



## Special Interest Articles:

- 2017 Annual Conference Review
- Membership Meeting Minutes
- Annual Conference Fundraisers a Success
- MnEBA Board Meeting Minutes
- MN Board of Animal Health News Release
- MN DNR Chronic Wasting Disease Management
- Important Updates
- Board Blog
- MnEBA Scholarship Thank You's
- MN DNR Chronic Wasting Disease Management
- Important Updates
- MnEBA Gun Raffle Calendar Sells Out
- March Mingle
- Vet Corner

## President's Message by Jim Byrne



Well, here we go again. Another new year and it seems I've been here before. Back in 2001 when I became president for the first time, we had our first detection of CWD in a farmed herd. Now it is 2017, I'm president, and again we have CWD. This time it was found in both farmed herds and in the wild. But things are different in how the response is now handled. There are presently four distinct groups working to manage the outbreak: The Board of Animal Health, the Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR), the Cervidae Advisory Committee and the Minnesota Deer Hunters. All four groups are working in conjunction with each other without the blame game being the major subject of contention. What a difference from the first appearance of CWD.

A number of meetings in February will be held with the purpose of gaining input and giving out information pertaining to the management of the outbreak. The DNR's deer management group will be meeting February 6 in Rochester, MN. The MN Deer Farmers Association will have an informational meeting February 8 in Preston, and the Cervidae Advisory Committee will meet February 9. The association will have board members at all of these meetings. There is plenty to be done over the next few weeks.

The annual meeting held at Arrowwood Resort in Alexandria was well attended, and the speakers were timely and very informative. Wade Schimmelfennig and Mark Lucas were recognized for their service as past board members. Mark Lucas was also awarded a plaque of appreciation for his outstanding service to the association. We sold out of raffle calendars for the second year in a row. I give a grateful thanks to all of you that made this possible.



*Jim Byrne presenting the MnEBA 2016 Appreciation Award to Mark Lucas.*

The draft of our elk reintroduction position paper was presented and discussed at this meeting. A number of suggestions were brought forward by members, which require the draft to be rewritten citing Minnesota State Statutes verses reliance on the Code of Federal Regulation (CFR). It was also suggested that the position paper be presented at the Cervidae Advisory Committee to get input and reactions from members of the committee. The final draft of the reintroduction position paper will be presented at the summer meeting for member approval.

I hope this newsletter finds you in good health. Stay safe and enjoy the animals that make this association possible.

**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 Luedtke  
(320) 630-5419

#### Secretary/Treasurer

Brian Wagner  
(612) 366-5078

#### Director

Greg Lubinski  
(507) 273-0525

#### Director

Kraig Wurst  
(507) 273-6174

#### 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.

## 2017 MnEBA Annual Conference Review

### Attendance was up in 2017!

The 2017 MnEBA Annual Conference took place January 14, 2017 at the Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center in Alexandria, MN. There were many important discussions about current events in the industry rounded out by several educational seminars and fun. Eighty people attended at least some portion of this year's conference!

ADM Animal Nutrition starting things off Friday night with a complementary dinner and nutrition seminar. This was well attended and very well received!

On Saturday, important discussions focused on the current CWD cases in wild whitetail deer in southeastern Minnesota as well as in a farmed deer herd in Crow Wing County and now a trace-out in Meeker County. Dr. Anderson brought everyone up to date on the current cases and President Byrne updated everyone on what's going on at the state capitol. The other important piece of work for the membership was to review the initial draft version of MnEBA's Elk Relocation Position Statement. Good discussion ensued with helpful modifications suggested.

One of the hallmarks of any good annual conference are the seminars and this year's conference did not disappoint. NAEBA President/AEPF Chairman Andy Azcarraga gave a presentation on the marketing efforts and goals of the AEPF. Dr. Anderson gave an update on the latest findings of CWD in Minnesota and local agronomist Tim Bennett discussed good soil/pasture management. The seminar schedule rounded out the day by talking about everyone's favorite topic, bulls and antler! Brian Wagner shared his Hard Antler Scoring Tips to make us all better scorers and a panel of trophy bull buyers including Andy Azcarraga, Scott Groen, Scott Salonek and Brian Wagner discussed and answered questions on moving bulls for the trophy market. A big thanks to all speakers for sharing great information!

This year's conference featured three vendors including ADM Animal Nutrition, Outback Fence and North American Elk Breeders Association. Thanks to all for being an important part of this year's conference!

Thanks also to Eileen Byrne for manning the gun calendar raffle table once again. There were a number of people who had calendars left to turn in for this record breaking year which was a complete calendar sell out (no lost calendars)! Many thanks to all members who stepped up to sell calendars!

The MnEBA awards committee recognized Mark Lucas with the 2016 MnEBA Appreciation Award. Wade Schimmelpfennig and Mark Lucas were also given a gift of appreciation and round of applause for completing their board terms in 2016.

Board member elections were also held as the term for Brian Wagner had expired. Brian agreed to run again and as no additional nominations came from the floor, Brian was elected to another three year term.

Several members generously sponsored events throughout the day. They included:

- **Morning Break Sponsor:** Rick & Marlys Wollschlager and Mark & Michelle Lucas
- **Afternoon Break Sponsor:** Lance & Brenda Hartkopf
- **Table Decorations:** Bryce & Megan Lubinski
- **Saturday Night Hospitality:** Brian Wagner & Tena Martin and Lance & Brenda Hartkopf (assisted by Roxy Lubinski and Linda Campbell)

A big thanks President Byrne for emceeing the conference and to Mark Lucas for emceeing the auction. Thanks also to Andy Azcarraga, Kraig Wurst, Lance Hartkopf and Brian Wagner for assisting with the auction.

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 conference!



## Membership Meeting Minutes

### MnEBA Annual Conference - January 14, 2017

The membership of the Minnesota Elk Breeders Association held their annual membership meeting on January 14, 2017 at Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center in Alexandria, MN. At 9:30 a.m., President Jim Byrne welcomed everyone, recognized VIP visitors, individually thanked all sponsors, donors and booth vendors and called the meeting to order.

President Byrne asked for additions or corrections to the July 23, 2016 secretary report. Mark Lucas moved to accept the report as written, Pat Prodzinski seconded, motion carried.

Brenda Hartkopf reviewed the treasurer's report and answered questions. The year-end checkbook balance was \$20,499.25 with \$6,520.00 in undeposited funds due to the December 31 bank holiday. Brian Wagner moved to accept the treasurer's report, Rick Wollschlager seconded, motion carried.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Government Relations:** President Byrne reported the Government Relations committee has been very busy with the finding of CWD in both wild deer in southeastern Minnesota and in farmed deer in Crow Wing county. MnEBA has been responding to letters to the editor in Outdoor News, and had a face to face meeting with a reporter at the Star Tribune after a negative article was published. Hartkopf responded to and educated the newly elected president of the Minnesota Cattlemen's Association after unknown concerns were made public. MnEBA's lobbyist Tony Kwilas has been hard at work at the State Capitol speaking on behalf of the industry to legislators and keeping MnEBA informed of discussions at the capitol. Educational meetings have already been taking place between several committees and the Board of Animal Health and DNR. MnEBA is expected to be a part of an informational hearing in the near future and MnEBA may also incorporate a Meet & Greet the same day with the MN Deer Farmers Association.

Byrne also reported that industry representatives applied for but ultimately were not selected to be part of the newly formed DNR Deer Management Committee. MN Farm Bureau and the MN Farmers Union have representation on this committee. President Byrne has reached out to both association representatives to discuss support of the farmed cervid industry within this committee. Both have assured him they will support the industry.

Finally, Byrne reported there will be a Cervidae Advisory Meeting on February 9 from 1-4pm at the Minnesota Department of Agriculture in St. Paul.

**Fundraising Raffle:** Brenda Hartkopf reported that only a handful of outstanding calendars remain and she's optimistic calendars will sell out. Stubs and money for 576 calendars came in by December 31 compared to 561 at this same time last year. 52 names went in the hat for the sales incentive drawing for the the Winchester SXP 12ga 3.5" full camo Waterfowler shotgun. Pat Prodzinski was the lucky winner!

Hartkopf asked for any suggestions for improvements to next year's gun raffle calendar. No comments were made.

**Promotions:** Hartkopf reported that in addition to the Outdoor News Deer and Turkey Classic on March 10-12, MnEBA will be having a booth at the North American Farm and Power Show in Owatonna on March 16-18. Extra workers will be needed for the additional show and she especially encouraged producers close by to sign up.

MnEBA has completed the new MnEBA indoor display which was set up for attendees to view. This set up will be used in the booth at shows this spring. Funding for this project was made possible through Minnesota Grown.

Hartkopf also reported that MnEBA will plan to create a press release after the new numbers are available from the Minnesota Farmed Cervidae Economic Impact Study which would be discussed later in the meeting. MN Grown is providing funding assistance for this project as well. She encouraged member participation in the MN Grown Directory which is accepting ad listings until the end of January for the new 2017 directory.

**State Fair:** Paul Hueg spoke briefly about the 2016 State Fair booth and encouraged attendees to sign up for 2017 on the schedule at the Registration Desk. Dates are August 24-September 4. Greg Lubinski encouraged everyone to work a shift or two at the booth, offering his help to those who would like additional assistance.

### NAEBA

NAEBA President Andy Azcarraga was in attendance and spoke about the national membership continuing

to grow. Committees have been very active and a lot is happening on the NAEBA front. NAEBA currently has a booth at the Denver Stock Show after a long absence from the event. Booth volunteers are reporting good activity at the booth. It is hoped that NAEBA will continue their presence at this show in coming years.

### OLD BUSINESS

The membership reviewed the proposed MnEBA Position Statement on Elk Relocation in Minnesota. Good discussion ensued with several suggestions for improvement. The board will revise and send back out to the membership for comment. It was also suggested to present the position statement at the Farmed Cervidae Advisory meeting for discussion.

Hartkopf reported that the Minnesota Farmed Cervidae Economic Impact Study questionnaire will be mailed out in the next week or two with an April 1 deadline for submission. She encouraged everyone to fill out their survey after their taxes have been completed as the numbers needed for the survey will be readily available. The report is expected to be complete late summer 2017.

Tony Beckel gave a recap of the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual MnEBA Charitable Elk Hunt. The bull harvested was the largest bull ever offered for this hunt at 410 SCI. Hartkopf read an email message from recipient Eileen Vasquez, who was unable to attend due to recent back surgery. Her letter explained how much she enjoyed the experience and eating elk meat, and how uplifting it is to have this special memory. She has shared her experience with many people and she was very thankful to everyone who made the hunt possible. All were very appreciative of Dan Mueller who transported the bull to Baudette and got the bull safely to its destination despite some very difficult

road conditions.

Mark Luedtke reported on the farmed cervidae resolutions put forth at the October 2016 USAHA Conference and the successful outcome of each one. He stressed the importance of having as many farmed cervidae representatives as possible to help these resolutions reach successful conclusions for the industry. Dr. Anderson also spoke about its importance as well.

### NEW BUSINESS

President Byrne announced that Brian Wagner's board term was up for reelection. Wagner agreed to serve another term. Byrne asked for additional nominations. As none were forthcoming, Pat Prodzinski moved to close the ballot, Lance Hartkopf seconded, motion carried. Brian Wagner will serve a new three-year term.

Hartkopf reported the NAEBA's summer convention will be held in Mankato, MN on July 27-29. She asked the membership to be thinking about anything special MnEBA could do for the conference and to speak to herself or any board member with ideas.

Byrne reported that MnEBA is looking for a 2017 summer meeting host and that anyone interested should contact the MnEBA Office or any board member.

After a few general announcements, Byrne asked for a motion to adjourn. Rita Prodzinski so moved, Greg Lubinski seconded, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Hartkopf, Executive Secretary

### 5 Pearls of Wisdom

1. If you're too open minded, your brains will fall out.
2. If you look like your passport picture, you probably need the trip.
3. By the time you can make ends meet, they move the ends.
4. There is always one more imbecile than you counted on.
5. Blessed are they who can laugh at themselves for they shall never cease to be amused.

*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

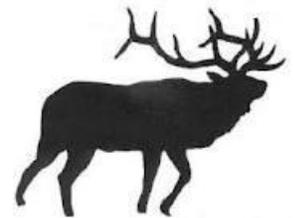
## Annual Conference Fundraisers a Success!

### A Big Thank You to All Donors/Buyers!

Many thanks to everyone who donated and bid on items for this year's live and silent auctions! Over \$5,300 was raised through the auctions and fundraising games for MnEBA! Thanks to Brian Wagner for his assistance in finding special items for the auction and to Carol Mudek for her assistance in setting up. Thanks also to Mark Lucas for serving as auctioneer and to Kraig Wurst, Brian Wagner, Lance Hartkopf and Andy Azcarraga for their assistance in taking bids.

Item	Donor	Buyer
(10) Bags ADM 18% Complete Supplement (1)	Leo Windschitl/ADM Alliance Nutrition	Chad Lawler
(10) Bags ADM 18% Complete Supplement (2)	Leo Windschitl/ADM Alliance Nutrition	Wade Schimmelpfennig
1,000 Piece Elk Puzzle	Lance & Brenda Hartkopf	Heike Lewandowski
Vacation at Casa Madera Condo (7 days)	Don & Joyce Kaplan	Eric Mohlman
ADM Duffle Bag/Water Bottles	Leo Windschitl	Holly Harguth
ADM Gloves Men's L	Leo Windschitl	Morrie Evenson
ADM Gloves Men's M	Leo Windschitl	Herb Wurst
ADM Gloves Women	Leo Windschitl	Michelle Lucas
Air Mattress	Jim & Eileen Byrne	Glen Zebarth
Amish-Made Fish Spear	Ken & Carol Mudek	Jon Aase
Birdhouse	Lance & Brenda Hartkopf	Pat Prodzinski
Browning 22 Long Rifle 400 Rounds Ammo	MnEBA	Herb Wurst
Camo Seat Spinner	MnEBA	Ron Welle
Cap Light	MnEBA	Ken Mudek
Case of Federal Champion Shotgun Shells	Greg & Roxy Lubinski	Jim Johnston
Cast Iron Fry Pan	Leo Windschitl	Michelle Lucas
Ceramic Tower Heater	MnEBA	Brenda Hartkopf
Cowhide Checkerboard	Paul & Lynn Hueg	Greg Lubinski
Elk Calendar	Lance & Brenda Hartkopf	Holly Harguth
Elk Folding Knife	Lance & Brenda Hartkopf	Pat Prodzinski
Elk Candle	Lance & Brenda Hartkopf	Marlys Wollschlager
Elk Plaque	Lance & Brenda Hartkopf	Marlys Wollschlager
Elkaholic Metal Art	Kraig & Jenny Wurst	Andy Azcarraga
Foldable Cooler Chair	MnEBA	Ron Welle
Halogen Flashlight (1)	Leo Windschitl	Ken Mudek
Halogen Flashlight (2)	Leo Windschitl	Jason Johnston
Hamilton Beach Drink Master	Leo Windschitl	Jim Byrne
Handmade Doily	Ken & Carol Mudek	Brenda Hartkopf
Heated Throw Blanket	Lance & Brenda Hartkopf	Jason Johnston
Hornady Clock	MnEBA	Perry Olson
Hornady Hunting Pack	MnEBA	Perry Olson
Insulated Steel Tumbler with ADM Cap	Leo Windschitl	Holly Harguth
Ivory Tooth Necklace	John & Shirley Fredrickson	Paul Hueg
Lighted Bottle	MnEBA	Heike Lewandowski
Long Metal Ruler (1)	Brian Wagner & Tena Martin	Chad Lawler
Long Metal Ruler (2)	Brian Wagner & Tena Martin	Ken Mudek
Long Metal Ruler (3)	Brian Wagner & Tena Martin	Klint Wylie
Oval Elk Metal Art	Roger & Saichon Nietfeld	Rick Ewert
Peet Shoe Dryer	MnEBA	Mark Lucas
Pewter Money Clip with Elk	Mark & Michelle Lucas	Morrie Evenson
Plano All Weather Gun Case	Greg & Roxy Lubinski	Brian Wagner
Portable Fish House	Brian Wagner & Tena Martin	Wade Schimmelpfennig
Primos Trigger Stick	MnEBA	Ron Welle

Item	Donor	Buyer
Print	Scott & Sue Groen	Leo Windschitl
Rapala Electric Fillet Knife	Kraig & Jenny Wurst	Ron Welle
Reactive Ground Bouncing Target	MnEBA	Brenda Hartkopf
Remington Rifle/Shotgun Sock	MnEBA	Brenda Hartkopf
Rifle Ammo Pouch	MnEBA	Ron Welle
Ruger Backpack (1)	The General Store	Holly Harguth
Ruger Backpack (2)	The General Store	Ron Welle
Semen Tank	Jim & Eileen Byrne	Mark Luedtke
Set of Two BBQ Forks	MnEBA	Wade Schimmelpfennig
Stealth Cam Card Reader	MnEBA	Jerry Campbell
Wolf Business Card Holder	MnEBA	Roxy Lubinski
Women's Western Billfold	Mark & Michelle Lucas	Glen Zebarth
Game Bag	Morrie & Daphne Evenson	Will Huston
Browning Elk Knife in Sheath	Lance & Brenda Hartkopf	Paul Hueg



## Rack Plus™ for Outstanding results

Outstanding performance is the hallmark of ADM's Deer and Elk Feeding Program.

The Rack Plus program incorporates the latest technical advances in cervid nutrition with ADM's time and field-proven formulation and feed technology techniques to deliver the right balance of protein, energy, vitamins, and minerals that enable deer and elk to reach their full genetic potential.

Deer & Elk 18-4 (81686AAA) and Deer & Elk 18-5 Breeder (81692AAA)

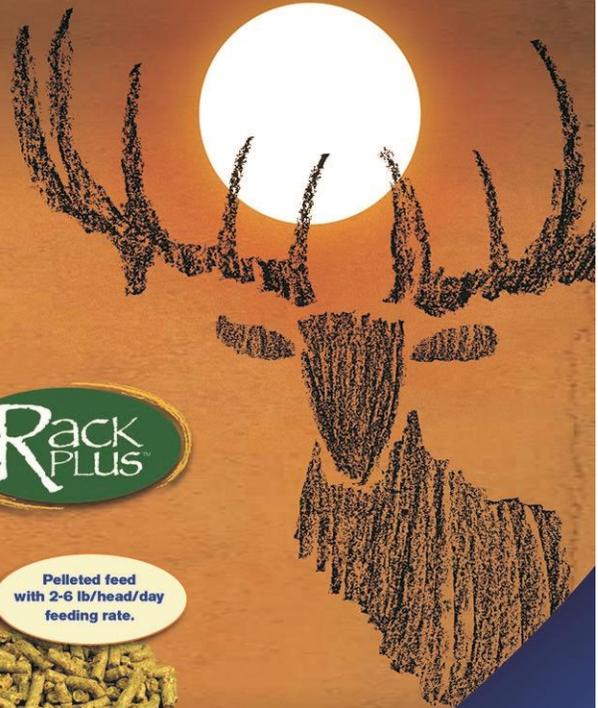
- Complete, pelleted feeds formulated specifically for deer and elk
- Provide multiple protein sources, stabilized rice bran, highly digestible energy and fiber sources, CitiStim®, and direct fed microbial
- Both products provide 18% protein and no more than 14% fiber; 18-4 provides 4% fat and 18-5 provides 5% fat
- 18-5 Breeder: Formulated specifically for the breeding herd; also provides natural-source vitamin E, B-complex vitamins, selenium yeast, and Antler D™\*

CitiStim®, an ADM proprietary feed ingredient, is a proven, truly unique whole-cell yeast product beneficial for all animals at all life stages. CitiStim may help the animal fortify its defense against health challenges. CitiStim *Pichia guilliermondii* yeast adheres to pathogens and helps modulate body defense mechanisms. The overall result is potential production benefits and an animal that does not as easily succumb to health challenges.

\*Antler D is a trademark of Head Gear LLC.



Pelleted feed with 2-6 lb/head/day feeding rate.



**Proven Performance for Bigger Bucks and Antlers**

For more info, contact Leo Windschitl at 218-820-0658  
 AN\_DeerHelp@adm.com • ADMAnimalNutrition.com



## MnEBA Board Meeting Minutes

### Board Meeting Minutes - January 26, 2017

The MnEBA Board of Directors held a face to face meeting in Howard Lake on January 26, 2017. Jim Byrne, Brian Wagner, Greg Lubinski, Kraig Wurst and Brenda Hartkopf were present. Byrne began the meeting at 10:16 a.m. Mark Luedtke joined the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Byrne asked for corrections or additions to the January 4<sup>th</sup> board meeting minutes as presented. Wurst moved to approve, Wagner seconded, motion carried. The decision was made to approve the treasurer's report after going through financials to set the budget for 2017.

### OLD BUSINESS

Hartkopf reported 80 conference attendees over the course of both days (up from 68 last year). Board discussed comments received. The ADM dinner and nutrition seminar was very popular.

Board reviewed final details of the 2017 Gun Calendar Raffle. All 750 calendars were sold and none were lost. Eight free memberships were awarded and 52 names went into the hat for the incentive gun drawing.

Board reviewed a revised version of the MnEBA Elk Relocation Statement which included recommendations made at the annual conference. It was suggested that MnEBA consider taking the position of requiring TB testing per current BAH rules for interstate movement and also adding the state of Missouri to the list of states who have allowed elk relocation in recent years. Board approved draft, after confirming Missouri. Next step is to review the draft with members of the Cervidae Advisory Committee, ask their opinion on the interstate TB requirement, modify if needed, post in April newsletter and present for membership ratification at the MnEBA summer meeting. Hartkopf was also asked to forward the draft version to the Minnesota Cattlemen's Association.

Reviewed latest information regarding CWD in farmed deer in Crow Wing and Meeker counties as well as CWD in southeastern Minnesota in wild deer. Various board members are planning to attend the Dr. Kroll meeting, MN Deer Advisory Meeting and the Cervidae Advisory Meeting in early February. Still waiting to hear when an Information Day will be scheduled at the State Capitol regarding Minnesota farmed cervidae.

MN DNR and BAH have testified in several committee meetings. MnEBA's lobbyist is keeping in constant contact with MnEBA on discussions at the capitol and also educating legislators as opportunity arises.

Reviewed the upcoming show dates and schedule and discussed who could work and when. Will need a lot of membership participation outside of the board to fill open spots.

### NEW BUSINESS

Election of officers was held. Wagner moved to keep the slate of 2016 officers. All current officers offered willingness to stay in current roles. Lubinski seconded, motion carried.

No one has stepped forward to host the 2017 MnEBA summer meeting. Notice will be placed in the upcoming newsletter with the date being open ended in mid-July, before the NAEBA convention on July 27-29 in Mankato.

Discussed location for the 2018 annual meeting. The Sheraton in Minnetonka is very interested in having MnEBA back but have conflicts with the second weekend of January. Hartkopf to research alternative dates and ideas to possibly make this location work. If a resolution cannot be made, will research other properties.

Discussed the 2018 MnEBA Gun Calendar Raffle. Talked about making changes, but decided to keep number of calendars printed at 750, as well as number of guns purchased and cash prizes as is. Will reevaluate number of calendars printed again in 2018. Fewer pump shot guns were suggested.

Board went through each line item on the financials and set budget for 2017. Hartkopf to have copier removed from assets.

Byrne asked for additions or corrections to the treasurer's report. Wagner moved to approve, Lubinski seconded, motion carried.

Wagner moved to adjourn, Lubinski seconded, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Hartkopf, Executive Secretary

### Board Meeting Minutes - January 4, 2017

The MnEBA Board of Directors held a conference call on January 4, 2017. Jim Byrne, Mark Luedtke, Brian Wagner, Greg Lubinski, Kraig Wurst and Brenda Hartkopf were present. Byrne began the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Byrne asked for corrections or additions to the November 29<sup>th</sup> board meeting minutes as presented. Wurst moved to approve, Luedtke seconded, motion carried. Hartkopf reported that 2016 financials were pending due to the bank statement not yet being available. She reported that MnEBA would end in the year in the black.

Board discussed the amended Elk Relocation Position Statement which had been distributed prior to the meeting. Lubinski moved to approve as presented and to review this version with the membership at the annual conference, Wurst seconded, motion carried.

Discussed what was known about the recent finding of CWD in two farmed whitetail deer in Crow Wing County. There is much investigation left to be done. Discussed possible Cervidae Advisory Meeting on February 9<sup>th</sup>. It is expected the farmed cervid industry will be asked to take part in an educational hearing at the state capitol during this year's legislative session.

Also discussed the finding of what are now a total of three CWD positive wild deer in southeastern Minnesota. The finding of one more CWD positive wild deer has created a new BAH movement restriction zone which includes one additional deer farm. Byrne and Lubinski gave a recap of the DNR-sponsored community meeting which they attended in Preston. The special DNR hunt to thin the herd in the newly created "control zone" is currently taking place.

Discussed a recent article about the MN State Cattlemen's Association President's concerns with CWD and cattle. Hartkopf was directed to contact him and follow up with the board.

Discussed importance of staying in contact with the MN Deer Farmers Association (MDFA) so everyone is

on the same page regarding all that's going on with CWD and its fallout. Byrne to follow up with MDFA lobbyist.

Byrne discussed details of a meeting with Star Tribune Outdoor writer Tony Kennedy. Byrne and Hartkopf were invited by the MDFA to join together in a meeting they had set up with the Star Tribune reporter. The meeting went well and industry representatives were well received.

Reviewed annual conference schedule and discussed need for additional sponsors along with other final details.

Hartkopf reported that stubs and money for 576 gun raffle calendars came in to the MnEBA office by December 31<sup>st</sup>. Eight members received a free 2017 membership for selling 30 or more calendars and 52 names will go into the hat for the extra gun sales incentive.

Byrne gave an update on his conversation with the Farmer's Union representative of the newly formed Minnesota Deer Advisory Board. Byrne has been unable to reach the Farm Bureau representative but will keep trying. Their next meeting is in February in Rochester, MN which is an open meeting. Byrne plans to attend.

Hartkopf reported that MnEBA has secured a 10x10 booth at the upcoming Minnesota Farm and Power Show in Owatonna on March 16-18.

Hartkopf reported that everything is on track for the Minnesota Farmed Cervidae Economic Impact Study and that the survey would be mailed out in mid-January after the MnEBA Annual Conference. Wagner moved to approve the cover letter as presented, Lubinski seconded, motion carried.

Wagner moved to adjourn, Lubinski seconded, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Hartkopf, Executive Secretary

## Help Wanted!

MnEBA is needing help in the MnEBA Booth for both the Outdoor News Deer & Turkey Classic on March 10-12 and the North American Farm & Power Show on March 16-18. See details on Page 19 of this newsletter. Please contact the MnEBA Office if you can help!

# Minnesota Board of Animal Health News Release

**For Immediate Release:** Friday, January 20, 2017

## Chronic Wasting Disease investigation traces exposure to Meeker County

White-tailed deer tests positive for the disease near Dassel, Minnesota

**St. Paul, Minn.** — The Minnesota Board of Animal Health confirms CWD on a Meeker County farm near Dassel. Positive CWD samples came from a two-year-old female white-tailed deer that died on the farm. In accordance with state law, tissue samples were collected from the carcass and submitted for CWD testing. Farmed deer, 12 months of age and older, are required to be tested for CWD if they die or are slaughtered.

Samples are tested at the University of Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory and forwarded to the National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa, which officially confirms CWD. The Board shares information with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and works with the USDA as it investigates CWD cases in farmed deer. The DNR responds to and manages CWD in wild deer, while the Board of Animal Health regulates farmed deer.

The Board's records show this positive deer was born on the CWD positive Crow Wing County farm and moved to the Meeker County farm in December 2014. As of December 30, 2016, there are three confirmed CWD positive farmed deer in Minnesota. Two are associated with the previously reported case in Crow Wing County. The third, and most recent case in Meeker County, was part of a herd of 14 white-tailed deer, which remain quarantined on the farm.

"This is why it's important for the Board to maintain accurate animal identification and herd inventories," said Dr. Paul Anderson, assistant director at the Board of Animal Health. "We were able to look back at five years of recorded deer movements out of the infected Crow Wing County herd, locate herds that received deer from it, and investigate those farms for a CWD infection. This tracing led to the discovery in Meeker County."

**Update on Crow Wing County case:** The original quarantine remains in place on the Crow Wing County herd after two female deer tested positive for CWD. The Board is reviewing animal movement records into and out of the herd during the past five years.

Movement records out of the herd show deer were moved to four other Minnesota farms during the five year trace-back period. One of those herds is the Dassel farm in Meeker County. All associated herds remain under movement restrictions.

Movement records into the herd show one of the two CWD infected deer was moved into the herd in 2014 from a deer farm that is no longer in business. The other positive deer was born on the farm.

CWD is a disease of deer and elk caused by an abnormally shaped protein, a prion, which can damage brain and nerve tissue. There is no danger to other animal species. The disease is most likely transmitted when infected deer and elk shed prions in saliva, feces, urine, and other fluids or tissues. The disease is always fatal and there are no known treatments or vaccines. CWD is not known to affect humans, though consuming infected meat is not advised.

Information about Minnesota's farmed deer and elk herds can be found on the Board of Animal Health website at [www.bah.state.mn.us](http://www.bah.state.mn.us).



## Important Updates!

### TB DPP Test Kits Not Available Until April at Earliest

Dr. Anderson has asked MnEBA to let producers know that DPP Test Kits at NVSL are still not available and that USDA/APHIS has reported they now won't be available any time before April.

If you have or will be sending in blood for TB testing, NVSL will hold the samples and wait until test kits are available to complete the test on already submitted samples. It's been reported that there are over 2,000 samples already waiting to be tested.

Dr. Anderson said BAH will not terminate a TB accreditation because of unavailability of the test kits if the blood has been submitted in the acceptable time frame. However, if live animal shipments are to be made to other states and your accreditation has expired before the samples can be tested, the receiving state may not accept your TB status.

TB skin testing is still an option.

### Federal TB/Brucellosis Rule Update

Many people were asking at the Annual Conference if the new federal TB/Brucellosis Rule would be taking effect anytime soon.

Dr. Anderson asked MnEBA to pass along that USDA/APHIS has reported the TB/Brucellosis Program Regulations which were to be released for comment early this year are not being worked on and will not be for the foreseeable future because of the change in federal administration. There are no guarantees for if or when this will happen.

### Minnesota Farmed Cervid Industry Economic Impact Survey FILL YOURS OUT TODAY!

By now, every farmed cervid producer in Minnesota should have received the 2016 Minnesota Farmed Cervid Economic Impact Study questionnaire. This is a joint project of the Minnesota Elk Breeders Association and the Minnesota Deer Farmers Association.

The results will be compiled in study form and will be widely used for legislative and marketing purposes. Now more than ever, while CWD is a hot topic in Minnesota, it is crucial to show legislators and the public the value of the farmed deer & elk industry to Minnesota agriculture with meaningful, current data and how much value the industry brings to the Minnesota economy. It is crucial to the success of the project that every farmed cervid producer in the state of Minnesota complete and return the survey.

This survey has been mailed to every producer in Minnesota, whether part of an association or not. Please take the time after taxes have been compiled and numbers are readily available, to complete and mail back the survey in the enclosed, self-addressed and stamped envelope and do your part to assist in the effort.

Thank you in advance for taking the time help with this important work of your association.

## Board Blog by Brian Wagner, MnEBA Secretary/Treasurer



It's hard to believe another year is gone. Many are wondering what the new year will bring? Hopefully health and great joy to everyone raising America's greatest animal "Elk".

It was nice to see everyone that could make it to the convention in Alexandria. As always, it was a very well put together meeting. Friday night was a big hit. Thanks to Leo and ADM for dinner and the seminar.

The board is gearing up for a very busy year. We've already had a face to face meeting to elect new officers and set the budget for the upcoming year. But with multiple cases of CWD in Minnesota, I'm sure there will be many trips to Capitol Hill. MnEBA lobbyist Tony Kwilas is already working hard for us every day trying to educate new senators about our business and what we do. Also I would like to remind all members that this is your association and encourage you to get involved. Your input is always welcome and sometimes needed. We are always looking for new ideas or maybe volunteers. Call the office and let Brenda know what your thoughts are.

Green grass is just around the corner along with new antler growth and baby calves - what a great life we live. Have a great summer. See you all in Mankato at the NAEBA convention the end of July.

God bless ya'll,  
Brian Wagner

## MnEBA Scholarship Thank You's

MnEBA was proud to award two outstanding young women a MnEBA scholarship in the amount of \$350 each in 2016. They have both returned thank you notes to the association, each as follows:



*Dear Minnesota Elk Breeders Association,*

*I would like to extend my sincere thank you for the scholarship awarded to me. My college plans have changed slightly as I will be attending Ridgewater College for one year and then transferring to South Dakota State University.*

*I appreciate the scholarship and am very thankful for it.*

*Sincerely,  
Libby Groen*

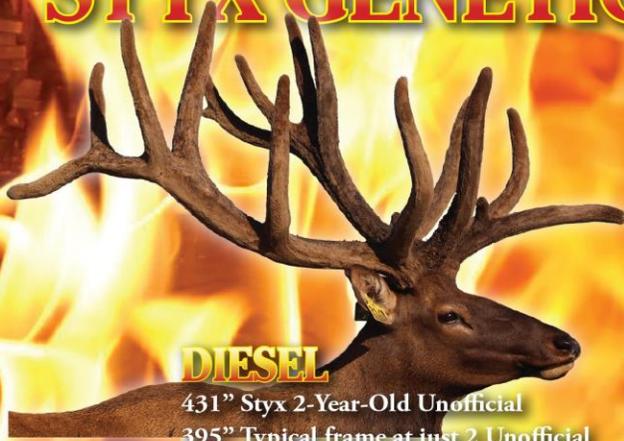


*Dear Minnesota Elk Breeders Association,*

*I just wanted to say thank you to the Minnesota Elk Breeders Association for the college scholarship. I appreciate the opportunity and am grateful for the financial award to help me at Southwest Minnesota State University.*

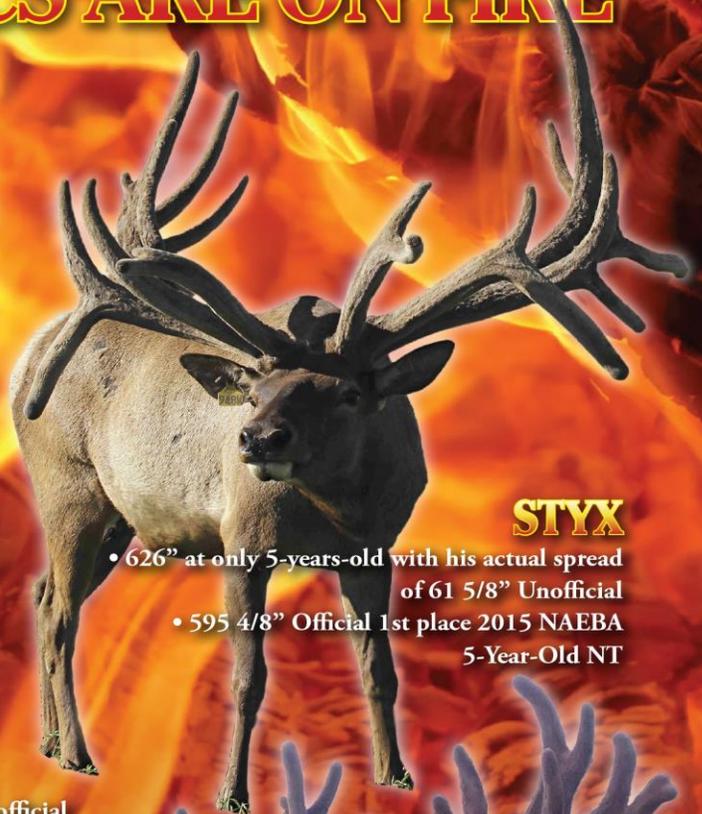
*Sincerely,  
Madi Strodman*

# STYX GENETICS ARE ON FIRE



## DIESEL

431" Styx 2-Year-Old Unofficial  
395" Typical frame at just 2 Unofficial



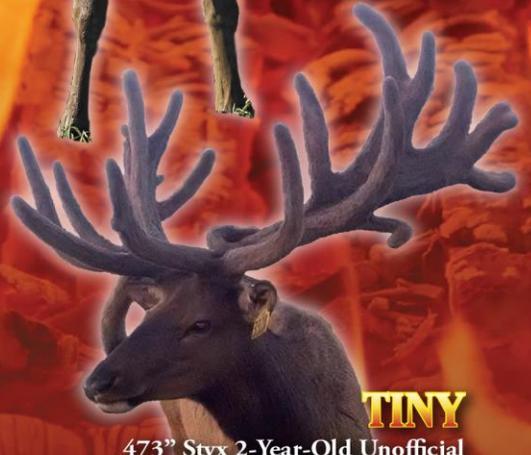
## STYX

• 626" at only 5-years-old with his actual spread of 61 5/8" Unofficial  
• 595 4/8" Official 1st place 2015 NAEBA 5-Year-Old NT



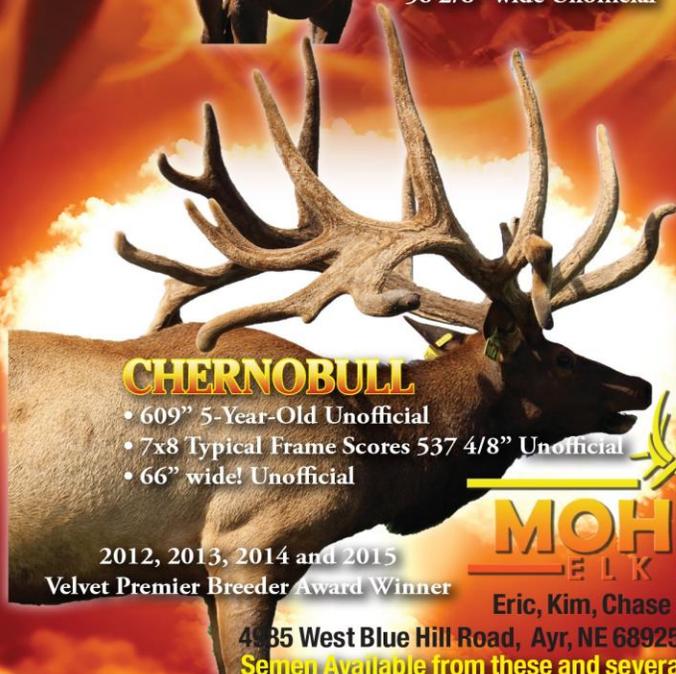
## STRYKER

550" Styx 3-Year-Old Unofficial  
56 2/8" wide Unofficial



## TINY

473" Styx 2-Year-Old Unofficial  
Special thanks to Herb Fritch of Two Feathers Elk & Bison for his purchase of Tiny. Make semen inquiries to Mohlman Elk Farm who retains 1/2 semen rights.



## CHERNOBULL

• 609" 5-Year-Old Unofficial  
• 7x8 Typical Frame Scores 537 4/8" Unofficial  
• 66" wide! Unofficial

2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015  
Velvet Premier Breeder Award Winner



Eric, Kim, Chase and Kyra Mohlman

435 West Blue Hill Road, Ayr, NE 68925 • 402-469-1831 • mohlmnelk@gtmc.net  
Semen Available from these and several other Mohlman Elk Farm breeding bulls.

World Class Breeding Bulls, Bred Cows and Trophy Bulls available. Taking Orders On 2017 Bred Cows.

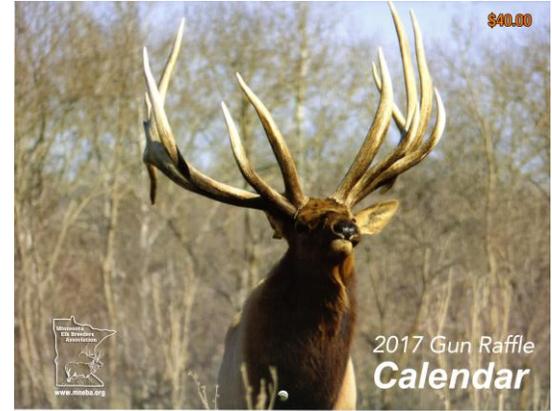
2015 Non-Typical Hard Antler  
Premier Breeder Award Winner  
1st Two Class Winner in the Same Year

## MnEBA Gun Calendar Raffle Sells Out

All 750 Calendars Were Sold!

### Best Sales Year Ever!

Money and stubs were turned in for 750 calendars which were all of the calendars printed. This year there were no lost calendars – GREAT JOB of keeping track to everyone who sold calendars this year! People are catching on that you need to get your calendars picked up early to ensure you get the amount you think you'll need. The office was out of calendars most of the last few months with a few coming back here and there to help fill additional orders.



### Top Sellers

Brian Wagner was this year's top seller with a whopping 140 calendars sold! Wade Schimmelpfennig & Heike Lewandowski once again sold an amazing amount of calendars at 90. Next best in sales were Dennis Engebretson at 48 sold, Pat Prodzinski at 45, and Paul Hartkopf and Mark Lucas each at 41 calendars sold.

### Eight Producers Qualified for a FREE 2017 MnEBA Membership!

A total of eight producers qualified for a free 2017 MnEBA membership after selling 30 or more calendars and returning stubs and money before December 31, 2016. In addition to those listed above, Bryce Lubinski and Jerry Campbell both earned free memberships as well!

The special sales incentive where every 10 calendars sold with stubs and money being returned before December 31<sup>st</sup> puts your name into a drawing to win a Winchester SXP 12ga 3.5" Full Camo Waterfowler shotgun was also very well received. A total of 576 calendar stubs and money came in by December 31<sup>st</sup> with 52 names going into the hat for the special gun drawing. Pat Prodzinski was the lucky winner!

Every sale was important, no matter how many any one individual or couple sold. The group effort was once again amazing. The sponsors of the calendar were also instrumental in getting it ready for distribution. THANK YOU to all!!!

### When Winners are Posted

Monthly winners will be posted every other Wednesday on the MnEBA web site at [www.mneba.org](http://www.mneba.org). Check back frequently to see who the new winners are!

### What will the 2018 calendar bring...

What changes do you want to see? If you have suggestions to improve the MnEBA Gun Raffle Calendar for 2018, please contact any board member as soon as possible. Plans are already being made and your input is needed ASAP.

## 2017 MnEBA Summer Picnic LOOKING FOR A HOST!

MnEBA is looking for a host for the 2017 MnEBA Summer Picnic.

Date yet to be determined, but typically takes place in mid-late July before the NAEBA Convention which this year takes place in Mankato, MN on July 27-29, 2017.

MnEBA will help plan the program and assist with details as needed.

Please contact the MnEBA Office by April 1<sup>st</sup> if interested!

## MnEBA Kitchen

As we go through the last few months of winter, here's a great comfort food recipe to keep you going in the cold weather!

### Shredded Elk Sandwiches

1½ cups ketchup	2 tsp. celery salt
3 Tbsp. brown sugar	½ tsp. pepper
1Tbsp. lemon juice	1/8 tsp. ginger
1 Tbsp. dry mustard powder	2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
1 Tbsp. liquid smoke flavoring	3 drops hot pepper sauce
1 tsp. onion powder	4 lb. elk roast, cut in half
1 tsp. garlic powder	10 hamburger buns



Whisk together the ketchup, brown sugar, lemon juice, mustard powder, liquid smoke flavoring, onion powder, garlic powder, celery salt, pepper, ginger, Worcestershire sauce and hot pepper sauce in a bowl. Place the elk roast into a large slow cooker, and pour the sauce over the top.

Cover and cook on High for 4-5 hours, or Low for 8-10 hours, or until meat shreds easily. Shred and serve on hamburger buns.

## Minnesota FFA Foundation Thank You's

For a fourth year, MnEBA members Greg & Roxy Lubinski have contributed funding to join MnEBA in taking part in the Minnesota FFA Foundation's "Blue Jackets – Brighter Futures" campaign. Greg & Roxy donated funds to purchase two jackets in MnEBA's name, one for a boy and one for a girl. MnEBA matched that donation and sent in funds for 4 jackets last October.



MnEBA has received thank you's from three of the four recipients so far. They are as follows.

*Dear MnEBA,*

*Thank you for selecting me for the FFA Jacket Scholarship. I will have lots of fun wearing it at FFA events.*

*Sincerely,  
Olivia Thom, Springfield FFA*

*Dear MnEBA,*

*Thank you very much for sponsoring my FFA jacket. It really means a lot to me. I will wear my FFA jacket with pride!*

*Thanks again,  
Cali Rossbach*

*Dear MnEBA,*

*I cannot tell you how honored I am to receive my FFA jacket with your sponsorship. Thank you so much for your generosity.*

*I am in my second year as a FFA member. I am involved in dairy evaluation and I also earned my state convention trip in dairy handling. Dairy Handling is my favorite because I have shown dairy cattle since I was in middle school.*

*Again, I cannot thank you enough for supporting FFA. I am so blessed to be a part of an organization that allows me to teach others about the things that I love the most, agriculture.*

*Sincerely,  
Balley Delzer*



# 2017 NAEBA March Mingle

&

# 2017 CEBA Annual Meeting

Holiday Inn Denver Lakewood, Denver, CO

MARCH 10-11, 2017

## Tentative Schedule of Events



### Friday, March 10-NAEBA March Mingle

10:00-11:30 am	NAEBA Board of Directors Meeting
11:30-1:00 pm	Lunch on your own
1:00-1:30	Registration
1:30-2:15	<b>SEMINAR:</b> Roundtable Discussion on Elk Nutrition- <i>Moderated by Travis Lowe, North American Elk Breeders Association</i>
2:15-2:45	NAEBA Update- <i>Travis Lowe, NAEBA Executive Director</i>
2:45-3:15	Afternoon Break
3:15-4:00	<b>SEMINAR:</b> What are Trophy Ranches Looking For? A Summary Report- <i>Andy Azcarraga, NAEBA President</i>
4:00-4:30	<b>SEMINAR:</b> Domestic Elk Product Marketing- <i>Andy Azcarraga, AEPF Chairman &amp; Ian Thorleifson, CEPF Chairman</i>
4:30-5:00	<b>SEMINAR:</b> 2016 Trade Mission to Korea and China- <i>Connie Seutter, Canadian Cervid Alliance</i>
5:00-6:00	Social and Networking
6:00-7:00	Dinner
7:00-8:30	NAEBA Benefit Auction
8:30	Hospitality Room

### Saturday, March 11-CEBA Annual Meeting

9:00am-12:00 pm	Colorado Elk Breeders Association Membership Meeting
12:00-1:30	Lunch
1:30-2:30	<b>SEMINAR:</b> CWD Live Test Trials- <i>Dr. Tracy Nichols, USDA APHIS</i>
2:30-3:15	<b>SEMINAR:</b> Managing Calving Problems- <i>Dr. Glen Zebarth, Douglas County Animal Hospital</i>
3:15-3:45	Afternoon Break
3:45-4:30	<b>SEMINAR:</b> Sight Scoring Hard Antler Bulls- <i>Tom Watts, NAEBA Senior Hard Antler Judge</i>
4:30-5:30	Elk Research Council Board of Trustees Meeting
5:30-6:00	Social and Networking
6:00-7:00	Dinner
7:00-8:00	CEBA Benefit Auction
8:00	Hospitality Room

***Auction services donated by  
Branine Auction Service***

**See mailing to all NAEBA members for the Registration form and sign up today! Or see [www.naelk.org](http://www.naelk.org) to access the form online or for more information.**

## Vet Corner by Dr. Glen Zebarth

### The Importance of Fresh Tissue Samples and Necropsy

The Elk Research Council has been undergoing a study in conjunction with the University of Florida on "Surveillance of EHD suspect mortalities and a test for vaccine efficacy". Part of the intent with this study was to necropsy suspected deaths of elk from EHD, collect virus from suspect cases and conduct trials on an EHD vaccine for elk.

In their latest progress report, after testing tissue samples from five EHD suspect elk which came in to the lab last fall, it was found that none of the elk died from EHD, but that all died from a bacterial infection.

More details of the study will be reported in future NAEBA publications, but one of several take home messages from this study so far, is the importance of getting good tissue samples to the lab to determine cause of death in our animals, especially if there have been several unexplained deaths showing the same symptoms.

People tend to get discouraged when they send sample tissues in to the lab and the results are inconclusive. It's important keep trying and to make every effort to send in the freshest samples possible, very soon after death. This will increase the likelihood of obtaining a definitive diagnosis. To take it a step further, if you have lost a few calves and see another one with the same symptoms, take the calf to the diagnostic lab, have them euthanize the calf and have it necropsied. Freshness of tissue samples is paramount in getting a helpful diagnosis.

Guessing at what may have been the cause of death is a risky proposition. You risk losing more animals and may spend a great deal of time and money on treatments that don't work.

When a cause of death can be definitively diagnosed, you can then treat, vaccinate and/or change management practices appropriately to treat the problem and avoid future deaths.

### *Elk Enjoying the Fresh Snow*



*Photo courtesy of Lubinski Elk Acres and is featured in the month of February in the 2017 MnEBA Gun Calendar.*

## Advertiser Index

**Spring Coulee Velvet  
Capsules**  
*Page 5*

**ADM Alliance Nutrition**  
*Page 7*

**Mohlman Elk Farm**  
*Page 14*

***Thank you for your support!***

## Committee Reports

### *Your Help is Needed for Two Big Shows!*

#### Outdoor News Deer & Turkey Classic

This is the second year MnEBA will be having a booth at the Outdoor News & Turkey Classic at the State Fair Coliseum in St. Paul. MnEBA is excited to display the new booth!

Due to the March Mingle being the same weekend, some of the usual booth workers will not be able to help out at this show. Please consider if you can help this year!

#### **Shift Schedule:**

Friday March 10 Set up – 8:00 - 11:00 am

Friday March 10 – 12:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Saturday March 11 – 9:00 am - 2:00 pm  
2:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Sunday March 12 – 9:00 am - 5:00 pm – Kraig Wurst & Greg Lubinski

#### North American Farm & Power Show

This is the first time in many years MnEBA will be having a booth at a farm show. MnEBA is excited to be back in the Minnesota farm show scene and hopes to have a good showing in Owatonna.

If you live near the Owatonna area, please give special consideration to helping out at this show. We're needing a number of booth volunteers to make this a success! The show will be located at the Steel County Four Seasons Center in Owatonna.

#### **Shift Schedule:**

Wednesday March 15 Set Up – Greg Lubinski & Kraig Wurst

Thursday March 16 – 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Friday March 17 – 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday March 18 – 9:00 am - 4:00 pm and takedown

## Message from Recipient of 2016 MnEBA Charitable Elk Hunt

The recipient of the 2016 MnEBA Charitable Elk Hunt, Eileen Vasquez, was unable to make it to the MnEBA Annual Conference as she had recently undergone back surgery. But she did send a message to share with MnEBA members at the conference as follows:

*"I am sorry that I couldn't be there. I appreciate the amazing experience you all provided! This once in a lifetime trip gave me a great opportunity to enjoy the outdoors, fill our freezer and share the bounty with other Veterans. The elk was beautiful, very large and tasty. It was interesting to learn about elk and see the tree rubbings. We learned about chronic wasting and had a nice morning filled with good conversation. I am so thankful that Tony's quick thinking helped me to see the elk so I could take a shot. It was interesting to be a part of the butchering process, I can't imagine how hunters carry out the meat in the backcountry as it took Ron and Jon all they had to wrestle the quarters and then place in the freezer. We had a wonderful time and I can't thank you all enough. It has given me something to talk about that is uplifting and enjoyable. It was a pleasure to go and an honor to be selected."*

Thank you, Eileen Vasquez

#### MnEBA COMMITTEE CONTACTS

<b>Annual Conference</b>	Rita Prodzinski (507) 452-1282
<b>Fundraising</b>	Brenda Hartkopf (320) 543-2686
<b>Government Relations</b>	Jim Byrne (507) 358-6505
<b>Health</b>	OPEN
<b>Scholarship</b>	Kaye Zebarth (320) 834-4064
<b>State Fair</b>	Greg & Roxy Lubinski (507) 534-3247 Paul Hueg (612) 791-0443

Contact the MnEBA Office to request your time slot for either show at 320-543-2686 or email [info@mneba.org](mailto:info@mneba.org).



## 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

**March 10-11, 2017** – NAEBA March Mingle & Colorado Elk Breeders Association Annual Meeting, Holiday Inn Denver Lakewood, Denver, CO

**March 10-12, 2017** – Outdoor News Deer & Turkey Classic, Warner Coliseum, MN State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, MN

**March 16-18, 2017** – North American Farm & Power Show, Steel County Four Seasons Center, Owatonna, MN

**July 27-29, 2017** – NAEBA Annual Convention & International Antler Competition, Verizon Wireless Center & Hilton Garden Inn, Mankato, MN

**August 24-September 4, 2017** – Minnesota State Fair, State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, MN

## Classified Ads

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

**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](mailto:Rich@ElkUSA.com).

**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](mailto:Rich@ElkUSA.com).

**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](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