

NTBA Website Report

There are three main areas of change, they are:

Changing forum software from the present phpBB to Xenforo.

Moving the present hosting company for the NTBA website to A2 Hosting.
<https://www.a2hosting.com/>

Review and edit the sections before making the new website public. For example, the "T-bucketeers Check-In" section. **What is the purpose of this section?**

Lee When Mike Ermil (owner of Tbucketers website) died there was a lot of concern that the website would go away, so I set up a rallying point on the NTBA site for the Tbucketers folks to stay in touch. Probably not needed now.

Rick I agree that this should go away.

What about the rest of the forum, should there be a review of each section, now would be the time?

Lee Yes, all sections should be reviewed.

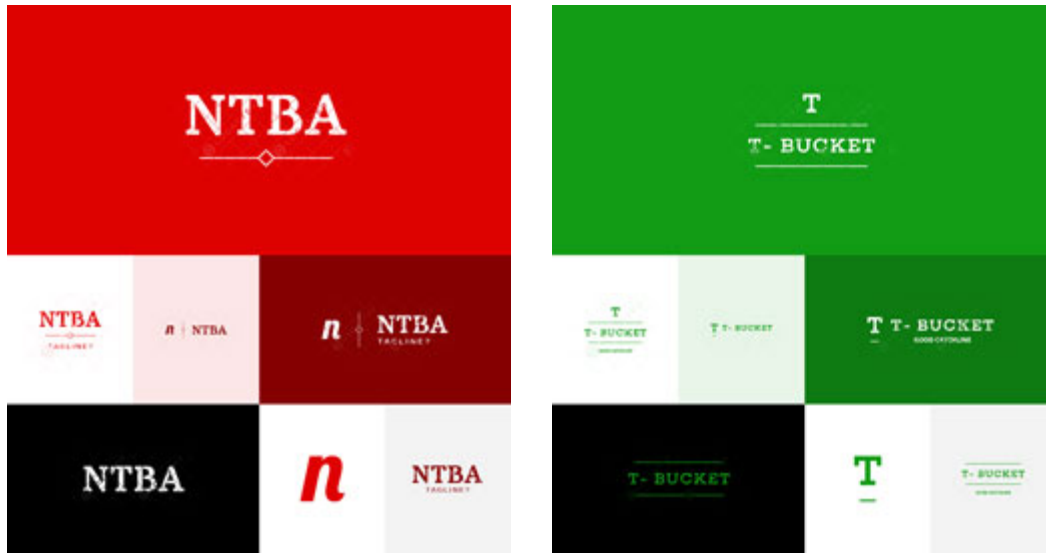
Standards

Develop a logo to help with branding the NTBA name and use this everywhere in the website, correspondence including email. This will provide a professional look and feel to our organization. There are lots of free logo design websites, including the ones below. **What do you think?**

Lee We have a logo. It's on the back of your NTBA member t-shirt. It hasn't been used consistently and we certainly don't have a branding plan! This deserves further discussion.

Rick Do we have a digital copy of the logo? I can resize it for the website.

Lee The guy who prints our shirts may have a digital file. There should probably be some discussion about whether we want to update the logo... especially if we want to have a branding plan.



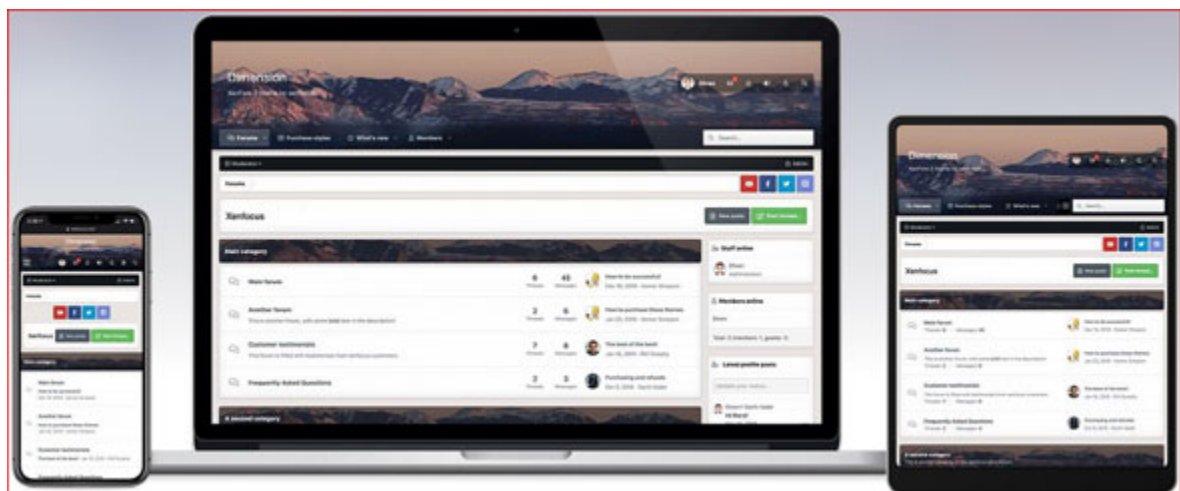
Does the NTBA want to change the website colors or keep them the same? I would suggest buying a theme, they would know about appropriate color combinations.

Lee I like the idea of a theme... should be tied to the branding scheme.

Rick Agreed

Using a theme would also provide a different look and layout from all the other Xenforo forums. I would suggest something like the theme below. Click the icon in the upper right corner toggles it from light to dark and back to light, giving the user a choice. It also accommodates mobile devices.

Use the link below and click on the "**Demo**" button and try it for yourself.
https://xenfocus.com/styles/dimension_pro/





Benefits of New Software

Search Engine Optimization (SEO) A higher hit rate when possible members are searching "T-Bucket" and the many variances of that search. The goal is to provide a link on page one of a Google search.

WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get) editing posts. You will not see the BB codes like phpBB shows, no need to preview.

Provides a better experience for those using a mobile device.

Security and Page Load Speed (Assuming a Shared Host presently)

Using a Virtual Private Server (VPS) will reduce the possibility of a hacker creating a problem.

VPS will also improve the response of the website, making it easier for search engine bots to crawl the NTBA site.

Daily backups of the forum on the server. If something does happen, then the site can be back up and running in hours. While losing at most, only one day of data or user info.

Website hosting company "A2 Hosting" provides 24/7/365 support for the hosting hardware.

Features the present website is providing now

Store that sells T-Shirts, Hats, DVDs etc. [This is on Etsy, just a link].

Lee This needs to be discussed with Bruce, Rolla and Mike.

Rick What would be discussed if it can be another link just like it is now? At this point, I don't understand.

Lee Discussion would be about whether we want to continue the same arrangement or do something different.

Membership Registration for NTBA with credit card functionality.

Lee NTBA member registration is a Caspio app embedded in the web page. The on-line payment page was set up by Ted using coding supplied by PayPal and Converge (credit card processor).

Rick So we want to do the same again for the new site right???

Lee Yes, same arrangement.

Sponsors with graphic at the top of each page.

Able to see who has registered for an event.

Lee Caspio apps.

Rick OK, will duplicate on the new site.

Did you supply Jan with the code and she added it to the website, if so then this will be something I need to do?

Lee Yes, I supply the code.

Bucket Buddy List

Lee Caspio app

Rick This is just a link to a Caspio website, so should be easy. Would look better though if we didn't send people off site for the info. Something to consider at a later date.

Did I miss anything???

Maintenance of Website

All vendor names (Software, Software Add-On, Hosting Site, etc.) along with

their login info will be documented and provided to the NTBA board when requested.

Costs

Initial cost of \$160 for the new Xenforo software. Then there will be \$55/yr. to maintain the license and support.

<https://xenforo.com/purchase/>

Cost of any add-on that we need. To be determined. Typically in \$30-\$75 range.

The theme shown above is \$49 and comes with 6 months of support and updates. Each additional 6 months is \$15.

Most likely I will need help from a website developer if I cannot make the new website transition/import to the Xenforo software properly. I have never done this so the chances are good I will need help. Their cost can go for \$30/hr to over a \$100/hr.

Annual costs for the A2 Hosting and their "Power+" plan are shown below.

<https://www.a2hosting.com/vps-hosting/managed/compare>

The first term is discounted at 50%, the cost beginning at the second term will be in the column called "Renewal Cost".

	Power+	Prestige+	Pinnacle+			
Term	Promo Price	Promo Total	Promo Discount	Term Discount	Total Discount	Renewal Cost
Monthly	\$30.50/mo	\$30.50	50%	0%	50%	\$60.99
Quarterly	\$30.00/mo	\$89.99	50%	1%	50%	\$179.97
Annually	\$27.00/mo	\$323.94	50%	11%	55%	\$647.88
Biennially	\$25.00/mo	\$599.88	50%	18%	59%	\$1199.76

There will be some overlap of the ongoing costs of the present website and the new website. Testing and troubleshooting of the new website will be needed while keeping the present website active.

Lee I think the costs are reasonable.

Rick Good!