



Special Interest Articles:

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President's Message by Mark Lucas

Good Day All!

I guess old man winter still knows how to bring on the cold, even if he can't make it snow very much. The cold blast this week was a bit too much for several of my automatic elk waterers out in the more open pastures. I have had a few issues over the years with freeze up, but never had three frozen at one time before. The combination of subzero temperatures with wind and very little snow cover was just too much. By the way, I will not mention the livestock waterer manufacturer by name here, it would seem tacky, but I am not above mentioning what they look like. Do not let the bright and shiny stainless steel watering gizmos and their convincing sales representative fool you, they can and do freeze up. They freeze up way too often, even when properly installed per their recommendations.

A representative from their company called a while back asking if I would mind being a reference to someone in the area who was interested in installing a couple of their models. I said, "Please do have them call me. I would gladly tell the person which brand waterer I favor." After a short pause the representative asked an all important question, "That would be our brand correct?" Well, let's just say no one ever called me as a reference so I guess the sales rep thought I might not be a good spokesperson for them. Weird huh? At my place other brands have fared the cold weather far better over the years. If it were not so expensive to replace, I would rip out every one of the stainless steel models.

I did come up with a new water line thawing method that I am rather proud of since it worked very well with minimal effort. I thought I would share it with you as it may help someone with the same issues. See Page 10 for the details!

Speaking of old man winter, he did cut down the crowd at our MnEBA Annual conference in Alexandria in early January with a freezing mix of precipitation from Alexandria on north. We still had a respectable turn out and a great day of fun and information for all. I always enjoy getting together with elk minded people to visit and share ideas and experiences. Three major topics of conversation centered on talk about feed prices, velvet prices and regulatory issues. I am not sure we got the velvet price outlook or feed price solution nailed down, but for sure we are facing more regulation issues going forward. We cannot afford to sit back and passively be legislated out of business. We have several issues coming at us in the near term.

First is the Chronic Wasting Disease Program Standards being worked on by the USDA APHIS. While there has been quite a bit of industry input, the USDA seems adamant about requiring both the obex and MRPLN be submitted for testing on CWD. While many of us do submit both tissues when possible, it is the expanded requirement of both that I find troubling. The second issue we are likely to hear more about involves each of us. As discussed at our MnEBA meeting, escapes are a huge issue. Those who do not like what we do use escapes as a battle cry against the cervid industry. Escapes incidents are down some but are still way too numerous. We each need to look at our own operations and make adjustments to better prevent escapes. According to the MN Board of Animal Health, it is not the fences; it is the gates which are the major cause.

Thanks to all who made the Annual meeting a great event. I will not try to list all the individuals who should be thanked as I will certainly leave out someone, but congratulations to the entire membership for selling the most gun raffle calendars ever! We came very close to selling out and that is a good thing.

Keep Warm!

Mark Lucas, President, Minnesota Elk Breeders Association

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

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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.

20th Anniversary MnEBA Annual Conference

An informative and fun day!!!

The 2013 MnEBA Annual Conference took place January 12, 2013 at the Holiday Inn in Alexandria, MN with 61 people in attendance. While we were on the edge of a winter storm warning area, people were able to slip into town without too much difficulty except for those who came from the north!

There was a great line-up of speakers to discuss animal health and marketing. Dr. Paul Anderson gave an update on several animal health issues and shared with the group that the CWD restrictions to several farmed cervid herds in southeastern MN were now lifted as there have been over 5,000 wild deer tested in the area with no more positives. Sam Hostetler gave a great hunt ranch overview of this past year and where he sees next season going. Bill Knutson gave a first of its kind presentation on velvet and velvet capsule quality management and Chef Mike Kueppers cooked up several elk dishes, sharing some great spice ideas. Many thanks to all speakers for taking the time and effort to prepare great presentations for our group!

This year's conference featured five vendors including Sunset Jewelry, ADM Alliance Nutrition, Outback Fence, Farm Bureau Financial Services and The Atomic Chef. It was a great mix of displays and information. Thank you for sharing your products and for your support!

MnEBA tried a new fundraising game this year, Deal or No Deal, which was very successful! Three players tried their hand at winning the highest case value of \$250. Scott Groen was lucky number one winning \$200, Lynn Hueg went second winning \$100 and Chad Lawler was player number three, taking the offer for \$150, giving up \$200 in the last case. Glen and Kaye Zebarth donated the seed money of \$500 for this game to help pay off the cash prizes. Thank you Glen & Kaye for your monetary support! Thank you to Pat & Rita Prodzinski and Wade Schimmelpfennig for your assistance in selling the card chances.

Many attendees also participated in the gun calendar raffle helping to make that activity a great success! One of the last calendars to be sold that day was a winner! Many thanks to Eileen Byrne for her help in manning the calendar table and Tena Martin for her help behind the scenes.

Don Kaplan, one of MnEBA's founding fathers, reminisced about the early years of MnEBA and entertained everyone with a few memories from over the years. It was fun to think back on some of the good times we've all enjoyed together.

The MnEBA awards committee recognized Kaye Zebarth for her most recent years of service on the MnEBA Board as well as an Appreciation award to Dr. Paul Anderson for his outstanding service to the farmed cervid industry on behalf of the Board of Animal Health.

Several members stepped up to sponsor events throughout the day. They included:

- **Morning Break Sponsors:** *Roger & Saichon Niefeld and Jim & Eileen Byrne*
- **Afternoon Break Sponsors:** *Mark & Michelle Lucas, Paul & Lynn Hueg & Leo Windschitl/ADM Alliance Nutrition*
- **Table Decorations/Door Prizes:** *Paul & Lynn Hueg*
- **Friday & Saturday Night Hospitality:** *Lee Han & Scott Salonek*
- **20th Anniversary Mugs:** *Lance & Brenda Hartkopf*

A final thank you to all who attended, made donations to the live and silent auctions, bid on fundraising items and helped in any way. It was a great day all around and a special 20th Anniversary! Thank you to all who took part in this special event!



Annual Membership Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2013 Annual Conference

The membership of the Minnesota Elk Breeders Association held their 20th Annual Meeting on January 12, 2013 at the Holiday Inn in Alexandria, MN. President Mark Lucas called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Lucas asked for additions or corrections to the July 21, 2012 secretary report as presented. Pat Prodzinski moved to accept the report, Ray Smothers seconded, motion carried.

The treasurer's report included both the 2011 and 2012 year end review to allow the membership to view the current trend. The December 31, 2012 checkbook balance was \$13,153.38. It was moved to accept the treasurer's report, Daphne Evenson seconded, motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Government Relations: Jim Byrne reported on the Board of Animal Health (BAH) re-writing of the BAH Rulebook which was updated for all species. This process is nearly complete. He also reported that the movement restrictions on the farmed cervid operations in southeastern Minnesota have been lifted as there were no more wild deer found to have CWD after sampling more than 5,000 deer. The DNR still plans to conduct one more year of surveillance in the area.

Escapes continue to be a big issue and Jim reminded everyone to be vigilant about closing their gates and avoiding escapes. There has been talk about a movement by the Minnesota DNR to charge farmed cervid producers for their cost in helping to recapture escaped farmed cervids.

Byrne also reported that work is ongoing with the national CWD plan. Industry continues to pursue reinstating indemnity. The Program Standards document which came out last July is in the process of being rewritten by a committee of industry representatives, state veterinarians, wildlife officials USDA and APHIS.

Finally, Jim reminded members to talk to and communicate with their legislators.

Fundraising Raffle: Brenda Hartkopf reported that 556 stubs had been turned in and that she was expecting there to be 650-700 calendars sold before the raffle drawing. The old record was 534 calendars sold in 2012. Hartkopf recognized the high sellers with Wade Schimmelpfennig selling approximately 140 calendars, Chad Lawler 70 calendars and Brian Wagner 68 calendars. Nine members received free

memberships for selling 30 or more calendars and returning stubs and money by December 31st. She also thanked all the sponsors of this year's calendar which helped to completely pay for the printing of the calendars. Calendars would continue to be for sale throughout the day until the time of the drawing later that evening.

Brenda also reported that Brian Wagner had constructed a new raffle drum with numbered ping pong balls representing all 750 available calendar numbers. This would be done to allow for a better mixing of the numbers. Members were encouraged to check it out.

Promotions: Brenda Hartkopf reported that the Economic Impact Survey which was conducted along with the MN Deer Breeders was completed last Spring. A press release was created through the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and distributed to statewide media and others. MnEBA also sponsored an Elk 101 seminar at this summer's NAEBA Convention in Brooklyn Center. Minnesota Grown funds were used to help advertise the event in local newspapers. A press release was also sent out through the MN Department of Agriculture to announce this event. This year's charitable elk hunt also attracted interest of several local newspapers. MnEBA has been consistently sending out the message that producers are unable to keep up with the public demand for elk meat, that there is a hard antler shortage, the velvet price has improved and that there continues to be strong interest in shooter bulls. Hartkopf was interviewed by the Red River Farm Network about the 2013 Annual Conference the day before.

Hartkopf also reported that MnEBA continues to be active with Minnesota Grown and encouraged members to join and take advantage of all Minnesota Grown has to offer.

Finally, she reported that MnEBA will once again be having a booth at the MN Deer Classic, but that the event has relocated to the National Sports Center in Blaine, MN. The dates for the event are March 8-10th. Help is still needed to man the booth and she encouraged members to contact Perry Olson to sign up.

State Fair: Daphne Evenson reported a sign-up sheet is now available for the 2013 State Fair. She asked the membership for more help in making phone calls to help fill slots. She pointed out that Paul &

Lynn Hueg have been extremely helpful. Don Kaplan is looking into creating photo opportunities for kids.

Health: Dr. Glen Zebarth reported that CWD was a big topic at the October USAHA meeting and that a working group has been assembled to revise the CWD Program Standards. Shawn Schafer, one of the industry representatives on this working group, has reported to Glen that the MN Board of Animal Health has been very helpful and that he thinks modifications are going well.

On January 9th, USDA published an Interim Rule stating that the Chem Bio TB Blood Test is now considered an official TB test for elk and other farmed cervids. There is a 60-day comment period, but the rule was effective the day it was published. However, NVSL does not have the test kits as of yet. Price is yet to be determined.

Dr. Scott Wells who is an epidemiologist from the University of Minnesota, has put together an epidemiological team to do a work up on the North Oaks red deer herd who found one case of CWD this past year to see why this happened and if it is a typical or non-typical prion which is involved. Molecular researcher Tracy Nichols from USDA/APHIS will also be a part of the research team. The Elk Research Council is assisting financially.

Glen also reported that part of the federal farm bill lists a provision for \$80 million to be used for animal indemnity. Dr. Zebarth proposed a letter be sent to state and federal officials from MnEBA to request some of this money be used specifically for CWD indemnity.

NAEBA: Brian Wagner explained that everything at the NAEBA Office is going well and that NAEBA is financially sound. Animal registrations are still being done and the purity test is up and running out of Brookings, South Dakota. It will be about a 2 week turn-around time for results to come back. The Brookings lab is also working on a pregnancy test and they can also run brucellosis tests off the same sample.

Brian recognized the 2012 International Antler Competition winners from the North Central region. These breeders included Bill & Karen Knutson, Mark & Lisa Luedtke, Scott & Connie Salonek, Brian Wagner, Paul & Lynn Hueg and Perry Olson.

Finally, Brian encouraged everyone to attend the March Mingle which takes place on March 22nd in

Wausau, Wisconsin. This year's summer convention and International antler competition will be held at the Best Western Plus Ramkota in Sioux Falls, South Dakota on August 1-3, 2013. Brian encouraged all Minnesota producers to attend since it will be right across the Minnesota border.

OLD BUSINESS

Ron Welle and Tony Beckel talked about the 6th Annual Charitable Elk Hunt which took place in October. The recipient was unable to attend but sent his thanks to MnEBA through Ron. Video of the hunt was viewed as provided by Midwest Outdoors Unlimited.

NEW BUSINESS

Board elections were held. The terms of Wade Schimmelpfennig and Mark Lucas were up for reelection. Schimmelpfennig, Lucas and Greg Lubinski were nominated before the meeting. There were no further nominations from the floor. After member voting, Schimmelpfennig and Lucas were reelected.

Lucas talked about the recent formation of the American Cervid Alliance (ACA) and that the board recently voted to pledge support to the ACA. Handouts explaining what the ACA was about were distributed.

Wagner talked about the nationwide farmed cervid promotional campaign which is being conducted to show the public what we as cervid producers do. The promotional campaign committee recently completed an industry video which was viewed by attendees. The video was positively received.

Greg Lubinski explained his idea of donating funds to the Blue Jackets/Bright Future program sponsored by the Minnesota FFA Foundation to provide a blue jacket to those FFA members who cannot afford them. He would donate the money needed for two jackets, for one boy and one girl, through MnEBA. He invited anyone else who would like to contribute to join him in this effort.

Lucas reported that MnEBA is planning to have a 2013 summer picnic and is looking for a host farm. There was discussion on what a good time the past summer picnics have been.

Glen Zebarth moved to adjourn, Daphne Evenson seconded, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Hartkopf, Executive Secretary

Conference Fundraisers A Great Success!

This year's conference fundraisers were successful in raising over \$5,700 for MnEBA, almost \$2,000 more than last year! Many thanks to everyone who donated and bid on items (see donors and successful bidders below). Both the live and silent auctions featured a nice variety of items! Thank you to Brian Wagner & Tena Martin for assistance in obtaining select items for both auctions. Many thanks to Mark Lucas for conducting the live auction. Thank you also to Brian Wagner, Lance Hartkopf and Bill Knutson for their assistance during the live auction.

Item	Donor	Buyer
(10) Bags ADM 18% Complete Supplement	Leo Windschitl/ADM Alliance Nutrition	Wade Schimmelpfennig
(10) Bags ADM 18% Complete Supplement	Leo Windschitl/ADM Alliance Nutrition	Dan Groothuis
Elk Night Light with More Than Meets the Eye	Glen & Kaye Zebarth	Greg Lubinski
Vacation at Casa Madera Condo (6 days)	Don & Joyce Kaplan	Greg Lubinski
5 L Bottle Ivermectin w/applicator	Brian Wagner & Tena Martin	Dan Groothuis
Wildlife Dish Set (4 place settings) x 2	Larry & Patty VanGundy	Roger & Saichon Nietfeld
Browning Camp Saw/Knife Set	MnEBA	Jerry Campbell
Browning Flex Gun Case	MnEBA	Mark Luedtke
Portable Propane Heater	MnEBA	Chad Lawler
XL Browning Warm Front Shirt	Don & Sharon Olson	Wade Schimmelpfennig
Trail Camera	MnEBA	Richard Zajac
Barn Wood Corner Shelf	Lance & Brenda Hartkopf	Greg Lubinski
Deluxe Wine Basket for Two	Morrie & Daphne Evenson	Paul & Lynn Hueg
4 GB Touch MG3 Video	Leo Windschitl	Tony Beckel
Ray Henderchoty Print	Leo Windschitl	Karen Knutson
Wine Rack with (4) Bottles of Wine	Paul & Lynn Hueg	Michelle Lucas
Barn Wood Glass Mirror	MnEBA	Leo Windschitl
3 Piece Centerpiece Candle Set x 2	MnEBA	Paul & Lynn Hueg
Hunting Blind w/Case	Mark & Michelle Lucas	Greg Lubinski
Elk Print 15"x12"	Morrie & Daphne Evenson	Greg Lubinski
Barn Wood Print	Ray Smothers	Brian Wagner
(2) Elk Pilsner Glasses	Lance & Brenda Hartkopf	Brian Wagner
(2) Elk Pilsner Glasses	Lance & Brenda Hartkopf	Paul Hueg
Elk Wind Spinner	Dennis Engebretson	Paul Hueg
Elk Wind Spinner	Dennis Engebretson	Marie Johnson
4 Piece Travel Mug Set	MnEBA	Will Huston
Camo Duffel Bag	MnEBA	Bill Knutson
Elk Jigsaw Puzzle	MnEBA	Roxy Markee-Lubinski
Spin Seat	MnEBA	Mark Lucas
5 LED Cap Light	MnEBA	Wade Schimmelpfennig
XL Gloves	MnEBA	Don Olson
\$50 Stearns Veterinary Gift Certificate	Stearns Veterinary Outlet Store	Wade Schimmelpfennig
Barn Wood Frame Opening Day	Brian Wagner & Tena Martin	Bill Knutson
Barn Wood Frame	Brian Wagner & Tena Martin	Linda Campbell
MnEBA Denim Short Sleeve Shirt (S)	MnEBA	Greg Lubinski
MnEBA Denim Short Sleeve Shirt (M)	MnEBA	Rita Prodzinski
MnEBA Denim Long Sleeve Shirt (S)	MnEBA	Linda Campbell
Pet Rider	Jim & Eileen Byrne	Don Kaplan
Pet Rider	Jim & Eileen Byrne	Roxy Markee-Lubinski
Elk Bag w/Blanket	Pat & Rita Prodzinski	Lynn Hueg
Hamilton Beach Party Dipper	Leo Windschitl	Ron Welle
SimpleFlix Digital Video Camera	Leo Windschitl	Ron Welle
Terry Redlin Winter Wonderland Wooden Box	Leo Windschitl	Chad Lawler
Insulated Bag with (2) Bottles of Wine	Wade Scott	Deb Parsons
\$500 Cash for Raffle	Glen & Kaye Zebarth	Scott Groen/Lynn Hueg/Chad Lawler

**Protecting the
Cervid
Industry's
Rights
and
Freedoms**



Send Donations to:
American Cervid Alliance
4985 West Blue Hill Rd.
Ayr, Nebraska 68925
www.americancervidalliance.org
www.conservationhunting.com

*What is the American Cervid Alliance
and why should you and your organization
be a part of this growing alliance?*



A leadership council of associations, producers, and allied businesses coming together



After 15 years of watching the cervid industry become more and more regulated it is time to protect our industry with a unified front.



The cervid industry is the most discriminated and overregulated agricultural industry in the country today.



The wildlife agencies in this country have found the cervid industry's Achilles' heel and that is Chronic Wasting Disease. They have used CWD to drive a wedge between the cervid industry and legislators, the public and other sportsmen

Join these associations and be a part of an alliance united to fight over-regulation and spread the truth about CWD.

- Alabama Deer Association
- Colorado Elk Breeders Association
- Deer Breeders Corporation
- Exotic Wildlife Association
- Florida Deer Association
- Idaho Elk Breeders Association
- Illinois Deer Breeders Association
- Indiana Deer & Elk Farmers Association
- Iowa Elk Breeders Association
- Iowa Whitetail Deer Breeders Association
- Kansas Cervid Breeders Association
- Minnesota Deer Breeders Association
- Minnesota Elk Breeders Association
- Missouri Elk Farmers Association
- Missouri Whitetail Breeders & Hunting Ranch Assoc.
- New Jersey Deer Farmers Association

- New York Deer & Elk Farmers Association
- North American Deer Farmers Association
- North American Elk Breeders Association
- North Dakota Elk Growers Association
- Northeast Deer & Elk Farmers Association
- Pennsylvania Deer Breeders Association
- Pennsylvania Elk Breeders Association
- Texas Deer Association
- United Deer Farmers of Michigan
- West Virginia Deer Association
- Whitetails of Louisiana
- Whitetail Deer Farmers of Ohio
- Whitetails of Oklahoma
- Whitetail Deer Breeders of Oklahoma
- Whitetails of Wisconsin
- Wisconsin Commercial Deer & Elk Farmers Assoc.

Board Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting Minutes December 9, 2012

The MnEBA Board of Directors held a phone conference on December 9, 2012 to discuss the Farmed Cervidae Advisory meeting taking place on Monday December 10th. Mark Lucas, Jim Byrne, Brian Wagner, Wade Schimmelpfennig, Richard Zajac and Brenda Hartkopf were present.

Lucas called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. He then went through each of the agenda items for the upcoming Farmed Cervidae meeting point by point, asking for any comments or concerns.

The meeting was called because one of the agenda items on a prior draft agenda was entitled, DNR Legislation – Recovery of Costs for Farmed Cervid Escapes. This agenda item was later removed from the final agenda at the request of the DNR legislative liaison. This topic is of great concern to the farmed cervid industry in Minnesota and while it would not be a topic for this meeting, the farmed cervid industry must be prepared in case it were to become a topic once again.

Board reviewed escape numbers from the past three years as provided by the Board of Animal Health (BAH) upon MnEBA's request. Overall incidents have gone down and the number of head escaped has gone down significantly, however, there are still too many escapes. The board questioned whether or not all cervid producers are aware of the importance of minimizing escapes. While associations have been spreading this message, it is unknown how many non-members realize the impact escapes have on the industry. It was suggested that perhaps BAH require the owner to be present for their yearly inspection to make sure everyone is getting the message.

Hartkopf reported on the latest gun raffle calendar numbers. Discussed how winning numbers will be drawn and the concern that the raffle tickets are not mixing thoroughly enough. Hartkopf was directed to look into renting a lottery ball air mixer and perhaps draw numbers that way.

Hartkopf updated Board on progress of the Annual Conference. Board agreed that it would be a good idea to ask Dr. Glen Zebarth to be a back-up speaker in case one of the other speakers is unable to make it. Discussed possible trivia game from the past 20 years. Hartkopf asked if there were any other nominations for awards and none were brought forth.

The phone conference was suddenly disconnected at 9:02 p.m. and no one was able to return to the call. There was a snow storm going on at the time and it is thought that may have contributed to the abrupt ending.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Hartkopf, Executive Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes January 11, 2013

The MnEBA Board of Directors held a board meeting on January 11, 2013, at the Holiday Inn, Alexandria. Mark Lucas, Jim Byrne, Brian Wagner, Wade Schimmelpfennig and Brenda Hartkopf were present. Director Richard Zajac was absent.

Lucas called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. The agenda was modified to allow for discussion of the following day's Annual Conference with Pat & Rita Prodzinski who joined the meeting for discussion on fundraising games. Pat, Rita and Wade all agreed to help out the following day.

Board went back to the original agenda. Lucas asked for additions or corrections to the December 9th board meeting minutes. Byrne moved to accept, Wagner seconded, motion carried. Lucas asked for additions or corrections to the October 25th board meeting minutes. Byrne moved to accept, Schimmelpfennig seconded, motion carried.

Board reviewed the treasurer's report which was a year end comparison between 2011 and 2012. Byrne moved to accept the treasurer's report, Schimmelpfennig seconded, motion carried.

Old Business

Discussed 2012 calendar raffle. Hartkopf reported that there were 556 stubs in and that she expected to end up with about 650-700 raffle calendars sold. Discussed the new drawing system which was created to allow the numbers to mix more thoroughly.

Board discussed other annual conference topics. Reviewed auction items list and discussed the fundraising auction. Discussed 20th anniversary activities and went through the complete agenda.

New Business

Discussed the American Cervid Alliance (ACA) and having MnEBA commit to officially being a part of this leadership council. Byrne moved that the MnEBA Board pledge to support the ACA. Wagner seconded, motion carried. Will discuss with the membership at tomorrow's annual meeting.

Discussed Greg Lubinski's proposal to become a donor to the Blue Jacket/Bright Futures project through MnEBA. Board had no objections and agreed to move forward with the idea.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Hartkopf, Executive Secretary

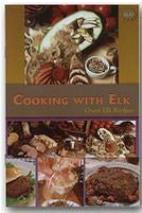
MnEBA Promotional Materials

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

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

MEAT PROMOTIONS

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



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

3rd Edition "Cooking With Elk" Cookbook

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

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

VELVET PROMOTIONS



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

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

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

GENERAL INFORMATION



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

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

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

HOME DÉCOR

Price includes shipping & handling.



Elk Trashcan (*pictured*) \$25 each

Elk Rug (Small) \$27.50 each

Elk Rug (Large) \$40 each

Now Available!

MnEBA Officer Blog by Brian Wagner, MnEBA Secretary/Treasurer

What happens when you put your life in the hands of a government agency?

The national CWD final rule is as close to completion as its ever been. And definitely not written to help the cervid producer. All the comments that were given were thrown aside and we have a final rule with no benefit to the cervid farmer. Dr. Patricia Klein (a USDA government employee paid with your tax dollars) wrote the final rule program standards with no benefit to you. With many complaints, a new working group was formed to try to get changes to the final rule to have some benefit to the cervid producer. This group is made up of USDA, DNR, state agencies, cervid and exotics producers. Eric Mohlman, Charly Seale and Shawn Schafer are the industry leaders in that group. Dr. Bill Hartmann is also in that group. If you care about the future of the cervid industry, get a copy of the final rule program standards as written and give your comments to one of the leaders mentioned above.

A little closer to home, the Minnesota DNR is going to legislation to try and get reimbursement for time spent on escaped cervids from producers. I sure hope I never have to worry about this as I'm sure most of you feel the same. But it is as President Mark Lucas has said, if you have ever seen the DNR try to round up or capture an elk or deer, it is a nightmare waiting to happen. With an open ended BILL to you the

producer. The MnEBA BOD and Tony Kwilas (our lobbyist) will be keeping a close watch on this issue.

I'm sure most of you are not aware how blessed we are to be working under the Minnesota Board of Animal Health. They are easy to work with and have some common sense. I work with a lot of producers and state agencies throughout the U.S. and they don't have the same experience we have here.

With new rules, regulations, no indemnity money for buyouts and the wrongful taking of someone's property, a new group was formed to help protect our rights called American Cervid Alliance (ACA). ACA is a leadership council comprised of representatives from 32 separate elk, deer and exotic associations that meet regularly to assess the latest attacks on our industry from over-regulation and harmful legislation. To learn more about ACA and or to make donations, go to their website www.americancervidalliance.org.

I myself have had enough rules and regulations. It is about time someone stands up for what we all love and live for, and that is so we can raise cervids into the next generation.

Regards,
Brian Wagner

MnEBA Officer Blog II by Mark Lucas, MnEBA President

As I mentioned in the President's message, I have been having a few problems with frozen waterers during this most recent cold snap. The problem this week was not in the above ground part of the watering system. It has been the water line below ground a couple feet. Even though the water line is inside a larger PVC riser pipe to help protect it from the cold, it still froze.

It is difficult to get an electric heat tape 2 to 3 feet down to make enough contact with the PVC water line to thaw it. I should have put this on when I installed the waterer but I was assured it was not necessary by the manufacturer. I also did not like the idea of completely removing the waterer so I could pour hot water directly on the frozen line effectively. I had to come up with a different idea. The Nipco heater is over kill and can melt things you do not want melted. I came up with a solution that worked great for me and might work for others too.

I went and got one of these hot air guns used for paint stripping that looks basically like a powerful hair dryer. It was not that expensive, around \$30 for a Wagner brand with variable temperature controls and air flow. They come with a few metal interchangeable attachments to fan out the air flow etc. That got me thinking and brought me to an auto parts store to get some flexible metal exhaust pipe. It comes in different sizes and I found the 1½ inch fit on the hot air gun nozzle and worked perfectly. I stuck the flexible exhaust hose down between the riser pipe and the water line about 3 feet and hooked it up to the hot air gun. I set it at the lowest temperature setting and checked it several times in the first hour to make sure it was not getting too hot for the PVC water line. Past experience has taught me that they can melt (see above about Nipco heater being over kill). That is another story to tell. I let the hot air gun run for a few hours and presto, there was water flowing into the waterer. In this one case the score was Mark 1, old man winter 0. Just an idea if you ever encounter the same problem.

Cervid Livestock Foundation Scholarship Announcement

Calling all 2013 graduating seniors who plan to pursue a degree in agriculture!

The Cervid Livestock Foundation (CLF) will be offering (2) \$4,000 scholarships this year to any 2013 graduating senior entering into an agricultural field of education. The scholarship guidelines and rules can be obtained by visiting the North American Deer Farmers Association website at www.nadefa.org. The scholarship information is listed under the Cervid Livestock Foundation tab. You may also contact Laurie Seale at lprasnicki@centurytel.net or 830-928-3143 for more information or for the application and guidelines. Applications will be accepted until April 15, 2013.

Our guidelines have changed and we no longer require a NADeFA membership to be eligible for the scholarship. If you have friends or family members who will be graduating from high school this year, please share this information with them.

Welcome New Members

***Chad Lawler**, Hidden Island Elk Ranch, 3191 Crested Drive North, Mandan, ND 58554, (701) 595-1644, lawler.chad@gmail.com

Bryce Lubinski, Lubinski Elk Acres, 525 2nd Avenue SW, Plainview, MN 55964, (507) 696-2824

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Proven Performers
for Bigger Bulls and Bigger Antlers

ADM Alliance Nutrition's elk feed provides the nutritional fortification for growth and development of trophy racks.

Product offering includes complete feeds, concentrates, mineral pellets, free-choice mineral, and protein blocks.

"My animals have never hesitated to eat any of ADM Alliance Nutrition's elk products. Therefore, performance has been good: no weak calves, good antler growth, etc. I have also received good service through my local sales representative Leo Windschitl." —John Johnson, JoMar Elk Ranch

ADM Alliance Nutrition
takes elk to the trophy class.

For more info
Contact
Leo Windschitl
at 800-519-0658 (cell)
or 218-575-2490 (office)

Feeding elk is illegal in some areas. Check with local wildlife officials on legality of feeding elk in your specific area.

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an_deerhelp@admworld.com



NAEBA's 6th Annual March Mingle & Benefit Semen Auction

In Conjunction with Wisconsin Commercial Deer & Elk Farmers Association

March 22, 2013

Plaza Hotel & Suites
Wausau, Wisconsin

Registration Application

Name _____ Spouse Name _____
 Ranch/Business Name _____ Telephone # _____
 Address _____ City, State/Zip _____
 Email Address _____
 Full Registration (Includes evening banquet meal, seminars, and benefit semen auction)
 Adult \$30 X _____ = \$ _____
 Child (12 & Under) \$15 X _____ = \$ _____
 Banquet Sponsor (3 Needed) \$250 X _____ = \$ _____
 Afternoon Break Sponsor \$175 X _____ = \$ _____
 Hospitality Room Sponsor (Contact NAEBA office for details)
 Exhibitor Booth Space
 8X8 Booth \$35 X _____ = \$ _____
 Booth is for Fri. and Sat. - NAEBA & WCDEFA events
 Total Due _____ \$ _____

Hotel Information

Plaza Hotel & Suites
201 North 17th Avenue
Wausau, WI 54401
715-845-4341
Room Rates: \$69 per night
Mention WCDEFA for room block pricing. Room block will be released on March 15th.

For Pre-Registration contact the NAEBA office at 402-756-3355 or send registration application to:

NAEBA
4985 West Blue Hill Road
Ayr, NE 68925

Payment Info

Check _____ Visa/MC _____ Amex _____
 Card Number _____ Exp Date _____
 Signature _____ Sec. Code _____

MnEBA Kitchen

Here's a little twist on elk meatballs, very delicious!!!

Mozzarella-Stuffed Elk Meatballs & Red Wine Tomato Sauce

1½ lbs. ground elk	½ cup milk
5 Tbsp. olive oil	1 egg, beaten
1 onion, diced	½ cup grated parmingiano-reggiano cheese
2 garlic cloves, diced	Mozzarella cheese balls (size of a cherry tomato)
1 tsp. thyme	1 (28 oz.) can diced tomatoes
¼ tsp. rosemary	Fresh basil, chopped
3 slices white bread without crusts	½ cup dry red wine



- 1) Heat 2-3 Tbsp. olive oil in cast iron skillet over medium-high heat. Add diced onion and diced garlic cloves. Cook until onions are soft and translucent; add thyme, rosemary, salt and pepper and then remove from heat. Set aside to cool.
- 2) In a separate bowl, tear bread into small pieces and soak in milk for 5 minutes. Squeeze milk from bread and place in another larger bowl. Add elk burger, egg, parmingiano-reggiano cheese and onion mixture and mix with your hands.
- 3) Take elk mixture and begin to form meatballs being sure to add a mozzarella cheese ball in the center of each meatball. The meatball sizes are up to you. You can make them small, medium or large depending upon how you would like to serve them. Place meatballs on a cookie sheet and refrigerate 30-60 minutes.
- 4) Add remaining oil to cast iron skillet over medium high heat. Place each meatball into skillet and cook on all sides. Remove meatballs from pan when browned.
- 5) Add ½ cup dry red wine to skillet to deglaze pan. Add canned tomatoes and ¼ cup fresh chopped basil. Bring sauce to a simmer; add meatballs and reduce heat to low. Continue to cook on low heat for 10 minutes. Makes 13 to 15 – 2" meatballs.

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Rely on Franklin Waterers for your livestock needs, also remote waterers and bale feeders. Sizes for waterers available up to 300 head.

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Energy efficient models • Your power company may offer rebate when owning this waterer



270M – 6 x 6 – 2nd place,
2011 International Competition,
417 SCI Typical Mature
26" third times

SHIPS ANYWHERE IN THE U.S.



Model AP-10 or PC-10



507-458-7970 (cell) or 507-457-0208 (home)
Jay Pronschinske, Winona, Minn.

2013 MnEBA Gun Raffle Calendar Final Numbers

Almost A Sell Out!!!

This was the fourth year MnEBA gun raffle calendars were sold and it was by far the most successful! There were a total of 718 calendars sold, far surpassing the old record set in 2012 of 534 calendars sold!



Top Sellers

There were three sellers who between all three of them, sold an incredible 276 calendars! Wade Schimmelpfennig was this year's top seller with 138 calendars sold! Chad Lawler sold 70 calendars and Brian Wagner was close behind with 68 calendars sold.

Nine Producers Qualified for a FREE 2013 MnEBA Membership!

A total of nine producers qualified for a free 2013 MnEBA membership after selling 30 or more calendars and returning stubs and money before December 31, 2012. They included Wade Schimmelpfennig, Chad Lawler, Brian Wagner, Pat Prodzinski, Ken Arnzen, Rick Zajac, Bob Laing, Rick Wollschlager and Mark Lucas. Greg Lubinski and Morrie Evenson also came in at or above 30 calendars sold. Other big sellers were Mark Luedtke who sold 25 calendars, Paul Hartkopf and Dan Parsons who each sold 20, and Will Huston who sold a total of 19. No matter how many calendars were sold by any one individual or couple, every sale was important and the group effort was tremendous! The sponsors of the calendar were also instrumental in getting it ready for distribution. THANK YOU to all!!!

New Drawing Method

In an attempt to better mix the numbers, Brian Wagner built a new raffle drum and 750 numbered ping pong balls were mixed inside to draw numbers from. Thank you Brian for sharing your ingenuity to come up with a better method for drawing the winning numbers!

Comments Wanted

Do you have any suggestions for improvements to the raffle? Please feel free to contact the MnEBA Office or any of the board members with your thoughts!

When Winners are Posted

Monthly winners will be posted every other Wednesday on the MnEBA web site at www.mneba.org. Check back frequently to see who the new winners are!

MnEBA Scholarship Thank You

Thank you for choosing me as the recipient of your \$500 scholarship. It will be a big help in funding my final semester of college at South Dakota State University.

Your support is appreciated!

Sincerely,
Kaitlin Hartkopf

"We cannot always build the future of our youth, but we can build our youth for the future."

Franklin D. Roosevelt

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We created AgMax specifically to serve the unique needs of commercial agriculture operations and related businesses, including:



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Great Reasons to Join Minnesota Grown

Calling all elk producers!

The Minnesota Grown Program invites Minnesota elk producers to join a producer-directed organization that helps connect you with consumers looking for elk meat, velvet antler, hard antler, hides or farm tours. Minnesota Grown has been around since the 1980's and has grown to include over 1,200 members. By featuring your business, we can link you directly to consumers through our online and printed directories and help you build your business.

A few good reasons to join Minnesota Grown:

Free Marketing Materials

For only \$20, you will have unlimited access to FREE stickers, posters, price cards, twist ties, table talkers, and other items. Those items can be offered to your retail customers such as grocery stores and restaurants for free as well! This fee will also allow you to use the trademarked MN Grown logo on your products/packing to help market your elk. The logo may be used on any products that were grown or raised on a farm in Minnesota (a product that was raised in another state and processed here is NOT eligible to be labeled as Minnesota Grown). See some of the available marketing items down below.

Widely Distributed Minnesota Grown Directory

For an additional \$40, if you sell elk products that were raised on a Minnesota farm direct to the consumer, you can list your business in the 2013 Directory. This year, 190,000 hard copies of the Minnesota Grown Directory will be distributed for free by tourist information centers, farms, libraries, real estate agents and retailers that support the local foods movement. This is a unique advertising tool that, on average, gets used more than 4 times and is kept for more than 12 months by each user.

Very Popular Website

Included in the cost of \$40 for the printed directory, you will receive a listing on our online directory. Nearly 250,000 "unique visitors" have already found us at www.minnesotagrown.com in 2011 (up from 150,000 in 2009). Those web users stay on our site for over 4 minutes while viewing 7.5 different web pages on average. *Those numbers are roughly twice the average for similar websites - according to Google.*

That means for a total of \$60, you will receive year-round promotion!

New Wholesale Directory

A FREE online directory listing member products that are available to "large-quantity" buyers such as wholesalers, retailers, schools, and other institutions. The online directory is ready and is currently being populated with product information from growers. There will be no additional charge to be in this directory for Minnesota Grown members.

Current Minnesota Grown members should have already received renewal forms in the mail. But don't worry, we still have time to get you in! New members and growers who are renewing their license may sign up and pay online by clicking on the "Members" box at www.minnesotagrown.com, or call 651-201-6170 and leave a message with a complete mailing address to receive an application by mail. Producers wishing to be listed in the 2013 Minnesota Grown Directory should apply by February 15, 2013.



Rectangle
1 x 1 1/2 inch



Price Card
7 x 11 inches



Logo card with tag line
8 1/2 x 11 inches

MN Farmed Cervidae Advisory Minutes

Minnesota Board of Animal Health Farmed Cervidae Advisory Committee

December 10, 2012 Meeting Minutes

The Board of Animal Health (BAH) Advisory Committee on Farmed Cervidae met on December 10, 2012 at the Freeman Office Building in St. Paul, MN.

1. Attendance:

Paul Anderson, Bill Hartmann, Bethanie Park, Carissa Allen, Carl Denkinger, Bethany Hahn, Randy Lindemann, John Piehl, Mike Stine, Mike Fier, Lou Cornicelli, Michelle Carstensen, Eric Hildebrand, Mark Lucas, Brenda Hartkopf, Jim Byrne, Gary Olson, Daryl Simon, Jim Rasmussen, Julie Getschmann, Mike Getschmann, Joni Scheffel, Heather Foulter, Jim Collins, Mark Johnson, Eric Jopp.

2. DNR Update:

Michelle Carstensen summarized CWD surveillance activities. From deer permit area 602, which surrounds the Pine Island area, 524 deer were tested for CWD during fall 2010 and 1 was found to be CWD positive. Since then, 1,180 deer were tested for CWD in winter 2011, 2,390 deer were tested for CWD in fall 2011, and 1,147 deer were tested in fall 2012. All CWD tests in wild deer from the Pine Island area conducted since 2010 have been negative. Unless more positive animals are identified, testing for CWD will be conducted once more in the Pine Island area during the 2013 fall hunting season. Surveillance testing for CWD was also conducted during the 2012 fall hunting season in northeastern Minnesota along the Wisconsin border. Samples were collected from 1,100 wild deer and all were negative for CWD. Surveillance testing for CWD around the North Oaks red deer herd that was found to be infected with CWD in May 2012 has been limited due to fire arms restrictions in the area. Of the 117 deer tested so far in this area, all have been CWD negative.

3. Pine Island update:

The committee discussed whether the Board should continue to restrict movement of farmed cervidae from the Pine Island area. The committee considered the extensive surveillance for CWD that was conducted by the DNR in 2011 and 2012, with no further detection of CWD infected deer. The consensus of the committee was that the Board should no longer consider the Pine Island area endemic for CWD and release all movement restrictions. The Board agreed with the committee and reported that all CWD quarantines on farmed cervidae herds in the Pine Island area would be released during the week following the meeting. The quarantine release for Jim Byrne's herd was handed to him at the meeting. Jim Byrne was honored by the committee with a warm round of applause in recognition for his efforts, leadership and personal sacrifices in implementation of the program to control the spread of CWD in Minnesota.

4. CWD laboratory fees:

Bill Hartmann indicated that the Board will most likely be able to pay the laboratory fees for CWD tests on farmed cervidae through June 30, 2013. A decision will be made on whether the Board will be able to make future laboratory fee payments for CWD tests after state budgets are set for 2014-2015.

5. Zoo legislative initiative:

Jim Rasmussen discussed a proposed legislative initiative from the Minnesota Zoo that would provide an exemption from the importation requirements for cervidae in regard to CWD, tuberculosis and brucellosis. The proposed legislative initiative from the Minnesota Zoo will modify Minnesota Statutes 85A.02 and read as follows:

85A.02 Powers and duties.

Subd. 10. **Wild animal exemption.** The board shall not be subject to the provisions of chapters 17, ~~19, 97, 98, 99, 100, and 101~~ 35, 97A, and section 343.21, subdivision 8, relating to purchase, barter, sale, possession, breeding, or transporting wild animals. Any exemption from the provisions of chapters 35 and 97A and rules related to these chapters requires that a permit must be obtained from the Board of Animal Health and the Department of Natural Resources.

The consensus from the committee was that it supports this initiative as long as there is a permitting process in place that requires approval of the Board of Animal Health and the Department of Natural Resources.

6. USAHA resolutions:

Paul Anderson discussed four resolutions that were passed by the United States Animal Health Association at its annual meeting in Greensboro, North Carolina, on October 24, 2012.

7. CWD Program Standards Working Group:

Paul Anderson reported that a CWD Program Standards Working Group was established in response to the USAHA Resolution number 24. The working group has begun the task of revising the CWD Program Standards. The members of the committee and the groups they represent are as follows:

National Assembly

Dustin Oedekoven	SD	South Dakota State Veterinarian
Bill Hartmann	MN	Minnesota State Veterinarian
Linda Hickam	MO	Missouri State Veterinarian

Fish and Wildlife Agencies

John Fischer	GA	SCWDS
Dale Garner	IA	Iowa DNR
Cal DuBrock	PA	Pennsylvania DNR

Industry

Shawn Schafer	ND	NADeFA
Eric Mohlman	NE	NAEBA
Charly Seale	TX	EWA

NAHLN Laboratory Network

Mark Hall	IA	NVSL
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USDA-APHIS-VS

Pat Klein	MD	USDA CWD Program Manager
Dallas Meek	NC	USDA Eastern Region Epidemiologist
Diane Norden	CO	USDA Western Region Epidemiologist

8. New Board of Animal Health Rules:

New rules for the Board of Animal Health are nearly completed. The Board is waiting for a final report from the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) that officiated over the public hearing conducted as part of the rulemaking process. Once the judge's report is received, the board will modify and finalize the rules according to the judge's findings.

Significant changes for the farmed cervidae program will include requirements for (1) identification of animals with an official ear tag, (2) CWD testing of all animals 12 months of age and older that die or are slaughtered, (3) prompt reporting deaths of all officially identified animals, and (4) minimum CWD herd certification levels (level 4) for intrastate movement of farmed cervidae.

2013 Canadian Elk Sales

2013 Alberta Elk Ranchers Production Sale

Friday February 15, 2013 7:00PM

Executive Royal Inn - Piper Ballroom
Leduc, AB Canada

91 Lots Consigned to Date!

2013 Elk Trophy Bull & Breeding Stock Auction

Thursday, August 1, 2013

Executive Royal Inn - Piper Ballroom
Leduc, AB Canada

See www.gwacountry.com for online catalog and bidding details.

(403) 378-4664

MN Farmed Cervidae Official Ear-Tag Identification

All farmed cervidae must have at least one form of official ear tag identification.

Acceptable tags include:

- **National Uniform Ear-tag System (NUES)** – issued by MN Board of Animal Health

To order call:
651-201-6804

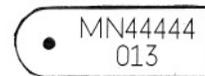


- **Producer tag** – MN premises number (must be pre-printed) and individual number

Allflex USA: 1-800-989-8247
www.allflexusa.com

Hasco Tag Company: 1-800-860-6300
www.hascotag.com

Premier Sheep Supplies: 1-800-282-6631
www.premier1supplies.com



- **Radio Frequency ID (RFID)** - issued by MN Board of Animal Health
(producer must purchase reader and other equipment on own)

To order call:
651-201-6804



Recording Tags:

When recording tags on forms submitted to the board, the following information must be included:

- All numbers/ letters as they appear on the tag
- All tags that are currently in the animal
- Any re-tagging information

Do not duplicate tag numbers or remove existing official tags.

20th Anniversary MnEBA Memories

On May 24, 1993, Governor Arnie Carlson signed the Omnibus tax bill which contained newly drafted farmed cervidae legislation which set forth the permimeters for Minnesota's farmed cervid industry. It was quite a feat to have a brand new bill pass in the first session it was introduced.

The first Farmed Cervidae Advisory meeting was held on October 26, 1993. Meetings were facilitated by Paul Hugunin and in 2002, by Dr. Paul Anderson who continues to serve in this role today.

The first MnEBA Elk Sale was held on March 12, 1994 at the Jim Simon Arena in Cannon Falls, MN. Lorin Heins was the first chairman of the sale. In later years it was chaired by Jerry Strodman and later co-chaired with Roger Nietfeld. The last MnEBA sponsored elk sale at Simon Arena took place on March 2, 2002.

Minnesotans who have represented MnEBA on the North American Elk Breeders Board of Directors include Lorin Heins (founding father), Dale Michel (founding father), Ray Matejcek, Glen Zearth, Kelly Peppel, Mike Froseth, Scott Groen and Brian Wagner (past vice president and president).

MnEBA organized its first elk booth at the Minnesota State Fair in 1993, located in the Imperial Building.

National Public Relations Campaign by Charly Seale

Have you checked out the new industry video?

The first phase of the National Public Relations Campaign is finally complete. The industry's new web site www.conservationhunting.com is now available for viewing as is the conservation hunting video. Berman and Company, our national public relations firm, has done a fantastic job building this new website and producing the new video. As was reported earlier, the script for the video was based on the feedback they received from the committee members on our conference call.



The first phase of the campaign, which includes a video and industry website, promotes the positive aspects of the high fence hunting industry. We have ordered 1,500 copies of the DVD which will be available for our sponsors to use when contacting legislators or when giving public talks concerning the hunting industry. These videos will also be very helpful when contacting our Congressional leaders in Washington D.C. during the spring fly-in. We are now working on phase two of the National PR campaign and that is a promotional brochure that will give talking points about our industry and the truths and myths of CWD. This brochure can be used closely with the video and website to get industry's positive message out to those legislators, media, and the public who may not have a complete understanding of this aspect of the industry.

I personally want to thank each of the financial contributors to this campaign. Without these associations and individual contributions, this video and web site would not have been possible. Our thanks to each person who has donated their most precious resource and that is "time" to offer the many suggestions that assisted our public relations firm in making this video something in which we can all be proud.

Those of us who are in this industry should be very proud of what we do and now we have a mechanism, through this video and web site, that will show the positive aspect of what we do. Our industry historically has done a very poor job educating the public and we have been reactive and not proactive. Education and effective communication is the way we defend our industry. We will do that by continuing to show the positive aspects of everything we do.

ZEUS

3 year old Tequila son cut 20.08# at 2 in 2011 placing 2nd behind Styx
2012 unofficially scored 497" at 3, with 46" inside and 68" outside spread .

416" Typical Frame, 106" & 107" of Typical Tines

Largest NAEBA Registered 3 Year Old Non-Typical Ever

Great tine length/placement, beam diameter, width and high scoring genetics .

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.



MOHLMAN ELK FARM

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

Ayr, Nebraska—mohlmnelk@gtmc.net

Vet Corner by Glen Zebarth, DVM

Novel Serotype of Bluetongue Virus, Western North America

Maclachlan NJ, Wilson WC, Crossley BM, Mayo CE, Jaspersen DE, Breitmeyer RE, et al. *Emerg Infect Dis* [Internet]. 2013 Apr [date cited]. <http://dx.doi.org/10.3201/eid1904.120347>

January 25, 2013

Bluetongue is an arboviral disease of domestic and wild ruminants characterized by vascular injury that produces widespread edema and tissue necrosis (1). Bluetongue virus (BTV), the causative agent of bluetongue, is the prototype virus of the family Reoviridae and the genus Orbivirus (2).

BTV occurs throughout temperate and tropical areas of the world coincident with the distribution of vector *Culicoides* spp. midges (3-5). Different midge species transmit different constellations of BTV serotypes in distinct global epistystems (3,5). For example, *C. sonorensis* is the principal, if not exclusive, vector of BTV serotypes 10, 11, 13, and 17 in much of North America, whereas *C. insignis* is the major vector of multiple BTV serotypes (including BTV 1-4, 6, 8, 12, 17, 19, 20, and probably others) in the Caribbean basin, Central America, and South America. *C. insignis* is also found in the southeastern United States, and although this species might have recently expanded its range in the region, its distribution in North America remains poorly defined. Serotypes of BTV other than 10, 11, 13, and 17 are found in areas of the United States: BTV-2 was first reported in Florida in 1982. Since 1998, ten additional serotypes (BTV-1, 3, 5, 6, 9, 12, 14, 19, 22, and 24) have been identified in the southeastern United States (6).

Approximately 26 BTV serotypes have been described and the global distribution of BTV has recently been altered (2,4). Coincident with the invasion of novel BTV serotypes into the southeastern United States (6), likely by extension from the adjacent Caribbean basin, multiple BTV serotypes have spread throughout much of continental Europe and parts of the British Isles and Scandinavia, precipitating an economically devastating epidemic (7). Similarly, ongoing surveillance has identified novel BTV serotypes in regions to which it historically has been endemic (e.g., Australia and the Middle East) (2). Climate change may have contributed to this dramatic recent expansion in global distribution of BTV, most notably in Europe (8).

Bluetongue was first described in the late 19th century among sheep brought from Europe to South Africa, and later in North America in ≈1950 (4). Surveillance in western North America since that time has confirmed that only BTV-10, 11, 13 and 17 are present in this region, including our recent intensive surveillance of sentinel cattle on dairy farms throughout California, USA (9,10).

However, during investigation of an outbreak of acute coronitis and ulcerative stomatitis among cattle at a dairy farm in the northern Sacramento Valley in California in August 2010, a blood sample from a heifer was found by using described methods (10) to be positive for BTV by serogroup-specific quantitative reverse transcription PCR (qRT-PCR) but negative by serotype-specific RT-qPCRs for BTV-10, 11, 13, and 17.

Further analysis using additional serotype-specific RT-qPCRs identified virus in the blood sample as BTV-2.

Full text:

http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/19/4/12-0347_article.htm

Your 2013 MnEBA Membership

All 2012 MnEBA memberships expired on December 31, 2012. Your membership is important to MnEBA. If you have not yet renewed, please return your payment by mail or pay by credit card at www.mneba.org.

CWD Program Standards Update by Eric Mohlman, NAEBA Executive Director

The Standards Working Group (SWG) has been steadily working through the document the last 60+ days. According to our original agreement, we were supposed to be finished by January 25th, that goal might have been a little too ambitious as we are just now up to Part A, Section 7. Up until this point most of the discussion has been in our favor. The State Vet and Ag representatives have for the most part been on our side on most issues we have had discussion on. The Fish and Game representatives have been a challenge to have meaningful discussion with as their agenda is obviously in conflict to industry's goals for a workable document that allows for interstate movement.

We discussed the section pertaining to sample submission and Dr. Patty Klein wanted both the obex and lymph node to be required for a valid sample submission. We put some feelers out to the membership for feedback and the response was overwhelmingly against requiring both tissues for sample submission. On the next SWG meeting Charly Seale-EWA, Shawn Schafer-NADeFA, and myself representing NAEBA made the SWG aware of

industry's response to our poll regarding this issue. We received considerable pushback from Dr. Klein as well as the laboratory representatives; the State Vet and Dept. of Ag reps. moderately supported our position. It appears that Dr. Klein is going to ignore industry's feedback and the language is going to require both tissues be submitted for a valid sample. The one concession we did receive on this issue is that only one tissue needs a "not detected" result for a producer to be compliant with the program.

The January 28th call was strictly pertaining to the chain of custody of samples and the producers retaining part of a sample and being able to DNA test for confirmation of animal identification. The labs want part of the ear with tags still intact to be submitted with all samples and the industry reps. have said that it is not doable. If the buck or bull is to be taxidermy mounted, a part of the ear couldn't be cut off and submitted. From the discussion on the call it looks that the language will recommend producers retain a piece of tissue for confirmation by DNA testing but won't require it. But, we have been down this road before

thinking they would recommend versus require.

One of the challenges most parties have had during these discussions is to get clarification as whether or not the Standards document is enforceable. Dr. Oedekoven, South Dakota's State Vet. along with others have been pressing this issue now that we are in the more critical sections that could impact the industry and the state agencies ability to have a proper understanding of what is required or suggested.

We have a lot of work still ahead of us, we will continue to negotiate in good faith to present the cervid industry's concerns with the remaining sections of the Standards document.

Once again I want to remind everyone that the SWG is limited in its ability to create change, we can only make recommendations. We will have to see what the final document looks like after it released for comment. If you have any input it is always accepted and appreciated, we would like to have a broad base of perspectives to present at the SWG.

2013 MnEBA Summer Picnic

Elk Forever Genetics, Roger & Saichon Nietfeld ~ Melrose, MN

Tentatively set for the end of July.

Roger & Saichon have graciously volunteered to host this year's summer picnic at their farm near Melrose. Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available!

Committee Reports

MN Deer Classic – Help Is Needed!!!

This year's Minnesota Deer Classic will be changing locations and will be held at the National Sports Center in Blaine, MN. However, it will be held the same general weekend on March 8-10th with the same show times as in the past. Volunteer booth workers are needed Friday evening from 3-9pm, Saturday from 2-6pm and Sunday from 10am-4pm. Please contact Perry Olson at (507) 220-4515 or perryo@taylor elk.com if you would be willing to help!

Legislative Update by Tony Kwilas, MnEBA Lobbyist

Governor Dayton released his biannual budget on Tuesday, January 22nd. The Governor's budget proposal is the starting point for discussion with the legislature on what the budget will look like for Minnesota in 2014-2015. The Governor is proposing to increase revenue collected by \$2.127 billion. Some highlights are an increased income tax for families earning over \$250,000, a "snowbird" tax, sales tax expansion and an increased sales tax in the metropolitan area for transit.

Additionally, Governor Dayton proposed to lower the corporate income tax, increase K-12 education funding by \$298 billion and higher education funding by \$250 million.

The Board of Animal Health budget recommendation from the Dayton Administration is \$11.189 million for FY 2014-15. We will be monitoring the budget proposal closely as it progresses through the legislative process.

The Department of Natural Resources also has as a component of their Game and Fish policy bill proposal to allow the Agency to recover costs for responding to escaped farmed cervids. It is anticipated that this proposal will be discussed at the next Farmed Cervidae Advisory Committee meeting and we will closely be following this issue through out the legislative process.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions.

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 Strodtman (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

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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

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

Calendar of Events

March 8 – 10, 2013 – Minnesota Deer Classic, National Sports Center, Blaine, MN
(Change in location from past years!)

March 22, 2013 – NAEBA March Mingle, Plaza Hotel & Suites, Wausau, WI

March 23, 2013 – WCDEFA Annual Conference, Plaza Hotel & Suites, Wausau, WI

August 1 – 3, 2013 – NAEBA Annual Convention & International Antler Competition, Best Western Plus Ramkota, Sioux Falls, SD

August 22 – September 2, 2013 – MN State Fair, State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, MN

Classified Ads

For Sale: Distributor for Franklin Waterers, energy efficient PC & AP Models, also standard waterers. Rely on Franklin Waterers. Bale feeders available. Also a few animals available for farm stock. Contact Jay at (507) 458-7970.

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.

Wanted: Looking for a future herdsire, breeding stock and a used semen tank. You can e-mail me at bruce@kruegerlumber.com. Or at (920) 772-4487 in the evening.

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 or email info@usafoxx.com. USA Foxx & Furs, Duluth, MN.

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

MINNESOTA ELK BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

9086 Keats Avenue SW
Howard Lake, MN 55349