

Central' is The Ticket For The
37th Annual National Taxidermists Association
Convention, Competition and Trade Show
Holiday Inn Hotel & Towers and Lubbock Memorial Civic Center
July 9-12, 2008
Register Today and Help Make Taxidermy a Family Tradition

If John Wayne were still here he'd round up his pardners and head to Lubbock! Then you'd hear him say, "Out of this world, inspirational, unforgettable." And if these words weren't heard from your last convention read on...



The NTA is not just a convention...it' an experience you can share with the entire family. We have designed an adventure for you and your family. Your Board has chosen the Holiday Inn Hotel & Towers and Lubbock Memorial Civic Center in Lubbock, Texas, as our host city for July 9-12, 2008. With unsurpassed seminars, competition judges, accommodations and great food, this summer getaway will provide members with a winning combination for a family vacation.

WEDNESDAY:

Our Registration Area will open at 5:00 pm and close at 8:00 pm. While registering you will have the opportunity to renew friendships and create some new ones while everyone takes care of their registration and competition entries. Next you will have your choice of six seminars to attend Wednesday evening, in addition to a seminar just for children. The NTA will host a "Welcome to Lubbock Reception" at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center beginning at 8:30 pm – 10:00 pm. We want you to attend the welcome reception and then meet and greet 5 new people you have never met. What is a better way to meet friends than at an NTA get together! We welcome the opportunity to celebrate our 37th Anniversary with you. While not a meal,

we'll have assorted appetizers and beverages. What a great way to open your convention vacation in Lubbock.

THURSDAY 6:00-9:45 pm:

Round up your buckaroos for a ranching adventure! Come and join us Thursday night from 6:00 PM to 9:45 PM, for an evening crammed with barbecue, fun and history.. The evening's menu will consist of sliced beef brisket, barbeque chicken, beans, potato salad, coleslaw, apple, peach and cherry cobbler, bread, tea and lemonade. One of the reasons that museums exist is to display collections of art and artifacts for the public to enjoy. From hand-crafted works in metal such as spurs and bits, to paintings that capture the richly colored Western landscape, to original structures from some of the most famous ranches in Texas, the objects tell the stories of our past. We'll be visiting buildings, windmills, photographs, sculptures, furnishings and tools that will help us understand what ranching was, and still is, all about. You will have the opportunity to visit Renderbrook-Spade Blacksmith Shop, Long S Whiteface Camp two-story dugout, the Box and Strip house, and the U Lazy S Carriage House. Next are the Harrell House, the Matador Half Dugout and the JA Milk and Meat House. Then it's on to the Picket and Sotol House, the Masterson JY Bunkhouse and Hedwig Hill Double Log Cabin. Next is a stop at the El Capote Cabin, Granary, the Reynolds-Gentry Barn, Las Escarbas and Campbell Patio, the Edith Whatley McKanna Parlor and Cogdell's General Store (museum store).

Some of the exhibits offer educational and evocative looks at the routine of everyday life for the cowboys, ranchers and their families. Others focus on a single pastime or trade that has come to define certain elements, like the quilt making done by our grandmothers and their mothers, or the men of several generations who tooled designs into gun leather or prize saddles for the rodeo.

Most displays in the NRHC galleries, as well the historic buildings and on-line exhibits, can be enjoyed on several levels. Fine arts pieces certainly offer aesthetic pleasures, but often include many small details of the material culture of another era. Likewise, an original home from the 19th century reveals architectural tastes, reflects the geography of the region in which it was built and tells us about the technology available at the time.

Exhibits also "speak" to us in different ways, bringing back memories from a long-past childhood spent out on the range or offering explanations of handy gadgets that were once common in early settlers' barns but are rarely seen today. Making modern folks think about their heritage is a big part of what the NRHC is all about.

This trip will include roundtrip transportation, admission to the Museum as well as sliced beef brisket, barbeque chicken, beans, potato salad, coleslaw, apple, peach and cherry cobbler, bread, tea and lemonade. (Please be on time as buses will leave promptly).

FRIDAY 7:00 p.m. - until:

The Trade Show area will again remain open until 6:30 pm. We will break and meet at 7:00 pm. Rounding out our evening, we will be presenting our great membership prizes to those lucky enough to be drawn.

Recipients of the 2008 Charlie Fleming Educational Scholarship will be announced on this night. We will announce this year's election results and hold our annual auction of donations from the

suppliers. Members are encouraged to bring or make a contribution to the auction and participate in the bidding. **100%** of the proceeds for this auction are designated to the NTA General Fund; there are **NO** commissions or percentages paid to anyone. Be sure to attend and make some great purchases at discounted prices and help the NTA at the same time. Our annual membership meeting will be held at the conclusion of the auction. Be sure to attend this meeting. Dress will be very casual. There will be no meal served at this meeting; there is no cost to attend.

SATURDAY: 6:00 pm-11:00 pm:

Kids Pizza Party! Kids from ages 3 to 8 and 9 to 12 can have loads of fun while Mom & Dad attend the Awards Banquet. There will be pizza, videos and games with supervision. You **MUST** pre-register on the convention registration form. Be sure to bring your pillow and sleeping bag and don't forget your appetite! Parents, located at the bottom portion of your badges are your NTA membership number. Should an issue arise, we will announce your membership number at the banquet, not your name. This is your signal to immediately proceed to the pizza lock in to reference the little issue. (Tips encouraged and accepted for your sitters.)

6:15 pm-7: 15pm:

The Holiday Inn Hotel & Towers is the place to be prior to the banquet, this will allow everyone a chance to unwind and contemplate on tonight's big winners. A cash bar will be available.

7:15 pm:

Our Annual National Awards Banquet will be held at the the Holiday Inn Hotel & Towers. The NTA salutes its volunteers, Board and staff and will present all awards tonight. Be sure to purchase your tickets by Thursday afternoon, as the cut-off is 48-hours advance notice. Prior to the awards presentation the NTA will present an auction comprised of hunts, fishing trips and other surprise items, which may be purchased at prices our members can afford.

The prestigious NTA Award of Excellence recipients will be presented first and following that will be our 2008 NTA Director of the Year Award and President's Award will be announced. At the conclusion of our auction we will carry out our installation of new officers and board of directors, which you have elected. Then we will present the most celebrated ceremony in the world of taxidermy, the major awards presentation. Everyone will be holding their breath as the champions are presented. This night you will have the occasion to witness the industry's leading artists of tomorrow as they earn their titles of recognition. While certainly not required, we suggest a sport coat for this banquet as photographs are taken for promotional purposes.

*NOTE: Banquet Tickets are required. Please reference your packet at the registration to ensure you take delivery of your tickets. This event has reserved tables. You may purchase and reserve a **table for 8 @ \$225.00**. If you wish to sit with someone and reserve a table, we must receive the registration form for you and the other party together. There are 8 seats per table.*