**SPRING 2015** 

KAT TRACKS

www.ksassociationtaxidermy.com

## Convention 2015

The Drury played host to our 33rd Annual Convention and Competition in March. With over 40 registered taxidermists and a record high 112 mounts entered, KAT had a little March Madness of our own. The showroom was full of quality mounts and to me, I thought I was in Minnesota or Canada with all of the bears in the room.

Judging was tough but fair, and just what we needed before the World Show. All of the judges will be back for 2016 and it looks to be an even better show. One event that went over well was the Mo-Kan style competition and mini seminars on Friday evening. Several taxidermists and more observers took over the seminar room and grabbed the attention of many observers as they mounted everything from birds to deer. There were many seminars put on by the judges and KAT members and all were well attended.

New officers for the next year were elected at the general membership meeting. The President for the next year is Clint Bowman, Vice President is Dave Selenke, Secretary is Sue Penn and the Treasurer is Brian Sigman. Cory Foth will remain as on the board as the immediate Past President.

## 2015 Officers

President: Clint Bowman 1135 Vista Del Lago Council Grove KS 66846 (620) 440-1040

Vice President: Dave Selenke 28027 W. 87th Street Viola, KS 67149 620-545-5227

Secretary: Sue Penn 8529 Quarry Road Milford, KS 66514 785-238-5705

Treasurer: Brian Sigman
714 N. Flora
Wichita, KS (316) 806-0687

Past President: Cory Foth 302 Vine Peabody, KS 66866 316-293-6725

## From The President!

The 2015 annual convention and competition has come and gone. I must say every year I am impressed with the quality of work that comes through the competition doors and this year was no disappointment. I don't know about everyone else but it fires me up and makes we want to strive to take what I learned from the show and try to do the best mounts possible. I thought the judging was tough but was pretty fair and even across the board just like it should be so "Kudos" to the judges on a job well done. I would also like to give a big "THANK YOU" to Cory Foth, our past president for a job well done these last few years and for "Uptown Funk You Up", I still can't get those images out of my head from the banquet

I loved seeing many new members this year and I strongly hope/urge you to come back next year because I know with a fact that this association can and will make you a better taxidermist if you soak up what the seminars tell you, what your peers tell you, and work at it at home to do it correctly.

Next year's show will be in the same location and the judges will be the same. If you received a critique from them then you know what they are looking for next year and with luck we will see a lot more blue ribbons in that room next year.

Turkey season is now upon us, so I hope everyone will be busy as they want to be taking in more work. This was the first show that we had "Turkey" in its own category. I think it was a success with some nice birds in the competition room. I myself tried one this year for the first time and felt very fortunate to pull a second place ribbon with my first time competing with one. There are some very good turkey taxidermist out there and I challenge you all to try one for next year's show or bring something that you have never competed with or at least haven't competed with in a long time and do your best and bring it to get some feedback from the judges and your peers.

Our next meeting is at the end of June on the 27th at Brian Sigman's new shop. There will always be lots to discuss at each meeting and at this one, we will have two seminars going on after the meeting. They will be carcass casting a life-size mammal and mounting an African game head. These meetings are how we decide as an organization on how and what we want our show to be like. Your opinion is always wanted and welcome so please plan to attend. It would be nice to hear from those of you attending the world show at this time too. I hope to see many of you then and remember REFER-ENCE, REFERENCE, and REFERENCE!

Clint Bowman

## Next Meeting will be on Saturday, June 27 at Brian Sigmon's shop.

714 N. Flora, Wichita, KS





