



European Taxidermy Federation Newsletter December 2008

Dear Friends,

Please find this, your European Taxidermy Federation Newsletter, to keep you up to date with what has happened since the World Taxidermy Championships, which took place in Salzburg, last February.

Update

Since we last met in Salzburg, in February 2008, the ETF Committee has been in correspondence with members over various aspects of taxidermy and the past WTC. It has become apparent that many members feel that the ETF was not well represented at the WTC. The Committee accepts this criticism but would like to point out that it was agreed before hand to leave the running of the event to George Coester's company, Reed Exhibitions, as this is what they do, also with input from Larry and Kathy Blomquist from "Breakthrough" magazine. The committee feel that for the most part, the competition ran well. The ETF committee did not know that the ETF presence would be side lined but we have learned from that experience. We believe that in future, the ETF will have some sort of say, (this has still to be thoroughly developed), at the start of any competitions that, we, the ETF, are part of, and will be much more visible at future events than we were at the WTC. This event was enjoyed by many and for that we must thank the organisers already mentioned as well as our colleagues in the Austrian association with out whom this event would not have taken place.

WORLD TAXIDERMY CHAMPIONSHIPS JUDGING 2008

There has also been some criticism over the judging and handling of the specimens at the WTC. We hope that the Competition Committee which was established at the General meeting 2008 can resolve these problems in the future. Tom Larsen, from Norway, is co-ordinating the committee whose members also include P. Sunesen – Denmark, J. Fishwick – Great Britain, M. Fahrini – Switzerland, and M. Gattabria – Italy. This committee is looking into the problems that were raised by members with a view to resolving them. Tom and his team have produced a very in-depth document regarding these issues and are getting for feed back from the membership to see how we move on from here. The results of this work, as far as it is, will be presented at the AGM this February in Dortmund, in Germany.

STATUTES COMMITTEE

The ETF Committee has also set up another sub committee which is looking into, and reviewing, the Statutes. It was felt that the current statutes were too difficult to interpret and needed simplifying. This work is being done by C. Meier – Switzerland, R De Buysere – Belgium, Jan van Hout - -Netherlands, and V. Reitz – Denmark. Again it is hoped for results to be produced at the AGM.

EUROPEAN TAXIDERMY COMPETITION 2009

The Executive Committee is currently looking into organising the next ETC, perhaps, once again in Italy, and are in dialogue with our Italian colleagues regarding this competition. The location, dates, times and categories and Judges are being looked at with a view to yet another successful competition. We hope to have more news on this at the AGM.

EC WILDLIFE TRADE REGULATIONS STAKEHOLDERS MEETING

Earlier this year, in September, Vagn Reitz, the ETF President, represented both his national association as well as the ETF at an EC “Wildlife Trade Regulations Stakeholder meeting” This took place in Brusells on September 29th. There were also representatives from other European taxidermy associations present at this meeting.

MEMBERSHIP

At present there are 8 countries, Denmark, Holland, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Italy and Belgium who are members of the ETF and we now have , Individual members from Great Britain, France, Norway, Malta, Iceland, and Finland.

EUROPEAN TAXIDERMY FEDERATION GENERAL MEETING 2009

Remember! The Annual General meeting takes place on February 7th 2009 at 11.00hrs in Westfalenhalle, Dortmund, we hope to see you there.

The final agenda for the meeting will be sent out in the first week of January 2009. The ETF committee has booked rooms in the hotel “Konigshof” close to the railway station in Dortmund, address: Konigswall 4-6, D-44137, Dortmund. Phone: 00 49 231 57041, homepage www.hotel-koenigshof.biz

AND FINALLY

I would be grateful if you would acknowledge receipt of this e mail to ensure that this information has been received. To finish, the European Taxidermy Federation committee wish you a very merry Christmas and a good New Year.

Duncan A. Ferguson.

ETF Secretary