



The LTAHA 2022 Annual Convention will be held **April 2, 2022** at the LDWF shooting range in **Woodworth at 661 Robinson Bridge Road, Woodworth, LA 71485 starting at 8 a.m.** For those traveling, there will be the bunkhouse available the night before with a meal. As always, we will have trapping demos by some of Louisiana's most successful trappers, trapping supply vendors, good food and fellowship. This annual meeting is open to the public and it is where the membership meets to elect our board members and officers. We are actively seeking people who want to participate and be a part of preserving our trapping heritage in the great state of Louisiana. The LTAHA and LDWF will host a trapper instructors' workshop Sunday, April 3, at the same location. There will be a meal Saturday night and overnight bunking. The meeting will start early Sunday morning and adjourn shortly after noon. Please make plans now to attend the convention. If you would like to join us in the education program, please contact Homer Gibson and plan to stay for the instructors' workshop.

Aims and Purposes of this Organization (Revised 12/5/2021)

1. To develop leadership for the advancement of the best interest of the trappers and the fur industry as a whole.
2. To inspire in our membership a desire to practice the ethics of true sportsmanship toward others who wish to enjoy the recreation pleasures of the outdoors.
3. To impart adequate knowledge concerning the necessity of conservation.
4. To cooperate with the duly recognized conservation organizations in the furtherance of the objectives of the trapping community.
5. To advocate a comprehensive research program regarding the conservation of native furbearing animals.
6. To cultivate a feeling of goodwill and mutual understanding through a proper respect of the rights of landowners at all times.
7. To eliminate unnecessary cruelty in the employment of traps.
8. To discourage and eliminate unjust and fraudulent trade practice in the marketing of raw furs.
9. To aid and cooperate with law enforcement agencies.
10. To oppose, demand revision or repeal of any law or regulation, which is biased or discriminative toward the trapping community.
11. To oppose any proposed legislation which would impose unreasonable restrictions on the taking of furbearing animals, or the sale of the pelts thereof: to demand the revision or repeal of any existing law or regulation of the same nature.
12. To oppose any individual or any organization or combination of organizations whose activities are motivated by avarice or whose interests or designs are detrimental to the interest of the trapping community.

Dear Member,

Please find attached your current membership card. The issuance of these cards is to ensure that every membership is counted. The LTAHA is moving forward with a membership drive for 2022. Our goal is recapturing any member who has fallen by the wayside due to COVID and/or the recession in the fur market. The LTAHA wants to rekindle the flame for many trappers. The association is requesting help in the trapper education program. We have a sincere need for experienced instructors with diverse backgrounds in land and water trapping. Please contact Homer Gibson or Tony Howard for more information on ways you can help the education program.

Thank You,
Tony Howard
LTAHA President

If you did not receive a membership card with this newsletter, this means your membership has expired. Please make every effort to re-enroll.

Membership Application Louisiana Trappers & Alligator Hunters

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

_____ New Membership _____ Renewal
_____ \$20 - Primary Membership (one year)
_____ \$34 - Primary Membership w/Trappers Post magazine
_____ \$300 - Lifetime Membership w/TP magazine

Membership card affixed here

Mail completed form with payment to:

LTAHA Payment
203 Natasha Street
Abbeville, LA 70510

or

LTAHA Records
170 Thomas St
Sarepta, LA 71071

President: Tony Howard
318-423-7860, mahoward@centurytel.net
Vice-President: Homer Gibson
318-664-8558, hegtrapper@gmail.com

We are attempting to develop an email list/phone list for all members and/or trappers so we can get in touch with you quickly. Our goal is to develop a rapid response list to enable us to contact as many members as possible with news, events and workshops through electronics for cost reduction and instant contact. Please make sure to fill out the phone number and email address. Be assured that the association will not share this information with any third party.

The education program is moving forward in a big way. We are looking for experienced trappers who are willing to help share their knowledge of the trapping industry through hands-on workshops and on location events around the state. The education program is being standardized, put into writing and developed around the trapping Best Management Practices. We are developing instructor training and workshops to teach instructors about the program and to give specifics about event presentations. We are trying to ensure that the heritage we grew up with lives on, even with low markets and fewer people to pass it on. We are also developing ranks and insignia for instructors with shirts and tee shirts. Make plans to attend a workshop and see what we are offering.

2021 Convention by Tony Howard

On October 23, 2021, the LTAHA held our annual convention in Woodworth, LA at the rifle range on Robinson Bridge Rd. The day's events involved several demos including a beaver demo by Steve Hughes, otter demo by Tony Howard and great coyote demo by Barrett Chapman. The pinnacle of the day was lunch. Chad Mire cooked pork so many ways it was unreal. If you did not get your belly full, it was your own fault. Thank you so much for feeding us, Mr. Mire. Tim Ross was on hand to deliver orders and had some products for sale. The general member meeting was held at noon followed by the BOD meeting to elect officers. Board members seated Homer Gibson (three years), Justin Ebarb (three years), April Lemoine (three years), Ryan Schaefer (three years), Clint Johnson (three years), Chad Mire (three years), Steve Hughes (one year), Tony Howard (one year), and Chuck Sturgis (one year). The BOD voted to install Tony Howard as President, Homer Gibson as Vice President and Ryan Schaefer as Secretary/Treasurer. Homer Gibson also holds the new Education Director position, and Tony Howard will fill the role of NTA Rep. After a short board meeting the convention moved into the annual auction. The auction is the largest fundraiser the association has each year, and this year was even better than ever with a donated trailer load of items. There were many traps of every size and kind auctioned off, and yet the LTAHA still has traps left over for future auctions. The day concluded with many members staying over another night for an instructor workshop for the education program. The convention was full of good food and fellowship and kicked off the workshops for the season. Sunday members went over many items about upcoming trapping workshops and future events as well as covering the BMPs and instructor manuals. Departing on Sunday evening heading home felt so good knowing that the LTAHA is getting back to normal after two years of pandemic woes.

Junior Instructors by April Lemoine

For a skill to survive, the knowledge must pass on to future generations. Trapping is an important part of our heritage and culture that needs to be taught to the next generation. Louisiana has a great program where seasoned instructors dedicate their time to teach people of all ages the techniques, laws, and ethics through various trapping workshops. These instructors give of their time to share their knowledge and show their passion in regards to the trapping lifestyle.

Borrowing from the Louisiana Trappers and Alligator Hunters website (www.louisianatrappers.com), some of the goals of these workshops are as follows:

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Because of these workshops, two of the younger attendees continued to show extraordinary interest in trapping. Cam Mire and Nicholas Lemoine, both 16 years old, attended different workshops throughout the previous years. Cam had some background in trapping and Nicholas only had basic knowledge through reading books and researching online articles and videos. The instructors of these workshops provided the education, personal experience, and passion to help motivate these young men to become more involved in trapping. As Cam and Nicholas expressed their interest and showed their teachability, they were allowed to join the workshops on a different level as junior instructors. Cam and Nicholas are mentored by senior instructors and taught how to deliver presentations to the people who attend future workshops. Both of the junior instructors have presented before different student groups and each continue to progress in their knowledge. These young men are well on their way to becoming senior instructors. It is of great value to have young people come alongside the mentors and not only join in the teaching, but also to prepare to pick up and carry on the traditions/skills when the mentors retire.

A Picture is Worth 1,000 Words

What will your hunting photo say about you?

Telling non-hunters the right story through your hunting photos is critical to increasing cultural support for legal, regulated hunting. Your photos say a lot about you and your adventure and are a way to share your experience and your pride of being a hunter. Capture that pride with the right photo. You never know where that photo might end up as it makes the rounds on social media.



Look at my new turkey hunting buddy



A beautiful spring morning in Virginia

Here are some tips to help you tell your story:

- **Be respectful of your harvest. All game animals and birds should be honored.**
 - Don't sit on top of, kneel on or "bear hug" your animal.
 - Tuck the animal's tongue in its mouth and clean any blood off the animal and yourself.
 - Cover any visible wounds or crop the photo to omit unnecessary blood or damage.
 - Position the animal so that its head is upright. If you plan to be in the photo, hold up its head.
 - Don't photograph the animal when it is on a 4-wheeler or in the bed of a truck.
- **Help a photo to tell your story. Don't just show it or post it on social media.**
 - Write a short description to accompany the photo. Even just a few thoughtful words such as "Thankful," "With all my respect" or "Great memories" help to set the right tone.
 - Share what you will do with the meat, such as using it to feed your family and friends or donating it to feed those less fortunate.
- **Share that your hunting adventure is about the journey.**
 - Show photos of your hunt preparation, the travel, your treestand placement, the outdoor setting and the game and non-game species you observed while remaining undetected.
 - Tell a story about time spent with friends and/or family.

Other considerations:

- Make sure your firearm is unloaded and the action is open in all photos.
- Remember you are representing a whole community of hunters. What may seem appropriate to you at the time may not be to someone who sees your photo later and does not know the backstory.
- Is that photo you are about to post on social media how you want people to view you for the rest of your life?