

# MEMBER

## Spotlight

OCT • NOV • DEC 2014  
**Lou Gagliano**



My name is Louis Gagliano. I am 75 years old and have been married to Sylvia for 54 years – we have 3 children & 2 grandchildren. I have owned & operated a full-time business for over 40 years. At age 17, I joined the Marines. I proudly and honorably served the corp. The old saying “Once A Marine, Always A Marine” is so true!

Ever since I was 10 years old I was fascinated with taxidermy. I ordered J.W. Elwood School of Taxidermy books and read them cover to cover. I started out mounting squirrels and weasels. I was licensed in 1976 and started my business. After several years of being part-time, I made the leap to full-time. It was very scary, the kids were small and I had a mortgage. After several years and a lot of hard work it finally came together and started to pay off.

I love taxidermy and I love to compete and I have been very fortunate. I am a 5X PA State Champion – 2X National Champion – 3X 2nd

“Best in World” Master Division – “Best in World” Pre-Sculptured Division & Grand Masters Champion. I have also won several Best of Shows, People’s Choice Awards & Breakthrough Awards. I have judged the Nationals and many state shows and have given many seminars including at the World Shows. I have also made a DVD on mounting whitetails through Taxidermy Training Unlimited.

Our PA Show is one of the best in the country. We go every year to meet and talk to people and I continually learn. I feel that competition makes you a better taxidermist. When I compete – I

am competing against the live animal and no one else. It’s not about winning - it’s about doing the very best you can. Taxidermy has progressed so much in the last 35 or so years thanks to the State, National and World Shows. I want to thank the PTA for all it’s done for the art of taxidermy and look forward to seeing our many friends we’ve made over the years.

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