



2015 WORLD TAXIDERMY & FISH CARVING CHAMPIONSHIPS®

P.O. Box 2945
Hammond, LA 70404

OWNED AND SPONSORED BY BREAKTHROUGH MAGAZINE



2015 WORLD TAXIDERMY & FISH CARVING CHAMPIONSHIPS®

REGISTER EARLY AND SAVE \$30!

TO REGISTER, CALL 1-800-783-7266

May 5-9, 2015 • Springfield, MISSOURI • Expo Center and University Plaza Hotel

REGISTRATIONS AND AWARDS BANQUET

World Taxidermy Championships Registration Access into the Trade Show, Competition Areas (when open), and ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE in the respective competition associated with the registration. The Taxidermy Registration allows access into the taxidermy seminars. \$185.00 before April 1, 2015, or \$215.00 thereafter. How many (taxidermy)?

World Fish Carving Championships Registration Access into the Trade Show, Competition Areas (when open), and ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE in the respective competition associated with the registration. The Fish Carving Registration allows access into the fish carving seminars. \$150.00 before April 1, 2015, or \$180.00 thereafter. How many (fish carving)?

COMBINATION World Taxidermy & Fish Carving Registration Access into the Trade Show, Competition Areas (when open), and ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE in the respective competition associated with the registration. The Combination Registration allows access into both taxidermy and carving seminars. \$220.00 before April 1, 2015, or \$250.00 thereafter. How many (combination)?

Secondary/Spouse/Family Pass: With any General Registration, you can purchase additional, Secondary Pass(es)/Badge(s) for your spouse or other immediate family members over 12 years old (12 and under are free). Each badge is good for all 5 days of the show and allows access to the Competition Area and the Trade Show (when areas are open).

IT DOES NOT ALLOW YOU TO COMPETE NOR TO ATTEND ANY SEMINARS.

\$65.00 before April 1, 2015, or \$85.00 thereafter. How many (spouse/family)?

NAME(S) FOR SPOUSE/FAMILY BADGE(S)

One-Day Registration Pass: For this fee you will be issued a ONE-DAY registration pass (badge) good for access into Seminars and Trade Show (when open Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday), and to view the Competition Area (when open Thursday or Friday). YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE.

\$55.00 before April 1, 2015, \$65.00 thereafter. How many (one-day)?

Circle day choice: Wed. (5/6/15) Thu. (5/7/15) Fri. (5/8/15)

Saturday Special Pass, May 9: For this fee you will be issued a SATURDAY registration pass (badge) good for access into Trade Show (11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.) and to view the Competition Area (8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.) YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE.

\$25.00 How many (Sat. pass)?

World Championships Awards Presentation & Banquet:

The WTC Awards Presentation and Banquet (Friday, May 10, 2015) will offer dinner with a cash bar. All major awards will be presented, including the presentations of \$33,000 in CASH competition prizes. (Cocktails 6:30-7:30, Dinner 7:30-8:30, Awards Show 8:30-11:00) At the University Plaza Hotel Convention Center.



This is the most prestigious awards ceremony in the world for the taxidermy industry. Proper attire is strongly recommended.

Price is \$38.50 per person. How many?

COMPETITION ENTRY FEES: Taxidermy and Fish Carving

You do not have to tell us WHAT species your entries are when registering early, just how many.

MASTERS DIVISION, COLLECTIVE ARTISTS DIVISION, LIVE SCULPTING

\$45.00 before April 1, 2015, or \$50.00 thereafter. How many?

BEST ALL-AROUND COMPETITION

\$35.00 before April 1, 2015, or \$40.00 thereafter. How many?

ENTRIES IN ALL OTHER DIVISIONS

\$35.00 before April 1, 2015, or \$40.00 thereafter. How many?

FISH CARVING ENTRIES

\$35.00 before April 1, 2015, or \$40.00 thereafter. How many?

Electrical hookup for each entry: If an entry requires an electrical hookup, The facility charges a \$30.00 technician fee to bring an outlet to your entry.

Please indicate. Electricity Needed: How many?

TOTAL (REGISTRATIONS, BANQUET TICKETS, ENTRY FEES, ETC.) \$

1-800-783-7266



CANCELLATIONS: If you must cancel, notify the WTC in writing. If received in this office before April 15, 2015, 50 percent will be refunded. After APR. 15, 2015, NO REFUNDS. Hotel registrations are NOT included. For hotel information, call 417-864-7333 and ask for the World Taxidermy rate.

REGISTER BY MAIL: WTC P.O. Box 2945 Hammond, LA 70404

BY FAX: Fax this form to (985) 542-1831

BY EMAIL: www.taxidermy.net/wtc

TELEPHONE 1-800-783-7266



The World Taxidermy & Fish Carving  
**CHAMPIONSHIPS®**

May 5-9, 2015  
Springfield, Missouri USA

# THE GREATEST TAXIDERM SHOW ON EARTH



KENT AND VAL REEDY-DIXON, IOWA USA  
WOOD DUCK, 2013 BEST IN WORLD COLLECTIVE ARTISTS



# The World Taxidermy and Fish Carving Championships®

Springfield, Missouri • May 5-9, 2015

# \$33,000 CASH AWARDS

**T**HE WORLD TAXIDERMY AND Fish Carving Championships® will be offering \$33,000 in cash awards for the 2015 competition!

This was possible that a new record-high donation has been made by Big Rock Sports and Head Quarters Taxidermy Supply. They will be recognized as the major award sponsor of the 2015 World Shows.

With this announcement made I must also say this record award total for a US World Taxidermy Championship® could not have been reached without the continued support of donations from seven other companies in our industry, plus the World Show Award Fund. Most of them have been award donors since 1997 and their continued supportive contributions have been one of the majors reasons the World Shows

have had years of success. Tohickon and KL Glasaugen glass eyes have lead this group since 2005 with contributions of \$3,400.00 each show. Ohio Taxidermy Supply this year stepped up this year and donated \$3,000 that will cover the cash awards for the new Best All-Around competition. Contributions from these leading suppliers over the years have totaled in the tens of thousands and they will also be recognized throughout our marketing and during the show as always. In addition to Big Rock Sports and Head Quarters, they are Tohickon Glass Eyes and Karl Lange Glasaugen (\$3,400), Ohio Taxidermy Supply (\$3,000), Derma-Grip (\$1,000), McKenzie Supply (\$1,000), Wildlife Artist Supply Co. (\$1,000), Research Mannikins (\$1,000), Sugar Pine Woodcarving Supplies (\$1,000), and the World Show Awards Fund (\$7,600).

Since the World Taxidermy Championships® started its cash award program in 1995, offering at that time a grand total of \$5,000.00 which I budgeted from show earnings, the show went from being a big show to a tremendous show, pulling in competition entries of between 550 and 700 entries each year. In 1997 the cash awards increased to \$21,000, and from the 1999 show to the 2013 show it has been \$25,000. At the United States World Shows we have now given away over \$225,000.

Another money factor that is not added to these figures is that awards plaques and ribbons for each show cost over \$6,500. The gold, silver, and bronze Akeley medallions that are given cost over \$3,000 for each show. I mention all of this to let you know the significance of this major cash award contribution by Big Rock Sports.

With the increase in cost of plaques, ribbons, medallions, and show expenses, it was becoming more and more difficult to hold the registration prices the same from year to year and continue to add supplemental funding to the cash awards. Because of the Big Rock Sports major award donation, we will keep the registration price to the same it has been for the past 10 years, as well as increasing the Competitors' Award to \$18,600! In addition, the new competition of Best All Around is funded with a total award of \$3,000.

Ed Small, CEO of Big Rocks Sports, told me he wanted to show that Head Quarters Supply and Big Rock Sports have a long term commitment to the taxidermists of this industry. The result was the donation to sponsor the Competitors Award which offers the largest money awards give at the WTC. Big Rock Sports and Head Quarters Supply will also host a social function for registered taxidermists attending on Wednesday night at our host hotel.

## ALL CASH AWARDS

**COMPETITORS' AWARD: NOW \$18,600.00 CASH**  
**\$14,000 from Head Quarters and Big Rock Sports**

- MASTER DIVISION:
  - First \$5,000.00 Fourth \$1,000.00
  - Second \$3,000.00 Fifth \$600.00
  - Third \$2,000.00
- PROFESSIONAL DIVISION:
  - First \$3,000.00 Fourth \$500.00
  - Second \$2,000.00 Fifth \$500.00
  - Third \$1,000.00

**COLLECTIVE ARTISTS DIVISION: \$3,400.00 CASH**  
**\$3,400.00 from Tohickon Glass Eyes and Karl Lange Glass Eyes**

- Best in World Collective Artists winner: \$1,000.00 cash
- Each first-place winner in the 6 categories: \$400.00 cash

**JUDGES' CHOICE BEST OF SHOW: \$1,000.00 CASH**  
**\$1,000.00 from Research Mannikins**

- Judges' Choice Best of Show: \$1,000.00 cash

**CARLE E. AKELEY AWARD: \$1,000.00 CASH**  
**\$1,000.00 from WASCO**

- First Place Akeley Award: \$1,000.00 cash

**BEST ALL-AROUND ENTRY: \$3,000.00 CASH**  
**\$3,000.00 from Ohio Taxidermy Supply**

- «Best All-Around Entry Master Division: \$2,000.00 cash
- «Best All-Around Entry Prof. Division: \$1,000.00 cash

**BEST PROFESSIONAL ENTRY: \$1,000.00 CASH**  
**\$1,000.00 from McKenzie Supply**

- Best Entry from Professional Division: \$1,000.00 cash

**BEST INTERPRETIVE TAXIDERMY ENTRY: \$1,000.00 CASH**  
**\$1,000.00 from Derma-Grip**

- Best of Division wins \$1,000 cash

**LIVETAXIDERMY SCULPTURE AWARDS: \$1,000.00 CASH**

- Best in World \$500.00, Second \$300.00, Third \$200.00

Over \$42,000 including other awards

**T**HE 2015 WORLD TAXIDERMISTRY & FISH CARVING Championships® is shaping up to be our biggest show ever. Registration and hotel prices are as affordable as any we have ever offered.

**Early Registrations.** We urge you to register early and save with early registration discounts. *Even if you are not sure of the number of entries you are bringing and you register early, we will extend the early registration price for entries paid at the show.* Registering early allows us to plan better and shorten the registration lines on Tuesday and Wednesday. Also, the hotels are quickly filling so book your rooms as soon as possible.

**Trade Show for Taxidermists.** If you want to visit and see the largest industry trade show in the world for taxidermists, you are coming to the right place. The trade show offers 47 different vendors in 133 booths. There you will see everything this industry has to offer. Vendors offering the newest taxidermy forms, glass eyes, products, tools, fur dressers, tanneries, and just about every associated vendor for taxidermists will be there.

**Seminars.** We have a world-class line up of seminars and activities throughout the event and, of course, the most prestigious taxidermy and fish carving competition there is.

**Over \$42,000 in Cash and Awards.** Taxidermists will be competing for \$30,000 in cash awards and carvers for over \$3,000.

If you want to compete for the largest cash awards at the World Championships®, you should go after the Competitors' Award, where **\$18,600** in cash will be awarded. You are automatically eligible if you enter four entries in either the Professional or Master Division. If you have four entries in both divisions, you must specify in which division you wish to compete for the Competitors' Award. *Please read the complete rules for this special award in our rules at [www.taxidermy.net/wtc](http://www.taxidermy.net/wtc).*

**Competition Levels for Everyone.** There is a division of competition for every level of skill, and when you enter you will have the opportunity to be critiqued by the most talented and experienced taxidermists in their fields. You do not have to compete to be a part of this great show, but it sure brings on a sense of pride to tell everyone you did!

**Lifetime Achievement Award.** It is also our pleasure to announce that the fourth World Show Lifetime Achievement Award which will be presented to taxidermist and sculptor Joe Kish of Shiro, Texas. Joe's contributions are many, but to condense the story for now, it was his philosophy and teaching that was instrumental in changing the way commercial taxidermists approached their work. His concepts were motivational and directed at accuracy in our work and he promoted them through his trade publication *Taxidermy Review*. He then promoted the first judged taxidermy competition since the turn of the century in the mid 1970s that changed our industry. Our award presentation will highlight his story.

We have a very entertaining program planned to honor Joe at the 2015 Awards Presentations Friday night. We have a limited seating of 600 for this dinner and award ceremony and it sells out at every show. We recommend booking your banquet tickets when you register. At the World Show Awards Presentations not only are all the cash awards given out and winners of World Titles named, but special talents from our industry will entertain you along with video clips from movies and TV, all using taxidermy as a main theme.

**Best All Around Competition for 2015.** The new Best All-Around Taxidermist award has been added for this show. The Master division winner will receive \$2,000 and the Professional winner will receive \$1,000. Ohio Taxidermy Supply is generously donating the money for this award. All of the information and details for competing for this award have been added to our rules.

All of the rules and regulations for participating and being a part of these and all the other divisions are in this issue and on our World Show website at [www.taxidermy.net/wtc](http://www.taxidermy.net/wtc).



**\$14,000**

Head Quarters Taxidermy Supply  
Big Rock Sports

Competitors' Award



**Head Quarters Taxidermy Supply**

**\$3,400**

Tohickon Glass Eyes  
Karl Lange Glasaugen

Collective Artists Div. Winners



**\$3,000**

Ohio Taxidermy Supply  
Best All-Around Competition



**\$1,000**

McKenzie Taxidermy Supply  
Best Professional Entry



**\$1,000**

Derma-Grip  
Interpretive Division



**\$1,000**

Wildlife Artist Supply Co.  
Carl E. Akeley Award



**\$1,000**

Research Mannikins  
Judges' Choice Best of Show  
TAXIDERMISTRY



**\$1,000**

Sugar Pine  
Judges' Choice Best of Show  
FISH CARVING



**\$7,600**





Alligator and bullfrog by Chris Horne (Pennsylvania), who won the top prize of \$4,000 in the 2013 Competitors' Award. At the 2015 WTC, this top prize will increase to \$5,000!

# The Competitors' AWARD

## \$18,600



**The 2015 Major CASH AWARD Sponsors**



**I**F YOU WANT TO COMPETE FOR THE LARGEST cash awards at the 2015 World Taxidermy Championships®, go after the Competitors' Award! The Competitors' Award was developed and the rules were written by World Show chairman Larry Blomquist in 1996 and first offered at the 1997 World Championships. The goal was to find a way to honor and reward the many talented taxidermists in our industry. It quickly became a major attraction for World Show competitors.

**How do I enter to compete for this award?** If you enter four entries in either the Professional or Master Division, you are automatically eligible. You can compete for the Competitors Award in only one of these divisions, not both. Please read the complete rules for this special award.

**If I compete for this award in the Professional Division, can I still enter the Master Division to compete for a World title?** Yes, but you cannot compete in both divisions in the same category (see Rule 8). Also, if you have four entries in both divisions, you must specify in which division you wish to compete for the Competitors' Award. Most competitors who wish to compete in the Master Division (for a World Title) will also compete there for the Competitors' Award and not compete at all in the Professional Division.

**When are the Competitors' Award winners announced?** The winners of this award are announced at the end of the World Championship® Awards Banquet on Friday night. The World Show Awards Banquet is a special and very entertaining event. Not only are all the cash awards given out and winners of World Titles named, but special talents from our industry will entertain you along with video clips from movies and TV, all using taxidermy as a main theme.

**T**HE NEW BEST ALL-AROUND competition and awards will honor the Master Best All-Around Taxidermist and the Professional Best All-Around Taxidermist. Each winner will receive a plaque and cash prize donated and sponsored by Ohio Taxidermy Supply. You can compete for this award in only one division, either the Master Division or Professional Division.

1. You will need to pay an additional entry fee of \$35.00 (early entry fee) or \$40.00 (late entry fee) to compete for Best All-Around taxidermist in either the Professional or Master divisions.

2. Important: At the show, when you are entering your pieces, you will be asked to designate the 4 entries that you have selected to compete for this award.

3. You must pay the appropriate Master or Professional Division entry fee for each entry. Since 4 entries are necessary to compete for the Best All-Around Award, these entries will also be eligible for the Competitors' Award competition, where 4 entries are necessary to be automatically entered.

4. To be eligible for this award, you must have one designated entry in each of the four following categories: Lifesize Mammal (any size), Gamehead Shoulder Mount (any species), Bird (any species),

# NEW AWARD FOR 2015 Best All-Around AWARD \$3,000



and Fish, Reptile, or Amphibian (any species). Note: shellfish are not eligible for competing in this competition.

5. You can compete for this award in either the Professional or Master Divisions, but not in both as WTC rules will not allow for this.

6. All regular rules and regulations apply to the

respected division you are entering.

7. The winner will be determined by the total points of your four designated entries. The taxidermist who has scored the highest total points for his/her entries will be declared the winner of that division. In case of a tie, two winners will be declared and the prize money will be divided.

**T**HE COLLECTIVE ARTISTS DIVISION is for competition pieces where more than one taxidermist worked on the entry. This division offers a professional studio a great opportunity of promotion if it should win this best in world title. Anyone is eligible to compete except for the judges selected to judge this division. The \$3,400 in cash awards for this division are sponsored by Tohickon Glass Eyes and Karl Lange Glasaugen.

This division will be judged by high standards and should be considered a division for advanced and professional taxidermists.

Each category within the Collective Artists Division can have a First, Second and Third place award. The First place in each category will receive \$400.00 and a Best of Category plaque (Second and Third places get ribbons).

Each Best of Category will then become eligible for Best in World Collective Artists. The Best in World Collective Artists will receive an Akeley Medallion, a Recognition Plaque, and \$1,000.00 from Tohickon Glass Eyes and Karl Lange Glasaugen. If there are no first places in any of the categories, there will be no Best in World Collective Artists. There are no Second and Third in World for Collective Artists.

#### Collective Artists Categories:

- A Lifesize Mammals—may include single or group pieces
- B Game Heads—may include single or group pieces
- C Birds—may include single or group pieces
- D Fish, Reptiles, Amphibians (skin mounts)—may include single or group pieces
- E Mixed Group—may include a combination of mammals (lifesize or game heads), birds and/or fish
- F Re-Creations and Reproductions—may include single or group pieces. This will include reproduction fish or reptiles, re-creations, carvings, and replicas of any animal.



# Collective Artists Division \$3,400



Entries in this division will also be eligible in the Akeley Award judging and for voting of the Competitors' Choice Award.

There is no limit to the number of entries a studio or group may enter in this division. This

division is nonrestrictive as far as awards, and one studio or group can earn as many awards as possible.

Read the complete rules beginning on page 18 in this issue.



# REPEAT FOR 2015 Interpretive DIVISION \$1,000



**T**HIS DIVISION WAS ESTABLISHED for the 2013 World Show. The 2015 sponsor for this division is Derma-Grip, who is generously donating \$1,000 for the top prize. In this division, a competitor can take his or her artistic talents and a fertile imagination to a new level and see what happens. Some of the technical burdens of conventional competition are lifted because the display will not be scrutinized with a flashlight and/or finger-probing. This does not mean that the quality of the work can be substandard, yet it does give the competitor the artistic license to use an animal or part of an animal to create art in any way he/she sees fit. The goal should be to convey the essence of the species.

This division has great potential in showcasing some extraordinary examples of interpretive taxidermy art. We hope to see your imagination on display and competing for a major division title.

1. Who May Compete: This division is open to all registrants of the World Show, including judges of the show, except for the 5 judges selected to judge this division. Entries in this division can also be entered in other divisions as long as they fall under the rules of those divisions. An additional entry fee must be paid to enter an additional division.

2. Rules: The rules are quite simple and unrestrictive. Interpretive Taxidermy entries will be judged on craftsmanship, artistry, and whether the essence of the species is conveyed. An entry should emphasize form and content rather than realistic duplication of the entire animal. It should be presented in a style that provokes

## Taxidermy



thought and wonder. Any species of bird, mammal, fish, or reptile can be entered in part or in its entirety. This is an exploration of taxidermy as art.

2. Judging: The work will be judged from a viewing distance by 5 judges (assigned by the World Show committee) and there will be an open discussion about the composition, design, and uniqueness of the entry. Score sheets are not used to judge this division. This is a single-ribbon division. Each judge will vote by secret ballot to determine the first-, second-, and third-place winners. Each of the five judges will be asked to write down his placing for first through third. First is worth 3 points, second 2 points, and third 1 point. When these values are added from the 5 judges, the entries in both categories will receive a placing based on highest point value.

3. Awards: A first, second, or third place ribbon

may be awarded in each category. The Best of the Division will be selected from the first place winners in both of the categories by a vote of all the WTC judges (except those who entered this division). The Best of Division winner will receive a plaque at the Awards Ceremony and \$1,000 from Derma-Grip.

4. Multiple Entries: There will be a limit of two entries by each artist(s) into each category.

5. Interpretive Taxidermy Categories:

A. Individual artists

B. Multiple artists (More than one artist working on an entry)





# HOST HOTEL UNIVERSITY PLAZA HOTEL



**University Plaza Hotel • Springfield, Missouri**  
**333 S. John Q. Hammons Pkway.**

**(417) 864-7333**

**SHOW RATE \$97.00/\$132.00**

Experience the warm hospitality and personalized service that sets University Plaza Hotel & Convention Center apart. Visitors delight in the first-class accommodations and resort-style amenities. Conveniently located a few short minutes from Springfield-Branson National Airport (SGF) and thirty minutes from Branson, MO our hotel is ideal for both leisure and corporate guests.

- Complimentary hot breakfast buffet
- Close to area businesses and recreational attractions
- Extensive amenities including the full-service Grove Spa, and indoor and outdoor pools.

**Telephone (417) 864-7333 and ask for "World Show" rates.** Do not use Expedia, etc.



E. Phelps Street



**Holiday Inn Express • Springfield, Missouri**  
**117 East St. Louis Street**

**(417) 862-0070**

**SHOW RATE \$92.00/\$132.00**

Our beautiful hotel accommodations provide guests with a convenient home base in the heart of beautiful downtown Springfield. We're adjacent to Hammons Field, a mile from downtown, near the Federal Courthouse and many influential companies providing you an easy commute, and only nine miles from Springfield / Branson National Airport.

Visitors feel at home in Springfield, Missouri, thanks to the hotel's amenities, including free Wi-Fi access, an outdoor heated pool, whirlpool, sauna, a fitness center and the complimentary, hot Express Start breakfast bar.

**Telephone (417) 862-0070 and ask for "World Show" rates.** Do not use Expedia, etc.





# 2015 World Show SCHEDULE

## TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2015

	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00	NOON	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:00	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00
REGISTRATION									Registration Desk Open							
TAXID. COMPETITION							Competition Area Setup		Taxidermy Entries Accepted							
TRADE SHOW		Pegboard Setup							Trade Show Exhibitors Move In (also next morning)							
TAXIDERMY SEMINARS												Taxidermy Seminar 1				

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2015

	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00	NOON	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:00	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00
REGISTRATION	Registration															
ALL JUDGES								Judges' Meeting	Arkansas Room							
TAXIDERMY COMPETITION	Taxidermy Competition Entries Accepted (DEADLINE 3:00 P.M.)								TAXIDERMY JUDGING BEGINS (MASTER DIV.)							
CARVING COMPETITION						Carving Entries Accepted										
TRADE SHOW	Trade Show Exhibitors Move In								TRADE SHOW OPENS							
TAXIDERMY SEMINARS		Seminars 2-3-4				Seminars 5-6-7										
CARVING SEMINARS	PREREGISTERED ONLY Berry/Guge: Hands-On Painting Habitat Carving Seminar \$125 Texas Room															
SCULPTING COMPETITION	Live Sculpting Competition (8 hours) in Expo Center															
RECEPTION: Hosted by Head Quarters and Big Rock Sports (with wristband from HQ)													Univ. Plaza Hotel	Colorado Room		

## THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2015

	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00	NOON	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:00	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00
REGISTRATION	Registration															
TAXID. COMPETITION	TAXIDERMY JUDGING CONTINUES											Taxidermy and Carving Competition Viewing (registrants only)				
CARVING COMPETITION	Carving Entries Accepted		JUDGING: FREE-STYLE BENCH			JUDGING: ALL LEVELS										
SCULPTING COMP.	Live Sculpting Competition (10 hours) Expo Center															
TRADE SHOW			TRADE SHOW						TRADE SHOW							
TAXIDERMY SEMINARS		Seminars 8-9-10				Seminars 11-12-13						Seminar 14				
CARVING SEMINARS	Seminar 1	Seminar 2				Seminar 3		Seminar 4								

## FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2015

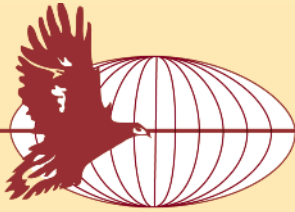
	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00	NOON	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:00	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00
REGISTRATION	Registration															
TAXID. COMPETITION	Taxidermy Judging (ENDS)						Ribbons in place for Professional, Novice and Freeze-Dry Divisions		4:00 - 10:00 Competition Viewing: REGISTRANTS		6:00 - 10:00 Competition Viewing: PUBLIC \$10.00					
CARVING COMPETITION		Fish Carving Critiques														
SCULPTING COMP.	Live Sculpting Competition (ENDS)				JUDGING: Live Sculpting Competition											
TRADE SHOW			TRADE SHOW													
TAXIDERMY SEMINARS		Seminars 15-16-17-18					Seminars 19-20-21-22									
CARVING SEMINARS						Seminar 5		Seminar 6								
AWARDS CEREMONY												WORLD SHOW AWARDS BANQUET LOCATION: HOTEL CONVENTION BANQUET FACILITY Cocktails 6:30-7:30, Dinner 7:30-8:30, Awards Show 8:30 - 11:00 p.m.				

## SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2015

	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00	NOON	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:00	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00
REGISTRATION	Registration															
COMPETITION VIEWING	Competition Viewing (Registrants)					Remove ALL Competition Entries 2:00 to 4:00 P.M.										
PUBLIC: COMPETITION VIEWING		PUBLIC														
TAXIDERMY CRITIQUES		Taxidermy Critiques														
TRADE SHOW			TRADE SHOW: FINAL SESSION													
CARVING SEMINARS		Seminar 7														
CHILDREN'S SEMINAR		Arkansas Room														
WTC AUCTION		Auction-Area 2 Forms, supplies, hunts, workshops... AND MORE!										Celebration and Wind-Down Party Admission free, cash bar (Illinois Rm.)				

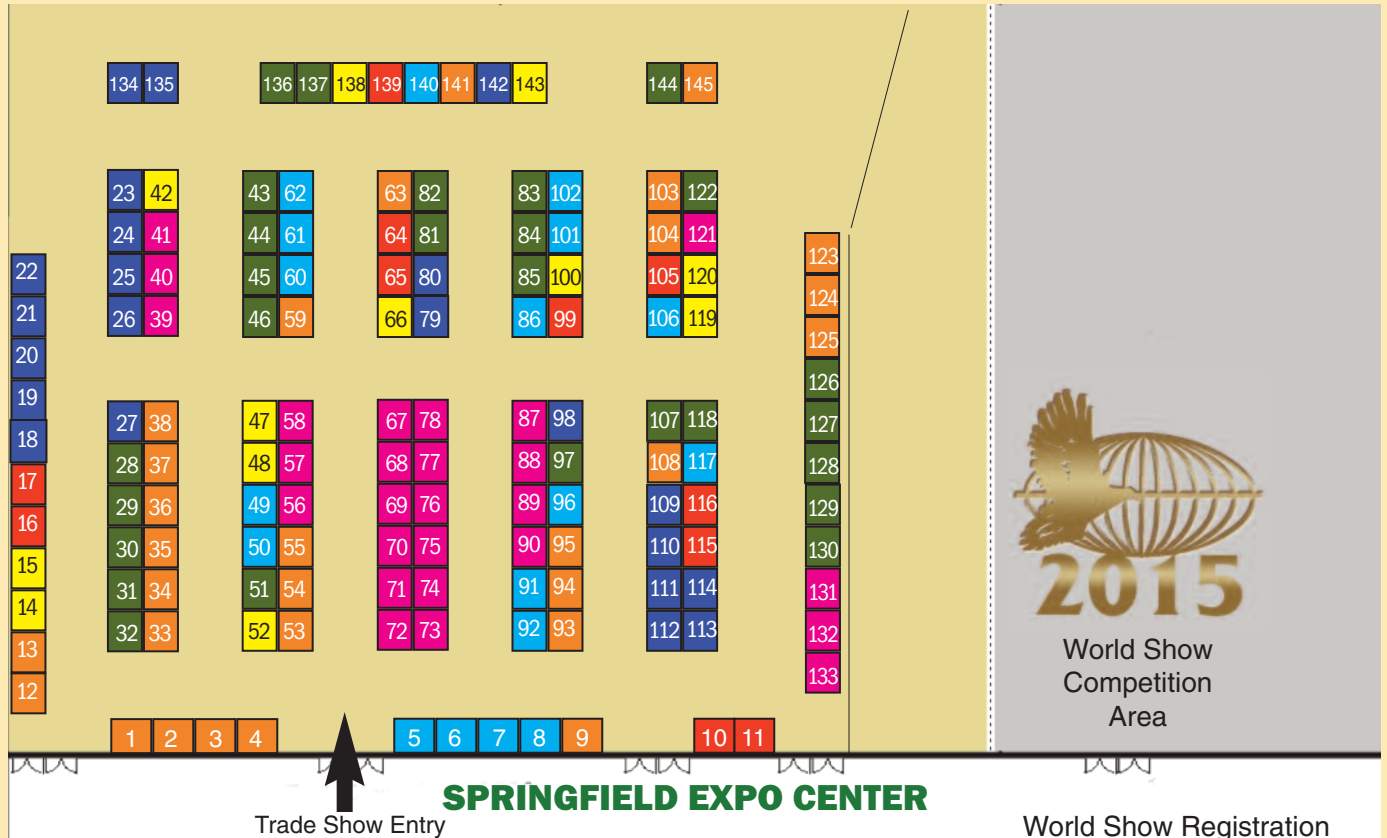
# THE LARGEST GATHERING OF TAXIDERMY SUPPLY COMPANIES IN THE WORLD

145 TRADE SHOW BOOTHS



The World Taxidermy & Fish Carving Championships®

# TRADE SHOW



**INDUSTRY LEADERS WILL SHOWCASE THEIR LATEST PRODUCTS.**

Allred Taxidermy Supply	Booths 131-132-133	Al Holmes Supply	Booths 93-94-95	Second 2 Nature	Booths 108-117
Antlers by Klaus	Booth 66	Knoblochs	Booth 105	Silicones, Inc.	Booth 139
Badger Airbrush Co.	Booth 101-102	Look Alive Taxidermy	Booths 134-135	Silpak, Inc.	Booth 106
Brian Bequette Cabinetry	Booths 64-65	Matuska Taxidermy Supply	Booths 33-38	Skull Shine (Old Goat Outdoors)	Booth 117
Breakthrough Magazine	Booths 5-6-7-8	McKenzie Companies	Booths 18-27	Specialty Wood Products	Booth 98 + Outdoors
Calloway's Custom Woodworks	Booths 136-137	Mohr Taxidermy Specialties	Booth 86 and 99	TaxiShop Software	Booth 9
Carolina Fur Dressing	Booths 91-92	Mount Medix LLC	Booth 42	Taxidermy Training, Ultd.	Booth 97
Custom Barnwood Plaques	Booth 143	Murphy's Orig. Attachment System	Booths 83-84-85	Tech-Bond™	Booth 59
DermaGrip (Adv.Adhesives)	Booths 115-116	National Taxidermists Assoc.	Booths 103-104	The Taxidermists Woodshop	Booths 49-50
Eddy Wildlife Studios, LLC	Booths 81-82	New Wave Taxidermy	Booth 51	Tohickon Corporation	Booths 47-48
Ellzey Squirrel Forms	Booth 100	Noonie's Taxidermy & Supply	Booths 43-44-45-46	Tru-Fitt Life Forms	Booths 123-124-125
Excel Blades	Booth 138	Northern Pines Wholesale Rugs	Booths 60-61-62	United Taxidermists Association	Booths 79-80
Fishmaster Products	Booth 52	Ohio Taxidermy Supply	Booths 1-4/12-13	Walnut Creek Hardwood, Inc.	Booths 10-11
Foam Supplies, Inc.	Booth 142	Ozark Woods	Booths 14-15	Walnut Hollow	Booths 107 and 118
H&H Fur Dressing	Booths 28-32	PRO-1 Performance Chemicals	Booth 63	Wildlife Fur Dressing, Inc.	Booth 141
H&S Panels	Booth 122	Reflections Taxidermy	Booth 144	Wildlife Gallery, Inc.	Booths 39-40-41
Habitat Rock	Booths 53-54-55	Research Mannikins	Booths 126-130	Wilkins Wildlife Artistry Rugs	Booth 96
Hazel Creek, Inc.	Booths 16-17	Rhonda's Ruggery	Booth 121		
Head Quarters	56 through 90	Robin's Nest Animal Rug	Booth 140		
Heads of State Panels	Booth 108	Rocky Mountain Artworks	Booths 119-120		





# Where do I go?

Springfield, MISSOURI, is:

- 217 miles southwest of St. Louis, Missouri
- 286 miles west of Memphis, Tennessee
- 457 miles west of Indianapolis, Indiana
- 416 miles northeast of Dallas, Texas
- 166 miles southeast of Kansas City, Missouri

Visit [www.springfieldmo.org/visitors-guide](http://www.springfieldmo.org/visitors-guide) or call 800-678-8767 for an EXCELLENT 164-page booklet about things to do and places to eat in Springfield! The Visitors Guide is a free publication that will be mailed to you upon request.

**University Plaza Hotel** \$97.00  
 333 S. John Q. Hammons Pkwy.  
 Springfield, Missouri 65806  
 (417) 864-7333

**Holiday Inn Express** \$92.00  
 1117 E. St. Louis (2 blocks from Expo Center)  
 Springfield, Missouri 65806  
 (417) 862-0070

You must ask for the "World Show" rate at either hotel for discount and availability.

## How do I get there?

### If You Are Driving

**From the Springfield/Branson National Airport:** Drive south on Airport Blvd. from the airport to Highway 266/Chestnut Expressway. Turn left and head east on Chestnut Expressway, also known as Business Loop 65. Continue east until you reach Sherman Parkway and turn south on to Sherman. Sherman Parkway turns into John Q. Hammons Parkway. The hotel will be on the west side of the street at the corner of John Q. Hammons Parkway and East St. Louis Street.

**Traveling South on Highway 13 (Kansas Expressway):** Exit east on to Chestnut Expressway, also known as Business Loop 65, and continue east until you reach Sherman Parkway. Turn south onto Sherman. Sherman Parkway turns into John Q. Hammons Parkway. The hotel will be on the west side of the street at the corner of John Q. Hammons Parkway and East St. Louis Street

**From Highway 65 South (and I-44):** Exit on to Chestnut Expressway, also known as Business Loop 65. Turn west on to Chestnut Expressway and continue until you reach Sherman Parkway. Turn south onto Sherman. Sherman Parkway turns into John Q. Hammons Parkway. The hotel will be on the west side of the street at the corner of John Q. Hammons Parkway and East St. Louis Street.

### If You Are Flying

The new Springfield National Airport provides nonstop service to several destinations, including: Atlanta, Las Vegas, Chicago, Los Angeles, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Orlando, Denver, Tampa and Memphis. The new Branson Airport provides additional air service and is just a 40-minute drive.

The address for Springfield-Branson National Airport is 2300 N. Airport Boulevard, Springfield, Missouri 65802. The coordinates of this address are: N37 14 18 W93 23 54. BEWARE! Older GPS units may give the airport address as 5000 W. Kearney Street. This is not the correct address. AIRPORT: [www.sgf-branson-airport.com](http://www.sgf-branson-airport.com)

**Shipping** You may ship any materials to the show as long as the package does not arrive before Friday, May 1, 2015. Label your package as:

Hold for \_\_\_\_\_ your name  
 World Taxidermy Championships  
 c/o Expo Center  
 635 East St. Louis Street  
 Springfield, Missouri 65806

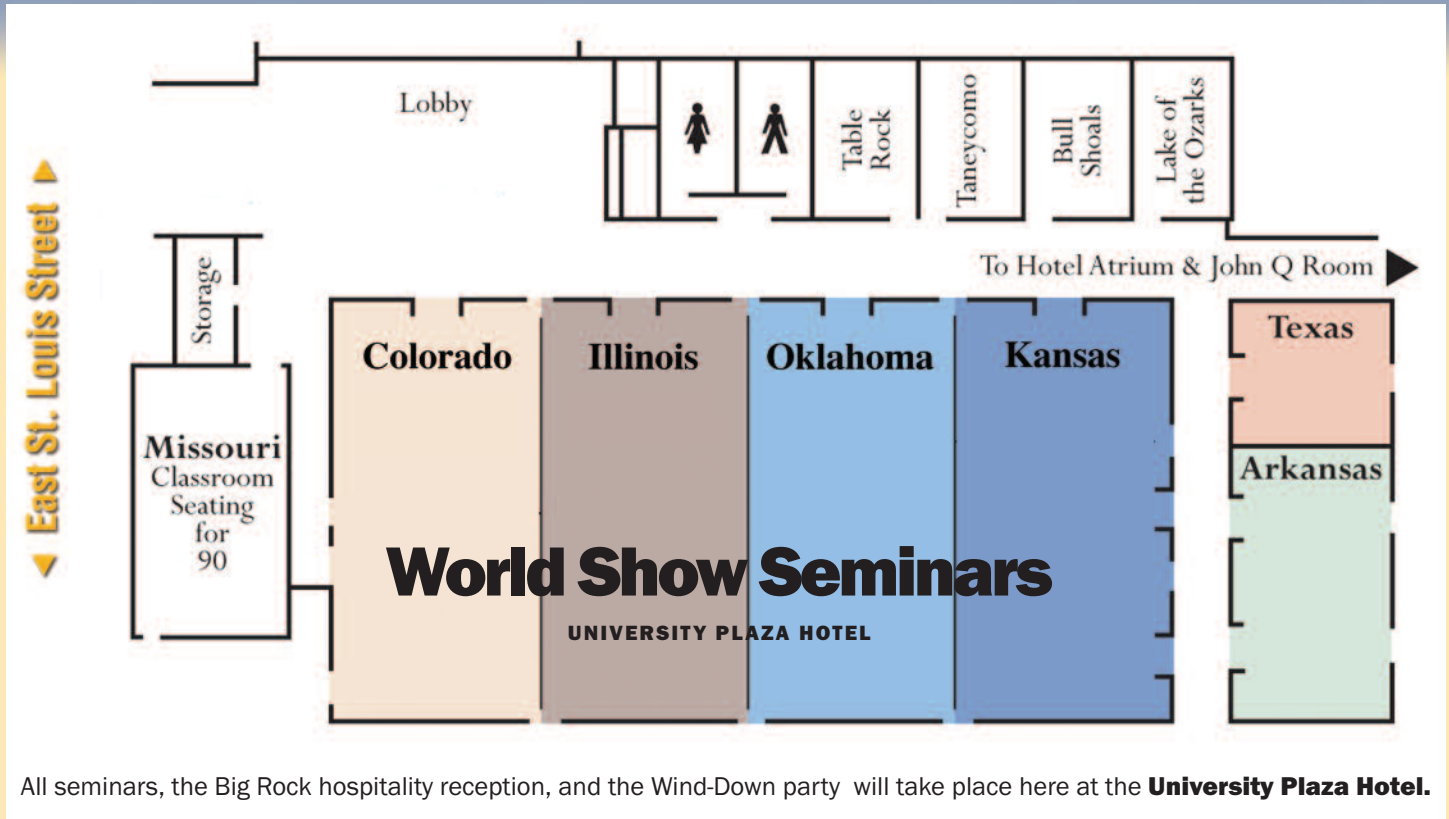


**Bass Pro Shops® Outdoor World®**  
 1935 S. Campbell Ave. Springfield, MO  
 (417) 887-7334

**Mon-Sat 7am-10pm, Sun 8am-8pm**

The original and largest of the Bass Pro Shops®. Almost 500,000 square feet dedicated to the beauty of the outdoors. Waterfalls, aquariums, firing range, TRACKER® boat showroom, Hemingway's Blue Water Café and more. Shop from a large selection of outdoor gear and visit the NRA® Museum and Archery Hall of Fame. **Directions from hotel:**

1. Head southwest on S John Q Hammons Pkwy toward E Walnut St 194 ft
2. Take the 1st right onto E Walnut St 0.3 mi
3. Take the 1st left onto S Kimbrough Ave 0.7 mi
4. Turn right onto E Grand St 0.4 mi
5. Turn left onto S Campbell Ave 1.3 mi
6. Turn right 213 ft
7. Turn right, Destination will be on the left 125 ft



All seminars, the Big Rock hospitality reception, and the Wind-Down party will take place here at the **University Plaza Hotel**.

# Where do I go?

**W**HEN YOU ARRIVE IN SPRINGFIELD, you may choose whether to secure your room at the University Plaza Hotel or enter your competition entries and get your World Championships show packet with your badge at the Expo Center, lower level.

**YOUR ROOM** Hotel check-in is at 3:00 p.m., which is done in the main lobby of the University Plaza Hotel on 333 South John Q. Hammons Parkway. All seminars will take place in the hotel meeting rooms (see above).

**WTC BADGE** The trade show and competition will take place in the Expo Center. Enter the front of the Expo Center and descend to the lower level. There are two sets of stairs plus elevators on the west side of the upper level. Once you get to the lower level, look to your right to find a large desk marked “REGISTRATIONS.” From there you will decide whether to get in the “Preregistered” line or the “New Registrations” line. All fees will be paid at this desk, whether for registrations, banquet tickets, and competition entries (if you are competing). Make sure all the information is correct and that your name is spelled correctly.

If you are not competing, put on your badge—you’re done!

**COMPETING?** While in the registration lines, look to your right to find the area for entering your competition pieces. *You must be wearing your badge and have all paid receipts with you when you get in this line* (not necessarily with your mount or carving entry). Each entry will be assigned a number, and you will be handed a card bearing the entry number, your name, and the species you are entering. Make sure all the information is correct and that your name is spelled correctly. Do not lose your entry cards.

Finally, you can get your entry and take it into the Competition Area entrance near the registration desk. There will be grooming tables set up in the prefunction area and one of the staff will help you place your piece in the Competition Area.

**ARE YOU AN EXHIBITOR?** The 2015 WTC Trade Show will take place on the lower level of the Expo Center, located at 635 East St. Louis Street. Please pick up your packet with your badge at the registration desk on the lower level of the Expo Center. *You must be wearing your badge when you bring in your booth materials and set up.* Two unloading docks are available at the rear of the Expo Center, by way of East Trafficway Street.

# Tuesday SEMINAR

## 1 Ken Walker

**Mounting a Gray Fox on a Carved Mannikin.** World Champion taxidermist and sculptor, Ken Walker, will demonstrate the process of carving an original manikin from foam. Designed from the maquette to a functional working fox manikin will be revealed in this seminar.

Illinois Rm., Tuesday, May 5 6:00-9:00 p.m.



## Taxidermy Seminar Coordinators Nickie and Rick Carter





# 2015 SEMINARS AND EVENTS

## Wednesday

### MORNING

### AFTERNOON

### EVENING

**2 Ken Walker**  
**Mounting a Gray Fox on a Carved Mannikin, Part 2.**  
 This three-time World Champion will mount a gray fox on a mannikin he carved in seminar #1. Watch Ken's mammal come to life as he taxis skin onto his original creation.



Illinois Rm. Wed., May 6 9:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

**5 Phil Soucy** Mounting a Wall Pedestal Mountain Lion. Best in World Champion and two-time National Taxidermist of the Year, Phil Soucy, is famous for his big cat renditions. In this action-packed seminar, Phil will create a wall pedestal and demonstrate his techniques for mounting a slack jaw, open mouth mountain lion.



Illinois Rm. Wed., May 6 1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

**3 Chris Horne** Carcass Casting Piglets and Mounting a Boar  
 Chris Horn will demonstrate the carcass casting techniques that won him a 2013 Best in World Title with his piglets. As a bonus, he will include mounting a boar head from start to finish.



Oklahoma Rm. Wed., May 6 9:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

**4 Kerby Ross**  
**Three-Dimensional Rattlesnake.**  
 Renowned reptile expert Kerby Ross will demonstrate his methods for altering a rattlesnake manikin that will conform to the vertical contours of the ground, as an alternative to using manikins designed for a flat surface. This technique was featured in Issue #116 of *BREAKTHROUGH*.



Kansas Rm. Wed., May 6 9:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

**6 Rick Carter** Whitetail Deer Anatomy and Reference. Two-time National Bruchac Award winner, Rick Carter, will explain interpreting and applying reference to your mount. He will demonstrate how the anatomy beneath the skin of a whitetail deer is the foundation that creates the outer appearance. Skeletal reference, as well as cast reference, will be used in this information-packed seminar.



Oklahoma Rm. Wed., May 6 1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

**7 Mike Nakielski** Mounting a Flying Wood Duck. This Wisconsin taxidermist is winner of many national and state awards and won Third in World in 2013 with his entry of a trio of flying wood ducks. Mike will take you through his complete mounting process for flying waterfowl showing every detail on our big screen TV's with a live seminar demonstration.



Kansas Rm. Wed., May 6 1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.



## The 2015 Major CASH AWARD Sponsors

### Welcome Reception

Potential and present customers of Head Quarters Taxidermy Supply attending the 2015 World Taxidermy & Fish Carving Championships® are invited to a welcome reception hosted by Head Quarters Taxidermy Supply and Big Rock Sports.

The reception is scheduled from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 6, in the Colorado Meeting Room at the University Plaza Hotel, host hotel of the 2015 World Taxidermy Championships®.

Complimentary beverages and light hors d'oeuvres will be served.

WTC registrants with a Head Quarters wrist band will be allowed entry. Wrist bands may be acquired at the Head Quarters booths on Wednesday, May 6, from 4:30 to 7:30.

Colorado Rm. Wed., May 6 4:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m.



### A DAY OF HANDS-ON PAINTING FRESH- AND SALT-WATER HABITATS WITH TWO WORLD CHAMPIONS: Josh Guge and Bob Berry

This seminar will teach the nuances of painting both fresh- and salt-water habitats. The instructors will provide each student with reference material and study casts of both fresh- and salt-water habitat scenes. These casts are reproductions of Bob's and Josh's original carvings. Throughout the class, students will learn the entire process of creating a realistic paint job with hand brushes and acrylic paints. All the techniques and tricks that have made these instructors successful will be shared and demonstrated. At the conclusion of the class, students can purchase the castings they painted on or return them to the instructors.

NOTE: Because the instructors are providing all supplies for this class, students do not need to bring anything other than a camera, pen/pencil, and a note pad. Based on the size of the room available seats are limited. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity.

To register for this early seminar you must contact Josh Guge at [josh@gugeinstitute.com](mailto:josh@gugeinstitute.com) or call him at (224) 629-0581. You must register at least 30 days prior to the show. A deposit of \$50.00 is required and the total workshop fee is \$125. The balance will be due at the beginning of class Wednesday, May 6.

Send your deposit of \$50.00 to Josh Guge at 1963 Diamond Head Trail, Pingree Grove, IL 60140. Contact [josh@gugeinstitute.com](mailto:josh@gugeinstitute.com) or call (224) 629-0581.

Texas Rm. Wed., May 6

8:00 a.m.–6:30 p.m.  
 (one-hour break for lunch)

# 2015 SEMINARS AND EVENTS

## Thursday

### MORNING

**8 Mike Orthober** Repairing and Rebuilding Shrinkage on Fish. Repairing shrinkage is one of the most important tasks involved in a skin mount. World Champion Mike Orthober will reveal the techniques that he uses to put life into his fish mounts. Some painting color blending techniques will also be demonstrated.



Kansas Rm. Thu., May 7 8:30 a.m.–11:00 a.m.

**9 Dale Manning** Competition Habits with Habitat Rock. World Champion Dale Manning will reveal his tips and tricks on how to achieve the most detailed artificial rock habitats possible. Armature building, rock application, seaming, composition and design, as well as painting and finishing techniques will be demonstrated.



Illinois Rm. Thu., May 7 8:30 a.m.–11:00 a.m.

**10 Kent Reedy** Anatomical Structure and Arrangement in Waterfowl. World Champion and taxidermist extraordinaire, Kent Reedy will reveal the techniques he uses in creating multiple show-stopping mounts. In this seminar, he will demonstrate proper placement of feather groups and skin that are the basic requirements for waterfowl accuracy.



Oklahoma Rm. Thu., May 7 8:30 a.m.–11:00 a.m.

### AFTERNOON

**11 Cole Cruickshank** Mastering Facial Features on a Bobcat. Award winning taxidermist Cole Cruickshank is one of the few gifted individuals who is capable of capturing the essence of the animal in every mount. His ability to capture expression is not only a gift, but also a skill that was learned through intense observation. Cole will demonstrate the proper set for eyes, ears, and whisker alignment, as well as the proper grooming of many hair patterns on a bobcat.



Illinois Rm. Thu., May 7 1:30 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

**12 Fred Barilla** Mounting a Standing Pheasant. Fred recently won the 2014 National Taxidermist Association's North American Grand Champion Award, as well as the WASCO Award, for a standing pheasant mount. He will reveal techniques and tips that will enable you to perfect your next pheasant.



Oklahoma Rm. Thu., May 7 1:30 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

**13 Erich Carter** Techniques of Antlers Repair. Erich Carter is famous for his antler reproductions and creations. In this seminar, Erich will demonstrate quick casting techniques, wiring, epoxy building techniques, and coloring and staining from A to Z. Anyone who has been a taxidermist long enough will eventually have a customer that requests an antler repair. Erich will answer all of your questions and concerns.



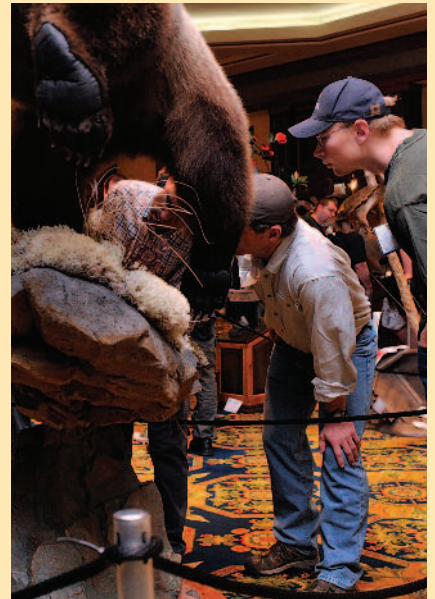
Kansas Rm. Thu., May 7 1:30 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

### EVENING

**14 Tom Weickum** Mounting a Pronghorn Antelope. Rocky Mountain Artwork's Tom Weickum is world-famous for both his sculptures and award-winning mounts. He is both an NTA North American and World Champion taxidermist. In this seminar, he will demonstrate mounting a pronghorn antelope on one of the forms he sculpted for TruFitt Life Forms.



Kansas Rm. Thu., May 7 7:30 p.m.–10:00 p.m.



### 3 Opportunities to View the WTC Entries

All registrants of the 2015 World Taxidermy & Fish Carving Championships® are invited to view the competition entries, both before and after the judging has been completed and ribbons placed. Only WTC registrants wearing badges will be allowed entry, except for paid admission by the public

**Expo Center, Thu., May 7 6:30 p.m.–10:00 p.m.**  
**Expo Center, Fri., May 8 4:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m.**  
**Expo Center, Sat., May 9 8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.**

### Two PSE Surge Bows to be raffled by The Wildlife Gallery

The Wildlife Gallery will be raffling off to new PSE surge bows. One is a man's 70-pound bow and the other a lady's 50-pound bow. Each bow comes with sights, quiver, and whisker biscuit rest.

#### HOW TO ENTER:

Come to the Wildlife Gallery booth and fill out an entry form. Two entries per person please. Drawing is free. You will not need to be present to win—WLG will ship the bow to you if you are not present! Bows will be on display during vendor hours of show. Stop by the booth to say hi and enter to win!

**Drawing will be held Saturday May 9 at 11:00 a.m. in the Wildlife Gallery booths.**





# 2015 SEMINARS AND EVENTS

## Friday

### MORNING

#### 15 Brian Noody Painting a Competition Striped Bass.

Brian Noody won a Best in World Title in 2013 with his expert rendition of a striper. His work was touted by many in attendance as the best fish they had ever seen. In this seminar, Brian will share his methods of converting the reference photographs into the paint job, one section at a time.



Illinois Rm. Fri., May 8 8:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

#### 16 Rick Carter Mounting a White-tail Deer.

Three-time National Taxidermist of the Year and renown sculptor, Rick Carter will demonstrate his techniques for mounting a white-tail deer. He has updated and improved many techniques since his #1 selling "Whitetail A to Z" video was produced. Rick's latest procedures will be demonstrated as he mounts a deer on stage.



Oklahoma Rm. Fri., May 8 8:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

#### 17 Brian Hendricks Mounting a Gray Fox.

Best in World winner, Brian Hendricks, is one of taxidermy's leading small predator sculptors and taxidermists. His sculptures and designs are found in many leading taxidermy supply catalogs. In this seminar, Brian will mount a lifesize gray fox using the mannikin and system that he created.



Kansas Rm. Fri., May 8 8:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

#### 18 Harry Whitehead Mounting a Standing Turkey.

Winner of numerous national, regional, and state awards and a Second in World with an ocellated turkey in 2013, Kentucky taxidermist Harry Whitehead will show you his complete mounting procedure for a standing Tom. Harry's witty personality and exceptional talents will make this seminar not only fun but also a super learning experience



Colorado Rm. Fri., May 8 8:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

### AFTERNOON

#### 19 Mike Orthober Bird Anatomy.

World Taxidermy Champion Mike Orthober has possibly perfected the techniques on more species of animals than any other taxidermist. In this seminar, he will use anatomical models that he has created to demonstrate mobility, positioning, and alignment for birds. Without this basic knowledge, it is virtually impossible to create a life-like mount.



Illinois Rm. Fri., May 8 2:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

#### 20 Frank Kotula Creating, Fitting, and Painting Heads.

World Taxidermy Champion Frank Kotula will share his techniques that set him at the top of his game. Watch first-hand as Frank installs and finishes realistic trout heads.



Oklahoma Rm. Fri., May 8 2:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

#### 21 Bruce Rittel Methods of Tanning Skins.

One of the most respected names in tanning, Bruce Rittel will explain his methods for producing a completely workable tanned skin. His years of knowledge and expertise will be available for all of your questions and answers concerning various tanning methods.



Colorado Rm. Fri., May 8 2:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

#### 22 David Ellzey Mounting a Fox Squirrel.

No one in the world has sculpted and mounted more squirrels than David Ellzey. He has been the leading expert for 30 years. In this seminar, David will demonstrate his expertise in mounting a fox squirrel

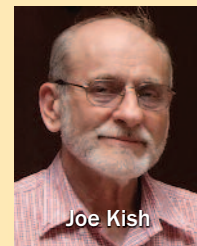


Kansas Rm. Fri., May 8 2:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

### EVENING



Russell Knight



Joe Kish

#### THE 2015 WORLD TAXIDERMY & FISH CARVING CHAMPIONSHIPS® AWARDS BANQUET AND PRESENTATION

Be there to witness \$33,000 in cash awarded to winning taxidermists and fish carvers from all over the world! A unique musical presentation of taxidermy in film clips will keep you entertained during dinner as the excitement "mounts" to see who will win the big cash awards this year. The World Show is always looking to add something new and refreshing to the award ceremony. We are very happy to announce the Master of Ceremony for the 2015 award program will be Alaskan taxidermist Russell Knight, star of the History Channel series "Mounted in Alaska." Russell's quick wit and savvy will make for a very entertaining evening. Joe Kish will be awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award.

University Plaza Hotel Convention Center (see map)  
Friday evening, May 8, 2015

Cocktails 6:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m.  
Dinner 7:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m.  
Awards Show 8:30 p.m.–11:00 p.m.

TICKETS \$38.50

AVAILABLE AT THE WTC REGISTRATION DESK



# 2015 SEMINARS AND EVENTS

## Saturday

**MORNING/AFTERNOON**

**EVENING**



Critiques with taxidermy judges (sign-up-sheet with Competition Staff)  
Expo Center, Sat., May 9 **9:00 a.m.-noon**



### View the World Show Winning Entries

Expo Center, Sat., May 9. **GET TO SEE WHAT WON!** All registrants of the 2015 World Taxidermy & Fish Carving Championships® are invited to view the competition entries AFTER the judging has been completed and ribbons placed. Only WTC registrants wearing badges will be allowed entry until the public will be admitted.

**WTC Registrants with Badges** **8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**  
**Public Viewing (\$10)** **10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**

**All entries must be removed from the Expo Center between 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

### Special Children's Seminar (Saturday) with Erich Carter

#### Road-Kill Series Hands-On Re-Creations for Children.

Arkansas Rm., Sat., May 9 **9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.**

This seminar is a huge hit for any aspiring young taxidermists. Erich will present this hands-on fun project featuring the lighthearted "Road-Kill" re-creation mounts using commonly discarded fur scraps. There is no charge for this seminar which is limited to the first 20 kids age 12 and under, only who signs up at the WTC registration desk.



**NO CHARGE • LIMIT: 20 KIDS (12 AND UNDER)**  
Materials donated by Research Mannikins.  
**PLEASE SIGN UP AT THE WTC REGISTRATION DESK**



### The World Show Wind-Down Party (Cash Bar)

University Plaza Hotel, Illinois Room, Sat., May 9. This party started over more than 15 years ago as a completely impromptu, unplanned get-together to simply unwind after months and days of hard work and the stress of putting on and competing on a world-level. We quickly knew we needed to announce it in our schedule because so many people wanted to attend! We found out that many taxidermists are also musically talented, so please bring whatever instrument you play for an unheard jam. We also now furnish karaoke and a DJ with dance music for getting rid of all that excess energy.

**Illinois Room, WTC Registrants with Badges** **7:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.**



# 2015 World Fish Carving Championships®

**SPRINGFIELD EXPO CENTER**  
635 EAST ST. LOUIS STREET  
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI



**Judges' Choice**  
**Best of Show 2013**  
2013 Best in World Decorative Lifesize  
Clark Schreibeis



**sugar Pine**  
WOODCARVING SUPPLIES  
DONATING \$1,000

**\$3,000**  
**IN PRIZES AND AWARDS**

JUDGES' CHOICE, BEST OF SHOW, FISH CARVING	PLAQUE + \$1,000 Sugar Pines
BEST IN WORLD, Open Level, Decorative Lifesize	PLAQUE + \$500
Second in World, Open Level, Decorative Lifesize	PLAQUE + \$300
Third in World, Open Level, Decorative Lifesize	PLAQUE + \$200
BEST IN WORLD, Open Level, Decorative Miniature	PLAQUE + \$500
BEST IN WORLD, Open Level, Natural Finish	PLAQUE + \$500



## 2015 FISH CARVING JUDGES



**2015 Fish Carving Judges**  
*Clark Schreibeis*      *Jeff Compton*

### 60/40 SHOW AND SELL

Display tables will be set up in the Fish Carving Area in the Expo Center to allow carvers to showcase their work to the public and offer them for sale. Sixty percent of selling price will go to the carver (seller), and the other 40 percent will go to the WFCC which will be used for prize money, etc. Carvers may also display pieces that are not for sale. All of the carvings on 60/40 tables will not be judged in any way as part of the regular competition.

#### Rules for participation:

- Carvers must email Laura Guge by April 1, 2015, to be eligible to participate: [laura@gugeinstitute.com](mailto:laura@gugeinstitute.com), telephone (630) 400-2444
- All fish carvers are eligible.
- Carvers are allowed up to three pieces to display on the tables.
- Carvers must provide the title of each piece as well as the price they wish to sell it for when they bring their pieces in to the show. They also need to indicate if a carving is not for sale.

- Carving(s) entered in previous shows may be displayed.
- Carvers are responsible for providing packaging for any of their pieces that are available for purchase.
- Buyers will make checks out to the show for the full amount of the sales price. Carvers will receive a check for 60 percent of the sales price at the end of the show.

# 2015 FISH CARVING SEMINARS THURSDAY

**1 Bob Berry** Composition and Design. World Show Lifetime Achievement Award recipient and multiple World Champion fish carver Bob Berry explains how he approaches artistic composition and design, and how he incorporates it into his carvings. He will explain and demonstrate proven methods for enhancing your artwork for maximum appeal.



Texas Rm. Thu., May 7 9:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m.

**2 Jeff Compton** Painting Eyes. Several different methods for custom painting blank eyes on fish carvings are presented by World Champion Fish Carver Jeff Compton of Minnesota. In this live demonstration, Jeff will show the subtle art of creating your own eye colorations and explain how to create eyes that match your personal style.



Texas Rm. Thu., May 7 10:30 a.m.–noon

**3 Josh Guge** Painting Fish. Every fish carver develops their own method for achieving realistic painting finishes. Josh Guge, a World Champion fish carving artist, demonstrates his procedure, materials and techniques he uses for painting carved fish. Josh will cover reference, paints, color blending, spots and vermiculation, and his personal painting philosophy.



Texas Rm. Thu., May 7 1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m.

**4 Ted Richmond** Bases and Plaques. Ted Richmond of Kansas has won open level ribbons at the World Fish Carving Championships and Ward Championships in the interpretive categories on multiple occasions. In this seminar, Ted will focus on the techniques and materials he uses for creating bases and plaques especially for artistic fish carvings.



Texas Rm. Thu., May 7 4:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m.

# 2015 FISH CARVING SEMINARS FRI/SAT

**5 Ed Barrett** Fins. In this seminar, fish carver Ed Barrett of Oregon explores the world of carving fish fins. Starting with reference, attitude, locomotion and position, Ed goes on to demonstrate materials, patterns, shaping, texturing, fin rays, attachment, fin bases, edges, painting, and virtually every thing you need to know about dorsal fins, pectoral fins, pelvic fins, anal fins and caudal fins.



Texas Rm. Fri., May 8 1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m.

**6 Clark Schreibeis** Eyes, Set, One Side, Head. The most decorated fish carver of all time, Clark Schreibeis of Montana, has won a record five Best of Show, Best in World titles at the World Fish Carving Championship. In 2013, he also won the Master of Masters Award on the taxidermy side of the competition. Clark uses a variety of media to demonstrate setting eyes and painting the head of a half-cast trout.



Texas Rm. Fri., May 8 3:00 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

**7 Panel Discussion** Fish Carving. What do you want to talk about? You can ask any questions you can think of as the godfather of fish carving, Bob Berry, leads this unscripted panel (and audience) discussion with carvers Jeff Compton, Clark Schreibeis, Ted Richmond, Josh Guge, and Ed Barrett. Comments from the audience are addressed concerning fish carving procedures and competition issues.

Texas Rm. Sat., May 9 10:00 a.m.–noon



2013 World Fish Carving Championships®  
Open Level  
Fish Carvers Inv.  
Michael Buelna  
Orland, California  
Picasso Triggerfish  
First Place

# FISH CARVING LEVELS, DIVISIONS, AND CATEGORIES

## OPEN LEVEL (WORLD TITLE LEVEL)

### DECORATIVE LIFESIZE DIVISION

#### CATEGORIES

- Trout, Salmon, and Char
- Other Freshwater Gamefish
- Miscellaneous Freshwater Fish
- Saltwater Fish
- Wall Mount Carvings

### DECORATIVE MINIATURE DIVISION

#### CATEGORIES

- Freshwater Fish
- Saltwater Fish

### NATURAL FINISH WOOD SCULPTURE DIVISION

#### CATEGORIES

- Interpretive Fish Carvings
- Realistic, Natural Finish

### FREESTYLE DIVISION (NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BEST IN WORLD)

#### CATEGORIES

- Smoothie
- Transitional Sculpture
- Wall Mount

## INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

### DECORATIVE LIFESIZE DIVISION

#### CATEGORIES

- Trout, Salmon, and Char
- Other Freshwater Gamefish
- Miscellaneous Freshwater Fish
- Saltwater Fish
- Wall Mount Carvings

### DECORATIVE MINIATURE DIVISION

#### CATEGORIES

- Freshwater Fish
- Saltwater Fish

### NATURAL FINISH WOOD SCULPTURE DIVISION

#### CATEGORIES

- Interpretive Fish Carvings
- Realistic, Natural Finish

### FREESTYLE DIVISION

#### CATEGORIES

- Smoothie
- Transitional Sculpture
- Wall Mount

## NOVICE LEVEL

### DECORATIVE LIFESIZE DIVISION

#### CATEGORIES

- Trout, Salmon, and Char
- Other Freshwater Gamefish
- Miscellaneous Freshwater Fish
- Saltwater Fish
- Wall Mount Carvings

### DECORATIVE MINIATURE DIVISION

#### CATEGORIES

- Freshwater Fish
- Saltwater Fish

### NATURAL FINISH WOOD SCULPTURE DIVISION

#### CATEGORIES

- Interpretive Fish Carvings
- Realistic, Natural Finish

### WORK BENCH DIVISION

#### CATEGORIES

- Smoothie
- Transitional Sculpture
- Wall Mount

## YOUTH LEVEL (AGES 17 OR UNDER)

Separate Youth Level divisions will be established if there are enough entries to fill one or more of the categories with 3 or more entries, otherwise there will only be one division.

### YDC 1 DIVISION (15 to 17)

#### CATEGORIES

- All Decorative Fish
- Silhouette (smoothie)

### YDC 2 DIVISION (14 and under)

#### CATEGORIES

- All Decorative Fish
- Silhouette (smoothie)



## A DAY OF HANDS-ON PAINTING FRESH- AND SALT-WATER HABITATS WITH TWO WORLD CHAMPIONS: Josh Guge and Bob Berry

This seminar will teach the nuances of painting both fresh- and salt-water habitats. The instructors will provide each student with reference material and study casts of both fresh- and salt-water habitat scenes. These casts are reproductions of Bob's and Josh's original carvings. Throughout the class, students will learn the entire process of creating a realistic paint job with hand brushes and acrylic paints. All the techniques and tricks that have made these instructors successful will be shared and demonstrated. At the conclusion of the class, students can purchase the castings they painted on or return them to the instructors.

NOTE: Because the instructors are providing all supplies for this class, students do not need to bring anything other than a camera, pen/pencil, and a note pad. Based on the size of the room available seats are limited. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity.

To register for this early seminar you must contact Josh Guge at [josh@gugeinstitute.com](mailto:josh@gugeinstitute.com) or call him at (224) 629-0581. You must register at least 30 days prior to the show. A deposit of \$50.00 is required and the total workshop fee is \$125. The balance will be due at the beginning of class Wednesday, May 6.

Send your deposit of \$50.00 to Josh Guge at 1963 Diamond Head Trail, Pingree Grove, IL 60140. Contact [josh@gugeinstitute.com](mailto:josh@gugeinstitute.com) or call (224) 629-0581.

Texas Rm. Wed., May 6



8:00 a.m.–6:30 p.m.  
(one-hour break for lunch)



# WORLD SHOW TAXIDERMY COMPETITION DIVISIONS

## MASTER DIVISION WORLD TITLE DIVISION

### 16 WORLD TITLES

(Single first, second, third place ribbons)

#### 1. Medium-Small Mammals

- (smaller than 50 lbs. [coyote/peccary])
- Small mammals, less than 10 lbs
  - Medium mammals, greater than 10 lbs.
  - Small mammals group

#### 2. Large Mammals

(larger than 50 lbs. [cougar/deer])

- Large mammals (long/thick hair)
- Large mammals (short/thin hair)
- Large mammals group

#### 3. Whitetail Deer Heads

- Whitetails long/thick hair, open mouth
- Whitetails long/thick hair, closed mouth
- Whitetails short/thin hair, open mouth
- Whitetails short/thin hair, closed mouth

#### 4. Medium-Small Gameheads

(mule deer/wildebeest and smaller)

- Small gameheads (coyote and smaller)
- Medium gameheads (deer, bear, sheep)
- Half-lifesize gameheads
- Gameheads, group

#### 5. Large Gameheads

(caribou/waterbuck size and larger)

- Large gameheads (long/thick hair)
- Large gameheads (short/thin hair)
- Half-lifesize large gameheads
- Gameheads, group

#### 6. Game Birds

- Pheasants
- Grouse
- Quail
- Migratory game birds (doves, rails, coots, cranes)
- Game birds, group

#### 7. Non-Game Birds

- Small birds (maggie and smaller)
- Large birds (crow, rook and larger)
- Raptors and owls (birds of prey)
- Non-game birds, group

#### 8. Turkeys

- Turkeys, strutting
- Turkeys, open wings
- Turkeys, standing
- Turkeys, group

#### 9. Waterfowl

- Diving ducks (mergansers, stiff tails)
- Puddle ducks
- Geese and swans
- Waterfowl, group

#### 10. Warm Water Fish

(skin mounts)

- Sunfish, perch, walleye, crappie, other bass
- Other, 12 inches or smaller
- Other, larger than 12 inches
- Saltwater
- Group

#### 11. Cold Water Fish

(skin mounts)

- Trout, salmon, char
- Pike, muskellunge, pickerel
- Other, 12 inches or smaller
- Other, larger than 12 inches
- Group

#### 12. Largemouth Bass

(skin mounts)

- Largemouth bass (single)
- Largemouth bass (group)

#### 13. Reptiles, Amphibian, Other

(skin mounts)

- Reptiles, amphibian, other (single)
- Reptiles, amphibian, other (group)

#### 14. Reproductions

- Fish
- Reptiles, amphibians
- Mammal
- Group
- Miscellaneous

#### 15. Re-Creations

- Mammals
- Birds
- Miscellaneous
- Re-Creation (group)

#### 16. Mixed Group

## PROFESSIONAL DIVISION

(Multiple first, second, third place ribbons)

- Lifesize Mammals
- Whitetail Deer Heads
- Gameheads
- Birds
- Fish: Skin Mounts
- Reptiles/Amphibians/Invertebrates: Skin Mounts
- Reproductions: Fish, Reptiles, Amphibians, Antlers/Horns
- Re-Creations, Replicas, or Miniatures
- Mixed Group (See note in Master Division categories)
- Skeletons
- Rugs
- Freeze Dry: Lifesize Mammals, Birds, Fish, Reptiles-Amphibians (see Rules)

## NOVICE DIVISION

(Multiple first, second, third place ribbons)

- Lifesize Mammals
- Whitetail Deer Heads
- Gameheads
- Birds
- Fish Skin Mounts
- Reptiles / Amphibians / Invertebrates Skin Mounts
- Reproductions: Fish-Reptiles-Amphibians

## YOUTH DIVISION

Open to children 14 years old or younger.

## COLLECTIVE ARTISTS DIVISION

For competition pieces where more than one taxidermist has worked on an entry.

(Single first, second, third place ribbons)

- Lifesize Mammals. May include single or group pieces
- Game Heads. May include single or group pieces
- Birds. May include single or group pieces
- Fish, Reptiles, Amphibians (skin mounts). May include single or group pieces
- Mixed Group. May include a combination of mammals, birds and/or fish.
- Re-Creations and Reproductions. May include single or group pieces. This will include reproduction fish or reptiles, re-creations, carvings, and replicas of any animal.

## TWO TAXIDERMY SCULPTURE DIVISIONS

- Sculpted live at the show (med. lifesize or shoulder sculpture)
- Pre-sculpted forms (must be in clay) Gameheads, Lifesize Mammals

## INTERPRETIVE DIVISION

(Single first, second, third place ribbons)

- Individual Artists
- Multiple Artists (More than one artist working on an entry)

## HOW "BEST IN WORLD" TITLES ARE DETERMINED

THERE ARE 18 BEST IN world titles to be awarded: 16 in the Master Division, one in the Collective Artists Division, and one in the Taxidermy Sculpture Division.

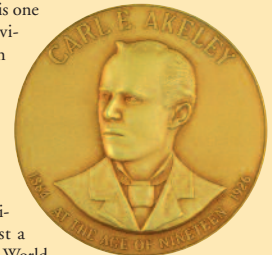
For 2015, each entry in the Master Division will be independently scored by three judges and the scores averaged together. Once first places are determined in the subcategories, a competition supervisor will gather all category judges (five for most categories) to vote for eligible entries for Best in World titles. They will each cast a secret ballot for Best in World. The judges will be allowed to discuss and confer about the eligible entries before casting their ballots. If two entries receive equal votes the judges will be asked to vote again on those two entries only. The

results will be kept secret and announced at the World Show Awards banquet.

Competitors vying for the BEST IN WORLD titles should pay very close attention to the subcategories. Some of the subcategories will be heavily competed in, while others may only have one or two entries. Remember—to win a BEST IN WORLD title you must first have a First Place ribbon in a subcategory. You may want to consider competing in several of the subcategories to increase your chances of being considered in that final decision.

Each Collective Artists entry will be judged by a team of judges. After placements are determined in each category, all taxidermy judges will evaluate the

eligible entries for Best in World Collective Artist and cast individual secret ballots. Since this is one of only two divisions in which judges can compete, any judge competing in this division will not be eligible to judge in this division, nor cast a vote for Best in World (in that division).



## Where can judges compete?

JUDGES OF THE WORLD SHOW COMPETITION can enter the Master of Masters competition, the Collective Artists division, and the Interpretive Taxidermy division. Judges competing in any of these competitions declare this to the competition committee so that appropriate judges can be selected.

## 2015 WORLD SHOW JUDGES

### Mammals

Ashley Barrett  
Manny Chavez  
Cary Cochran  
Dawayne Dewey  
Vincent Fleming  
Raymond Kowalski  
Joe Meder  
Skip Skidmore  
Jason Snowberger  
Don Stevens  
Jessica Stevens  
Fred Vanderburgh

### Birds

Cary Cochran (turkeys)  
Joe Kaiser  
Dave Luke  
Billy Ollie  
Danny Owens  
Shane Smith  
Lennart Petterson  
Harvey Zeigler

### Fish

Rick Krane  
Jeff Mourning  
Brett Wingfield

### Reptiles

Manny Chavez  
Jeff Mourning  
Skip Skidmore

### Akeley Award Judges

Jeff Mourning  
Ken Edwards  
Jason Snowberger

### Collective Artists Judges

Jeff Mourning  
Ashley Barrett  
Shane Smith

### Interpretive Taxidermy

Kathy Blomquist  
Ken Edwards  
Dawayne Dewey  
Dave Luke  
Brett Wingfield

### Novice Taxidermy

Don and Jessica Stevens

### Fish Carving

Decorative Lifesize, Decorative Miniature, Natural Finish:  
Clark Schreiber  
Jeff Compton

### Fish Carving

Freestyle and Work Bench:  
Ed Barrett  
Mike Buelna  
Ted Richmond



# 2015 BEST IN WORLD CATEGORIES (MASTER DIVISION)

**Master Division Judging Procedure.** Each entry in the Master Division will be independently scored by three judges and the scores averaged together. Once first places are determined in the subcategories, a competition supervisor will gather category judges (five for most categories) to vote for eligible entries for Best in World titles. They will each cast a secret ballot for Best in World. The judges will be allowed to discuss and confer about the eligible entries before casting their ballots. If two entries receive equal votes the judges will be asked to vote again on those two entries only. The results will be kept secret and announced at the World Show awards banquet.



## 1. Medium-Small Mammals (smaller than 50 lbs. [coyote/peccary])

- Small mammals, less than 10 lbs
- Medium mammals, greater than 10 lbs.
- Small mammals group

**Judges for 3 score sheets:** Skip Skidmore, Ashley Barrett, Jason Snowberger

**Judges who vote for Best in World:** Skip Skidmore, Ashley Barrett, Jason Snowberger, Ray Kowalski, Jessica Stevens



## 2. Large Mammals (larger than 50 lbs. [cougar/deer])

- Large mammals (long/thick hair)
- Large mammals (short/thin hair)
- Large mammals group

**Judges for 3 score sheets:** Dawayne Dewey, Manny Chavez, Ashley Barrett

**Judges who vote for Best in World:** Dawayne Dewey, Manny Chavez, Ashley Barrett, Don Stevens, Fred Vanderburgh



## 3. Whitetail Deer Heads

- Whitetails long/thick hair, open mouth
- Whitetails long/thick hair, closed mouth
- Whitetails short/thin hair, open mouth
- Whitetails short/thin hair, closed mouth

**Judges for 3 score sheets:** Vincent Fleming, Joe Meder, Cary Cochran

**Judges who vote for Best in World:** Vincent Fleming, Joe Meder, Cary Cochran, Fred Vanderburgh, Manny Chavez



## 4. Medium-Small Gameheads (mule deer/wildebeest and smaller)

- Small gameheads (coyote and smaller)
- Medium gameheads (deer, bear, sheep)
- Half-lifesize gameheads
- Gameheads, group

**Judges for 3 score sheets:** Fred Vanderburgh, Jason Snowberger, Cary Cochran

**Judges who vote for Best in World:** Fred Vanderburgh, Jason Snowberger, Cary Cochran, Joe Meder, Vincent Fleming



## 5. Large Gameheads (caribou/waterbuck size and larger)

- Large gameheads (long/thick hair)
- Large gameheads (short/thin hair)
- Half-lifesize large gameheads
- Gameheads, group

**Judges for 3 score sheets:** Dawayne Dewey, Fred Vanderburgh, Manny Chavez

**Judges who vote for Best in World:** Dawayne Dewey, Fred Vanderburgh, Manny Chavez, Skip Skidmore, Don Stevens



## 6. Game Birds

- Pheasants
- Grouse
- Quail
- Migratory game birds (doves, rails, coots, cranes)
- Game birds, group

**Judges for 3 score sheets:** Danny Owens, Lennart Pettersson, Shane Smith

**Judges who vote for Best in World:** Danny Owens, Lennart Pettersson, Shane Smith, Joe Kaiser, Harvey Zeigler



## 7. Non-Game Birds

- Small birds (magpie and smaller)
- Large birds (crow, rook and larger)
- Raptors and owls (birds of prey)
- Non-game birds, group

**Judges for 3 score sheets:** Dave Luke, Joe Kaiser, Lennart Pettersson

**Judges who vote for Best in World:** Dave Luke, Joe Kaiser, Lennart Pettersson, Billy Ollie, Harvey Zeigler



## 8. Turkeys

- Turkeys, strutting
- Turkeys, open wings
- Turkeys, standing
- Turkeys, group

**Judges for 3 score sheets:** Shane Smith, Cary Cochran, Danny Owens

**Judges who vote for Best in World:** Shane Smith, Cary Cochran, Danny Owens, Billy Ollie, Dave Luke



## 9. Waterfowl

- Diving ducks (mergansers, stiff tails)
- Puddle ducks
- Geese and swans
- Waterfowl group

**Judges for 3 score sheets:** Joe Kaiser, Billy Ollie, Harvey Zeigler

**Judges who vote for Best in World:** Joe Kaiser, Billy Ollie, Harvey Zeigler, Shane Smith, Dave Luke



## 10. Warm Water Fish (skin mounts)

- Sunfish, perch, walleye, crappie, other bass
- Other, 12 inches or smaller
- Other, larger than 12 inches
- Saltwater
- Group

**Judges for 3 score sheets:** Rick Krane, Brett Wingfield, Jeff Mourning

**Judges who vote for Best in World:** Rick Krane, Brett Wingfield, Jeff Mourning, Jeff Compton, Clark Schreibeis



## 11. Cold Water Fish (skin mounts)

- Trout, salmon, char
- Pike, muskellunge, pickerel
- Other 12 inches or smaller
- Other larger than 12 inches
- Group

**Judges for 3 score sheets:** Rick Krane, Brett Wingfield, Jeff Mourning

**Judges who vote for Best in World:** Rick Krane, Brett Wingfield, Jeff Mourning, Jeff Compton, Clark Schreibeis



## 12. Largemouth Bass (skin mounts)

- Largemouth bass (single)
- Largemouth bass (group)

**Judges for 3 score sheets:** Rick Krane, Brett Wingfield, Jeff Mourning

**Judges who vote for Best in World:** Rick Krane, Brett Wingfield, Jeff Mourning, Jeff Compton, Clark Schreibeis



## 13. Reptiles, Amphibian, Other (skin mounts)

- Reptiles, amphibian, other (single)
- Reptiles, amphibian, other (group)

**Judges for 3 score sheets:** Manny Chavez, Jeff Mourning, Skip Skidmore

**Judges who vote for Best in World:** Manny Chavez, Jeff Mourning, Skip Skidmore, Rick Krane, Brett Wingfield



## 14. Reproductions

- Fish: Jeff Mourning, Rick Krane, Brett Wingfield
- Reptiles, Amphibians: Jeff Mourning, Manny Chavez, Skip Skidmore
- Mammals: TO BE DETERMINED
- Group: TO BE DETERMINED
- Miscellaneous: TO BE DETERMINED

**Judges for 3 score sheets:** SEE ABOVE

**Judges who vote for Best in World:** Jeff Mourning, Skip Skidmore, Manny Chavez, Rick Krane, Brett Wingfield



## 15. Re-Creations

- Mammals: Jason Snowberger, Dawayne Dewey, Raymond Kowalski
- Birds: Dave Luke, Lennart Pettersson, Danny Owens
- Miscellaneous: TO BE DETERMINED
- Re-Creation (group): TO BE DETERMINED

**Judges for 3 score sheets:** SEE ABOVE

**Judges who vote for Best in World:** Rick Krane, Lennart Pettersson, Dave Luke, Danny Owens, Dawayne Dewey



## 16. Mixed Group

**Judges for 3 score sheets:** WILL BE SELECTED ACCORDING TO SPECIES ENTERED

**Judges who vote for Best in World:** WILL BE SELECTED ACCORDING TO SPECIES ENTERED

*These judging assignments will be followed as closely as possible.*

**IMPORTANT:** *If you plan to compete, you should read ALL of the competition rules.*



# 2015 World Championships®

## GENERAL TAXIDERMY RULES & REGULATIONS

NOTE: Interpretations of all rulings or regulations (and any rules not provided for) will be decided by the World Taxidermy Championships® Regulatory Committee. This committee will consist of Skip Skidmore, Larry Blomquist, and Ken Edwards. If you have a specific question regarding the competition, contact Competition Chairman, Skip Skidmore at Brigham Young University, 290 M.L. Bean Museum, Provo, UT 84602. Telephone: (801) 422-4621.

**1. Display Hours:** Mounts may be checked in at 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 5, and between 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 6, 2015. Competitors will have time to groom their mounts until the competition area closes for judging at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 6. All entries must stay on exhibit until 2:00 p.m. Saturday, May 9, and must be removed by 6:00 p.m. Sorry, but there will be no exceptions to this rule. You must have your claim ticket to remove your entry.

**2. Liability:** Mounts entered in the show are done so at the owner's risk. Every precaution will be made to secure the entries.

**3. Judging:** Competition Chairman Skip Skidmore will make all final decisions on rules and regulations of this competition. Three judges will judge each entry in the Master Division, separately and independently. The scores the judges post will be averaged to determine the final score of the entry. In the Professional and Novice divisions, each entry will be judged by one judge.

**4. Critiques:** With the exception of the Sculpture Divisions and the Interpretive Division, each taxidermy entry will receive a completed score sheet showing areas that need improvement. Oral critiques of mounts will only be given by the judge who judged the piece. A sign-up sheet will be available at 8:30 a.m. Saturday morning for those who would like critiques. Oral critiques will take place between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 9, in order of the sign-up sheet. There is a five-minute limit on critiques. There is no charge for critiques.

**5. Score Sheets:** The new WTC score sheets will be used. Any member of the NTA who competes in the World Taxidermy Championships® may use his or her winnings toward NTA programs, such as the Award of Excellence or Certification. Be sure to indicate on your registration form your NTA membership status and number if you wish for your points to be turned in.

**6. Divisions:** There will be 8 divisions of competition: Master, Professional, Novice, Youth, Collective Artists, Interpretive Taxidermy, Presculptured Taxidermy, and Live Taxidermy Sculpture. Guidelines and descriptions are listed by each division to help you decide which is best suited for your level of skill and in which ones you will be eligible to compete.

**7. Special Competitions:** In addition to the regular competition divisions, we have the following invitationals and special competitions: Master of Masters, voted on by Master Division competitors; the Carl E. Akeley Competition, selected by 3 judges; the Competitors' Awards, highest score of 4 entries; and the Best All-Around Competition (mammal, gamehead, fish/reptile, bird).

Similar to a People's Choice award, the Competitors' Choice award is voted on by competitors in all divisions of the competition.

**8. Multiple Divisions:** Competitors may not cross divisions in the same category classifications, such as mammals which has four categories. The same holds true for birds, fish, and reptiles. For example, if one enters a lifesize mammal category

in the Master Division, then one may not enter a gamehead category in the Professional Division. He or she may, however, enter a gamehead in the Master Division and a bird (a different classification) in the Professional Division.

**9. Reproductions:** Reproduction fish, reptiles, and amphibians must be originally molded by the competitor in the Master Division. Commercial blanks will be acceptable in the Collective Artists, Interpretive Taxidermy, Professional, and Novice divisions.

**10. Protected Species:** Protected species must have applicable permits with the entry. The United States Fish and Wildlife Department has seized birds not properly permitted in prior shows. If a mount is not legal or if you do not have a permit, do not bring it to the show.

**11. Entry Restrictions:** Management reserves the right to restrict entries not conforming to accepted taxidermy methods, or that are, in the view of the competition management, in poor taste. It is the opinion of the committee that novelty mounts (which do not represent a true-to-life portrayal of the species) have no place in world-class competition. If you have an entry that is questionable according to our restrictions, you should telephone Competition Chairman Skip Skidmore. If a piece is accepted, it will go into the Re-Creation category in the Professional Division. Please—no domestic dogs, cats, or animals in traps.

**12. Panels, Habitats, and Bases:** With the exception of gameheads, a mount is not complete if it is not attached to some type of base, panel, etc. **Any pedestal or floor mount weighing over 50 pounds will be required to have rolling casters or other means to make it portable and moveable.** Although the World Taxidermy Championships® is a taxidermy competition, it is the opinion of the committee that panels, habitats, bases, and settings are significant ingredients of the completed entry and will be judged accordingly. Mounts should be mechanically sound and securely attached to the base and definitely should not be wobbly. In the Master Division, this area will be strictly judged along with the entries' composition, accuracy, balance, and artistic merit. Keep in mind the base should compliment the mount—not dwarf it. (See habitat rule, #8, under Master Division information.)

**13. Glass Cases:** Glass cases must be removed for judging or points will be deducted. If your case is delicate or exceptionally large, we require you to remove it, not our competition staff. You will be allowed to replace the case before the competition room opens for viewing.

**14. Original Sculpture:** Extra credit can be earned in any category for mounts entered on the competitor's original sculptured mannikin, wrapped, or carved body. Altered commercial forms do not qualify as original sculpture, but will be considered for originality.

**15. Reference:** We encourage competitors to bring their own reference material for examination by the judges. The judges will use the material to help them determine if it was correctly interpreted and manifested in the rendering. Please do not bring videotapes.

**16. Animation:** Entries that employ animation, i.e., moving parts, voice boxes, etc., should try to make them as realistic and artistic as possible. Poorly executed or unnatural-appearing animated parts will result in lower scores than if the entry was not animated. If you choose to use animation, it must appear natural.

**17. Sportsmanship:** Unsportsmanlike conduct could result in disqualification and forfeiture of any and all WTC awards.

The WTC has gone to great lengths to obtain the most experienced and qualified judges in the world. Accept the judge's decision as being final (even if you don't agree with it) or please don't enter the competition. Remember, everyone comes to the competition expecting to win. Everyone will not win. If you cannot handle losing, then do not enter the competition. Competitors should conduct themselves in a professional manner. Unruly or disruptive behavior towards show officials or judges will not be tolerated and the perpetrator will be asked to leave and will be barred from future competitions.

**18. Protests:** All protests, complaints, or appeals for consideration must be presented in writing to the Competition Chairman Skip Skidmore (not to the judges). All decisions and rulings of the regulatory committee will be final. If rejudging takes place for a Professional Division entry, and the piece being rejudged was involved in the Competitors' Award competition, score changes—good or bad—will have no bearing on this award. Nor will they be allowed in the Master, Collective Artist, and Taxidermy Sculpture Divisions where the judges will be choosing the top three mounts within a category in single ribbon fashion. The selection process does not allow for protest judging. There will be no rejudging in the Master Division competition unless rule infractions or similar problems develop.

**19. Cheating:** Cheating will result in forfeiture of all previous honors and awards and denial of future World Taxidermy Championships® participation.

**20. Interpretation:** Interpretation of all rules and regulations or anything not specifically provided for in these rules and regulations will be decided by the Regulatory Committee. Its decision will be final (just like an umpire in a ball game). Decide to accept its decision as final, or do not enter the competition.

**21. Name Plates:** Omit (or cover) names on all entries.

**22. Eligibility:** Any mount entered at a previous World Show is ineligible for this and any future World Shows.

**23. Registration:** You must register for the competition (even if you do not attend) in order to compete.

**24. Clarification:** There has been contention after previous World Taxidermy and Fish Carving Championships® about who can and cannot designate themselves "World Champion." It has been decided by the officers of Breakthrough Magazine Inc., who is the trademark- and registration-holder of the World Taxidermy Championships® and World Fish Carving Championships®, that the title "World Champion" is officially given only to a competitor who has won a Best in World title in the Master and Collective Artists divisions of taxidermy and the Open Level of fish carving. Winners of other major awards should be extremely proud of their accomplishments and should designate that such awards were won "at the World Championships." We note this because winning a title at the World Show® does not make you a World Champion—unless you win "Best in World."

**25. Where can judges compete?** Judges of the World Show competition can enter the Master of Masters competition, the Collective Artists division, and the Interpretive Taxidermy division. Judges competing in any of these competitions must declare this to the competition committee so that appropriate judges can be selected.

# 2015 World Taxidermy Championships®

## SPECIAL COMPETITIONS

### THE COMPETITORS' AWARDS: \$18,600.00 TOTAL CASH \$14,000 FROM HEAD QUARTERS TAXIDERMISTRY SUPPLY \$4,600 FROM WORLD SHOW AWARD FUND

As a participant in the prestigious World Taxidermy Championships® competition, taxidermists who enter four or more mounts in the Master or Professional Divisions, will be eligible for ten big cash awards, called "The Competitors' Awards." These awards will total \$18,600.00 in prize money and will be divided as noted in our Cash Awards announcement.

The Competitors' Award in each division will be awarded to five competitors with the highest point total for four entries. Once these five highest scoring competitors (in each division) are determined, each competitor's four top entries will be grouped together. The five groups will be labeled A, B, C, D and E and all of the division judges will vote by secret ballot as to their selections of the groups most deserving of the Competitors' Awards. Their criteria will be accuracy, originality and difficulty. The purpose for this final evaluation by secret ballot is to allow for minor fluctuations between the judges in each category for determining scores that brought the entries there to begin with. The results will be known only by the competition committee to be announced at the WTC Awards Banquet. In case there is a tie, the money will be divided equally.

Taxidermists who wish to compete for this Competitors' Award can do so by entering four or more mounts in either the Master or Professional divisions. The entries can be in any category (birds, fish, mammals, gameheads, etc.) and if an individual has more than four entries, his or her highest four scores will be used. Unlike a "Best All Around" competition, the competing entries are not limited to being in four different categories, but may include multiple entries in the same category. Example: four birds from one competitor could accumulate enough points to be included in the five finalists.

Important: A competitor can only compete in one division for The Competitors' Awards—Master or Professional. If a competitor has more than four entries in both the Master and Professional Divisions (refer to Guidelines & Regulations, Rule 8), he or she must specify in which division he or she would like to compete for the money. In other words, you cannot compete to win awards in both divisions. Failure to specify will cause a forfeit of winning any of the Competitors' Awards. Any competitor entering four or more mounts who wishes not to compete for the prize money will be allowed to do so by signing an affidavit when entering his or her mounts.

### BEST ALL-AROUND COMPETITION \$3,000 FROM OHIO TAXIDERMISTRY SUPPLY

This competition and awards will honor the WTC Master Best All-Around Taxidermist, winning \$2,000, and the WTC Professional Best All-Around Taxidermist, winning \$1,000. Each winner will receive a plaque and cash prize donated and sponsored by Ohio Taxidermy Supply. Competitors can compete for this award in only one division, either the Master Division or Professional Division.

**1. Entry Fee.** Competitors will need to pay an additional entry fee of \$35.00 (early entry fee) or \$40.00 (late entry fee) to compete for Best All-Around taxidermist in either the Professional or Master divisions.

**2. Entry Designation.** Important: At the show, when entering pieces, competitors will be asked to designate the four entries that they have selected to compete for this award.

**3. Multiple Entries.** Competitors must pay the appropriate Master or Professional Division entry fee for each entry. Since four entries are necessary to compete for the Best All-Around Award, these entries will also be eligible for the Competitors' Award competition, where four entries are necessary to be

automatically entered.

**4. Four Categories.** To be eligible for this award, a competitor must have one designated entry in each of the four following categories: Lifesize Mammal (any size), Gamehead Shoulder Mount (any species), Bird (any species), and Fish, Reptile, or Amphibian (any species). Note: Shellfish are not eligible for competing in this competition.

**5. Divisions.** Competitors can compete for this award in either the Professional or Master Divisions, but not in both as WTC rules will not allow for this.

**6. Rules.** All regular rules and regulations apply to the respected division the competitor is entering.

**7. Judging.** The winner will be determined by the total points of your four designated entries. The taxidermist who has scored the highest total points for his/her entries will be declared the winner of that division. In case of a tie, two winners will be declared and the prize money will be divided.

### MASTER OF MASTERS

**1. Who may compete:** This competition is open to current or former World Taxidermy Championships® judges, alternate judges, former winners of a Best In World title or First Place Masters Division winners (any category).

**2. Mannikins:** Mannikins used in this division must be originally sculpted, wrapped or carved by the competitor. Altered or unaltered commercial mannikins are not allowed, unless originally sculpted by the competitor.

**3. Judging:** This invitational will be judged by a secret ballot among the competitors in the Master Division in the regular competition. The entries receiving the highest number of votes will win the awards. The winners will be announced at the Friday night Awards Banquet.

**4. Awards:** First Place receives a World Taxidermy Championships® gold medallion and a Recognition Plaque. Second and Third Place winners receive Recognition Plaques.

**5. Multiple Entries:** A competitor with multiple entries in the Master of Masters Division may receive only the highest award earned by his or her entries.

**6. Subjects:** Competitors may enter any species, re-creation, or combination.

**7. Individual Work:** All work must be done by the individual competitor and certified as such by his or her signature on the registration form.

**8. Freeze Dry:** No freeze dried preservation techniques of flesh may be entered in the Master of Masters Division. Specifically, all parts of the specimen, including the head, must be skinned, prepared, and then mounted over a mannikin prior to any freeze dry preservation.

### CARL E. AKELEY AWARDS \$1,000.00 FIRST PLACE—FROM WASCO

The Akeley Awards, named after the taxidermist, sculptor, explorer and inventor Carl E. Akeley (1864-1926), will be awarded to the three entries (first, second, third) which best represent that taxidermy is indeed a valid form of wildlife art.

**1. Who is eligible:** The Akeley Awards will be chosen at large from the taxidermy entries in all divisions and categories, with exception of the Novice and Taxidermy Sculpture Divisions. There is no fee to enter the Carl E. Akeley competition, instead you automatically become eligible when you enter the qualifying divisions. The judges will bestow the three awards (first, second, third) upon the three taxidermy entries that best fit the criteria—whether they are entered in the Master of Masters, Master, Professional, Interpretive, or Collective Artists divisions competitions.

**2. Judging Criteria:** The Akeley winners are chosen upon three

primary criteria: 1. Taxidermy skill, 2. Artistic impact, and 3. Creativity.

**a. Display of Taxidermy:** Being that this is one of the top taxidermy awards, it is quite natural that the first requirement is that the Taxidermy work involved in the piece be of extremely high standards. The rendering itself should demonstrate taxidermy as a beautiful and valid form of wildlife art and portray the subject with taste and dignity while maintaining the anatomical accuracy and skillful techniques required in world-class taxidermy. Any obvious technical flaw will disqualify an entry from this competition.

**b. Artistic Impact:** The entry should itself be a work of art and as such be a total, three-dimensional, artistic composition which could be judged alone for visual balance, color coordination, line, shape, form and artistic appeal.

**c. Creativity:** All forms of art require creativity. Copying previous winners' ideas is not a ticket to success. Creative and original ideas will be required to win this competition. The originality of the concept and then the successful execution of that concept is essential. Does the rendering tell a story? Does the competition reinforce the concept? Did the artist indeed accomplish what he or she was attempting to portray?

**3. Judging:** The judges for the Akeley Awards will consist of a panel of at least three art expert judges. They will independently view every taxidermy entry in the competition. After discussion, they will vote to determine the First, Second and Third place winners. The winners will be announced at the Friday night WTC Awards Banquet.

**4. Awards:** First Place wins \$1,000.00 from WASCO, a World Taxidermy Championships® Carl E. Akeley Medallion, and a Recognition Plaque. The Second Place and Third Place winners receive Recognition Plaques.

**5. Multiple Entries:** A competitor may earn a Carl E. Akeley award in addition to any other awards that he or she may win with the same piece.

### COMPETITORS' CHOICE BEST OF SHOW AWARD

This award will be given to the entry voted as the best entry in the show. All entries are eligible. Selection will be by popular vote of all the competitors in all divisions of the competition. The winner will be announced at the World Taxidermy Championships® Awards Banquet and will receive a Recognition Plaque.

### THE CHAIRMAN'S AWARD

This award was established by World Show Chairman Larry Blomquist in 2011. After 20 years of seeing the best taxidermy in the world, and often entries not being recognized by a major award, he felt it was time to add one more special award. This award will be selected by the WTC chairman during each World Championships from entries that have dynamic impact on all who attend the show and exhibits the qualities of world-class taxidermy, yet does not win a major award. Past winners have been entries that scored in the high nineties in the world-class divisions, and there are often several which fit this criteria. The winner will receive a special World Show plaque.



# 2015 WORLD TAXIDERMY CHAMPIONSHIPS® DIVISIONS

## MASTER DIVISION (WORLD TITLE DIVISION)

**1. Who May Compete:** Anyone may enter this open division, however, this is the toughest level of regular competition at the World Taxidermy Championships® and is for taxidermists who are prepared for stiff competition. Basically, the learning is over, and they know what is expected of world-class mounts. The Master Division competitors will be vying for Best in World honors and a possible 16 World Champion titles.

Due to the fact that this is a single-ribbon division (First, Second and Third place), it is possible that a mount scoring over ninety may not receive an award/ribbon if the judges rate three other entries higher in the same category. Judges break any ties.

**2. Judging:** Judging in the Master Division will be very demanding. Mounts must be technically correct as well as artistically oriented and creative. Each entry will be judged by 3 judges on individual score sheets. The scores will be averaged to determine the final score of the entry.

**3. Subcategory Awards:** The three highest scores within a subcategory will win ribbons provided they score high enough to qualify.

**4. World Titles:** In the Master Division, there are 16 possible Best in World titles which are selected from the 16 Master Division categories.

The Best in World winner for each category is selected from the first place ribbon winners of the sub categories. If entries are eligible there can be a Second and Third in World selection. Once a Best in World winner is selected, the second place entry in that subcategory (if there is one that scores 90 or over), will move up to compete for Second in World against any other first place entries in that category. Each entry in the Master Division will be independently scored by three judges and the scores averaged together. Once first places ribbon placements are determined in the subcategories, a competition supervisor will gather all category judges (5 for most categories) to vote for eligible entries for Best in World titles. They will each cast a secret ballot for Best in World. The judges will be allowed to discuss and confer about the eligible entries before casting their ballots. If two entries receive equal votes the judges will be asked to vote again on those two entries only. Second and Third in World will be decided through the same process. The results will be kept secret and announced at the World Show Awards banquet.

Remember—to win a Best in World, Second in World, or Third in World title you must first have a First Place ribbon in a subcategory. You may want to consider competing in several of the subcategories to increase your chances of being considered in that final decision.

**5. Multiple Entries:** Although there is no limit to the number of entries a competitor may place in the competition, a competitor may not “sweep” a subcategory by winning more than one ribbon in an individual subcategory. Only his or her highest scoring mount will receive a placing in any given subcategory. It is possible for a competitor to win a ribbon in more than one subcategory within a category. Example: If a competitor entered a whitetail shoulder mount in each of the four subcategories of Category 3 Whitetail Deer Heads, he or she could theoretically win a ribbon in each subcategory.

**6. Eligibility:** This division is judged on an extremely high level, but anyone may enter except for the current WTC judges. Former Best in World winners are eligible to compete in the same Master Division categories in which they won in previous competition(s).

**7. Individual Work & Reproduced Parts:** All taxidermy pro-

cedures, such as form preparation, sewing, mounting procedures, and finishing procedures must be done by the individual competitor and certified as such by his or her signature at the time of entering. Taxidermists can use tanned skins they have purchased, or have sent to a commercial fur dresser. Competitors can also use prefabricated habitat materials, but it must be emphasized that at this level of competition, it is advantageous to complete as many of the elements of the composition as possible to achieve the highest score.

Exposed or viewable artificial parts of Master Division entries must be original and made by the competitor. This would include bills, feet, artificial noses, mouth tissue, mouth parts, fish fins, fish heads, reproduction blanks of fish, reptiles and amphibians. Commercial items allowed are earliners (including earliners with inner ears reproduced), eyes, mannikins, and artificial turkey heads. At entry time, you will be asked to fill out a questionnaire concerning individual work which the judges will have to review.

**8. Habitat:** When you register an entry, you will be asked to declare information about your entry's habitat, such as if the habitat materials were made or purchased by you, and if the habitat was designed and composed by you or a second party. Creating a habitat scene or building an artistic exhibit case can add points to your final score, but to earn these points, you must have done the habitat work yourself. For instance, if two entries were technically even and one had an excellent habitat scene while the other was on a plain panel, the award would go to the mount with the excellent habitat scene or special exhibit case. Be forewarned this can also work against you if the habitat or case is of poor quality.

**9. Freeze Dry:** There is no freeze dry category in the Master Division; there is a freeze dry category for freeze dry entries in the Professional Division. Except for freeze-dried turkey heads, freeze dry preservation of flesh may not be entered in this division. Specifically, all parts of the specimen must be conventionally mounted or completely skinned, including the head, prepared, and then mounted over a mannikin prior to any freeze-dry preservation to reduce shrinkage. The use of freeze-dried turkey heads, produced by freeze-dry wholesalers or reproduction specialists, will be allowed in the Master Division competition. A competitor can purchase, or have a wholesaler mount a freeze-dried or reproduced turkey head to be used in the World Competition. The following information will be noted on our questionnaire for judges to consider in their evaluation of the entry: 1. The head was prepared, completed, mounted, and/or replicated by the person who mounted this entry; 2. This is a commercially prepared head, either freeze dried or reproduced by a second party, but finished and painted by the person who mounted this entry; 3. This is a commercially prepared head, either freeze dried or reproduced, that was finished and painted by a second party.

**10. Compositions with Multiple Mounts:** If a composition has more than one mount, there are several ways to enter it. Each mount of the composition can be entered in its established category, or only one selected mount can be entered. If two or more of the mounts cross categories, it can be entered as one entry in the Mixed Group category, or as two or more entries in the appropriate categories.

**11. Artificial Heads and Fins.** Any fish with an artificial head and/or fins, but incorporating the skin, will go into one of the skin-mount categories.

**12. Awards:** Best of Show: A World Taxidermy Championships® medallion and a Recognition Plaque will be awarded for the best entry in the Master Division (Best of Show). The Best of Show award will be chosen by all judges by secret

ballots from the Best in World winners.

**BEST IN WORLD:** World Taxidermy Championships® medallions and Recognition Plaques will be awarded to entries judged as “Best in World.” There will be 16 possible “Best in World” titles for the Master Division categories listed below. If no mount scores at least 90 in a subcategory of a World Title category, there will be no Best in World for that category. Second in World will receive a silver medallion and Third in World will receive a bronze medallion.

Although the Master Division is a single ribbon competition, an entry still must score high enough to be worthy of a ribbon. In some cases, the First, Second, and Third place winners may all score in the 90s. If a subcategory has two entries, one mount scoring in the 90s and another mount scoring in the 70s, then there will only be one First Place and one Third Place awarded. This is done to ensure that the competition standards are met and to prevent someone from simply entering a category, being the only competitor in the category, and winning a ribbon regardless of the quality of the mount. Single ribbons can be awarded for First, Second and Third Place winners within the subcategories of each World Title category:

### 13. MASTER DIVISION CATEGORIES:

(16 Best in World titles, possible)

**Category 1. Medium-Small Mammals** (smaller than 50 lbs. [coyote/peccary]). Note: Juvenile mammals will compete in a subcategory of comparable size. Example: a newborn whitetail deer would compete against small mammals, whereas a 2-month-old whitetail deer might compete against medium mammals. The Competition Chairman will make all final decisions on which subcategory a juvenile animal would be entered.

1. Small mammals, less than 10 lbs.
2. Medium mammals, greater than 10 lbs.
3. Small mammals group

**Category 2. Large Mammals** (larger than 50 lbs. [cougar/deer])

4. Large mammals (long/thick hair)
5. Large mammals (short/thin hair)
6. Large mammals group

**Category 3. Whitetail Deer Heads**

7. Whitetails long/thick hair, open mouth
8. Whitetails long/thick hair, closed mouth
9. Whitetails short/thin hair, open mouth
10. Whitetails short/thin hair, closed mouth

**Category 4. Medium-Small Gameheads** (mule deer/wildbeest and smaller)

11. Small gameheads (coyote and smaller)
12. Medium gameheads (deer, bear, sheep)
13. Half-lifesize gameheads (must include front feet)
14. Gameheads, group

**Category 5. Large Gameheads** (caribou/waterbuck size and larger)

15. Large gameheads (long/thick hair)
16. Large gameheads (short/thin hair)
17. Half-lifesize large gameheads (must include front feet)
18. Gameheads, group

**Category 6. Game Birds**

19. Pheasants
20. Grouse
21. Quail
22. Migratory game birds (doves, rails, coots, cranes)
23. Game birds, group

**Category 7. Non-Game Birds**

24. Small birds (magpie and smaller)
25. Large birds (crow, rook and larger)
26. Raptors and owls (birds of prey)
27. Non-game birds, group

## Category 8. Turkeys

- 28. Turkeys, strutting
- 29. Turkeys, open wings
- 30. Turkeys, standing
- 31. Turkeys, group

## Category 9. Waterfowl

- 32. Diving ducks (mergansers, stiff tails)
- 33. Puddle ducks
- 34. Geese and swans
- 35. Waterfowl group

## Category 10. Warm Water Fish (skin mounts)

- 36. Sunfish, perch, walleye, crappie, other bass
- 37. Other, 12 inches or smaller
- 38. Other, larger than 12 inches
- 39. Saltwater
- 40. Group

## Category 11. Cold Water Fish (skin mounts)

- 41. Trout, salmon, char
- 42. Pike, muskellunge, pickerel
- 43. Other, 12 inches or smaller
- 44. Other, larger than 12 inches
- 45. Group

## Category 12. Largemouth Bass (skin mounts)

- 46. Largemouth bass (single)
- 47. Largemouth bass (group)

## Category 13. Reptiles, Amphibian, Other (skin mounts)

- 48. Reptiles, amphibian, other (single)
- 49. Reptiles, amphibian, other (group)

Note: Any reptile incorporating any part of its skin or shell will go into one of the above subcategories.

## Category 14. Reproductions

- 50. Fish
- 51. Reptiles, amphibians, other
- 52. Mammal
- 53. Group
- 54. Miscellaneous

Reproductions of horns and antlers are not allowed in this Master Division category. They should be entered in the Professional Division under Reproductions.

## Category 15. Re-Creations

- 55. Mammals
- 56. Birds
- 57. Miscellaneous
- 58. Re-Creation Group

Note: Re-creations, for the purpose of this category, are defined as renderings which include NO natural parts of the animal portrayed. A re-creation may include original carvings and sculptures. A re-creation may use natural parts, provided the parts are not from the species being portrayed. For instance, a re-creation eagle could be constructed using turkey feathers, or a cow hide could be used to simulate African game. For an extinct species, copies (reproductions, including carvings) of skulls, bones, teeth, tusks, antlers, or horns may be used to reconstruct the re-creation, or can be used as part of the re-creation. In the Master Division, entries in the category of re-creations must be animals that have been scientifically named that are now extinct or presently living on earth. Mythical re-creations, such as centaurs and dragons, will not be accepted in Master Re-Creations.

## Category 16. Mixed Group

The intent for this category is to create entries that interact with different animal classes, such as mammals—with birds, or with fish, or with reptiles.

59. Mixed Group is a combination of two or more of the four different animal classes (a. mammals, b. bird, c. fish, d. reptiles/amphibians). Examples: for a bass chasing a frog, the piece must be entered in Mixed Group if both are to be judged, but a mountain lion attacking a mule deer would have to be entered in Lifesize Mammal Group. If a piece contains one coyote and one quail, you can enter the coyote for judging in the Lifesize Mammal Category and the quail for judging in the Bird Category. If you wish to have only the coyote judged, you may do so and enter it into the Lifesize Mammal Category. If you wish both mounts to be judged together, they must be entered into the Mixed Group Category. You must specify your wishes at the time of entry.

Competitors are not allowed to change into this division

after they have already entered the piece into one of the single categories. Example: if you have a bass chasing a frog and have entered this piece into the Fish Category, you cannot come back later and change to Mixed Group.

Mixed Group pieces will be scored as follows: Each class of species in the composition will be judged by one judge using the appropriate score sheet. The score sheets for each class of species involved in the mixed group will then be averaged to give a final score. Example: in the case of two coyotes chasing a quail, a single score sheet will be used by a mammal judge to score the coyotes and one score sheet will be used by a bird judge to judge the quail. The two score sheets, 1 for mammals and 1 for birds, will be averaged together to determine the final score.

## COLLECTIVE ARTISTS DIVISION (ONE WORLD TITLE)

### \$3,400.00 TOHICKON GLASS EYES AND KARL LANGE GLASAUGEN

**1. Who May Compete:** This division is for competition pieces where more than one taxidermist worked on the entry. It can be entered in the name of the studio or each artist can be listed as the creators. This division offers a professional studio a great opportunity of promotion if it should win this best in world title. Anyone is eligible to compete except for the judges selected to judge this division.

**2. Judging:** This division will be judged by high standards and should be considered a division for advanced and professional taxidermists. A special score sheet has been designed which breaks down into the following point values: craftsmanship and mechanical soundness 30 points; anatomical accuracy 30 points; artistic merit 40 points, for a total of 100 points. Please note: 60 points of the total scoring is relative to taxidermy knowledge and ability. The mount must be technically strong to be competitive, but composition and design must be a major component. Each entry will be judged by three judges on one score sheet. The three highest scores within a category will win the awards, provided they score high enough to qualify. If no mount in a category scores at least a 90, there will be no first places in that category. The same holds true for second (at least 80 points necessary) and third places (at least 70 points necessary). Because a collective entry is completed by more than one individual, it is not eligible to earn points toward any of the NTA award programs.

**3. Awards.** The \$3,400 in cash awards for this division are sponsored by Tohickon Glass Eyes and Karl Lange Glasaugen. Each category within The Collective Artists Division can have a First, Second and Third place award. The First place in each category will receive \$400.00 and a Best of Category plaque (Second and Third places get ribbons). Each Best of Category will then become eligible for Best in World Collective Artists. The Best in World Collective Artists will receive an Akeley Medallion, a Recognition Plaque, and \$1,000.00 from Tohickon Glass Eyes and Karl Lange Glasaugen. If there are no first places in any of the categories, there will be no Best in World Collective Artists. There are no Second and Third in World for Collective Artists.

Entries in this division will also be eligible in the Akeley Award judging and for voting of the Competitors' Choice Award.

**4. Multiple Entries:** There is no limit to the number of entries a studio or group may enter in this division. This division is nonrestrictive as far as awards, and one studio or group can earn as many awards as possible.

**5. Originality:** The use of commercial mannikins and commercial fish reproductions will be allowed, but judges will put strong consideration in their scoring for original work. Altered or original sculpted forms and original reproductions will be noted on the entry card for the judges to see.

**6. Freeze Dry:** Freeze dry preservation will be allowed in this competition, but must be noted on the entry form.

### 7. COLLECTIVE ARTISTS CATEGORIES:

- A. Lifesize Mammals—may include single or group pieces
- B. Game Heads—may include single or group pieces
- C. Birds—may include single or group pieces
- D. Fish, Reptiles, Amphibians (skin mounts)—may include single or group pieces

E. Mixed Group—may include a combination of mammals (lifesize or game heads), birds and/or fish

F. Re-Creations and Reproductions—may include single or group pieces. This will include reproduction fish or reptiles, re-creations, carvings, and replicas of any animal.

## INTERPRETIVE TAXIDERMY DIVISION BEST OF DIVISION WINS \$1,000 FROM DERMA-GRIP

This division was established for the 2013 World Show. The idea and rules were proposed by Don Frank of Missouri. In this division, a competitor can take his or her artistic talents and a fertile imagination to a new level and see what happens. Some of the technical burdens of conventional competition are lifted because the display will not be scrutinized with a flashlight and/or finger-probing. This does not mean that the quality of the work can be substandard, yet it does give the competitor the artistic license to use an animal or part of an animal to create art in any way he/she sees fit. The goal should be to convey the essence of the species.

This division has great potential in showcasing some extraordinary examples of interpretive taxidermy art. We hope to see your imagination on display and competing for a major division title.

**1. Who May Compete:** This division is open to all registrants of the World Show, including judges of the show, except for the 5 judges selected to judge this division. Entries in this division can also be entered in other divisions as long as they fall under the rules of those divisions. An additional entry fee must be paid to enter an additional division.

**2. Rules:** The rules are quite simple and unrestrictive. Interpretive Taxidermy entries will be judged on craftsmanship, artistry, and whether the essence of the species is conveyed. An entry should emphasize form and content rather than realistic duplication of the entire animal. It should be presented in a style that provokes thought and wonder. Any species of bird, mammal, fish, or reptile can be entered in part or in its entirety. This is an exploration of taxidermy as art.

**2. Judging:** The work will be judged from a viewing distance by 5 judges (assigned by the World Show committee) and there will be an open discussion about the composition, design, and uniqueness of the entry. Score sheets are not used to judge this division. This is a single-ribbon division. Each judge will vote by secret ballot to determine the first-, second-, and third-place winners. Each of the five judges will be asked to write down his placing for first through third. First is worth 3 points, second 2 points, and third 1 point. When these values are added from the 5 judges, the entries in both categories will receive a placing based on highest point value.

**3. Awards:** A first, second, or third place ribbon may be awarded in each category. The Best of the Division will be selected from the first place winners in both of the categories by a vote of all the WTC judges (except those who entered this division). The Best of Division winner will receive a plaque at the Awards Ceremony and \$1,000 from Derma-Grip.

**4. Multiple Entries:** There will be a limit of two entries by each artist(s) into each category.

### 5. Interpretive Taxidermy Categories:

- A. Individual artists
- B. Multiple artists (More than one artist working on an entry)

## PROFESSIONAL DIVISION \$1,000.00 BEST PROFESSIONAL ENTRY MCKENZIE COMPANIES

**1. Who May Compete:** Anyone who desires may enter this open division, however, this division is geared toward professional taxidermists.

**2. Judging:** Although the scoring system is the same, judging will be less critical than in the Master Division. Good professional taxidermy standards will be considered and traditional sportsman-oriented poses will be acceptable. Mounts must be technically correct as to today's commercial standards as interpreted by the judging staff. Each entry will be judged separately and independently by one of the division judges.



**3. Categories and Awards:** Best of Category will only be awarded in categories where there is at least one First Place ribbon. The Best Professional Entry, chosen from Best of Category winners, will receive \$1,000.00 from McKenzie Companies.

- a. Lifesize Mammals
- b. Whitetail Deer Heads
- c. Game Heads
- d. Birds
- e. Fish Skin Mounts (see Master Div. Rule 11.)
- f. Reptiles/Amphibians/Invertebrates Skin Mounts
- g. Reproductions: Fish, Reptiles, Amphibians, Antlers, and Horns
- h. Re-Creations/Replicas/Miniatures
- i. Mixed Group (see Master Div. Category 16)
- j. Skeletons/Skulls
- k. Rugs
- l. Freeze Dry (includes all species)

Multiple first, second and third place ribbons will be awarded in each category. First Place: 90 or above. Second Place: 80-89. Third Place: 70-79.

**4. Multiple Entries:** There is no limit to the number of entries a competitor may place in the competition. A competitor with multiple entries may receive as many awards as are earned by his or her entries.

**5. Individual Work:** All taxidermy procedures must be done by the individual competitor and certified as such by his or her signature at the time of entering.

**6. Reproductions:** In this division, a commercial blank will be allowed as long as the competitor performs all the finishing of the blank. In other words, you cannot purchase a finished blank and enter it in your name. This is also the category in which original (your work) antlers and horns will compete.

**7. Freeze Dry Category:** This separate category has been set aside for all entries employing freeze dry technology. If a freeze dryer is used to preserve the *unskinned* flesh of any part of an entry, it must be entered in this category. The only two exceptions are freeze-dried velvet antlers on a conventionally-mounted deer head, which may be entered in regular competition, and freeze-dried turkey heads that have been skinned, mounted, and freeze-dried to prevent shrinkage. Mammals, birds, fish, and reptiles will compete against each other in this category.

Multiple first-, second-, and third-place ribbons will be awarded and a Best of Category will be given to the highest scoring entry in this category.

**8. Skeletons:** The basic criteria on which a skeleton will be judged will be the correct order and sequence of bone placement, their connections, the cleanliness of the individual bones, and form. The anatomic accuracy and posture should give the skeleton the ability to suggest the essence of the species depicted. As for craftsmanship and mechanical soundness, no strong odors should be present, chemical or organic. There should be no external evidence of corrosion or damage to the bone structure due to aggressive chemicals, or damage brought about by the (mechanical) cleaning process. (Natural damage however, i.e., bones that were broken and have healed, or bone growths that are evident in the living animal, add extra interest to the skeleton.) No tissue remains should be visible on connecting individual bones. Symmetry is a very important factor, especially where the rib cage is concerned. There should be no traces of grease or fatty remains that suggest insufficient cleaning. Special care should have been taken to ensure completeness of the intricate nasal bones. "Floating bones," i.e., the ocular disc, the penis bone, the bones of the tongue and larynx, and some of the ribs in fish, etc., may be omitted, however, credit should be given for completeness. The support armature(s) and connections between individual bones should be as well hidden and as strong as technically possible. The base should be considered as an integral part of the piece, thus offering more scope for artistic expression and composition. Exceptional craftsmanship and difficulty factors will be taken into account.

**9. Rugs:** Rugs may only compete in the Professional Division. Multiple First, Second and Third place ribbons may be awarded according to score.

## NOVICE DIVISION

**1. Who May Compete?** This division is open to anyone desiring to enter. This division is for beginning taxidermists who feel their skills have not developed enough to compete effectively in the Professional Division.

**2. Judging:** Judges will be more lenient in this division, with the primary emphasis on teaching competitors. Each entry will be judged separately and independently. The NTA score sheet will only reflect a total score at the bottom with marked areas that need improvement.

**3. Awards:** Multiple First, Second and Third place ribbons will be awarded. However, it must be emphasized that persons entering this level should be more interested in learning than in winning awards. The categories for this division are the same as in the Professional Division. A plaque will be awarded to the Best Novice entry.

**4. Multiple Entries:** There is no limit to the number of entries a competitor may enter.

**5. Individual Work:** All taxidermy procedures must be done by the individual competitor and certified as such by his or her signature at the time of entering.

**6. Reproductions:** In this division, commercial blanks will be allowed as long as the competitor performs all the finishing of the blank (preparation of the blank and painting). This is also the category in which original (your work) antlers and horns will compete.

**7. Freeze Dry:** Freeze dry preservation of flesh may not be entered in this division. Specifically, all parts of the specimen must be completely skinned (including the head), prepared, and then mounted over a mannikin prior to any freeze dry preservation to reduce shrinkage.

## YOUTH DIVISION

This division is open to children 14 years or younger. Ribbons will be awarded for first, second and third places. (Same rules as Novice Division.)

## TWO SCULPTING DIVISIONS LIVE SCULPTING (ONE WORLD TITLE) \$1,000 FROM WTC PRIZE FUND

Note: This is an open division, but there are a limited number of spaces (eight) available. All sculptors wishing to enter the "live" competition should send an email to [larry@breakthroughmagazine.com](mailto:larry@breakthroughmagazine.com) or you may call us at (985) 345-7266. The eight openings will be filled on a first-come, first-acceptance basis from the date you requested a position in the competition. You must register by April 17, 2015 to confirm your position in the live sculpting competition.

**1. Entering.** Each competitor's selection of species must be approved beforehand by competition coordinators Larry Blomquist and Skip Skidmore. A maximum of 8 sculpting positions will be allowed. A minimum of 3 positions must be filled in order for the competition to be held. In the event there are fewer than 3 positions filled, entry fees will be refunded. The entry fee is \$45.00 if registered by April 1, 2015, or \$50.00 after this date. The last day for registering for this competition will be Friday, April 17, 2015, unless the eight positions are filled before this time. This will allow time for the judge selection process, as noted in Rule 9 below.

**2. Awards.** The first, second, and third place selections will receive the following recognition and awards: First: Best in World Taxidermy Sculptor Title, Recognition Plaque, a gold Akeley Medallion, \$500.00. Second: Second in World Title, a silver Akeley Medallion, and \$300.00. Third: Third in World Title, bronze Akeley Medallion, and \$200.

**3. Eligibility.** The sculptor must enter in his or her name, but can be sponsored by a supply company. Supply companies can sponsor no more than two sculptors in the competition. This rule is to prevent a monopoly, which could in the-ory occur.

**4. Species.** For this 2015 World Sculpting Competition, participants can choose between a gamehead or a lifesize mammal. The gamehead model can be a medium-size North American or African species. The lifesize model will be limited to game animals in sizes ranging from a gray fox to mountain lion. The completed sculpture should be finished as it would appear for the beginning of the molding process. No preset glass eyes can be left in place. The eye sockets should be completed and finished, ready to accept eyes. Full or partial earbutts may be sculpted on the form, but no artificial ear-

liners can be placed into or onto the sculpted ear butts. The sculptors will have full freedom in determining position and expressions in their pieces. No props such as food or limbs can accompany the finished sculpture.

**5. Armatures.** The purpose of this criteria is so that each sculptor will start on an equal playing field. Each sculptor should bring a prepared armature. The base armature can be made or prepared in any manner you desire as long as it meets the following criteria: A) Do not bring in an armature that is prepared beyond that of a typical skeletal armature. A skeletal armature (or a variation) is the standard of what will be accepted. B) The armature should show no application of musculature from clay or any other medium such as foam. However, clay, foam or epoxies can be used to strengthen, stabilize and support the armature. C) A carcass cast of the animal will not be allowed as part of the armature. D) Any rulings on armatures will be made by Larry Blomquist and Skip Skidmore.

**6. Reference.** All types of reference will be allowed as long as they are not used to directly impression or shape the sculpture. Example: A skin wrinkle or muscle casting may not be pressed onto the clay to shape it. Nor may a clay impression from a nose cast be applied to the sculpture. The entire model must be completed free-hand.

**7. Times:** Each sculptor will have up to 22 hours to work on his or her piece. Established work times will be strictly enforced. These work times will be between the following periods: Wednesday, May 6, 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m.; Thursday, May 7, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Friday, May 8, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Judging will take place Friday, May 8 after 12:00 noon. Winners will be announced at the 2015 WTC Awards Banquet.

**8. Judging:** Judging will be completed by a group of five qualified judges. Each judge will cast an individual ballot for his or her first, second, and third place selections. Point values will be assigned to each placing: First 5 points, Second 3 points, Third 1 point. The piece with the highest accumulative points will earn its sculptor the title of Best in World Taxidermy Sculptor. Second highest will be Second in World and third highest will be Third in World. If there is a tie for any of these positions the judges will be asked to cast ballots for those pieces only.

**9. Judges:** Selection of five judges will be coordinated by Larry Blomquist and Competition Chairman Skip Skidmore. It will be their prime objective to select judges who will perform their duties with no bias.

## TAXIDERMY PRE-SCULPTURED DIVISION

There will be two subcategories, gameheads and lifesize mammals. This will be a multiple-ribbon division with two Best of Category recognition plaques presented at the 2015 WTC Awards Banquet.

**1. Who May Enter?** The pre-sculpted category will be open to any sculptor who would like to enter a completed sculpture.

**2. Rules:** The sculpture must be an original, clay sculpture prepared using traditional sculpting methods. No sculptures in this division can be completed with any mechanical reproduction processes. It should be prepared to hang on a peg-board for display, or it can be on a pedestal or table. There are no limitations in regard to having antlers set or glass eyes in place, but this will have no bearing on the judging criteria.

**3. Judging:** Judging will be based on anatomical accuracy, creativity, workmanship, and essence or spirit of the species. Judges will be at least three mammal and/or gamehead judges from the taxidermy competition.

**4. Awards:** This will be a multiple ribbon division with two possible Best of Category Recognition Plaques presented at the WTC Awards Banquet.

- 5. Categories:
  - a. Gamehead
  - b. Lifesize mammal

## WORLD CHALLENGE DIVISION WORLD AVIAN AND FISH CHALLENGE

We have decided to cancel these two competitions and will no longer have this division.



# 2015 World Fish Carving CHAMPIONSHIPS®

## RULES & REGULATIONS

After 30 years of very successful world-class fish carving competitions, there are always ways to fine-tune and improve rules and regulations. In 2013 a committee was set up to evaluate the rules that were in place, and to offer a revised set of rules for future WFCC. The committee was comprised of Ted Richmond, Don Frank, and Jeff Compton. Following advice from the questions-and-answers sessions and from experienced fish carving competitors, this committee came up with the following revised rules and regulations for fish carving, plus additional divisions and categories. These new rules and regulations have been adopted for the 2015 World Fish Carving Championships®. These rules were first published in the Spring 2014 issue (Issue 113) of *BREAKTHROUGH*.

### COMPETITION LEVELS

The competition is open to wood sculptors of any level of artistic skill. There are four levels of competition: Open, Intermediate, Novice, and Youth. The wood sculpture must be of a fish or fishes, though it may contain other animals or marine life as habitat.

**Open:** This level represents advanced amateur and professional carvers, including those who have obtained top rankings in competitions. Entrants compete for cash awards, ribbons, and World Champion Titles. Note: The new Demonstration Division of Freestyle is not eligible at this time for a World Champion Title.

**Intermediate:** This level includes carvers who have refined their sculpting and painting skills beyond the Novice Level. Intermediate carvers compete for ribbons and Best of Show-Intermediate awards and cash if sponsors come forward. Carvers who have won one Best of Show or two Best of Division awards at this level in the World Competition must move to the Open Level. Carvers who have been consistent blue-ribbon winners at this level are encouraged to move up to the Open Level.

**Novice:** This level is reserved for entry-level carvers. Novice carvers compete for ribbons and Best of Show Novice awards and cash if sponsors come forward. Carvers who have won one Best of Show or two Best of Division awards at this level in the World Competition must move to the Intermediate Level. Carvers who have been consistent blue-ribbon winners at this level are encouraged to move up to Intermediate. Unique to this level is a competition known as "Work-Bench," a new division in the Novice Level, that may include mentor/teacher-instructed entries and entries made from purchased patterns available commercially.

**Youth:** This level is reserved for entry-level carvers who are age 17 or under on the opening date of registration for the competition. Youth carvers compete for ribbons and cash if sponsors come forward. Entry fees are reduced for Youth entries. Youth eligible carvers may compete in Novice, Intermediate, or Open Levels instead of Youth if they choose.

### WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP LEVEL

#### The Open Level

**How Best in World Fish Carving Titles are Determined.** There are three Best in World titles in the Open Level. They are awarded in these three divisions: Decorative Lifesize, Decorative Miniature, and Natural Finish. The fourth open level division (Freestyle) is considered a demonstration division at this time and not eligible for World Champion status.

**Open Level Divisions** are elite divisions for those carvers whose work demonstrates the highest level of artistry and technique. Judging standards are the most demanding with the very best carvings earning the title "Best in World."

**The Decorative Lifesize Division** will have Best in World, Second in World, and Third in World titles. The WFCC judges will make the final decisions. In this division, the following method is used to determine the winner: Best in World Decorative Lifesize is selected from the Best of Category winners in the Decorative Lifesize Division. Once a Best in World piece is selected, the second place carving in that category (if there is one), will move up to compete for Second Best in World with

the other category first-places winners. Third in World is selected using the same procedure.

**The Best in World Decorative Miniature** will be selected from the Best of Category winners in that division.

**The Best in World Natural Finish** will be selected from the Best of Category winners in that division.

World titles will be awarded at the discretion of the judges. If no carving is worthy, a World Title will not be given.

### JUDGING CRITERIA

The following definitions of judging criteria have been adopted by the World Fish Carving Championships. Each criterion is given equal weight in the judging process. These criteria will be used for all levels of competition and divisions except Youth Level, Natural Finish Wood Sculpture Division, and Freestyle Division where separate judging criteria are explained.

**Technique/Craftsmanship** refers to the technical skills involved in fish carving: sculpting, painting, and finishing techniques and their execution. It covers the fish or fishes, any habitat or accessories that may be involved, and the base itself if there is one. Craftsmanship should be consistent throughout the entire piece. Good craftsmanship is basic to fish carving. Without it, a piece will not be rewarded by the judges.

**Accuracy** involves the correctness of a piece from a scientific perspective. Is the fish the right size and proportion? Are the fins the right shape? Are the coloration and patterns correct? Are the eyes properly placed? All these are questions of accuracy. Anything accompanying the fish must be given the same scrutiny. Accuracy involves the natural history of the whole piece, all of its components, and the appropriateness of these components together.

**Essence of the Species** involves taking accuracy one step further. It involves a thorough knowledge of the subject and the ability to capture an attitude in wood. For example, you see a fish at dusk. You can't see any details in the failing light, just a silhouette, and the head immediately identifies it as a crappie. The essence of the fish is there without a scale or soft-fin ray count, a measurement of length, or a check on color. You may have flawlessly created your fish with faultless accuracy, but unless you have captured the essence of your subject and given it the spark that brings it to life, your fish will not achieve its fullest potential.

**Artistry** of a piece involves its design and composition. This is where presentation, innovation, and creativity all come into play. There should be a beauty in the concept apart from the beauty of the fish itself. Line, form, content, color, mass, and movement should all be working together to create an integrated whole. Of all the concerns in carving, artistry is the most elusive, the most difficult to explain, to teach, to analyze in the work of others, and to instill in a carver's own work. The difficulty, however, is an indication of the importance.

**Overall Presentation.** What is rare is often what is valuable. Fish carving requires a multitude of technical skills brought together in overall presentation. Additionally, it requires a thorough knowledge and understanding of fish scientifically as well as emotionally, but most importantly, it involves the ability to bring all these elements together artistically. If a fish carving is to move beyond craft to art, our goals and expectations must do the same.

All criteria are important. They all overlap and build on each other. In order for a piece to reach its fullest potential it must succeed in all five areas simultaneously. For the sake of clarity we have dealt with them individually, but in reality the distinctions are not so clear cut. As a competitor moves through the different levels of competition and eventually to the Open Level, technique/craftsmanship and accuracy as criteria are taken almost for granted, as these are the tools expected to have been mastered, allowing the artist to concentrate on essence of the species and artistry of the competition piece entered.

Some rules are open to individual interpretation, giving an

artist as much artistic license as possible; some are very specific. It is up to the judges to interpret the rules with guidance from the World Fish Carving Competition Chairman. The judges' decisions are final.

### DETERMINING Best of Category and DIVISION AWARDS

Carvings are grouped by Level, then by Division, then by Category, and then by Class if warranted. A class may be created provided three or more of the same species are entered into the category and at least three or more fish remain. If this scenario is determined by the judges then the carvings of the same species will be grouped into one class, and the remaining entries will be grouped into a second class. Each class will be judged and first-, second-, and third-place ribbons will be awarded. Once the class ribbons are awarded, the three best fish in the category will receive first-, second-, and third-place ribbons. The first-place fish will be recognized as Best of Category.

### Best of Division

Best of Division winners are selected from the Best of Category winners. Once a Best of Division is selected, the second place entry in that category will move up to compete for Second in Division against other category winners. Third in Division will be selected using the same procedure. It is possible for first-, second-, and third-place winners within one category to also win first, second, and third Best of Division.

In the Open Level, Best of Division winners are World Titles, except for Freestyle, where Best of Division ribbons will also be awarded.

(At show Chairman's discretion cash or other sponsored awards beyond ribbons MAY be awarded.)

### OVERALL QUALIFICATIONS FOR COMPETITION ENTRY

#### General Rules and Information

1. Eligibility: Any carving entered at a previous World Show is ineligible for this and any future World Shows.

2. A carver can only enter one level of the carving competition. A carver cannot enter two levels, such as both the Open and Intermediate Levels with different carvings. For example, an Open Level Miniature entry sculptor may not enter an interpretive or life-sized decorative sculpture at the Intermediate or Novice Levels.

3. Multiple entries are allowed in the various divisions and categories of the level a carver is entering.

4. At the World Fish Carving Championships a carver can elect at anytime to move up in classification. Once a carver has voluntarily advanced to the Intermediate or Open Levels of competition, that carver cannot re-enter as a Novice or Intermediate carver at future competitions.

5. Entries must be original in design and concept and must be the work of the individual whose name the carving is entered in at the WFCC competition. If after judging it is determined that this policy has been violated, the award will be rescinded. (Note: This rule does not apply to the Workbench Division in the Novice Level.)

6. The name of artist should not be visible. The name will be taped over to prevent judges from seeing the name.

7. Entry and Registration Fees: You must purchase a full registration in order to enter the carving competition, except when shipping an entry and not attending (see Rule 8). The entry fee for carvings will be the same as those for the taxidermy competition, \$35.00 for early registration and \$40.00 after April 1, 2015. The WTC Registration Form should also be used for both fish carving and taxidermy entries. Youth entries are \$5.00 each and a registration is not required if the youth is not attending and the entry is being entered by a registered carver. Youth entries cannot be made on-line. The carver must call 1-800-783-7266 to pre-enter youth entries. Youth entries are not limited in number.

8. Shipped Entries: All carvings being shipped should be well packed and received by April 17, 2015. Shipped fish carving entries should be addressed to WFCC Entry, c/o Breakthrough Magazine, 2271 Old Baton Rouge Highway,



Hammond, LA 70403. Extreme care will be taken when handling shipped entries, but the World Show cannot assume any responsibility for damages that may occur during shipping and/or handling, during or after the show. Carving entries will be returned in the same package in which they were received and will be shipped freight collect (COD) unless other arrangements have been made for the return of the entry. If the carver of the shipped entry is not attending the show, he is asked to have a designee who is attending the show to unpack and enter the carving for him. Any shipped carving entry or entries by a carver who is not attending the WFCC in person will be allowed to pay a special registration fee of \$50.00 plus the entry fee of \$35.00. This fee does not appear on our online registration blank so call 1-800-783-7266 if you are shipping an entry in order to register and pay the fees. We require carvers not attending to prepay these fees by credit card no later than April 10, 2015. Our competition committee will make sure the shipped carving is held at our carving entry desk for your designee to receive. When registering, give us the name and cell phone number of your designee. If you are unable to secure a designee to enter your carving, let us know and our competition committee will enter it for you, but we must know the level, division, and category in which the carving should be entered.

9. Carving Entry Hours: All competition entries may be checked in between 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 6, 2015, and between 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 7, 2015. All entries must stay on exhibit until they are released at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, May 9, 2015.

10. Critiques: Ample time will be available for critiques when judging is completed. The judges for the 2015 World Fish Carving Championships are Clark Schreiber and Jeff Compton.

11. Liability: Carvings entered in the show are done so at the owner's risk. Every precaution will be made to protect and secure the entries.

12. Glass Cases: Glass cases or domes must be removed for judging or suffer a penalty.

## **SPECIFIC DIVISION RULES**

### **DECORATIVE LIFESIZE DIVISION**

### **DECORATIVE MINIATURE DIVISION**

1. The entry will consist of one or more fish of any species with emphasis on creating an innovative and artistic composition.

2. Entries are to be made of wood. Other materials may be used for habitat and structural purposes, however, they are to be hand-formed with the exception of eyes. Pre-painted eyes of glass, plastic, or other materials may be purchased and are eligible in this division at all levels.

3. Entries for Miniature Division must be one-half size or less and must be 8 inches or less in every dimension for the fish only. Both criteria must be met.

4. Large fish may compete in Decorative Life-size Division as a reduced version provided the carved fish(es) are at least 18 inches in length. There is no maximum size. For example a 12-foot, 600-pound marlin or a 6-foot, 80-pound chinook salmon would be carved so that the minimum size is 18 inches and reflects the mature anatomy of the life-size fish.

5. For the category of Wall Mount: Any artist with an entry not suitable for tabletop display is required to notify Breakthrough at least two weeks before the show for logistics and set-up reasons.

### **NATURAL FINISH WOOD SCULPTURE DIVISION**

Interpretive Fish Carvings Category. Entries will be judged on technique/craftsmanship, artistry, interpretation of the essence of the species, artistry, overall presentation, and originality. A carving should emphasize form, content, and movement rather than a realistic duplication of the fish. It should be presented in a style that provokes thought and wonder.

1. Subject may be entrant's choice from any fish.

2. Entry is to be entirely of wood with the exception of the base. The base may be of other material and will be considered as part of the sculpture. No artificial eyes can be used in this division. If a natural finish carving has glass eyes it can be entered in the Freestyle Division.

3. If a supporting pedestal under the base is needed, it must be provided by the artist and it will not be considered as part of the sculpture.

4. Interpretive Wood Sculpture entries have no size restrictions.

5. Stains and other finishes may be used as long as they do not completely cover or block the grain of the wood.

Realistic Natural Finish Category. Entries will be judged on

craftsmanship, artistry, interpretation of the essence of the species, overall presentation, and originality. A carving should emphasize form, content, and movement yet be more like a realistic duplication of the fish than the Interpretive Fish Carving Category. It need not include scale renderings or fin rays and may be painted opaquely over parts of the fish. It should be presented in a style that provokes thought and wonder.

1. Subject may be entrant's choice from any fish.

2. Entry is to be entirely of wood with the exception of the base. The base may be of other material and will be considered as part of the sculpture. No artificial eyes can be used in this division. If a natural finish carving has glass eyes it can be entered in the Freestyle Division.

3. If a supporting pedestal under the base is needed, it must be provided by the artist and it will not be considered as part of the sculpture.

4. Realistic Natural Finish entries have no size restrictions.

### **FREESTYLE DIVISION**

Entries will be judged on technique, craftsmanship, essence of the species, artistry, and overall presentation. It is our hope that this Freestyle Division will release the creative efforts of fish carvers that may have felt restricted by other rules and class requirements for competition.

1. Entries are to be made at least partially of wood but may be supplemented by non-wood materials beyond the decorative division restriction of metal for structural support or glass eyes. Any materials are permitted and should be specified in the entry registration. All parts of the sculpture must be hand-formed and original. Castings and molds of existing fish or habitat items, such as insects or seashells, are not permitted.

2. Entries in this category may include paint or other materials that cover or replace wood for structural or other creative uses. Items may be bronzed, transition from driftwood into decorative, or include some metal which is hand-formed into the piece.

3. Opaquely painted fish without scales or fin rays, commonly known as "smoothies," and any other fish carving which cannot meet other division requirements, may compete in this division. Again, it is our hope that the Freestyle Division will release the creative efforts of fish carvers that may have felt restricted by earlier rules and class requirements for competition.

4. If a base is used, it may be made of any material and construction, however, it will be included for judging on technique, craftsmanship, artistry, and overall presentation.

5. Any artist with an entry not suitable for tabletop display is required to notify Breakthrough two weeks ahead of the show for logistics and set-up reasons.

### **New Freestyle Division Categories**

#### **Smoothie**

1. This category is for lifesize fish or entries that fit the reduced scale criteria, which contain no carved or burned scale or fin ray details.

2. Details of the head may be highly detailed if desired.

3. Painting of the highest quality is encouraged.

#### **Transitional Sculpture**

1. This category is for fish that are either free-form, three-dimensional art (from caricature, to chip carving, to northwest Indian, etc.), or functional art (fish head paper weights, lamps, bookends, etc.).

2. Entries are to be made at least partially of wood, but may be supplemented by non-wood material beyond the decorative division restriction of metal for structural support or glass eyes. Any materials are permitted and should be specified in the entry registration. All parts of the sculpture must be hand formed and original, castings and molds of existing fish or "habitat" such as insects or seashells, are not permitted.

3. Entries in this category may include paint or other materials that cover or replace wood for structural or other creative uses. Items may be bronzed, transition from driftwood into decorative, or include some metal which is hand-formed into the piece.

### **WORKBENCH DIVISION**

(This division is for the Novice Level only)

1. This division is for fish that are either rendered from commercial patterns, part of a class project, or the carver has received help from a mentor.

2. Entries are to be made at least partially of wood but may be supplemented by non-wood materials beyond the decorative division restriction of metal for structural support or glass eyes. Any materials are permitted and should be specified in

the entry registration. All parts of the sculpture must be hand-formed and original. Castings and molds of existing fish or habitat items, such as insects or seashells, are not permitted.

3. Entries in this division may include entries which cannot meet other division requirements.

### **YOUTH CARVING LEVEL**

This competition is to encourage youth to become engaged in the art form of fish carving, and to provide a venue to present their carvings to the public and give them competition experience. Entries may be done under the supervision of an adult, but the youth must do the carving and painting.

Entries will be judged on technique, craftsmanship, accuracy, essence of the species, artistry, and overall presentation.

#### **Youth Division(s)**

A separate Youth Division will be established if there are enough entries to fill one or more of the categories with 3 or more entries. Classes will be established in a manner similar to other levels provided there are enough carvings to do so. For example, if there are three or more entries from competitors over 15 years old, and three or more are 14 years old or younger, the youth division will be split into two age categories divided into 17-15 age (YDC-1), and 14 and under (YDC-2)

The division categories will be: Decorative Lifesize, Interpretive, and Smoothies.

Youth Rule Exceptions. All entries will be judged for first, second, and third category ribbons, while Youth Level Best of Division ribbons may only be awarded if enough fish are entered, resulting in a breakout into YDC-1 and YDC-2 divisions.

1. You must be 17 or younger at the time of the show opening, May 6, 2015.

2. Prior entries into World Show youth competition are not permitted.

3. Entries are to be life-size or less, realistic, or interpretive in nature.

4. Entries must be made of wood. Glass or plastic eyes are permitted as are other materials for habitat and structural purposes. Hand-formed habitats are encouraged but not required for youth entries.

Private sponsors are sought, and currently \$200 has been verbally committed to encourage youth participation.

## **OFFICIAL SPECIES CLASS AND CATEGORIES DESIGNATIONS**

Classes can be established when there are three or more of the following species in a category:

### **FRESHWATER FISH**

1. Trout, Salmon, and Char: Brown, rainbow, brook, cutthroat, golden, grayling, chars, and all salmon species.

2. Other Freshwater Game Fish: All bass, pike, muskie, walleye. Panfish such as crappie, perch, bluegill, and sunfish.

3. Miscellaneous Freshwater Fish: Includes all other freshwater fish not classified elsewhere including such species as gar, sturgeon, carp, catfish, paddlefish, shad.

### **SALTWATER FISH**

Any division that has a saltwater category can have classes established for the following groups if there are three or more fishes of these groups represented.

1. Tropical reef fish: Includes wrasses, butterflyfish, angels, damselfish, squirrelfish, groupers, eels, and other primarily reef-dwelling species.

2. Offshore game fish: Includes bluefish, dolphin, mahi mahi, mackerels, tunas, dories, jacks, and billfish.

3. Coastal game fish: Includes striped bass, bonefish, tarpon, permit, redfish, sea trout, weakfish, snook, and bonita.

4. Miscellaneous saltwater fish: Includes all sharks, rays, flounder, halibut, seahorse.

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