

# Utah Taxidermist's Association

## 2013 State Competition

### February 21-24

This year we have an exciting line up for everyone, not only will our association put on our traditional state competition and art show to be held at the 2013 Western Hunting and Conservation Expo in Salt Lake City, but all winners will have a great opportunity to show off their ribbons and trophies at the 2013 ISE (International Sportsman's Exposition) held March 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> in Sandy. We also have a lot of new awards to announce. **PLEASE help us this year with labor on set up and take down from JP Display, it will be GREATLY appreciated!** So let's get started! Your judges for this year are....

#### *Mule Deer Judge*

**Bill Bowen** was born and raised in Albuquerque NM. Starting at the age of a small child he's enjoyed the outdoors and wildlife. As a teenager he developed an interest in bird taxidermy. In the following years his interest in taxidermy blossomed from a hobby into a full time career. He enjoys competing at taxidermy conventions and attended his 1st National Taxidermy Association Competition many years ago in Las Vegas, Nevada. When he walked into the competition room and saw the quality of work compared to his, he nearly turned around with his "masterpiece" and walked away. Bill remembers being embarrassed to even set his bird on the table. But he didn't give in and followed through with the challenge. Needless to say, he did not win a ribbon that weekend; In fact, he won't even mention the score, but that was just the beginning of his competition journey, a journey that still continues to this day. Nearly 25 years later he still competes and is now proudly judging some of those same competitions that he nearly walked away from as a teenager. Bill enjoys working in his own professional taxidermy business of 22 years. It's been Bill's pleasure and privilege to create custom wildlife displays for individuals, schools and museums, the New Mexico Department of Game & Fish, and even sell some of his work to Bass Pro Shops. Bill always looks forward to learning and teaching new and innovative taxidermy techniques and passing on his passion for the art of taxidermy to his own two boys, who also love the outdoors and wildlife as much as he does.

#### *Game Heads and Life-Size*

**Manny Chavez Sr.** Manny has won numerous awards, including Best of Categories, in STATE, REGIONAL, NATIONAL, and WORLD Competitions, as well as Best All-Around Taxidermist in 2004, 2005 and 2006 in Western Regional, Arizona and New Mexico, and BEST Antelope in 2005.

- Member of the New Mexico Taxidermists Association
- Lifetime Member of the National Taxidermists Association
- Board of Director of the NTA

- Past President of the New Mexico Taxidermists Association
- NTA Certified Taxidermist
- National Champion 2002
- Recipient of THE AWARD of EXCELLENCE 2004
- NTA DIRECTOR of THE YEAR 2005
- NTA Certified Taxidermy Judge
- Has judged taxidermy in the following states; Arizona, California, Wyoming, Arkansas, Southern Regionals in Mississippi, New Mexico, Texas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Colorado, and the 2007 World Show In Reno, Nevada.
- Two time WORLD Winner
- Instructor at The Academy Of Realistic Taxidermy in Montana

### ***Birds and Fish***

**Troy Rose:** Troy has been involved in the art of taxidermy for over 27 years, including full time taxidermist for the past 20. He also instructs individuals both new and old in this ever evolving field of animal preservation. His accomplishments led him to many prestigious awards in many State and National Competitions. Originally known for his masterful bird work, Troy steadily gains high merits and recognition for his work in both Game Heads and Life-Size Mammals. He strives to achieve realism in all his work and to convey those techniques to others. He simply states: "I judge to help make you become a better taxidermist. ..keep an open mind, and remember, it's just one Judge's opinion. I look forward to judging birds at your show!"

### ***Novice and Youth***

**Scott Humble:** Scott is no doubt the BEST teacher for anyone new or old to taxidermy, he has an amazing skill level like no other. He is a Utah Master Taxidermist in ALL Categories and has won almost every award possible. His commitment to quality and realism is exceptional. Scott served as UTA President for many years, and continues to serve the association in numerous ways. For those of you undecided to compete, you are missing out not getting to know or be judged/critiqued by Scott.

### **Competition Divisions**

There are four levels or divisions in the competition. Multiple first, second, and third place ribbons will be awarded in each division. The **Competitor chooses** which division to compete in.

**Youth Division:** For youth under the age of 18. All youth compete for First, Second and Third Place Awards, and new this year KR Plumbing is awarding \$500:

- \$250 for first highest scoring mount + 8 hour shop time of their choice from Shawn Shaw
- \$150 for second highest scoring mount
- \$100 for the third highest scoring mount

**Novice Division:** This division is intended for the beginning taxidermist. It is intended to give the first time competitor a taste of competition without putting too much pressure on the individual. It is the easiest division to win a ribbon in. If you have never competed before it is not necessary for you to enter the novice division, especially if you are an experienced taxidermist. Once you receive a first place ribbon in this category you will need to compete in the Professional Division thereafter. All entries in this division compete for the *Best of Novice Award*, and new this year Darin Gardner will be giving \$100.00 to the highest scoring bird in this division

**Professional Division:** This division is for experienced taxidermists. There are multiple categories in this division and the highest scoring blue ribbon mount in each category will receive the Best of Professional Category ribbon. Darin Gardner has also added \$200.00 cash to the highest scoring bird in the professional division.

**Categories for Best Of**

- Bird, bird group, mule deer, whitetail deer, game head, waterfowl, waterfowl group, small mammal, medium mammal, large mammal, mammal group, fish skin and fish reproduction and mixed group

**Masters Division:** This division is the toughest to compete in. It is for experienced competitors. Those who have won Best of Professional category ribbons in the past are encouraged to compete in the Masters Division. There are multiple categories in this division and the highest scoring blue ribbon mount in each category will receive the Best of Masters Category ribbon.

**Categories for Best Of**

- Bird, bird group, mule deer, whitetail deer, game head, waterfowl, waterfowl group, small mammal, medium mammal, large mammal, mammal group, fish skin, fish reproduction and mixed group

## **AWARDS**

**All competitors are eligible to compete for the following awards.**

**Best Base:** Awarded for the best habitat base at the show.

**Natural History Award:** Awarded to the best portrayal of a natural history subject.

**Research Manikins Novice Award:** \$50 gift certificates to the four taxidermists with the highest scoring entries in the Novice Division.

**Van Dykes:** Most original and creative.

**WASCO Award:** Chosen by the judges to be the most artistic taxidermy entry of the show.

**Best All Around Taxidermist:** Awarded to the taxidermist who has the best average combined score of a game head, life-size mammal, bird, and fish/reptile/amphibian. Scott Humble has also added \$500.00 to this award

- \$250.00 Highest scoring
- \$150.00 Second highest scoring
- \$100.00 Third highest scoring

**Competitors Award:** Awarded to the taxidermist who has the highest combined average score on any four pieces in any four categories.

**Truffitt Best 89 Award:** Truffitt Life Forms (Bill) will chose the best 89 in the show, this award includes the following

- How to mount DVD
- Reference DVD
- Eye Cast
- \$100.00 certificate to your choice jam session put on by the UTA

**Polytranspar Award:** For the best fish reproduction using Polytranspar paints.

**McKenzie's Distinguished Service Award:** Voted on by members for distinguished service to the UTA. Voting for this will take place at the banquet held on Friday night. If you do not plan on attending but would like to vote on someone for their distinguished service to the UTA, please contact one of the show officials and we will get your vote counted.

**McKenzie's Taxidermists Choice Awards:** Taxidermists Choice for: Best bird, fish, mammal, and whitetail of the show. Please vote on these Friday before 6:00pm

**People's Choice:** Voted on by the viewing public for their favorite piece of the show.

**Taxidermist's Choice Best of Show:** Voted on by participating taxidermists.

**Breakthrough Award:** Voted on by all judges as Judges Choice Best of Show

**Delta Waterfowl Habitat Award:** Chosen by members of Delta Waterfowl to be the best habitat portrayal in a waterfowl setting.

**South Valley Ducks Unlimited Best Waterfowl Award:** Chosen by members of the South Valley Ducks Unlimited Chapter for best waterfowl.

- Decoy with Emblem

**Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife (SFW) Award:** Chosen by members of SFW for the best game head in the show

- A bolt rifle

**Mule Deer Foundation (MDF) Award:** Chosen by members of MDF for Utah's best mule deer

- Remington 700 30-06

**Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) Award:** Chosen by members of RMEF for Utah's best Elk mount

- 25<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary knife

**Utah Chucker and Wildlife Foundation Award:** Chosen by members of the Utah Chucker and Wildlife Foundation for the best portrayal of upland habitat

- Plaque and \$50.00 Cash

**National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) Award:** Chosen by members of the NWTF Utah Chapter for Utah's best Turkey (Let's have more than one turkey to choose from this year!)

- Plaque and \$100.00 Cash

**Three Hour Bird Challenge Award:** An award for the most votes on a bird mounted at the show in three hours. Voting will be from participants and attendees of the challenge

**Three Hour Mule Deer Challenge Award:** An award for the most votes on a mule deer mounted at the show in three hours. Voting will be from participants and attendees of the challenge

**Mule Deer Challenge:** Vortex Optics is giving a pair of 10x42 Viper Binoculars or a 4-12x40 Diamondback Rifle Scope to the winner, the winner chooses.

**Best Team Entry Award:** \$300.00 cash from GTMS to the highest scoring team entry in the show.

**United Taxidermist Association Artisan Award** Bronze award for most artistic entry chose by competitors of the show

**Three Hour Bird Challenge:** This year's three hour challenge will be any bird in any pose. Each person will need to bring a fleshed, washed, prepped, dried skin and mount it on the spot in three hours. You may have an artificial head ready and you may use artificial feet if you want. You may also bring a pre-made base to place the bird on after mounting. No pre-formed bodies will be allowed, you'll need to carve or wrap one on sight. A small "milk crate" size box with the appropriate tools needed to mount your bird will be allowed. Do not bring a skin with wet feathers, unless you get there early and want to dry it before 9:00am; We will not allow blowers to be going during the class. After three hours mounting time will be up and we'll take a lunch break. After lunch the people in attendance and the individual competitors will judge the entries. The piece with the most votes wins a ribbon, and that person gets to choose next year's challenge.

**Three Hour Mule Deer Challenge:** Just like the bird challenge but with a mule deer head. Bring a mounting stand (unless you mount like Scott Humble on the floor) , a form, the antlers, and a prepped cape with all the stuff you'll need to mount it in a small mobile crate and put it together in three hours. You may have the antlers pre-attached

to the form but that's it. Ear liners, eye set, sculpting, form alterations, etc. must be done on the spot. So dig one of your customer's deer out of the freezer and bring it down. We will provide a small compressor and air hose. After three hours mounting time will be up and we'll take a lunch break. After lunch the people in attendance and the individual competitors will judge the entries. The piece with the most votes wins a ribbon, and new this year the winner chooses a pair of 10x40 Viper Binoculars or a 4-12x40 Diamondback Rifle Scope from Vortex Optics.

## Schedule of Events

### **Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 am Set-up of Backboards and Tables **PLEASE HELP US!!!!**  
2:30 pm – 6:00 pm Entries accepted for competition.

### **Wednesday, February 20<sup>TH</sup> 8:00am-6:00pm!**

Entries accepted for the competition, grooming etc. After Wednesday the show floor is closed to all competitors until judging is completed and ribbons are placed on the mounts.

### **Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup>**

8:00 am – 10:00 pm Judging. Competition area closed to all competitors.  
9:00 am – 12:00 pm Three Hour Mule Deer Challenge  
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Lunch Break  
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Judging of the Three Hour Mule Deer Challenge. Participants and people in attendance will vote on the best mule deer using a score sheet to identify points of interest.

### **Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>**

8:00 am – 12:00 pm Judging continued. Only UTA officials and judges allowed in competition area.  
9:00 am – 12:00 pm Three Hour Bird Challenge  
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch Break.  
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Judging of the Three Hour Bird Challenge. Participants and people in attendance will vote on the best bird using a score sheet to identify points of interest.  
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Ribbons will be placed on winning entries.  
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm Competition area open. Score sheets will be available at the UTA official's desk inside the competition area. All Judges will be on hand to give critiques at this time.

### **Vote on Taxidermist Choice Best of Show!!!**

7:00 pm – ??? pm Annual Award banquet to be held at Joe Morley's in Midvale (we can accommodate 80 people).

## Saturday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>

All judges will be on hand throughout the day to give critiques and help answer any questions.

- 8:00 am - 8:55 am Annual membership meeting, **PLEASE** be in attendance for this very important meeting. We will be discussing our 2014 show. We're hosting the 2014 Western Regional Championships.
- 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Seminar from our bird judge-Troy will share his techniques on mounting a duck using the real head.
- 12:00 pm Lunch Break
- 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Seminar from our game head and life-size judge-Manny will be sharing techniques on how to mount an antelope. Eyes, ears, hair patterns and also critiquing an antelope, showing what judges look for.
- 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm Seminar from mule deer judge-Bill Bowen will be sharing his techniques on mounting a couse deer.

## Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>

Show will be open to the public from 10:00 am till 4:00 pm. We will have from 4:00 pm till 10:00 pm to tear down and leave the building. All entries **MUST** stay in the competition area until 4:00 pm. Part of the agreement with the people running the show is that our display must stay up throughout the entire show. After all, they are **GIVING** us a \$30,000 booth space; the least we can do is keep it full of nice things to look at. If you decide to enter the show, your pieces will be there for the duration of the show.

## How to get there

The Salt Palace Convention Center is at 100 S West Temple and has two entrances. The one you'll come to enter the show and set up is on the west side of the convention center on 200 West between South Temple and 200 South. The public entrance is on the east side of the building.

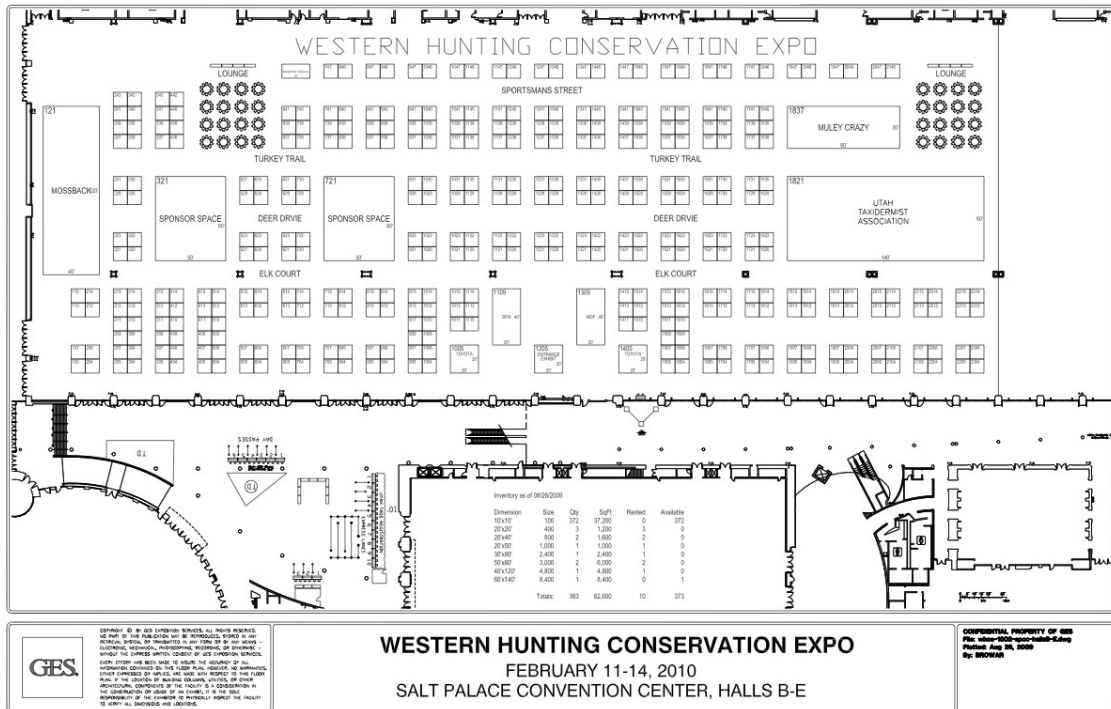
If you need to book a hotel room, please go to the Hunting Expo's web site to do so. There are discount rates available by booking on line. [www.huntexpo.com](http://www.huntexpo.com)

# Map of Show Floor

This is the west side of the building (**200 West**).  
This is the side to bring your entries in.

200  
South

South  
Temple



This is the east side of the building (**West Temple**).  
The public will come in this side.

**North--->**

See you all in February!

Shawn Shaw President UTA  
Dirk Bawden Vice President UTA  
Darin Gardner Secretary/Treasurer UTA

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