

# TRAP-LINES

New York State Trapper's Association  
Fall Edition 2013  
[www.nystrappers.org](http://www.nystrappers.org)



Credit: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

75 Years of Service to New York's Trappers

## President's Report

Greetings NY Trappers,

With the upcoming trapping seasons close at hand, I'd like to first make trappers aware that there have been numerous incidences of rabies showing up across portions of New York State. Most notable is in St. Lawrence County where the number of confirmed cases at the County Health Department is reported to now exceed 20 animals. There are also numerous unofficial reports of local farmers eliminating "sick looking" and "sick acting" animals. Most of these have not been submitted for official testing. Raccoons top the list of positive reports, followed by skunks. Rabies vaccine laden baits have been widely distributed primarily across Northern New York again this summer by the USDA. Hopefully, this program will someday effectively eliminate terrestrial rabies. Trappers can play an active role in population management by heavily targeting raccoons, skunks, foxes and other rabies vector species, especially in areas of high population densities. Diseases such as rabies spread much more rapidly when populations are high. However, **please use extreme caution** when handling the raccoons, skunks, fisher, foxes, etc. that you catch this season. Outward signs of rabies may not show in the early stages of the disease. You could be handling a healthy looking animal that has rabies but the disease has not progressed far enough to show visible signs. I personally witnessed a situation this summer where a healthy looking and acting raccoon was captured in a live trap, ear tagged, information collected, and released. That raccoon was recaptured within 24 hours in another live trap. This time it wasn't acting normal. It was euthanized and submitted for testing. The results came back **positive** for rabies. **So please handle all rabies vector species with that in mind this season.**

Wow, what an amazing 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention we just experienced! Three buildings full of vendors, over a hundred tailgaters, awesome demos, hundreds of new and renewed NYSTA memberships, a record setting attendance, and all this without any negative issues or complaints! Dick and Gerry, who have managed the Herkimer County Fairgrounds for years, estimated the total attendance at somewhere between 6000 and 7000 people! NYSTA has held its conventions at Frankfort for nineteen years now and this one broke all records by a very large margin. There is no way to adequately thank all those involved in assuring the success of this amazing event. My hat is certainly off to our V.P., Wayne Jones, and all those trapper/members

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

and their families who work so diligently from about 7:00 am on Wednesday morning before the convention 'til Sunday afternoon following the convention to set it up and tear it down and to ensure all goes smoothly from start to finish. There's a hand full of unselfishly dedicated guys and gals that dedicate their weekend to manning the NYSTA booth signing up members, selling raffle tickets and NYSTA merchandise, and answering questions. These folks deserve a pat on the back and a huge ***"Thank You!"***. Most of them have been doing that job for many years and unfortunately no one is fighting to take that job away from them. ***They could use some help in there sometimes*** so if there is anyone willing to step up to the plate and put some time in at the NYSTA booth next year, please let us know. To all who helped to make NYSTA's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention a huge success, ***"THANK YOU!"***

Both our appreciation and our congratulations go out to all this years awards recipients. These awards, presented at the Annual Membership Meeting at the convention, are given in recognition of the continued commitment and dedication these folks have shown for the protection, preservation and advancement of our trapping heritage in New York State and beyond. Whenever you run into any of these folks, please take a moment to shake their hand and say ***"Thank you"***. This years recipients are:

Lifetime Achievement Award – Jim Carmody  
 President's Award – Al West  
 Trapper of the Year Award – Mike Talbot  
 Director of the Year Award – Jim Carmody  
 Affiliate of the Year Award – Orange County Trappers  
 Appreciation Awards – Mark Zagger and Gary Graver

It is very likely that by the time you receive this edition of ***Traplines*** the trapping seasons may already be open in most of New York State. Fur prices seem to be remaining

higher than anything we've seen in decades. The sale of trapping licenses and supplies have increased dramatically. No doubt there will be more trappers afield this season than we've seen since the fur boom days of the late 1970s and early 1980s. We've been fortunate here in New York, our laws and regulations are yet trapper friendly for the most part. ***But please remember that it only takes one bad incident to potentially impact us with more restrictive laws and regulations.*** Don't let the high value of the furbearers you seek to harvest cloud your judgment enough to cause damage to the image of all trappers. Remember to be ethical and moral in the placement of your traps and the treatment of both land owners, other trappers and other people that are afield. There will be a lot of competition in some areas this season. I believe clean competition helps us become better, harder working, more observant trappers. Be respectful of other trappers but do your duty to report those that violate the laws and regulations that level the playing field for us all.

Best wishes for a safe and successful trapping season!

John Rockwood, President  
 New York State Trappers Association  
 Phone: 315-415-4946  
 Email: Loggerjohnr@aol.com

## ***Executive Director's Report***

### ***Legislative***

The legislature has been at rest since mid-June so there is little news from there. I have visited with legislative staff in Albany three times over the summer to discuss some of our issues and things appear to be about as usual; neither encouraged nor discouraged, just "we'll continue to help as we are able." I have also had some discussions with D.E.C. people about some of our concerns, especially about Snapping Turtles and the use of turtle traps. It seems that while we have good support from the wild-life people there is talk that Snapping Turtles



may soon be listed as a "species of special concern" which likely means that any immediate change in methods of harvest is going to be very difficult to sell.

I continue to work on the matter of cable restraints. This past spring I continued my efforts in adding co-sponsors to that bill. I was able to get several sign ons from New York City and Westchester County, several that are usually pretty animal rights oriented; these people are really afraid of coyotes and rightly so. They live in an area where there is very little that can be done about coyotes or for that matter any wildlife problem by individuals. Trappers are about the only solution that they have. I will keep continue working on this. As usual it will be a challenge, it will be fun and I look forward to getting back to it regularly.

### ***Fund Raising***

We just finished up with a record breaking convention. Our 75th in case you weren't aware. According to the crew at the Herkimer County Fairgrounds an estimated 7,000 individuals attended. Everyone seemed to have a good time, shoppers were happy, vendors appeared very happy and that is pretty much what it's all about.

In case you have not heard, NYSTA has a 75th anniversary trap in production. This is a KB 5.5 chrome plated trap with an engraved pan celebrating NYSTA's 75 years serving New York State trappers. Trap numbers 1 thru 5 and number 75 are being held back for special purposes, numbers 6 thru 74 may be purchased at a price of \$150. However, many of these are already sold so if you are interested you will want to act quickly. Please contact me to place your order.

Our clam bake at the Crystal Chandelier Restaurant on Thursday evening was very successful with some 50 in attendance. A basket raffle was held during the dinner with great donated items that brought in about \$350. I want to thank Night Owl lures, Hoot's Furs, Dunn Knives and others for their very generous donations, and to everyone that purchased tickets and supported this event.

Angie Berchielli donated a framed print of her beautiful Bobcat photograph that

appeared on the cover of the "*Conservationist Magazine*" to be used at the convention as a NYSTA fund raiser. We offered raffle tickets on the print at NYSTA's table, at the clambake, the President's Dinner and at the membership meeting. In the end Angie's donation brought in about \$650. Thank you Angie, not just for this particular donation, but for all you have done for NYSTA over the years and for being a great friend and mentor to me.

Many of you received tickets in the mail regarding the 2013 "*Super Raffle*" run by the Orange County Sportsmen in conjunction with NYSTA. The drawing was held during the Convention. "Thank you," Jim Peterson and all the folks from Orange County for all the hard work running this raffle.

Tickets for another of our month long raffles are going out as I write this. The raffle will be drawn every day in December and the feature item, to be drawn on Christmas Day, will be NYSTA's gun of the year, a Savage .308. The stock of this gun has been engraved by our own Tom Race to celebrate NYSTA's 75th year and was donated by the Jefferson County Fur Harvesters. Jefferson County donates a gun every year and every year Tom does the carving on the stock. Speaking for the board at NYSTA I want to thank these folks for their dedication to trapping and to their support for NYSTA. If you want tickets please contact me, there are only 1000 printed and they go fast.

***A very sincere "thank you" goes out to all of you that have purchased raffle tickets every time you were asked. We realize that it is hard to always be buying tickets, especially when times are difficult. But these raffles are our lifeblood, they generate the absolutely essential revenue that pays for our operating expenses. It is often the hardest money to raise but it is essential. It allows us to do the most important thing we can do for all trappers in New York State and that is to have our presence in Albany. Without your continued support we couldn't do this.***

***"Thank you!"***

Til next time,  
Dave Miller, Executive Director (602) 522-4707, cell  
# (607) 664-7161  
E-mail guarddn@empacc.net

## ***Important News From NYS D.E.C.***

### ***NYSDEC Requesting Assistance from Trappers***

#### ***Fisher Harvest Monitoring:***

Beginning this fall, the NYSDEC Bureau of Wildlife will be collecting data on a voluntary basis from participating trappers with the objective of improving our monitoring of fisher populations and harvests in New York. Our study area includes the entire Northern Zone and the Catskill region of the Southern Zone (WMU 3A, 3C, 4G, 4H, 4P, 4R, 4W). Wildlife biologists and other staff from Region 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 will be coordinating the project.

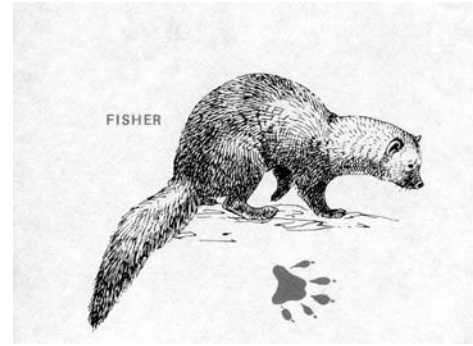
In particular, we will be collecting data on trapper effort through a Fisher Trapping Log Book. In the Log Book, trappers will record the number of traps that are set and checked and their catch on a daily basis; these data are useful for monitoring trends in harvests. We are also requesting the submission of carcasses or lower jaws from any fishers that you catch (again, on a voluntary basis). We will be collecting biological data from these carcasses, including age, diet, and reproductive status.

If you would like to participate with this project, please contact Paul Jensen, to sign-up and receive additional details.

Paul Jensen  
(518) 623-1242 or [pgjensen@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:pgjensen@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

#### ***Thank you. We appreciate your help!***

Kevin Clarke, Region 3. Mike Clark, Region 4  
Paul Jensen, Region 5, Andy MacDuff, Region 6  
Bill Schara, Region 7



DEC is also looking for sources of mink genetic information along the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers, and we are asking trappers working in these areas during the 2013-14 season to consider donating samples. With today's modern genetic techniques, we only need a small amount of tissue. Even a clipping from an ear or tail is enough to get us the genetic information we need, but we may also want to collect some carcasses for potential aging or contaminant testing. Since our study focuses on the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers, we are looking for mink trapped within 10 miles of the main rivers roughly between the towns of Herkimer and Amsterdam on the Mohawk, and between the towns of Glens Falls and Troy on the Hudson. If you think you might be trapping in our study area and would like to learn more about the study and how to participate, please contact Sean Madden at 518 402-8977 or [ssmadden@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:ssmadden@gw.dec.state.ny.us) by December 1.

Good luck this season!

### ***Web sites of interest to trappers:***

#### ***National Furbearer Harvest Statistics Database***

[http://jjcdev.com/~fishwild/?section=furbearer\\_management\\_resources](http://jjcdev.com/~fishwild/?section=furbearer_management_resources)

#### ***Furbearer Sighting Surveys NYS DEC***

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/30770.html>

*Convention Photos*

*Trap setting contest:*



Toby Edwards with a young contestant



Group photos of participants



A young person trying to win Fulton Montgomery Fur Harvester's contest



Fulton Montgomery Fur Harvester's Booth

### Convention Demos:



Doug Lansburg demonstrating clean skinning a beaver



Sandy Van Slyke giving it a try.



Pat Arnold giving a mink trapping demo

### In Memory of:

Carlton "Carl" Adams Holdridge  
90 years old of New Berlin, NY

He was born on November 2, 1922 in New Berlin, NY and past away on July 4, 2013. During his school years, he was actively involved in baseball and football, the baseball team being recognized as one of the best in the east. In 1943 he entered the U.S. Army, and was stationed in the state of Washington and the Aleutian Islands, and was honorably discharged in 1946. He was the last surviving WWII veteran of the Frank H. Arnold Post 348, New Berlin.

Carl was an avid outdoorsman, and loved hunting, fishing and trapping. For nineteen years he was a New York State certified Trapper Training instructor. His awards, recognition patches and honors were a revelation of his love of trapping. While in the army he purchased a jacket which he used to display his 65 patches, representing experiences in his trapping career, of which he was very proud. Carl was also a NYS licensed hunting guide.

In his retirement years, Carl developed an interest in making walking canes, which were etched with descriptive symbols and phrases. Carl handcrafted hundreds of these canes and people locally and worldwide cherished his craftsmanship.

He was a member of the Columbus Community Church, Frank H. Arnold American Legion Post 348, New Berlin; Independent Fur Harvesters of Central New York and a life-time member of the New York State Trappers Association.

#### Editor's note:

I would like to thank Sandy Van Slyke for submitting the various Convention photos used in this issue of the "*TRAPLINES*" newsletter.

***Other news from NYSTA***

***The 2013 Fur Handlers' award***

The results of this award are as follows. The final awards were given to three very enthusiastic participants.

We have a young man, ***Steve McHarg*** from Castorland, who has participated for the last several years. This year Steve took home a coon trap for ***second place*** in the youth division and ***Lindsey Johnson*** from Stratford took home ***first*** in the youth division for her very well handled muskrat.

***David Lee*** from Marathon brought several nicely handled pelts and his gray fox took the show as ***overall best fur***. It was indeed, a beautiful pelt.

We have made this decision to change the time of year this event will be held. In the future it will be held as part of the Spring Conference to see if it will be easier for people to have fresh fur the present. We will be fine tuning the planning for this event over the next few months and have the updated results in a future "TRAPLINES" newsletter.

If you have any suggestions, please let your Regional Director or Officer know or call me. Thank you.

Pat Arnold 315-644-4643 or e-mail me at [patriciaarno@gmail.com](mailto:patriciaarno@gmail.com)

***The Pat Arnold Youth Trappers Camp***

The following are active sponsors who have given not only money, but hands on support and encouragement to make these camps a success.

Many people gave us items to help give the students necessary equipment to do the job. Not all of the mentors have committed and I didn't want to miss anyone. I will list them after the camp.

I can only say "Thank you!"

Pat Arnold

New York State Trappers Association  
 NY Trappers Forum  
 Genesee Valley Trappers, INC.  
 Columbia County Trappers Association  
 Erie County Federated Sportsmen's Club, INC  
 Sullivan County Trappers Association  
 Fur Harvesters of Jefferson County  
 Fulton Montgomery Furbearers  
 Association Auction  
 Orange County Trappers  
 Independent Fur Harvesters of CNY  
 Erie County Trappers Association  
 Cattaraugus County Trappers Association  
 Mid-Hudson Valley Trappers  
 Foothills Trappers  
 Slim Peterson  
 Brian D. Thayer  
 Rodger Drake - Homestead Wildlife MGT. LLC

### ***Regional and County news***

As I sit here writing this report, we are only a week away from the start of the 2013 NYSTA Convention. With fur prices at all time highs, I'm certain the convention will be huge. As I look out my window, the leaves have already begun changing color. It seems a little early to me, so if that's any indication, we could be in for a tough winter ahead. Only time will tell if that comes to pass. It's been quite a while since I've sat down and actually written a report to submit to the newsletter and I apologize for that.

For those of us that have seen the highs and lows in the fur market - it is expected that trappers who had hung up their traps years ago will be pulling them out and dusting them off to make plans to get back in the game. Not to mention the number of new trappers that are going to be in the field this year. If the trapper training courses are any indication - we are going to have a huge influx of new trappers this year.

***I urge all of you - veterans and newcomers alike to be respectful of each other as well as everyone else that shares New York's woods and waters.***

The temptation may be great, but be sure to get permission from property owners before stepping on their land and follow the letter of the law when setting traps this fall and winter. It doesn't take but one small incident for the press to get a hold of and give us a black eye and serious legislative problems.

***So please use good judgment when setting out your line this fall!***

At our last director's meeting - the subject of county reps came up and what their actual duties are and how do we get them more involved?

The actual duties are not that difficult and can be found on NYSTA's website in the by-laws or you may call me and I'll be more than happy to explain them. My number is (518) 658-9720. The prerequisites for becoming a county rep are pretty basic. You must be at least 18 years old and be a member of NYSTA in good standing for the previous two years. That's it!

Currently, we only have one active county rep in Reg. 4E and that's Dick Leggett in Columbia County. His number is (518) 392-2062. In the past, I had done double duty as Rensselaer County Rep and Regional Director but that really makes no sense. As it stands, we are in need of county reps for; Albany, Schenectady, Rensselaer and Greene Counties. Mind you - this is for Reg. 4E only and you would be communicating with me so that I may pass on the information to NYSTA officers, directors and members as needed. I, in turn, will pass on any information that I have to you so that you can inform people in your county. It is that simple.

There are other things as well, but that is the main purpose of the county reps position. If anyone is interested in filling these positions, please call or email me and I will pass on your information to the NYSTA President for consideration. My email address is [Live2trap@aol.com](mailto:Live2trap@aol.com).

Here's hoping you all have a safe and prosperous trapping season.

Jim Greeley  
Region 4 East Director

### ***Fulton Montgomery Fur Harvesters Association 2014 Monthly Meetings 7:00p.m. Ephratah Rod & Gun Club - 372 State Highway 67***

*January 27*

*February 24*

*March 31*

*April 28*

*May 19*

*June 30*

*July 28*

*August 25*

*September 29*

*October 21*

*November 24*

*December 15 (D.E.C. Fur Tagging)*

### ***2014 Fur Auction - Co-sponsored with Foothill Trappers***

***January 4*** - 4-H Training Center, 566 Middleline Rd., Ballston Spa, NY 12020

***February 1 and April 12*** - VFW, 131 Mohawk St, Herkimer, NY 13350

President: Paul Johnson  
Secretary: Doug Lansburg

(315) 429-3862  
(518) 705-7255

Vice-President: Eric Verrego  
Treasurer: Sandy VanSlyke

(518) 883-5574  
(518) 725-3218



### *Adirondack Profiles*

In introducing some of the delights of the Adirondacks I would like to present to you the beauty of the upper Hudson in the Adirondacks.

Born in a pond on the side of Mount Marcy the stream flows south through the old Titanium mine properties at Tawhaus. Shortly south of here it is joined by the Opalescent River as it flows south towards the hamlet of Newcomb which is just about in the middle of the Adirondack Park. One can easily toss a stone across the river in this area and to sight a swimming beaver is not uncommon. There are some wonderful views of the high peaks to the north.

South of Newcomb the river broadens out into a marshy area after receiving the outlet flow from Lake Harris. Continuing south the river is a great area for canoeing however access points are fairly rare. In this section the river is joined by the Goodnow river discharging from the flow of the same name. Also found here is the Blackwell Stillwater, a nice place to swim or fish. There is an iron bridge across the river in this area. Farther south the river is joined by the Cedar River and soon thereafter by the Indian River. There are takeouts here, however there are long carries to an access point. The Indian River is a popular put in location for rafters; three miles upstream from it's junction with the Hudson. When the river is low there are regularly scheduled discharges from a dam here and rafters float the "bubble" downstream.

From here the river enters the Hudson River Gorge and the serious whitewater. Takeouts are located at North River, some fourteen miles downstream. In the gorge one encounters the outlet stream of the OK Slip falls, highest waterfalls (250') in the Adirondacks, and the Blue Ledges some 300' high. The only land access in this entire section is by an unmarked trail from the North Woods Club Road, beginning on the east end of Huntley Pond and ending on the north shore of the river opposite the Blue Ledges.

The river is flowing east in this section and the Blue Ledges mark the beginning of the true rough white water. My son in law is one of the licensed white water guides and these rafting trips are great for thrill seekers.

The next tributary river, the Boreas, joins the Hudson downstream and shortly the river turns south again. There is a railroad bridge here that crosses the river and the tracks parallel the river on the west side south to North River and all the way south to Saratoga. At North River the rafters take out of the river, and this is also the location for the White Water Derby held in May.

The river from here downstream broadens out and the next major river joining is at Warrensburgh, the Schroon which drains a large area of the eastern

Adirondacks. At the Thurman bridge just below this juncture is a great location to put in canoes for the section downstream to Hadley. Canoes must take out up stream of Hadley as there is a very narrow and dangerous falls, Rockwell Falls, here. Shortly below the falls the river is joined by the last major river within the Adirondack Park, the Sacandaga which drains the reservoir and much of the south central Adirondacks.

From here the river flows on to Corinth and Glens Falls. At Hudson Falls the river turns south and continues south all the way to the Atlantic at New York City

Years ago the major rivers of the Adirondacks were all used to float logs to the mills at Glens Falls and Corinth. This continued until about 1950 and to this day many spots along the river have local names given by the river drivers. Sadly many also lost their lives.

This river is magnificent, and truly wild until it exits the forest at North River. I have been most fortunate to enjoy it's beauty and resources , hunting, fishing, and trapping around the perimeter of the North Woods Club and at Newcomb. Fishing includes a lot of smallmouth bass, pike, Mohawk shiners, and some trout. I have found the better trout fishing in the colder small tributaries. Common furbearers include beaver, otter, mink, fox, coyote, and to a lesser degree fisher, bobcat, and marten. Rarely a muskrat might be found in the slower stretches. It is not uncommon to hear a whippoorwill, sight an eagle, or spot an otter in these areas and it is especially nice to enjoy the tranquility of no truck, auto, or motorcycle noises. Sadly the river became heavily polluted from factory discharges from mills at Glens Falls, Hudson Falls, and Fort Edward. Things got so bad that even the insects of this section contained PCB levels. Mink specimens I submitted to DEC/Cornell showed PCB levels that would seriously hamper reproductive capabilities. Pollution has been cleaned up at Warrensburgh and although controversial dredging is underway at Hudson Falls and south to remove PCB's from the river bottom sediments. I worked at a mill in Glens Falls for ten years and am well aware of the heavy metals that polluted the river at that point.

Presently the Adirondack Park Agency is considering land classification of the lands along the river from Newcomb south to North River, formerly owned by the Finch Pruyn paper company. Best guess is that they will be classified as wilderness. NYSTA has registered it's comments with the agency and regardless of the final decision it is comforting to know that the truly wild portions in the central Adirondacks will be protected from development for the future. Al West

**Minutes of New York State Trapper's  
Association  
Board of Director's Meeting  
April 20, 2013**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by President Rockwood at 9:12am. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved with a few minor spelling corrections.

**Committee Reports:**

**Scholarship-** Marie Hollister sent a thank you note for her scholarship. August 1, 2013 is the application deadline for this year.

**Election/Nomination Committee**

This year is an election year for regions 5, 6, and 7.

The following people have been nominated to run for the respective regions.

Region 5 N- Ethan Reynolds

Region 5 S – Frank Walter

Region 6 – Patricia Arnold & Doug Pelton  
(election required)

Region 7 N- Charlie Lamb

Region 7 S – Ray Nolan

**Motion: Secretary to cast one vote for nominees in uncontested regions.**

**Made by:** Derwood Say

**Seconded by:** Al West

**Disposition:** Carried unanimously

Secretary cast one ballot to elected Ethan Reynolds, Frank Walter, Charlie Lamb and Ray Nolan to serve a three year term as members of the NYSTA Board of Directors.

**Fur handler's Award-** This will stay as part of the fall convention for this year and move to the spring convention in 2014.

**Trapper's camp-**Dates are Friday-Sunday, 10/11-10/14/2013. Mentors are needed for both camps. This camp is well received and may be featured in a future Trapper's Post article.

**Convention-**All 3 buildings have been rented out and 140 tailgaters have reserved spots. However, we are now about 40 tables short to be able to supply vendors.

**Motion: Purchase an additional 40 tables if the Herkimer County Fairgrounds will split the cost.**

**Made by:** Bob Hughes

**Seconded by:** Derwood Say

**Disposition:** Carried unanimously

From all the records that are available, this appears to be NYSTA's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary and should be celebrated at the convention. There was discussion on the best ways to do this. Derwood Say demonstrated a commemorative knife that could be made for the occasion.

**Motion: Send personal letter to the membership advertising the commemorative knife and take orders, limiting cost to \$1,000 on the knives.**

**Made by:** Wayne Jones

**Seconded by:** Dave Leibig

**Disposition:** Carried unanimously

**NTA-** Northeast Leadership Conference was held April 5 with participants from PA, NY, VT, and ME. PA is developing a new brochure, "Our Image, Our Future". Illinois has a new radio ad campaign, "Thank a trapper". US Fish & Wildlife Service wants to list the wolverine as an endangered species. Minnesota's bill that would have prevented use of 220s on land died in the legislature. The NTA representative attended the Congressional Sportsman Caucus breakfast.

**FTA-**No report

**Regional Reports**

**4E-**Trappers participated in the Hoosick Falls High School Outdoor Expo 3/21 -3/22 at the Community Center. It was not as convenient as years gone by due to busing issues but there was a lot of community support for the program.

**7S-**Les Wedge did some presentations in elementary schools in the City of Cortland. Tioga County wants to know if their affiliate is up to date on NYSTA dues.

**R9-**Derwood submitted a county report on a separate cover. Andy Smith is the new Cattaraugus County Representative.

**4W-**There was great interest in the spring trapper training course with over 60 people signing up. Class capacity was 40 and the rest will be accommodated in April. There is an effort to reactivate the Schoharie County Trapper's Association.

**7N-**Everret Cooper is the new Oswego County Representative.

6- 18 people attended an organizational meeting of the Oneida County Trapper's Association. The group hopes to elect officers soon.

### ***Executive Director's Report***

Cable restraint bill passed the Senate again but will probably not move in the Assembly. The turtle trapping bill passed the Senate and it has a good chance of passing in the Assembly. The 48 hour trap check for water sets is due for a vote in the Senate.

The dinner at the Crystal Chandelier will be a clambake again. Dave would like to open it up to anyone that wants to come and sell 100-150 tickets. Please push the Ambit Energy program. Dave is saving more than the projected 1-5% and it helps NYSTA every month.

### ***Treasurer's Report***

The Treasurer's report was handed out on a separate cover. It did show NYSTA operating in the black. The report was approved as written.

### ***JTI***

JTI has not met since January. The DEC has taken the JTIs list of concerns and will evaluate them.

There is a fisher camera study going on in the Southern Tier. The study is finding more fisher in more areas than expected. There could be expanded harvest opportunities in 2015.

Bobcat management plan is being finalized after the public comment period. There were over 400 comments against and only about 50 comments for. Trappers did not do a good job of supporting the DEC's efforts.

There is discussion on how to describe an active beaver house vs. inactive so that small traps could be used near inactive houses.

There is concern about what appears to be a shrinking fisher population in the central Adirondack Mountains.

### ***Motion: Do not restrict the date of the Spring Conference to only April.***

***Made by: Al West***

***Seconded by: Bob Hughes***

***Disposition: Carried unanimously***

### ***Old Business***

Ray Nolan is working with an outside consultant & Steven Jones trying to build and maintain a relevant web site. He will continue this work.

Region 6 Director's election-candidates should provide a 1 page bio to be put in the newsletter/ballot to let members know something about the candidates. Ballots will be out by June 1<sup>st</sup> and will be counted at the Gander Mountain Store in Watertown if available.

There was discussion on whether NYSTA should host an NTA national or regional convention.

### ***Motion: NYSTA to host the 2015 National Convention in Western NY.***

***Made by: Dave Leibig***

***Seconded by: Charlie Lamb***

***Disposition: Carried unanimously***

The newsletter deadline is May 11, 2013. Hopefully it will be printed and mailed by the last week of May.

### ***New Business***

Jerry St. Pierre of Vestal, NY sent a thank you note to NYSTA for sponsoring the taxidermy award that he won at the state show.

US Sportsman's Alliance is sponsoring three Trail Blazer programs in New York this year;

- 1) Oswego County Fairgrounds May 18<sup>th</sup>,
- 2) Camp Kingsley in Ava June 22,
- 3) Fulton County Airport, Amsterdam October 5.

Please help out if possible.

Nominations for the annual NYSTA awards and special NTA Hall of fame were submitted to John Rockwood.

Convention Booklet ads are due by August 1, 2013.

### ***Adjournment***

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm. The next meeting is July 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am at the Herkimer County Fairgrounds.

Respectfully submitted by

Ed Hogan  
NYSTA Secretary



**NEW YORK STATE  
TRAPPER'S  
Association**

12320 Pople Road  
Cato, New York 13033



**Membership Application**

New

Renewal

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

*Why Not Give,  
a membership  
to a friend or  
youngster, in  
time for them to  
get ready for this  
Fall's Trapping  
Season?*

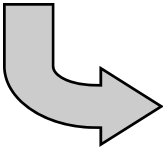
Street-RFD-Box \_\_\_\_\_

Town or City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Region \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Ph. No. \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ (Required)



- Junior membership \$15.00/yr \_\_\_\_\_ Under 16 years of age, magazine included
- Basic membership \$15.00/yr \_\_\_\_\_ Over 16 years of age; **NO** magazine
- General membership \$25.00/yr \_\_\_\_\_ Over 16 years of age; Magazine included
- Family membership \$30.00/yr \_\_\_\_\_ two family members; one magazine included
- Lifetime membership \$750.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Extra Donation will Help preserve trapping in New York:**

Total \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail To:**

NYS Trappers Association  
12320 Pople Road.  
Cato, New York 13033

Make checks payable to: *NYS Trappers Association*  
*Credit Cards can now be accepted.*