

Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

July 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.

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Welcome to the July 2025 Newsletter

A Message from your President David McKinney



Hey everyone,

I hope you're all doing great and staying busy in the shop. I'm really looking forward to the upcoming show—it's always one of the best times of the year to catch up, see some amazing work, and learn from each other. We've got a great group of folks in this community, and I'm proud to be a part of it. Can't wait to see what everyone brings this year!

~David McKinney, President

A Message from your Vice President, Jarvie Robinson

Hey! Hope everyone is doing well. Be thinking about your next show piece because March is coming fast and will be here before you know it!

Better to start sooner rather than later LoL

~Jarvie Robinson, Vice President



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A Message from your Secretary/Treasurer, Amanda Robinson



Can you believe we are only 8 months away from our next show?!?!? I am looking forward to sharing all the upcoming show details with you! Judges, Seminars, Awards and more will be announced very soon via our **NEW Facebook Page**. Be sure to go give it a **LIKE**. The summer seminar series is coming up soon and so far has been a success. The proceeds from the summer seminar series will go to fund our new scholarship program! Also, be sure to get your nominations in for the service awards!

~Amanda Robinson, Secretary/Treasurer

Board Member Messages

Don't forget that we still have raffle tickets for the Black Widow Bow.

Tickets are only \$20 and you can reach out to any of the board members to purchase one. You can also use a card to purchase them, just reach out to Amanda to pay online.

~Megan Burner, Executive Director



Black Widow Bow Raffle



Winner will receive a Black Widow Bow of choice up to \$1350 Value!
Winner can pay overage for any additional add ons of their choice

Drawing Date:
August 29, 2025
OR
As soon as all tickets
are sold

COST PER TICKET
\$20 CASH
\$22 CARD

Limited number
of tickets
available

NAME:

EMAIL:

CELL PHONE:

TICKET # 001

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2025 Board Members



2025 VTA Board Members



David McKinney
President



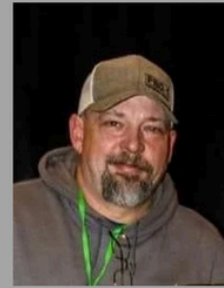
Jarvie Robinson
Vice President



Amanda Robinson
Secretary/Treasurer



Megan Burner
Executive Director
& Jason Burner
Board Member



Mike Stevens
Board Member



Jessica McKinney
Board Member



Shawn Powell
Board Member



Dave Britts
Board Member



Derrick Clinedinst
Board Member



Steve Morgan
Board Member

If you would like to volunteer to become a Board Member next year or nominate someone for the board please visit your member portal on the website, our link tree, or find the QR code in this newsletter to fill out the form.

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VTA Board Meeting Schedule

NEXT BOARD MEETING: July 17, 2025



VTA Meeting Schedule

March 2025 – March 2026

1st Quarter Meetings @ Best Western Waynesboro

General Membership Spring Meeting - March 7, 2025 @4:30PM

Special called current Board Members ONLY meeting – March 9, 2025 @8AM

2nd Quarter Meetings

April 10, 2025 @ 7PM via Zoom

Closed Session Board Meeting

3rd Quarter Meeting

July 17, 2025 @ 7PM via Zoom

Regular Session Board Meeting

4th Quarter Meeting

October 16, 2025 @ 7PM via Zoom

Regular Session Board Meeting

SHOW PREP MEETINGS

December 4, 2025 @ 7PM via Zoom

January 8, 2026 @ 7PM via Zoom

February 19, 2026 @ 7PM via Zoom

***Board members are required to attend the board meetings. If you miss 2 consecutive meetings without just cause, then you may be asked to resign as board member.**

Meeting days and times are subject to change.

Additional meetings could be added as necessary.

Scan the QR Code below with your phone's camera to
access the official link tree for the VTA.



It is the one stop shop for all
VTA links and information.
Use it to nominate someone
for a Service Award or
board member, submit
ideas, concerns, questions
or comments to your board,
access your member portal
and so much more.

You can also visit
<https://linktr.ee/vataxidermists>

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Virginia Taxidermists Association Members compete in the West Va Taxidermy Competition



Jarvie Robinson
Breakthrough Best of Show
State Champion/BOC Game
Head
Pro-4 Award



Jarvie Robinson
State Champion/BOC Whitetail
Cary Cochran Master's Choice Whitetail
Taxidermist's Choice Best Whitetail
Ascend Award
Bryan Epply Memorial Award Most
Artistic Master's Whitetail



Wyatt Propps
State Champion/BOC Bird
NWTF Best Turkey
Taxidermists Choice Best Bird



Scott Hawley
Blue Ribbon/BOC
Duck's Unlimited

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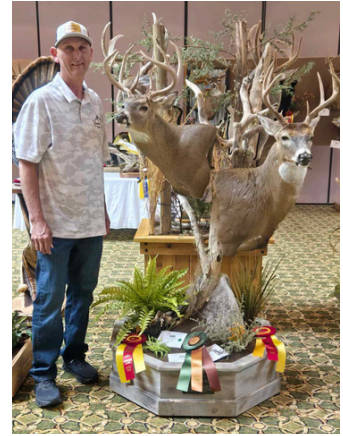
Cabe Robinson
BOC Professional Whitetail
Bob Cline Best Professional
Whitetail



Mike Stevens
BOC Professional Game Head
WVA Best Bear
Professional Pro-1 Award
Most Promising Professional
Taxidermist's Choice Best
Game Head
People's Choice Best Game
head



Tyler Whisner
Blue Ribbon Masters
Hissing Goose Award
Matuska Master's Award



Jason Burner
Red Ribbon Professional
1st Place Habitat



Jon Skinner
Red Ribbon Professional



WVTA Mount Off Competition
1st Place Jarvie Robinson
2nd Place Ken Devivi
3rd Place Lane Thacker
4th Place Tyler Whisner



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Virginia Taxidermists Association Members compete in the Kentucky Taxidermy Competition



Aaryn Hutton
Red Ribbon

Dalton Jeffers
Masters Deer – 2 Blue Ribbons
Hilton Epply Award
Masters Ducks – 4 Red Ribbons
Masters Smallmouth – State Champion Fish
WASCO & Best Fish
Best All Around Master
Masters Matuska Award

Cameron Lesniczak
Professional Division
Blue Crab – Blue Ribbon
BOC – Fish Skin Mount
Polytranaspar
Duck – Red Ribbon

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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 Amanda Robinson
vataxidermist@gmail.com or visit www.vataxidermists.com



Mark your Calendars!!!



**Your 2026 Annual Convention dates are
March 5–7, 2026 in Waynesboro VA!**

REGISTRATION OPENS THURSDAY 1PM

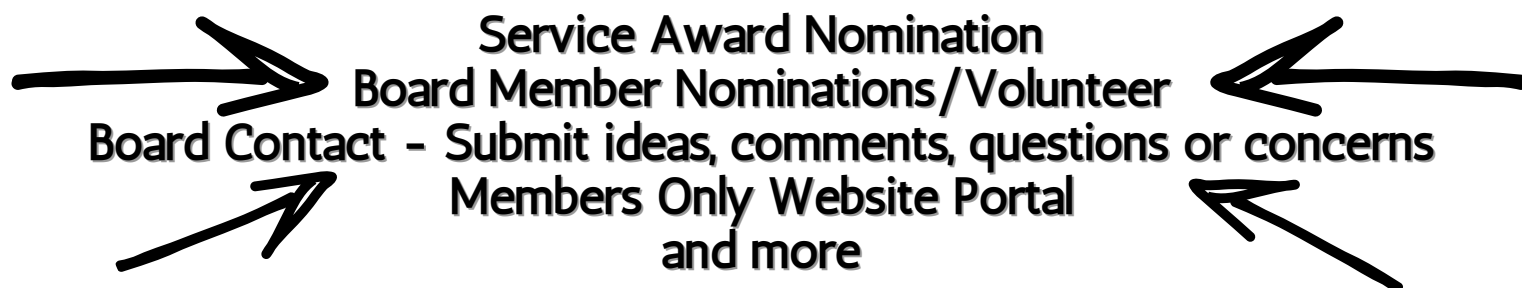
Save time at the desk and PRE-REGISTER. We will
have a separate line for
pre-registers that are not adding anything and only
picking up their packets.

**Don't forget to renew your Taxidermy Permits
before July 31, 2025**

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

IMPORTANT

Visit our Link Tree @ <https://linktr.ee/vataxidermists> to find the following links:



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VTA Annual Convention and Competition

2026 Show Update

Date: March 5–7, 2026

Where: Best Western 209 Apple Tree Ln, Waynesboro, Va

Judges: Will be announced very soon

Seminars: Coming Soon

President's Award: Any FISH

**REGISTRATION WILL OPEN AT 1PM THURSDAY AGAIN THIS
YEAR WITH SEMINARS THAT EVENING**

Virginia Taxidermist Association Annual Convention & Competition

46TH

Anniversary



SAVE THE DATE

March 5th-7th, 2026

Best Western

109 Appletree Ln, Waynesboro, VA



President's Award
Any FISH

Judges

Whitetail
Mammal/Game Head
Fish
Birds
Habitat/Wildlife Art

Book your rooms now
3/5 - \$110.99/night
3/6-3/7 - \$120.99/night



Registration desk opens THURSDAY 3/5/26 @1PM
THURSDAY SEMINARS - TBD



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VTA Annual Convention and Competition **SHOW UPDATES**

**ROOM BLOCK IS NOW OPEN
RESERVE YOUR ROOM TODAY**

**Virginia Taxidermists Association's
46th Anniversary
Taxidermy Convention & Competition
March 5-7, 2026
Room Block is NOW OPEN**



Rooms are limited so call or visit online today to reserve yours!

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

Room Rates:

March 5, 2025 - \$110.99

March 6 & 7, 2025 - \$120.99

NEW THIS YEAR BOOK ONLINE 🖱️

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.47131.html?groupId=3H7EA6X9

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Service Awards

NOMINATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE FOLLOWING AWARDS:

MCKENZIE DISTINGUISHED TAXIDERMIST AWARD

Awarded to an individual in recognition of outstanding contributions toward professionalism, education and the advancement of The Art of Taxidermy.

VTA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Awarded to an individual who during their lifetime has made a creative and significant contribution to the Virginia Taxidermist Association.

VTA Service Award

Awarded to an individual for outstanding service to the Taxidermy Community.

BEEFY COLLINS AWARD

Awarded to an individual who shares Beefy's qualities of creativity, hard work, dedication, willingness to share and educate fellow taxidermist



Scan with your phones's Camera to
access the form directly
or
visit the VTA Link Tree
<https://linktr.ee/vataxidermists>



You can also visit the
member portal section of
our website to access any
forms you may need.

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Upcoming State Taxidermy Conventions

Upcoming State Conventions:

Ohio: July 11 – 13, 2025

Arkansas: July 11 – 13, 2025

Tennessee: July 31 – Aug 2, 2025

Missouri: July 31 – Aug 3, 2025

North Carolina: July 31 – Aug 2, 2025

Nationals (East Peoria, IL) Aug 13–16, 2025

State Taxidermy Conventions 2025

NATIONAL CONVENTION, NTA
AUG 13 - 16
East Peoria, IL

State Conventions:

- WA: JUNE 26-28
- MT: MAR 13-16 Billings
- MT: MAR 7-9
- ND: APR 3-6 Alexandria
- ND: APR 3-6 Green Bay
- ND: APR 10-13 Mt. Pleasant
- ND: MAY 30-JUNE 1 Indianapolis
- ND: JULY 11-13 Mansfield
- ND: JUNE 13-15 Flatwoods
- ND: MAR 20-22 Indiana
- ND: MAR 6-8 Waynesboro
- ND: JULY 31-AUG 2 Greensboro
- ND: JUNE 26-28 Charleston
- ND: FEB 27-MAR 1 Macon
- ND: APR 10-12 Raymond
- ND: JUNE 19-22 Guntersville
- ND: MAY 15-18 Alexandria
- ND: JULY 11-13 Little Rock
- ND: JUNE 5-7 Moore
- ND: MAR 28-30 Wichita
- ND: JUNE 12-15 Columbus
- ND: MAR 14-16 Des Moines
- ND: MAR 13-16 Watertown
- ND: MAY 15-17
- ND: MAR 19-22 Ogden
- ND: MAY 29-31 Gunnison
- ND: APR 24-27 Taos
- ND: JUNE 25-29 Killen
- ND: MAY 1-3 Anderson
- ND: MAY 16-18 Freeport
- ND: MAY 30-JUNE 1 Windsor Locks, CT
- ND: MD MAR 6-9 Frederick
- ND: FEB 6-8 Gainesville

Alaska: MAY 1-3 Anderson

Hawaii: MAY 1-3 Anderson

Comstock & Co. logo

Testimonial:

"I've worked with Comstock & Co for several years and am very pleased with the products, quality, timeliness, and communication. Their attention to detail on our custom made wood plaques and antiquing of their old style packboards is incredible and voiced by our own clients as well. Highly recommend this company! Joel Svecker, owner/operator of Black River Taxidermy, Rochester, WA

Comstock & Co Display Pack Boards

Map provided by:

COMSTOCK & CO.

360-818-4775
sales@comstockcompany.com
www.comstockcompany.com

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!

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Business Members



**If you'd like to become a
Business Member please reach out
to Amanda Robinson @
vataxidermist@gmail.com**

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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 or set up a vendor space please reach out to vataxidermist@gmail.com

Sponsors of the VTA

**Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Breakthrough Magazine
Pro-1 Proformance Chemicals
McKenzie Taxidermy Supply
Ohio Taxidermy Supply
Wildlife Gallery
Robins Nest Animal Rugs
Second to Nature
Black Widow Bows**

**Valley Athletics
Gary's Custom Pedestals
Beatty Woodworks
Hilton Eppley Forms
Custom Whitetail Taxidermy
Matt & Kayla Jones
Shawn Powell
David & Jessica McKinney**

Vendors at the 2025 show

**Pro-1 Proformance Chemicals
McKenzie Taxidermy Supply
Ohio Taxidermy Supply
Wildlife Gallery
Robins Nest Animal Rugs
Bobby Harmon Driftwood
Rock Ridge Wildlife Artistry**

**Gary's Custom Pedestals
Beatty's Woodworks
Ruozzi & Sons Supply
Ingles Wood Working
Hilton Epply Forms
Valley Athletics
Calloway Custom Woodworks**