



The Trapline

The Official Publication of the Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association
April 2022 Edition

President's Report

There have been some changes to the Bobcat seasons in Michigan. These changes have been from a collaboration of all three trapping organizations to expand our opportunities to trap bobcat. We have been working on these changes for a while, while we didn't get everything, we got something. The southern lower peninsula consists on Kent, Ionia, Montcalm, Muskegon, Gratiot, Saginaw, Ottawa, Clinton, and Shiawassee counties. These changes are getting us closer to be equal with the hunting community for opportunity of take.

The seasons are as follow:

- Southern Lower Peninsula: Dec. 10 to Dec. 20 for trapping; Jan. 1 to Jan. 11 for hunting.
- Northern Lower Peninsula: Dec. 10 to Dec. 29 for trapping; Jan. 1 to Jan. 20 for hunting.
- Upper Peninsula: Oct. 25 to Dec. 26 for trapping; Jan. 1 to March 1 for hunting.

The limits are still the same but we have expanded the areas.

DO YOU ALL ENJOY FUR SALES AND CONVENTIONS? Then PLEASE VOLUNTEER. Without your help our supply of workers is disappearing. Without these workers these events will stop. We are also looking for personnel to fill positions on the board most of our board members have been there awhile so some fresh insight would be appreciated.

Thank you,
Mark Spencer
President
Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers
Remember "KIDS WHO HUNT, FISH OR TRAP DON'T MUG LITTLE OLD LADIES"

Membership Secretary- Steve Campbell

My name is Steve Campbell and I'm looking forward to being the new membership secretary and working alongside the board. I want to thank Bruce for the help and insights he gave me at the last fur sale and for his years of service. If there are any concerns or ideas about membership issues, please feel free to reach out to me.

Tight chains to all. Thank you.

Steve

Letter from the Editor:

Hello, Trappers and Callers!

I hope you all had a good season! The world sure has gotten a little wonky recently. I'm sure glad we have the opportunity to get into the woods with friends and family away from all the craziness! (Of course, depending on your family, that might be taking the "craziness" with you! LOL)

Much thanks to Bruce Barlow for many years of dedicated service to our Association as Membership Secretary! And thanks to Steve Campbell for stepping up to take on the job! Membership Secretary is probably the busiest



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and most underappreciated position on the Board. (Notice I said that after Steve volunteered? This ain't my first rodeo!)

We managed to get some improvements on the bobcat trapping seasons. Without the efforts of your Board of Directors and some active members, this would not have happened. Support your State and National Associations!

Well, the Good Lord [and Her Majesty, the Governor] willing- we'll be having our convention in August. I'm ready for another Convention! We get to spend time away from the rest of the world and hang out with fellow Trappers and Callers. Although some of the craziness seems to sneak in through the gate from time to time! [Don't worry- it a good kind of crazy.] Don't forget to bring the kids and get them signed up for the Kid's Raffle on Saturday! We should have prizes for all kids 16 and under. Thank to all the supporters and, by the way, if you have some equipment that you're no longer using we'll be happy to find it a good home in the hands of a young sportsman or sportswoman.

Hang in there, My Friends!

John Caretti
Editor

NTA Director's Report:

Hello Trappers

Hope you had a productive season I know the prices are not good, but hopefully you slowed down and enjoyed your time on the trap line and took a beginner with you as well.

Unfortunately, the anticrowd has not slowed down in fact they are more aggressive than ever. The new administration in Washington D.C. is very sympathetic to this crowd. They are now suing to take away more trapping, hunting, and fishing rights on National Refuge land. New Mexico lost all trapping on public land. We are hopeful that this can be reversed.

So please keep all your memberships up to date, the fight never ends and to win we need money.

Ed Lundborg
NTA Director
yoteman50@gmail.com
231 342 4553

FTA/Raffle Report--FTA-Rep Craig Schafer



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Thank You Bruce Barlow for you years of service as Membership Secretary.

Welcome Steve Campbell as the new MTPCA Membership Secretary. Thank you for stepping up.

Events for 2022

June 16-18, 2022
FTA 54th Convention
Douglas County Fairgrounds
2110 Harper St.
Lawrence, KS 66046

July 15-16 2022
UP Trappers Convention
UP State Fairgrounds
Escanaba, MI. 49829

July 28-31, 2022
NTA Convention
Allen County Fairgrounds
Lima, OH

August 19-20, 2022
MTPCA Convention
Osceola County Fairgrounds
Ewart, MI 49631

NGLFH Convention
September 23-24, 2022
Chippewa County Fairgrounds
Kinross, MI 49752

The MTPCA is in need of more active members to donate some of their time. The MTPCA Association needs volunteers to help out at the booth during the Shows we do. At the MTPCA convention in August also. There is vacant board positions that need to be filled. Contact President Mark Spencer.

FTA Report.

The FTA continues to fight hand in hand with the NTA for the Trappers of the USA
If you have not already, join the FTA. www.furtakersofamerica.com

FTA/Raffle /Web Page Coordinator
Craig Schafer

Michigan Trappers Predator Callers Association Raffle



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Drawing Date: August 20th, 2022 3:00 PM
Osceola County Fairgrounds
Ewart MI 49631

6 Tickets for \$20 (Need not be present to win)

1. \$2,000 shopping spree Jay's Sporting Goods
2. 4 Man Walleye Charter *
3. Savage 350 Legend
4. Shooter Girl Ammun Ladies Pkg
5. 1 DZ Feather Lite DP's
6. BOG FieldPod
7. Pistol Vault
8. 1 DZ 160 RBG
9. Ruger 6.5 Creedmoore
10. Joe Goodman/Tom Miranda Books
11. RRRKW Knife *
12. 2 Man Bird Hunt *
13. J3 Outdoorz Pkg *
14. Stealth Cam
15. Cyclops LED Light
16. AuSable Knife Pkg & Videos
17. Ruger 243 Winchester
18. 1 DZ MB 450's
19. Boot Dryer
20. NightSnipe Hunting Light
21. Trigger Stick
22. Ruger 22-250
23. FoxPro Caller
24. Beaver Hat/Mittens
25. Game Scale
26. 1 DZ MB 550's
27. Ruger 10-22
28. Tanned Wolf *
29. RRRKW Knife *
30. Tanned Wolverine *
31. Stevens 12 ga Pump

Prizes sponsored by:

Barnes Hide & Fur
Bear Creek Hunt Club
Bob's Gun & Tackle
FnT Fur Harvesters,
Gold Star Outdoors
Jay's Sporting Goods



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J3 Outdoorz,
Joe Goodman and Tom Miranda
PCS Outdoors
Rapid River Knife Works
Reel Live-Action Charters
ShooterGirl Ammunition Jewelry
Superior Furs

MTPCA Region 1 Vice President's Report

Hello Trappers,

Winter is finally letting go. Spring beaver trapping in the U.P. is starting. I'm down here in sunny Florida. Convention season is just around the corner.

The Northern Great Lakes Fur Harvesters next meeting will be at the Recreation Building at the Hiawatha Sportsman's Club in Engadine, Michigan on May 18, 2022 @ 7:00 PM. See you there.

Thanks
Ed Kramer
Region 1 Vice President

MTPCA Region 2 Vice President's Report

There is a growing interest in competitive predator hunts in the state. This gives predator hunters an opportunity to test their skills against other hunters, compare techniques and skills and possibly win some nice prizes. One of these hunts is the Luzerne Predator Roundup held the last weekend in February. This year the hunt featured over one hundred hunters bagging 40 coyotes, 3 fox and 6 bobcats. Each of the last three years has seen an increase in the bag. Are there more predators, hunters becoming more proficient or a combination?

Next year will be the 11th Annual Hunt which features thousands of dollars in prizes for drawings, gun raffles and a Sunday evening awards banquet. This is a fun, well-run event that you are sure to enjoy. Contact Luzerne Predator Roundup on Facebook for additional information.

As I sit in front of my television set watching the horrors of the unprovoked war against Ukraine, I can't help but wonder what this will do to fur prices. You can bet it will not be good. Fur takers just can't seem to catch a break.

Stay safe.

Tom Oakey
Region 2 Vice President



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MTPCA Region 3 Vice President's Report

Hello Michigan Trappers,

I hope this letter finds you well and every one had a good season. Everything is winding down spring beaver is in end of season. I hope to get out for the end of it.

Slow season for me I did not get out as much as would have liked to but, none the less I had a good year as well. I did do some ice fishing and put some nice gills on the ice.

Fur prices? Well, Huh! That's world economy for ya. I still enjoy doing what I do keeping furbearers in check and helping out some land owners with critter problems.

As spring comes in many things come in to play turkey season come's in spring mushrooms are in along with wild ramps the inland lakes bring on fishing and so on. Conventions. Conventions, did I say!?! I did!

In ending I hope everyone has a good spring be safe out there. Hope to catch you on the dusty trail out there. Keep your powder dry- spring rains are a coming.

Ken (Bernie) Burzynski
Region 3 Vice President

Public Relations Director's Report

With season coming to a close I find myself ramping up for the busy time of the year. Why is this the busy time you ask? Public relations never ends and I am trying spread the word about the great things we do. The Predator Hunts were amazing but the future of them is now in question. There are people actively trying to end hunting contests and they do their homework. They have lots of money and they are currently trying to get laws passed in the Michigan legislature. They spread lies about our contests and they will not listen to reason. You should actively engage with your own legislators and let them know what you think.

The wolf issue is always moving away from us toward the horizon. Some judge in California has more say with what happens in Michigan than the residents themselves.

These roadblocks are not stopping us but do create a lot of extra hoops to jump through. We will stay out here fighting for our rights to harvest fur and will not back down.

Take a moment to talk with those around you and encourage them to contact their legislators as well. Remember we are in this together and there is no "We" without You!

Mark Earl
Public Relations Director



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2022 MTPCA Convention Report

Hello Everyone,

As you probably know this year's convention is August 19th. & 20th. At the Osceola County Fairgrounds in Ewart, Mi. I have been receiving vendor reservations pretty steady for the last few weeks. I believe we will have another full house of vendors and tailgaters. If you need supplies or equipment there will be plenty to look through. Our convention is for all of us trappers and predator callers, we all know what to expect. But there are sportsmen and women who have never been to a trapping convention. This is where you come in, if you have friends, family or co-workers that have never been to a trapper's convention before, invite them. It will be the best \$10 they spend all summer.

Mark Earl has said he will take charge of the Friday night donation meal. This year again we will have a hog roast. We are always in need of side dishes, desserts, and drinks. If you can join us for a great meal and great conversation you will have a wonderful time. All donations go to the kids trap raffle program.

We are in need of some help with the games Saturday at noon (Trap setting contest, kids hay scramble and possum toss) if you would like to help out, please let me know.

Each convention we have a limited supply of convention buttons for sale. This year is a special button. I have talked to a good friend and a great artist and he has agreed to let us use one of his paintings/drawings to be put on the button. Artist Joe Goodman will be back at our convention this year and we are proud to use his artwork on our button. These will be for sale at the MTPCA booth. Thank you- Joe!

As I have said in past reports, this convention is for all of us who love the craft of trapping and predator hunting. Please join us again this year and if you can spare an hour or two, we really could use your help.

On the next Convention Report I will have more details of demos and other events going on at convention. Until we meet in August!

Happy Trapping,
Joe Velchansky, Sr.
MTPCA Convention Coordinator

MTPCA Contact Info



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Governing Board

President: Mark Spencer - E-mail m Spencer@mtpca.com
Executive Vice President: Chris Kettler E-mail ckettler@mtpca.com
Region 1 Vice President: Ed Kramer - E-mail ekramer@mtpca.com
Region 2 Vice President: Tom Oakly
Region 3 Vice President: Ken "Bernie" Burzynski - Email kburzynski@mtpca.com
Treasurer: Vickie Wright - E-mail vwright@mtpca.com
Membership Secretary: Steve Campbell - E-mail sdtrapper5@mtpca.com
Recording Secretary: Missi Martineau - E-mail mmartineau@mtpca.com
Convention Coordinator: Joe Velchansky - E-mail jvelchansky@mtpca.com
Public Relations: Mark Earl - E-mail mearl@mtpca.com
Fur Sale Director: Missi Martineau - E-mail mmartineau@mtpca.com
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Director at Large, Raffle Coordinator: Craig Schafer E-mail cschafer@mtpca.com
Director at Large, Landowner Assistance: Mike Schippa E-mail mschippa@mtpca.com

Region 1 - Upper Peninsula DNR Zone 1

Regional Vice President: Ed Kramer - Email ekramer@mtpca.com
Regional Director: Dan Johnson - E-mail djohnson@mtpca.com
Regional Director: Vacant

Region 2 - DNR Zone 2

Regional Vice President: Tom Oakey
Regional Director: Mark Dorman - Email mdorman@mtpca.com
Regional Director: Elbert Rush - E-mail erush@mtpca.com
Regional Director - Tammy McDuffie E-mail tmcduffie@mtpca.com

Region 3 - DNR Zone 3

Regional Vice President: Ken "Bernie" Burzynski - Email kburzynski@mtpca.com
Regional Director: Jack Longstreet - Email jlongstreet@mtpca.com
Regional Director: Sam Berkheimer - Email sberkheimer@mtpca.com
Regional Director: Jim Tate - Email jtate@mtpca.com



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MTPCA Membership Application

_____ \$25/yr Regular

_____ \$250 Senior Life Membership

_____ \$850 Reg. Life Membership [\$850 or \$200 down & 13 payments of \$50]

_____ \$10/yr Junior, age 15 or younger [Trapline, MOoD, Fur Sale]

* All adult memberships get: Trap Line, MOoD (online ONLY), Fur Sale, Vote

OPTIONAL MAGAZINES OFFERED AT A DISCOUNT:

_____ \$12/yr Trapper and Predator Caller (10 issues)

_____ \$18/yr. Trappers World (6 issues)

_____ \$13/yr. Trappers Post (6 issues)

_____ Donation

_____ Total: Make checks out to: MTPCA

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Region: _____ County: _____ Birthday: Mon _____ Yr _____

Home Phone: _____ Business Phone (opt.): _____

E-Mail: _____

Mail to: Membership Secretary Steve Campbell, 4322 Huron St, North Branch, MI 48461

Yearly memberships run from January 1 through December 31