



MnEBA News is sponsored in part by  
Risk Management Agency (RMA)

## Special Interest Articles:

- Velvet Watch
- Meat Promotions
- CWD in Michigan
- North Dakota  
Elk Growers
- Vet Corner
- Committee  
Reports
- MnEBA  
Sponsored  
Elk Hunt

## President's Message by Jim Byrne

Thank you to all those who took time to work the booth at the State Fair again this year. I hope you all enjoyed the time as much as I did. It is a great time to talk about our industry, our animals and our farms. It is such an amazing feeling watching the youngest visitors touch the antler and see the amazement in their eyes when they realize elk are real and not only just a picture in a book. If you didn't

invest some of your time by participating in this special opportunity, you missed something very special. My deep thanks again to Daphne and Morrie Evenson for all the hard work in coordinating the recruitment and schedules.

There was a movie titled "All Quiet on the Western Front" and that is how this fall seems to me.

Breeding underway, harvest in progress and the weather cooperating. Plans are being made for the annual meeting in January. The raffle is underway and no immediate crisis is looming. This is a time of rest. Enjoy.

Enough rambling, it's time to sit in my chair on the porch and listen to bulls bugle. Enjoy the coming fall. Stay safe and involved.

## November 4<sup>th</sup> Local & National Elections by Tony Kwilas, MnEBA Lobbyist

Don't forget to vote in the upcoming elections on November 4<sup>th</sup>. Please remember to support all of our friends in the legislature who have helped us in the last 2 years. It is always easier to elect someone who thinks like you, than to elect someone and then change their mind. No

matter how you vote, don't forget to exercise your right to vote on November 4<sup>th</sup>.

US Senate up (Franken, Norm Coleman, Dean Barkley) all the US House of Representative seats on the federal level. Obviously the

Presidential race also.

In Minnesota, all the House is up for election. Senate not until 2010.



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

### Board of Directors

#### President

Jim Byrne  
(507) 358-6505

#### Vice President

Mark Hendrickson  
(952) 448-6336

#### Secretary/Treasurer

Pat Prodzinski  
(507) 452-1282

#### Director

Charles Francis  
(320) 524-2513

#### Director

Brian Wagner  
(320) 543-2818

#### Executive Secretary to the Board

Brenda Hartkopf  
(320) 543-2686

## MnEBA

### Mission Statement

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

## Velvet Watch

While there is velvet still left in North America, there has been some movement in the past couple weeks. Current prices are being quoted at \$11 per pound in the U.S. Velvet is starting to move in Canada at \$11 per pound as well.



On the global scale, a market report put out in August by the Deer Industry New Zealand showed velvet selling in China for a farmgate price of \$19.50 US funds. This same report also stated that Chinese and Korean sources indicate velvet inventories in excess of 200 frozen tonnes in China, made up of mostly New Zealand product, although this was said to be possibly overstated. Another 150 tonnes is expected over the next few months from North America and China.

Scott Salonek is working to finalize sales on the pool he has been putting together. This pool could sell at any time. There is currently an offer on the table of \$11 per pound. Anyone who is interested in putting their velvet in this pool should contact Scott Salonek immediately at 763-428-8561.

Scott Groen may still potentially purchase velvet, although he has not yet begun to do so as of this time. He can be reached at 320-979-0911.

## Elk Meat Promotional Opportunity

MnEBA has been offered the opportunity to give a presentation at the upcoming Upper Midwest Restaurant, Hospitality and Lodging Show (UP Show) on February 23–24, 2009 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. This is a trade show attended by restaurant owners, hotel owners, chefs, students, etc.

The Minnesota elk industry has been asked to give a presentation about the benefits of cooking with elk – good ways to prepare it, what cuts are available, merits of elk meat, etc. This opportunity is being sponsored by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) and is being offered to several Minnesota commodity groups. Each group will have their own scheduled time to present. There may also be an opportunity to give more than one presentation. This is a new venture for MDA and they are working diligently to make it a success.

If you would be willing to help organize the seminar or help give the presentation, please contact the MnEBA Office.

# 2008 MnEBA Raffle



Do you want to get away from it all?  
**WIN These Vacation Prize Packages!**



**1<sup>st</sup> Prize:** 2 person/ 3 day Elk Hunt, 1 bull scoring 300 – 349 SCI at Tony's Trophy Elk Hunt Ranch in Baudette, MN (*sponsored in part by Tony's Trophy Elk Hunt Ranch*)

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

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

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

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

**6<sup>th</sup> Prize:** \$500 cash

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**

\$50 EACH / Only 250 tickets will be sold!

**DRAWING held on January 10, 2009**

MnEBA Annual Conference at the Holiday Inn ~ Mankato, MN

*Need not be present to win.*

Contact the MnEBA Office TODAY to order your tickets,  
320-543-2686 or [info@mneba.org](mailto:info@mneba.org)!

## In The News



### CWD Update Chronic Wasting Disease Eradication Program

Provided by the Animal Industry Division  
Michigan Department of Agriculture  
September 5, 2008

#### **Background:**

The Michigan departments of Agriculture (MDA) and Natural Resources (DNR) confirmed the state's first case of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in a three-year old white-tailed deer from a privately owned cervid (POC) facility in Kent County on Monday, August 25, 2008.

The state quarantined all POC facilities, prohibiting the movement of all – dead or alive – privately-owned deer, elk, or moose. Officials do not yet know how the deer may have contracted the disease. To date, there is no evidence that CWD presents a risk to humans or to animals other than cervids.

#### **MDA Actions:**

The state-wide quarantine on all privately owned cervid facilities is still in place. Facilities may continue to hold shooting events, but all carcasses\* must be held until testing clears the animal/or the quarantine is released. A clarification to the quarantines was published and distributed to law enforcement officials, stakeholders and other interested parties. A questions and answers sheet is available under the livestock link on the [www.michigan.gov/chronicwastingdisease](http://www.michigan.gov/chronicwastingdisease) website.

The test results from the Kent County cervid breeding facility, where the index case was confirmed, found no additional diseased deer. Epidemiologists are reviewing taxidermy records on a facility related to the index case. Taxidermy operations must be licensed and operators must follow Michigan requirements when conducting business with hunters who have harvested animals from other states. Current Michigan law prohibits the import of free-ranging deer or elk carcasses from states or provinces with CWD. Only de-boned meat, antlers, antlers attached to a skull cap cleaned of all brain and muscle tissue, hides and upper canine teeth may be brought into Michigan. A person that is notified by mail or other means, that a carcass imported into Michigan tested positive for CWD must notify the Michigan DNR.

The first tier of traces from the index facility led to five facilities: three in Kent County, one in Montcalm County, and one in Osceola County. These facilities were quarantined by MDA. Records of sales and purchases have been reviewed and have revealed that two facilities received deer from the index case. Four deer from these two facilities were euthanized, samples were tested at MSU's DCPAH and were found to be negative on Thursday, September 04, 2008.

One of the five facilities in tier one, also a Kent County facility conducts a taxidermy operation on the premises. Taxidermy is of great concern because infectious prions in the bones and spinal tissue of the carcass from

CWD positive states can infect deer on the facility. MDA, DNR and USDA staff are investigating the records of the taxidermy operation.

The second tier investigation to this point, has quarantined four facilities in Bay, Kent, Mecosta, and Saginaw counties. These facilities only sold to the tier one facilities and did not receive anything. They are quarantined as terminal operations and any deer that die, are culled, or shot for sport must be submitted for CWD testing.

**POC Facilities Quarantined:**

All POC facilities, except those that only have reindeer, are under quarantine in Michigan until the disease investigation is complete. Epidemiologists are developing a policy for records review and release of quarantines based on management practices and risk.

**Disease Surveillance Table:**

Index facility	Depopulated	Tier 1	Tier 2
1	Entire index herd tested negative	5 herds 2 trace outs (four test-negative animals) 3 trace ins	4 none of these 4 facilities trace directly to the index facility

**DNR Actions:**

The ban on all baiting and feeding of deer and elk in the Lower Peninsula is in effect. MSU’s Product Center for Agriculture Development is taking calls from bait growers/sellers. The Center is using *Michigan Market Maker*, an interactive mapping system that connects Agriculture processors and businesses with Michigan growers and marketers. <http://mi.marketmaker.uiuc.edu/> Information on the baiting and feeding ban is available on the CWD page of the Emerging Diseases website.

A mandatory deer check for hunters who take a deer within the Kent County townships of Tyrone, Solon, Nelson, Sparta, Algoma, Courtland, Alpine, Plainfield, and Cannon, is in effect for the 2008 hunting season. The deer heads will be collected and tested for CWD. All transport of live wild deer, elk, and moose is prohibited statewide, including transport for rehabilitation purposes.

**Education and Outreach:**

A town hall meeting is scheduled to take place in Kent County on September 9, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. near Grand Rapids. Representatives from MDA, USDA, DNR and MSU will be there to answer questions about CWD, quarantines and the baiting ban.

An update on the disease investigation will be presented to the House of Representatives Committee on Outdoor Recreation and Natural Resources on September 9, 2008 and the Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Hunting and Fishing committees on September 10, 2008.

Questions and Answers regarding POC facility quarantines were sent via email to legislative offices, POC facility executive directors, and DNR law enforcement. They are also posted to the MDA, and Emerging Diseases websites.

A coordinated communications action plan is in place. MSU Extension, Michigan Deer and Elk Breeders, MUCC, and many other special interest groups have volunteered to assist with information distribution. Information on CWD may be found on the Michigan Emerging Diseases website at [www.michigan.gov/emergingdiseases](http://www.michigan.gov/emergingdiseases).

Corrected on September 8, 2008 – changed from “meat” to “carcasses”.



## North Dakota Elk Growers President's Message

Hello again from North Dakota. As you probably know by the sounds coming from your bulls, fall is here again. The bugling has started in full swing at our house, and it reminds me that hunting season is just around the corner. If you happen to be deer hunters or are working closely with deer hunters, please make sure to follow the appropriate procedures for collecting brain tissue samples from any cervids that are harvested in your area. The Game and Fish department has recently published those guidelines again, so please make sure you are familiar with them. The increased number of folks out hunting will also bring more eyes on our facilities. Please make sure to do everything you can to limit negative exposure of our industry. Keep your gates locked, your fences tight, animals healthy and try to eliminate anything that could be viewed as negative by our opponents.

Although there will likely be many stories about the trophies which will be harvested this year, I am pleased to report that our own Brian and Gerald Lawler took home a different kind of "trophy for their trophy" at the NAEBA annual antler competition in Wisconsin Dells in August. Please don't hesitate to give your own personal congratulations to the Lawlers, and be sure to contact them if you are looking to tap into this successful genetic program. Congratulations!

The other signs that I've noticed all over the place are election signs. As you know, this is a presidential election year and the

voter turnout will likely be very large. The last time I wrote this article, the Hunters for Fair Chase had submitted their petitions to the ND Secretary of State on the game farm ban issue, but a sufficient number of signatures were thrown out so that it will not appear on the 2008 ballot. The group did have the opportunity to try to "remedy" that shortfall and the initiative would appear on the 2010 ballot, but the group publicly announced that it would not attempt to do so. This was such a relief for most of us associated with the game farm industry. The group did, however, claim that they will "put us out of business" in 2010, so the need to be vigilant and diligent in educating the public about our position on the issue is still critical.

Pay attention to the election in early November. Introduce yourself to the candidates right now, and cultivate and nurture those relationships and contacts we have with the members of the legislature. We did offer to meet with some of the Hunters for Fair Chase to see if there was some common "middle ground" that we could both agree to, however, our invitation has not yet been accepted.

There has been some activity in the legislature on the issue already. The committee on Natural Resources has asked the legislative council to draft a bill which, in its second draft, would outlaw the sale of hunting easements (sales of hunting rights on land). Those easements which were properly filed prior to August

2007 would not be affected. The legislation makes permanent a restriction which was previously passed and was set to expire in July of 2009. However, the new legislation would also not apply to lands sold for habitat and access improvement programs by the Game and Fish department.

Shawn and I are the co-chairs of the Citizens to Preserve North Dakota Property Rights. Although this round is over, we are not certain as to whether we will dissolve the group or continue to operate it until the supposed 2010 threat is over. We have plans to meet with legislators to keep on top of the issue and work on drafting some legislation which will protect our property rights but at the same time ensure that some of the concerns of the "hunting purists" can be met. For example, many comments we have heard over this past year have centered on internet hunting. This practice has never been legal in North Dakota, and we will be working toward drafting appropriate legislation to ensure that it will never be allowed here.

Elsewhere in the industry, NADeFA has been involved with a recent White House Conference on North American Wildlife Policy, which is to be held in Reno, Nevada on October 1-3. A white paper

was prepared in anticipation of this conference to outline the history, goals, and status of the North American wildlife policy. This white paper contained several pages which were very negative and detrimental to private property rights and high fence hunting. After becoming aware of this negative press, NADeFA was able to contact several people and sportsmen's groups and were successful in removing the white paper from the internet. It is their belief that the final recommendations that will be submitted to the President will not include "actions that negatively affect private property rights, high or low fence hunting, or the ability of a landowner to use his land for profit through hunting." North American Deer Farmers Association News UPDATE at 1-2 (September 10, 2008). For more information, contact Shawn Schafer or visit [www.nadefa.org](http://www.nadefa.org).

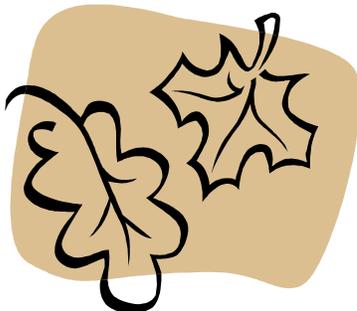
We're also looking ahead at our next meeting, which will probably be sometime in December. If you have any ideas about location, activities, speakers, or other comments or suggestions, please don't hesitate to contact me or one of the other board members (Brenda Guthmiller, Ernie Mau, and Emery Duben).

Thanks!

Wayne Laaveg

## NDEG Classifieds

**For sale:** The Bounty King, limited semen available, also young bred females this Fall bred to The Bounty King. Contact Gerald Lawler, Hansboro, North Dakota at (701) 266-5391.



### VALLEY SPRINGS

Custom Freeze Drying & Capsulation  
Of Elk Antler Velvet

LARRY & MARY GERDES  
N2105 COUNTY RD.EE  
BAY CITY WI, 54723  
715-594-3534 FAX: 715-594-3814  
[mjsder@redwing.net](mailto:mjsder@redwing.net)

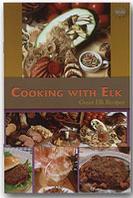
## MnEBA Promotional Materials

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. bundle, \$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.

AgMax<sup>®</sup>

FLEXIBLE  
COMPREHENSIVE  
CUSTOMIZED COVERAGE

We created AgMax<sup>®</sup> specifically to serve the unique needs of highly specialized and commercial agriculture operations, including:



Wade L. Scott  
Waconia

(952) 442-4402

wscott@fbfs.com

- Growers who process or retail their production
- Animal producers who direct market
- Equine operations, including boarding, breeding and training
- Agritainment operations such as pumpkin patches, corn mazes and petting zoos
- Hunting and guiding activities on your farm

Call today to learn more.



FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES

Insurance • Investments

www.fbfs.com

Auto | Home | Life | Business | College | Retirement

Western Agricultural Insurance Company\*West Des Moines, IA, Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company\*West Des Moines, IA, Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company\*West Des Moines, IA, \*Companies of Farm Bureau Financial Services  
© 2007 FBL Financial Group, Inc. 146

## MnEBA Kitchen

### Pizza Meat Loaf

*Here's a great tasting twist to traditional meat loaf. And it's also a good way to use up a leftover jar of spaghetti sauce!*

1 pkg. onion soup mix	2 eggs
2 lbs. ground elk	½ cup spaghetti sauce
1 ½ cups bread crumbs	½ cup shredded mozzarella cheese

**Topping:**

½ cup spaghetti sauce  
½ cup shredded mozzarella cheese



Combine all ingredients except topping ingredients. Shape into loaf and place in a 9x13" baking dish; top with remaining ½ cup spaghetti sauce and bake for 50 minutes at 350 degrees. Remove from oven and sprinkle with ½ cup cheese and bake 10 minutes more or until done.

## Welcome New Members!

**Don & Cheryl Bayles**, White Earth Elk, 6093 Tempe Way, Centennial, CO 80015, (303) 988-1534, [dgbdenver@hotmail.com](mailto:dgbdenver@hotmail.com)



# 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.

**ADM Alliance Nutrition®**  
Proven Performance from Innovative Nutrition®

www.admani.com • 866-666-7626  
an [deerhelp@admworld.com](mailto:deerhelp@admworld.com)

## Vet Corner by Glen Zebarth, DVM

### Fall Reminders

#### Copper Levels

Copper is a very important nutrient for elk. Signs of low copper levels include a rough hair coat, unthrifty animals, and unusual broken bones for no reason. If butchering this Fall, it's a good idea to have your veterinarian check liver copper levels to make sure copper levels are adequate. Anything below 30 ppm, increase copper levels in feed. Anything below 10 ppm, there is a more urgent problem. A copper bolus along with increased copper sulfate in the feed would be warranted.

#### Care for Weaning Calves

A common problem with calves is scours, before or after weaning. It's a good idea to give calves an 8-Way vaccination and to worm them with Cydectin or Valbazen before weaning. If they've already been weaned, do this anyway. Repeat the 8-way vaccination and worming a second time in another month. If scours are already a problem and persist, oral antibiotics may be needed.

#### Winter Ticks

Now is the time to treat for winter or deer ticks. A product containing Amitraz such as Taktic® should be used. Pour for ticks now and then again after it freezes or around mid-November.

#### Distillers Grain Warning

Anyone feeding distillers grain or other byproducts should be careful to watch the mineral balance in feed rations. Talk to your nutritionist to make sure rations are balanced to avoid health problems in your herd.

## Taking Care of ALL your Marketing Needs!

### HARD ANTLER BULLS

- Buying & Selling
- Bulls any Size
- Custom Hauling Anywhere  
in the U.S.
- 9 Bull / 5 Bull Loads

### LOOKING FOR MEAT ANIMALS!

### SELLING BREEDING STOCK!

### BUYING ALL TYPES OF ANTLER!

*Scott Groen*  
320-979-0911

*Brian Wagner*  
612-366-5078

## State professor's USDA research shows mad cow disease also caused by genetic mutation

11.sep.08

[http://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2008-09/ksu-kpu091108.php](http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2008-09/ksu-kpu091108.php)

**Manhattan, KS** -- New findings about the causes of mad cow disease show that sometimes it may be genetic.

"We now know it's also in the genes of cattle," said Juergen A. Richt, Regents Distinguished Professor of Diagnostic Medicine and Pathobiology at Kansas State University's College of Veterinary Medicine.

Until several years ago, Richt said, it was thought that the cattle prion disease bovine spongiform encephalopathy -- also called BSE or mad cow disease -- was a foodborne disease. But his team's new findings suggest that mad cow disease also is caused by a genetic mutation within a gene called Prion Protein Gene. Prion proteins are proteins expressed abundantly in the brain and immune cells of mammals.

The research shows, for the first time, that a 10-year-old cow from Alabama with an atypical form of bovine spongiform encephalopathy had the same type of prion protein gene mutation as found in human patients with the genetic form of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, also called genetic CJD for short. Besides having a genetic origin, other human forms of prion diseases can be sporadic, as in sporadic CJD, as well as foodborne. That is, they are contracted when people eat products contaminated with mad cow disease. This form of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease is called variant CJD.

"Our findings that there is a genetic component to BSE are significant because they tell you we can have this disease everywhere in the world, even in so-called BSE-free countries," Richt said.

An article by Richt and colleague Mark Hall of the National Veterinary Services Laboratories in Ames, Iowa, was published online in the journal PLoS Pathogens. Richt conducted the research while working at the National Animal Disease Center operated in Ames, Iowa, by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service.

Richt said that prion diseases including mad cow disease are referred to as "slow diseases."

"It's a slow process for infectious prion proteins to develop," he said. "That's why the disease takes a long time -- as long as several years -- to show up."

Richt said mad cow disease caused by genetics is extremely rare. A recent epidemiological study estimated that the mutation affects less than 1 in 2,000 cattle. The study was done in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Agriculture-U.S. Meat Animal Research Center in Clay Center, Neb., which is operated by the Agricultural Research Service.

Richt said the upside of knowing that mad cow disease has a genetic component is that it offers ways of stamping out the disease through selective breeding and culling of genetically affected animals. Therefore, Richt and his colleagues developed high throughput assays to offer the possibility for genetic surveillance of cattle for this rare pathogenic mutation.

"Genetic BSE we can combat," Richt said. "We have submitted a patent for a test system that can assess all bulls and cows before they're bred to see whether they have this mutation."

*Richt is one of more than 150 K-Staters actively involved animal health and food safety research. He has authored or co-authored more than 80 peer-reviewed articles and recently was named to the scientific advisory board for the Scientific and Technical Review of the World Organization for Animal Health, the OIE in Paris.*

## Committee Reports

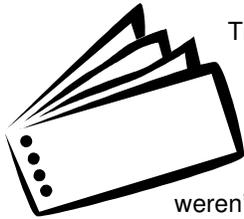
### 2008 MN State Fair Booth

The MnEBA booth at the MN State Fair was very successful this year. Meat sales grossed \$7,250 which made it one of MnEBA's most profitable years at the State Fair to date. Thank you to the Elk Marketing Council for working with MnEBA to secure a good supply of meat products to sell to fairgoers.

Many members stepped up and worked together to make the booth a success. A big thank you to Morrie & Daphne Evenson who organized the schedule and set up the booth. They did an outstanding job! Many thanks to all shift workers including Morrie & Daphne Evenson; Glen & Kaye Zebarth; Roger Nietfeld; Richard, Jon & Kris Aase; Don & Joyce Kaplan; Mark Lucas; Dennis Goebel; Charles Francis; Dan Groothuis; Sally Bergman; Fred Neubert; Larry, Sherry & Dylan Winter; Jerry & Joan Beier; Jerry Strodtman; Lance & Brenda Hartkopf; Jim Byrne; Martin Zacharias; Pat & Rita Prodzinski; Paul & Barb Hartkopf; Larry Gerdes; Greg Lubinski; and Paul & Lynn Hueg. A special thank you to Paul & Lynn for taking down the booth and returning it to Howard Lake.

Having a booth at the State Fair is a big undertaking, but it is one of the most positive and effective marketing opportunities available! Thank you to all who helped out in any way!!!

### 2008 MnEBA Raffle



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

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

### 2009 MnEBA Annual Conference

Plans are underway for the 2009 MnEBA Annual Conference which will be held on January 9-10, 2009 at the Holiday Inn in Mankato, MN. Seminars have been lined up and include something for everyone!

This year's topics include:

- ✓ A beginner's guide to creating antler crafts. Paul Ristau is a self-taught antler crafter who makes beautiful antler art items for the gift shop owned by Don & Joyce Kaplan.
- ✓ A beginner's course in sponsored Google ads. Have you ever wondered how you get your name under a "sponsored" site? Did you know Minnesota elk meat and velvet antler products are featured under Google sponsored ads? Paul Hugunin of the Minnesota Grown program will give producers a crash course how to create and maintain sponsored ads.
- ✓ Paul Anderson will be on hand to give an update on the Minnesota farmed cervidae program and other related animal health issues.
- ✓ Charly Seale Executive Director of the Exotic Wildlife Foundation, NAEBBA Board member and NTFARC Secretary has tentatively agreed to speak to MnEBA members about private property rights issue which is so important to all of us.

An information sheet and registration form will go out in December. Do you have ideas for fundraisers or any other suggestions? Please contact Kaye Zebarth at 320-834-4064, Rita Prodzinski at 507-452-1282 or Brenda Hartkopf at 320-543-2686 with your ideas! Let's make this conference a great one!!

#### MnEBA COMMITTEE CONTACTS

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

## MnEBA Sponsored Elk Hunt for Disabled Vietnam Veteran Scheduled for December 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>



Last year, MnEBA coordinated an elk charity hunt for a disabled man through The Langenfeld Foundation. The generosity of MnEBA members, Mark & Sue Hendrickson, Tony & Patty Beckel and Don & Perry Olson made it all possible.

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

*Mr. Sursely was honored as the DAV Outstanding Disabled Veteran of the Year for 1993 and received the DAV Freedom Award at the 2001 National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic. Jim was also named Lourdes High school ( Rochester MN ) Alumni of the Year in 2002. He has returned to LHS several times to address the students in assembly. He has also been a frequent visitor to the Minneapolis and other VA medical centers. Jim is also a member of MN DAVs Mayo Chapter 28 in Rochester.*

Once again, charitable donations by elk producers have helped to make this elk hunt a reality. An elk producer from the state of North Dakota who wishes to remain anonymous, has donated a beautiful, mature bull. Tony Beckel has donated his facility and guide service and Mark Hendrickson has agreed to haul the bull to Tony's facility. It is very heartening to know that even in this difficult year in the elk industry, there are very generous individuals who have stepped forward to make this dream a reality and do something very positive for the elk industry. The Langenfeld Foundation is organizing the details and the hunt is scheduled to take place on December 5-7, 2008. THANK YOU to all who have made this possible!!!



### Advertiser Index

**Valley Springs**  
Page 7

**Farm Bureau Financial Services**  
Page 8

**ADM Alliance Nutrition**  
Page 9

**Groen / Wagner Marketing**  
Page 10

### MnEBA Newsletter Advertising Rates

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

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

**Minnesota Elk Breeders  
Association**

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**

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

**February 27 – 28, 2009** – February Fling, Kansas City, Missouri

**March 13 – 15, 2009** – Minnesota Deer Classic, State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, MN

**Classified Ads**

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

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