

Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 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

April 2025

Welcome to the April 2025 Newsletter

As most of you know we just had our Annual Convention & Competition that was held March 6-8 in Waynesboro Va.

We had a total of 114 Pieces and 20 Habitats entered this year.
27 New Members and 59 Membership Renewals

A Message from your President David McKinney



I hope everyone is doing well.
We had a great show this past month! Our goal is to ensure that our association remains a vibrant and supportive community for taxidermists of all skill levels. We are committed to listening to your feedback and ideas, and to working tirelessly to promote the art of taxidermy in Virginia.
~David McKinney, President

A Message from your Vice President, Jarvie Robinson

Wow! What a great show we had this year. I am honored to be a part of this great association as the new Vice President. I would like to say thank you to Past President Matt Jones and all the board members for all the hard work they have poured into this association.

I am excited to take on the new role as Vice President and keep us moving forward as a group of artist and most importantly friends!

Most of all THANK YOU to all the VTA members that makes this all possible without you it would not happen.

~Jarvie Robinson, Vice President



Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 2025

A Message from your Secretary/Treasurer, Amanda Robinson



Hope everyone has recovered from being at the show.

I know it took me a few days to rest up! 😊
We had such an amazing time with everyone though and the show was really a great success this year. I just wanted to say thank you for trusting me and voting me as your new Secretary/Treasurer for the upcoming year. Lots of new things are in the works and we will be sharing those with you all soon.
~Amanda Robinson, Secretary/Treasurer

Board Member Messages

Thanks for a great 2025 show! Look forward to another awesome show in 2026!

-Megan Burner, Executive Director

Thanks to everyone for a great show this year. Always enjoy getting together with all the VTA members.

~ Dave Britts, Board Member

I'm honored to serve on the board and work alongside such a talented and dedicated group of taxidermists. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to seeing you all at our upcoming events!

~Jessica McKinney, Board Member

Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 2025

Introducing your 2025 Board Members



2025 VTA Board Members



David McKinney
President



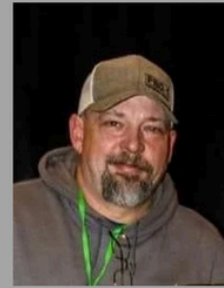
Jarvie Robinson
Vice President



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 please visit your member portal on the website once its activated

Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 2025

VTA Board Meeting Schedule

NEXT BOARD MEETING: April 10, 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 24, 2025 @ 7PM via Zoom

Regular Session Board Meeting

4th Quarter Meeting

October 14, 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>

Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 2025

VTA Annual Convention and Competition

2025 Award Winners – Service Awards



**Harold McGuire– VA
McKenzie Distinguished
Taxidermist**



**Jarvie Robinson– VA
Beefy Collins Award**



**Gerry Viola– VA
Lifetime Achievement**



**Amanda Robinson– VA
VTA Service Award**

2025 Judges



**Darin Brincks
Whitetail**



**Greg Cuvelier
Gamehead & Mammals**



**Chad See
Fish & Reptiles**



**Kevin Whidby
Birds**



**Rick Denzler
Habitat/Youth/Wildlife
Art/Amateur**

Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 2025

VTA Annual Convention and Competition

2025 Seminar Instructors



Jarvie Robinson



Matt Jones



Nate Mixon



Dalton Jeffers



Todd Rapalee



Kayla Jones



Kid's Seminar Participants

Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 2025

VTA Annual Convention and Competition

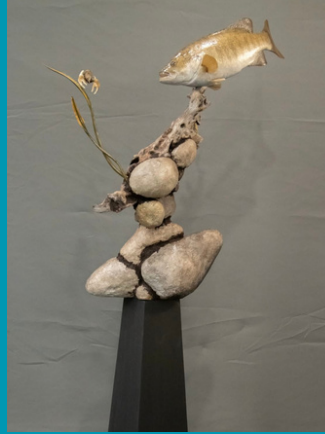
2025 Award Winners – Master's Division



Jarvie Robinson – VA
Breakthrough Best of Show
Judge's Choice Best of Show
State Champion Game Head
Judge's Choice Best Game Head
Pro-1 Chemicals Masters
Taxidermist Choice – Best Game Head



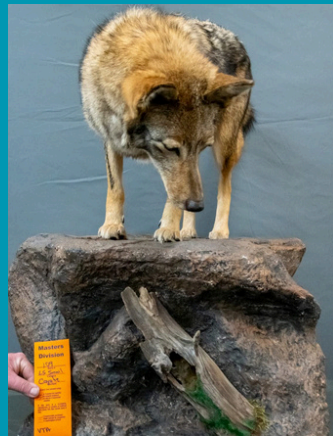
Jeremy Simon – WVA
Taxidermist Choice
Best in Show & Habitat
State Champion Habitat
State Champion
Lifesize Large Mammal
Kip Hughes Highest Score
Large Mammal
Artisan



Dalton Jeffers – VA
State Champion Fish
Taxidermist Choice – Best Fish
Polytranspar
Best Crustacean



Jarvie Robinson – VA
State Champion Whitetail
Taxidermist Choice Best Whitetail



Matt Marulli – VA
State Champion
Lifesize Small Mammal



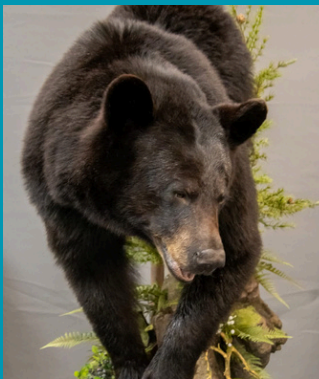
Nate Mixon – SC
State Champion Bird



Matt Marulli – VA
Mounted in Alaska
Van Dyke's



Wyatt Propps – VA
Judge's Choice Best Turkey
Taxidermist Choice Best Turkey



Dalton Jeffers – VA
Les Harper Best Bear



Shawn Powell – VA
Duck's Unlimited
Wasco – Most Artistic



Nate Mixon – SC
President's Award

Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 2025

VTA Annual Convention and Competition

2025 Award Winners – Master's Division



Jarvie Robinson – VA
Matuska Award – Masters

VTA Competitor's Challenge Master's Division



Jarvie Robinson – VA
1st Place



Matt Marulli – VA
2nd Place



Shawn Powell – VA
3rd Place

Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 2025

VTA Annual Convention and Competition

2025 Award Winners – Professional Division



Thad Bowman – MD
Judge's Choice Best Whitetail
Pro – 1 Professional



Mike Stevens – VA
Judge's Choice Best Game Head



Jason Burner
Judge's Choice Best Habitat



Brad Marshall – VA
Judge's Choice Best Bird



Brad Marshall – VA
Judge's Choice Best Turkey



Brad Marshall – VA
Judge's Choice
Best Lifesize Small Mammal

2025 Award Winners – Amateur Division



Gabe Robinson – VA
Judge's Choice
Best Whitetail
Daniel T Simms & Nick
Gowda Award for Best
Amateur Mammal



Chris Ball – TN
Judge's Choice Best Bird

Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 2025

VTA Annual Convention and Competition

2025 Award Winners – Other Awards



Wyatt Seal
Horizon Award



Tyler Whisner
Best Commerical Mount



Lance & Corbin Seal
Best Collective Artist



Jezi Padgett
Taxidermist Choice
Best Reptile



Jeremy Simon
VTA Board Award



Amie Simon
Taxidermist Choice
Best Wildlife Art

Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 2025

A few show photos! Seminars



Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 2025

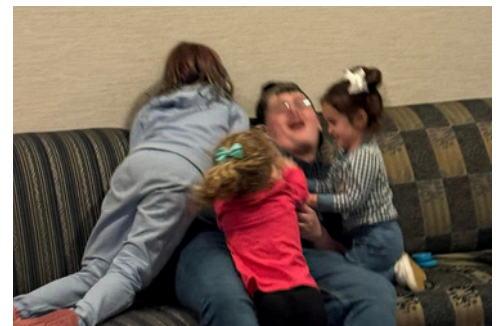
A few show photos! Meet & Greet/Mounting Wars



Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 2025

A few show photos!



Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 2025

Big Thank you to our Vendors



Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 2025

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!**

**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:



Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 2025

VTA Annual Convention and Competition

2025 Show Update

Date: March 5–7, 2025

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

Judges: To Be Determined & Annouced Later

Seminars: Still being Decided

President's Award: Any FISH

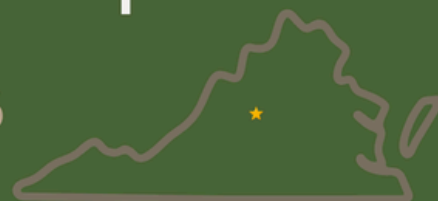
**REGISTRATION WILL OPEN ON THURSDAY AGAIN THIS YEAR
WITH SEMINARS THAT EVENING**

Virginia Taxidermist Association Annual Convention & Competition

*More
info
COMING
SOON*



SAVE THE DATE
March 5th-7th, 2026
Best Western



109 Appletree Ln, Waynesboro, VA

President's Award
Any FISH

Judges

Whitetail - TBD
Mammal/Game Head - TBD
Fish - TBD
Birds - TBD
Habitat/Youth/Wildlife Art - TBD

Room Block
will open soon



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



Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 2025

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>

Newsletter

April 2025

Upcoming State Taxidermy Conventions

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!



Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 2025

Business Members



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

Virginia Taxidermist Association Newsletter

April 2025

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

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 show

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

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