

Banquet Tickets Now Available!!

The easiest and quickest way to get your tickets is to order from our website "www.bowhunters.ca" through our online store. There is a direct link from our home page to the store. Once the transaction is completed, you get an immediate email confirmation of your order. I also get an email and your ticket(s) will be mailed the same/next day when the order is received and you also will get an email from me to that effect. Super easy and works great!! Been selling some already. If the online method doesn't work for you, you can still mail/get your payment to me and I will send you your tickets. As the banquet gets closer, I will hold any tickets (prepaid only) for pickup at the door - don't trust the Pony Express lol. We will reserve tables for anyone purchasing tables of 10 (or if 8 is all you can get we will fill with a couple others to make the 10).

Posters have been mailed out to all the archery shops we have on our contact list, will be in the next newsletter, on our website, Facebook Page. Information on booking rooms, convention agendas etc are on the poster.

The cost of tickets are the same as last year - Adult \$65 and youth \$25 (12 and under).

For those looking at staying the night, make sure you contact the *Nisku Inn* (1-780-955-7744) (1101-4 ST, Nisku) before March 8 2016 to guarantee your reservation at the discount rate (Queen doubles at \$109 + tax - includes 2 voucher breakfasts per day). Use the code *BOWHUN*.

"Bears" are our theme and we have a great presentation planned with guest speaker Mike Ukrainetz - no one knows bears better than Mike!! We are also hoping to get as many bear mounts/rugs as possible to help showcase these great creatures. ABA members have taken some incredible bears over the years. If you have (or know of someone who has) a life size or half mount bear, full shoulder mount or finished rug, contact Cole (Cole@albertabowhunters.com) or Dale (Dale@albertabowhunters.com). Those who bring any of the above will get their name entered for a FREE draw for a table of 8 at the 2017 banquet - one entry for each item. We have had some preliminary interest and it could shape up to be an incredible display!! The life sized current Alberta archery record at 22 3/16 taken in 2015 will be there!!!

Make sure you get your game awards entries in to Ryk (ryk@ryk.ca) as soon as possible so he can check where you sit at the various levels and if you get your Master Bowhunter buckle or the Grandmaster portrait. Allows plenty of time to get everything lined up so there is no rush at banquet time. Entry forms can be found on the website, in the newsletter or contact Ryk or Brent. Once you send them to Ryk, contact him to confirm that he did indeed get them. We have had some in the past not make it - through the mail, a fax or an email. So please confirm. LOTS of great critters taken this year (none by me though lol).

Member Ric Fedyna has donated a 4'x3' painting of a big black bear that we will be raffling off at the banquet as well. Ric has donated past works to other conservation groups (Trout Unlimited, Ducks Unlimited) and we really appreciate his support. Check out his new website at www.ricfedynartist.com and also an Instagram feed at @ricfedynartist.

We will be doing the draw for our second annual "Cougar Raffle" which once again sold out quickly. Lots of people who bought tickets will likely be there so that will create lots of excitement! We have been picking up lots of great items for the various auctions. Cabelas will be doing a raffle via "Pay

What You Pull" using a great moose shed donated by the "ABA" to them to use at various banquets for fundraising. Legendary bowyer Jack Kempf will be donating a custom bow once again - Jack's bow is the highlight of the night and we can never thank him enough for his longtime support!! Porcupine Creek is also another longtime supporter and their compound bow donation is also an extremely popular item!! Goodie Bags to all the kids who attend! Lots of awards! Lots of fun!

In addition to the banquet, we have a slate of meetings that we hope you will be able to attend as well. Only a few hours out of your year and really does help shape the association and where it goes. There will be a "3D Meeting" from 8:00 - 9:30am and our Annual AGM/Regulations meeting from 9:45 - 12:00 pm. We need a quorum of 25 members to make the AGM meeting official. Positions up for election are VP, Treasurer, Membership, 3D, South and Central Director - if you are interested, contact me (or any of the executive) to get a description of the various job duties. We do pretty much everything as a group so you will never be a "lone wolf."

Our partners for the banquet, The Alberta Traditional Bowhunters Association will hold their AGM from 2:00 - 4:00 pm.

If you have any questions, comments etc give me a call (780-978-1195) or send off an email anytime.

Hope to see you there!!

Brent

2016 ABA President