



The Trapline

The Official Publication of the Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association
June 2021 Edition

President's Report

By the time you are reading this we will have had trapper convention in Michigan (UP Trappers in Escanaba) and I will be packing for the National in Spencer IA. It will feel great to see everybody again and sit and discuss the world events with fellow trappers. Our convention is scheduled for August 20 and 21. Hope to see you all there.

Now for some other news Kalamazoo County Commissioners have sent a resolution that states they want the state policymakers to ban all predator contests. If you want to read the resolution here is the web address: <https://civicclerk.blob.core.windows.net/stream/KALAMAZOOCOMI/66264a73-aa6c-49aa-9ca6-f9ceba72a857.pdf?sv=2015-12=11&sr=b&sig=sZiyq4JSdPJDFhkcr%2B%2F8rBYJqsSv%2By3BiSUMEmkbbWI%3D&st=2021-06-09T18%3A10%3A05Z&se=2022-06-09T18%3A15%3A05Z&sp=r&rsc=cache&rsct=application%2Fpdf>

This is only the beginning and we need your help please contact your zone vice president to update your email address so that if this thing starts to take off in the legislative branch or the NRC we can update you quickly so that we can try to head it off.

The last thing I would like to bring up is probably a broken record for some but WE NEED VOLUNTEERS. This includes conventions, show, and fur sales (yes, we will have them again), so please contact one of the board members to help out. 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" Thank you



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Michigan Trappers & Predator Callers Association 2021 Annual Convention and Sport Show



- Dealer Buildings open at 8:00 AM Close at 5:00 PM
- Five buildings full of vendors and many tailgaters outside
- Free Skinning demos
- Kids raffle Saturday (can register beginning at 9:00 am Saturday, Drawing at 4:00 PM Saturday)
- Kids games, Saturday at 12:00 Noon
- Trap Setting Contests Saturday
- Friday evening Donation Meal (Tentative)
- Friday Evening Live Auction
- Walk around raffles
- Major raffle with big ticket items (Drawing at 3:00 PM Saturday)
- Camping on Grounds with full Hookups
- Inside Vendor Booth space
- Tailgating (20 ft Wide Spots)
- Food is available on the fairgrounds at the Lions booth
- Many restaurants nearby
- Host Hotel, Osceola Grand hotel in Evart (231) 734-0470
- Cast iron cooking demos both days
- Wild edibles
- Possum toss
- Adult hay scramble
- Kids hay scramble
- Friday dinner *Pig Roast*!!!

Contact: Joe Velchansky
(616) 894-6214
josephv@frontier.com

Drawing; August 21-2021, 3 PM
Tickets, 6 for \$20

1. \$2000 Shopping Spree-Jay's Sporting Goods
2. 4 Man Walleye Charter
3. Ruger 450 Bushmaster
4. RRRKW Redi Ax
5. Eskimo 8" Power Auger
6. Primos Trigger Stick
7. 1 DZ, FB-DP's
8. ICOtec Predator Caller
9. 1 DZ WC #2's
10. Shootergirl Ladies PKG
11. Stealth Cam
12. J3 Outdoorz PKG
13. Escort Semi Auto 12 ga.
14. Buddy Heater
15. 1 DZ WC #1's
16. Digital Metal Detector
17. Ladies Fur Mittens/Beaver Tail Waller
18. RRRKW Knife
19. Caldwell Field Pod
20. Savage 6.5 Creedmoore
21. 1 DZ 4.5 RBC's
22. Fox Pro Hammer Jack
23. 1 DZ FB-DP's
24. Savage 22-250
25. RRRKW Knife
26. Freedom Brand Coat Rack
27. Minn Kota Trolling Motor
28. 1 DZ WC 552's
29. 1 DZ MB 450's
30. Ruger DXL 10/22
31. River Rat Predator PKG

Osceola County Fairgrounds
Evart, Michigan
August 20th & 21st

Admission \$10 for Adults
Kids 16 and under Free

Trapping Supplies
Family fun
Raffles
Children's Events
Camping



Vendors Including

Dobbins lures, Dunlap lures, Trapping girl, F&T, Hagz (J3 Outdoorz), Mark Spencer, East Fork Predator bait, Superior Furs, JR & Sons, Winter Wildlife, Burts Furs, J & K Fur Exchange, Shooter Girl, Sterling Fur, Lenos Lures, Mark June Lures, Jim Tate Wolfen Bait, Wolf Creek, Barnes hide & Fur, Kansas Trapline, Finch Trap

Demo's Including

Sarah with SheTraps, Ed Schneider, Michael White, Trappergirl Linda White, JR from JR & Sons, Tom Morlock, Matt Johnson, Mark June, Jeff Haggerty, Jeff Dunlap, Earnest Winter, Zach Corradi, Jim Tate, Chris Kreiner,



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Letter from the Editor:

Hello Trappers and Callers!

I wound up the season with 58 beavers and a handful of muskrats. A lot more beavers than I planned to! The population is up and most of them were from damage control calls for friends and friends-of-friends. It's good to see the market turning around; although beavers are always slow to recover from market downturns. My cousin is getting a vest made from a few so that's cool. Lori got her coat made last year and really enjoyed it on the cold days this past winter- and I like seeing my pretty Lady wearing a coat made from my furs. Something to think about, guys!

Be sure to bring the kids to Convention this year. We're going to have the Kid Trapper Raffle on Saturday and we should have some pretty amazing prizes! We're also having a cook-out on Friday. I'll be bringing some catfish this year. Maybe some bear, too.

Hope to see you at Convention! I'm ready for some Apple Pie and Trappers' Tales! Which reminds me- I need to make some Apple Pie, too!

John Caretti, Editor

NTA Director's Report

NTA members and fellow trappers

Convention time is here, the 62nd NTA Convention in Spencer, Iowa is going to be great hope to see you there. The dates are July 22-24 and there are going to be a lot of great demos. Plus Marty Meierotto "Mountain Man" star from the History Channel will be there.

Now on a more serious topic please keep all your memberships up to date, there are all kinds of threats to the trapping way of life. Several states have anti-trapping legislation pending- New Mexico, Oregon, and New York to name a few. Please keep supporting the NTA, buy raffle tickets and cash calendars.

See you at Convention

NTA DIRECTOR
Ed Lundborg
231 342 4553
Yoteman50@gmail.com



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FTA/Raffle Report--FTA-Rep Craig Schafer

MTPCA Raffle:

Drawing: August 21, 2021, 3 PM

MTPCA Convention

Osceola County Fairgrounds

Evart, MI. 49631

Tickets 6 for \$20

Prizes:

1. \$2000 Shopping Spree-Jay's Sporting Goods
2. 4 Man Walleye Charter
3. Ruger 450 Bushmaster
4. RRKW Redi Ax
5. Eskimo 8" Power Auger
6. Primos Trigger Stick
7. 1 DZ, FB-DP's
8. ICOTec Predator Caller
9. 1 DZ WC #2's
10. Shootergirl Ladies Pkg
11. Stealth Cam
12. J3 Outdoorz PKG
13. Escort Semi Auto 12 ga.
14. Buddy Heater
15. 1 DZ WC #1's
16. Digital Metal Detector
17. Ladies Fur Mittens/Beaver Tail Wallet
18. RRKW Knife
19. Caldwell Field Pod
20. Savage 6.5 Creedmoor
21. 1 DZ 4.5 RBG's
22. Fox Pro Hammer Jack
23. 1 DZ FB-DP's
24. Savage 22-250
25. RRKW Knife
26. Freedom Brand Coat Rack
27. MinnKota Trolling Motor
28. 1 DZ WC 552's
29. 1 DZ MB 450's
30. Ruger DXL 10/22
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Prizes Sponsored By

Bob's Gun & Tackle
F n T Fur Harvesters
Gold Star Out Doors
Jay's sporting Goods
J3 Outdoorz
PCS Outdoors
Reel Live Action Charters
River Rats Trapping Supplies
Rapid River Knife Works
Shootergirl Ammunition Jewelry

All previously purchased tickets are still valid.

Tickets are available form board members. At the FTA Convention, UP Trappers Convention and the MTPCA Convention.

I will also have them with me at the NTA in Spencer Iowa.

U.P. Trappers Rendezvous

July 9-10

Escanaba, MI. 49829

U.P. State Fair Grounds

NTA National Convention

Spencer, IA 51301

July 22-24

<https://www.nationaltrappers.com/convention.html>

MTPCA Convention

August 20-21

Evart, MI. 49631

Osceola County Fair Grounds

<http://www.mtpca.com/>

NGLFH Rendezvous

Kinross, MI. 49715

September 24-25

Chippewa County Fair Grounds

2021-2022 MTPCA Fur Sale Dates and Locations.

December 18-2021

Jay's, Clare MI



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February 5-2022

Calhoun County Fairgrounds
Marshall, MI

March 26-2022

Northland Sportsman Club
Gaylord, MI

FTA Report.

By the time this Trapline is put to press, the FTA convention in Charlestown Indiana will have come and gone. Hopefully many of you were able to attend and stopped by the MTPCA booth.

Craig Schafer
MTPCA-Raffle Coordinator & FTA Rep.

MTPCA Region 1 Vice President's Report

Hello Trappers. Looks like the trappers conventions are a go this summer. Been working on my traps and finally replaced my triggers on my 110 conibears and up to 330s. No complaining this year. Coyote traps are all in order to dye and wax. Getting some supplies at the U. P. Trapping Convention July 9-10th In Escanaba, MI. It will be a good time. MTPCA Convention is August 16th-17th at the Osceola County Fairgrounds in Ewart, MI. The last Convention of the year will be NGLFH on September 24-25 at the Chippewa County Fairgrounds in Kinross, MI. Hope to see you all there! Have a great summer!

Ed Kramer
MTPCA Region 1 Vice President

MTPCA Region 2 Vice President's Report

We are all anxiously awaiting our annual convention in Ewart, August 20 and 21. As usual Joe Velchansky is hard at work putting this event together and I am sure he will elaborate on this topic in the current newsletter. I am always impressed with the great job Joe does in organizing this important association event. This is clearly the most important activity this organization sponsors and my hat is off to Joe for his very effective efforts. Joe will, I am sure, tell you we can use much help at the convention. No experience needed.

One of the many events at the convention is the Kids Raffle run by John Caretti. John has sent many smiling boys and girls from the convention with a bucket of trapping equipment and materials which



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they will hopefully use in starting their trapping careers. A local trapper, Lance Koshtiel, contacted me this past fall asking if we still had some type of youth program for the kids. I, of course, told him about John's efforts with the Kids Raffle. Lance recently delivered two five-gallon buckets full of traps and related equipment to be donated to the raffle. I want to thank Lance for his generosity and remind our members that we can always use such donations to help the kids get involved in trapping. Even if your equipment is in poor repair Caretti is a "wizard" at changing/switching parts thereby creating a viable trap. If you don't have equipment to spare, I'm sure John would accept any donation you would like to make to this worthwhile project. See you in August. Tom

Tom Oakey

Region 2 Vice President

[Ed. Note: Thanks, Tom! And thanks to all that help out with the Kid Trappers' Raffle!]

MTPCA Region 3 Vice President's Report

Hello Michigan Trappers

Not to much to report on trapping. Convention times are starting up. Time to make plans to make a convention date. Listen- the drums of the Antis are starting up again here in the state of Michigan.

3%. Yep that's it- 3% of the trappers are involved in making a difference yep don't you feel a little embarrassed that some are working hard to keep your Michigan heritage going?

Step up folks it's not that hard to help.

Stay safe out there hope to see all at the convention.

Ken (Bernie) Burzynski

Region 3 - Vice President

2021 MTPCA Convention

Convention! It's going to be here before we know it! This year's convention is going to be better than ever. We were - (yes that is a word, I just made it up) last year all across the country. Most of us are itching to be around like-minded folks to talk trapping. Mark your calendars for August 20th & 21st. We will be at our same location, the Osceola County Fairgrounds in Ewart Mi.

We will be having our Friday night meal again this year but with a surprise. We are having a pig roast! This is a donation meal. All donations will go to help fund the Kid Trapper Raffle program. As always, we will be asking for some of those yummy side dishes you folks bring. Anything and everything will be



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welcome. Salads, drink coolers, condiments, paper plates, desserts, cookies, chips, you name it. We are also looking for one or two people to head up this food rodeo. If you would like to help, please contact me. It's not a big job, but it is important. The main meal the pig, will be cooked by another volunteer. Those who can help with the meal will just need to set up tables for food, help pass out food or plates and that's about it.

Talking about the kid's raffle, get those kids or grand kids to convention! John Caretti brings a truckload of prizes for the kids. I will be bringing 7 dozen traps donated by Brian Jenks from Belding for the kids. Thank you, Brian! John starts signing kids up for raffles at 9:00am Saturday. Raffle drawing is at 4:00pm. Kids must be present to win.

There will be something for everyone at convention. All your favorite vendors will be there. Along with a ton of tailgaters selling their goods. New this year there will be cast iron cooking demos Friday & Saturday, hopefully there are samples! Also, we will have a possum toss. No real possums will be used. We couldn't find any that wanted to be tossed. There will be a kid's hay scramble and the growing adult hay scramble. Trap setting contest.

Mark Earl has been busy putting together a star-studded line up for demos. Mark and Ed Lundborg do a great job setting up and running the demos through. Our demo area is always top notch. If you want or need a break from shopping for supplies, take time to stop, set down and relax while you watch one or many of our demos. These folks will show you some things to help you this upcoming season. Take pictures and take notes. If you have questions after the demo, stop by their booth. They would be happy to answer any questions you might have.

And, as always, we could use your help. Our conventions run on the power of volunteers. Many of you are always there to help. But, we seem to always need a few more folks to get things done. If you would like to help out please contact me and I will add your name to the volunteer list and what duties you would like to help with. Here are a few places help will be needed.

Kid's Hay Scramble

Trap Setting Contest

Possum Toss

Friday Night Pig roast

Friday Night Auction

Admission Gate



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We hope to see you all there. Remember, load up the kids, load up the spouse, load up the mother in law! Bring them all! Something for everyone.

Joe Velchansky sr. MTPCA Convention Coordinator cell 616-894-6214 Joe Velchansky Sr.
MTPCA Convention Coordinator

Trapline Tips (courtesy of Craig Shafer)

Beaver Tail Oil-BTO

Take several beaver tails, cut them up in a large jar. Don't add anything else. Let them rot down over the summer. A thick dark oil will form on the top. Skim this oil and put in a jar or lure bottles. This oil is the lure. Let the jar set and in time it will produce more oil. Just keep skimming the oil until it stops producing it. It does not need any preservatives. Make the jar so flies cannot get in when rotting down. You will still need to vent the jar.

Fur Sale Director's Report

John filling in for Missi:

Fur prices continue to be recovering. Muskrats averaged around \$5 at the recent FTA Auction. Castor is running \$80-\$100 per pound for the good stuff although he hides are still dragging a bit. Raccoon is still cheap and Coyotes seem to have slipped a bit but are still not far from historical averages. Like I said before- no one's going to get rich trapping but it's at least possible to cover expenses. Like I tell my wife- if I can cover my gas I'm doing better than any duck, deer, or grouse hunter! 😊 We're planning to hold our fur auctions again next season.

Here are the dates and locations:

2021-2022 MTPCA Fur Sale Dates and Locations.

December 18, 2021

Jay's, Clare MI

February 5, 2022

Calhoun County Fairgrounds

Marshall, MI

March 26, 2022

Northland Sportsman Club

Gaylord, MI



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MTPCA Contact Info

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GOVERNING BOARD

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Regional Director: Dan Johnson-----E-mail djohnson@mtpca.com
Regional Director: Vacant

REGION 2 DNR Zone 2

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Regional Director: Mark Dorman
Regional Director: Elbert Rush-----E-mail erush@mtpca.com
Regional Director: Allen Ballard-----E-mail aballard@mtpca.com

REGION 3 DNR Zone 3

Regional Vice President: Ken "Bernie" Burzynski-----E-mail kburzynski@mtpca.com
Regional Director: Jason Ray-----E-mail jray@mtpca.com
Regional Director: Sam Berkheimer-----E-mail sberkheimer@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)

_____ \$11/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 Bruce Barlow, 4520 N. Shaw Rd. Gladwin, MI 48624

Yearly memberships run from January 1 through December 31