



## Special Interest Articles:

- 2019 MnEBA Gun Raffle Deadlines
- Board Meeting Minutes
- MN Board of Animal Health News Release
- CWD Zone Update
- Minnesota National Guard Veteran Harvests Bull Elk
- 2018-19 New Zealand Velvet Season Prospects
- Board Blog
- Minnesota Grown
- Vet Corner

## President's Message by Jim Byrne



Thanksgiving has just passed. It is a time of reflection on those aspects of our life that bring meaning to us. This year my thoughts are again focused on the relationships I have formed over the twenty plus years in this industry. It's the people who make up the industry that determine whether it will succeed or fail. The Minnesota Elk Breeders are the finest people I've ever had the privilege of knowing. You people are great!

I just thought I would remind everyone the holiday festivities won't end on January 2. Just a few days after the New Year is rung in we will be having our Annual Conference at the Sheraton Minneapolis West Hotel in Minnetonka. January 12, 2018- mark it on the calendar. This conference includes discussions concerning the association budget, activity at the State Capitol and an update from the Board of Animal Health.

Two Director positions will be voted on at this meeting. The terms for Mark Luedtke and Kraig Wurst will be ending. Both of these individuals have served your association faithfully over the last three years. Please make sure that you give them your heartfelt thanks for their efforts and energy. Again I personally would like to thank both Kraig and Mark for their outstanding commitment to the association. Now is the time to start thinking of nominations for these openings on the board. It's the willingness to participate, support, and commit to the association that makes MnEBA the finest and strongest association in the country.

May the Lord bless you all with a Merry Christmas and a profitable new year!

## *Make Plans to Attend!* **2019 MnEBA Annual Conference** January 11-12, 2019

### **Sheraton Minneapolis West Hotel**

12201 Ridgedale Drive ~ Minnetonka, MN 55305  
Room Rates \$99 ~ 952-593-0000 (Room Block Expires Dec. 17, 2018)

### *Annual Meeting ~ Informational Seminars ~ Evening Banquet*

Between changing elk markets and political tensions at the State Capitol over CWD, this is one of the most important meetings you may ever attend! Being informed is the best way to make decisions on your farm to protect your bottom line. Bring the family and make a weekend out of it!

Ridgedale Mall is right across the street or take an opportunity to visit friends and family in the Twin Cities area!

**THE REGISTRATION FORM AND SCHEDULE ARE INCLUDED  
IN THIS MAILING!**

**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

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#### Director

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(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.

## 2019 MnEBA Gun Raffle Calendar Important Deadlines

### Return Stubs and Money by December 31<sup>st</sup> to be Eligible for Special Gun Drawing and a FREE 2019 Membership

It's time to complete calendar sales as **December 31<sup>st</sup>** is the day members become eligible for great incentives when selling calendars! A free MnEBA membership for selling 30 or more calendars and returning stubs and money before December 31<sup>st</sup> is being offered once again this year and in addition, for every 10 calendars sold with stubs and money being returned before December 31<sup>st</sup>, your name goes into a drawing to win a Henry Large Loop Blued rifle. The more calendars you sell, the more chances to win! **To be eligible, make sure to get your calendar stubs and money turned in before December 31<sup>st</sup>!**

There are currently 684 calendars in the hands of members to sell, with just 85 stubs returned so far. The potential is there to sell out again for the fourth year in a row. **Please contact the office to order more calendars if you can sell them.**

The drawing date is **Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup>** during the MnEBA Annual Conference at the Sheraton Mpls West Hotel in Minnetonka. All stubs, payments and unused calendars must be turned in by that time.

Thank you to all who are participating! These sales are what allow MnEBA to continue doing great marketing and charitable activities while also protecting the operating capital needed to keep activities going at the State Capitol to help defend the industry from overreaching regulations. Your efforts are sincerely appreciated!

### This holiday, make a difference while you shop

Shop for holiday gifts and supplies at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and Amazon donates

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Shop Amazon Smile when shopping on Amazon this holiday season. Select the Elk Research Council (Elk Research Foundation) or American Elk Products Foundation as your charity of choice. Amazon Smile ([www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com)) works the same way as Amazon, with the bonus of a portion of your purchase going towards the charity of your choice. A win-win for everyone! It really works!!

## Board Meeting Minutes

### Board Meeting Minutes – October 3, 2018

The MnEBA Board of Directors met at the home of Lance & Brenda Hartkopf on October 3, 2018. Jim Byrne, Mark Luedtke, Brian Wagner, Greg Lubinski, Kraig Wurst and Brenda Hartkopf were present. Byrne called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

MnEBA's lobbyist Tony Kwilas called in to the meeting to discuss possible preparations for the upcoming legislative session. Because of the November election, his suggestion is to wait until after the election and committee chairs have been established, then make appointments with the chairs of the ag and environment committees in early December to talk about what's been happening since the audit was released last spring, along with any thoughts for the upcoming session.

Once Tony left the call, Byrne went back to the agenda and asked for corrections or additions to the Secretary Minutes from January 24, February 22 and April 25<sup>th</sup>. After some time for review, Wurst moved to approve all three sets of minutes, Luedtke seconded, motion carried.

Hartkopf then went through the entire budget in detail. Because of a couple larger unexpected expenditures and a negative budget, while MnEBA is tracking well for the year, that means another year of loss. Byrne asked everyone to be ready to discuss possible budget cut ideas for the next meeting where a frank discussion of cuts will need to take place for 2019. The October 1, 2018 checkbook balance was \$18,223.86. Luedtke moved to approve the treasurer report, Lubinski seconded, motion carried.

Hartkopf reported that State Fair sales did very well and that even when we purchased more inventory of every product offered for sale, we still ended up selling out of a few items by the end of the fair. Overall, meat sales were down a bit and dog chews were up over last year. Discussed needing more sausage chubs to sell but are already making as many 16 oz. chubs as we can utilizing the donated meat animal. Decision was made to move down to 12 oz chubs and make the entire carcass into sausage for 2019 and sell the 12 oz chubs at the same sales price. Also discussed ordering meat and antler products earlier to avoid potential shortfall of available products. There was also much discussion about making our own dog chews from donated antler as Wapiti Labs is talking about

discontinuing their dog chew line of products. Hartkopf to follow up with the Wylies to ask about their plans for 2019.

Luedtke discussed the upcoming USAHA meeting in Kansas City and the one resolution asking USDA APHIS VS to perform a Western Blot test on all CWD positive farmed cervidae to determine the CWD strain and if that strain is sporadic or spontaneous (atypical).

Hartkopf reported 475 calendars are out so far for the 2019 MnEBA Gun Calendar Raffle. She will be contacting members who have sold in the past who have not yet ordered their calendars to see if they would be willing to sell again this year.

Hartkopf reported the 2018 MnEBA Charitable Elk Hunt will take place October 15-16 and that everything is in place for the hunt. Will Puckett was chosen by the board through an earlier email vote. The bull will be purchased by Lance & Brenda Hartkopf from Paul Hueg. Paul is personally delivering the bull to Tony the previous week. Ron Welle of Midwest Outdoors Unlimited is finalizing the travel and lodging details. The SCI Lake Superior Chapter is doing their usual sponsorship of the travel, lodging, meals and meat processing. We do not currently have a sponsor for any kind of mount. MnEBA will work up a press release after the hunt.

Hartkopf reported that MnEBA is still waiting for the FOIA CWD Epidemiology report from the Crow Wing County CWD case which was requested last April. There was only recent correspondence on this that the request will take longer. Board discussed comments made at a recent Board of Animal Health meeting concerning the Winona county CWD case where the biggest risk factors revolved around the taxidermy work being done on the premises.

Board continued discussions about possible budget cuts for the 2019 budget. Byrne asked board members to think about ideas for possible cuts and bring them to the next meeting.

Board discussed progress of the Farmed Cervidae Task Force and in particular, the work the committee is doing on determining acceptable exclusionary fencing methods and possibly going to the legislature to request funding to allow producers

to put up a second barrier. Board determined that double fencing is perceived as a stop-gap, but there is no science to support this perception. Beyond double fencing in endemic areas, MnEBA would offer little support for such an initiative at this time. Also discussed a CWD Risk Assessment Study for Farmed Cervidae proposal from Dr. Scott Wells which is being funded by the MN Board of Animal Health. This would outline biosecurity measures every cervid farmer should consider to decrease the risk of their herd developing CWD. MnEBA expects to hear from him soon regarding next steps.

Board is wanting to schedule a meeting with the Board of Animal Health to discuss changes to the farmed cervid program in the last year and also to ask what other changes they have planned for 2019. Hartkopf to work on scheduling this meeting for some time in November.

Byrne updated the board on efforts to have the ELISA test be recognized as an official CWD test as it is a much quicker test to release carcasses that are being held up until the CWD test is completed. While still in discussions, it appears the lack of numbers is a hindrance. MN DNR samples go to a Colorado lab and they are under a two year contract which started this year. The farmed industry does not do enough testing to make this a viable offering for the Minnesota lab.

Board discussed ideas for seminars/speakers at the upcoming MnEBA Conference in January. Board members and Hartkopf to follow up with possible speakers as noted during the meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Hartkopf, Executive Secretary

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## News Release

For Immediate Release: November 9, 2018

Contact: Erin Crider – [erin.crider@state.mn.us](mailto:erin.crider@state.mn.us)

### Deer Farm Infected with CWD in 2016 Identifies Additional Cases

**St. Paul, Minn.** - Chronic wasting disease was detected in four harvested samples from farmed deer at a quarantined farm in Crow Wing County. The farm has been under movement restrictions and monitored by the Board since December 2016 when two white-tailed deer tested positive for the disease. The Minnesota Board of Animal Health confirms recent samples were CWD positive in four deer.

- 9-year-old female mule deer.
- 1.5-year-old female white-tailed deer.
- 2-year-old male white-tailed deer.
- 2-year-old female mule deer.

“We’ve been working with the herd owner for the past two years to monitor the deer and look for any new detections of the disease,” said Assistant Director Dr. Linda Glaser. “The biggest change following this new detection will be to extend our deadline to monitor the herd.”

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is currently in the second year of sampling wild deer for CWD in Crow Wing County as a result of the farm’s earlier infection.

This past Saturday and Sunday, the opening weekend of the firearms deer-hunting season, the DNR sampled hunter-killed deer in Crow Wing County and results are not yet available. No CWD has been found in wild deer since the DNR began its surveillance in Crow Wing County in 2017.

The DNR typically conducts three years of surveillance of wild deer in a specific area where CWD is found in a farmed deer. This newest discovery in farmed deer didn’t change how DNR conducted its recent sampling during opening weekend in Crow Wing County, said Lou Cornicelli, the DNR’s wildlife research manager.

However, DNR staff will meet with Board of Animal Health staff to assess the risk factors associated with this latest discovery at the farm and determine whether a fourth year of surveillance of wild deer is necessary, Cornicelli said.

“We appreciate all the cooperation hunters provided us during this past opening weekend with surveillance in Crow Wing County,” Cornicelli said.

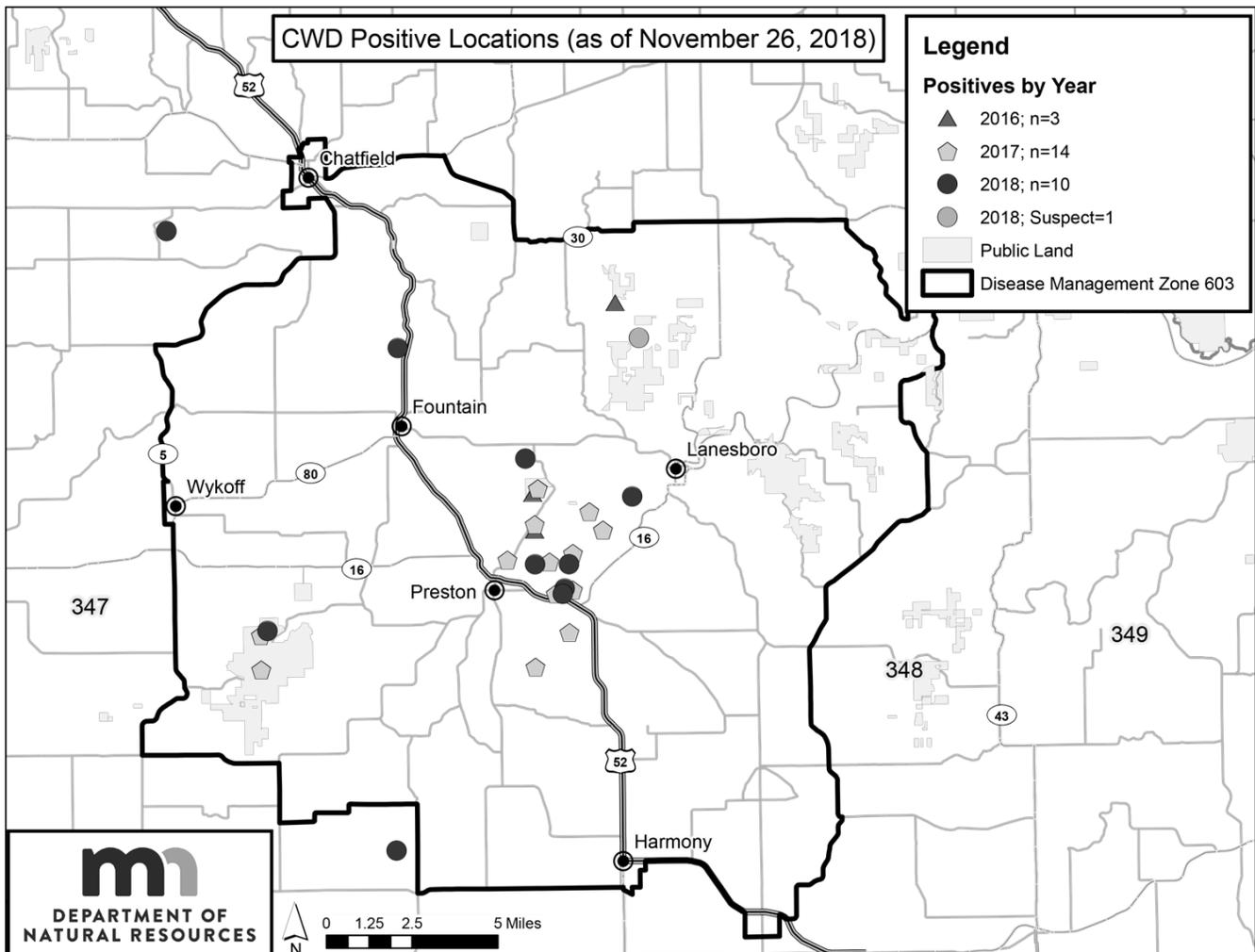
CWD is a disease affecting members of the deer and elk family caused by an abnormally shaped protein, a prion, which can cause damage to brain and nerve tissue. There is no danger to other animal species. The disease is most likely transmitted when infected deer and elk shed prions in saliva, feces, urine and other fluids or tissues. The disease is always fatal, and there are no known treatments or vaccines. The Board advises testing all Cervidae for the disease. Consuming infected meat is not advised.

# CWD Zone Update

## Ten (Wild) Deer Test Positive, One Presumptive in Southeast Minnesota CWD Zone

As of November 26<sup>th</sup>, there have been 10 wild deer found to have CWD, with one suspect in far southeastern Minnesota since July 2018. While eight of the ten positives were found in Disease Management Zone 603, two CWD positive wild deer were found outside the zone in Area 347, adjacent to the Disease Management Zone (see map below for locations). This will cause Disease Management Zone 603 to expand as well as the 10 mile circle the Minnesota Board of Animal Health will enact around the new cases and will place movement restrictions on additional cervid farms in that part of the state. Testing continues to be ongoing.

Testing appears to have concluded for the Central and North Central CWD designated testing areas with no positives found. See overall test results as they become available at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/cwdcheck/index.html#results>.





## NEWS RELEASE: Wednesday November 7, 2018

**Contact:** Brenda Hartkopf, Minnesota Elk Breeders Association, 320-543-2686

### Minnesota National Guard Veteran Harvests Bull Elk

**Minnesota Elk Breeders Association (MnEBA), November 7, 2018** – In the past, Staff Sgt. Willy Puckett, a disabled veteran of the Minnesota National Guard could only dream about someday harvesting a majestic bull elk. On October 15, 2018, that dream became a reality for this 15 year military veteran. Staff Sgt. Puckett repeatedly described the experience as “amazing”. Even though he had imagined what the experience would be like, he was still surprised by the strong emotion he felt when first seeing the bull elk. “The first time you see him, that kind of majesty when you see him walking around, it’s amazing!” Staff Sgt. Puckett was the 2018 recipient of the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual MnEBA Charitable Elk Hunt which recently took place at Tony’s Trophy Elk Hunt Ranch near Baudette, MN.

A native of Litchfield, Minnesota, Staff Sgt. Puckett entered the Minnesota National Guard in 1996 and served for 15 years until he was medically discharged in 2011. While on active duty, he was assigned to Company E, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 136<sup>th</sup> Infantry Combined Arms Battalion which consists of soldiers from Hutchinson, Litchfield and Redwood Falls. During his time of service, he was deployed to both Iraq and Kosovo, but it was during his time in Iraq that he and two fellow guard members were injured by a roadside bomb that killed one of his fellow servicemen. Puckett received a deep cut near his left kneecap and punctures on his left arm and face, with glass also removed from his eye. Along with the physical injuries, the mental anguish has also been difficult.

These days Puckett works to restore prairies and fights forest fires around the country. He has most recently been fighting fires in California. Always an avid hunter, Puckett has spent time hunting small game and whitetail deer south of Black Duck over the years, but has always dreamed of someday harvesting elk, grizzly bear and moose.

What made this hunt extra special for Puckett was that he was able to use his dad’s 30-06 to harvest his elk. Puckett’s dad passed away in June of 2016 having never realized his dream of harvesting an elk, but Puckett knows his dad would be happy to know that his son realized that dream for him. Puckett described his experience as he and his fellow guides were looking for the elk, “...out of the blue, way out in the distance, we spotted him. Even though elk are large animals, he was not easy to see.” After Puckett got into position and made the 170 yard shot, he was excited to have accomplished “...something I always wanted to do. It was amazing!”

In the days following the hunt, Puckett had the animal processed and has already shared the meat from half the animal with fellow veterans. Puckett says, “It is important and the right thing to do.”

MnEBA would like to thank everyone who generously supported this year’s hunt including Tony’s Trophy Elk Hunt Ranch, Midwest Outdoors Unlimited, Lake Superior Chapter of Safari Club International (SCI), Splendor Ridge Elk Farm and Sunset Elk Ranch.

MnEBA offers our heartfelt thanks, support and gratitude to Staff Sgt. Puckett and to all United States military men and women for their dedication and service to our country.



**Staff Sgt. Willy Puckett**

# Two Worlds

## Non-Typical



- 595 4/8" official at 5
- 626" with his 61" actual spread unofficial
- Proven Sire! - Passing On!
- NAEBA Competition results show his sons are already some of the biggest bulls for their age!

## CHERNOBULL

- Scored 590" official in the 2018 NAEBA Mature Non-Typical Class
- 1st place 2018 NAEBA 4 Yr-Old Non-Typical Hard Antler Class scoring 545 7/8" official, 565" with his actual spread unofficial
- 597 3/8" official at 5, winning NAEBA's 5-Year-Old Non-Typical Class, 620" with his 66" actual spread unofficial



"We would like to thank James and Yvonne of V-Tex Elk Ranch Stryker and a group



## HYPSTERIA

- 545" official winning NAEBA's 2018 4-Year-Old Non-Typical Class
- 1st Place in NAEBA's 2017 3-Year-Old Non-Typical Class at 544 7/8" official, 556" unofficial with his 48" actual inside spread. Highest official score for a 3 year old!
- 1st Place in NAEBA's 2016 2-Year-Old Non-Typical Class at 451 5/8" official, 458" unofficial with his actual spread. Highest official score for a 2 year old!

# Collide...

## Typical

### INTRODUCING MOHLMAN ELK FARM'S NEWEST HERD SIRE

**SILVER STAR**

- 510 5/8" typical at 6 with 63" and 61" beams, unofficial

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## 2018-19 New Zealand Velvet Season Prospects

### Velvet Prospects Looking Sound

Written by Rural News Group

**Prospects for the velvet market during the 2018-19 season are expected to be reasonably stable, says Deer Industry NZ (DINZ).**

It says apart from a brief downward dip in prices two years ago, driven by uncertainty about regulatory changes in China, NZ velvet production and prices have increased for eight years. The outlook for this season sees consumption in Asia increasing in line with production growth in NZ.

However, DINZ Asia manager Rhys Griffiths cautions that this trend cannot continue forever. He also warns that there are always unknowns that could upset the market – such as an escalation in the trade war between China and the United States.

But, based on all the current known factors, Griffiths believes NZ deer farmers can expect another good year. “Major velvet exporters and DINZ are working together, building demand with major health food companies in Korea,” Griffiths says.

“These companies prefer to deal direct with their NZ suppliers and put high value on price stability. It gives them the confidence to invest in product development.”

He adds that branded health foods based on NZ velvet have transformed the Korean market, and creating a similar product category in China is now a priority for the industry

“In contrast, for the commodity traders who still buy two-thirds of NZ velvet, price instability can be a

good thing. So despite good prices we are putting a lot of energy into building strong relationships with manufacturers and marketers in our major markets. We are taking control of our own destiny and making the commodity traders less relevant.”

Griffiths says 200 tonnes of the expected 725t 2018-19 harvest will go to health food companies selling high value branded products in South Korea, a market segment that didn't exist 10 years ago.

“Since then, following the lead of the Korean Ginseng Corporation, 30 companies have developed and marketed 73 velvet-based health food products, most of which are enjoying strong consumer demand. Of these, 55 are based on NZ velvet, with the NZ provenance strongly promoted.”

Griffiths says NZ wants to repeat this success story in China, where, along with Australia, it is the only legitimate source of imported velvet. This valuable status is the result of a regulated control scheme for deer velvet harvest implemented by the Ministry for Primary Industries in August 2017, which set stricter on farm hygiene, traceability and cool chain standards for velvet.

Griffiths says DINZ has been working with Chinese regulatory agencies to provide a clear pathway for imports of NZ velvet to manufacturers in China. “Health food marketers in China are very much aware of the success of velvet-based health foods in Korea. But they want to be sure that the velvet they are buying is legitimate and is available in

sufficient quantities at stable prices before they spend the large sums needed to develop and market new products.”

Griffiths says it took several years for DINZ and exporters to interest Korean health food manufacturers in developing velvet-based products. He believes it will be the same for China, where DINZ is talking to firms thinking of taking the plunge.

“Over the coming years we expect direct exports to Korean manufacturers to grow, aided by the annual reduction in the Korean tariff on dried NZ velvet. More of the velvet that goes to China will be consumed there and less of it will be re-exported to Korea,” he says.

“In Korea, affluent consumers will be offered NZ velvet-based products in uber-trendy cafes in sophisticated shopping malls. There is nothing in New Zealand that compares with Yuhan Pharmaceuticals New Origin stores, where you can buy an awesome smoothie and then take it through to their apothecary for a matching single-serve health ingredient to sprinkle across. It's a wonderful fusion of old and new that will normalise NZ velvet as a very high-end food ingredient.”

Griffiths points out that LG (known in New Zealand for its electrical appliances) has 22,000 door-to-door sales staff, many of whom are selling healthy food products.

“They and Lotte, a Korean multinational, are really amping their promotion of NZ velvet products.”

## Board Blog by Kraig Wurst, MnEBA Director



Hello everyone,

I hope you have had a good fall, harvest, and breeding season. My fall has went well. I have the crops out and I didn't start my combine on fire so I consider it a success. My family is doing great, we should be back from our trip to Disney World by the time this gets out to everybody. So just a warning. If you see me, I will try to show you about a thousand pictures of our vacation, and ask if you could loan me some money until the next crop of antlers grow out.

One of the things I have recently done is finally get switched over to using Amazon Smile to support the Elk Research Foundation. I believe the ERF is a very important part of our industry and this is an easy way to support it. I love Amazon. Anytime I can order something on my phone instead of having to drive into the big town of Rochester, I consider it a win. I have been meaning to set Amazon Smile up on my phone for quite a while, but reading about it in the last NAEBA magazine finally got me moving on it. All I did was google "how to set up Amazon Smile on my phone" and I was set up in two minutes. It only donates a small amount for every purchase so the more people that are signed up with it the better. I would encourage everybody that uses Amazon to get set up to donate, once you are set up it is the same as using the regular Amazon. I even set up my wife's phone to use it. With her shopping habits we might be able to fund the ERF all by ourselves.

Another thing I have done is buy some more cattle panels and steel tubing to make a few more gates this winter. It seems that I always find places where another gate or two would come in really handy. I always like to make my own gates. I can make the exact size I want, and they seem to stand up well. I have been using 2 inch tubing for the frame but I have cut back to 1½ inch to lighten them up. I weld the cattle panels and hinges on and they are good to go. The ones I made 20 years ago are still holding up well and I am definitely not an expert welder. I know a lot of you use similar gates, I would be interested to hear what your thoughts are on the size of the tubing. Look me up at the annual conference in January and we can talk gates! On a side note, I think I might have set a record by planning to paint my gates every summer for 20 years in a row, and by the time winter comes claim I will get them painted next year.

I have been thinking about our lack of new members and it has me worried. Our membership has stayed the same or dropped slightly with older members retiring. I believe increasing our membership is important to the future of MnEBA. New ideas, new enthusiasm, more money coming in, and being able to show the legislature that our numbers are increasing and going in the right direction are just a few of the benefits I can see. The shows we do and the state fair are a good start; we seem to get a few people interested every event but it doesn't seem to go much further. I have given this problem a lot of thought and sadly have come up with no solutions. I was hoping that all of us could give this problem some thought. I am guessing between the bunch of us a good idea should rattle out somewhere. If anybody has any thoughts on this I would suggest that we discuss this some more at the annual meeting in a couple of months. If you can't make it, send myself or Brenda a note with your ideas. We all know how great it is to raise elk, all we have to do is find a way to let everybody else know.

On a final note, I would like to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I have enjoyed my time on the board immensely so far. My fellow board members have been a true pleasure to work with, and Brenda as always has been her amazing self. Thanks guys for a great year! Don't forget to sign up for the annual conference coming up in January, I hope to see you all there if not before.

Kraig Wurst

*Spring Coulee  
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*Bill & Karen Knutson*  
Home of Spring Coulee Elk

# MnEBA Kitchen

Are you cooking for a crowd this coming holiday season? Make your meal a little extra special by slowly simmering the delicious sauce below or use your favorite commercial sauce. This spaghetti recipe is heavy on meatballs for a meal that will fill everyone up!

## Spaghetti Meatball Supper

### Sauce:

- 2 cans (28 ounces each) diced tomatoes, undrained
- 2 tsp. sugar
- 2 tsp. dried basil
- 1 tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. pepper
- 2 tsp. oregano
- 2 tsp. garlic powder

### Meatballs:

- 3 cups soft bread crumbs
- ½ cup milk
- 2 eggs
- ½ cup grated parmesan cheese
- 1 Tbsp. dried parsley
- ½ tsp. garlic powder
- 1 tsp. salt
- ¼ tsp. pepper
- 1 lb. ground elk
- 1 lb. ground pork
- Hot cooked spaghetti

In a 6-qt. stockpot, combine the sauce ingredients; bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer covered for 1½ hours, stirring occasionally. For meatballs, preheat oven to 400 degrees. In a large bowl, combine bread crumbs and milk; let stand 5 minutes. Stir in eggs, cheese, parsley, garlic powder, salt and pepper. Add beef and pork; mix lightly but thoroughly. Shape into 1 inch balls. Place meatballs in a greased, 15x10x1 inch baking pan. Bake 20 minutes or until cooked through. Once sauce is done, add meatballs to sauce, stirring gently to combine and simmer an additional 5-10 minutes. Serve over spaghetti. Serves 10.





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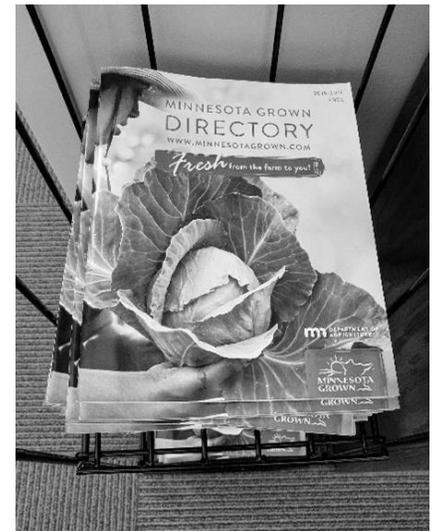
Help new customers find your elk products with Minnesota Grown! The Minnesota Grown program, part of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, is welcoming new farm, farmers market, and food business members to join and be listed in their far-reaching, statewide directory. Over 155,000 printed copies reach individuals each year, and +375,000 users visited the online directory in 2017.

Read more about becoming a member (below and at [minnesotagrown.com/members-retailers](http://minnesotagrown.com/members-retailers)) or apply online at [tinyurl.com/ApplyMNGrown](http://tinyurl.com/ApplyMNGrown).



## 5 Reasons to be a Minnesota Grown Member:

1. **Find new customers.** The Minnesota Grown Directory has been printed yearly since the 1980's continues to grow in use each year. With the launch of a new, mobile-friendly website, usage is expected to climb even higher in 2019! A listing in this directory is an optional addition (\$40) after purchasing a Minnesota Grown logo license (\$20).
2. **Find wholesale buyers.** Wanting to sell to grocery stores, restaurants, schools, or other wholesale markets? Add a listing in Minnesota Grown's Wholesale Directory. Because this directory is newer, annual listings in the wholesale directory are an optional addition that is free with the purchase of a Minnesota Grown logo license (\$20).
3. **Reimburse yourself.** When members add the Minnesota Grown logo on qualifying labels, packaging, or permanent signage, Minnesota Grown's Cost Share Program can cover 50% of the printing cost, up to \$200 per member per fiscal year!
4. **Order free marketing materials.** When your farm purchases the annual Minnesota Grown logo license, you can also order a variety of free price cards, stickers, rubber bands, twist ties, and more that are branded with the Minnesota Grown logo.
5. **Promoting YOU is our focus.** Member events, products, and news highlights are featured on Minnesota Grown's social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram) and website. Regional and statewide media are sent press releases about local foods and farms. We also conduct large-scale marketing campaigns highlighting buying local on television, billboards, and digital media.



*Label incorporating Minnesota Grown in design to qualify for reimbursement program (Credit: Pure Nature Honey)*



No matter your potential customer, Minnesota Grown has resources to help you market your business. **Questions?** Contact Karen Lanthier – Minnesota Grown Member Services Coordinator – at [karen.lanthier@state.mn.us](mailto:karen.lanthier@state.mn.us) or 651-201-6140.

## **Vet Corner** by Glen Zearth, DVM

### **Federal TB and Brucellosis Rules Are Being Completely Re-Written**

There are a couple things to talk about this month. First of all, it looks like USDA APHIS is going to go back and totally scrap and rewrite the current TB/Brucellosis Rules they have been working on for the past several years. They are going to reformulate new rules for both diseases. What's different about this time is they are not allowing industry to be on the working group, but rather will utilize select sector representatives (of which I am one) to offer comment as the documents progress. Their goal is to have the Brucellosis document ready by the summer of 2018 and the TB document by fall of 2018.

Dr. Beth Thompson, State Veterinarian for the Minnesota Board of Animal Health is part of the TB working group and Dr. Dustin Oedekoven, State Veterinarian for South Dakota is part of the Brucellosis working group. For questions or comments, please contact either Dr. Thompson, Dr. Oedekoven or myself.

### **Another Successful USAHA Conference**

*The following update is courtesy of the American Cervid Alliance*

KANSAS CITY- After five days of committee and board meetings at the United States Animal Health Association conference (USAHA), industry leaders believe it was a successful meeting for the cervid industry. This conference is an opportunity to build relationships with state and national health officials as well as those representing the wildlife community.

This conference marked the second meeting of the Committee on Diseases of Farmed Cervidae. The adoption of three important resolutions for the industry were also achieved. Two of the resolutions pertained to Chronic Wasting Disease. The first resolution requests the United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Services (ARS) to evaluate the potential diversity of CWD strains. This is not currently being performed in the United States, but is being performed by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. The second resolution encourages USDA, Agricultural Research Services (ARS) to fund research efforts to identify CWD susceptibility in different genotypes and the role they have on transmission of disease.

The third resolution related to TB policy urges USDA, ARS evaluate the Dual Path Platform (TB Blood test) to be used as an individual animal test in farmed cervidae for interstate commerce. As a reminder, last year USAHA passed a resolution requesting APHIS to consider TB herd certification testing intervals be extended from three to five years. Both requests will be considered while USDA APHIS develops a new federal TB rule.

The attendance at this conference by the cervid industry is essential in building strong relationships with state and federal health officials as well as wildlife representatives. This is one of the most important events for the industry. The American Cervid Alliance strongly encourages its member associations to select a representative to join USAHA and attend next year's conference. All the industry leaders that attend this conference know firsthand how important this convention is to our industry. Next year's conference will be held in late October in Providence, Rhode Island.

*Editor's Note: Many thanks to Mark Luedtke for representing MnEBA at the recent USAHA meeting in Kansas City. Your time and efforts were very much appreciated!*

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

## MnEBA Board Nominations Needed

The board terms for both Mark Luedtke and Kraig Wurst will be expiring in January 2019. Mark and Kraig have contributed a vast amount of time and talents to the Association. Please take a moment when you see them to thank them for their time and efforts!

The length of time for Board terms are three years. Nominations for these open positions are now being accepted. If you know of anyone who would be a good candidate, or you as a member are willing to run, please contact the MnEBA Office at (320) 543-2686 or [info@mneba.org](mailto:info@mneba.org). Elections will be held during the MnEBA Annual Conference on January 12, 2019 at the Sheraton Minneapolis West Hotel in Minnetonka, MN.

### Board Terms

Jim Byrne, <i>President</i>	Term ends 2021
Mark Luedtke, <i>Vice President</i>	Term ends 2019
Brian Wagner, <i>Secretary/Treasurer</i>	Term ends 2020
Greg Lubinski, <i>Director</i>	Term ends 2021
Kraig Wurst, <i>Director</i>	Term ends 2019

### A Great Christmas Gift Idea...

## Elk Meat Sticks for Sale

MnEBA has just a few discounted meat items left over from the State Fair which would make great Christmas presents! They include:

- (90) 1 oz. Peppi elk meat sticks (3 caddies of 30)  
\$1.50 each
- (30) 1 oz. Hickory elk meat sticks (1 caddy of 30)  
\$1.50 each

Please call or email the MnEBA Office to order elk snack items at 320-543-2686 or [info@mneba.org](mailto:info@mneba.org) before they are gone!

*You're Invited!*

Watch your mailbox in mid-December for an invitation to attend a free dinner and nutrition seminar hosted by **ADM Animal Nutrition** on January 11, 2019 at the Sheraton Minneapolis West Hotel (the night before the MnEBA Annual Conference).

Take advantage of this great opportunity to go into greater depth about elk nutrition while enjoying a free meal! Make sure to RSVP so Leo can get an accurate meal count!

## Your Fundraising Donations are Needed!

Please bring an item or two for the silent and/or live auctions for this year's conference fundraisers. Your donations help raise much needed funds to continue the important projects of the association and to protect our interests at the Minnesota State Capitol!

**Could everyone bring at least one item?** Any and all donations would be greatly appreciated!



## Minnesota Elk Breeders Association

9086 Keats Avenue SW  
Howard Lake, MN 55349

PHONE:  
320-543-2686

FAX:  
320-543-2983

E-MAIL:  
[info@mneba.org](mailto:info@mneba.org)

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

## Calendar of Events

**January 11-12, 2019** – MnEBA Annual Conference, Minneapolis Sheraton West, Minnetonka, MN

**March 8-9, 2019** – Alberta Elk Commission AGM and 2019 March Mingle, Fantasyland Hotel, Edmonton, AB

**March 8-10, 2019** – Outdoor News Deer & Turkey Classic, Warner Coliseum, State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, MN

**August 1-3, 2019** – NAEBA Annual Convention & International Antler Competition, Capitol Plaza Hotel & Convention Center, Topeka, KS

## Classified Ads

**For Sale:** (15) 2016 bred heifers in December. Wide typical frame breeding, top genetics without the high price. Just \$1,300 each, almost meat price. Call Roger Nietfeld, Melrose, MN, 320-247-0256.

**For Sale:** (6) 2018 heifer calves out of 470" genetics. TB accredited and Brucellosis certified. \$500 each. Ted Mehrkens, Mazeppa, MN, 507-843-5636.

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

**For Sale:** Semen from White Lightning and Piranha. Call Jay Pronschinske at 507-458-7970.

**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 years and older on bulls. Call 719-657-0942 or email [Rich@ElkUSA.com](mailto:Rich@ElkUSA.com).

**Services Offered:** Outback Fence & Fabrication is here for all your fencing needs. We specialize in - Exclusion Fencing, Trellis Fencing, Chain Link Fencing, Woven Wire Fencing, Steel and Wood Post Fencing. We fabricate fences and enclosures for applications like Deer, Elk, Bison, Livestock (cattle, horses, goats, sheep, etc.). We are also here for your fabrication needs specializing in - Livestock Equipment (feeders, bunks, cattle gates, buckets, etc.), Repair and Modification (trailers, wagons, tractors, machinery, etc.), Custom Entry and Enclosure Gates, In Shop or On-Site Equipment and Machinery Repair Services. Contact us today with questions or an estimate on your project at 507-951-7632 or [outbackfence@hotmail.com](mailto:outbackfence@hotmail.com). Book for your fencing needs and projects for 2018 now! Visit our website at [www.outbackMN.com](http://www.outbackMN.com).

## MINNESOTA ELK BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

9086 Keats Avenue SW  
Howard Lake, MN 55349

