



OHIO TAXIDERMIST

NEWS FROM THE OHIO TAXIDERMISTS ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 1



**2015
OHIO
TAXIDERMY
CHAMPIONSHIPS
WINNERS
LIST**

inside:
**PRESIDENTS MESSAGE
2016 SHOW INFO
REGISTRATION FORM
MORE!**

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



Force of Nature
Unseen natural force in our environment
(I.e. gravity, water flowing, tide, wind, etc.)

Hello OTA Members,

Long time no see!! After a serious bout of IT issues we are back!

The 2015 Ohio Taxidermists Show was another excellent example of taxidermy in and around Ohio. A very special thanks to all who worked to make it possible: To vendors and suppliers, Roberts Center Staff, OTA Board, judges, seminar speakers, and members, thank you!

I am very excited about the 2016 show in Mansfield, Ohio, next year. We are returning to the Mid-Ohio Conference Center for our competition location. If this year's winners are any indication, the extra time you have to prepare will be needed to "blue." Please check out all the information in this newsletter and start brewing up that winning piece for 2016 OTA Championships.

The President's Challenge for 2016 – "Force of Nature." A piece that depicts an unseen force in nature i.e.: gravity, water flowing, the tide, wind, etc. "Use the Force, Luke," and show up with an idea in skin that really conveys a force of nature. Looking forward to many great ideas showing up.

May the Force be with you!

Rod Tennant

OTA President

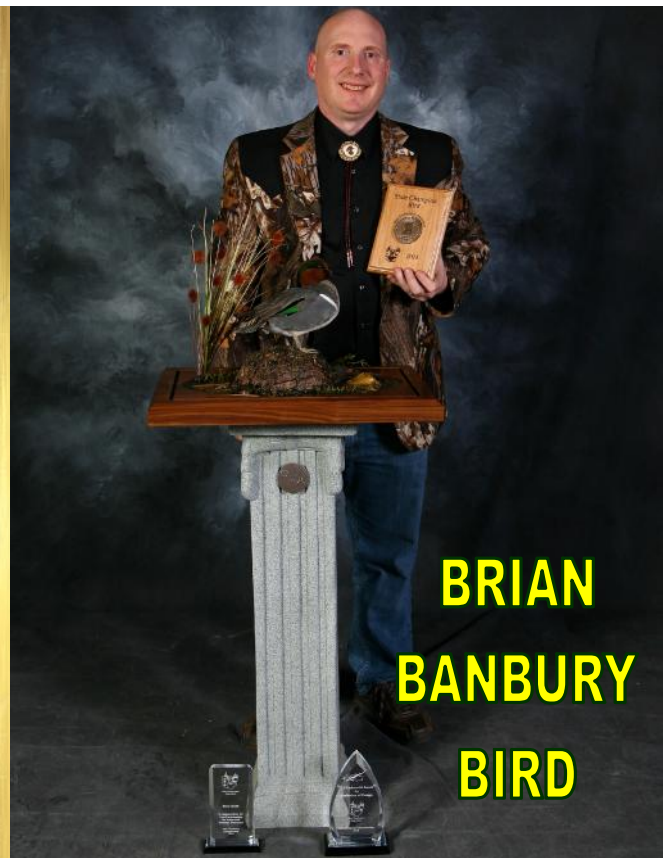


ABOUT THE COVER

This whitetail mount was the big winner at the 2015 Ohio Taxidermy Championships winning State Champion Whitetail. It also won the Breakthrough Award, The UTA Artisan Award, and the Peoples Choice Whitetail. It was mounted by Scott Crawford of Columbiana, Ohio. Scott owns and operates Rocky Creek Taxidermy.



**SCOTT
CRAWFORD
WHITETAIL**



**BRIAN
BANBURY
BIRD**

2015

STATE CHAMPIONS



**CHIP
WENDT
REPTILE**



**TRAVIS
WEAVER
GAME HEAD**

2015 OHIO TAXIDERMY CHAMPIONSHIPS MAJOR AWARDS

JUDGES:

TOM KINSER—GAMEHEADS/MAMMALS
HARRY WHITEHEAD-BIRDS

GENE SMITH—WHITETAILS
FRANK KOTULA-FISH



| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 2015 OTA Hall of Fame Inductee..... | Ed Piaskowski |
| Best of Show Flat Art..... | Leslie Simms |
| Best of Show Original Sculpture..... | Carrie Elvey |
| Best of Show Photography..... | John Rougeaux |
| OTA Best Freeze Dried Entry..... | Katie Maier |
| New Direction Photography Youth Taxidermists Award..... | Matt Hawkins |
| OTA Dart Tournament Champions..... | Mike & Cody Noon |
| Art Ledger Best Pheasant Award..... | Danielle Henderson |
| The Taxidermy Today "Woody Award"..... | Chip Wendt |
| Starfish Award..... | Jamie Cameron |
| OTA Ladies Choice Award..... | Bruce Leichtman |
| NRA "Keeping the Freedom Alive" Award..... | Chip Wendt |
| Polytranspar Award..... | Chip Wendt |
| OTA Directors Choice Award..... | Chip Wendt |
| Traditions Engraving Best Amateur Award..... | Tim Shonkwiler |
| OTA Presidents Challenge Award..... | Danielle Henderson |
| NWTF Award..... | Bruce Leichtman |
| OTA Best Habitat Awards..... | Amateur..... Steve Benton |
| | Professional..... Ed Josephs |
| | Masters..... David Klein |
| Vandyke Award..... | Bruce Leichtman |
| OTA Best All Around Taxidermists Award..... | Brandon Hitchcock |
| OTA Peoples Choice Award..... | Whitetail..... Scott Crawford |
| | Fish..... Bob Anderson |
| | Reptile..... Chip Wendt |
| | Gamehead..... Travis Weaver |
| | Lifesize Mammal..... Travis Weaver |
| | Bird..... Bruce Leichtman |
| McKenzie Taxidermists Choice | Bird..... Bruce Leichtman |
| | Whitetail..... Ron Blinsky |
| | Lifesize Mammal..... Travis Weaver |
| | Fish..... Mark Maier |
| OTA Best Professional Awards..... | Bird..... Mark Daniels |
| | Lifesize Mammals..... Travis Weaver |
| | Fish..... Jamie Cameron |
| | Whitetail..... Travis Weaver |
| McKenzie Distinguished Taxidermists Award..... | Lee Maxwell |
| UTA Artisan Award..... | Scott Crawford |
| OTA Competitors Awards..... | 1st..... Travis Weaver |
| | 2nd..... Danielle Henderson |
| Pro-1 Award..... | Scott Crawford |
| OTA Collective Artists Award..... | Travis Liff / Dan Clark |
| OTA State Champion..... | Gamehead..... Travis Weaver |
| | Fish..... No Winner |
| | Reptile..... Chip Wendt |
| | Lifesize Mammal..... No Winner. |
| | Birds..... Brian Banbury |
| | Whitetail..... Scott Crawford |
| WASCO Award..... | Travis Weaver |
| Ed Piaskowski Perfection of Design..... | Brian Banbury |
| Breakthrough Award | Scott Crawford |
| OTA Master of Masters Award..... | Casey Watterson |

**2016 OHIO TAXIDERMISTS ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP & REGISTRATION APPLICATION**

NAME _____ PHONE # _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ EMAIL _____

Membership in the Ohio Taxidermists Association entitles you, your spouse and any minor children to attend the OTA convention and seminars with you. However competing family members must pay the applicable fees. **THE 2016 OHIO TAXIDERMISTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS ARE ON APRIL 1ST, 2ND, & 3RD** at the Mid-Ohio Conference Center, Mansfield, Ohio. Pre-registration fees are good postmarked by **THURSDAY MARCH 24TH**. After **MARCH 24TH** please pay at the door.

MEMBERSHIP/REGISTRATION----- \$65

ADDITIONAL FEES

MOUNT ENTRIES(each)-----\$15 (\$25 at door) _____

HABITAT ENTRIES(each)-----\$15 (\$25 at door) _____

BEST ALL AROUND -----\$30 (\$40 at door) _____

PHOTO/ART ENTRY-----\$ 15(\$25 at door) _____

CHILDREN'S ENTRIES -----\$ 5 (\$10 at door) _____

COMMERCIAL DIVISION -----\$15 (\$25 at door) _____

COLLECTIVE ARTISTS ENTRY--- \$30 (\$40 at door) _____

COMPETITORS AWARD ----- \$30 (\$40 at door) _____

BANQUET TICKETS(presale only)- \$25 per person _____

BANQUET TICKETS PRE SALE ONLY

TOTAL ENCLOSED ----- _____

SEND TO:
OTA c/o Tina Strunk
19893 Townline Road
Wapakoneta OH 45895
PH: 419-221-0319

WHITETAIL DEER SURVIVOR \$500!

Sponsored by OHIO TAXIDERMY SUPPLY

We have a special contest planned for Friday evenings mixer. It is called WT Deer Survivor and will take some people with guts to enter. The contest goes like this:

1. Competitors will enter a deer in this competition
2. All of these deer will then be judged by the competitors AND randomly drawn observers. They will "vote off" one deer at a time.
3. The last deer left will win \$500.
4. ALL mounts kicked off will become the property of the OTA and be auctioned off at Saturdays Auction where EVERYONE has a chance to "buy" them proceeds to the OTA.

This is free to enter. We need at least 5 but no more than 10 competitors. If we do not get 5 entries then the contest will be replaced by Taxidermy Game Show. REMEMBER that you could LOSE YOUR DEER HEAD. So don't bring anything YOU VALUE!!!!!!

Call Heath Cline 330-276-5521 for more info

SPECIAL TAXIDERMY ESTATE SALE!!

A taxidermist with over 60 years in the business will be bringing all of his equipment and left over products to sell at the Ohio Taxidermy Championships. He is hoping to liquidate it all so come and get in on some great deals!

Some GREAT work was displayed at the 2015 Ohio Taxidermy Championships. The OTA would like to thank ALL the competitors for their entries.

We hope to see you all again in 2016!

Whitetails:

Masters:

BOC Open Mouth: Ron Blinsky, BOC Closed Mouth: Scott Crawford
1st: David Klein, Erik Truckovich
2nd: David Klein

Professional:

BOC Open Mouth: Dale Wilhelm, BOC Closed Mouth: Travis Weaver
1st: Travis Weaver, Dale Wilhelm,
2nd: Ed Josephs, Aaron Phillips, Rich Odrumsky
3rd: John Rougeax, Lon Grant, Dave Cottrill, Greg Spangler, Jim Lynch, Dave Jettinghoff, Ken Kanapke
HM: Travis Millard, Jeff Fairchild, Tim Patton (2)

Amateur:

1st: Mike Odrumsky, Matt Colopy,
2nd: Steve Benton,
3rd: William Heistend, Sean Caldwell

Youth: 2nd: Matt Hawkins

Gameheads:

Masters:

BOC: Travis Weaver

Professional:

BOC: N/A
2nd: Jamie Cameron, Ron Hawkins, Scott Kirshner, Greg Spangler
HM: Brandon Hitchcock, Danielle Henderson

Large Mammal:

Professional:

2nd: Travis Millard
HM: Brandon Hitchcock, Danelle Henderson

Small Mammal:

Masters:

2nd: Dave Jettinghoff

Professional:

BOC: Travis Weaver
1st: Travis Weaver
2nd: Ed Josephs, Jim Haas, Leslie Sims, Marty Davison
3rd: Jerry Fyffe

Amateur:

1st: Tim Shonkwiler, Steve Benton
2nd: Shawn Heaton

Upland Bird:

Masters:

BOC: Bruce Leichtman
2nd: Bruce Leichtman

Professional:

BOC: Mark Daniels
3rd: Brandon Hitchcock, Danielle Henderson

Waterfowl:

Masters:

BOC: Brian Banbury
2nd: Mike Lanham

Professional:

2nd: Jodi Ricketts (2), Sam Maier

Coldwater Fish:

Masters:

3rd: Jeff Jones

Professional:

2nd: John Rougeax

Warm Water Fish:

Masters:

3rd: Bob Anderson

Professional:

2nd: John Rougeax, Ron Hawkins, Greg Spangler, Mark Maier, Danielle Henderson
3rd: Greg Spangler

Reproductions:

Professional:

BOC: Jamie Cameron
2nd: Travis Millard, Mark Daniels

Freeze Dried:

2nd: Brandon Hitchcock, Katie Maier

Non Game Birds:

Professional:

2nd: Marty Davison
3rd: Danielle Henderson

Reptile:

Masters:

BOC: Chip Wendt
1st: Chip Wendt

Professional:

2nd: Ron Hawkins, Brandon Hitchcock

Commercial:

1st: Matt Colopy, Mark Daniels(2)
2nd: Jim Haas, Jeff Jones, Scott Kirschner, Brandon Hitchcock (3), Randy Shanklin, Tim Patton
3rd: Dave Cottrell, Jeff Jones, Brandon Hitchcockn (3)

Collective Artists:

1st: Travis Liff & Dan Clark

Habitat:

Masters:

1st: Bob Anderson, David Klein (2), Scott Caldwell
2nd: George Geiger

Professional:

1st: Jerry Fyffe, Ed Josephs, Travis Weaver, Aaron Phillips, Travis Millard, Scott Kirschner, Danielle Henderson, Dale Wilhelm,
2nd: Brandon Hitchcock, Tim Patton

Amateur:

1st: Steve Benton(2)
2nd: Tim Shonkwiler

Commercial:

2nd: Brandon Hitchcock

Master of Masters:

1st: Casey Watterson
2nd: Brian Banbury

Flat Art:

1st: Leslie Simms 2nd: Bob Anderson 3rd: Meaghan Herbert

Photography:

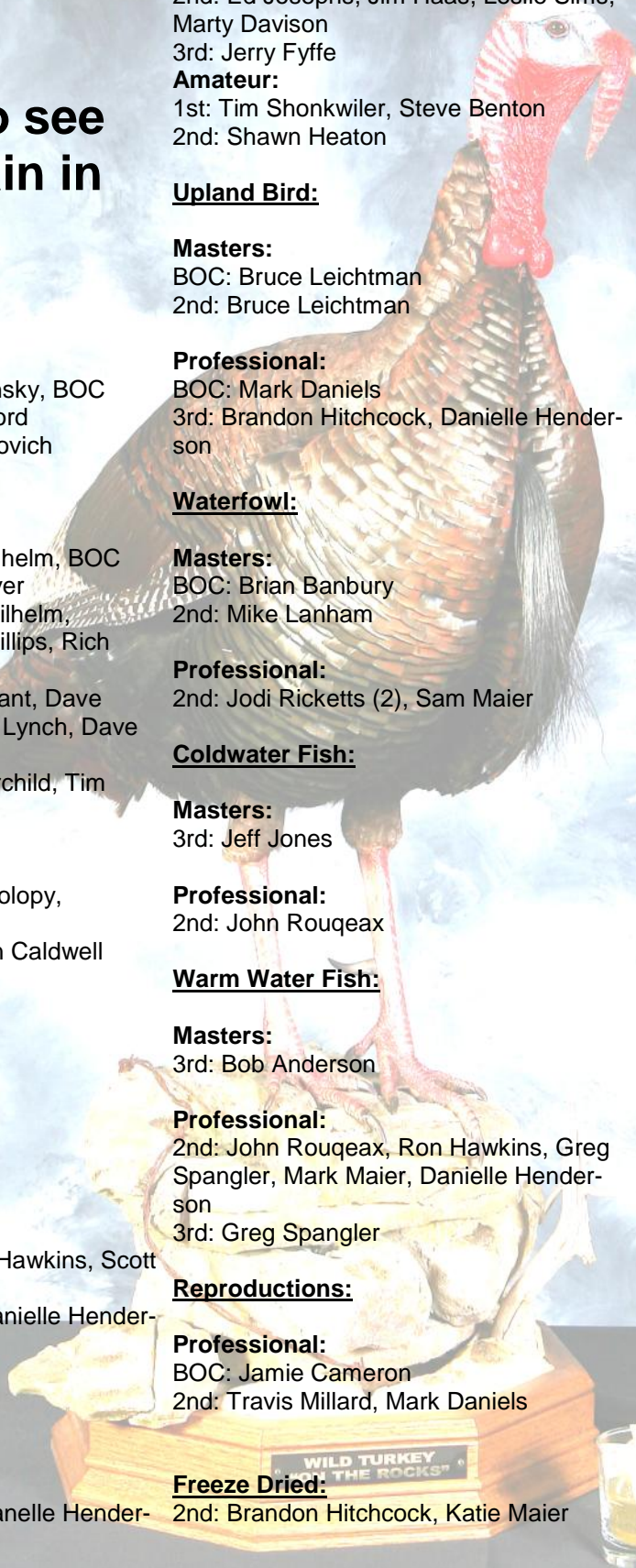
1st: John Rougeaux 2nd: Carri Elvey 3rd: Kara Phillips

Sculpture:

1st: Carri Elvey

Competitors Award: Professional:

Travis Weaver



ASSOCIATION NEWS

CHIP WENDT - NEW OTA PRESIDENT



Chip Wendt is your new OTA President. Chip and his wife Brooke live in New London Ohio where he operates Frink's Run Taxidermy. Chip has been a strong competitor and is the winner of the 2015 State Champion Reptile Medallion and has spent the last 2 years on the OTA Board. Chip will take office April 3rd, 2016

JODI RICKETTS - OTA SECRETARY

Hello my name is Jodi Ricketts this is my 4th year involved with the taxidermy industry, and my second year with OTA. I live in Danville Ohio and have worked with Dan Clark for the past year and a half. I am looking forward to working with everyone in the OTA, and wish everyone good luck at this years convention. Jodi will take office April 3, 2016



DAVE JETTINGHOFF - OTA BOARD MEMBER



Dave Jettinghoff returns as an OTA Board member. Dave is a long time supporter of Ohio's taxidermy associations and a past President. He is also a State Champion Mammal taxidermist. Dave operates Jett's Taxidermy in Delphos, Ohio.

OTA NEEDS YOUR HELP!



Find us on:
facebook®

2015 has been a rough year for the OTA Tech Wise. We had a computer failure and then had a rough time getting all programs up and running. In the meantime be sure and check Facebook often for the most up to date information. We are doing our best to get the website updated as well.

Secondly we need interested people to come forward and let us know they are willing to serve as an OTA Board member. This would require you to give up 2 Sundays and one weekend a year. There is no compensation. Honestly if OTA cannot get a good solid group of new, young, taxidermists to show interest in taking the reins the future of the OTA is in question. Please step forward if you can help. We have a good foundation but new blood to carry on for the future is sorely needed.

SUPPLIERS CONFIRMED AT PRESS TIME



**PINE ACRES
TANNERY**



PRO-1 PERFORMANCE CHEMICALS

2016 JUDGES



DAN CLARK - Mammal/Gameheads - Dan is a multi-time/multi-category State Champion and Best All Around winner with other awards too many to list. A constant and top competitor for over 2 decades. He is also well known as a seminar instructor. Dan has also spent years on the BOD of OTA. Dan owns and operates Dan Clark's Fine Taxidermy, a full time studio in Danville, Ohio

PAUL CZARNECKI - Birds - Paul is known as a master taxidermist and competitor in multiple categories. To date Paul has won 2 National Championships, 18 state Championships, 6 Best of Show, dozens of Best of Category awards and a Second Best in the World award for waterfowl. A professional fishing guide, Paul owns and operates the Free Spirit, a 33' Trojan on Lake Ontario as well as a Tri-State Taxidermy in Waterford, PA.



CASEY WATTERSON - Fish/Reptiles - Casey is a multi-time/multi-category State Champion and Best All Around winner. He is also 2015 Ohio Master of Masters winner with other awards too many to list. Casey operates Lone Leaf Taxidermy, full time studio in Mt. Gilead, Ohio. He is also a Past President of the Ohio Taxidermists Association.

CARY COCHRAN- Whitetail Deer - World Champion Cary Cochran needs no introduction. A top taxidermist, innovator, sculptor, mold maker, judge and instructor. Cary has won the highest honors, judged the most prestigious shows and taught countless students in the art of taxidermy. Cary is a member of the Ohio Taxidermists Hall of Fame, sculptor of the Ohio State Champion Medallions and Master of Masters Award



2016 SHOW SCHEDULE

FRIDAY APRIL 1ST

12N - 7P REGISTRATION/ENTER MOUNTS
 1P - ?? SUPPLIER AREA OPENS
 6:30 - 8:30P CARY COCHRAN WT DEER TECH
 CASEY WATTERSON FISH TECH
 DAN CLARK MAMMAL TECH
 PAUL CZARNECKI BIRD TECH
 9P—?? OTA MIXER/DEER SURVIVOR

SATURDAY APRIL 2ND

8 - 11A DOUG MONTGOMERY SEAMLESS CAPE
 CHIP WENDT REPTILE TECH
 11A - 3P PEOPLES CHOICE VOTING
 3 - 4 P LADIES CHOICE
 1 - 4P ERIC TRUKOVICH WT DEER TECH
 TRAVIS WEAVER GAMEHEAD TECH
 6:30P - ?? BANQUET/AUCTION/AWARDS

SUNDAY APRIL 3RD

9A - 12N JUDGES CRITIQUES
 12:30 MOUNTS RELEASED

SHOW SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE!

2016 OHIO TAXIDERMISTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

APRIL 1, 2, & 3 Mansfield Ohio



The Ohio Taxidermy Championships returns to the Mid-Ohio Conference Center in Mansfield. The MOCC has proven to be a popular venue for our membership. A loading dock with easy load in and out. Extensive amounts of FREE parking close to the entrance and plenty of restrooms. 12 foot ceilings throughout can handle all but the largest entries.

The HOST HOTEL is the Quality Inn & Suites, Mansfield. They continue to give us the best service and the best rates possible. Once again they have given us the FANTASTIC room rate of

\$76

Call: 419-529-1000



www.ohiotaxidermists.com

