

Mississippi Bowhunters Association
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Minutes of the 1st MBA Area Directors Meeting of 2009
(2-1-2009)

Agenda for the 1st MBA Area Directors Meeting of 2009 (2-1-2009)

- Discuss Donations and Hunts for the Live Auction
- Importance of Pre Sale of Banquet Tickets
- Create a new position for MBA Magazine Advertising Coordinator and approve John Loper to fill this position
- Approve Micro Blueprint for the MBA Magazine layout and design
- Discuss using Amerimail for time sensitive mail outs
- Current Financial Update by MBA Secretary/Treasurer Joel Cunningham
- Update on Membership enrollment/Membership Drive.
- Discuss creation of an Emergency Response Team for urgent Legislative Action.
- Discuss 2009 3-D season
- Update on MBA Chapters and Affiliates Status
- Discuss and implement Archery Shop Membership Drives.
- Discuss creation of Area Director of the Year Award to encourage more participation.
- Meeting Adjournment

Call to order (2:00PM) by MBA President, Steve Welch

- Approval of the Minutes of the last Area Director's Meeting
- Update on 2009 MBA Banquet

ticket publication	advertisements	posters	sponsors	vendors
raffles	door prizes	Ticket price ↑	Banquet awards	

Attendees* at the meeting included the following:

(1) Steve Welch, MBA President	(7) Bobby Benison, Area Director-Taylorville, MS.
(2) Joel Cunningham, MBA Sec./Treas.-Inverness, MS.	(8) Max Thomas, Legislative Committee Chair-Madison, MS.
(3) Patrick Taylor, MBA Vice President-Grenada, MS.	(9) John Ledbetter, MBA Area Director-Benton, MS.
(4) Joe Bumgardner, M.D., MBA Web Master-Starkville, MS	(10) Elvis Jennings, MBA Area Director-Yazoo City, MS.
(5) Dwayne Ensign, MBA Magazine Editor-Pelahatchie, MS.	(11) Shilo Farmer, MBA Area Director-Vicksburg, MS.
(6) Joseph Pettit, Area Director-Crystal Springs, MS.	(12) John Loper,- Advertising Coordinator-Pelahatchie, MS.

Meeting Called to Order 2:00PM: MBA President Steve Welch called the meeting to order @ 2:00PM and welcomed all those in attendance (12 attending). The meeting was held in the restaurant conference room @ Bass Pro Shops, Pearl, MS

1. **Minutes of the Area Directors Meeting of August 2, 2008:** were reviewed and approved as presented.

Current MBA Financial Statement (Presented by MBA Secretary/Treasurer, Joel Cunningham, It is as follows:

Mississippi Bowhunters Association Financial Status Report

As of January 8, 2009 there was a balance of \$10,143 on deposit with some outstanding deposits bringing the current assets total on deposit of ~\$10,500.

2. **2009 Annual MBA Deer and Hog Hunt:** The Annual MBA Deer and Hog hunt It had been traditionally the 1st week-end in November of each year. It was elected to change the date for the upcoming 2009 annual Deer and Hog Hunt to October 9, 10, 11, 2009 (before squirrel season). The campground will be located at the Yazoo Bowhunters Association Archery Range (Camp Swayze). There will be available water and electrical hook-ups. Hook up fee for RVs probably will be \$15 per day as it was for the preceding years. Hillside WMA will be the main hunting area again this year. MBA Area Director John Ledbetter agreed to again cook for all the attendees of the hunt on Saturday after the evening hunt. It was elected to submit a \$150 donation to Camp Swayze to help defer the cost of the improvements to the grounds.
3. **MBA Magazine Update:** Magazine Editor Dwayne Ensign updated the attendees regarding the following:
 - a) The Magazine Committee consists of Dwayne Ensign, (Editor) and Area Directors Patrick Taylor and Adam Stewart.
 - b) MBA member John Loper of Pelahatchie, MS has agreed to function as the MBA Magazine Advertising Coordinator. A motion passed unanimously to accept John as our new Magazine Advertising Coordinator. He will work with all the Area Directors and the Advertising Committee.
 - c) The next magazine should be mailed by the middle of March 2009 and the cut-off date for material submission is the last week in February, 2009.
 - d) Bids were submitted and reviewed for the Magazine Design and Layout. Following review of the submitted bids, it was elected to accept the bid offered by Micro BluePrint of the Jackson Metropolitan area. Their quote was \$500 for the 1st issue and \$300 for each subsequent issue. Micro BluePrint already does the printing for our magazine. The other bid submitted by Judy Smith (Graphic Design artist from Mississippi State University) was taken under advisement as a 1st alternate if the services rendered by Micro BluePrint did not meet our organization's expectations.
 - e) Tim Wolverton (part owner of Micro BluePrint) submitted a quote of \$60/hour) as an advertiser designer) to create any artwork necessary for an advertiser.
 - f) Again, it was stressed that selling advertisements for the magazine was the main financial resource to support the magazine. Each publication will cost ~ \$5,000 to \$5,500. The Newsletter publication cost ~\$1,200 to publish. Approximately 1/2 of the cost of the magazine is funded by advertisements.
 - g) Dwayne reminded the attendees regarding the continued requests for magazine articles. He also informed the group that he would be doing an article in the spring 2009 issue regarding Steve Brown's 6th Wild Turkey Archery Grand Slam (which Steve completed in the spring of 2008).
 - h) A motion was submitted and passed that the MBA should recognize Coleman Green with a token gift of appreciation for his services with the magazine layout and design. At the last MBA Area Director's Meeting, it was elected to give Coleman a MBA Membership for a year's time as a token of our organization's appreciation (for his volunteers work in doing the MBA Magazine layout free of charge to the MBA).
 - i)
4. **Membership Update and Membership Committee:** Joel Cunningham (MBA Sec. /Treasurer) informed the attendees that there are currently ~ 250 Life Members and ~450 active members in our organization. A Membership Committee was formed at the 8-2-2008 meeting with Adam Stewart being appointed as chairperson of this committee.

The committee members consist of Patrick Taylor, Joe R. Bumgardner, M.D., Joel Cunningham, Shilo Farmer, D.R. Bozeman and Bobby Benison. This committee will be charged with providing our organization with suggestions on how to maintain as well as recruit new members to the MBA.

5. **MBA Alert E-Mail Roster Update:** MBA Secretary, Joel Cunningham has created a MBA E-Mail Roster for alert messages, newsletters and e-mail updates so we can keep our membership informed of pertinent issues that involve our organization. He currently has ~ 500 names on the e-mail roster and has been using it to send Legislative Alert Messages to our membership.
6. **New Chapter and Affiliate Director:** It was voted unanimously to accept Bill Tolbert (3-D tournament chairman) as the new Chapter and Affiliate Director as this job has traditionally been carried out by the 3-D tournament chairman. When George Fielder 'stepped down' as the 3-D chairman, it was felt that Bill Tolbert would be the most appropriate person to fulfill this service obligation for the MBA.
7. **Archery Shops Membership Drive:** Vice President Patrick Taylor gave an update on the Archery Shops Membership drive and informed the directors what the Lakeland Archery was able to accomplish this past year regarding giving a one year courtesy MBA new membership when a new bow was purchased at Lakeland Archery. Dr. Bumgardner requested that the format used by Lakeland Archery be sent to him so he could approach other Archery Shops in an attempt to recruit other Archery Shops into this program to recruit new MBA members.
8. **Legislative Committee Update:** Max Thomas (MBA legislative committee chairman) updated the directors on Senate Bills SB2943 and SB3147. These 2 bills deal with the allowance or crossbows in the archery only season and the other bill deals with dividing the deer season into 4 separate seasons including a month for archery only, a month for muzzle loaders, a month for gun without dogs and a month for gun with dogs. The outcome of these 2 bills will be decided with time. Max thanked all the area directors for contacting their legislators to express the concerns of the MBA regarding these 2 proposed bills.
9. **E-Mailing the MBA Alert Roster Regarding Pre Banquet Ticket Sales:** The MBA secretary will e-mail the MBA database to encourage the pre-banquet ticket sales.
10. **Reply to J.H. James of Ellislie Plantation:** Dr. Bumgardner was requested to personally contact J.H. James of Ellislie Plantation regarding his e-mail message to the MBA secretary expressing his concern and disagreement with the Senate Bills proposed regarding crossbows and 4 separate seasons for deer with the seasons being determined by the weapon used etc. (SB2943 and SD3147). Dr. Bumgardner agreed to contact J.H. James and reply in a diplomatic non-offensive manner. J.H. James is a private land owner and deer manager that has supported the MBA by donating a live auction hunt for the banquet each year.
11. **MBA Special Award:** Joel Cunningham informed the attendees of the meeting that while reviewing the MBA By-Laws, he noted that our organization is suppose to recognize and award a MBA member each year as a "Special Recognition Award for Organizational Services". The MBA By-Laws give the following wording for this award: After review, it was decided to take this wording under advisement and decide what the criteria should be used to select the recipient of this annual award.

"Special Service Award: *This award will be given to the person or persons having performed exceptional service for the M.B.A. during the past year or years. Nominees for this award must receive approval by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.*

12. **U.S. Postal Alert Memo Services Quotes:** 2 quotes for the U.S. postal alert memo services for the MBA were submitted. One quote was \$600 (Amerimail) which included envelopes and the other was from Cleve Payne of Hederman Brothers Printing. Cleve's quote was \$340 which did not include envelopes. The MBA secretary will ask for a quote from Amerimail for a 1 page fold like Cleve Payne's quote (without envelopes). Subsequent to the meeting, Amerimail submitted a bid (without envelopes) of \$450.
13. **Newspaper Announcements for the Banquet:** Max Thomas said he would contact Bobby Cleveland as per usual to have an announcement posted in the Clarion Ledger a week or so before the upcoming banquet.
14. **MBA Area Director's Update and Magazine Sales Responsibility:** There are currently 25 MBA Area Directors for our organization. It was again stressed that all directors be mindful of the importance of selling advertisements for our magazine to help fund its publication with the long term goal of getting the magazine to be self supportive though the sale of advertisements.
15. **Emergency Response Team:** An Emergency Response Team was formed consisting of Max Thomas, Joel Cunningham, Mark Livingston, and one other officer. This Team will be charged with notifying our membership regarding legislative alert message that will be sent to the ~500 members that we have on our e-mail database.

16. **MBA 2009 Spring Awards Banquet:** The upcoming 2009 Spring Awards Banquet has been set for Saturday the 7th of March, 2009. It will be held @ Grenada; MS. @ the Holmes Community College Grenada Center. Michael Waddell of Realtree Road Trips will be our featured/guest speaker.

- a) Michael will be doing a video youth turkey hunt the morning of the banquet on Saturday March 7th, 2009.
- b) MBA Vice President Patrick Taylor has made arrangements and has secured the facility for the banquet for a rental fee of \$150 for the building. There will be no security fees but we will be required to purchase a \$1 million insurance policy for \$350. The Grenada Banquet facility would seat ~400 people.
- c) MBA Vice President Patrick Taylor reported that there are plans for a 3-D archery shoot in conjunction with the upcoming banquet. Registration will be from ~9:00AM to 10:00AM with a cut off of 1:00PM to 2:00PM so a 4:00PM finish would be expected.
- d) MBA President Steve Welch had the banquet tickets printed and dispersed the tickets to the attending area directors so immediate sales could start.
- e) Online tickets can be purchased and they will be available for pick-up at the banquet when the pre-purchasers of tickets register at the sign-in table.
- f) Steve Welch dispersed banquet announcement posters to area directors and also a 'Thank You' Form for the donors of any donated items for the live auction or silent auction.
- g) The banquet auctioneer has been secured (Dwight Jones of Grenada). Dwight works with Duck Unlimited.
- h) It was voted at the last meeting to increase the banquet ticket price for adults from \$25 to \$35. Children's tickets will remain the same at \$15 for children 15 and under.
- i) Next the vendors and sponsors for the banquet were discussed and it was decided to give each banquet vendor table and floor space and up to 2 courtesy banquet tickets. It was encouraged that we locate and commit sponsors for the banquet. Joseph Pettit had previously submitted the name of Stephen Castleman (Director of Marketing- Big Bucks of Hattiesburg, MS. and Big Bucks recently purchased Mean Mallard of Ridgeland) as a contact person for a possible live auction donation. John Loper agreed to follow-up on this possible donation for the live auction.
- j) The set-up time for the banquet will be 1:00PM on Saturday the 7th of March, 2009.
- k) It was mentioned that Harvey Bozeman may donate a bowhunt for the live auction for the banquet.
- l) It was mentioned again that there will be no wet bar or alcoholic beverages allowed at the banquet (because of campus rules regarding no alcoholic beverages on campus).
- m) President Welch recommended a ticket cost break for a family attending the banquet as a group. The family must be 'blood kin' and purchase a minimum of \$100 worth of tickets.
- n) **National Archery in School Program:** MBA Area Director Todd Haygood was not able to attend the meeting but sent an e-mail updating the current status of the NASP. The content of that e-mail is listed below:

I will not be able to attend Area Director's Meeting 2-1-2009. As per our phone conversation, I am setting up today, Sunday afternoon for BAI (Basic Archery Instructor's) training at Franklin County Schools. I will be teaching the class with Waldo Cleland and another instructor. I will also be working on my BAIT level to be able to train more instructors in the state. Waldo, Coach Tyler, and I had a booth at the recent MSHSAA administrator's conference. Waldo was able to get many contacts with schools all over the state. MSHSAA still plans to have the first state championship in the spring of 2011. However, the Wildlife Foundation may have a state champion this year. This way, Mississippi can be represented at the nationals in May. The tournament had over 4000 NASP student archers and 4000 spectators. The tournament is May 8-9, and will be in Louisville, KY. We want to try and get a team there, if not this year, then next year. Waldo has over 130 schools either waiting for equipment or funding. It took me over 3 years to get Franklin County Schools to listen, but we not only got the high school and middle school, but the board of education purchased a set of the upper elementary. We will be putting the program in physical education classes in the middle school and upper elementary. I will also start an archery team with the after school classed in the high school and middle school. Tomorrow, we will train and certify 6 physical education teachers from Franklin county schools, two more coaches for the athletic team. We will also certify at least two from Puckett schools. We need all area directors to get involved with this program. We think this is vital to the future of archery. We are already seeing students who do not hunt, say they want to try hunting with a bow and arrow. Go back to your local public and private schools and talk to superintendents. You can use the following to help get in the schools: The NASP program helps with title IX, "No child left behind", and also has shown in other states to help with dropout prevention. Kentucky has dropped for 14 percent to 8 percent since the inception of this program. I think we need to support all types of archery to help our bowhunting in the state of Mississippi and other states. I plan to have sports writers do articles in local news papers when we have the archery meets. This will look good to our sport if the bowhunting association gets involved. We can help them find funds. I found funds in the local wild turkey federation chapter and other business donors. We also found another donor to repay the turkey federation back. Local 4-H clubs can also help with funds. Pearl River schools had a fundraiser on January 31 and were able to collect over \$5000. They had a shoot at their school and had over 280 teams. They let the students shoot for free, but they had to have an adult as a team member. Each student could

shoot on as many teams as they could get. Each time, they would get a new adult member and compete as a different team. The adults paid \$10.00. They also invited other schools students to come and compete. That was a total of \$2800.00 and they had concessions and sponsors. I tell you this, because we as area directors could help in all the school in their area. \$2800.00 gets the equipment and has up to three instructors trained. I will get a list of schools to put on the website.

Some of these schools need some guidance. We do not need to let them die after getting them going. Hunting is not our only sport in archery. Target archer also includes, 3-D, Field archery, indoors, HSO, NASP, and many others. Every archer we help start could be a potential bowhunter and a customer of sporting goods stores. This helps with the taxes that our Department of Wildlife needs so bad. I will have better facts and information in the future. Tell Joel that I will start writing some articles that he may want to put in the magazine. I hate to miss this meeting with the bills that face our sport. Please send me an update and any name of a senator that I need to contact. Who knows, some of these students in the NASP program may be involved in our state government in the future.

17. Membership Dues Increase: It was reiterated that at the last meeting it was voted to increase the 2 year membership dues to \$35. This price change is currently scheduled to go into effect January 1, 2009.

18. Meeting Adjournment: With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned @ 3:40PM.

Joe R. Bumgardner, M.D.
Recording Secretary for the Meeting