBA 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Conference, Holiday Inn, Alexandria, MN

## Classified Ads

**For Sale:** If you are looking for a breeding bull for this fall we have some nice 4 year olds out of EUN Blast (470+). The mothers are out of Clearstone Beamer, Tristar or Max III. All left hard so you can see what they look like. Registered and ready to go. If you want to see the pedigrees shoot me an email. Mark Lucas, Misery Creek Elk, Hamburg, MN, [mark.lucas@fcstone.com](mailto:mark.lucas@fcstone.com) or (952) 215-1313.

**For Sale:** 6 yr. old breeder bull for sale "RASCAL". #638S sports a 9x8 rack on a very large body. Sire is an Oak Point Jesse son out of an Ike daughter. Breeders are Lance & Brenda Hartkopf-Splendor Ridge Elk. 100% conception rate last fall – NAEBA registered. \$5,000. Contact Don Kaplan at Okaman Elk Farm—Days (507) 267-4054, Evenings (507) 267-4716. Email [okaman@frontiernet.net](mailto:okaman@frontiernet.net). Hauling negotiable.

**For Sale:** Semen \$75 per straw. Discount for volume purchase. 500 straws available. Very strong genetics. From three bulls – all unofficially scored over 485 inches SCI. Additional information available at (800) 485-7778 or email [medlandelk@gmail.com](mailto:medlandelk@gmail.com).

**Wanted:** Wolf Creek Elk Ranch is buying hard antler at \$8 per pound delivered to the ranch in Sturgeon Lake or to Wapiti Labs Inc. in Ham Lake. Must also include copy of CWD certification from the MN Board of Animal Health. Call Klint at (877) 497-9653.

**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