

# Montana Taxidermists Association

Website: [www.mttaxidermists.com](http://www.mttaxidermists.com)

January 2011

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406-651-4542

**WEBSITE:**  
[mttaxidermists.com](http://mttaxidermists.com)

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## **President's Message**

Greetings from Broadus!

I guess I want to start this message with apologies. I recently found out that there were several of you that did not receive the last newsletter. I'm still not sure what happened, but I assure you it was not intentional. We are still hoping to phase out most of the hard copies and mailing of the newsletter in favor of internet and website or perhaps offer the option. However, we are not to that point yet. It's moving, but slowly. We all know we like the internet; we just don't always know how to make it work for us. We recently hired Kerby Ross from Arizona to rework our website, but the ball is back in our court to get him information and photos. Kerby is doing several sites for other state associations.

Recent additions to our board are Don and Jane Keever from Billings. Don brings a great enthusiasm that we hope to utilize in the MTA.

Plans are going forward for the spring show March 24th-27th. It will again be at the Red Lion in Helena. Judges have been

finalized and we think we have a great lineup. Chris Krueger from Arizona will be returning to judge life-size mammals. Joe Kaiser, from Arkansas, will judge both birds and fish. And lastly, Jody Green, from Illinois, will be judging our game heads. All these guys have received national acclaim and we look forward to them coming here. In addition to seminars that our judges will conduct, we also have Ray Hatfield from Wyoming doing a life-size alteration seminar. Bill Stratton with SCI will be doing a Safari Club measuring class.

A recent thing that we're really excited about is our partnership with United Special Sportsman's Alliance (USSA).

USSA provides hunting and fishing trips for kids with life threatening illnesses. By working with the MTA, taxidermy for trophies taken on these trips in Montana will also be provided at no cost to these kids or their families. This is a great opportunity for members of the MTA to be part of a fine humanitarian project.



*Paul Klar with Kalin Carter*

*Continue on Page 2*

*President's letter continued. . .*

And it's a great opportunity for the MTA and the taxidermy industry to be promoted in a positive light. We think the potential can be far reaching. This fall, the first three hunts with USSA took place in Montana. The first two took place in the Broadus area with Gardner Ranch Outfitters with one being guided by yours truly. The third was done by Milk River Outfitters in the Glasgow area. All the hunts were arranged through the MTA. The illnesses that these kids have vary as does their condition. One kid was wheelchair bound and shot his rifle with a mechanism that he blew into a straw. They're kids though, and some of their stories break your heart. Local businesses also contributed and put together care packages. Meat processors donated their services. Brannen Rogers (Rogers Taxidermy) even drove one kid all the way from Great Falls to Broadus and back! All these things and people worked together to give these kids a wonderful unforgettable time. Taxidermy for these three mounts will be done by Bruce Babcock, Katie Rogers, and Paul Faber. Suppliers have also partnered by donating forms

and supplies. We hope to involve more suppliers and tanneries as well. We also hope to see the efforts of USSA and the MTA spread to other areas and communities in Montana. As you can see, the sky's the limit what you can do to love on these kids at the local level. It's a very gratifying thing to be a part of. Contact me or any board member if you want to help with taxidermy or anything else. Go to [www.childswish.com](http://www.childswish.com) for more information about the organization. Brigid O'Donogue, the organization's founder and CEO, plans to attend our show and banquet in March. Hopefully you're working on your show pieces. If not, there's still time. Get those creative juices flowing! Once again, we'd like you to register as soon as possible. We plan on having a registration form on the website. We will be adding to the website from now on, so check it frequently for news and updates. Here's hoping you're wintering well and that we see you in March!

Paul Klar  
MTA President

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**3-JAB-281, Black Bear**  
5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> x 14<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> x 61 x 51

**3-JA7966, Moose**  
7<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x 27 x 40<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

**3-RM8801, Elk**  
11 x 26 x 27<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

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# Wildlife Art Show & Competition

## March 24 - 27, 2011



Sponsored by  
**Montana Taxidermists Association**  
IN HELENA, MT @ THE RED LION  
COLONIAL HOTEL - 2301 COLONIAL DRIVE

*Special rates are available for Show Participants (406) 443-2100*

**Featured Judges / Clinicians**



### Show Opens to Public:

**Friday 12 PM - 6 pm**  
**Saturday 9 am - 5 pm**  
**Sunday 9 am - 2 pm**

#### •Jody Green

*Game heads Judge & Clinician*

#### •Joe Kaiser

*Birds, Fish & Reptiles Judge & Clinician*

#### •Chris Krueger

*Life-size Judge & Clinician*

#### •Ray Hatfield

*Clinician*

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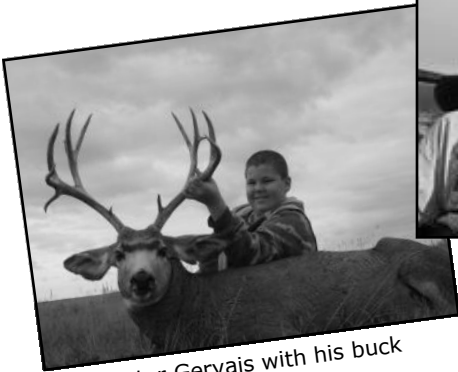
**SATURDAY NIGHT AWARDS & BANQUET**

*Register early for reduced entry fee! [www.mttaxidermists.com](http://www.mttaxidermists.com) (406)752-4504*

**LET'S MAKE THIS A GREAT SHOW FOR HELENA  
AND MONTANA**

# Child's Wish

The Montana Taxidermist Association is proud to team up with the United Special Sportsman Alliance ( [www.childswish.com](http://www.childswish.com) ). This non-profit program grants terminally ill children an opportunity to hunt or fish in Montana. The Montana Taxidermist Association will volunteer to provide quick care and mounting of their trophy so that they can enjoy and relive their memories afield. We would like to take this opportunity to invite your organization to consider a sponsorship of the Montana Taxidermist Association so that we can continue to support and ensure that outdoor traditions are passed on.



Hunter Gervais with his buck



Nick Kolstad, left, and Jared Albus of Milk River Outfitters in Hinsdale pose with the four-point white-tail buck



Kalin Carter, left, and Paul Klar

Look at the MTA website: [mttaxidermists.com](http://mttaxidermists.com)


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**BILL HUMENIK**

**Montana Taxidermy Association**  
**Convention Registration Form for The 2011 Convention @**  
**The Red Lion Inn Helena, Montana March 24-27**

Send to: **MTA**  
**1167 Helena Flats Road**  
**Kalispell, MT 59901**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Ph#: \_\_\_\_\_ Business Ph#: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 [ ] Yes I want my newsletter and updates sent by e-mail  
 VISA/MC: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY FEES:	QTY	TOTAL
<b>Master and Professional Registration <i>before March 1, 2011</i></b>		
Entry fee includes 3 mounts with critiques, all seminars & MTA Membership	\$145.00	
*** Each additional mount	\$10.00	
<b>Adult Novice</b>		
Entry fee includes 1 mount with critique, all seminars & MTA membership	\$85.00	
*** Each additional mount	\$10.00	
<b>Youth Novice 17 &amp; under</b>		
Entry fee includes 1 mount with critique & all seminars	\$25.00	
*** Each additional mount	\$10.00	
Montana Best All Around <b>*** Must compete in 4 of the 5 categories : Fish, Bird, Lifesize mammal, Gamehead, Reptile</b>	\$10.00	
Collective Artists *Each artist	\$20.00	
Original Art [ ] <b>Adult</b>	\$20.00	
Skulls / Antler Art [ ] <b>Youth</b>	\$10.00	
<b>SEMINAR FEE:</b>		
Per Seminar <i>(MTA membership is required)</i>	\$25.00	
All Seminars <i>(MTA membership is required)</i>	\$75.00	
<b>*** Registration after March 1, 2011 (Additional Charge)</b>	\$25.00	
<b>BANQUET TICKETS:</b>		
Adults	\$32.00	
Under 12	\$16.00	
<b>Montana Taxidermy Association 2011 Membership only (no competition entry)</b> (Spouse is admitted for viewing)	\$50.00	
***Only Montana Residents are voting MTA Members***		
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT DUE</b>		

Your room rental @ the Red Lion defrays the MTA facility rental fee. Phone the Red Lion Colonial Hotel @ 1-800-redlion 1-406-443-2100 \*The deadline for reduced rates is 02/21/2011

TYPE OF MOUNTS	Category										Division			
	Skin	Repro	Waterfowl	Upland	Life size	Sm Lifesize	GameHeads	Whitetail Gamehead	Reptile	Skulls / Art	Yth. Novice	A. Novice	Professiona	Master
Description- single/group	Fish		Bird											
1														
2														
3														
4														
5														

All mounts entered in the competition cannot have been entered in any previous MTA competitions. I understand that the Montana Taxidermists Association and the Red Lion Inn are not responsible for any loss or damage that may occur at the show to my mounts. I certify that all my mounts in the competition were done by me, unassisted, and I agree to all competition rules.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*Office Use Date received: \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

## A Note from Ray Bicknell . . .

I have an individual who will make up some Fly fishing Flies as a fund raiser donation for the 2011 convention. He needs tanned fur scrapes. The larger the better. He really needs goat scraps & black bear scraps. He uses deer, sheep, beaver, hog, mink, caribou, elk, moose and rabbit. Antelope does not work. He could use boraxed bird feathers like pheasant, turkey, exotics and geese but is not sure of the federal regulations (neither am I). I am currently accumulating the scraps and sending them on to him. This individual is a humble worker and former veteran trying to promote and keep fly fishing affordable for other veterans. Furs and feathers can be sent to:

Ray Bicknell  
210 Forest Drive  
Kalispell, MT  
406-756-1855

**THANKS!**

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## It's time to Nominate New Board Members

Nominations can be submitted by fax, phone, e-mail or pony express. All nominations need to be received by February 15<sup>th</sup>. Please nominate someone TODAY!

Fax #: (406) 752-4604

e-mail: [reeltaxidermy@bresnan.net](mailto:reeltaxidermy@bresnan.net)

Phone #: (406) 756-1855

Address: 210 Forest Drive Kalispell, MT 59901



MONTANA  
TAXIDERMISTS  
ASSOCIATION

### Membership Application 2011

**\*\*Membership is one year from January 1st to December 31\*\***

**CATEGORY:**

- Individual - \$50 (one membership vote & privileges)  
 Family - \$80 (Two membership votes & privileges)  
 Business - \$140 (Two membership votes & privileges / plus four half page ads in newsletters)  
 Shop - \$150 (Four membership votes & privileges for salaried staff members)

**MEMBERSHIP STATUS:**

- Renewal  
 New

\*Note: Only Montana Residents are voting members

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

VISA       MASTERCARD

Card No: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:  
Montana Taxidermists  
Association**

1167 Helena Flats Rd  
Kalispell, MT 59901  
Ph: (406) 752-4504 • Fax: (406) 752-4506

**Office Use ONLY**

Contract Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Ck# \_\_\_\_\_

## GENERAL RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR THE 2011 MTA STATE COMPETITION

1. All mounts entered in the 2011 MTA competition cannot have been entered in any previous MTA shows.
2. No freeze-dried entries or freeze-dried parts. No exceptions for turkey heads.
3. Protected wildlife must have all necessary permits and paperwork with the mounts at all times.
4. All entries must be totally done by the competitor by themselves, unassisted. An exception to this being tanning, forms, eyes, etc.
5. Only paid entrants in the competition and/or their spouses can attend the clinics / seminars. A \$25.00 individual fee or \$75.00 for all clinics / seminar fee will be charged for all non-competing members or taxidermy vendors / exhibitors (with a pass) wanting to attend the seminars.
6. Removal of entries will not be allowed until the close of public viewing on Sunday, March 28, 2011. The only exception to this will be that of extreme weather / emergency.
7. The only way to enter the doors at the show will be by a competitor pass. Each entrant and spouse will receive one pass.
8. There will be time allowed for grooming and arranging each entry prior to judging.
9. Distasteful entries will not be allowed (wounds, traps, etc.) at the discretion of the directors.
10. Each mount will be given a numerical score (Scores necessary for winning ribbons are noted below).
11. Must have blue ribbon score to qualify for **Best of Category**.
12. The decision of the judges on each entry is final!!! Discourteous behavior toward judges or show officials will not be tolerated. Behavior of this kind could lead to disqualification of a competitor and a request for them to leave with their entries. Remember that all critiques are intended for the benefit of the taxidermist.
13. After judging has been completed, point ribbons will be displayed and you may, at this time, identify your mounts with business cards. Plaques and ribbons for major awards will be held and announced at the awards banquet.
14. The number of entries allowed is unlimited.
15. Entries in glass cases must have a removable top and sides to allow for judging. The top and sides must be removed prior to judging and then replaced by the competitor.
16. The Red Lion Colonial Hotel and competition staff will do all they can to see that your mounts are secure; however, they cannot insure them from danger or theft. **All mounts entered into competition will be done so at owner's risk.**

### COMPETITION CATEGORIES

#### **SINGLE CATEGORIES:**

A single entered mount on any type of base.

#### **GROUP CATEGORIES:**

1. The entrant may choose to have only part of a Group Category entry judged (i.e. there are three pieces and the entrant would like to have two judged, etc.). If there are only two pieces in a group, the entrant wants only one judged, the piece would then be considered a Single Category entry.
2. The competition entry fee of **\$95.00** will cover three mounts for judging; if a fourth mount is entered, there would be an additional charge of **\$10.00** for the fourth piece. Each mount in any Group Category entry will be considered an individual piece when calculating entry fees.
3. Best of Category in all Group Categories will be determined by averaging the ribbon scores of each piece entered in an individual group. (I.e. if you have entered two pieces in a group of three, the score of the two pieces judged will be averaged to give you a final score that will be compared to all other averaged scores in your Group Category to determine the Best of Category winner. \*\*\* Mounts that are entered in a Group are not eligible for single awards.

#### **MIXED GROUP CATEGORIES:**

This entry must consist of two or more different species. Specimens must be on the same base.

**Attention!** If you have a Group Category entry, you must enter it as either a Group where at least two mounts are judged, or indicate that you'd like them judged as singles. You may not do both with the same entry. **If you have additional pieces not included in this group, they may be entered as single entries.** In all cases, you must decide whether the pieces you enter will be either single or group.

#### **COMPETING DIVISIONS EXPLAINED:**

The Master, Professional, Adult Novice and Junior Novice Divisions of the MTA convention have always been a way for the competing taxidermist to enter themselves into a class of other taxidermists who are at a similar level of experience. It is a choice that each individual taxidermist can make on his/her own. In fact, it is even possible for the competitor to enter two different divisions. For example, if you are a Professional in birds, and a novice in fish, it is only fair that you be allowed to enter two different divisions. In essence, the MTA wants competitors to be able to compete in levels that will be most beneficial to their advancement in taxidermy. You cannot enter two like species in separate divisions. (i.e., you cannot bring two deer heads for competition and enter one in novice and one in professional. They must both be entered in one division). For those of you who would like a little help in deciding which division is right for you, the following is a general guideline:

**JUNIOR NOVICE:** Pertains to novice competitors who are 16 years and younger. This division allows the judges to separate the Novice Adult from the Young Novice competitors, and tailor their score sheets accordingly.

**ADULT NOVICE:** Pertains to someone who is over the age of 16 and is a beginner taxidermist's and considers himself or herself to be in the early stages of learning.

**PROFESSIONAL:** Pertains to someone who is a practiced taxidermist and is capable of performing taxidermy at a business or professional level.

**MASTER:** Pertains to someone who has achieved a high level of expertise in his or her field, and has the ability to consistently produce award winning work.

**BEST ALL AROUND:** Only Master and Professional may enter. You must ribbon in all categories to qualify for this award.

#### **SCORING AND JUDGING:**

All divisions in the 2011 MTA Competition will be clearly marked for the judges. This will allow the judges to better score and critique the pieces based on its division. Scores for each division are as follows.

Junior Novice Division: 60-69 Honorable Mention, 70-79 3rd place, 80-89 2nd place, and 90-100 1st place.

Adult Novice Division: 60-69 Honorable Mention, 70-79 3rd place, 80-89 2nd place, and 90-100 1st place.

Professional Division: 70-79 3rd place, 80-89 2nd place, 90-100 1st place.

Master Division 70-79 3rd place, 80-89 2nd place, 90-100 1st place.

# Best of Show Award Winner



Dale Manning  
Missoula, MT

Also Awarded:

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Award  
Peoples Choice Award  
Outfitters and Guides Award  
Best of Masters  
Judges Choice  
Breakthrough Award

*Look at other taxidermists awards at the website:  
[mttaxidermists.com](http://mttaxidermists.com)*

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**MTA**  
210 Forest Drive  
Kalispell, MT 59901



# Friday Night Social Event at MTA Convention

At 6:30 pm

Come swap or barter items (forms, tool, etc)

Play poker or just socialize

The MTA will host with snacks

Hotel will have a no-host beverage bar available