



# South Dakota Trappers Association

Spring 2024 Newsletter

Editor: Craig Parkhurst

61 Years 1963-2024

## President's Report

Hello Trappers

By the time you read this we should be just about done with the "show season". The SDTA will have had a presence at the 10-day Black Hills Stock Show, as well as the Watertown, Brookings, Aberdeen, Pierre and Sioux Falls gun shows. In addition, we will also be doing the Big Sioux Water Festival where over 1K kids come through and learn about the animals in our state that frequent the waterways. We will also have booths and a presence at the NTA Western National Convention, Idaho Fur sale (promoting the NTA Convention in Sioux Falls), NTA Leadership Summit and the Wounded Warrior In Action Guide School. And let's not forget all the GFP Outdoor Campus classes, seminars and 4H mentoring sessions we attend almost every month around the state. Your Association is an ACTIVE association, and the calendar and travel miles prove it. What we need is your support! The Directors have done some pretty darn amazing things with these trips, booths, classes. We will never say no to any offer for assistance. ANYONE who has set at least one trap can be a mentor or offer insight into those who have never done it. As a matter of fact, being identified as "not a professional" may encourage even more interaction from the students as they view you more as a peer! We need everyone who can possibly help, help with these events as well as the National Convention in July. You will be amazed how much as a couple hours of volunteer work can mean so much and make the difference. Our Spring convention this year will be at the fairgrounds in Sioux Falls. This will enable us to do a "dry run" for the National Convention. This will allow everyone to know where the tailgaters go, where the campers go, how the vendors will be set up, where the Kids Cave and "She Side" events will be, as well as where we are going to build the demo area for the three days of demos. Each of these areas need volunteers to make it all come together. We will start doing the vendor and demo area set almost a week prior, so the need for volunteers is a long-term thing, not just a day or two. You helping one or two days helps spread it out to ensure success.

[ John Hopple on page 4]

## LOOKING AHEAD 2024

### Spring SDTA Rendezvous

April 27, 2024,

W.H. Lyon Fairgrounds,

Sioux Falls, South Dakota

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### 65th ANNUAL NTA CONVENTION

July 25-27, 2024

W.H. Lyon Fairgrounds,

Sioux Falls, South Dakota

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### Fall SDTA Rendezvous

September 6-7, 2024

Brown County 4-H Grounds

Aberdeen, South Dakota

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**We will need as many members as possible to attend the Spring Rendezvous in Sioux Falls, so we are able to plan and do a run-through of the fairgrounds in preparation for the National convention in July.**





**Join/Renew SDTA Membership**

To become a member please print this page and mail to the address below.

Please accept this as my application in the South Dakota Trappers Association Inc. I have never been convicted of a felony, am in good moral character and will work to promote the interests and betterment of trapping.

----- **NEW** ----- **Renewal**

**Name:** -----

**Address:** -----

**City:**-----

**State:** ----- **Zip:**-----

**Email:** -----

**Phone Number:** -----

**Occupation:** -----

----**Adult Membership- Includes "The Trappers Post" magazine \$30.00**

----**Junior Membership- (under 16yrs) w/ The Trappers Post \$15.00**

----**Adult Membership- Without "The Trappers Post" magazine \$20.00**

\_\_\_ **Lifetime membership (no Trapper's Post) \$300.00**

\_\_\_ **Lifetime membership with Patch (No Trapper's Post) \$325.00**

\_\_\_ **Non-Resident Lifetime Membership (No Trapper's Post) \$350.00**

\_\_\_ **Non-Resident Lifetime Membership w/ patch (No Trapper's Post) \$375.00**

**Make Checks Payable to SDTA**

Mail To: Trina Lien, 811 S. Merton St., Aberdeen, SD 57401

**Spring 2024**

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**HEY, LOOK! SDTA NOW OFFERING LIFETIME MEMBERSHIPS!**

(no Trapper's Post with any lifetime membership)

**\$300.00 Lifetime Membership**

**\$325.00 Lifetime Membership with patch**

**\$350.00 Non-resident Lifetime Membership**

**\$375.00 Non-resident Lifetime Membership with patch**



THANK YOU: The SDTA was the second-place winner of the Rapid City Scheels Facebook nominations for worthy donations contest! As such, Scheels made a \$500 donation to your Association. Thank you, Rapid City Scheels!

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**Financial update:**

A financial update will be available at the Rendezvous in Sioux Falls, Due to gun shows, etc., not all deposits have been made and accounted.

*Trina Lien*

*SDTA Treasurer*



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Tanned Fur Report -

Greetings SDTA Members,

Fur sales have been going very well at the Black Hills Stock Show and all the gun shows. We started in to gun show season with a good amount of fur but it is going fast! With the Nationals in Sioux Falls just around the corner we need fur donations! Please consider donating some fur at our spring convention. Since there were no entries in the Best of the Best contest last year in Redfield, the \$50 cash prizes for Best Badger (Adult) and Best Weasel (Youth) will be awarded this spring in Sioux Falls. I will be accepting finished fur only at the spring convention this year. If you have grease or carcass fur you wish to donate please get it to me before April 1st while I am still in my shop.

Here are the members who have donated since my last report. Thank you all for keeping this program going!

**Jeff Clark**, 18 Gray Fox; **SD GF&P**, 3 Beaver, 2 Coyote; **Jake & Brian Hansen**, 7 Skunk, 1 Raccoon; **Craig Parkhurst**, 1 mink, 1 skunk, 1 coon, 1 marmot; **Gary Fawbush**, 1 Fox, 2 Coyote; **Mike Wiedebush**, 11 Coyote; **Craig Hoffman**, 2 Tanned Coyote; **Clint Whitley**, 1 badger, 8 coon.

Thank you all! If I missed any one please let me know.

SDTA Tanned Fur Coordinator

Steve (Pete) Peterson

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Trapping Equipment for sale

#2 Montgomery traps, 1.75 traps, conibears of various sizes, trap boiling stove and tank, trap wax, fleshing beam and more.

Will sell all in package, or partial items.

Tom Opsahl

Lake City, SD

605-448-2386

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I strongly, strongly encourage as many of you as possible to attend the spring convention, get an eyes and hands on feel for the need of what needs to be done, when it needs to be done and volunteer for the area you want to help in. We have roughly 300 members and it would be nice to see as close to that as possible attend. We may never have another National Convention in South Dakota again so please come be a part of history and ensure it is a successful event not only for you but the generation of new and young trappers who will be able to say “remember when the National Convention was in Sioux Falls?” We owe it to them to have that memory and that it be a good one.

See you at the Spring Convention!  
John Hopple  
SDTA President

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**NOTICE:** Raffle tickets for this year will not be mailed out in the newsletter; however, they will be available at the Gun Shows and our Spring and Fall Conventions. If you would like several packs to sell please let me know and I can get those sent to you. Thanks for your understanding and if you have any questions please contact one of the Directors.

**Trina Lien**  
*SDTA Treasurer*



Below: 2024 Stock Show booth



**\*\*\*NOTICE\*\*\***

*SDTA Newsletter is now accepting advertising at the following rates:*

- \$15.00 for Business Card
- \$50.00 for Quarter Page
- \$75.00 for Half Page

**Please patronize our sponsors**

## NANCY SEZ:

Greetings,

We are currently working on getting names for each committee for the upcoming NTA Convention.

We are in need of a committee leader for the **Camping Gate**.

This position requires 3 people to be on site 8am-9pm Monday July 22nd-Saturday July 27th. The 3 people will be stationed at the Camping Gate booth, which is air conditioned. As the campers come in, you will collect the camping fee for their entire stay, give them a receipt, hand them a camping tag to display in their vehicle and escort them to a camping site. We will have golf carts available for the volunteers to escort to the camping sites. We will not be manning the gate 24 hours a day. There will be notification of this on social media and in the American Trapper magazine. Campers will need to plan their arrival accordingly. There may be campers that do show up before Monday July 22nd. The committee leader will need to drive around the campground area to make sure every camper/vehicle has a camping tag clearly displayed and if not, will need to collect the camping fee from them. Each day the committee leader will take the camping receipts and money to a designated person from the NTA.

This position requires a lot of time! We do not have a problem if you would like to split this with a Co-Committee leader. For instance, one committee leader will be responsible Monday-Wednesday and the co-committee leader, Thursday-Saturday.

Also, because we want everyone to be able to enjoy the convention, we are not expecting anyone to be "chained" to this camping booth. The committee leaders are encouraged to find enough volunteers to fill the hours needed. 2-3 shifts per day would make it easier for all involved to be able to enjoy their time at the convention.

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The committee leaders are encouraged to find the volunteers to staff the shifts needed, but we can also go to the SDTA volunteer list and find people from that.

The **Admissions Gate** is another area that needs a Committee Leader. This position requires 3 people at the booth, which is also air conditioned, Wednesday 24th-Saturday 27th, 8am-5pm. The admissions gate is a walk-in gate only. You will collect the admission fee, give them an admissions wristband and a NTA program.

Again, we want everyone to enjoy the convention, so it's best if you can find enough volunteers to split up the shifts accordingly. We will have 10-15 people from Experience Sioux Falls that have offered to help with the admissions gate.

**Ice Delivery:** We will have an ice truck on site, but will need people to drive around to camping and tailgating sites and sell ice. There will be a golf cart and a cooler on site for this purpose.

**Clean-Up** is something most people don't like to do and frequently gets overlooked; however, it is equally as important as the Admissions gate! The Sioux Empire fair will start setting up Monday, so it is vital we have enough people helping Sunday to make sure we leave the fairgrounds clean and ready for the fair! Many hands make less work and get the work done quickly!

Please feel free to contact myself or any other SDTA director if you would like to coordinate any of these roles. I can't stress enough that you will not be doing this alone!!

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[Nancy Sez, continued from page 5]

With that being said, we will need a lot of volunteers throughout the week. This is a list of events/activities that we will need volunteers for:

- Demo Area construction set up/tear down
- Setting up tables and chairs
- Helping to hang banners
- Working Admissions gate
- Camper gate
- Tailgating Gate
- Assisting Vendors unload, set up/and tear down.
- Setting up tables and chairs for the President's Supper
- Setting up tables and chairs for General Membership meeting/tear down
- Kids Cave volunteers
- She Side volunteers
- Trap Setting Contest
- Asking/Collecting Auction items from vendors
- Auction volunteers
- Demo area volunteers
- Raise/Lower Flag

From my experience of going to Nationals and volunteering, The NTA has great leadership!

They will give you guidance and direction with what they need help with! This past year in Escanaba, I worked with people from Florida, Ohio, Iowa, Alaska and Montana, all who arrived that Monday to volunteer with anything that was needed to ensure the convention was a success!

We will have detailed volunteer sign-up forms for each event/task at the Spring Convention in the

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Armory. I urge everyone to join us at the Spring Convention as we will have the opportunity to walk through the facilities and discuss in more depth on the National Convention.

Again, please feel free to contact myself or any director if you have any questions or would like your name on the volunteer list and what you would be interested in doing.

Nancy Bennett

SDTA Secretary

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### **FTA Report,**

Myself and Galen Sichmeller were at the FTA Nationals in Wisconsin this past summer. The SDTA booth was run by Galen and we attended the FTA Banquet where I accepted a very nice Clever Coyote Award for 2022. It was awarded to the SDTA because we donated over \$1000 to the Fur Takers in 2022. This was largely because Galen Donated back the dinner gun in Kansas the previous year.

Currently the FTA is leading the charge on 3 major legislative battles. The antis are attacking New Mexico, Minnesota and Montana. The FTA's financial obligations on these 3 lawsuits could reach as high as \$175,000.00. There is no sign that the anti's are worn out or out of money. If you are able to help the FTA financially in any way please do so. They need our help in this fight! Please keep up your memberships and donate when you can!

SDTA FTA Coordinator,

Steve (Pete) Peterson

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### **In Memoriam**

**Floyd "Jimmy" James Pesicka**, 78, died on February 4, 2024, in Platte, SD, with his devoted family by his side.

Trapper and SDTA member. Floyd was an auctioneer for many Trapper's Conventions, and he will be greatly missed by the Association.

## SDTA Responsibilities for National Convention and Outdoor Expo

<b>Sun 21st</b>	Demo Set-up	Dirt Removal						
<b>Mon 22nd</b>	Demo Set-up	Vendor Set-up	Camper Gate					
<b>Tues 23rd</b>	Demo Set-up	Vendor Set-up	Camper Gate	Vendor Unload	Kids Cave Set-up	She Side Set-up		
<b>Wed 24th</b>	Tailgators Gate	Tailgator Set-up	Camper Gate	Vendor Unload	Ice Delivery	Collect Auction Items		
<b>Thur 25th</b>	Admissions Gate	Camper Gate	Garbage	Ice Delivery	Kids Cave	She Side	Demo Asst	Ball Toss.
	Auction Items Collection							
<b>Fri 26th</b>	Admissions Gate	Camper Gate	Garbage	Ice Delivery	Kids Cave	She Side	Demo Asst	Ball Toss
	President's BBQ	NTA Auction						
<b>Sat 27th</b>	Admissions Gate	Camper Gate	Garbage	Trap Setting	Ice Delivery	Kids Cave	She Side	Ball Toss
	Demo Assistance							
<b>Sun 28th</b>	Table and Chair Tear Down	Garbage	Clean Buildings	Clean Grounds	Kids Cave Tear Down	She Side Tear Down		

### Need Volunteers!

The above sheet shows the timeline for dates and activities for which the SDTA needs volunteers. Please attend the Spring SDTA and volunteer. If you can't make it to the Spring Convention, please contact a Director to get your name in as a volunteer.

## SDTA SPRING CONVENTION



www.sdtrappersassociation.org

**April 27, 2024**

**W.H. Lyon Fairgrounds**  
**100 N Lyon Blvd, Sioux Falls**  
 Armory Building on the  
 North end of the Fairgrounds

**9AM-3PM**

Membership meeting at 10 • Vendors, Kids Demos and Lunch  
*Membership meeting will focus on the National Convention*

**www.sdtrappersassociation.org**



SDTA  
811 S. Merton St.  
Aberdeen, SD 57401

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To receive SDTA email and the newsletter electronically, please  
send contact information to: Justin Bartling at:

[wetwillysride@hotmail.com](mailto:wetwillysride@hotmail.com)

**\*\*\*NOTICE\*\*\***

**SDTA LIFETIME MEMBERSHIPS** now available

*(Trappers Post not included in any lifetime membership)*

\$300.00 for LIFETIME Membership

\$325.00 for LIFETIME Membership w/ patch

\$350.00 for non-resident LIFETIME

Please see the SDTA website for details.