## OSTA Region Meetings Article from July - Aug 2005 Buckeye Trapper by Nick Bower

As I'm sure most OSTA members are aware, each region, A B and C, put together what is called Region Meetings. Each region organizes a Spring and Fall Meet. In the past the OSTA hosted a "Spring Conventions". The spring convention was dropped due to several factors. Instead, we put together meetings in each Region, which is more economical and makes it a bit easier for people to attend, more of a local get together.

Mark Stackhouse has taken the reins for the Region C Meets, Corky Klausing in Region A, and Ken Gallagher for the Fall Meets and Nick Bower the Spring Meets in Region B. These meeting are scheduled and advertised well in advance so everyone that would like to attend has time to work it into their schedule.

Believe me, these meetings just don't happen, they are planned and take a bit of organizing to put together. As these meetings evolve, it's a great place to get to talk trapping with like-minded members. Demonstrations have become a big part of these meetings, with some very knowledgeable people donating their time to participate. If you have not been to one of these Meetings, you are missing out on some solid and valuable information.

For me, it's just nice to get out and talk to people, exchange ideas, get to see some new things, and see how others do things. I believe I always come away from one of these Meetings with some new ideas on how to better accomplish a task. It is also an opportunity to get some hands on looks at maybe a new piece of equipment or make a super deal on some used trapping equipment.

In the case of this year's Region B Spring Meet, I was more than pleased with the attendance. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and got to see some dandy demos. First and foremost, it takes a lot of help to make one of these Meetings happen. I'd like to thank the following for their help: Russ Collar, Bob Bucher, Jon Little, Matt Vedrin, and Bill Crum. A big thanks to my wife, Lorna, for all her work in preparing and dishing out the food. And you too Linda! And thanks to everyone for pitching in to help clean up and pack things away when it was over.

A picture of the people who gave of their time to put on some really great demos! Thank you very much, a lot of knowledge among this group.

L to R: Carl Jones, Ron Reinhart, Bob Best, Mark Stackhouse, Randy Schworm, and Matt Vedrin.

Editor's Note: Thought I would include some information on Region Meets for some of our newer members.

Region Meets started out in 1986 when Districts 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 decided to hold a "Combined District Meeting." These Districts again held a "Combined Meet" in the fall of 1987. In 1988, the Spring State Convention was eliminated. In May of 1988 the State was officially divided into 3 separate Regions with Districts 1, 2, 8, 9 & 10 making up Region A, Districts 11, 12, 13 & 14 comprising Region B and Districts 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 making up Region C. Region C held a Region Meet in the fall of 1988 and thereafter the Regions each held their own meet once a year. Spring Region Meets have been held since 2000.