

President's Report

I'm hoping everyone has been having a good trapping & hunting season. The reports I've heard so far have been pretty solid in all parts of the state. If you encounter any major changes in furbearer populations in your area, please make sure MTPCA is aware. We are the 'go-to' resource for the DNR, NRC, & Legislature on furbearer issues- it's better when we are in the know.

We are right in the middle of Show Season and Fur Sale Season. The shows are major events for MTPCA as they get us out there in front of the public with a controlled audience. Most hunters know the same things about trapping as the general public... what Disney taught them. It's unfortunate but it's a reality. The shows allow us to field questions, show our tools, and explain the REALITY of modern trapping tools and methods to people who will listen. If you have the gift of gab or are passionate about helping spread the word, please reach out to us, we can use the help. The Fur Sales are a big benefit to membership with the MTPCA. We've had our Jay's Sale & Kalamazoo Sale at the time of this report. It's a fun place to get to know other like minded folks, talk shop, and make some money. Even if you only have a few furs to sell, I encourage you to come check out our fur sales. You'll have some fun.

Lastly, I want to give a huge shout out to the folks out there that are volunteering without asking for accolade. Those who help at fur sales, work the shows, represent us in Lansing, set up booths at church sportsmen events, explain what REAL trapping methods look like, and help us keep trapping ethical and legal in our great state. You know who you are. I THANK YOU!

Chris Kettler

Letter from the Editor:

Michigan still has more NTA members than any other state in the Union. We've trailed Pennsylvania as long as I can remember but now we're the one to beat. I'm a Life Member of MTPCA and NTA; and it was really good to hear that more trappers are stepping up to support the organizations that fight to preserve our hunting and trapping heritage!

Fur prices are still down and but they seem to be starting to turn around. Don't hang up your steel and your calls- help out landowners with damage from raccoons, predators, beaver, and muskrats (as the laws allow). While you may not be getting rich- you will be putting trappers and trapping in a good light with landowners and probably building relationships that will provide you with trapping and calling locations for when the market turns. I've been in the game for 45 years and have seen the market cycle more times than I can count. This is also a great time to experiment with new techniques. The stuff you'll learn will help you be more successful and effective when prices are up and you need to be making hay!

Thanks for being a part of the MTPCA! Without the support of people like you- trapping would be something we'd be telling our kids and grandkids about as opposed to take them out and teaching them! Be safe out there- no muskrat or beaver pelt is worth your life!

John Caretti

NTA Director's Report

Hello Trappers, NTA members

As we know the trapping season is winding down for the 2018/19 season. It was a very odd season with a lot of rain, snow and extremely cold temperatures that being said I hope everyone accomplished what they wanted to on their trapline this season, next year will be better weather and prices I hope.

The summer convention time will soon be here so make your plans now and mark your calendars for these important dates - 60th NTA convention July 11-13, UPTA July 26-27, MTPCA August 23-24 and NGLFH September 27-28. Next year 2020 the NTA convention will again be in Michigan at the Delta Plex in Kalamazoo.

Please remember all that the NTA does for you. As of right now the NTA is working with about two dozen separate state affiliates on anti-trapping proposals. So please keep your membership up to date and help the NTA be strong.

In parting, please be ethical in all of your trapping endeavors and take a young person with you on the trapline.

If you have any NTA questions, please feel free to contact me any time.

NTA DIRECTOR for MTPCA Ed Lundborg 231-342-4553 voteman50@gmail.com

FTA Director's Report

January 2019 Dave Hasting started his term as the New FTA President. Dave Hastings was the long time Editor of the FUR TAKER MAGAZINE.

Eric Arnold is the New FUR TAKER MAGAZINE Editor.

The FTA/NTA Alliance Officer is Rick Schoonover

The FTA has 3 new committees:

The FTA Corol Krumwiede Trapper Education Grant Fund

The FTA Furbearer Research Grant Fund

The FTA Youth Outreach committee.

The FTA continues to have a well-recognized presence at the Future Farmers of America National conference.

The FTA is closely monitoring the political challenges in Colorado, Montana and the new efforts by antitrap folks in New Mexico.

The FTA Trappers College continues to hit home runs year after year.

For a Complete overview and more information go to; http://www.furtakersofamerica.com/ A individual may also join the FTA by going to the FTA Website.

The," 2019 Fur Takers Rendezvous" June 20-22. 2019 Rockingham County Fairgrounds, 4808 S Valley Pike. Harrisonburg, VA. 22801

Respectfully Submitted, Craig STANLEY Schafer MTPCA FTA Director

MTPCA Region 1 Vice President's Report

Hello, my name is Mark Spencer for the people that don't know me I'm retired military own a Pastie shop in the UP and am also a fur agent for Fur Harvesters Auction of North Bay. I have volunteered to become the Vice President of this great organization. One of the upmost things that I believe that us trappers can do to help preserve our pastime is to join, whatever club you want to join please join and bring a friend. In dealing with our representatives if it's the DNR or legislative both on the state and national level you get more attention when you represent a 1000 votes vice one. So, my request to you is bring in new members to our organization and a national organization.

Remember to buy the raffle tickets at one of the shows or at the conventions this helps us promote ethical trapping throughout the state. Check in this issue for how to get tickets. Also, check out our new website it has been revamped to make it easier to find things like shows that we are promoting at and dates of statewide conventions.

That's all from me for now if any questions or problems please don't hesitate to contact me. Well time to go plowing snow again. That's it from way UP NORTH. The weather has been brutal so far (-29 the coldest morning so far), then we get snow. I mean lots of snow here in the banana belt of the UP we got about 3.5 ft to 4 ft on the level go north or west and you get more.

Remember "Kids who hunt, fish or trap DON'T mug little old ladies"

Mark Spencer, Jr.

MTPCA Region 2 Vice President

We have a new DNR Director Dan Eichinger was appointed to replace Keith Creagh by Governor Whitmer. Dan has been the Executive Director of MUCC and has a good understanding of trappers, hunters and fishermen. I went to his confirmation hearing with the Senate which went really well. Dan has spent his whole career working with conservation and the sporting groups. Keith Creagh was



appointed to the NRC and as Director of the DNR was very supportive of trappers he was the one who made sure that we would be able to leave traps on Commercial Forest Land.

With under Ice trapping going on and spring beaver around the corner everyone be careful out there. Fur prices are close to last year with no sign of much improvement in the near future. If you have the opportunity to take a youth or adult out please do this is a great way to introduce people to what we do. We will be having our last fur sale this season in Charlotte March 16th and could use some help if you are able to.

Dale Hendershot Dale Hendershot

MTPCA Region 3 Vice President's Report

Hello Michigan Trappers,

Hopefully you have all had a successful trapping season thus far. I know the fur prices at our last fur sale in Kalamazoo (February) were a little better than the previous sale and helped to make the time and effort seem profitable/worthwhile.

As we move towards the spring and summer (thank goodness;) please keep a few things in mind....

As I mentioned in my previous report we are constantly striving to make our organization better. In an effort to do that we need the help of our members. We need volunteers for our fur sales, convention shows and our biggest fundraising event, the annual convention in August. Please, take a minute to think about how you can help our organization by volunteering some time at one of these events. Most events and information are posted on our Facebook page. If you have any questions on events and dates, our website www.mtpca.com is in the middle of reconstruction and hopefully we will have a full calendar of events posted there as well. Keep checking back for important updates. We sincerely appreciate any time that you can give to keep our organization strong.

If you have not already heard the MTPCA will be hosting the 2020 National Convention back in Kalamazoo on July 11-13, 2020. I will be putting the volunteer list together and have some chairmen already in place. If you are interested in helping out at this convention, please contact me: email: tkaymasterson@aol.com or by my cell 248-568-5804. This is a big endeavor and will need all the help we can get. If there is a certain area that you think you could contribute, please let me know.

Thank you and good luck on the line,

Tamara Masterson Region 3 – Vice President

2019 MTPCA Convention

It may be the end of February but we are planning for convention already. Convention dates for this year are August 16th. & 17th. At the Osceola county fairgrounds in Evart Mi. Most of the vendor invitations have been sent. Fairgrounds have been reserved since last August and both Mark Earl and Ed Lundborg have agreed to once again build a first class demo area for us. If you missed the demo area, it had it all. Corn stalks, flowing water, beaver dam, muskrat slides, you name it. Those boys work hard and it showed. The demo list from last year was quite impressive. This year should be just as good. If there is someone special you would like to see do a demo, please contact me and I will try my best.

We are doing things a little different this year with the Friday night dinner. We are having a pizza party of sorts to get the ball rolling. We will supply pizza and soft drinks. Any and all other food donations are welcome as always. Plus, if you bring a dessert to share, we will be judging desserts and the best dessert will win a prize. If you have some of your favorite foods or side dishes you would like to share, please bring them along. I will once again have my spicy dill pickles.

Our live auction will be moving from Saturday night to Friday night this year. Many folks miss out on the auction when it was on Saturday as they needed to get on the road for the long drive home after convention. Also vendors were too busy packing up to attend. Moving the auction to Friday it can start right after the dinner.

If there is anything you would like to see at convention or something done different please let me know and I will try to make it happen. The Osceola grand hotel is the host hotel. To receive a discount please tell them you are with the Trappers. Their number is 231-734-0470

As in the past admission is \$5.00 for people 17 and older. Camping is \$17 per night or \$25 for the entire weekend. Inside vendor booth space is \$40 per table space. Tailgating is \$25 per spot.

I hope you can all make it this year to enjoy our convention.

See you there. Happy Trapping,

Joe Velchansky, Sr.
MTPCA Convention Coordinator
Cell 616-894-6214
Email josephv@frontier.com

Trapline Tips

All Purpose K-9 Lure

8 oz of HONEY add 1 oz Beaver Glands 1 oz Mink Glands 4 oz Glycerin 5 drops of Rhodium



KEEP EXTRA CLOTHES AND TOOLS IN YOUR TRAPPING TRUCK. ALONG WITH A FIRST AID KIT

Quick Bodygripper Anchors

A great way to quickly and efficiently anchor your beaver, otter, and raccoon bodygrippers:

Attach a quick link to your bodygripper with a universal swivel and one or two links of chain. Then take a 6'-10' piece of 3/32" cable and make loops on both ends. To anchor the trap, pass the cable around a nearby tree or log, and pass one loop through the other. Attach the free loop to the trap with the quick link. If you cinch the quick link tight with your pliers, no one can take your trap without cutting down the tree or having a tool to open the quick link- and no beaver or otter will ever break the cable. I've used this system for over twenty years and have never lost a trap. The cables last for years and - and a single roll of wire will last me a couple seasons!

A handy tool to make it easier to carry beaver, raccoons and other larger furbearers out of the field can be made with a 5" piece of PVC pipe and a couple 21" lengths of cable with slip loops on both ends. Stop by the Kid Raffle (in the Poultry Building) at the MTPCA Convention and you can check one out. And if you have kid with you- they might just win one!

Trappers Education Class

I will be holding a Trapper Education Class Saturday October 5th. 2019 at the Central Michigan Sportsman's Club in Stanton Mi.

This class is open to students of all ages. Children 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

The cost of the class is \$6.00 per student. This is to cover the cost of the traps. Each student will receive two traps (a 1 ½ coil spring and a 110 body grip) a couple bottles of lure, an NTA handbook, a bucket and some printed material. Also an 18 chapter workbook.

This is a hands on class with all the traps and equipment. We will cover everything from the history of trapping, all the way up to marketing your catch. This is an 8 hour class and we will be going outside from time to time, so you will need to dress for the weather.

This class is for anyone who wants to learn trapping. It doesn't matter if you are a beginner or a seasoned professional, you will learn something from this class.

I will provide doughnuts and juice in the morning and lunch at noon.

For more information or to reserve a place in class, please call me at 616-894-6214

You must register ahead of time. Spaces are Limited

Trapper Education Class When: Saturday October 5th.

Where: Central Michigan Sportsman's Club 4391 E. Stanton Rd. Stanton Mi. 48888

Time: 9:00am to 5:00pm



Cost: \$6.00 per student

Contact: Joe Velchansky sr. 616-894-6214

16th Annual MTPCA Kid Raffle - 2019

We'll be having the 16th Annual Kid Raffle on Saturday at this year's MTPCA Convention. Sign up starts at 9am (at the Poultry Building) and the drawing for the Grand Prizes will be at 3pm. Each kid wins a smaller "instant" prize when they sign up (while supplies last- but they usually make it all the way).

If you have unused trapping or calling equipment, we'd be thrilled to help get it into the hands of a kid that can use it to get started. You can bring it to a Fur Sale or to Convention. Broken traps are cheerfully accepted- I can often take two or three broken traps and make a good one for a kid. Because of the equipment (new and used) donated by Trappers, Callers, and Dealers- for the e2018 Kid Raffle we were able to give instant prizes to 90 kids and outfit the 14 Grand Prize kits for a total of \$495 (money that came from donations at the 2017 Trappers and Callers Cook-out). Do the math and you'll find that because of the number of supporters pitching in a little here and a little there we get a pretty good bang for the buck!

Thanks to all those who support the Kid Raffle!

Bring the kids to Convention!

John Caretti

Huntin' Time Expo Report

January 25th -27th MTPCA had a booth at the 2019 Huntin Time Expo in Grand Rapids Mi. This show is always well attended by sportsman minded people. This is a great opportunity to meet and greet with the public. For so many decades trapping was always such a secretive activity and the last thing trappers wanted to do was share any information. Today, we share much more than trapping secrets. We share how we use conservation to balance a renewable resource with trapping ethically and responsibly.

Engaging with the general public and informing them of WHY we trap and HOW we trap opens their eyes to how we are needed to control the balance in the ecosystem. Showing the public what good we can do in animal damage control and landowner assistance is a great way to open more doors to trapping.

This year Craig "Stanley" Schafer and myself spent the entire weekend at the show. We could not have done it without the help from Brad Eshbaugh and Justin Doolittle. These folks were very helpful and professional to anyone with questions or concerns. We are lucky to have these folks on our team.

Coyote problems were THE number one complaint from landowners. If you are looking for more land to trap, go after the coyotes and I'm sure it will open a few more doors.



We had a very busy weekend at the show selling merchandise & furs. We signed up a few new members and had some renewals. Craig sold a ton of raffle tickets as well. I think Craig could sell milk to a dairy farmer! By the time you read this the next outdoor show in Lansing will be underway. If you would like to volunteer at one of these shows, we sure could use the help. And, you get to talk trapping! What a deal! The Huntin' Time Expo has anywhere from 13000 to 17000 people through the door. A great venue to spread our word about Trapping and our association.

Happy Trapping, Joe Velchansky Sr.

Fur Sale Director's Report

Hello Everyone!

As we are wrapping up the 2018/2019 Fur Sale Season, I will be analyzing this year's sales and putting together the 2019/2020 Fur Sales. Please keep an eye on your TrapLine (this one, as the season is up for most of the Furbearers) for additional communication and events. I am providing you with the Kalamazoo Fur Sale Species Summary, just know that we are still working to get the castor figures more accurate. Text seems to be the best way to reach me, so my number is (269)425-6024. Thank you for your support (attendance and helping hands) during this 2018/2019 Season.

Missi Martineau, MTPCA Fur Sale Director

SPECIES SUMMARY

	Values			
Row Labels	Sum of COUNT	Max of BID \$	Min of BID \$	Weighted Average
BADGER - GREASED	1	\$41.00	\$41.00	\$41.00
BEAVER	61	\$50.00	\$1.00	\$14.62
BEAVER CASTOR	5	\$360.00	\$9.00	\$130.00
BOBCAT	4	\$60.00	\$32.00	\$39.75
COYOTE	88	\$67.00	\$1.00	\$31.62
DEER HIDES	12	\$5.25	\$1.00	\$3.83
FOX - GRAY	1	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
FOX - RED	26	\$24.00	\$1.00	\$17.85
MINK - FEMALE	33	\$8.00	\$1.00	\$6.20
MINK - MALE	54	\$15.50	\$1.00	\$9.82
MUSKRAT	3959	\$6.85	\$0.10	\$4.92
OPOSSUM	14	\$3.50	\$1.00	\$2.79
OTTER	5	\$56.00	\$40.00	\$47.90
RACCOON	509	\$17.00	\$1.00	\$8.24
SKUNK	6	\$13.00	\$3.00	\$5.67
(blank)				#DIV/0!
RACCOON - GREASED	97	\$9.00	\$1.00	\$6.11
OTTER - GREASED	1	\$57.50	\$57.50	\$57.50
SQUIRREL - TAILS	17	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25
MUSKRAT GLANDS	1	\$37.50	\$37.50	\$37.50
Grand Total	4894	\$360.00	\$0.10	\$6.22

(Ed. Note: I was at the Kalamazoo sale. Good quality castor was going for about \$60/lb.)

2019 MTPCA Raffle

We're getting a great jump on the raffle for 2019! Craig "Stanley" Shafer has hit another grand slam putting together the prizes for the Raffle. Stanley has said he'll have tickets by 1/1/2019 (and we're hoping to have tickets ready for the December Fur Sale). Here are the prizes:

> Item **Sponsor**

1. \$2000.00 Shopping spree at Jay's [unrestricted] Jay's Sporting Goods

2. Ruger American 450 Bushmaster Bob's Gun & Tackle

3. 3-Man Fishing Charter-Reel Live Action Charters Reel Live Action Charters- Nick Dood

4. Shootergirl Ammunition Jewelry, Ladies Package Shootergirl Ammunition Jewelry

-Tracy L. Polaski 5. 1 Dozen Freedom Brand DP's **FNT Fur Harvesters**

6. Lead Sled Gold Star Outdoors

7. CVA Hunter 450 Bushmaster Bob's Gun's & Tackle

8. 1 Dozen WC Eliminator #1 DJ Traps **PCS Outdoors**

9. Stealth Cam RX24 **PCS Outdoors** 10. Rapid River Knife Rapid River Knife Works

11. ION 8" Ice Auger Gold Star Outdoors

12. Mossberg-Maverick 20 ga. Bob's Gun's & Tackle 13. Fox Pro-Hammer Jack **FNT Fur Harvesters**

14. 1 Dozen WC 552 Conibear 5 X 5 **PCS Outdoors**

15. Rapid River Knife Rapid River Knife Works

16. Bright Eyes Hunting Cap **FNT Fur Harvesters** 17. Ruger 10/22 DXL Sporter Bob's Guns & Tackle

18. His & Her's Beaver Tail Wallets **FNT Fur Harvesters**

19. Double Bull Deer Blind Gold Star Outdoors 20. Hunting Buddy Heater Gold Star Outdoors

21. RRKW Redi-Axe Combo Jay's Sporting Goods

22. 1 Dozen WC #2 CB Dogless Traps **PCS Outdoors**

23. Night Snipe Hunting Light **PCS Outdoors**

24. Savage M-42 .22/.410 Bob's Guns & Tackle

25. LEM Sausage Kit Jay's Sporting Goods

26. 1 Dozen Freedom Brand DP's **FNT Fur Harvesters**

[Pretty nice, huh? Editor.]

2019 Trapper's and Caller's Calendar

UP Trappers Rendezvous . Escanaba MI . Fair Grounds June 14-15, 2019

FTA Rendezvous, Harrison, VA. Fair Grounds, June 19-23, 2019

NTA Convention, Springfield, MO. July 11-13, 2019

MTPCA Convention & Outdoor Show. Evart MI. Osceola Cty Fairgrounds. August 16-17, 2019

Northern Great Lakes Fur Harvesters, Chippewa County Fair Grounds, Kinross, MI. September 27-28, 2019

MTPCA Contact Info

REGION 1 - UP DNR ZONE 1

Regional Vice President: Mark Spencer - E-Mail spenfurs@lighthouse.net

REGION 2 - DNR ZONE 2

Regional Vice President: Dale Hendershot - E-Mail dhendershot69@gmail.com

REGION 3 - DNR ZONE 3

Regional Vice President: Tamara Masterson-E-Mail tkaymasterson@aol.com

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Chris Kettler - E-Mail Clkettler@sbcglobal.net

Executive Vice President: Vacant- Chris Kettler advanced to President by vacancy per By Laws

OTHER MTPCA OFFICERS

Treasurer: Vickie Wright - E-Mail vwright@nationaltrappers.com

Membership Secretary: Bruce Barlow - E-Mail bevrpndhntr@gmail.com Convention Coordinator: Joe Velchansky - E-Mail josephv@frontier.com

Public Relations: Mark Earl-E-Mail mearlzone3@gmail.com

Fur Sale Director: Missi Martineau- E-Mail Superiorfur@gmail.com

NTA Director: Ed Lundborg - E-Mail yoteman50@gmail.com

Trapline Editor: John Caretti - E-Mail Injcaretti@att.net

M.U.C.C. Director: Chris Kettler - E-Mail Clkettler@sbcglobal.net

Inventory Person: Lisa Bagalay lisabagalay@ymail.com





For further information please go to the NTA website www.nationaltrappers.com or contact Vicki Wright, Convention Coordinator, at 231-907-0977 or vwright@nationaltrappers.com



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, I		_	ur Sale, Vote				
	OPTIONAL MAGAZINES OFF	ERED AT A DISCO	:TNUC					
	\$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:								
Home Phone: _	Business Phone (opt.):							
E-Mail:								
Mail to: Membe	ership Secretary Bruce Barlow, 4520 N. Shav Yearly memberships run from Jan	•						

Trapline Editor 30803 Iroquois

Warren, MI 48088

Mailing Address Block