

*Michigan Taxidermist
Association
28th Annual Taxidermy
Convention & Competition*



*March 17 - 21st 2010
Devos Place
Grand Rapids, Mi*



Welcome to the 28th Convention of the Michigan Taxidermist Association at the DeVos Place!

The following is a synopsis of events and activities that will be taking place! Wednesday, March 17th is for registration only. When you arrive at the DeVos Center with your mounts, use the parking ramp under the DeVos Place (right before river on Michigan Avenue). Go straight into the ramp to the far south (someone or signs will be there to direct you). There is a freight elevator at the far end which takes you right to registration on the 3rd floor. This parking ramp has a steep incline and the height is only 8'3" tall so be aware of your vehicle/trailer height. **There will be absolutely no unloading of mounts in front of the DeVos Place on Monroe St.** If you have a large piece that you need assistance with, please come to registration and we will assist you. At registration, you will be given a mount receipt. Do not lose this, as you will need it to pick up your mount on Sunday. You will then be given an opportunity to groom your mount and make any last minute adjustments before a Board Member takes it into the competition area. Also during registration, you must sign up for the banquet on Saturday night if you are planning to attend. We have to have final numbers Wednesday evening. Sorry, but due to the fact that these are competition pieces not yet judged, members are not allowed in the competition area. All safeguards must be used to protect against any risk of damage. Only designated people shall be allowed in the judging area until after the judging is completed on Thursday. This will be strictly enforced! On Thursday at 9:00 a.m. we will be having a new members and first time competitors meeting. We will be there to explain what is going on and answer any questions you may have. We hope that this will make things go a lot smoother and less confusing for you. By doing this we believe that we will be able to get feedback from you at the start of the show as well as after the show. We hope that all of you will attend this meeting. Seminars will start at 10:00 a.m. You must be registered for the show to attend the seminars. There will be schedule posted throughout the supplier's area and at the desk listing the date and times for the seminars. The suppliers should also be setting up throughout the day. You do not need to be registered for the show but must be a member to enter the supplier's area. Judging will be going on out in the competition area until approximately 3:00 pm. Again, only designated people are allowed in this area until the judging is completed. Sometimes judging may run past 3:00; be patient, every mount deserves the same level of critique. We will announce when we are finished and you will be allowed to enter. Friday – This day is a good day to see how you did on your competition mounts and to get them critiqued by the judges. Seminars start at 10:00 a.m. and run throughout the day. Check the schedules for the times and which seminars are going on. Supplier area is open all day. We will be having a Family Night (Patriotic/Military Theme – Costumes are optional) on Friday evening from 7:00-11:00. This is a family event with music, dancing, karaoke and just plain fun! There will be a cash bar available. Saturday – Seminars start at 10:00 a.m. Supplier area is open. The awards banquet will start at 5:00 p.m. with dinner (you must have a ticket for the dinner). The auction will start at approximately 8:30 p.m. You do not need to have a dinner ticket to attend the awards/auction, but must be a member. Bring any items for the auction (they do not necessarily have to be taxidermy related). This is one of our biggest money making projects for the year so come out and support the M.T.A.! Sunday – Seminars start at 10:00 a.m. Suppliers are open but a few will start packing up. We will have a new members and first time competitors meeting at 2:00 p.m. Plan on attending. This gives us a chance for feedback from a new set of eyes. We will be starting our regular membership meeting and elections at 2:30 p.m. At 5:00 p.m. you will be allowed to remove your mount. We will have everyone line up outside the competition area doors. A board member will come up to you and ask to see your mount receipt. He/she will then escort you to your mount, which you can then remove from the area. If you have more than one mount be sure to inform the board member and he/she will wait until you return to get your next piece. Be sure to be there at this time. The M.T.A. cannot be responsible for any mounts left past 6:00 p.m. After you pick up all your mounts you are free to leave. There you have it. I hope this clears a lot of questions up for you. One thing to remember though is that your membership card will get you into the Sport Show for free. All you have to do is show your membership card. Also, if you are not competing but wish to attend the seminars you must be registered for the convention. If you cannot attend the whole convention, we will have 1 day passes available at a cost of \$25.00 per day. Ask at the desk. If at any time during the show you have any questions, please feel free to ask an officer or board member. Hope to see you all at the 28th Annual Convention 2010 and good luck in the competition!

Scott Derenski, President

M.T.A. CONVENTION SCHEDULE

M.T.A. Show Hours

Wednesday, March 17, 2010	9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Registration Only
Thursday, March 18, 2010	4:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Mounts on Display
Friday, March 19, 2010	10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.	
Saturday, March 20, 2010	10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.	
Sunday, March 21, 2010	10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	

MOUNTS ARE TO BE PICKED UP AT 5:00 P.M. ON SUNDAY!

SEMINAR SCHEDULE : SUBJECT TO CHANGE

<u>Day/Time</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Room</u>
<u>Wednesday March 17</u>			
3:00-5:00	TBA	To Be Announced	A
6:00-8:00	TBA	To Be Announced	A
<u>Thursday March 18</u>			
9:00-9:30	New Member Meeting	Scott Derenski, Pres	B
9:30-12:00	Rick Krane	Mounting a Fish	A
10:00-12:00	TBA	To Be Announced	B
1:00-?	Rick Krane	Fish Mounting Continued	A
1:00-4:00	Duncan Price	Mounting a Bird	B
4:00-7:00	TBA	To Be Announced	B
<u>Friday March 19</u>			
9:00-12:00	Hilton Eppley/Mike Rohanna	Hands On Deer Mounting Seminar	A
9:00-11:30	Randy Budzynski	Painting a blue gill	B
1:00-?	Hilton Eppley/Mike Rohanna	Hands On Deer Mounting Continued	A
1:00-3:00	Glen Browning	To Be Announced	B
3:00-5:00	Manney Chavez	Mammals	B
5:00-7:00	Dennis Harris & Bill Yox	Mounting an African Kudu	B
6:00-8:00	TBA	To Be Announced	A
<u>Saturday March 20</u>			
9:00-12:00	Gary Bruch	Carving a Coldwater Fish Body	A
9:00-12:00	Bill Yox	Whitetail Form Alteration	B
1:00-3:00	Jim P.	Seminar provided by Cape Snake	A
1:00-3:00	Mike Zank	Whitetail Eye & Ear Setting	B
<u>Sunday March 21</u>			
9:00-11:00	TBA	To Be Announced	A
9:00-11:00	Kurt Ainsworth	Finishing Pedestal Backs	B
12:00-2:00	Joe Miles	Habitat	A
12:30-2:30	Doug Veldhuis/Kevin Perry	Mammal Mounting (coyote or fox)	B

Kids Seminars:

Saturday March 20:

10:00-12:00	TBA	TBA
12:00-2:00	Kelly Veldhuis	Shirt Painting

REMINDER . . . WHILE JUDGES ARE DOING SEMINARS THEY WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR CRITIQUES. Critiques will be available by appointment on Friday and Saturday. See MTA Desk for more information and sign up.

Supplier Room Hours

Please Support our Suppliers by purchasing products from them at the Convention.

Thursday March 18

3:30 – 4:00 p.m. – Suppliers ONLY
4:00 – 6:00 p.m. – Open to Members

Friday March 19

11:00 -1:00 p.m. Break for Lunch 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Saturday March 20

11:00-1:00 p.m. Break for Lunch 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Sunday March 21

Per supplier (some will pack up early)

OTHER CONVENTION IMPORTANT EVENTS:

Wednesday March 17: Registration – All mounts to be groomed and in showroom by 9:00 p.m. (unless we have bad weather conditions). There will be a Professional Photographer available to take pictures for a fee.

Thursday March 18: New Members & First Time Competitors meeting – 9:00 a.m. Competition room will be closed to everyone except judges and board members that need to be in there. We hope to have all ribbons on by 3:00 p.m.

Friday March 19: 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. – Family Night (Patriotic/Military Theme)

Saturday March 20:

12:00 p.m. PEOPLE CHOICE BALLOT DEADLINE (see MTA Desk)
5:00 p.m. Banquet Dinner (Social Hour) (Must have ticket to attend)
6:00 p.m. Dinner Served
7:00 p.m. Awards Presentation (after dinner we will allow those who did not attend dinner into the awards banquet.
8:00 p.m. Auction (immediately following Awards – this is our biggest Fund Raiser event – Support the MTA)

Sunday March 21::

2:00-2:30 New Member/First Time Competitor Meeting
2:30-4:45 p.m. Membership Meeting/Elections
5:00 p.m. Mount Pick Up (line up at the MTA table)

THE MTA MEMBERS WILL BE DOING A MOUNT AS A PUBLIC SEMINAR FOR A HUNT OF A LIFETIME RECIPIENT. EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN IN. MORE DETAILS AVAILABLE AT CONVENTION.

MORE ON CONVENTION 2010

Master/Professional Judges

Whitetails/Game Heads	Bill Yox/Mike Rohanna
Mammals	Manny Chavez
Fish	Gary Bruch
Birds	Glen Browning

Novice Judges

Whitetail	Ken Onken/Doug Alberda
Mammals/Game Heads	Doug Veldhuis/Dennis Harris
Fish	Paul Borkowski/Randy Budzynski
Birds	Duncan Price/Charlie Walker

Cash Awards – Show Span is sponsoring cash awards and prizes again this year. They are giving us an additional \$1500.00 to be used for this sole purpose. Below is a description of how this money will be divided up.

Best of Show – Judges Choice	\$500.00	People’s Choice-Masters	\$200.00
People’s Choice–Professional	\$100.00	People’s Choice-Novice	\$ 50.00
Master’s of Master’s Award \$500.00 (sponsored by Wildlife Gallery)			
Artistry of Wildlife Award \$300.00 (sponsored by Dennis Harris)			

Other Awards/Trophies – Please see Award Listing.

ACCOMMODATIONS – Rooms have been blocked at the **RADISSON** this year. When calling tell them you are with the Michigan Taxidermist Association. Their number is 1-800-333-3333. The rooms are only blocked through March 03, 2010 so call early. Rooms are available at \$92.00 for Single or Double. The Radisson is located at 270 Ann St. NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Website: <http://www.radisson.com/hotels/migrapno> - Other accommodations include the Amway Grand Plaza 1-800-253-3590 or the Days Inn is also just across the bridge within walking distance. Their number is 616-235-7611. Call for pricing and availability at these facilities.

PRE-REGISTRATION – We will also be having a drawing for everyone who pre-registers. If your name is drawn you win next year’s registration fee.

50/50 RAFFLE – We will be doing 50/50 during the banquet and awards ceremony.

AUCTION – The auction will follow the awards ceremony again this year. Please bring items to donate as this is the biggest auction for the association each year. Every little bit helps. The items do not have to be related to taxidermy. Please come out and support us. This gives us the extra income to bring our great seminars to our members.

MEMBERS – This is a very busy and hectic time for the officers and board members. Any help that you can give during this time would be greatly appreciated. See any board member or officer to help.

SELLING OF MOUNTS – You may sell your *Competition* mounts at the convention but you must register it as one to sell when you bring it to the show. The M.T.A. would like to receive a 10% donation of the purchase price paid. The M.T.A. will **NOT** accept responsibility for any mount sold illegally or without the proper paperwork. This shall be the sole responsibility of the seller and the buyer and **NOT** the M.T.A.

SUPPLIERS – We will be having a supplier room again this year. You do not need to be registered for the convention to enter this area. You are required to be a member, however. Everybody likes to see the suppliers come so help them out. Be sure to purchase items from them to show our support for all their hard work. Remember, most suppliers offer show specials during the convention which saves you money.

MICHIGAN TAXIDERMIST ASSOCIATION

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Point Values

Masters Division

1st Place = 5 points
2nd Place = 4 points
3rd Place = 3 points

Professional Division

1st Place = 2 points
2nd Place = 1 point

TOTAL POINTS NEEDED TO ACHIEVE THE AWARD OF EXCELLENCE-30*All points must be earned at the Michigan State Competition/Convention. *10 points must come from Masters Division with 2 of them having to be blue ribbons*20 points remaining can come from Masters Division or Professional Division or a combination of the two.

CATEGORIES AS FOLLOWS:

Whitetails/Game Heads Mammals Fish/Reptile Birds

*The competition chairman and the president, combined shall use their discretion as to if and where any mount in question shall be applied. Their decision shall be final.

*Reproductions and recreations shall fall under the category which they are judged in.

*Mixed group mounts shall be given credit for the appropriate category in which each mount falls under.

*Rugs shall fall under mammals or appropriate category.*Group mounts get one score.

*Best All Around mounts shall be given credit for the appropriate category in which each mount falls under.

*Group competitors, educational and freeze dried categories shall not be applied towards the Award of Excellence.

Retroactive Points From 1983-1985 there were no divisions. They will be counted as Professional Division.

1985 ribbon winners was the introduction of the Masters Division and will be counted as first place Master ribbons.

1986-Present – mounts shall be awarded the appropriate points as per division and ribbons.

MASTERS OF MASTERS DIVISION CRITERIA

Once a member has earned their Award of Excellence, they are eligible to compete in the Masters of Masters Division in the category that earned them their Award of Excellence. This division is the most prestigious one in the M.T.A. It is mandatory that all body work, bird bill casts and parts be done by the participant. Nothing should be bought except eyes. Judging in this division will be very demanding. Mounts must be technically correct as well as artistically oriented and creative. Multi Ribbons will be awarded with 95+-1st, 90-94- 2nd and 85-89 – 3rd. The judges will choose the best entry and the winner will receive a trophy as well as a \$500.00 cash prize. The winner's name will also be placed on the traveling trophy.

GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

1. Mounts must remain for the duration of the show (5 p.m. Sunday) **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
2. Mounts entered at owner's risk. Every precaution will be made to secure the entries. The MTA will not assume responsibility for loss due to damage, theft, fire and/or natural causes.
3. All nameplates indicating the taxidermist name and/or business name must be covered by the competitor before mount is entered. No pictures showing the taxidermist and/or the business shall be allowed in the judging area until judging is complete. No names or pictures are allowed on the originality sheets. Absolutely NO signs advertising guide services will be allowed in the show at ANY time. Failure to comply may result in disqualification of mount.
4. No business cards are to be placed on or around competition pieces on the convention floor at any time during the show. This ensures the safety of all competitors mounts from being damaged or stolen by ensuring the general public is not encouraged to reach across the security barriers that are in place.
5. Entries in any reproduction category must be originally done by the competitor and cannot be purchased from a supplier.
6. Permits must accompany any protected species.
7. The MTA will not accept any mounts depicting man-inflicted injuries such as a trap on leg, gunshot wounds, arrows in flesh, or any mount done in poor taste. The competition chairman has the right to remove any such mount from the show.
8. There will be multiple ribbons in all divisions.
9. Two blue ribbons in Novice division in any category or combination of categories bump you up to professional division the following year.
10. You must show your I.D. receipt tag upon leaving the show at 5 p.m. Sunday with your mount. **DO NOT LOOSE THIS RECEIPT!**
11. **NO ONE** will be allowed in the judging area until judging is complete. **ONLY people designated by competition chairman will be allowed in judging area during judging.**
12. Spotted fawns and juvenile/immature species may be entered (questionable out of season specimens must have a breeders authority). Juvenile/immature entries must have a sign for display with explanation of origin or death.
13. Domestic dogs and cats may NOT be entered.
14. Reproduction parts are acceptable (i.e. duck heads, feet, fish heads).
15. Freeze dryer may NOT be used for parts or as a dryer. Freeze-dried will be a separate division. **Exception – you may use a freeze-dried turkey head only in the Turkey categories.** Any other freeze dry method must be entered in the freeze dry category. Competition chairman will have final say in any disputes.
16. Freeze Dry Category: All preparation, mounting and finish work must be done by the competitor. You cannot purchase a freeze dried specimen from a commercial vendor or private individual and enter it into competition.
17. Extra credit will be given for doing your own Reproduction parts; forms, etc. provided they are done well and in accordance with the score sheets. Please indicate so when registering mounts.
18. No novelty mounts allowed (i.e. mounts depicting animals in a human or unnatural setting. The competition chairman will remove any mount as such brought to the show).
19. Masters division categories will be the same as Professional division, but will be judged at a higher level. Master division shall be judged heavily on originality and art.
20. Qualified MTA board members or representatives shall judge Novice division; you must have 2 blue ribbons in professional division in specific category to qualify as a Novice judge.

21. The judges must break all ties for trophies or major awards before the judging is completed.
22. You may NOT enter a single category in two different divisions (Example – you may not enter a deer head in both the Novice and Professional divisions or Professional and Masters divisions, or Masters of Masters and Masters divisions, etc.). You may enter different divisions in different categories (Example – you may enter a deer head in Novice division and a fish in Professional division or a deer head in Professional division and a fish in Masters division, etc.)
23. You MUST have received a blue ribbon to be eligible to receive Best of Category Award. Best of Category Awards are ONLY awarded in the Professional Division.
24. You MUST have received a blue ribbon to be eligible to receive a State Champion Award. State Champion Titles are ONLY awarded in the Master's Division.
25. **After the judging is complete, the judges ARE NOT allowed to change any ribbons. Do not ask them to do so. If you have a problem please contact the competition chairperson. He/she will use their discretion to settle any disputes and their ruling is final!**
26. Best All-Around competition (Master Division only) consists of 4 categories. They shall be Game Head, Mammal, Fish and Birds. The winner must have attained a score of at least 80 points on each of the 4 mounts to be eligible (A score of 79 or lower on any one mount will eliminate any chance of winning). The mounts may also be entered into regular competition in their respected categories and receive additional awards if they qualify (Best of Show, Best of Category, etc.). The 4 mounts entered in the Best All Around category MUST be chosen at the time of registration and cannot be changed once judging has started. You will be required to pay registration for general category and Best-All-Around if competing as such.
27. Educational Award Requirements – The rules for the Educational Award are as follows. It must make use of the art of taxidermy (some type of mount). It needs to provide the viewer some type of education of some phase of taxidermy, nature, natural phenomena, conservation, etc. All show judges will judge the pieces entered. To qualify, the piece must score at least an 80 at the Masters level. The winning mount will receive a check for the sum of \$500.00 and a trophy. The winning mount MUST be donated and put on public display.
28. Sportmanship: Unsportsmanlike conduct could result in disqualification and forfeiture of any and all MTA awards. The MTA has gone to great lengths to obtain the most experienced and qualified judges in the world. Accept the judge's decision as being final (even if you don't agree with it) or please don't enter the competition. Remember, everyone comes to the competition expecting to win. Everyone will not win. If you cannot handle losing, then do not enter the competition. Competitors should conduct themselves in a professional manner. Unruly or disruptive behavior towards show officials or judges will not be tolerated and the perpetrator will be asked to leave and will be barred from future competitions.
29. Habitat Award Requirements-The habitat entry fee must be paid in order to be eligible for the Habitat Award. Eligibility for entry also requires the habitat to be part of a regular specimen entry for the current year competition. Score sheets will be used by the individual judges for each entry as a basis for evaluation. Competitors will receive first, second or third place ribbons as determined by the respective judges. The overall best first place habitat piece would receive the Best of Category award for the Habitat category. Habitats must consist of a minimum of three separate mediums, all produced by the competitor (not purchased). Mediums may consist of dirt, rock, grasses, trees and bushes, water, ice, snow, moss Etc.

MICHIGAN TAXIDERMIST ASSOCIATION AWARDS LIST

BEST OF SHOW	Must have a blue ribbon to win. Will be chosen by the four respective judges. Winner will receive a trophy and a \$500 cash award.
BREAKTHROUGH AWARD	Must win Best of Show. A plaque is presented along with a \$100 cash OR gift certificate award.
PEOPLE'S CHOICE MASTERS/MASTERS OF MASTERS	Chosen by the members as the best mount of their choice. Only two votes per family membership. Award comes with a trophy and a \$200 cash award. Any mount entered in Masters/Masters of Masters is eligible.
PEOPLE'S CHOICE PROFESSIONAL	Chosen by the members as the best mount of their choice. Only two votes per family membership. Award comes with a trophy and a \$100 cash award. Any mount entered in Professional is eligible.
PEOPLE'S CHOICE NOVICE	Chosen by the members as the best mount of their choice. Only two votes per family membership. Award comes with a trophy and a \$50 cash award. Any mount entered in Novice is eligible.
McKENZIE TAXIDERMIST CHOICE -BEST WHITETAIL AWARD	This award goes to the best whitetail shoulder or pedestal mount to be decided by popular vote of membership (any registered competitor)
McKENZIE TAXIDERMIST CHOICE -BEST FISH AWARD	This award goes to the best fish mount, reproduction or skin mount to be decided by popular vote of membership (any registered competitor)
McKENZIE TAXIDERMIST CHOICE -BEST BIRD AWARD	This award goes to the best bird or combination mount, waterfowl or upland to be decided by popular vote of membership (any registered competitor)
McKENZIE TAXIDERMIST CHOICE -BEST LIFE-SIZE MAMMAL AWARD	This award goes to the best life-size mammal, small or large to be decided by popular vote of membership (any registered competitor)
THE HORIZON AWARD	Chosen by the respective judges for the novice or youth divisions as the best youth mount (ages 18 and under). The award comes with a trophy. This award can only be awarded to a youth participant once in their lifetime.
THE KEN KLEINERT AWARD	Chosen by the respective judges for the novice or youth division as the most artistic youth mount (ages 18 and under). The award comes with a trophy.
THE WASCO AWARD	Chosen by the four respective judges. The guidelines are as follows: exhibition of taxidermy, creativity and artistic merit. It does not matter which company's supplies, paints, or manikins are used in the piece. This award comes with a crystal type trophy and a \$100 gift certificate.
YOUTH DIVISION AWARDS	Chosen by the respective Novice division judges as the best mount in that age group. Any mount is eligible. Award comes with a trophy (sponsored by Modern Fur Dressing)
PRESIDENT'S ANIMATION AWARD	Chosen only by the President and must portray some type of movement within the mount. Any mount entered is eligible. This award comes with a trophy/plaque.
DUCKS UNLIMITED AWARD	Chosen by the respective Bird Judge as the best waterfowl in the show. Mount must have a blue ribbon in Professional or 2 nd or higher in Masters to qualify at Judge's discretion. Award comes with either a trophy, plaque or print.
THE MICHIGAN STEELHEADERS AWARD	Chosen by the respective Fish Judge as the best Steelhead in the show. Mount must have a blue ribbon in Professional or 2 nd or higher in Masters to qualify at Judge's discretion. Award comes with a trophy.
PHEASANTS FOREVER AWARD	Chosen by the respective Bird Judge as the best pheasant in the show. Mount must have a blue ribbon in Professional or 2 nd or higher in Masters to qualify at Judge's discretion. Award comes with a trophy.
TURKEY	Chosen by the respective Bird Judge as the best turkey in the show.

FEDERATION AWARD	Mount must have a blue ribbon in Professional or 2 nd or higher in Masters to qualify at Judge's discretion. Award comes with a trophy.
COMMEMORATIVE BUCKS AWARD	Chosen by the respective Whitetail Judge as the best whitetail in the show. Mount must have a blue ribbon in Professional or 2 nd or higher in Masters to qualify at Judge's discretion. Award comes with a trophy.
ARTISTRY OF WILDLIFE AWARD	Chosen by the sponsor of this award. Mount must display design, balance, suspension, i.e., two mammals off one leg support etc., flow and realistic interaction of a minimum of two mammals in the same piece. This award is open to the Professional, Masters and Masters of Masters Division only and only open to the mammal category. Award comes with a \$300.00 cash award and a trophy.
MICHIGAN TRAPPER'S ASSOCIATION AWARD	Chosen by a representative of the Michigan Trapper's Association for the best fur bearing mount in their natural habitat.
HILTON EPPLEY AWARD	Awarded to the highest scoring whitetail mount on a Hilton Eppley Mannikin. This award comes with a plaque.
DALE CORNETET AWARD	Awarded to a fish scoring 95 or higher in the Masters or Masters of Masters Division. This award comes with a trophy.
THE LIFETONE AWARD	Awarded to the highest scoring fish in the competition which was painted with Lifetone paints. Competitor must also obtain a blue ribbon to win. This award comes with a trophy. Any fish entered in competition using this paint is eligible.
THE POLYTRANSPAR AWARD	Awarded to the highest scoring fish in the competition which was painted with Polytranspar paint. Competitor must also obtain a blue ribbon to win. This award comes with a \$50 gift certificate and plaque. Any fish entered in competition using this paint is eligible.
THE VANDYKE AWARD	Chosen by the judges as the most artistic mount in the Masters or Professional Divisions. The mount must have a blue ribbon to be eligible and show some type of artistic merit. This award comes with a plaque.
THE MICHIGAN TAXIDERMIST ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD	The Michigan Taxidermist Association Scholarship Award will be voted on by the Novice judges. This award comes with a trophy and a \$300 cash award (sponsored by H&H Tannery) to be paid to the instructor of the winner's choice. The instructor must be a MTA member and will be paid the cash upon completion of the class. Class must be used within one calendar year or money will be transferred to the next year.
BEST ALL AROUND	Masters and Masters of Masters division only and consists of four categories. They shall be Game Head, Mammal, Fish and Bird. The winner must have attained a score of at least 80 points on each of the four mounts to be eligible. A score of 79 or lower on any one mount will eliminate any chance of winning. The mounts may also be entered into regular competition in their respective categories and receive additional awards if they qualify (Best of Show, Best of Category, etc.). The four mounts entered in the Best All Around category MUST be chosen at the time of registration and cannot be changed once judging has started. You will be required to pay the registration for general category and Best All Around if competing as such. This award comes with a plaque and a trophy.
EDUCATIONAL AWARD	The rules for the Educational award are as follows: It must make use of the art of Taxidermy (some type of mount). It needs to provide the viewer some type of education of some phase of Taxidermy, Nature, Natural phenomena, Conservation, etc. All show judges will judge the pieces entered. To qualify, the piece must score at least an 80 at the masters level. The winning mount will receive a check for the sum of \$500 and a trophy. The winning mount MUST be donated and put on public display.
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE	(See attached rules for further information)
STATE CHAMPION	This award applies to any separate category within the Masters Division (see category list for further information). To qualify, a mount entered must win a blue ribbon. In the event of a tie, the respective judge in that category will decide the best of category. This award comes with a trophy.

BEST OF CATEGORY	This award applies to any separate category within the Professional Division (see category list for further information). To qualify, a mount entered must win a blue ribbon. In the event of a tie, the respective judge in that category will decide the best of category. This award comes with a trophy.
MCKENZIE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD	This award goes to a member(s) who go above and beyond to benefit the Association. The recipient of this award is chosen by the Board of Directors.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AWARD	This award goes to the best artistic piece in the novice and professional divisions and will be voted upon by the Board of Directors. This award comes with a trophy and a \$250 cash award sponsored by Brad Eldred of Wildlife Gallery.
MICHIGAN TAXIDERMIST ASSOCIATION ABOVE AND BEYOND SERVICE AWARD	This award goes to a MTA member who has gone above and beyond in service to the MTA. This award comes with a plaque.

Awards subject to change based on supporter/sponsor

COMPETITION CATEGORIES

DH	Whitetail Deer Heads and ½ Mounts
OMWT	Open Mouth Whitetail Deer Head
SGH	Small Game Heads (Coyote and smaller)
LGH	Large Game Heads (Larger than Coyote)
BS	Upland Game Birds – Single
BG	Upland Game Birds – Group
TUR	Turkey Category (freeze dried head/feet allowed)
TURG	Turkey Group
WS	Waterfowl – Single
WG	Waterfowl – Group
SM	Small Mammals (Smaller than Raccoon)
MM	Medium Mammals (Raccoon-Coyote)
LM	Large Mammals (Larger than Coyote)
GM	Group Mammals – All Sizes
CWFS	Coldwater Fish Skin – Single
CWWMFS	Coldwater Fish Wall Mount Fish Skin – Single
WWFS	Warmwater Fish Skin – Single
WWWMFS	Warmwater Fish Wall Mount Fish Skin – Single
FG	Fish – Group (all species)
SWF	Saltwater Fish
RUGS	Rugs
MX	Mixed Group
RS	Reptile – Single
BGC	Best Group Competitors
EDU	Educational
PC	Parent/Child (youth under 18 judged at Youth level by Novice Judge)
YOUTH	Youth Division
FD	Freeze Dry (all mounts with freeze dried parts, exc. Turkey)
BAAT	Best All Around Taxidermist (Masters Level Only)
MAN	Manikin
REPO/AH	Reproduction Antlers/Horns
REPO/FAR	Reproduction Fish/Amphibians/Reptiles
HAB	Habitat
DLS	Decorative Life-size (fish carvings)
NFRF	Natural Finish Realistic Fish (fish carvings)

YOUTH DIVISION GUIDELINES AND RULES

General Rules

1. A \$5.00 entry fee per child is applied regardless of the number of mounts entered. Mount fees are waived for this division.
2. The registration fees are waived as long as the child's parent/guardian/mentor is registered in the competition.
3. It is not mandatory that a child enter youth division (Ex. He/She may enter Novice or Professional divisions if so desires).
4. A child may not enter youth division and any other division in the same category.
5. Parental assistance will be allowed in the skinning and preparation of the specimens. Guidance will be allowed during the mounting and finish work of the specimen but must be kept to *hands off level*. Child must do the actual mounting and finish work themselves.
6. A picture board may be set up with pictures of the youth division participants collectively gathered. No names shall be listed with the pictures for the safety of the youth. Parents are encouraged to bring pictures of their youth on registration day for said board.
7. A participation certificate will be awarded to all youth that participate in the youth division.
8. This division shall be multi-ribbon with first, second, and third place ribbons awarded to those that qualify.
9. Judges choice award shall be given out in each age group that has entries.
10. The Youth Division shall be divided up into 4 age groups, 5-7 year olds, 8-12 year olds, 13-15 year olds and 16-18 year olds.
11. The Youth Division shall have 5 categories in which to enter – Birds, Mammals, Fish, Reptiles, and Game Heads.
12. Youth division is to be judged by the respective Novice Division Judges
13. The Novice judges shall collectively choose the Judge's choice award for each age group.
14. The Horizon Award will only be awarded once in the lifetime of the youth participant. After a youth competitor wins this award they are no longer eligible to receive it in future competitions.

YOUTH DIVISION REGISTRATION FORM

Name of Youth _____ Age _____

Parent/Guardian/Mentor Registered _____

Number of Mounts Entered _____ Category(s) – Birds, Mammals, Fish, Reptiles,
Game Heads

List Species Entered

Picture of Youth _____ \$5.00 Entry Fee _____ Registration Waived _____

Parent/Guardian/Mentor Statement: I, _____,
witnessed the above youth mount the species indicated on this registration form. Below is a list of
all areas where assistance was given as well as an explanation of the amount of help that was
given to the youth in each of those areas.

Signed by witness:

-----Registration Personnel cut here after youth registers-----

Youth Division Check List

Mount Number _____
(registration personnel only)

<u>Adult Assistance</u>	<u>Explanation</u>
◆ Specimen skinning	_____
◆ Specimen Prep	_____
◆ Form Prep	_____
◆ Eye Setting	_____
◆ Ear liners	_____
◆ Apply Hide/Skin	_____
◆ Skin Alignment	_____
◆ Sewing	_____
◆ Finishing	_____
◆ Painting	_____
◆ Base Work	_____
◆ Antler Attachment	_____
◆ Attachment to Base	_____

Michigan Taxidermist Association Convention Registration Form 2010

Please fill out and mail this form by **March 1, 2010** (postmarked). **Pre-registration fee is \$60.00 or \$80.00 after March 1.** Make check payable to Michigan Taxidermist Association and send to: **Pat Walker, 15416 New Holland St., Holland MI 49424**

Name: _____ Address: _____
City, State & Zip _____

I certify that I mounted and finished my entries unassisted, and I agree to enter all mounts at my own risk. Signature: _____

(ALL MOUNTS MUST BE IN PLACE AND GROOMED BY 9:00 P.M. WED)

Novice Division (\$5.00 each mount)
Species/category _____

of mounts in Nov. Div: _____x\$5

Professional Division (\$10.00 each mount)
Species/category _____

of mounts in Prof. Div: _____x\$10

Masters Division (\$10.00 each mount)
Species/category _____

of mount in Mast. Div: _____x\$10

Masters of Masters Division (\$10.00 each)
Species/category _____

of mounts in MoM Div: _____x\$10

Best All-Around Competition (40.00 – \$10.00 each mount) List four entries:

Freeze Dry Division (\$10.00 each mount)
of mounts in FD Div: _____x\$10

Habitat Division (\$10.00 each mount)
of mounts in Habitat Div: _____x\$10

Educational Competition (\$25.00 ea. mount)
of mounts Educational Comp. _____x\$25
Species: _____

Group Competitors (\$10.00 each entry)
of mounts in Group Comp. _____x\$10
Species: _____

Parent Child Division (\$10.00 each mount) Species/Category _____
Parent must be registered for convention! # of mounts in Parent/Child Div: _____x\$10

REMEMBER – EVERY THIRD MOUNT IS FREE! Membership must be renewed before entering supplier room (renewal form on reverse side) **Membership and registration must be paid in order to attend seminars.** You must have your membership card to get into suppliers room and award banquet. The family membership allows your family into the Sport & RV show for free. **Banquet Dinner** – (\$25.00 per person). You must be signed up by Wednesday 9:00 p.m. for the dinner at the banquet. No exceptions. You will not be allowed to pay the night of the banquet! Tickets are limited – First Come First Serve.

Registration Fee _____ Mount Fees due _____
Banquet Dinner Tickets: Number of Tickets _____x \$25.00= _____
Membership Dues: _____ (if not already renewed)
Total Amount Enclosed: _____

Please indicate if you are eligible for the following awards:

Polytranspar or Lifetone Award (pick only one) _____ Hilton Eppley Award _____

Please indicate if you received the Wasco Award for 2010 _____ if so, which state? _____

MICHIGAN TAXIDERMIST ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Business Name _____

Address _____

City _____ County _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Website URL _____

New _____ Renewal _____ Date _____

Annual Dues: (membership Jan-Dec)

Single membership (\$35.00) _____ Family Membership (\$45.00) _____

Family Membership: Spouse: _____

Children (18 and under - please list names and DOB)

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____
- f. _____



The MTA Newsletter is currently our MTA Website. All information and upcoming events pertaining to our organization can be found at: www.michigantaxidermist.com (Flyers are also mailed to our membership for all upcoming events)

Michigan Taxidermist Association
C/O Membership Coordinator
Pat Walker
15416 New Holland St.
Holland MI 49424

Location & Hailing

DeVos Place

303 Monroe Ave. NW

Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Local driving directions

From the North (Travel US-131 South)

1. The best exit is Pearl Street.
2. At the end of the ramp turn left onto Pearl, **then a quick left onto Scribner.**
3. Take Scribner to Bridge and make a right.
4. Go straight on Bridge, which turns into Michigan.
5. The entrance to the DeVos Place parking ramp will be on your right.

From the South (Travel US-131 North)

1. The best exit is Pearl Street.
2. At the end of the ramp go straight onto Scribner.
3. Take Scribner to Bridge and make a right.
4. Go straight on Bridge, which turns into Michigan.
5. The entrance to the DeVos Place parking ramp will be on your right.

From the West (From Muskegon)

Travel 1-96 East to US-131 South.

1. The best exit is Pearl Street.
2. At the end of the ramp turn left onto Pearl, then a quick left onto Scribner.
3. Take Scribner to Bridge and make a right.
4. Go straight on Bridge, which turns into Michigan.
5. The entrance to the DeVos Place parking ramp will be on your right.

From Holland (Travel 1-196 East)

1. Use the Ottawa/Downtown Exit (77C).
2. Turn right onto Michigan at the bottom of the ramp.
3. The entrance to the DeVos Place parking ramp will be on your left just past Monroe.

From the East (Travel 1-96 West to 1-196 West.)

1. Use the Ottawa/Downtown Exit (77C)
2. Turn right onto Michigan at the bottom of the ramp.
3. The entrance to the DeVos Place parking ramp will be on your left just past Monroe.

Directions to Radisson Hotel

From Lansing to Radisson Hotel, 270 Ann St NW Grand Rapids
Merge onto 1-69 N /1-96 W toward FLINT / GD RAPIDS
Keep LEFT to take 1-96 W toward GD RAPIDS
Keep LEFT to take 1-196 W toward DOWNTOWN GD RAPIDS /HOLLAND.

Merge onto US-131 N via EXIT 77A toward CADILLAC

Take the ANN ST exit- EXIT 88

End at Radisson-Grand Rapids:

From Cadillac to Radisson Hotel, 270 Ann St NW Grand Rapids

Merge onto US-131 S

Take EXIT 88 toward ANN ST.

Turn LEFT onto TURNER AVE NW

Turn LEFT onto ANN ST NW.

End at Radisson-Grand Rapids;

From Kalamazoo to Radisson Hotel, 270 Ann St NW Grand Rapids, Mi

Merge onto US-131 N.

Take the ANN ST exit- EXIT 88

End at Radisson-Grand Rapids:

From Holland to Radisson Hotel, 270 Ann St NW Grand Rapids

Merge onto 1-196 E toward GD RAPIDS.

Merge onto US-131 N via EXIT 77A on the LEFT toward CADILLAC

Take the ANNST exit-EXIT 88.

End at Radisson-Grand Rapids;

From Devos Place to Radisson Hotel, 270 Ann St NW Grand Rapids, Mi

Start out going NORTH on MONROE AVE NW toward MICHIGAN STNW .1mile

Turn RIGHT onto MICHIGAN ST NW .1 mile

Turn LEFT onto IONIA AVE NW .1 mile

Merge onto 1-196 W via the ramp on the LEFT toward HOLLAND .3 miles

Merge onto US-131 N via EXIT 77A toward CADILLAC 1.7 mile;

Take the AN N ST exit- EXIT 88. .2 miles

End at Radisson-Grand Rapids:

**Michigan Taxidermist Association
C/O Membership Coordinator
Pat Walker
15416 New Holland St.
Holland MI 49424**

