

Taxidermist does work from around the world

By Ron Wilson

Director

Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development at Kansas State University
Kodiak Island, Ala. An eight-foot-tall grizzly bear has been claimed by a hunter. The hunter is so proud of this trophy that he is going to have it mounted in its original life-size form by a master taxidermist. And where is this master taxidermist found? Halfway across the continent in rural Kansas.

Tom Bowman is the master taxidermist who handled this grizzly bear and a remarkable array of animals from around the world. But he started small.

"When I was a high school kid, I had some small animals that I wanted to get mounted," Tom said.

But since he didn't know of a taxidermist in his area and didn't have extra money to pay for one anyway, Tom set out to learn how to do taxidermy himself.

"I was self-taught, and that's a slow way to learn," he said with a smile. "I gathered all the books and articles I could and went to practicing. I started with pigeons and squirrels." The first-hand learning paid off, and he perfected his craft. "I probably took five years working on animals before I ever did something professionally."

Meanwhile, Tom graduated from Kansas State in wildlife biology and went to work for what is now the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism. On his own time, he would hunt, fish and do taxidermy. The business began in

1977. It became known as Tom's Taxidermy. Tom took early retirement in 2005 and now does taxidermy full-time. He has been joined in the business by his son, Clint Bowman and friend, Gary Penn.

Tom and his wife moved to Wakefield while he was working for Wildlife and Parks. Adjacent to his home is his shop which includes the largest showroom of any taxidermy business in the state.

Tom prefers working on big life-size mounts, while Clint does game heads and small mammals. Gary does most birds and all fish.

In 1982, Tom helped found a new organization, the Kansas Association of Taxidermists. That association offers various educational seminars, which Tom greatly appreciates because there was so

little information available when he got started.

The association also presents awards in various classes of competition, from novice to amateur, professional and master's level. "Some of the foremost authorities in animal anatomy do the judging," Tom said. "The master's level is extremely technical. (The judges) are literally looking for things like the wrinkle in the eyelash."

Tom is himself a master taxidermist, and is involved at the teaching level now. His son and business partner, Clint, is also a master taxidermist. Among Tom's major awards are Best Game head, Best Life-Size Mammal, Best All-Around Taxidermist, Best of Category, People's Choice, Safari Club, and the McKenzie Distinguished

Taxidermist award.

The company website is www.tombotaxidermy.com. Here one will find photo galleries of their animal projects from North America, Africa and other exotic locations. Beside grizzly bears, Tom has worked on such projects as African lions, deer, elk, mountain goats and a one-ton buffalo.

One restoration project involved a stuffed tiger which had been donated to the College of the Ozarks Museum. Tom restored the tiger, which was the third-largest tiger ever taken. The tiger specimen is especially rare since tigers have been declared an endangered species and have not been hunted for more than 40 years.

Almost all of Tom's business is from word of mouth and existing

customers. Many are people who came to Kansas on a deer or pheasant hunt and then learned about Tom at the time. He ships the finished mounts to their homes.

Today, Tom's customers are literally from coast to coast, from Washington State to New Hampshire to Florida. Not bad for a business located in Wakefield, Kansas, population 841 people. Now, that's rural.

It's time to leave Kodiak Island, Ala., where a hunter has claimed an eight-foot-tall grizzly and is having it shipped to Tom Bowman in Wakefield. We commend Tom and Clint Bowman and Gary Penn for making a difference by practicing the art of taxidermy at such a high level. Such a business can help preserve rural Kansas and help bring it to life.

matters of record

Real Estate

The following real estate transactions have been reported by the Sherman County register of deeds:
Marsha K. Sieck Revocable Trust dated December 21, 2010, to Lavone L. Bring, the S15' of Lot 17, all of Lots 18, 19 and 20, Block 3, Country Meadows Subdivision to City of Goodland.

Sheriff's Deed: Morgan Stanley Mortgage Capital Holding, LLC won judgement from Mark A. Cross and Vicki S. Cross and Anis J. Townsend, for a tract of land in SE/4 of Sec. 30, T9S, R40W.

Marriages/Divorces

The following marriage licenses and divorces have been issued by the Sherman County District Court:

Marriages

Troy Wayne Mangum, Richmond, VA and Angela Dawn Malory, Goodland.

Eric Wayne Corke and Audrey Diane Engel, Goodland.

Jorge Alonso Villegas and Nataly Orozco, Burlington, CO.

Christopher Perry Branch, Ulysses, KS, and Lana Hunn, Goodland.

Divorces

Douglas R. Eddleman and Tiffany G. Eddleman, Goodland.

Christopher J. Thummel, Sheridan County, and Shannon L. Thummel, Goodland.

Municipal Court

These are cases decided by the Goodland Municipal Court:

March 16: Armando Antonio Salcido, battery - domestic violence, diversion \$360.

March 21: Ashlin L. Rogers, speeding in school zone 18 mph over limit, fined \$246.

March 23: Jeffrey M. Aultman, driving on suspended, cancelled or revoked license, fined \$536.50.

Collin L. Clapper, speeding in school zone 1-10 mph over limit, fined \$170.

Fabian V. Ledesma, dog at large, fined \$90.

Kayla F. Williams, no parking zone, fined \$155.

March 24: Preston L. Dautel, dog at large, fiend \$90.

April 6: Kevin E. Farr, dog at large, fined \$560.

April 8: Dillon J. Trachsel, no parking zone, fined \$155.

April 13: Kara L. Johnson, dog at large, fined \$90.

Krystal L. Scruggs, failed to yield at stop or yield sign, fined \$135.

April 14: Shawn M. Phillips, speeding 18 mph over limit, fined \$246.

Clifford E. Smith, dog at large, fined \$90.

April 24: Copeland Ray Wickham, speeding 10 mph over limit, fined \$105.

April 25: Adan Espinoza Martinez, expired license or no driver's license, fined \$160.

May 4: Benjamin M. Rinehart, minor consuming alcohol and battery - simple, fined \$3,644.

May 9: Michele R. Coates, speeding 10 mph over limit, fined \$105.

May 11: Terry T. Smith, speeding in school zone 1-10 mph over limit, fined \$150.

May 13: William R. Wilburn, criminal trespass, diversion, \$260.

May 16: Ethan Allen Dow, minor consuming alcohol, diversion \$360.

May 20: Sara J. Lovins, parking, standing stop in prohibited area, fined \$105.

Bryant A. Nemechek, parking, standing or stopping in prohibited area, fined \$105.

May 24: Jorge A. Frikas-Lopez, dog at large, fined \$130.

Dustin D. Gartrell, minor consuming alcohol, diversion \$360.

Kendall L. Morris, failed to report hitting unattended vehicle, fined \$160.

May 25: Joel B. Dobbs, minor

consuming alcohol, diversion, \$260.

Michael Anthony Fieger, Jr, furnish alcohol to minor, fined \$360.

Justin E. Forell, minor consuming alcohol, fined \$260.

Kohl J. Gridley, minor consuming alcohol, fined \$260.

Matthew Jordan Jones, minor consuming alcohol, fined \$260.

Rosalinda M. Martinez, theft, fined \$160.

Marlyn M. Mangus, speeding in school zone 1-10 mph over limit, fined \$150.

Benjamin M. Rinehart, speeding in school zone 11 mph over limit, fined \$162.

Tracy Elaine Sheats, failed to yield a stop or yield sign, fined \$135.

April J. Sheppard, battery - domestic violence, diversion \$360.

Eugene K. Stevenson, parking, standing or stopping in prohibited area, fined \$105.

Hillarie F. Thacker, failed to yield at stop or yield sign, fined \$135.

Dylan J. Kersley, speeding in school zone 13 mph over limit, fined \$186.

May 27: Lorenzo T. Delgado, no parking zone, fined \$155.

May 28: Michael Lee Ledesma, minor consuming alcohol, diversion \$360.

June 3: Sara L. Bollig, no proof of insurance, fined \$360.

June 7: Basil G. Harris, expired license or no driver's license, fined \$160.

David Allen Herring, minor consuming alcohol, diversion \$360.

Adan E. Martinez, expired license or no driver's license, fined \$260.

June 8: Jennifer A. Arnold, battery - domestic violence, diversion \$360.

Manuel P. Hernandez, Jr., disorderly conduct, fined \$160.

June 10: Natasha H. Gaydusek, failed to yield at stop or yield sign, fined \$135.

June 13: Kuter C. Isaac, minor consuming alcohol, diversion \$360.

June 14: Anna C. Day, minor consuming alcohol, diversion \$360.

Sydne K. Massey, minor consuming alcohol, diversion, \$360.

June 15: John D. Troy, minor consuming alcohol, diversion \$360.

June 16: Raymond A. Fisher, failed to yield at stop or yield sign, fined \$135.

June 17: Yeilin P. Arias, minor consuming alcohol, diversion \$360.

June 20: Devon Rene Inguanza, minor consuming alcohol, diversion \$610.

Taylor D. MacLeod, minor consuming alcohol, diversion \$360.

June 21: Ryan E. Scott, minor consuming alcohol, diversion \$360.

June 22: Janice A. Busse, speeding 10 mph over limit, fined \$105.

Anabel Cano, failed to yield at stop or yield sign, fined \$135.

Tina M. McClary, dog at large, fined \$90.

Marco A Mojica-Santa, no proof of insurance, expired or no driver's license, diversion \$510.

Jaycen L. Sanderson, parking, standing or stopping in prohibited area, fined \$105.

Calvin L. Southwood, speeding 10 mph over limit, fined \$105.

June 30: Curtis L. Hurd, speeding 12 mph over limit, fined \$117.

Goodland Police

The following incidents have been reported to the Goodland Police Department:

June 12 - 8:18 p.m., 224 E. 16th, Apt. 2, Chelsi Dawn Pettit reported burglary and theft.

June 13 - 10:01 a.m., 816 E. 19th, Edward I. Ginn reported theft.

3:52 p.m., 204 W. 11th, arrested Bethann Scott on warrant for an-

other jurisdiction. Case referred to county attorney.

June 14 - 12:17 p.m., 790 D'Lao Dr., Apt. 1, Taylor I. Peden reported rape. Case referred to county attorney.

June 15 - 9:25 a.m., 716 W. Business U.S. 24, Weathercraft reported theft.

3:28 p.m., 812 Broadway Ave., Kelsey Lynn Nicole Dunn reported theft.

June 16 - 7:16 p.m., 1622 Arcade Ave., Elizabeth J. West reported theft.

June 17 - 9:46 a.m., 2810 Commerce Rd., Apt. 19, arrested Gary Searle, Jr., for domestic battery of Monica Ann O'Brien. Case referred to county attorney.

6:49 p.m., Goodland water treatment plant, City of Goodland reported theft.

June 19 - 8:43 a.m., 402 E. Fourth, arrested Fernando Martinez for driving under influence and failure to report property damage accident.

Case referred to county attorney.

June 22 - 7:04 a.m., 1620 S. K-27, Crop Production Services reported theft.

10:13 a.m., 790 D'Lao Dr., Apt. 1, Taylor Peden reported rape. Case referred to county attorney.

June 23 - 10:54 a.m., 2160 Commerce Rd., Walmart reported theft. Suspect is juvenile. Case referred to county attorney.

June 25 - 8:50 a.m., 819 Main Ave., Mark Jenkins reported criminal damage to property.

June 26 - 7:28 p.m., 1405 College Ave., Nicholas Dean Smith reported criminal damage to property.

June 27 - 11:35 p.m., 1315 College Ave., Heriberto Galindo reported phone harassment. Case referred to city attorney.

June 28 - 10:14 a.m., 710 College Ave., arrested Jamie Cullens for theft from Connie Cullens. Case referred to city attorney.

2:32 p.m., 2160 Commerce Rd., arrested Chelsie Dawn Linnell for theft from Walmart. Case referred to city attorney.

June 29 - 11:50 a.m., 536 W. 13th, Matthew Stephen Krayca taken into protective custody. Case referred to county attorney.

4:20 p.m., 537 W. 13th, arrested David Krayca for resisting arrest, obstructing legal process and disorderly conduct against officer Steven Johnson, Bill Fulcher, Joni Showalter and Kody Hanson. Case referred to city attorney.

June 30 - 10:31 a.m., 537 W. 13th, arrested Matthew Krayca for distribute hallucinogens within 1,000 feet of school, possess to cultivate less than five plants, possess narcotic drugs, use and possess with intent drug paraphernalia and no drug tax stamp for marijuana or controlled substance. Case referred to county attorney.

2:47 p.m., 723 Main Ave., arrested Cappi L. Thomas for protective custody. Case referred to county attorney.

July 1 - 2:41 p.m., 2160 Commerce Rd., arrested Denisse Marquez for theft from Walmart. Case referred to city attorney.

July 2 - 10:16 a.m., 1527 Grand Ave., Bethann Scott reported theft.

3:56 p.m., 416 College Ave., Pamela Parsons reported theft.

July 3 - 8:08 a.m., 1530 Broadway Ave., arrested Barbara Lee Ornelas for disorderly conduct against Janet Smith. Case referred to city attorney.

10:57 a.m., 1519 Clark Ave., Apt. 4, arrested Barbara Ornelas for criminal trespass and disorderly conduct against Delores Peter. Case referred to city attorney.

Night on the Town



You don't have to look far for fun in Goodland!

What happens in The Basement... Stays in The Basement!



UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT:
July 23, 2011: Doors open at 5 p.m.:
Band will be "Gypsy Road"
(\$5 Cover charge)



109 E. 17th, Goodland, KS • (785) 890-BEER
www.thebasementllc.com

Weekend Fun!



10th Annual Benefit Night Golf Tournament
Saturday, August 20 at Sugar Hills Golf Course
Two Couple Teams/\$100 per couple
(includes 18 holes of golf, meal, lighted ball and glow necklaces.)
NO OUTSIDE BEVERAGES ALLOWED!
Entry Deadline is August 12, 2011.



The Goodland Activities Center is happy to be hosting the **3rd annual Goodland Community Triathlon! Registration due by August 8, 2011. Race date is August 13th with a fee of \$15/person!**
For more information contact the GAC at (785) 890-7242.

www.goodlandgac.com



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