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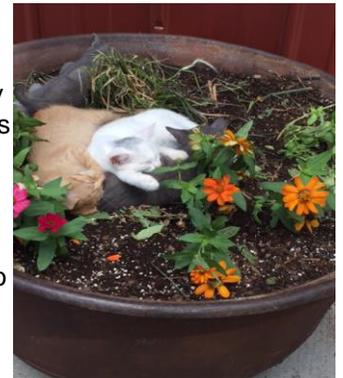
President's Message by Mark Lucas



September 22, 2015

Good Day All,
Since the last newsletter message in July, we have had several elk related events pass by, marking the passing of another summer. We had the MnEBA summer picnic, the NAEBA convention and antler competition and the state fair. While I was not able to attend the convention, I would like to pass along a few comments about the other events, just in case you may have missed one of them.

The MnEBA summer picnic was held at Okaman Cervidae near Elysian, MN. Our gracious hosts, Don and Joyce Kaplan must have some special connections as they lined up a very nice day for us weather-wise. After the pot luck lunch and a couple hours of visiting, looking around the farm and browsing the gift shop, we had our MnEBA membership meeting. Member attendance was good; it usually is for the picnic. It was fun to have some little tykes in attendance as well. Don and Joyce have a beautiful place complete with a playground area and petting zoo critters to keep the young folks entertained. I know I enjoyed watching them. I did find that Joyce had some rather unusual accents to her flower pot arrangements. They were cute, yes, yet it was odd see. As we walked around there were even more pots with similar accents. Well, rather than go on about it, take a look at the photo on the right and decide for yourself if the flower arrangements are unique. I just had to take a picture of it for the newsletter. Thanks again Don and Joyce for your hospitality.



Then came the Minnesota State Fair. I am sure many of you had a chance to either work at the MnEBA booth or stopped by to see it while at the fair. There were several upgrades made to the booth that raised the visual awareness of where we are and who we are. Many thanks to our State Fair committee Greg and Paul for the efforts they have put into booth improvements in the last couple years. The booth is better laid out, more eye catching and inviting for people to stop by. We still hear, "I didn't know there were elk in Minnesota." That gives the opening we need to tell our story about elk farms and our products. This is the #1 reason for the MnEBA booth, to raise awareness about Minnesota elk. It takes a small army to staff the booth for the 12 days of the fair. Thanks to all who worked a shift or two, I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did. It always seems like the half a day shift just flies by and is suddenly over. One thing for sure, the "buy local" trend is still hot and many were looking for places to buy elk meat near their home.

Now it is breeding season once again. Mother Nature's clock goes back to midnight and we start all over. One oddity was that my 4 year old breeding bull began bugling in late July and already had all his velvet rubbed off. I don't ever recall it being that early? In talking with another elk breeder he commented that he had cows in heat in early August. Do the elk know something about the coming fall and winter that we don't? It will be interesting to see if this winter has any surprises in the weather department for us. Perhaps I should report this to the Farmer's Almanac or something. I better wait and see if there is an unusual weather phenomenon before I get too much press involved I guess. Until next time, take care and have a safe harvest season.

Cordially,
Mark Lucas, MnEBA President

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.

Elk Meat Featured at State Fair Minnesota Cooks™ Program

Minnesota Cooks™ is an organization which promotes and celebrates Minnesota farmers and premier Minnesota chefs and cooks who serve locally produced foods from Minnesota farmers in their restaurants. They even carry this theme to their annual meetings as they purchase local foods for their banquets and have served Minnesota elk at their events for many years.

The first Sunday of the recent Minnesota State Fair was named “Minnesota Cooks™ Day”. The Minnesota Cooks™ program then brought together local restaurants, chefs and the farmers they receive their supply from to give cooking demonstrations, share in hot topic discussions and sample farm-fresh recipes they use in their restaurants. There were six hourly presentations throughout the day which took place on the Minnesota Cooks™ stage in Carousel Park by the Grandstand. Here chefs and cooks created mouthwatering dishes using fresh ingredients by local farmers. A taster panel featuring local media, political and arts personalities evaluated each dish and the crowd enjoyed samples as well.

This year, Minnesota elk was one of the featured meats! Jeff Labeau from The Depot Bar & Grill prepared Seared Elk Tip Waldorf Salad with Jeff's Select Gouda and Minnesota Crisp Cider Vinaigrette, featuring elk from Scott Salonek and the Elk Marketing Council. Celebrity tasters included Keane Amdahl, Sustainable Sea Food Coordinator, Minnesota Zoo; Kim Johnson, WCCO; and Minnesota Lieutenant Governor Tina Smith. Scott reported that the Lieutenant Governor was particularly interested in elk meat and asked a lot of great questions. He also said the recipe turned out “fantastic”.



The 2016 Minnesota Cooks™ calendar was also unveiled continuing its tradition of debuting at the State Fair. It featured real stories about the relationships farmers and chefs share, along with delicious recipes. These calendars can be requested through the Minnesota Cooks website (www.minnesotacooks.org) or through participating restaurants and farmers.

Here is what the calendar says on the calendar page promoting elk:

Chef Owner Jeff Labeau boasts many impressive accomplishments. In 2001 the American Culinary Federation named Labeau Chef of the Year for the Minneapolis chapter; in 2006 they went on to induct him into their prestigious honor society, the American Academy of Chefs. The culinary leader has cooked all over the nation and trained countless chefs, but these days he enjoys nothing more than the hustle and bustle of his own restaurant, The Depot Bar & Grill in Faribault, open since 1992. "The small town charm of Faribault is wonderful, and the community's been so supportive. I love my restaurant," he says simply.

Though Labeau and his team serve a staggering 20,000 scratch-cooked meals every five weeks, connecting with Depot guests remains paramount. He says, "It's important to personally know my customers and have them know me. I care and want everyone to have an outstanding experience."

Scott Salonek of Elk Marketing in Rogers provides Labeau with assorted elk cuts to round out his diverse menu of Minnesota sourced offerings. Both men agree lean, full-flavored elk is as versatile as chicken, delicious as a steak, burger, or in specials like stroganoff. Scott claims it's the most sought-after venison meat since there's no gamey aftertaste. Just don't ruin it by overcooking it.

A lifelong lover of the outdoors, Scott began raising animals as a teenager and always maintained what he calls a "farmer mentality." In 1992 he took a gamble and added six elk to his existing deer herd after hearing of another farm raising both successfully. Soon hooked on the handsome animals, he jokes, "I became an elk-aholic. Everything I did began revolving around elk." Within six years Scott was processing six hundred animals, eventually allowing him the freedom to leave his job as a meat cutter and focus full-time on his exploding business. He concludes, "I never tire of elk, especially their bugling."

Minnesota Cooks is presented by Minnesota Farmers Union with significant support from Minnesota Grown, Farmers Union Insurance Agency, and Farmers Union Industries. For more information about Minnesota Cooks, please visit their website at www.minnesotacooks.org, e-mail info@minnesotacooks.org or like Minnesota Cooks on Facebook, <http://www.facebook.com/pages/MinnesotaCooks/108643322551336>
Minnesota Farmers Union, Standing for Agriculture, Fighting for Farmers (www.mfu.org)



Chef Jeff Labeau sharing his knowledge about cooking with elk!

(All photos courtesy of Katie Cannon Photography)





Minnesota State Fair Recap

This year's MnEBA booth at the State Fair was again very successful with meat and dog chew sales steadily gaining once again. State Fair volunteers sold over \$11,000 worth of elk products. Dog chews continued to be a popular item with over \$3,500 worth of dog chews being sold alone!

Paul Hueg put much time, thought and effort into making major upgrades to the booth this year. He designed and purchased new table cloths, a new banner and new meat signs. He also had to create ways for the banner and signs to be displayed properly. Greg took care of the schedule, helped set up, and also assisted in manning the booth many days of the fair. A few new booth volunteers helped make the scheduling easier. Many, many thanks to both Paul and Greg for your hard work in making the state fair booth a success!



Special thanks to everyone who helped man the booth this year! This list includes Mark Lucas, Lubinski family, Lance, Brenda & Kaitlin Hartkopf, Aase family, Perry Olson, Darrell & Sheila Turek, Wade Schimmelpfennig & Heika Lewandowski, Billy & Britt Krusmark, Jim Byrne, Ray Smothers, Damon & Duane Melquist, Mark Luedtke, Don & Joyce Kaplan, Kraig & Jennie Wurst, Dennis Wernsing, Norman Schimmelpfennig, Martin Zacharias, Pat, Rita, Avrey & Aven Prodzinski, John & Martha Langowski, Brian & Holly Harguth, Mark & Lisa Luedtke and Paul & Lynn Hueg . A final thank you to Paul Hueg for taking the booth down and returning all items to Howard Lake.

Mark your calendars for August 25 – September 5, 2016 for the next Great Minnesota Get-Together! The general public is excited to meet the farmers who grow their food and supply their dogs with antler chews. Make plans to be a part of this great outreach effort next year and enjoy a day at the Fair! Thanks again to all who helped in any way!



Elk Sausage For Sale

Have you tried the delicious garlic summer sausage MnEBA sells at the State Fair? It is awesome!

MnEBA has (40) 16 oz. chubs left over from the fair and is selling them at the closeout price of \$8 per chub (plus shipping). Regular price at the fair was \$12 so this is a great deal!

Please contact the MnEBA office to order your chubs today! Brenda is traveling the state a lot on weekends in October so it is possible she could meet you somewhere to pick up your order and save on shipping. Give the office a call and let's see what can be worked out!

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NAEBA 2015 International Antler Competition

The 2015 International Antler Competition once again brought new surprises! It was amazing to see two sets of mature velvet antler that each weighed over 60 pounds and another set over 80 pounds!!! There were a remarkable number of 2 year old hard antler sets which didn't place but were pretty amazing. It will be fun to see that class mature in future years! The Top 3 winners in each category are listed below. For a complete set of results, contact the NAEBA office at 320-543-3665 or info@naelk.org.



The 2016 NAEBA Convention & International Antler Competition will be held in Omaha, Nebraska on July 28-30, 2016. Omaha is a very interesting river town with lots to see and do. Make plans to attend! And if you're thinking of bringing any bulls to competition next year, make sure to take pictures of them with their visible ear tag while the antler is still on their head. Entries are not accepted without a picture.

Top Three Winners in Each Category

Category	Bull's Name	CWI/SCI	Bull's Sire / Dam's Sire	Owner
Velvet 2 Year Old				
1st	EMF Fury	89.73 CWI	EUN Tequila / Yoda Man 142S	Eric & Kim Mohlman
2nd	EMF Rebel	87.81 CWI	EUN Tequila / SHR King 26	Eric & Kim Mohlman
3rd	EMF Sniper	84.86 CWI	Styx / Python 3P	Eric & Kim Mohlman
Breeders Three Two Year Old				
1st	EMF 305A	75.99 CWI	Styx / Twister 119R	Eric & Kim Mohlman
	EMF 322A	71.43 CWI	Styx / Yoda Man 142S	
AVERAGE CWI 75.73	EMF 334A	79.78 CWI	Styx / Not available	
Velvet 3 Year Old				
1st	EMF Patriot	117.89 CWI	Styx / Undenyabull	Eric & Kim Mohlman
2nd	EMF 224Z	113.77 CWI	EMF Zeus / Logman	Eric & Kim Mohlman
3rd	SFE 251Z Django	110.96 CWI	King's Ransom 240N / Primetime	Kenneth, Cindy & Travis Lowe
Breeders Three Three Year Old				
1st	EMF 225Z	99.79 CWI	EMF Zeus / Yoda Man 142S	Eric & Kim Mohlman
	EMF 226Z	91.40 CWI	EMF Zeus / Python 3P	
AVERAGE CWI 90.97	EMF 228Z	81.74 CWI	EMF Zeus / Amber Yoda	
Velvet 4 Year Old				
1st	ASEU 1146	114.06 CWI	Not Available	Ben & Connie Seutter
2nd	Shadow 25 Blue	96.28 CWI	Logman / Max III Too	Rodney & Everett Miller
3rd	LLE 116	91.08 CWI	LLE 719 / Amber Yoda	Mark & Lisa Luedtke
Velvet Mature				
1st	Commander	206.53 CWI	Python 3P / Not available	Ben & Connie Seutter
2nd	Billabong	182.14 CWI	Python 3P / AJRG 26P	Russell & Joanne Gwozdz
3rd	Tap Out	174.98 CWI	Buck Wild / AJRG 26R	Russell & Joanne Gwozdz



Hard Antler Spiker				
1 st	EMF Tiny	332 SCI	Styx / EMF Typhoon	Eric & Kim Mohlman
2 nd	CFI 55A	206 3/8 SCI	CFI 290R / King's Ransom	Michael Coleman
3 rd	SFE 334A	134 5/8 SCI	King's Ransom / Y121M Awesome	Kenneth, Cindy & Travis Lowe
Two Year Old Typical				
1 st	CFI 8Z	345 SCI	King's Ransom / King Kong	Michael Coleman
2 nd	CFI 12Z	336 7/8 SCI	King's Ransom / Stealth Legacy	Michael Coleman
3 rd	CFI 20Z	322 2/8 SCI	King's Ransom / Ice Green 19	Michael Coleman
Two Year Old Non-Typical				
1 st	50 Cal	413 SCI	Styx / Python 3P	Eric & Kim Mohlman
2 nd	Frisia Super Boy	378 4/8 SCI	Frisia Dynasty / Amber Yoda	John & Patricia Kooistra
3 rd	CFI 19Z	364 4/8 SCI	King's Ransom / Honest Jack	Michael Coleman
Two Year Old Breeders Three Hard Antler				
1 st	Buckey	311 6/8 SCI	KEF Mighty Fine / Samurai	Chuck Canady
	Houdini	294 5/8 SCI	KEF Mighty Fine / Impressive	
AVERAGE SCI 305 2/8	Scraper	309 2/8 SCI	KEF Mighty Fine / KEF Cracker Jack	
Three Year Old Typical				
1 st	Frisia Doctor	387 5/8 SCI	Frisia Integrity / Proud Diamond	John & Patricia Kooistra
2 nd	Shadow 25 Blue	381 4/8 SCI	Logman / Max III Too	Rodney & Everett Miller
3 rd	Frisia Model	374 1/8 SCI	Frisia Integrity / Platinum	John & Patricia Kooistra
Three Year Old Non-Typical				
1 st	EMF Midas	471 2/8 SCI	Styx / Amber Yoda	Eric & Kim Mohlman
2 nd	Avenger	457 6/8 SCI	Levi / Scorpion	Ben & Connie Seutter
3 rd	Frisia June	442 3/8 SCI	Frisia Integrity / A.E. Superior	John & Patricia Kooistra
Four Year Old Typical				
1 st	Frisia Leo	422 6/8 SCI	Legend / SHR King 26	John & Patricia Kooistra
2 nd	Massive	420 4/8 SCI	EUN Tequila / The Bounty King	Chad Lawler
Four Year Old Non-Typical				
1 st	Chernobull	500 3/8 SCI	EUN Tequila / SHR King 26	Eric & Kim Mohlman
2 nd	Chief Denali	476 7/8 SCI	EUN Tequila / Sultan	Rodney & Everett Miller
3 rd	Ransom Raider	465 5/8 SCI	King's Ransom / Geronimo	Michael Coleman
Five Year Old Non-Typical				
1 st	Styx	595 4/8 SCI	EUN Tequila / Undenyabull	Eric & Kim Mohlman
2 nd	Lincoln	478 1/8 SCI	Not available	Ben & Connie Seutter
3 rd	Abe	473 6/8 SCI	Levi / Not available	Ben & Connie Seutter
Six Year Old Non-Typical				
1 st	Commander	521 2/8 SCI	Python 3P / Cobra	Ben & Connie Seutter
2 nd	Splendor's Blend	506 5/8 SCI	SPR 211M / SPR 252N	Lance & Brenda Hartkopf
3 rd	Hanzon	446 5/8 SCI	Ice / Not available	Chad Lawler
Mature Non-Typical				
1 st	Levi	524 7/8 SCI	Cobra / Quick Silver	Ben & Connie Seutter
2 nd	Integrity	516 6/8 SCI	Awesome / Amber Elk Rascal	Monte Matheson / Kim Kafka
3 rd	Rolo 797	506 5/8 SCI	Logan / Royal Tree Head	Perry & Sandy Olson



Getting to know Leo Windschitl, Wildlife and Game Bird Specialist for ADM Alliance Nutrition®

Chances are you've heard of Leo Windschitl. His involvement in the cervid industry runs deep and far. Unbeknownst to Leo 38 years ago when his career in the feed industry began by working for a feed dealership in Motley, Minnesota, where he still resides, he would become the go-to-guy for cervid feed advice in the upper Midwest. Leo is currently ADM Alliance Nutrition's wildlife and gamebird specialist. If you want to catch Leo, lace up your running shoes as he's literally on the ground covering territory in Minnesota, Wisconsin, South Dakota, North Dakota and parts of Iowa. For most people this would fill their cup, but not Leo. He also manages to consult with ADM Alliance Nutrition's cervid and game bird customers throughout the U.S.

In 1995, Leo accepted a position with SuperSweet® Feeds (one of ADM Alliance Nutrition's predecessor feed companies) as a livestock feed specialist. Soon after he was promoted to district sales manager and in that position strengthened the commercial livestock feed business in SuperSweet's dealer network. After a few years, Leo was propositioned with the opportunity to solely focus on specialty feed which he accepted. He became the equine and specialty feed specialist, working with dealers in Minnesota and Wisconsin with just about every species outside of commercial livestock production. He was instrumental in setting up large direct accounts for deer, elk and game bird feed business, which gave him his first real working opportunity in the cervid industry.

It was at this point in Leo's career that he felt the nudge to become involved in the cervid industry which started by attending meetings and conventions affiliated with deer, elk, and game bird production. His first ever convention-auction was at Cannon Falls, Minnesota, at the Minnesota Elk Breeders Association annual function. By this time SuperSweet had become part of Consolidated Nutrition®, which later merged with MoorMan's® to become ADM Alliance Nutrition. Leo and two colleagues manned a booth, introducing Consolidated Nutrition deer/elk feeds to Minnesota producers. According to Leo, this group warmly welcomed them, and they found Minnesota producers very interested in feed products.

Leo's involvement grew by making contacts and joining other industry-affiliated groups, including the Minnesota Elk Breeders Association, Minnesota Deer Breeders Association and Minnesota Game Bird Association. For the past 14 years Leo has been devoted to serving the deer, elk and game bird industries. His many years in the feed industry has given him considerable experience in understanding animal nutrition and feeding regimes which has led him to becoming one of a few individuals with expertise in feeding deer and elk.

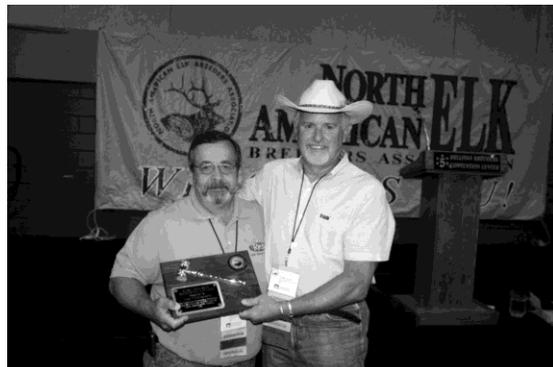
Educational seminars and contacts with industry experts has helped Leo acquire a better understanding of the cervid industry and nutrition needs of deer and elk. His hands-on approach over the last 14 years has given him a better understanding of the digestive system and nutritional needs of deer and elk along with health related issues. According to Leo, "You can only learn so much out of a book, but hands on experience is hard to beat!"

Leo doesn't just sell feed, he offers many other services due to his vast network of contacts. Along with working with ADM Alliance Nutrition's PhD nutritionists on product development, farm trials and feed formulations, Leo also works with MidAmerican Ag Research which can detect and identify parasites, Dairyland Laboratories for forage and water analysis and a number of veterinarians regarding herd health protocols. These extra touches truly set Leo apart from other feed sales representatives. Very few individuals possess the knowledge and network contacts that Leo has amassed.



Friendships . . . it's what Leo states is the most satisfying and rewarding aspects of his career in the cervid industry. And, Leo notes that the next best thing is watching his customers produce majestic, bigger animals year after year after starting on ADM Alliance Nutrition's Rack Plus™ feed program. For Leo, it's simply gratifying and makes him proud to have had a hand in helping producers achieve their goals. He finds it rewarding to walk pens with customers, watch bulls and bucks grow larger and see fawns and calves born strong and healthy; not to mention the good times at conventions and meetings. Leo states that deer and elk producers are like one big family, and that these folks are the best to do business with and work alongside. Yes, Leo feels being a wildlife and game bird specialist is a very rewarding career.

In appreciation for his dedication, Leo has been the recipient of several noteworthy awards, including the 2007 and 2009 Wisconsin Commercial Deer and Elk Farmers Association Friend of the Industry Award, 2011 Minnesota Elk Breeders Association Appreciation Award, 2011 North American Elk Breeders Association Rush Johnson Memorial Award, and 2014 Whitetails of Wisconsin Friend of the Cervid Farming Industry Award. When Leo received the North American Elk Breeders Association Rush Johnson Memorial Award, it was noted that this was the first time in the 21-year history of the award that it was given to someone who was not currently or in the past was an elk breeder. . . . quite an accomplishment.



Charly Seale presenting Leo Windschitl with the 2011 Rush Johnson Memorial Award from the North America Elk Breeders Association.

For those individuals contemplating cervid farming, Leo offers these words of advice – research carefully and extensively, talk to current producers to solicit recommendations on what works and what doesn't work, study the different genetic lines and decide your niche (meat animal, stocker bulls or velvet production). As with any industry there are challenges; the biggest probably is chronic wasting disease and the stigma associated with the disease. Unfortunately, much remains to be discovered about this disease. Another challenge is the rhetoric displayed by anti-hunting and special interest groups that want to force elimination of hunting and commercial cervid production. While no one can predict the future absolutely, Leo personally feels the cervid industry looks promising. While, like most animal production-related industries, the cervid industry has had ups and downs, there is currently a huge demand for elk meat, elk velvet and stocker bulls. For Leo, he's still focused on working to help producers feed deer and elk to attain maximum productivity, enhancing their bottom line.

Leo expresses his appreciation to the cervid industry and extends appreciation and thanks to the Minnesota Elk Breeders Association for providing the opportunity to tell his story.

ADM Alliance Nutrition, SuperSweet, Consolidated Nutrition, MoorMan's and Rack Plus are trademarks of Archer Daniels Midland Company.

MnEBA Kitchen

As the days get shorter and cooler, here's a warm meal which is sure to satisfy!

Savory Garlic Mushroom Ground Elk Over Rice

1 lb. elk meat	1 can Cream of Mushroom soup
8 oz. mushrooms, sliced	½ cup water
1 small onion, chopped	Worcestershire sauce
2 garlic cloves, diced	2 cups cooked rice
2 Tbsp. butter	Salt and pepper to taste
1 Tbsp. fresh sage or ½-1 tsp. dried	



Heat skillet over medium heat. Add butter, onion, garlic and mushrooms. Saute mushrooms and onion until lightly browned, about 7-8 minutes. Add sage and mix. Move mushrooms to the side of the pan, add ground elk and continue cooking until elk is browned. Reduce heat to low and add mushroom soup and water to the pan. Stir together and bring to a simmer. For a savory classic flavor similar to stroganoff, add dashes of Worcestershire sauce to the mix and stir. Season with salt and pepper if needed. Remove from heat and serve over rice. Garnish with fresh chives and sage.

Board Blog by Brian Wagner, MnEBA Secretary/Treasurer



Fall is here, what a beautiful time of the year. I really enjoy the cool evenings and listening to the bulls bugle. Hope your breeding season is successful so we have many calves next spring. All elk markets are in need of more animals; meat and harvest bulls are at an all-time high.

But there is also a lot of work to get prepared for winter, making sure you have enough feed to last until next May. Make sure waterers are working before it's -10 below. Also need to repair fence and get up some new fence before freeze up.

Hope everyone is well and look forward to seeing you all at the MnEBA convention in January.

Regards,
Brian

Welcome New Members

Wayne Douglas, DVM, Plainview Veterinary Clinic, 685 North Wabasha, Plainview, MN 55964, 507-534-3181, plainviewvet@gmail.com

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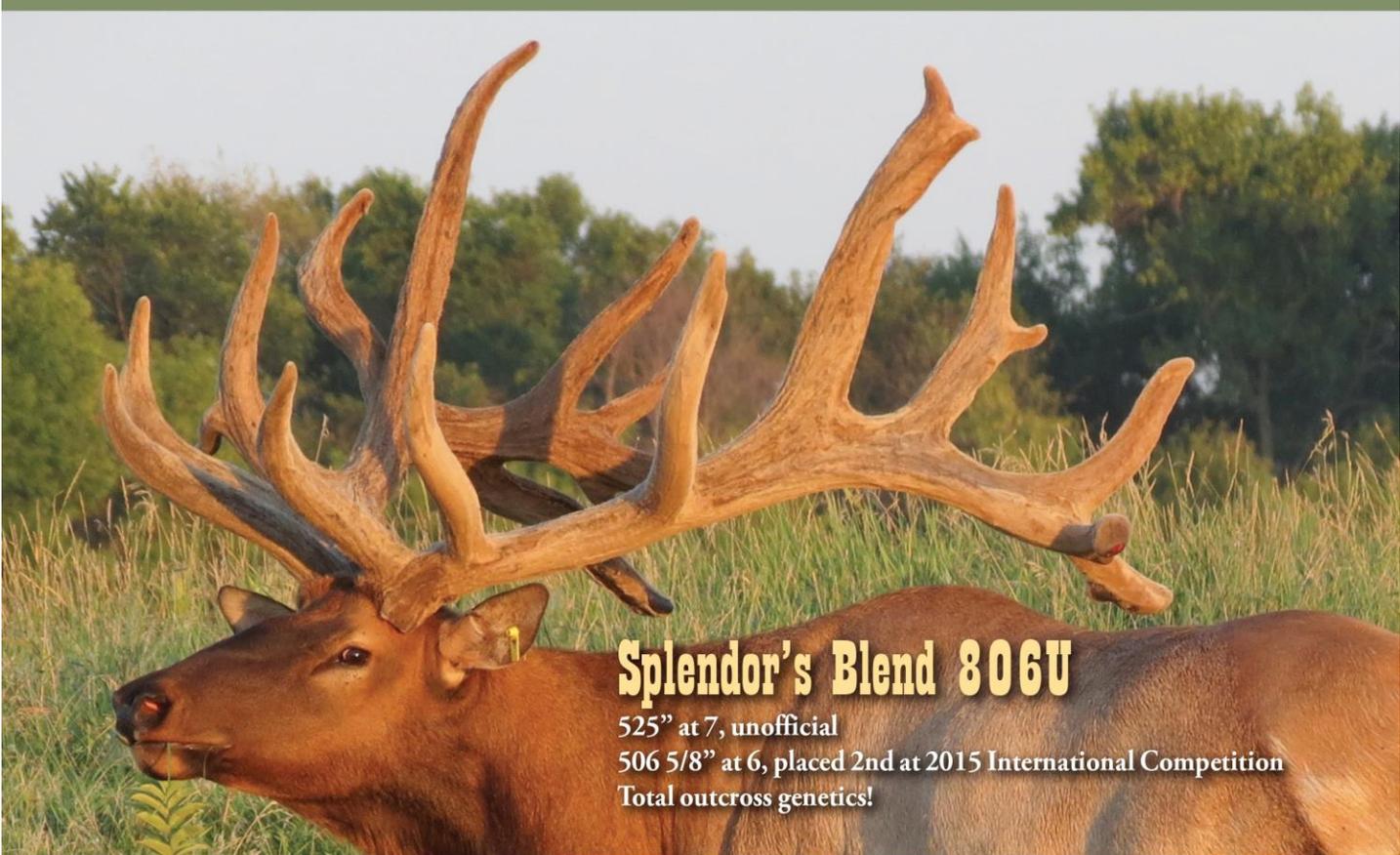
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For more info
Contact
Leo Windschitl
at 800-519-0658 (cell)
or 218-575-2490 (office)

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1 NORTH AMERICAN ELK | 2015 NOVEMBER JOURNAL



The Minnesota Elk Breeders Association is one of many organizations and individuals who contribute to the national Public Relations Campaign organized by the American Cervid Alliance. Here are a couple recent examples of this program at work, one in Minnesota! This highly successful campaign is now beginning its second year!

CWD Assertions Wrong

*Lansing State Journal
Opinion*

August 30, 2015 – Jill Fritz, a lobbyist for the animal-rights group Humane Society of the United States, recently offered a biased and incorrect assessment of Chronic Wasting Disease (Opinion, Aug.14). She argued that a handful of instances of CWD in wild deer warrants tougher regulations on private deer farms. The facts show otherwise.

Deer cannot be imported into Michigan unless they come from herds monitored and tested for CWD. Given wild deer and elk have spread CWD in states without game farms, the focus should be on tracking the disease among free-roaming animals. However, Michigan only tested 38 deer and elk in 2014.

Despite Fritz's false assertion deer farms are a threat for spreading CWD, free-ranging deer may have spread CWD to Michigan game farms, as is suspected in several other states. And it may have come into Michigan on the back of someone's truck via a deer carcass or hay. State wildlife officials can best protect deer in Michigan by conducting better monitoring of CWD among free-roaming deer.

Charly Seale
American Cervid Alliance
Ayr, Nebraska
<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/opinion/readers/2015/09/01/letters-aug/71518726/>

Call to Take Out Game Farms Senseless

Outdoor News: Letter to the Editor

August 12, 2015 – Scot Bjornson's call to "take out" game farms is senseless. Bjornson points to farms as places where CWD has been found. That's because game farms test their animals for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) at much higher rates than the state agencies test free-roaming deer for the disease. To think that removing farmed elk herds from the landscape will solve all our CWD problems shows how little he really understands this disease.

First of all, we can't know how prevalent CWD is among free-ranging animals without more testing. Testing 651 wild deer over the lengthy period of thirteen years "on tens of thousands of acres of wild habitat" is less than impressive. We know that wild deer can and do spread CWD, as we've seen in Wyoming and Virginia (which don't have game farms). Bjornson doesn't solve the issue of well-meaning sportsmen transporting free-range carcasses across state lines which may be contaminated with CWD and aid in spreading the disease. He also

doesn't take into effect new research which shows CWD prions can be taken up in plant matter, such as hay, and may be aiding in the spread of CWD across the country.

There are strict regulations on animal movement and requirements for disease testing for game farms. The industry is diligently working to fund research for an effective CWD vaccine and also a live CWD test. Bjornson's remedy is shortsighted and totally misses the mark on solving the problem of CWD.

This is not just a problem among elk and deer farmers, this is a problem for all of us. Hunters don't want CWD. Elk farmers don't either. In fact, most elk farmers are also avid hunters. We're on the same side. Let's put our resources together and effectively deal with CWD once and for all.

Sincerely,
Mark Lucas
President, Minnesota Elk Breeders Association

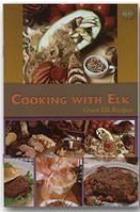
MnEBA Promotional Materials

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

MNELK / MINNESOTA GROWN BOX

For meat sales or any other Minnesota grown elk products which can be boxed up. Box size 17"x10"x8.25". Designed to hold 30 lbs.

\$1 each



In The News

Missouri Deer Owners Win Preliminary Legal Challenge Against Restrictive New State Rules

Aug. 13, 2015 - A Missouri state court has entered a ruling blocking enforcement of new state regulations that threaten the existence of the state's growing farmed-deer industry by preventing the importation of privately owned cervids into the state.

In a 33-page ruling entered today, Judge Robert D. Schollmeyer of the 20th Judicial Circuit Court of Missouri granted Plaintiff's Motion for a Preliminary Injunction in the matter of Donald Hill, et al. v. Missouri Conservation Commission, et al. The Court held that Plaintiffs are likely to prevail in their argument that the privately owned animals they raise and import for breeding and hunting (including white-tailed deer and other cervids, or hoofed animals) are not subject to regulation by the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) as communally owned "wildlife resources of the state."

As a result, importation of privately owned cervids will be allowed under rules administered by the Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA). Prior to the adoption of the new rules by the MDC, the MDA had regulated the importation of cervids as livestock. Those rules include, among other requirements, that the animal being imported come from a herd that is certified as having no positive test results for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), as well as a number of other diseases, for at least five years. This program was designed by the United States Department of Agriculture.

The order prohibits the MDC from enforcing a controversial series of new regulations that went into effect earlier this year—including a complete ban on importing cervids into Missouri—until the legality of the regulations can be finally resolved. The Court found not only that Plaintiffs had shown that the MDC likely was without the authority to issue the new regulations, but that the potential harm to Plaintiffs outweighed any threat posed by Chronic Wasting Disease, the stated reason for the regulations.

"Without question, Plaintiffs will suffer irreparable harm... up to and including the loss of their businesses should the regulations remain in effect throughout the upcoming hunting season," the Court's order stated. "By contrast, Defendants cannot show an imminent threat to Missouri's cervid population or other public interests that would justify the regulations remaining in effect while their Constitutionality is finally resolved."

Contrary to Defendants' argument that farmed cervids are communally owned "wildlife resources of the state," the ruling noted that the Missouri Court of Appeals has already ruled that breeder deer owned by Plaintiff Don Hill were "domestic animals" under Missouri law. The ruling also noted that the MDC's own regulations require all "hoofed wildlife of the state" to be excluded from private hunting preserves, and that the department has said in other

cases that deer on private hunting preserves are "the sole property" of the preserve owner.

Despite the claimed risks of spreading Chronic Wasting Disease through interstate cervid movement, the Court noted that the MDC itself has imported free-ranging elk from Kentucky in recent years from herds using CWD certifications very similar to that required by the Missouri Department of Agriculture. Defendants' expert witness admitted that free-ranging cervids pose a greater risk of spreading disease-causing agents compared with animals in fenced-in preserves.

The ruling follows a two-day hearing last month in Gasconade County Circuit Court. The next step in the litigation will be a final hearing on a request that the Court enter a judgment declaring the regulations invalid. No date for that final hearing has been set. The named Plaintiffs in the action are Donald Hill; Oak Creek Whitetail Ranch, LLC; Travis Broadway; Winter Quarters Wildlife Ranch, LLC; Troy Popielarz; Kevin Grace; and Whitetail Sales and Service, LLC. Plaintiffs are being represented by Jean Paul Bradshaw, Jay Felton, Rachel Stephens and Eric Weslander of Lathrop & Gage LLP. Mr. Bradshaw and Ms. Stephens represented Plaintiffs at the hearing.

Contact: Jean Paul Bradshaw at Lathrop & Gage LLP at 816-460-5507 or jbradshaw@lathropegage.com.

Chronic Wasting Disease Confirmed in Lavaca County Captive White-tailed Deer; Linked to Index Herd [TX]

Texas Animal Health Commission News Release

September 15, 2015 - AUSTIN - The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) announced that a captive white-tailed deer in a Lavaca County deer breeding facility has been confirmed positive for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). The Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL) in College Station detected the presence of CWD in samples submitted, and the National Veterinary Services Laboratories in Ames, Iowa confirmed the findings today.

The newly quarantined Lavaca County facility is a result of testing

trace out animals that originated from a Medina County index captive white-tailed deer herd where CWD was first detected on June 30.

CWD was first detected in Texas in 2012 in free-ranging mule deer in far West Texas in the Hueco Mountains. The Lavaca county herd is the second infected breeder herd detected in Texas.

"The investigation of the index facility in Medina County continues," said Dr. Dee Ellis, TAHC Executive Director. "The TAHC, TPWD and USDA are diligently working with the breeder deer industry to assess disease

transmission risks, and to protect Texas' free ranging deer, captive deer and hunting industries."

"TPWD will continue to work with TAHC, USDA and stakeholders representing wildlife conservation and deer breeding interests to implement measures appropriate to protect our state's most popular big game animal, the white-tailed deer," said Carter Smith, TPWD Executive Director.

Full text:

http://www.tahc.state.tx.us/news/pr/2015/2015-09-15_CWDLavacaCounty.pdf

Bile Acids Could be Used to Treat Deadly Prion Disease

By Madeleine Cummings - Edmonton Journal

September 3, 2015 – Bile acids could help slow the progression of a rare and fatal neurodegenerative disease, research from the University of Alberta has found.

Prion disease occurs when a protein changes into an odd shape and causes normal proteins in its path to do the same. For reasons scientists don't quite understand, brain cells then start dying.

The disease affects one or two people out of every million each year and is known as mad cow disease in cattle and chronic wasting disease in deer and elk.

Valerie Sim, a clinician-scientist at the University of the Alberta, said she was "somewhat skeptical" when a research associate in her lab suggested they test bile acids as a potential cure. But that hunch eventually led to a paper published in August in the Journal of Virology. Leonardo Cortez, her research associate, is listed as first

author.

Ursodeoxycholic acid (UDCA) and tauroursodeoxycholic acid (TUDCA) are natural compounds made by the liver and used by the body to help break down fats. But they have also been known to protect against cell death for several other neurodegenerative diseases. TUDCA, for example, has been shown to slow the progression of ALS.

To test the acids' effectiveness, researchers placed slices of mice brain on a dish, infected them with prions and then treated them with the acids.

Surprisingly, they observed that the acids seemed to bind to the "promiscuous proteins" and partially stop them from spreading. The acids also helped reduce brain cell death.

This potential cure could mean the most for the 10 per cent of prion

disease patients who inherit it genetically, Sim said. The treatment appears to be most effective when administered early, long before symptoms even appear.

Their research also contributes to our understanding of other diseases (such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and Huntington's) caused by problem-proteins.

Sim and her colleagues are now focused on testing combinations of compounds that might be even more effective at blocking the protein conversion and preventing cell death.

"I don't think one compound will ever treat any of these diseases," Sim said. "We hope we can find a combination."

<http://www.edmontonjournal.com/bile+acids+could+used+treat+deadly+prion+disease/11338979/story.html>

Vet Corner by Glen Zebarth, DVM

Sudden Death Loss In Bulls

Seems like every year at this time, there's some death loss in bulls being sold as trophy animals. Causes of death loss that I've seen over recent years include:

Injury of Animals

The number one cause would be injury of animals to each other. Management practices to decrease this would include:

1. Keep same animals in same groups together so they don't reestablish a new pecking order.
2. Keep them in a larger pen with more brush and material to allow them more opportunity to escape from one another.
3. Isolate each bull in a box stall or small pen. This would be more difficult but is effective.
4. It's always best to move the bulls as soon as possible each year.

Anthrax

Even though Anthrax is rare, it does occur. Things to look for would be historical history of Anthrax in that location. Anthrax seems to be affected by hot, dry weather. Diagnosis is dependent on submission of lab samples and if positive diagnosis is received, annual vaccination is very successful as a preventative.

Redwater Disease

Redwater Disease is caused by the bacteria *Clostridium Haemolyticum*. This causes blood in the urine, depressed animal, massive hemorrhage and sudden death. This is a soil born organism therefore the fewer mud holes and low spots the better. Lab submission of spleen, liver, and kidney tissues are necessary for diagnosis.

Prevention would be vaccination, some of the 8-way vaccinations contain this. If you have a confirmed problem, would also recommend in addition, a straight single organism vaccine for *Clostridium Haemolyticum*. For example, Colorado Serum Company makes one called Essential 1™ which is for *Clostridium Haemolyticum* only. Some farms have found it necessary to go to the single vaccine to control this disease. A typical vaccination program would be to yearly give all animals on the farm an 8-way vaccine containing *Clostridium Haemolyticum*, then booster the bulls in May –June with Essential 1™. Do this only for farms that have had a positive diagnosis.

Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD)

EHD historically has not been seen in Minnesota but can be found in surrounding states and may be close. Bloody urine, depressed for half day or day then death are prominent symptoms. EHD also requires lab diagnosis. Midge and fly control is key in preventing EHD. For additional reading on EHD prevention, there was an excellent, complete set of articles on midge/fly control by Dr. Lee Cohnstaedt recently printed in the NADeFA Summer 2015 magazine, pages 92-97. There have been autogenous EHD vaccines tried in whitetail deer with variable, sometimes disappointing results.

Babesia Odecoilei

Another similar condition is *Babesia Odecoilei* which also causes sudden death and is characterized by depressed state and bloody urine. This disease is spread by whitetail deer to elk by deer ticks and has been seen in Minnesota. The best preventative is to apply deer tick control. Vaccine treatment is expensive and not always very effective. *Babesia Odecoilei* is diagnosed by a blood smear.

The take home message on all of these causes of death is that the symptoms are similar and include a depressed animal, hemorrhaging and sudden death. Lab diagnosis of tissues is required to make a proper diagnosis and prevention plan. It's critical to get the needed tissues harvested and sent in to the State Diagnostic Lab as soon as you can. Tissues to send would include liver, kidney, spleen, blood and muscle. In the case of Anthrax, this can be diagnosed with a cut off ear. It is not recommended to open a carcass when Anthrax is suspected.

An affected producer may have to submit several samples to obtain an accurate diagnosis, these are difficult diseases to diagnose and it's hard to get good quality samples. Infection rates of these various diseases vary from year to year and are very sporadic. These diseases can all affect any age animal, but I see them mostly at this time of year in older age bulls who like to dig in mud holes as these diseases involve soil borne organisms.

2016 MnEBA Gun Raffle Calendar Update

Nearly 600 calendars already in the hands of producers!

Sales of the 2016 MnEBA Gun Raffle Calendar are on the same steady pace as last year with nearly 600 of the 750 available calendars already in the hands of producers to sell! One person has already sold 52 calendars and counting! The two handguns and AR-15 are popular as are the multiple Henry firearms and two additional cash options which were added this year! If you haven't called the MnEBA Office to order your calendars to purchase/sell as of yet, you will want to do this soon!

Remember also that selling calendars gives you the opportunity to earn a FREE 2016 MnEBA membership! Anyone can be eligible for a free 2016 MnEBA membership (up to \$125 value) by selling 30 MnEBA gun raffle calendars and returning the stubs and money to the MnEBA Office by December 31, 2015. There is no limit to who can earn a free membership except that calendars could sell out. Nine members took advantage of this great opportunity last year!

But perhaps more exciting, there is a new incentive to sell calendars: For every 10 calendars sold with stubs and money returned before December 31st, your name goes into a drawing to win a Ruger American Rifle Predator .204! The industry is on the rise and elk producers are seeing record prices in every market. Individuals looking to diversify their farming operations or begin new businesses are taking a good look at raising elk. It's an important time to support MnEBA with this very successful funding mechanism as the association works to get the word out about raising elk and purchasing products from America's Greatest Animal! MnEBA is continually looking for opportunities to do this and much more!



Calendars will be available for sale from now until sold out or until the January 9, 2016 drawing date at the MnEBA Annual Conference in Willmar, MN. If you haven't yet ordered your calendars to sell or purchase, please contact the office at (320) 543-2686 or info@mneba.org to order yours today!

2016 MnEBA Gun Raffle Calendar Gun List

Ruger AR-556 AR-15 .223/556mm
 Weatherby Vanguard 2 .243 Win Syn/Blued
 Ruger American Rifle .243 Win Syn/Blued
 Thompson Center Triumph .50 Cal Muzzleloader
 Stevens 320 12ga 3" Pump Syn Stock
 Henry Big Boy .30-30 Win Brass Receiver
 Savage 93R17FVSS .17 HMR Syn/SS
 Ruger American Rifle .308 Win Syn/Blued
 Stoeger Condor Over/Under 12ga 3" Walnut
 Winchester SX3 Black Shadow 12ga 3" Semi
 Marlin XL7 .270 Win Syn/Blued W/ Mount
 Smith & Wesson M&P Shield 9mm Semi
 Henry Varmint Express .17 HMR Lever Walnut

Winchester SXP 12ga 3" Syn Pump
 Weatherby PA-08 Uplander 12ga
 Winchester SXP Black Shadow 12ga 3.5" Pump
 Henry Big Boy .44 Mag Brass Receiver
 Ruger 10/22 Laminate Stock Blued
 Ruger GP100 .357 Mag 6 Shot Revolver Blued
 Savage A17 .17 HMR Semiauto
 Benelli Nova 12ga 3.5" Syn Stock
 Beretta A300 Outlander 12ga 3"
 Stevens 555 12ga 3" Over/Under High Grade Stock
 Winchester SXP Waterfowler 12ga 3" Camo
 Henry Golden Boy .22 LR Brass Frame
 Browning BPS Hunter 12ga 3" Walnut

CHERNOBULL



- Five-year-old Tequila son scores 609", unofficial with spread of 66".
- An amazing 7X8 typical frame that scores 537 4/8" unofficial.
- Score doesn't include broken beam and drop, would have added 15-20 inches!
- 500 3/8" Official 1st place 2015 NAEBA 4-year-old NT Class.
- Swept down and out whale tails everyone is looking for!!
- Semen drawn and tested by Dr. Martin Wenkoff, available in the US and Canada.
- Need tine length to add to your score? Chernobull has it at every tine.

Unofficial Score Sheet

	Left	Right
Main Beam	58 2/8	47
T-1	18 6/8	20 7/8
T-2	21	24 5/8
T-3	20 5/8	28 4/8
T-4	26 3/8	28
T-5	21 5/8	25 2/8
T-6	17 7/8	25 2/8
T-7	10 1/8	
Total Typical	136 3/8	152 4/8
NT-1	2	7 2/8
NT-2	10 3/8	1 4/8
NT-3	9	20 5/8
NT-4	4 6/8	13 3/8
NT-5	1 4/8	2
Total NT	27 5/8	44 6/8
C-1	9 6/8	9 7/8
C-2	8 4/8	8 4/8
C-3	9 4/8	9
C-4	12	10 2/8
Total C's	39 6/8	37 5/8
Total Side Score	262	281 7/8
Spread	66	
Total Typical Score		537 4/8
Total NT Score		609 7/8



Eric, Kim, Chase and Kyra Mohlman

4985 West Blue Hill Road, Ayr, NE 68925 • 402-469-1831 • mohlmnelk@gtmc.net

Committee Reports

2016 MnEBA Annual Conference

This year's MnEBA Annual Conference will be held at the Willmar Conference Center with the attached Best Western Hotel as the host hotel. The conference center and hotel have been completely remodeled since MnEBA was last there! Mark your calendars for a full weekend of education, networking and fun on January 8-9, 2016!

MnEBA is planning both a Silent and Live auction. Your donations to one or both auctions would be very much appreciated! Don't have the time or know what to purchase? You can also donate funds for items to be purchased in your name.

Are there any seminar topics you would like to hear more about? Have you heard a speaker you think others would enjoy? Do you have new fundraising or other conference ideas? Contact Rita Prodzinski at (507) 452-1282 or rprod@hotmail.com, or Brenda Hartkopf at (320) 543-2686 or info@mneba.org and let's make this one of the best conferences yet!

Willmar Conference Center and Best Western Plus Hotel

2100 E. Hwy. 12
Willmar, MN 56201

Reservations: 320-235-6060 – Mention Minnesota Elk Breeders Block to receive the reduced rate of \$98.99/night. This room block will be released on 12/16/15.

WANTED – Your ELK Photos



MnEBA is looking for elk pictures from MnEBA member farms and ranches to showcase on MnEBA's Facebook page and web site. Pictures can be recent or from longer ago and can be about anything elk related!

Please think about what photos you could send to the MnEBA Office. It's a great way to showcase and promote the great elk raised all across Minnesota!

*Spring Coulee
Velvet Capsules*



Bill & Karen Knutson
Home of Spring Coulee Elk

N7447 Cty Hwy D
Holmen, WI 54636
Phone (608) 526-4477
Cell (608) 792-4477
Fax (608) 526-2055
miniman41@centurytel.net

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Health	OPEN
Scholarship	Kaye Zearth (320) 834-4064
State Fair	Greg Lubinski (507) 273-0525 Paul Hueg (612) 791-0443

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Thank you for your support!

Minnesota Elk Breeders Association

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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

January 8 – 9, 2016 – MnEBA Annual Conference, Willmar Convention Center, Willmar, MN

March 19, 2016 – 2016 NAEBA March Mingle, Doubletree by Hilton, Edmonton, AB

July 28 – 30, 2016 – 26th Annual NAEBA Convention & International Antler Competition, Ramada Plaza Hotel & Convention Center, Omaha, NE

Classified Ads

For Sale: Monte North Hydraulic Squeeze Chute, portable, always stored in barn. Asking \$2,000 or best offer. Please contact Randy Hamson at 320-360-2010.

For Sale: (3) two year old bulls (slicks). TB Accredited, CWD monitored since 1999. Contact Ray Smothers at 507-340-7119.

Wanted: Grande Natural buys Elk or Whitetail meat animals delivered to Crescent Meats, Cadott, WI or Eickman's, Steward, IL. We will meet or beat the competition on the rail price. Looking for fleshy critters generally 3 years and older on cows, 2 year and older on bulls. Call 719-657-0942 or email Rich@ElkUSA.com.

Wanted: Grande Natural pays competitive prices for Elk Hard Antler drops or cutoffs, spikes, buttons, etc. AND we will pay UPS shipping if you cut them down and pack 'em up. Call Rich at 719-580-0661, or email Rich@ElkUSA.com.

For Sale: Distributor for Franklin Waterers, energy efficient PC & AP Models, also standard waterers. Rely on Franklin Waterers. Contact Jay at Pronschinke Elk, 507-458-7970.

Wanted: Any and all elk meat animals, trophy bulls, breeding stock or whole herds. Brian Wagner, 612-366-5078

Wanted: Looking for a future herd sire, 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, \$225 hair off or \$15 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