

# TRAP-LINES

*New York State Trapper's Association  
Summer Edition 2012  
www.nystrappers.org*



Credit: US Fish & Wildlife Service

## ***NYSTA President's Report***

It has been awhile since our last "Traplines" newsletter so I'd like to first thank all who attended our Spring Membership Conference held in Watertown, NY back in April. The presentations were first class. I would especially like to thank DEC Furbearer Biologist Andy MacDuff for his presentation regarding the muskrat studies presently underway here in NY and also for addressing furbearer and DEC related questions from those in attendance. Lou and Angie Berchielli gave an excellent presentation on survival in the outdoors which was very relative to the situations and accidents that can and do befall trappers, hunters, and other outdoors people. If you are interested in learning all you can about coyotes and missed Mark Zagger's presentation on trapping coyotes then you missed out on one of the best coyote presentations and discussions I've ever seen and heard. Awesome job Mr. Zagger.

Thank you all for these presentations.

Our NYSTA June Raffle was a great success. Thanks to all of you who bought tickets and congratulations to all the lucky winners, they are listed on page 4. We are going to hold another very similar raffle with tickets to be drawn throughout the month of October. Tickets are available now from Dave Miller, myself, many of the NYSTA Officers, Directors and County Reps. Their contact information is listed on page 11 of the "**TRAP LINES**".

Tickets will also be available at the NYSTA booth in the main dealer building at our upcoming NYSTA Fall Convention, August 31– September 1, 2012. Tickets will again be \$20.00 and limited to only 1000 sold. As before, any daily winner may elect a \$150.00 cash in lieu of prize option if that better suits them.

You will find a ballot in this issue (on page 6) to vote on some important NYSTA By Laws changes. The NYSTA Board of Directors has approved these changes to facilitate the operations of the Board. We need the membership's approval to implement these changes so please take a moment, right now, to fill out the ballot, on page 6 and get it mailed in as soon as possible.

I would like to thank Al West, JTI Committee Chairman, for his column in the July/August issue of "Trappers Post" which gave a brief history of the JTI Committee as well as an

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## President's Report

explanation of the important role JTI plays in every trapping related issue that affects trappers in NY. Al has chaired the JTI Committee, for all but a brief period, since the Committee was first formed in 1988. That in itself stands testimony to Al's intense devotion and dedication to NYSTA and the trappers here in New York. Thank you, Al, for all those many years of dedicated service.

Will there be a longer bobcat trapping season in the Northern Zone this season? Will there be new opportunities to harvest bobcats in Southern and Western New York this season? These questions are yet unanswered. Evidently the NYSDEC hit a stumbling block with the new bobcat management plan for NY. I believe the overwhelming anti sentiment expressed during the public comment period on this issue caused this unfortunate stall in the implementation of the plan. There is more than ample scientific justification for the plan. However, these folks would actually prefer it if no bobcats were ever harvested in NY; let alone fathom any increase in opportunities to harvest them. We will have to patiently wait to see the final outcome will be on this one.

Our Annual Fall Convention is only a month away at the time of this writing. It is hard to believe how fast the time goes by. VP Wayne Jones has said that both dealer buildings are full and he has been taking reservations for space in a newly constructed third building at the fairgrounds.

Again we have a great line up of demo presenters this year and I'm sure the grounds will be covered with 100 or more tailgaters displaying their wares. Make your plans to attend now as you won't want to miss all this convention has to offer.

There is another issue of concern. It appears there is a small but vocal faction in NY that is promoting total deregulation of harvesting coyotes. This faction would prefer that NY's coyotes be treated the same as woodchucks and rats – as vermin to be killed anytime and by any means. ***NYSTA stands firmly against this position.*** We maintain that NY's coyotes are a valuable furbearer whose management should remain as presently regulated by the competent furbearer biologists at the NYSDEC.

Recently, Angie and Lou Berchielli, along with Gordon Batchellor (NYSDEC), and Professor Jacqueline Friar of ESF addressed a group of sportsmen and women about coyotes in NYS. Several individuals in attendance were promoting an 11 or 12 month coyote season. By all accounts, this small group was hostile to trappers and seemed intent on trying to divide and pit hunters against trappers. The larger group as yet has taken no position. We hope they will support our efforts to legalize cable restraints which would allow us to increase the harvest of coyotes under the current structure. I would

like to offer our sincere appreciation to Angie, Lou, Professor Friar and Gordon for their efforts at that meeting. I'd like to also thank NYSTA Past President Bill Smith for his involvement and for keeping us informed in regard to this groups activities and adverse position on coyotes. NYSTA will continue to closely monitor this situation.

Final note, when you are at the fall convention, please take time to stop by the NYSTA booth in the main dealer building to renew your membership, pick up some convention/NYSTA merchandise, buy some raffle tickets, purchase your President's Dinner tickets, express any comments or concerns to the NYSTA reps there, or just to say "hello" and to give those guys and gals a big "Thank You !" for all they do for NYSTA and New York's trappers. See you all there soon !

John Rockwood, President  
New York State Trappers Association  
114 CR 30A  
Williamstown, NY 13493  
Phone: 315-415-4946  
Email: Loggerjohnr@aol.com

### ***Trappers help needed for Lyme disease research***

I am a researcher studying Lyme disease in Dutchess County, New York. We are working on a method of figuring out what hosts each life stage of ticks are biting based on the Carbon and Nitrogen atoms in their bodies. To do this, we need a reference from a bunch of different potential tick hosts. The "reference" would simply be a guard hair or two from several (5- to 15) different animals of each species. In particular, we're looking for some hair samples from raccoons, foxes, coyotes, opossums, skunks, and deer. Since you are the president of the NY Trappers Association, I thought that you might be able to help us find some skins that we can pull a hair from. Do you think this is the kind of thing that a few trappers might be willing to help us with? It would be ideal to find animals that were harvested in Dutchess County or nearby. Do you know anyone that in that region that might consider helping with this research?

Thanks so much for considering this. It could really help us figure out what wildlife species are playing the largest roles in feeding larval, nymph, and adult ticks.

Taal Levi  
NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
Cary Institute for Ecosystem Studies &  
University of Florida  
ph: 831-332-7873      thetaaltree@gmail.com  
<http://people.ucsc.edu/~trlevi/>

**Legislation 2011/2012**

This past legislative year was disappointing at best. With an upcoming election and a very shaky political situation many legislators were not willing to do anything that they saw as controversial.

For a while it seemed we were making some real progress on the cable restraint bill and on a 48 hour trap check for water sets in the Southern Zone, but, in the last few weeks of the session the animal rights groups put tremendous pressure on both houses of the legislature and support for those bills pretty much disappeared. I have been asked by some key legislators to make the language in both bills, particularly cable restraints "more palatable". I will continue to work on this.

The usual anti-trap bills were introduced and one calling for signage on public lands did, as it has several times, go to the Assembly but no further.

Bottom line, no gains, no losses, but we will continue.

One very serious issue that we will likely need to address soon, is the desire of some sportsmen to go to the legislature with management issues; among those is a move establishing a year round season on coyotes.

NYSTA has long held that coyotes are a valuable furbearer and should be protected as such. If changes to the coyote season, or any season for any furbearer or game animal needs to be changed it needs to be based on science and done by the D.E.C. professionals and certainly not by New York State legislators whose only concern is to please constituents and who have no background or experience in managing wildlife.

**Fund Raising**

As I write this we are pushing the last of the bear hunt tickets. This is a one week guided Maine hunt over bait at Lugdon Lodge. Al LaFrance set this up for us. He has hunted there several times and highly recommends the outfitter and the hunt. This raffle will be drawn at the NYSTA Convention on Saturday August 1st.

The June raffle went well but there were still far too many unsold tickets. I'm waiting for one last bill but it appears that we will profit a bit better than \$4,000. A complete list of winners follows on page 4.

The item won is listed but understand that several winners chose the \$150 option instead.

**More on fund raising**

We have been looking for a way to have a

dependable residual income source for some time and we are working with Ambit Energy towards that goal. Ambit Energy is an electric and natural gas supplier. You can sign on with Ambit, save something on your electric and gas bill and each time you pay your bill you make a small donation to NYSTA that takes nothing out of your pocket and helps support our effort to protect and promote trapping. And nothing changes, your bill comes from the same place, and your payment goes to the same place as it does now. Signing up only takes a couple of minutes. This is a win-win thing for you and for NYSTA. Think about it; when you decide to help call me for more information.

Remember the NYSTA Convention and the upcoming local conventions.

**Support what you believe in.**

David Miller Executive Director  
New York State Trappers Association  
Phone: (607) 522-4707 Cell: (607) 664-7161  
Fax: (607) 522-3033 Email guarddn@empacc.net

**Regional, County, and other news****REGION 9S REPORT -****Derwood Say, 9S**

The Cattaraugus County Trappers' Association held its annual Sportsman's Rendezvous, Friday August 10(10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.), Saturday August 11(8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.), and Sunday August 12(8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) at the Cattaraugus Fairgrounds in Little Valley, NY.

The 80+ vendors marketed live, foot-hold, and body gripping traps, thousands of trap repair and modification parts, hundreds of bottled lures, scents, and baits, pack baskets, knives, clothing, guns, outdoor cooking supplies, for the collectors antique traps, signs, fishing creels, rods, lures, and much more.

Presenters included Friday - Hal Sullivan(coyote) and Daren Freeborough(coyote);

Saturday - Daren Freeborough(coyote), Coon Creek Representative(red, gray fox), Cattaraugus County Houndsmen & Conservation Club(UKC Sanctioned 'Coon Hound Show), Hal Sullivan(coyote), Mark Zagger, tentative(coyote), Bailey's Fox Ranch Representative(Fox Pelt Handling), and David Allen(fleshing and stretching beaver pelts); and

Sunday - A tour of the Mountain Man Encampment, National Wild Turkey Federation sanctioned turkey calling contest(12 noon - 3:00 p.m.), and presenter Daren Freeborough(coyote).

In addition, many product-centered demonstrations were seen in vendor booths from the beginning to the end of the show. Food was on hand throughout the show (Chicken BBQ noon, Saturday), however, there will be no alcohol.

Rendezvous admission was \$5 per vehicle, and overnight camping(showers available) was \$5 per night. The entire event was handicapped accessible. For information on next years rendezvous call co-chairpersons Andy and Cheryl Smith at 716-492-0432.

### *June Raffle Winners*

6/1	Mark Lippa, Penn Yan N.Y. -	\$300;
6/2	Frank and Amy Powell, Akron, N.Y. -	Mossberg 500 12 ga.;
6/3	James Drake, Ilion, N.Y. -	Trap package;
6/4	Mario D'Aniello, Rome, N.Y. -	Trap package;
6/5	Larry Barrows, Clifford, Twmsp, Pa. -	Fly Fishing Outfit;
6/6	Gary Vanhousen, Prattsburgh, N.Y. -	Mossberg 835 12 ga.;
6/7	Clay Cool, Frankfort, N.Y. -	Savage 17 cal.;
6/8	Jesse Vickerson, Johnstown, N.Y. -	\$300;
6/9	Mike Gulnac -	Spinning Rod/Reel;
6/10	Ernest Geiskopf, Worcester, N.Y. -	Trap package;
6/11	James Potter, West Monroe, N.Y. -	Mossberg 20 ga;
6/12	Richard Rathbun, Cooperstown, N.Y. -	Spinning rod/reel;
6/13	Nate Case, Hoosick Falls, N.Y. -	\$250;
6/14	Bill Lawton, Auburn, N.Y. -	Trap package;
6/15	Mike Young, Arlington, Vt. -	\$300;
6/16	Terry Turner, Hornell, N.Y. -	Savage 22-250;
6/17	Gerald Litts, Altmar, N.Y. -	Fly Fishing Outfit;
6/18	Tom Donahue, Trumansburg, N.Y. -	Trap package;
6/19	Ed Tracy, Clarksburg, N.J. -	Ruger 10/22;
6/20	Mike Bacon, Hoosick, N.Y. -	Henry .22 l r ;
6/21	Ron Frodelius, Fayetteville, N.Y -	Trap package;
6/22	Brandon Fagan, Newport, N.Y. -	\$300;
6/23	Chris Lawson, Athens, Ontario Canada -	Rem. Mod. 770 270 cal. Rifle;
6/24	David Johnson, Richland, N.Y. -	Trap package;
6/25	Ed Tracy, Clarksburg, N.J. -	Savage .22 cal. Rifle;
6/26	Art Bennett, Mexico, N.Y. -	Trap package;
6/27	David Van Valkenburg, Central Bridge, N.Y.	Trap package;
6/28	Leslie Wedge, Homer, N.Y. -	Weatherby 12 ga.;
6/29	Gene van Duesen, Red Creek, N.Y. -	\$300;
6/30	Wes Lewis, Fulton, N.Y. -	Camping package

The next month long raffle will be an October drawing. See me at the Convention or contact me for tickets.

David Miller

### *Regional, County and other news*

#### ***Tioga Trappers Association 2012-2013 Schedule***

August, Sept. 1&2	NYSTA Convention - Herkimer NY
September 9	Meeting
October 7	Meeting
November 4	Meeting
December 2	Meeting—election of Officers
January 6	Meeting
January 13	Fur Sale—9AM to Noon at Club
January 19	Annual Dish to Pass Dinner
February 10	Meeting
March 3	Meeting
April 7	Final meeting of Season

All meetings start at 7:00PM  
at the Sportsmen's Club,  
Carmichael Hill Road., Owego, NY

#### ***Questions:***

Call: Bob at 607-687-2196 or  
Mark at 607-687-2986

*Proposed By-laws revisions*  
*New language is in italics and bold type. Old language to be removed is in brackets [ ] and underlined.*  
*Please take the time to read and review these changes and then mark your ballot.*  
*Ballot must be received by 10/1/12*

#### ARTICLE IV

##### EXECUTIVE BOARD AND MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

###### Section 1: NUMBER, ELECTION AND QUALIFICATIONS:

The Corporation shall be governed by an Executive Board consisting of five (5) members; the President, Vice President, *Secretary*, Treasurer, and *the immediate Past President* [shall be one of the five, voted to be on the Board by the Board of Directors]. *One Regional Director shall be chosen by a vote among the Board of Directors at the first meeting of the calendar year for a three year term. This person will only have a vote on the executive board* in the event of any *other* member of the Executive Board needing to recuse themselves because of a conflict of interest or in the event of an unexpected vacancy.

#### ARTICLE V

###### Section 2: ELECTION AND TERM OF OFFICE:

B. All candidates for office in NYSTA shall *be at least 21 years of age*. They shall also be a NYSTA member in good standing, and have been actively involved in NYSTA, *(which may include an elected leadership role in one of NYSTA's affiliated Chapters)* [one of its chapters, preferably] for at least 4 years.

#### ARTICLE VI

###### Section 1: BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Regional Directors) of NYSTA: Number, Election, Qualifications, And Terms of Office:

The Board of NYSTA shall consist of [no less than] 13 Directors [and no more than 16 Regional Directors, with additional Directors added with the addition of new Regions as the Board deems necessary] [The Board shall have] 4 Officers, the immediate past President, [including the immediate past president] the FTA and the NTA Director and up to 3 additional past Presidents.

###### Section 3: QUALIFICATIONS:

[A. A Regional Director shall be at least 21 years of age.]

[B. All NYSTA Regional Directors shall be NYSTA members in good standing for the four previous years.]

*A. All Regional Directors in NYSTA shall be at least 21 years of age, a NYSTA member in good standing and have been actively involved in NYSTA, (which may include one of its affiliated chapters and in an elected or leadership role) for at least 4 years.*

[C.] B. Candidates shall not have been a member of any organizations considered subversive, or contrary to NYSTA beliefs and goals. Candidates shall not have engaged in conduct deemed prejudicial to NYSTA.

###### Section 4: POWERS AND DUTIES:

D. The Board of Directors shall:

5. [appoint] a NYSTA member in good standing *may be elected* to be a National Trapper's Association Director and a member in good standing to be a Fur Taker's of America Director. *They shall also be members in good standing of their respective organizations (NTA and FTA).*

These Director's shall:

*A. have their names on the ballot during the elections for officers, and have been elected to their positions by the entire membership.*

*F. they shall recuse themselves from voting on any financial or policy issues as they relate to either the NTA or the FTA.*

**Section 6: Past Presidents:**

[There shall be] Up to **4(four)** past Presidents [that shall] **may** be members of the Board of Directors, with the same rights and responsibilities. No vote is required for the immediate past President. The Board of Directors shall hold an election among themselves, at the first Board meeting of the year, if more than **3(three)** additional past Presidents wish to remain as active voting members of the Board. The immediate past President and the top **3(three)** names that received the most votes will be the past Presidents. These past presidents shall have 3 year terms, and may run for re-election. Past Presidents may resubmit their names during the next election cycle, even if they were not elected the previous time or have not been inactive for a period of time, greater than 5 years.

**ARTICLE VII****Section 1: MEETINGS AND REQUIREMENTS OF VOTING MEMBERS OF THE BOARD**

NYSTA Officers' and Directors' meetings, a **quorum of 10** is needed [simple majority of the voting members shall constitute a quorum] for the transaction of business.

**Section 2: Voting members of the Board:**

- A. The Officers, the Regional Directors, and the **up to four** past Presidents (which includes the immediate past President), the FTA Director and the NTA Director (**all in good standing**) are the voting members of the Board of Directors, of NYSTA, **each having one vote.**

**ARTICLE VIII****Section 1: LOCAL CHAPTERS:**

- B. In order to qualify as a NYSTA chapter, the Chapter must maintain at least a 50% membership in NYSTA. All Chapter members are encouraged to be NYSTA members also. **The officers of affiliated local Chapters must be NYSTA members in good standing.**

**ARTICLE XII****Section 1: BY LAWS: ALTER, AMEND OR RESCIND**

- B. Once an amendment has been properly endorsed, it shall be submitted to the Board [at the next Board of Director's meeting.] with a verbatim **written** statement of the amendment, along with the **written** justification for the change. [has been] [shall be included] **A by-laws committee will then be formed to review the amendment. Their recommendations will be addressed by the Board at a future meeting.**
- C. A quorum of at least **two-thirds (2/3 ) of the Board** must **then** ratify the amendment.



NYSTA By-laws Ballot

- Yes, I approve of these by-law revisions
- No, I disapprove of these by-law revisions



**Please mark your ballot and mail to:**  
**Ed Hogan - Recording Secretary**  
**1900 SR 48**  
**Fulton, New York 13069**

**Deadline: Ballot must be received by October 1, 2012**



## *Trapper Survey Results*

The JTI Committee is pleased to report the results of its recent NYSTA membership survey. The opinion of each and every member is of great importance and will help guide NYSTA in setting courses for the future.

There were many, many additional comments and suggestions, far more than can be listed here, but they all have been reviewed by the JTI Committee and the NYSTA leadership. Many thoughtful and Constructive suggestions!

Percentages on answers to questions are based upon the amount of persons that responded to that particular question. In total 174 members completed and returned the surveys. Thank you to all that took the time to respond.

AI West, Chairman

1. Do you trap public Lands? 88 responded Yes
2. Do you trap private lands? 127 responded yes, many said yes to both.
3. What opening date do you prefer for Fox and Coyote in Southern Zone?  
Oct.15 16%, Oct 25 38%, Nov. 1 44%
4. In Northern Zone? Oct.15 16% Oct 25 32% Nov 1 48%  
Percentages were quite close for both southern and northern zones.
5. What opening dates do you prefer for mink and muskrats in southern zone?  
Oct 25 15%, Nov 1 38%, Nov 10 09%, Nov 25 32%, Dec 1 06%
6. In Northern zone? Oct 25 35%, Nov 1 46%, Nov 10 5.5%, Nov 15 03%, Nov 25 09%
7. Do you support use of Colony Traps? Yes 49% No 51%
8. Do you support removal of 5' rule from muskrat houses? Yes 66% No 34%
9. What opening date do you prefer for coons in Southern Zone?  
Oct 15 14%, Oct 25 39%, Nov 1 43%  
In Northern Zone? Oct 15 07%, Oct 25 35%, Nov 1 49%, Nov 10 07%
10. What opening date do you prefer for fisher in Southern Zone? Oct 25 38% Nov 1 47%
11. What opening date do you prefer for fisher in Northern Zone?  
Oct 25 34%, Nov 1 46%, Nov 15 12%, Dec 1 06%
12. What opening date do you prefer for Beaver and Otter Southern Zone?  
Oct 25 11%, Nov 1 30%, Nov 10 05%, Nov 15 28%, Nov 25 15%, Dec 1 05%  
In Northern Zone? Oct 25 16%, Nov 1 46%, Nov 10 04%, Nov 15 30%
13. Is 330 Trigger Regulation having a positive affect? Yes 28% No 72%
14. Do you agree with NYSTA's position on catch limits? Yes 91% No 09%  
Of the 09% most wanted catch limits on Fisher
15. Do you trap Pine Marten? Yes 12% No 88%
16. Should limit on marten be Increased, Remain Same, or Eliminated  
Same 75% Yes, Increased 52% No, Eliminated 54% No
17. Are you concerned with quality of your fur? Yes 93% No 07%
18. Or when it's easiest to catch? Yes 32% No 68%
19. Do you support trapping on Beaver Dams Southern Zone? Yes 92% No 08%
20. Do you support elimination 330 trigger reg under ice Southern Zone? Yes 88% No 12%
21. Do you favor 48 Hr trap check Southern Zone for water sets  
And body grips on land? Yes 74% No 26%
22. Should water seasons run concurrent for all water species? Yes 85% No 15%
23. Do you support 48Hr trap check under ice Southern Zone? Yes 66% No 34%
24. Do you support Nov 1 opening date all species Northern Zone? Yes 63% No 37%
25. Do you support use of Cable Restraints? Yes 86% No 14%
26. Have you read DEC Bobcat Plan? Yes 55% No 45%
27. Your preference for opening dates?  
Saturday 21% Prescribed 45% No Preference 42%
28. Do you know who NYSTA Officers are? Yes 80% No 20%
29. How to contact? Yes 87% No 13%
30. Do you know who Executive Director is? Yes 80% No 20%
31. How to contact? Yes 84% No 16%
32. Ever contributed to Executive Director's Salary? Yes 50% No 50%
33. Ever attended a Spring Membership Meeting?  
If not, why Not? Yes 20% No 80%  
Distance, Boring, Locations, no interest

## **2012 YOUTH TRAPPERS CAMP INFO**

### **5 - 6 - 7 - 8 October 2012**

Almost the whole state has heard of our wonderful fun filled camps. Even though the success is great and we have two years of happy campers that have had a hands on experience and are very happy to relate and tell their friends as well as sponsors we need to keep up the support. We now have TWO CAMPS and each camp has returnees that have programs of their own. These additions have made it necessary for some changes. We have changed the age limit to 14 for first time campers.

Along with expanded numbers we need ***many more mentors***. We have a few requirements such as each one, must be a member of NYSTA, and they should be able to give students the keys to location, which trap to use and the whys and whens in order to make them more aware of the little details.

***New York DEC certified instructors get first chance.***

We do have a permit to harvest the animals and the students will learn different methods of dispatch. At no time will the students handle a firearm. They will also skin and flesh and put "up" the fur.

***To finish out our staffing needs, we really could use more kitchen help for both camps.***

Tom Delisle, itrapfisher@yahoo.com will direct the Eastern camp at last years location.

Tim Strough, cell. 315-753-0079 will direct the Western camp.

I will do both registrations and have forms for mentors as well as camp forms. Checks can be made out to me, Pat Arnold. If you have any questions please call 315-644-4643 or, patriciaarno@gmail.com.

***Register soon, space is limited.***

#### ***Interesting turn of events:***

#### ***Tables turned on Humane Society***

***Jim Matthews, Outdoors Posted: 07/26/2012 08:32:04 PM PDT Updated: 07/27/2012 03:06:28 PM PDT***

The Humane Society of the United States, an organization that does next to nothing for animal shelters but sues, badgers and lobbies politicians and businesses into adopting its radical animals rights agenda, is getting a taste of its own medicine.

In a little-reported ruling by a judge in the District of Columbia earlier this month, the HSUS is going to court to face charges under RICO statues on racketeering, obstruction of justice, malicious prosecution and other charges for a lawsuit it brought and lost against Ringling Brothers Circus' parent company Feld Entertainment, Inc.

After winning the case alleging mistreatment of elephants in its circuses brought by Friends of Animals (later merged into HSUS), the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) and the Animal Welfare Institute (AWI), lawyers at Feld filed a countersuit with a litany of charges ranging from bribery to money laundering to racketeering. The attorneys for the animal rights groups asked the judge to dismiss all charges, but most remained because the evidence was overwhelming. So in early August, HSUS will be facing the music in a case that should attract the attention of hunters, ranchers, farmers and anyone impacted by HSUS' radical animal rights agenda.

District judge Emmet G. Sullivan did dismiss allegations of mail and wire fraud, but he did so only because Feld didn't have standing to file this charge. His ruling all but set the stage for a class-action RICO lawsuit against HSUS for misrepresenting itself in its fundraising campaigns across the nation. This lawsuit easily could bankrupt HSUS, put it out of business and send some of its top executives to prison.

For the first time, a group has fought back against the animal rights and environmental extremists who have been setting policy in this country for the past 20 years or more. Now, instead of getting rich off their lawsuits and fundraising schemes that misrepresent their efforts and accomplishments, they could be driven out of business. These groups have cost the farming and ranching industry jobs and raised the price of products we buy every day. They are behind the efforts to ban sport hunting across the nation. They have forced state wildlife and fishery agencies to waste countless millions of dollars on lawsuits and have spearheaded policies and legislation like the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA), which has ruined livelihoods in recreational and commercial fishing without helping marine resources.

These groups operate with surly arrogance and believe they are above the law. Thankfully, that is not the case. Stay tuned.

## NYSTA Board of Director's Meeting Minutes April 21, 2012 Herkimer County Fairgrounds

### *Call to Order*

The meeting was called to order by President Rockwood at 9:10 with the Pledge of Allegiance. President Rockwood noted that a quorum was not present so no motions could be voted on. There were three minor corrections to the January minutes that were noted; there would be 1000 tickets available to be sold in the up coming raffle, the Executive Board could spend up to \$2,000 annually without board approval and the next meeting date was corrected. The Secretary has made those changes.

### *Trapper's Camp*

Applications for this year's event have already been received. The East Camp is looking for a new site. More mentors are needed for this year. The East Camp may also need animals to be skinned as the catch was very low last year.

Fur Handler's Award needs to have more people involved particularly youths. Pat Arnold talked about how poorly some of the fur was handled that came through the Mannsville auction. She wished "old timers" handled fur better.

### *Convention*

Both buildings have been rented out and NYSTA is taking reservations in the 3<sup>rd</sup> building. All the demos have been scheduled. Wayne may have a scheduling conflict and may not be able to be at the convention.

### *NTA*

There was no Northeast Regional Convention this year. NTA would like to have one in 2013 and is sending out letters looking for a host organization.

Antis are using photos of a legally caught wolf that was shot by hunters. The bloody pictures of the wounded animal went viral.

Minnesota is drafting new 220 regulations.

Idaho had a lynx caught in a trap and the antis are filing suit because of this.

Louisiana is having issues with bears and snares.

### *FTA*

Trapper's College has a full enrollment and is financially sound.

### *County Reports*

Columbia County rep, Joe Moskaluk, passed away. The Hoosick Falls schools outdoor program went over very well with over 1,200 kids participating. However, one class with an anti-teacher was not allowed to attend.

There was an interesting case where a beaver was caught in a 110 next to a state boat ramp. The beaver was released but the trapper told he could not trap there as it was within 100 of a public access area. No tickets were issued.

Bill Ballou did a demo at a program at Delta Lake State Park.

Cattaraugus County voted to donate \$200 towards this year's Trapper's Camp. They also donate a subscription of the Trapper & Predator Caller magazine to all schools in Allegheny and Cattaraugus Counties. There will be a sportsman's show at the Little Valley Fairgrounds Aug. 10, 11, & 12 with 100 vendors. Many trappers in this area, 9S, are not in favor of changing the 24 hour check time on water traps to 48 hours.

Cortland County has a new county rep, Les Wedge. Cortland County Maple Festival was a success, trappers had another nice display.

### *JTI*

The group met on 4/10 at the Gander Mountain store in Cicero and discussed the bobcat management plan. The plan drew about 1,200 comments in opposition and only about 300 in favor. The DEC will have to address the issues with more data that they have available.

JTI sent out a lengthy trapper's survey. 155 responses were sent back. The complete results will be put on line. Some general highlights:

- Generally respondents wanted later opening dates
- Most trappers don't want seasonal limits
- Trappers don't believe 330 trigger regulations are effective
- 93% of respondents wanted to harvest good quality fur

### *Executive Director's Report*

There are bills in both houses that will "fix" the harvest of snapping turtles by allowing them to be taken by methods other than shoot-

ing or by bow.

The Cable Restraint Bill is being sponsored by Assemblyman Sweeney, Chair of the ENCON Committee. He feels to get it passed a 2 yr trial with a sunset clause should be included. Antis are voicing strong concerns and since it is an election year the bill may not move very far.

Assemblywomen Linda Rosenthal has introduced a bill that covers most animal & dog breeders as well as farmers detailing how they have to run their businesses; care, feeding housing, and shipping animals. It also includes feral cats.

The 30 day raffle is underway and sales seem to be going okay. The bear hunt raffle tickets need to be re-printed as they weren't numbered and didn't have a stub.

There will be a sit down diner again at the convention. It will be at the Crystal Chandler Thursday evening.

There will be a spring conference next year but the place has yet to be determined.

Chapter affiliates need to file financial statements with our treasurer every year. (Fiscal year is November 1 to October 31). Many affiliates are unaware of this requirement.

There was discussion on the need to keep the web page updated and maintained. Should someone be paid to do this.

A DEC permit is no longer needed to do nuisance muskrat work.

### ***New Business***

New Hampshire has confirmed and documented at least one litter of lynx kittens.

Wild wolves in NY? Genetic studies on animals killed by cars or shot have determined that some large "coyotes" are in fact wolves.

Gary Parsons passed away unexpectedly in his sleep.

Helen Whitford passed away earlier this year. She was a trapper and her obituary directed that donations could be made to NYSTA.

Eastwick Press published an article "Introducing the Cougar". It was an article touting the benefits of introducing the cougar. It said wolves would help control the moose population and the cougar would help control the deer population.

Peter Kummerfet is back on tour with his survival seminars. He will be giving talks 8/13-8/18.

PA Trappers are celebrating their 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They helped NYSTA get set up. NYSTA's 75<sup>th</sup> will be next year. We will have a celebration with special merchandise noting the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

### ***Adjournment***

Since there was not a quorum to vote on business particularly the changes to the by-laws a conference call will be set up to do that before the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50PM. The next meeting will be July 21, 2012 at the Herkimer County Fairgrounds.

***Respectfully submitted,***

Ed Hogan, NYSTA Secretary

### ***Upcoming items for Next Newsletter:***

***Do you have meeting notices, fur auction dates or results, dinners or other events to announce? Please send that information to:***

***Angie Berchielli  
3861 SR 85  
Westerlo, New York 12193***

***AngieBerchielli@MSN.com***

***Please be sure to give yourself  
enough lead time for your event.***

## **2012 Officers and Directors and County Representatives of NYSTA**

### **Officers:**

**President:** John Rockwood, 114 County Route 30A, Williamstown, NY 13493 loggerjohnr@aol.com (315) 415-4946

**Vice-president:** Wayne Jones, 9152 River Road, Marcy, NY 13403 - iluvny2@roadrunner.com - (315) 768-8115

**Treasurer:** Dale Gamba, 12320 Pople Road, Cato, NY 13033 - dale.gamba@gmail.com - (315) 224-0529

**Secretary:** Ed Hogan, 1900 SR 48, Fulton, NY 13069 ehogan@oswegohealth.org - (315) 593-2196

**Executive Director:** Dave Miller, 10213Muck Rd., Prattsburg, NY 14873 - guarddn@empacc.net - (607) 522-4707

### **Directors:**

#### **Region 1&2 Vacant**

**Region 3** Mark Charpentier, 650 Granite Road, Kerhonkson, NY 12446 - chappy@hvc.rr.com - (845) 626-4794

**Region 4E** Jim Greeley, 340 Crandell Road, Peterburg, NY 12138 - live2trap@aol.com - (518) 658-9720

**Region 4W** Earl VanWormer, RD 1 Box 9, Sloansville, NY 12160 - (518) 868-9304

#### **Region 5N Vacant**

**Region 5S** Brandon Hemmerich, 10W. State Street, Dolgeville, NY 13329 - atgs4you@hotmail.com - (518) 774-7242

**Region 6** Pat Arnold, 12374 Arnoldville Rd., Natural Bridge, NY 13665 - patriciaarno@gmail.com - (315) 644-4643

**Region 7N** Charlie Lamb, 124 Kenyon Rd., Mexico, NY 13114 - lambjrm@aol.com - (315) 963-3051

**Region 7S** Ray Nolan, 240 Oliver Road, Lisle, NY 13797 - ragn@citlink.net - (607) 849-4649

**Region 8N** Bob Samuelson, 3889 Westside Dr., Churchville, NY 14428 - wildlifereovalservice@yahoo.com - (585)293-1576

**Region 8S** Eric Hurd - hurd\_em@yahoo.com

#### **Region 9N Vacant**

#### **Region 9S Vacant**

### **Past Presidents:**

Bob Hughes, 10835 Isaman Road, Perkinsville, NY 14529 - bmh42b@frontiernet.net - (585) 728-2471

Dave Leibig, 1375 Warren Rd., Delhi, NY 13753 - beavertrapper64@yahoo.com - (607) 829-6813

Bill Smith, 75 Plank Road, Napanoch, NY 12458 - (845) 647-7246

Al West, 5 Hillcrest Ave., Queensbury, NY 12804 - agwthird@hotmail.com - (518) 793-3662

**FTA** Ken Hellijas, 477 Loonenburgh Tpke, Cobleskill, NY 12043 - kritterpatrol@localnet.com - (518) 234-3715

**NTA** Jim Carmody, 237 Fonda Road, Waterford, NY 12188 - oldgreyfox03@aol.com - (518) 237-3071

### **County Representatives: (Counties grouped by Region)**

**Suffolk** - Gerald Giammatteo, 56 German Blvd., Yaphank, NY 11980 - (631) 924-8210

**Dutchess** - Chris Wilser, 21 Dutchess Hill Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 - (845) 452-7281

**Rockland** - Mark Schaefer, P.O. box 936, Tallman, NY 10982 - rocklandtrappers@yahoo.com - (845) 357-4541

**Orange** - Bill Stoehr, wstoehrpls@aol.com - (973) 222-5718

**Ulster** - Tom Zeider, 30 High Street, Napanoch, NY 12458 - (845)647-4631

**Columbia** - Dick Leggett, 399 Leggett RD., Ghent, NY 12075 - RIMSLEGGETT.con@dotNet - (518) 692-2062

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**Franklin** - Peter Brue, 122 Fish Hatchery Rd., Chateaugay, NY 12920 - (518) 497-3294

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**Fulton** - Don Biron, 308 Wells Street, Johnstown, NY 12095 - (518) 762-8547

**Saratoga** - Frank Farrar, 214 Old Post Rd., Malta, NY 12020 - ffarrar@nycap.rr.com - (518) 885-6623

**Washington** - Rick Vladyka, 155 Beecher Rd., Granville, NY 12832 - (518) 642-1531

**Hamilton** - Neil Skotarczak, 140 Ridge Rd., Northville, NY 12134 - info@kittlercreek.com - (518) 848-0698

**Warren** - Al West, 5 Hillcrest Ave., Queensbury, NY 12804 - agwthird@hotmail.com - (518) 793-3662

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**Oneida** - Doug Pelton, 5046 Rome-Taberg Rd., Rome, NY 13440 - (315) 336-2619

**Cayuga** - Scott Lehtonen, 1879 Pinckney Rd., Apt.1, Auburn, NY 13021 - scott\_lehtonen@yahoo.com - (315) 200-0777

**Madison** - Jim Ward, 2784 Swallow Bridge Rd., Oneida, NY 13421 - trapperjimw@yahoo.com - (315) 363-2913

**Oswego** - Jason Townsend, 1644 CTY. RT. 38, Parish, NY 13131 - townzee07@yahoo.com - (315) 708-4048

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**Tompkins** - David Nabinger, 199 Salmon Creek Rd., Lansing, NY 14882 - (607) 257-7591

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**Wayne** - Herm Flowers, 2690 Lyon Rd., Marion, NY 14505-hermannancy@gmail.com - (585) 880-3794

**Chemung** - John Aikman, 155 Ormiston Rd., Breesport, NY 14816

**Steuben** - Wyland "Bub" Reed, P.O. Box 91, Coopers Plains, NY 14827 - (607) 962-6231

**Schuyler** - Jon Olin, 705 Coon Hollow Rd., Beaver Dams, NY 14812 - (607) 739-5736

**Yates** - Dave Morse - barringtontrapper@frontiernet.net

**Erie** - AJ Pachucinski, 2604 Lenox Rd., Collins, NY 14034 - apachucinski@capitalsource.com - (716) 532-5233

**Orleans** - Don Durow, 3719 Horan Rd., Medina, NY 14103 - (585) 798-0848

**Cattaraugus** - John Milks, 3606 Fay Hollow Rd., Hinsdale, NY 14743 - (716) 557-2523



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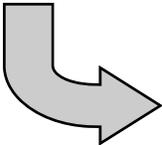
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