

# Virginia Taxidermist Association 1st Quarter Newsletter

April 2024

## Welcome to the April '24 Newsletter

As most of you know we just had our Annual Convention & Competition that was held March 8 & 9 In Waynesboro Va. We had a total of 120 Pieces and 21 Habitats entered this year. We added quite a few new awards this year including Judge's Choice Best Amateur for all categories, The Matuska Award, VTA Board Award, VTA Competitor's Challenge & Brand New State Champion Belts.

There was also \$1,200 in cash prizes.

## A Message from your President Matt Jones



What a great show! I would like to say thank you to all the board members and non board members who helped at the show. We could not have done it without you all. Also thanks to all the vendors for your continued support. A special thanks to Steve Padgett for engraving our 2024 gun of the year. I think he did a fantastic job and everyone loved it. As always, we appreciate each and every member that comes out to support the VTA. It was a great show and we look forward to seeing everyone at next year's show.

Same time same place.

## A Message from your Secretary/Treasurer Robbie Anderson

**WOW...what a Show! I would have to say that the VTA Board did it again and put on another great show for our members. I would like to thank all our members that pre-registered for the show. Pre-registering makes check-in go so much faster. If you can't formally pre-register, please try to call and I can pre-register you over the phone. Any adjustments to mount entries etc. can be made at the show, but calling ahead allows me to have your folder prepared.**

**We had a wonderful time with a great turnout and support from our membership. We had a lot of new members, great Judges and Seminar Instructors. Your New board is already planning for next years show. March 6th ,7th & 8th 2025 so save those dates. Also, keep your eye out on your emails for new and exciting awards, show information, Judges, seminars, and more!**



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## VTA Annual Convention and Competition

### 2024 Award Winners – Master's Division



**Dalton Jeffers – MD**  
Breakthrough & TC Best of Show  
VTA Board Award  
State Champion Deer  
Pro-4 Chemicals Masters  
President's Award  
Best All Around & Van Dykes



**Jarvie Robinson – VA**  
State Champion Game Head  
DWR Best Native Species  
Taxidermist Choice Best Game  
Head



**Jeremy Simon – WVA**  
State Champion  
Lifesize Small Mammal  
State Champion Habitat  
Taxidermist Choice –  
Lifesize Small Mammal



**David Beamon – NC**  
State Champion Reptile  
Taxidermist Choice Best  
Reptile



**Nate Mixson– SC**  
State Champion Bird



**Nate Mixson– SC**  
Artisan



**Aaron Cruise – NC**  
State Champion Fish



**Paul Miller – NC**  
Hog Wild – Best Hog  
WASCO – Most Artistic



**Russell Cobble – VA**  
Taxidermist Choice –  
Best Turkey



**Russell Cobble – VA**  
Judge's Choice  
NATF – Best Turkey



**Jarvie Robinson – VA**  
RMEF– Best Elk



**Manny Reiner – NC**  
Les Harper Best  
Bear

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## VTA Annual Convention and Competition

### 2024 Award Winners – Master's Division



Dalton Jeffers – MD  
Polytranspar



Jarvie Robinson – VA  
Matuska Award – Masters



Gerry Viola – VA  
Golden Example



Jarvie Robinson – VA  
Taxidermist Choice  
Best Whitetail



Lance Seal – VA  
Taxidermist Choice  
Best Fish



Scott Hawley – VA  
Duck's Unlimited

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## VTA Annual Convention and Competition

### 2024 Award Winners – Professional Division



Lane Thacker – VA  
Judge's Choice Best  
Whitetail



Amanda Robinson – VA  
Pro – 1 Professional  
Judge's Choice Best Small Mammal  
Highest Scoring Professional Mammal



Wyatt Propps – NC  
Judge's Choice Best Bird  
Judge's Choice Best Turkey



Jeszi Padgett – NC  
Judge's Choice Best Reptile  
Taxidermist Choice Best Wildlife Art



Thomas Jeffers – MD  
Judge's Choice Best Gamehead  
Judge's Choice Best Habitat



Mark Fowler – VA  
Judge's Choice Best Fish



Millie Aliff – VA  
Mouted in Alaska



Trina Mallow – WVA  
Ingles Woodwork

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## VTA Annual Convention and Competition

### 2024 Award Winners – Amateur Division



Adam Gibbons – NC  
Judge's Choice Best Whitetail  
Daniel T Simms Memorial  
(Best Amature Mammal)



Cameron Lesniczak –DE  
Judge's Choice Best Habitat  
Judge's Choice Best Bird



Johanna Dobek – MD  
Judge's Choice Best Fish



James Thompson – VA  
Judge's Choice Best  
Gamehead



Roger Miller – NC  
Judge's Choice Best Small Mammal  
Taxidermist Choice Best Habitat

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## VTA Annual Convention and Competition

### 2024 Award Winners – Service & Other Awards



**Jarvie Robinson – VA  
McKenzie Distinguished  
Taxidermist**



**Shawn Powell – VA  
Beefy Collins Award**



**Matt Jones – VA  
Lifetime Achievement**



**Robbie Anderson – VA  
VTA Service Award**



**Corbin Seal – VA  
Horizon Award**



**Collective Artist  
Sawyer Hunnicut**

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## A few show photos! Seminars



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## A few show photos!

### Meet & Greet/Mounting Wars



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## A few show photos!



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## Introducing your 2024 Board Members



### 2024 VTA Board Members

				
<b>Matt Jones</b> President	<b>David McKinney</b> Vice President	<b>Robbie Anderson</b> Secretary/Treasurer	<b>Jarvie Robinson</b> Board Member	<b>Steve Morgan</b> Board Member
				
<b>Mike Stevens</b> Board Member	<b>Jessica McKinney</b> Board Member	<b>Shawn Powell</b> Board Member	<b>Amanda Robinson</b> Board Member	<b>Dave Britts</b> Board Member

"What a great show!" There were so many amazing pieces this year. Thank you to all the members! We are so grateful for you, this show is all about you the members. If there is any thing that y'all would like to see, please let us know. I look forward to hearing from y'all and seeing everybody at next years show!

~ David McKinney, Vice President

"Thanks for letting me be part of the VTA board with a great group of people in the taxidermy community" ~Dave Britts

Thank you so much for putting us on the board and we hope to bring you another great show next year!

~Jarvie & Amanda Robinson

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## Members News

Membership is the key to our association. Without our members we could not be here so thank you all that become members every year. We have Individual, Family and Business memberships available. If you would like to become a member please reach out to Robbie Anderson @ anderson2655@gmail.com or 540-765-8479



**Mark your Calendars!!!**  
**Your 2025 Annual Convention dates are**  
**March 6-8, 2025 in Waynesboro VA!**

**Don't forget to renew your Taxidermy**  
**Permits before July 31, 2024**

**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!**  
**Submit Photos of what you've been up to since the show as well!**

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

**Watch your emails and the VTA Facebook page for a Pricing Survey, coming this Spring with results in the July Newsletter.**

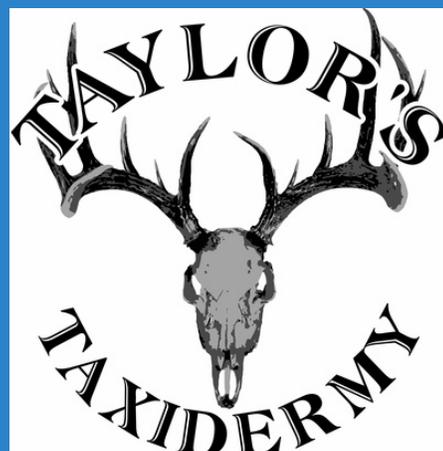
**We have also set up a form that you can use to submit ideas & comments for the newsletters and to the board.**

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

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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 next year please reach out to Robbie Anderson at 540-765-8479 or email him at anderson2655@gmail.com**

## 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 Custim Woodworking  
Dixie Panels  
Hilton Eppley Forms  
Steve Padgett Engraving  
Robbie & Suzi Anderson  
Dallas Taylor  
Matt & Kayla Jones  
Shawn Powell  
David & Jessica McKinney

## Vendors at the 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  
Trophy Makers

G&G Taxidermy  
Gary's Custom Woodworking  
Steve Padgett Engraving  
Ruozzi & Sons Supply  
Ingles Wood Working  
Dixie Classic Panels  
Hilton Epply Forms