

Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

January 2025



OUR MISSION

The mission of the Virginia Taxidermists Association is to promote a standard of quality, fairness and conduct for all of the Virginia Taxidermists and our associates. To this end we shall encourage all interested parties through education and example to better themselves and their practices for the benefit of our customers, ourselves, and the general public.

Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

January 2025

Welcome to the January 2025 Newsletter

A Message from your President Matt Jones



Hope everyone had a good season taking in mounts and you enjoyed the holidays. We are getting geared up for the upcoming show and have made a few changes this year, with some new stuff coming. Be sure to read the newsletter for all the information. It's our 45th year as an association and we will be incorporating that into our show as well. As you are working on your show piece for this year make sure you look over last year's score sheets and try to better your mount in that area. Be sure to look at your references really close and good luck to everyone. See you at the show!

~Matt Jones

A Message from your Vice President David McKinney

I hope everyone is doing well and has enjoyed Christmas and the new year. Your board has been hard at work, getting ready for the upcoming show.

~David McKinney



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A Message from your Secretary/Treasurer Robbie Anderson



Hello everybody I hope everyone had a great holidays with your families and you got all of the work you wanted. The show is just around the corner, so keep your eyes open for more information. Make sure to get those pre registrations in to save you some money. Your board has been working hard to put on a great show for our members. We look forward to seeing everyone and meeting our new members.

Thanks Robbie Anderson

Board Member Messages

**We can't wait to see what everyone is bringing this year!
It's always a great time catching up with everyone we
haven't seen for a while.**

**We hope that everyone has a great time at the show!
Don't forget to Pre-Register so you can save some \$\$\$\$
and Time at the registration desk!**

~Amanda & Jarvie Robinson

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2024 Board of Directors

Officers



President

Matt Jones

Tappahannock, Va

804-445-3832

mjones0508@gmail.com



Vice President

David McKinney

Cartersville, VA 23027

804-334-9162

Mckinneystaxidermy@gmail.com



Secretary/Treasurer

Robbie Anderson

Hardy, VA

540-765-8479

anderson2655@gmail.com

Board Members



Jessica McKinney

Cartersville, Va

804-338-7362



Mike Stevens

Tannersville, Va

276-484-6303



Dave Britts

Louisa, Va

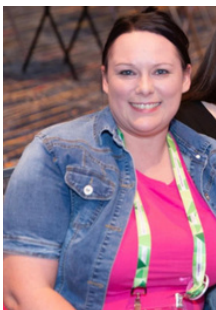
434-466-4177



Steve Morgan

Schuyler, VA

434-831-2232



Amanda Robinson

Pound, Va

276-275-9879



Jarvie Robinson

Pound, Va

276-365-0320



Shawn Powell

Tappahannock, Va

804-832-6179

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VTa Board Meeting Schedule

Next Board Meeting: February

UPCOMING MEETINGS

**Annual Member Meeting
March 2025 at the Show.**

Upcoming March Election Ballot

President - David McKinney

Vice President - Jarvie Robinson

Secretary/Treasurer - Amanda Robinson

Re-Election - Mike Stevens

Board Members: Derrick Clinedest & Jason Burner

**Scan the QR Code below with your phone's
camera to access the board contact sheet**



**Use this form to
submit any
comments,
concerns or
questions that you
would like to be
read to the board at
the next meeting**

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VTA Annual Convention and Competition

2025 Show Update!

Date: March 6-8, 2025

**SHOW STARTS ON THURSDAY EVENING!
REGISTRATION DESK OPENS AT 3PM!**

**Where: Best Western 109 Apple Tree Ln, Waynesboro, Va
HOTEL ROOM BLOCK IS NOW OPEN TO BOOK!!
Call 540-942-1100 to reserve your room**

PRESIDENTS AWARD Best WATERFOWL



Judges

**Whitetail - Darin Brinks
Mammals/Gamehead - Greg Cuvelier
Fish - Chad See
Birds - Kevin Windby
Habitat/Amatuer - Rick Denzler**

Seminars

**Business Basics 101- Chad See
Basic Commerical Whitetail - Matt Jones & Jarvie Robinson
Handpainting Fish Color Applications - Chad See
Casting Deer Mouth Cup - Dalton Jeffers
Casting Duck Feet - Nate Mixon
Split, Turn, Flesh, Prep & Tanning Green Capes - Jarvie Robinson
Habitat work - Todd Rapalee
Deer Seminar TBD - Darin Brinks
Eyes & Ears Gamehead - Greg Cuevelier
Competition Bird Techniques- Kevin Whidby
These seminars were suggestions on our post show survey**

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VTA Annual Convention and Competition

2025 Show Update!

VENDORS

We are NOW Accepting vendor applications

Please contact our Vendor Coordinator

David McKinney @ 804-334-9162

or email him at mckinneystaxidermy@gmail.com

What's NEW for the 2025 show

🦌 The show will be kicking off on THURSDAY EVENING @3PM this year with Registration & Seminars.

🦌 Crustacean Award - Awarded to the Best Crustacean

🦌 Pre - Register to save Big on Convention Fees, Mount Entry fees & time standing in line. Due to rising food cost and other cost incurred by the VTA this year, we will not be doing a Free Banquet ticket for pre-registrations.



Each Pre-Registration will receive a FREE 45th Anniversary Virginia Taxidermists Association Challenge Coin.

Additional Challenge Coins can be purchased for \$15 while supplies last. We have a very limited quantity of them.

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2025 Show Update!



2025 SHOW SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, MARCH 6TH

3:00PM - 5:00PM Registration Desk Open (Mounts accepted)

5:00PM - 9:00PM SEMINARS

- ➡ Taxidermy Business Basics 101 - Chad See
- ➡ Basic Commerical Whitetail - Matt Jones & Jarvie Robinson

FRIDAY, MARCH 7TH

8:00AM - 12:00PM Registration Desk Open (Mounts accepted)

8:00AM - 12:00PM Supply Area Open

9:00AM - 12:00PM SEMINARS

- ➡ Green Hide Prep, Shaving & Tanning - Jarvie Robinson
- ➡ Game head Ears & Eyes - Greg Cuvelier

12:00PM - 1:30PM ALL AREAS CLOSED FOR LUNCH

1:30PM - 5:30PM Supply Area Open

1:30PM - 4:00PM Registration Desk Open (Mounts accepted)

2:00PM - 3:00PM Kid's Seminar - Kayla Jones

2:00PM - 4:00PM SEMINARS

- ➡ Hands on eye setting for Whitetail - Darin Brinks
- ➡ Competition Bird Techniques - Kevin Whidby

4:30PM - 5:30PM General Membership Meeting - PLEASE ATTEND

5:30PM - 7:30PM Meet & Greet (Food & Drinks Provided)

7:30PM - ??? Mounting Wars (\$25 Entry Fee)

SATURDAY, MARCH 8TH

8:00AM - 9:00AM Registration Desk Open (Mounts accepted, NO ENTRIES AFTER 9AM)

8:00AM - 11:00AM SEMINARS

- ➡ Handpainting Fish Color Applications - Chad See
- ➡ Casting Deer Mouth Cup - Dalton Jeffers

8:00AM - 12:00PM Supply Area Open

11:00AM - 12:00PM Competition Room Open (Mount voting & Officer/Board Elections)

12:00PM - 1:00PM ALL AREAS CLOSED FOR LUNCH

1:00PM - 3:00PM SEMINARS

- ➡ Casting Duck Feet - Nate Mixon
- ➡ Custom Woodland Habitat - Todd Rapalee

3:00PM - 5:00PM Competition Viewing w/Ribbons in Place, Critique w/judges

6:00PM - ??? Awards Banquet (TICKET HOLDERS ONLY)

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45th Anniversary Taxidermy Convention & Competition March 6–8, 2025



Rooms are limited so call today to reserve yours!

**Best Western Plus
109 Apple Tree Ln
Waynesboro, VA 22980
540-942-1100**

Room Rates:

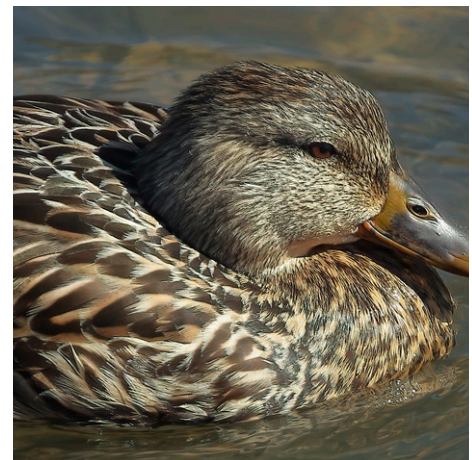
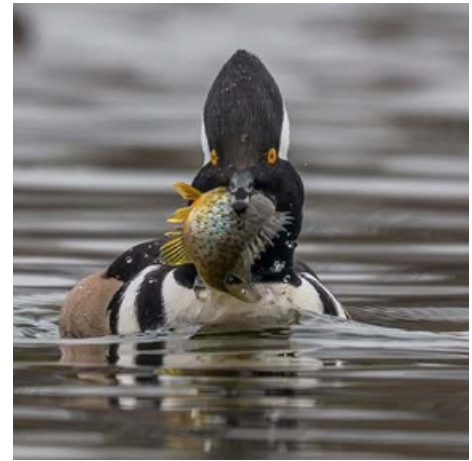
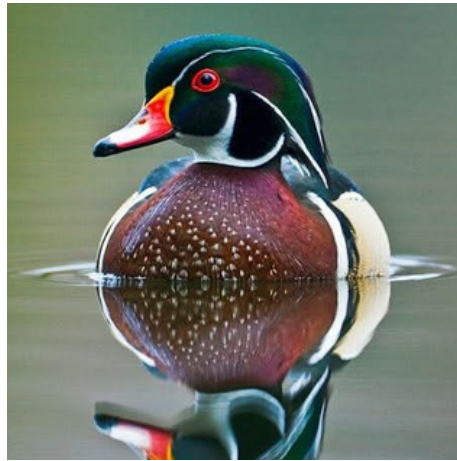
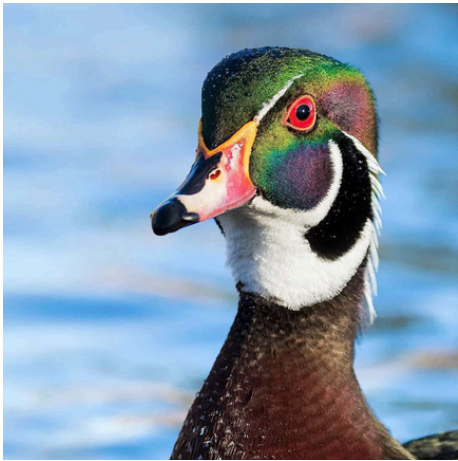
March 6, 2025 – \$110.99

March 7 & 8, 2025 – \$120.99

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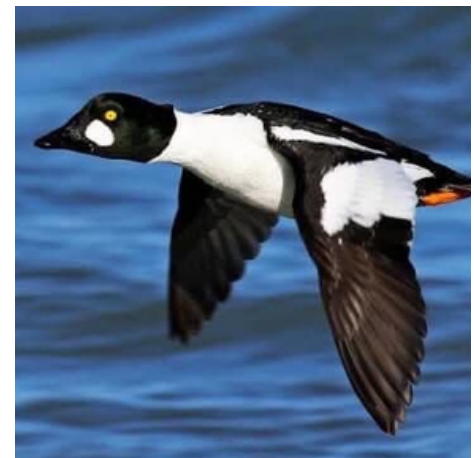
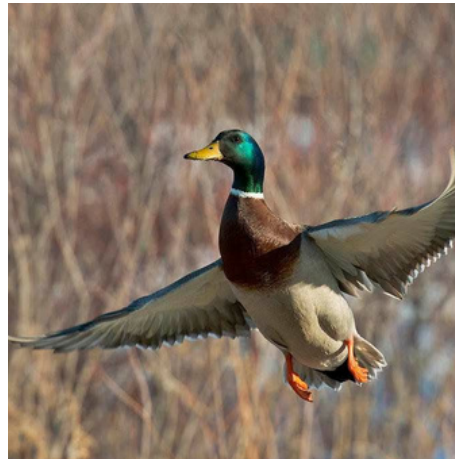
A few Reference Photos Waterfowl



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A few Reference Photos Waterfowl



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Members News

Membership is the key to the success of our association.

Without our members we could not be here so thank you all that become members every year. Even if you do not attend the annual show, please still join the association.

We are planning things throughout the year.

We have Individual, Family and Business memberships available.

If you would like to become a member please visit our website at
vataxidermists.com

Newsletter Content

If you attend any other state shows please submit your photos to the FB Page so that we can put it in the next newsletter!

If you have any taxidermy tips or ideas for the newsletter please submit those also!

Don't forget to Submit Photos of what you've been up to since the show.

Newsletters will go out quarterly and be available on the 1st of April, July, October, January

We have also set up a form that you can use to submit ideas & comments for the newsletters and to the board.

Each submission sent to it will be read to the board. We want to hear from you!

Scan with
you Phone
to access
form



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Member News

Member Submissions



Shawn Powell & Robbie Anderson recently headed out to Oklahoma for a waterfowl hunt and looks like they were pretty successful!

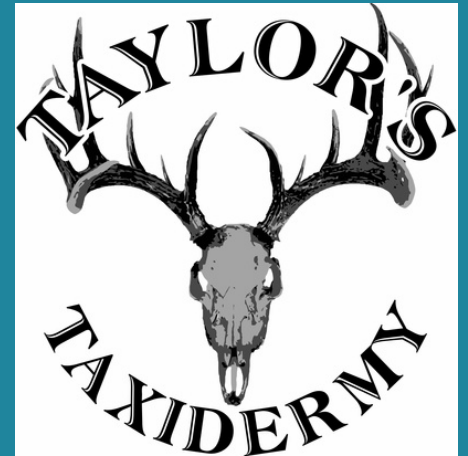
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Business Members



RAPALEE
TAXIDERMY
— EST 1970 —



If you'd like to become a
Business Member please reach out to
Robbie @ anderson2655@gmail.com or
540-765-8479

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Special Thanks to all our Vendors and Sponsors that help make all the awards, auction items and show a success!

If you would like to Sponsor the VTA's show or set up a vendor space please reach out to David McKinney at 804-334-9162 or email him at mckinneystaxidermy@gmail.com

2024 Sponsors of the VTA

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Breakthrough Magazine

Pro-1 Proformance Chemicals

McKenzie Taxidermy Supply

Ohio Taxidermy Supply

Matuska Taxidermy Supply

Wildlife Gallery

Robins Nest Animal Rugs

Ingles Wood Working

Gary's Custom Woodworking

Dixie Panels

Hilton Eppley Forms

Steve Padgett Engraving

Robbie & Suzi Anderson

Dallas Taylor

Matt & Kayla Jones

Shawn & Genii Powell

David & Jessica McKinney

Vendors coming to 2025 show

Pro-1 Proformance Chemicals

McKenzie Taxidermy Supply

Ohio Taxidermy Supply

Kip Hughes Forms

Wildlife Gallery

Robins Nest Animal Rugs

Tad's Taxidermy: War Birds

Gary's Custom Woodworking

Hilton Eppley Forms

If you are a vendor and would like to be added to this list, reach out to David McKinney

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Upcoming Taxidermy Conventions

Taxidermy Association Shows

Virginia March 6 - 8, 2025 in Waynesboro, VA

Pennsylvania March 19 - 23, 2025

West Virginia June 12 - 15, 2025 in Sutton, WV

Kentucky June 12 - 15, 2025 in Cave City, Ky

National Taxidermy Convention August 14 - 16, 2025 in Peoria, IL

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2024 Fall Pricing Survey

2024 Virginia Taxidermist Association Pricing Survey				
Species	Average	Low End	High End	N/A
Deer Standard	\$775	\$550	\$1,230	11.4%
Deer Wall Pedestal	\$900	\$600	\$1,530	11.4%
Deer Floor Pedestal	\$1,030	\$600	\$2,700	20%
Deer Lifesize	\$3,550	\$2,000	\$5,900	24.2%
Deer Pack Mount	\$1,075	\$600	\$1,968	27.6%
Whitetail Euro	\$200	\$100	\$440	16.1%
Bear Standard	\$760	\$600	\$1,600	9.7%
Bear Wall Pedestal	\$920	\$600	\$1,900	16.1%
Bear 1/2 Life Size	\$2,285	\$1,300	\$4,900	16.7%
Bear Life Size	\$3,815	\$1,500	\$7,000	22.6%
Bear Pack Mount	\$1,309	\$600	\$2,560	33.3%
Bear Rug	\$1,868	\$1,200	\$3,200	35.5%
Bear Euro	\$270	\$100	\$500	31.4%
Game Head Open Mouth	\$440	\$100	\$1,450	25.7%
Lifesize Bobcat	\$1,550	\$550	\$3,000	9.7%
Lifesize Fox	\$1,518	\$550	\$2,800	12.9%
Lifesize Coyote	\$1,748	\$600	\$3,300	16.7%
Lifesize Raccoon	\$1,281	\$500	\$2,800	20.0%
Lifesize Squirrel	\$562	\$150	\$1,230	32.3%
Small Mammal Table Pedestal	\$787	\$325	\$1,500	26.7%
Same Game Soft Tan	\$293	\$150	\$700	42.9%
Small Game Open Mouth	\$392	\$100	\$1,350	31.4%
Elk Shoulder	\$1,875	\$1,075	\$2,800	37.1%
Lifesize Turkey	\$1,327	\$800	\$2,500	48.6%
Waterfowl	\$459	\$360	\$800	51.4%
Skin Mount Fish	28.5/inch	15/inch	52/inch	60.0%
Reproduction Fish	33/inch	19/inch	48/inch	51.4%