

The Canvasback

Fall 2000
Vol. 9, No. 4

Havre de Grace Decoy Museum

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can•vas•back (kan'ves bak'), *n., pl. -backs*, (esp. collectively) - **back**. 1. A north American wild duck, the male of which has a whitish back and a reddish-brown head and neck. 2. A style of decoy made famous by carvers of the Susquehanna Flats region. 3. A quarterly publication of the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum.

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ON THE COVER

A selection of federal duck stamps donated to the Museum by Dr. Harry Oleynick.

FROM THE EDITOR

Exciting progress is at hand for the Decoy Museum! In 2001, the Museum will be focusing on the two areas that are the heart and soul of any museum — exhibits and education. Curator Brenda Dorr will be leading the revision of the "What is a Decoy?" exhibit. More instructional content will be added to provide non-hunters and non-collectors with a better understanding of the purpose, history, and artistry of decoys. In conjunction, the Museum will be expanding its tribute to individual carvers on the second floor.

In the realm of programming, the Museum will be continuing its popular Education Series. Planning is already underway for four programs on a range of topics. And, in response to public demand, the Museum will once again offer Decoy Identification Day! The staff is also working to increase and improve its opportunities for youngsters and families to enjoy the Museum.

We look forward to sharing these exciting developments with you! In the months ahead, watch your mailbox for notification of upcoming programs and special exhibit openings. And be sure to stop by the Museum periodically. There's sure to be something new to see!

Jennifer Jones

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*From
the
President*



Dear Museum Member,

Our election in October starts a new working year for our organization. I think we all can be pleased with the Museum's progress over the past year. All of the events sponsored by the Museum have been successful thanks to membership support. Of course, we always hope to do better in the future, but I must thank the members for all their help this past year.

Our members support us in many ways other than financially. No one is more important than the volunteers who, on a regular basis, serve in the Museum at the desk and gift shop, help with mailings, give tours, etc. Some help with every aspect of the day-to-day functions of the Museum. Not everyone can offer this much time, so they help with different areas of our events (e.g., bake sale, live auction, silent auction, ticket sales). More non-board member volunteers are serving on the Museum's standing committees and are adding new vigor and new ideas. Volunteers are a welcome aid in every Museum activity.

On behalf of the board and staff, I would like to thank all of the volunteers who keep the Museum functioning. I don't dare to mention anyone by name because I would surely miss someone.

Again, we would like to invite any member to join our growing list of volunteers. Remember, you can participate in any area of Museum activity, including participation as a member of the Board of Directors. If any member feels that he or she has a special talent (e.g., fundraising, event organization) that would benefit the Museum or free time to donate, please contact Ms. Jennifer Jones, our Executive Director. The more members who become involved with the daily activities of our Museum, the better the institution will function.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John A. Carriere" with a small mark at the end.

Tax deductible contributions can be made to the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum. The museum was incorporated in 1981 as a non-profit organization which exists to document and interpret waterfowl as this art form applies to the social and economic life of the upper Chesapeake Bay region.

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Book Review: *When Ducks Were Plenty*

by C. John Sullivan

Muderlak, Ed. *When Ducks Were Plenty*. Long Beach, California: Safari Press, Inc., 2000. 384 pages.

If only I could have had access to this book thirty-five years ago, I would have saved myself a lot of time, searching, and money. As a youngster, I subscribed to several of the popular outdoor magazines at the time, with *Outdoor Life* and *Field and Stream* being my favorites. My broad interests in the outdoor world quickly narrowed down to what the recreation was like decades before my time. I pored through thousands of ancient publications in hopes of finding stories about the shooting sports in my ancestors' lifetimes.

Now here we have Ed Muderlak's book *When Ducks Were Plenty*. Muderlak has scoured old sporting magazines and books and assembled an extensive collection of wonderful old gunning tales from across the country. The book is divided into three sections: Section One, prior to 1880; Section Two, 1880 to 1900; and Section Three, 1900 to 1920. There are fifty-six chapters in all, with each chapter reading as its own individual story. Minor editing to assist the contemporary reader has not changed the feel of the time period. There are a few chapters in Muderlak's own words. One deals with the protection of wildfowl through federal laws. Another chapter by Muderlak as editor retells several accounts of the demise of the passenger pigeon. The enormous size of their flocks are difficult for us to comprehend.

Many believe that shooting waterfowl one hundred years ago was nothing but slaughter. However, this was not always the case. Muderlak's mix of stories, with its wonderful variety of good days and bad, shows us both sides of the sport. Several stories demonstrate how self-imposed conservation efforts were under way years before actual hunting limit laws were enacted. An example of a hunt by a young man out for sandhill crane provides an excellent insight to his thought and memories of an unsuccessful hunt but the food for a great memory:



"The big cranes never lost a wing beat, but continued to circle, then headed in my direction. They came directly over me, fifty feet high, winging with deliberate majesty, a wing beat every twenty feet and not making much noise, just a great, soft rush of air through extended pinions. I could see vivid red on their necks, and their black eyes looked down on me with supreme disdain. Each of those cranes looked a full six feet long. I aimed the empty rifle at them and could cover one without any trouble at all. And so I see them now, a full fifty years later: the largest flock of whooping cranes that I ever witnessed. The like will never again be seen by any man in the world."

The stories cover most species of waterfowl and the various methods used to harvest them. My favorite, naturally, recounts a particularly bad day for ducks on the Susquehanna Flats on which John Holly was credited with killing over 119 canvasbacks while shooting out of a sinkbox rig.

This book reads well, with the stories flowing easily from one to another. It can be picked up and put down whenever the reader feels the need to visit the mood and atmosphere that was the waterfowling heyday. I highly recommend it to both lovers of history and to modern day waterfowlers. I only wish that I had thought of the idea before Mr. Muderlak did. What will my son do with that huge pile of historic hunting magazines?

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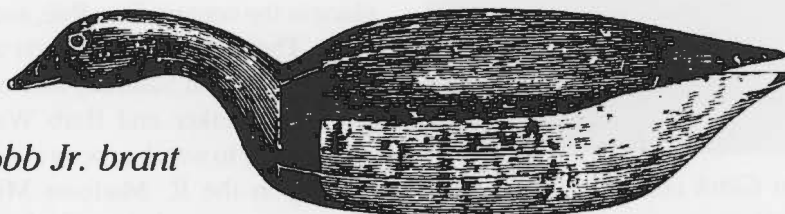
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SPECIAL EVENT WRAP-UP:

by Kay Morrison

13th Annual Duck Fair

The Decoy Museum's Board and staff hear from many exhibitors and visitors that they "just love the Duck Fair" or "like it even better than the Festival." Indeed, it would be hard to find a more relaxed and family-oriented event than the annual Duck Fair. The weather always seems to be sunny and warm and the water beautiful. Families browse through the exhibits and gather on the promenade to watch the retriever demonstrations or the ducks. Everyone seems to enjoy just being outside. This year's Fair on September 9 and 10 was no exception.

The 2000 Duck Fair Honorary Chairman was John Clark of Havre de Grace. Known for producing working-style decoys with ornamental heads, John is one of the Museum's weekend carvers and has donated a great deal of his time and talents to the Museum over the years. He

graciously answered questions and signed autographs throughout the weekend. Museum Board member Allen Fair introduced John to the crowd on Saturday, and Museum Director Jennifer Jones presented him with a plaque. In honor of the Duck Fair, Mr. Clark carved a limited number of brants, a bird he has never before created, and he generously donated one to the Live Auction.

A record number of Past Honorary Chairmen joined



Past Honorary Chairmen gather for the Head Whittling Competition. (J. Jones)



Honorary Chairman John Clark competes in the head whittling contest. (J. Jones)

in the fun of the Head Whittling Contest on Saturday. John Clark, Harry Shourds, Joe Cook, Vernon Bryant, Ned Mayne, Jim Pierce, Ron Rue, Capt. Harry Jobes, and Charlie Bryan honored us by attending this year. It was such a pleasure to watch these gentlemen transform a roughly shaped head into a simple, but beautiful carving while they traded jokes and entertained the crowd with their talent. Capt. Jobes was as persuasive as always, talking spectators into very large donations. He won first place in the contest, Ron Rue, second, and Charlie Bryan, third. Their three carved heads were then sold during the Live Auction on Saturday afternoon.

Bill Streaker and Barb Wachter provided another opportunity to watch experts at work as they demonstrated carving in the R. Madison Mitchell shop. Also, the Museum was very honored to host Charlie "Speed" Joiner



Volunteer Bill Streaker demonstrates carving techniques on Saturday. (K. Morrison)

on both Saturday and Sunday as he painted ten of the new, limited edition Decoy Museum canvasback drakes on the shop's second floor. Sitting in the room where Mr. Mitchell himself once painted, Mr. Joiner awed visitors with his exquisite brushwork.

Bernie Bodt broke the relative calm of the morning several times when he fired his battery gun for demonstrations of this old hunting technique. Bernie took great care



Charlie Bryan looks on as "Speed" Joiner paints the special Decoy Museum canvasbacks. (J. Jones)

to explain the value of the grasses to the Susquehanna Flats and to answer questions from the audience. Black Duck Outfitters gave wildfowl calling demonstrations throughout the weekend. Several people attended more than one of their demonstrations because Dan was so good at not only showing people how to use the calls, but explaining what the calls meant. Children and adults gathered for both of these entertaining and educational activities.

Silent Auctions were held throughout the Fair and were very successful, thanks to the wonderful items con-



Bernie Bodt demonstrates the use of the battery gun for hunting. (J. Jones)

tributed by local businesses and supporters. The Live Auction drew a large crowd on Saturday afternoon. Auctioneer Jay Edwards skillfully worked through the list of quality items, which included a canvasback drake by Bob Litzenberg, a 1957 blackhead pair by R. Madison Mitchell, and a half-size whistling swan by Charlie "Speed" Joiner. A listing of prices realized is included in this issue. Our next auction will be held during the Decoy Festival in May. Please consider donating an item for that auction as it is always well-attended and provides needed funding for the Museum.



Volunteer Dave Guldenzopf assists auctioneer Jay Edwards during Saturday's live auction. (J. Jones)

For the first time, the Duck Fair included a Carving Competition. On Sunday, twenty-eight entries were judged in the water near the city's promenade. Winners in the Diving Class were Jason Russell, George Williams, and Rich Whittler. Marsh Class winners were Mike Smyser, Bill Kell, and Howard Gaines. Mike Smyser, George Williams, and Jeff Coats won in the Goose and Confidence class. First and second place Best of Show went to Mike Smyser for his Canada goose and his black duck, and Jason Russell won third place Best of Show with his bufflehead. We hope to make this competition a regular part of the Duck Fair in the future.

There were a number of activities of interest to children during the Fair, including craft activities, face painting, and a chance to win a prize at our "Duck Pond." But Sunday offered the most exciting activity — a chance to visit with carver Noble Mentzer and paint a miniature mallard or canvasback under his supervision. It was



Dr. Gene Byrd directs his dog during one of the Retriever Demonstrations. (J. Jones)

wonderful to watch the children work so intently to make their special creations!

Emcee Mitch Shank put out the call for carvers to compete in the Open Head Whittling Contest on Sunday. He rounded up Charlie Pierce, Joey Jobes, Capt. Harry Jobes, John Clark, and Bob Jobes. Each carver had a jar in front of them, and the audience was encouraged to donate to their favorite carvers. Ashley Clark, John Clark's grand-daughter, was determined to see her "Pop-pop" win the contest. When Capt. Harry Jobes took a five dollar bill from her grandfather's jar (surely by accident), Ashley was bold enough to retrieve it! She then held onto "Pop-pop's" jar and went out into the crowd to seek more donations. In the end, the heads were auctioned off to benefit the Museum.

Another Sunday highlight was a return visit by Dr. Gene Byrd and his wonderful retrievers. Howard Neale and Dean Smith worked with Dr. Byrd to put the dogs through their paces in the water. These demonstrations are

appreciated by young and old alike, although it seems that the dogs get at least as much enjoyment as the people.

Even if they decided not to make a purchase from the exhibitors, visitors still had opportunities to leave the Fair with some goodies. Free raffles were held for two beautiful wildlife prints by artist Thomas Shiveley. Saturday's raffle was won by Winnie Schmitz of Baldwin, Maryland, and Sunday's raffle was won by Alvin Crowl of Wilmington, Delaware. Fall raffle tickets were also available during the Fair. This raffle will be drawn at the Candlelight Sale and Carvers Celebration on December 10, 2000. Be sure to return your stubs! You don't want to miss out on this one! And many visitors went home with wonderful baked goods from the Bake Sale table. Members and friends of the Museum donated delicious items, and we sold every last crumb!

The 13th Annual Duck Fair was a special celebration of carving, wildfowl, the Susquehanna Flats, and summer. Adults discovered treasures to decorate their homes, all the while marveling at the talent of the artists. Children watched the retrievers in awe, clutching their prizes from the duck pond game. And exhibitors sat together beneath the trees, catching up with their friends. Once again, it was a perfect weekend in Havre de Grace.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Duck Fair. The Museum is most grateful for the support from all the volunteers, exhibitors, and businesses who worked together to make this such a great family event. Special thanks to:

Pat Vincenti	Kevin Racine
John Ingolia	Terran Miller
Ed Watts	Barbara Jones
Ken Lay	Bob Jones
John Carriere	Dave Guldenzopf
Gail Carriere	Andy Speer
Elly Coale	Noble Mentzer
Carolyn Hargis	Barbara Kreamer
Mert Street	Mitch Shank
Grumpy's Grill	Dr. Gene Byrd
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Bill Streaker	Bill Rothwell
Barb Wachter	Ginny Rothwell
Bernie Bodt	Dr. William Brendle
Black Duck Outfitters	Elizabeth Mitchell
Madelyn Shank	R. Madison Mitchell IV
GeorgAnn Pabst	Tres Schnakenberg
Dolores Bungori	Ceili Hering
Angela Davis	Summer Jones

CONSIDERING A GIFT TO YOUR FAVORITE CHARITY?

By Lori L. Kirk, CPA

Are you considering making a gift to your favorite charity? Will you do this during lifetime or at death? Will you give cash outright or other assets? These are a few of the questions you may ask when considering a gift to charity.

GIFTS DURING LIFETIME

Gifts during one's lifetime to qualified charitable organizations are generally tax deductible as itemized deductions for income tax purposes. The amount of the tax deduction is equal to the fair market value of the assets on the date the gift is made. However, the amount of the charitable deduction may be limited based on the type of contribution and the taxpayer's adjusted gross income. Contributions of appreciated property, such as stock, are subject to 30% of adjusted gross income. Contributions to certain private foundations may be limited to 20% of adjusted gross income. Any amounts not deducted in the current year because of these limitations may be carried forward and deducted for up to five future tax years. Of course the amount carried forward would be subject to the same limitations based on future years' gifts and income.

Charitable deductions during lifetime may result in income tax savings of up to 45% of the amount of the charitable gift, depending on the taxpayer's federal and state income tax rates and the type of contribution made.

Persons making charitable gifts with appreciated assets instead of cash may avoid paying capital gains taxes incurred if the asset were sold and the cash gifted to charity. Thus an even greater tax savings is possible.

For example, Abe wants to make a \$10,000 gift to his favorite charitable organization. If Abe makes the gift with appreciated securities he will save \$4,500 in tax, assuming he is in the 39% federal tax bracket and 5% state tax bracket. Thus, the charitable gift costs Abe only \$5,500 out of pocket.

Now let's assume the same facts as above, except Abe sells the securities first for \$10,000. Abe purchased the securities three years ago at a cost of \$5,000. He now has a \$5,000 capital gain incurring capital gains tax of \$1,250. Abe then contributes the \$10,000 of cash to the charity. The charitable deduction results in tax savings of \$4,500.

Thus Abe's net tax savings is only \$3,250. Abe's out of pocket cost for the charitable gift is \$6,750. Thus gifting the stock directly to the charity saves Abe \$1,250.

Contributions during life may provide greater tax benefits than bequests at death because of the current year income tax benefit. This is true regardless of the value of the estate. Charitable gifts made during one's lifetime remove the assets from your estate so the estate tax consequences are the same whether made during life or at death.

Gifts during one's lifetime will also give one the pleasure of watching one's charity put the funds to good use.

CONTRIBUTIONS AT DEATH

Gifts to charitable organizations at death may be made either by bequests in the Last Will and Testament or by beneficiary designation. Gifts made at death to qualified organizations are generally deductible for federal estate tax purposes. However, the deduction is only applicable if there is an estate tax liability. That is, the estate assets passing to heirs other than the spouse exceed the lifetime exemption equivalent (currently \$675,000 and rising to \$1 million in 2006). Thus the estate tax deduction benefits only larger estates.

If you plan to make a bequest to charity at your death, consider funding the bequest by naming the charity as a beneficiary of your retirement plan. The charity receives the same amount of funds. However there could be substantial tax savings to your estate if retirement funds are used to make the charitable bequest. When an individual or a trust is named as the beneficiary of retirement benefits the benefits are subject to estate taxes and also income taxes when withdrawn. If a qualified charity is named as beneficiary a charitable deduction will be allowed against estate taxes which could save up to 55% of estate taxes. In addition, when the qualified tax-exempt charity withdraws the money from the retirement plan, it does not pay income taxes on the funds withdrawn. This could mean an additional tax savings of up to 45%. This is an excellent way to achieve your charitable goals and save your heirs significant taxes.

CHARITABLE TRUST

After considering all of the tax savings, you decide making gifts to charity during your life is the way to go. However, you are not financially able to give assets away during your lifetime. A charitable remainder trust may be the answer. A charitable remainder trust may enable you to accomplish your charitable objectives while also providing cash flow from the trust for life or a period of years. Charitable remainder trusts work especially well with appreciated assets that have no cash flow, such as real estate. Consider the following example:

Betty has \$500,000 invested in one stock holding which she inherited from her mother. The stock provides Betty with a small monthly cash flow. Betty would like to sell the stock to diversify her portfolio and increase her cash flow. However, this will result in significant capital gains taxes.

If Betty contributes her stock to a charitable remainder trust, the trust can sell the stock and reinvest the proceeds without any tax consequences. Additionally, Betty can receive a stream of income payments from the trust based on interest rates and life expectancy or a term of years. This income flow may be greater than the cash

flow Betty is receiving from the stock. She can also designate the payments be made to her and then at her death to her children for their life. However the current value of the amount to go to the children is treated as a gift to her children. At the end of the payment term the balance left in the trust will go to charity. When Betty dies the trust is not included in her estate for federal estate tax purposes.

Any payments Betty or successor non-charitable beneficiaries receive may be subject to income tax depending on the income the trust earns during that year.

In the year the stock is transferred to charity, Betty also has a charitable income tax deduction equal to the current value of the balance going to charity at the end of the trust term. This creates additional current year tax savings. These additional tax savings can be used to purchase life insurance on Betty's life to replace the value of the asset gifted to charity.

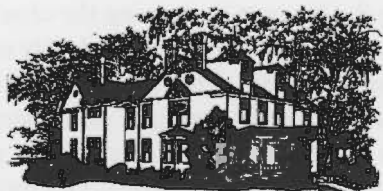
By setting up a charitable remainder trust, Betty has saved income taxes and increased her monthly cash flow without reducing the amount which will go to her heirs at death.

There are many advantages, both personal and tax, to making gifts to charitable organizations. Consult your tax advisor and charitable organization to discuss what strategy will meet your individual goals.

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Horsehead Wetlands Center

by Michael E. Affleck

Located on Maryland's Eastern Shore just south of the tiny hamlet of Grasonville is a waterfowl lover's delight. The Horsehead Wetlands Center is a 500-acre preserve dedicated solely to waterfowl. Within the perimeter of this property, visitors are able to walk, kayak, or canoe



Entrance to site near Grasonville, MD. (Fred Gillotte, Jr.)

among a variety of habitats. Guests can explore over four miles of trails, and waterborne excursions appear endless. There are two observation towers, a wetland boardwalk, four observation blinds, and a bird feeding station. Within the compound are collections of live waterfowl, non-releasable raptors, various aviaries, and a visitors center.

Much of the property at Horsehead is comprised of tidal brackish marsh. Other habitats include mature hardwood forest, thicket, meadow, fresh water impoundment,

ponds, mudflats, and beach.

The months of May, August and September have a stunning array of migrating shorebirds. Currently with the fall season upon the bay area, waterfowl of all species can be found at this amazing center. This includes the canvasback, redhead, black duck, wood duck, shoveller, ruddy duck, Canada goose, and tundra swan. Over 200 bird



Observing pintails through one of four water blinds. (Fred Gillotte, Jr.)

species have been documented.

The Wildfowl Trust of North America operates Horsehead Wetlands Center. This trust is a private non-profit organization dedicated to conservation and the stewardship of wildfowl and wetlands through an approach of hands-on education and ongoing research at the facility. The organization works to increase the public's understanding and appreciation of the values and functions of wildfowl and the critical wetlands required for their survival.

The staff at the site maintains several ponds, which sustain a collection of captive wildfowl that present the visitor easy viewing and photographic opportunities. These ponds, with their live decoys, lure plenty of free-flying



Entrance to the diving duck aviary. (Fred Gillotte, Jr.)



Grazing lesser snow goose (Blue phase). (Fred Gillotte, Jr.)

wild ducks and geese. A cross-section of waterfowl includes virtually all of the goose species prevalent in North America: Canada, emperor, barnacle, snow, and brant. A surprising visual treat is a pair of trumpeter swans. Species representing both Atlantic and Pacific coasts are present. Puddle ducks and diving ducks abound.

The Wildfowl Trust of North America has numerous educational programs. These include environmental education experiences for students of all ages and abilities, the promotion of awareness of ecological issues, and waterfowl field programs. Conservation programs include the improvement and restoration of habitat for migratory waterfowl and the preservation of critical wetlands for wildlife.

Research programs at Horsehead encompass ornithological research and ecological studies and the sponsorship of studies to develop policies on migratory waterfowl and wetlands restoration. An excellent example of the Trust's efforts is



Magnificent estuarine habitat. (Fred Gillotte, Jr.)

the symposium recently held to discuss the decline of the North American black duck on Chesapeake Bay. Sponsors and participants included representatives from Ducks Unlimited, USGS, USFWS, Maryland's DNR, and biologists of the highest renown concerning the Black Duck. This was a continuing effort to understand and hopefully halt the demise of this wary and handsome creature. The first symposium on this subject was held in 1948.

For directions to the site, additional information, or to become a member of the North American Wildfowl Trust, please call (410) 827-6694. A visit by the entire family is encouraged as no one will be disappointed by the beautiful array of creatures in their surroundings. This magnificent property and its contents are a hidden jewel on Maryland's dreamy Eastern Shore.



Full flight capable Canadas stopping in for a meal. (Fred Gillotte, Jr.)

"The Best Friend Ducks Ever Had"

by
**Eric Jay Dolin and
Bob Dumaine**

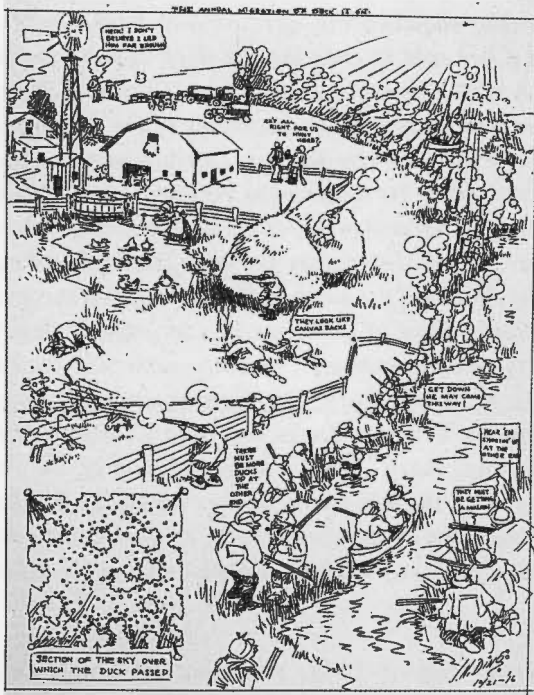


Jay Norwood Darling, affectionately known as "Ding", played a key role in creating the duck stamp program in 1934. A well-known figure who would become one of the most influential political cartoonists of the century and a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner, Darling was a dedicated conservationist. He believed to his core that a nation that squanders its natural resources is failing to wisely invest in its future. Many of his cartoons for the Des Moines Register between 1916 and the early 1930s highlighted the increasingly bleak plight of this country's migratory waterfowl. Below is an excerpt from a recently published book titled The Duck Stamp Story: Art-Conservation-History, co-authored by Eric Jay Dolin and Bob Dumaine (Krause Publications, April 2000). It shows part of the reason Darling was "the best friend ducks ever had." It is important to note that by the early 1930s, the continent's migratory waterfowl population had plummeted to historical lows.

At the end of 1933, President [Franklin Delano] Roosevelt appointed a special "duck committee" to evaluate the situation and recommend a waterfowl restoration plan. Its members were Darling, Dr. John C. Merriam of the Smithsonian Institution, and Thomas H. Beck, editor-in-chief of Collier's Weekly, chairman of the Connecticut State Board of Fisheries and Game, President of More Game Birds for America and an outspoken critic of the Bureau of Biological Survey and its management of the waterfowl. Merriam was unable to accept the honor and was replaced by Aldo Leopold. Beck was named chairman, and from then on it was known as the Beck Committee. On its face the most curious addition to the committee was Darling, and many editorialists of the day decried this choice. What was a cartoonist doing giving advice to the President on this topic? To those who knew this man, the question was ridiculous. Darling, through his brilliant cartoons capturing the plight of waterfowl and his strenuous support of sound wildlife management in Iowa and throughout the nation, had sterling bona fides to be offering such advice. Some argued that Roosevelt's real reason for convening the committee in the first place was to appease sportsmen and others agitating for action without really doing anything - a means of reducing the political heat through indirection. If that was his goal, Roosevelt made a bad mistake. Neither this committee nor those fighting for change would go quietly into the night.

At the outset of the committee's deliberations there was considerable optimism. In announcing its creation a White House spokesman had promised \$1 million to fund the

J.N. "Ding" Darling working at his easel. Credit: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



"Ding" Darling's "The Annual Migration of Duck is On" (October 21, 1916). Credit: the J.N. "Ding" Darling Foundation.

committee's plan if it were approved. Press organizations around the country expected great things. The Chicago Tribune predicted that out of the committee would come a "gigantic national project to increase game birds in this country . . . utilize 20 to 50 million acres . . . [and] increase healthful recreation for million[s] of outdoor fans, . . ." Darling, Leopold, and Beck dove into their work with enthusiasm, interviewing federal, state and local wildlife managers, soliciting management suggestions, and documenting lands suitable for potential purchase as refuges. Numerous individual and organizations proposed projects to the committee, lobbying so vigorously that Roosevelt warned the committee against "playing favorites." In a private letter to Darling, Leopold made clear the importance of the committee's work. "[W]e must not delude ourselves by seeing this job as merely a heaven-sent chance to buy some lands. It is, . . . the chance to make or break federal leadership in wildlife conservation."

Five weeks after beginning their work, they took up the task of writing a report with policy recommendations, and all hell broke loose. "If there is a word in the English language expressing violent explosion, only louder and longer lasting," Darling stated in a later article on this period, "I'd like to use it now." Beck, with a booming voice and imperious manner, insisted that the report state that the Biological Survey was "incompetent and unscientific," and recommended that it be abolished. This position and the person that held it so incensed Leopold that he left for home. Darling tried to salvage things by preparing a compromise

report but wasn't completely successful. In early February, the three submitted a joint report which focused only on recommended projects, while Beck submitted his own "policy report" to the President.

In the joint report were some serious recommendations, the most important of which were for the federal government to spend \$25 million on wildlife restoration, to purchase 12 million acres of submarginal lands for wildlife protection, and to give another \$25 million to the Public Works Administration to support efforts for restoring these lands. Administration officials attacked the plans, especially the large expenditures, as too ambitious. President Roosevelt himself had no reaction. His silence brought calls in the press to take a stand. The ostensible reason for the President's silence soon became apparent. At a press conference, a reporter asked what had happened to the Duck Committee report? Roosevelt had no answer and looked over at his press secretary for help to no avail. Later it was reported that the President had never read the report and that it was found sitting on a table near his bed, buried under other documents.

President Roosevelt then took a most unusual step, or at least so it seemed. He asked Darling, who had returned to Iowa after the Beck Committee disbanded, to come back to Washington and take over as head of the Survey. This took Darling by surprise. At first, he clearly did not want the job. "A singed cat," Darling later said, "was never more conscious of the dangers of fire than I was of the hazards in trying to get anything done in Washington." He was a staunch Republican and was unsure he wanted to "aid and abet" the opposition. He finally decided to go, leaving behind his six-figure income as a nationally syndicated cartoonist at the Des Moines Register. His motive was to put the Survey back on its feet and help the cause of wildlife protection, especially as it pertained to migratory waterfowl. It has been argued, though, that Darling's appointment had nothing to do with promoting wildlife protection. As an outspoken Republican, Darling had wielded his acid pen in the direction of Roosevelt many times. His cartoons often attacked the "New Deal" policies central to this new administration. To some, Roosevelt's decision to appoint Darling was just a wily means of shutting up one of his fiercest critics. If that was his goal, Roosevelt made another big mistake.

Darling was sworn in on March 10, 1934. Six days later President Roosevelt signed into law the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act, a successor to the duck stamp bill that was introduced at the end of the Hoover administration. . . . The new law, commonly referred to as the duck stamp act, required any person sixteen years or older hunting ducks, geese, swans or brant to have a \$1 duck stamp and a valid state hunting license. During the first year of the program, the hunter was not required to sign his name across

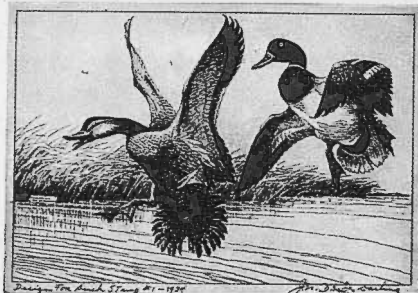
the stamp for it to be valid, but in all subsequent years that requirement was in effect. The stamp was distributed through U.S. Post Offices, and hunters were required to affix the stamp to either their state hunting licenses, if such a license were required, or to a certificate furnished by the postmaster for that purpose. . . . Revenues generated went to a Migratory Bird Conservation Fund. Ninety-percent of that money was "available for the location, ascertainment, acquisition, administration, maintenance and development of suitable areas for inviolate migratory bird sanctuaries." The remaining ten-percent was for printing and distribution as well as enforcement of the act. After fifteen years of fighting and the combined efforts of many dedicated individuals, the duck stamp was a reality. And it came none too soon. By one estimate, 1934 marked an all-time low for migratory waterfowl populations - twenty-seven million.

. . . While the Act promised a stream of future revenues, Darling desperately needed money soon to start the ball rolling before more lands were ploughed under, cemented over, or dried out. Darling had accepted his new position only after Roosevelt had renewed his promise to find \$1 million for the Survey to use in purchasing lands identified by the Beck Committee report. The President seemed willing to follow through and he invited Darling to "smoke a good cigarette" to seal their deal. In the ensuing months, whenever Darling would ask the President to make good on his promise, Roosevelt would write out an IOU for the \$1 million that Darling was supposed to use in wrenching the money free from some part of the administration.

In the beginning, Darling took these IOUs or chits as they were called very seriously and thought they were like winning lottery tickets, all he had to do was cash one in with the right person in the administration. "No small boy with a new cowboy hat and Texas boots ever felt more like a big shot than I did walking out of the White House with my first . . . [chit] signed with the familiar 'F.D.R.' in his own handwriting!" As he was shunted from one administration official to another, Darling became increasingly frustrated. Instead of providing money, the officials would regard the chit with gravity and then say, "sorry, I just don't have it." Darling began to feel as if he was caught in a game of "cat and mouse," or worse that he was the butt of one of the President's famous practical jokes. Nothing brought home

this feeling more than a particular interaction with Harry Hopkins, head of the Works Progress Administration, the Civil Works Administration, and the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, who had under his control billions of dollars in aid. After a number of meetings with Darling, Hopkins finally relented, saying he would have the money ready the next morning at nine sharp. When Darling perused the paper that day before heading off to the meeting, he saw a headline that read "Harry Hopkins Sails for Europe." He had left at twelve the night before and when Darling visited his office, Hopkins assistant said he knew nothing of the money and that he wasn't interested in Darling's explanation of Hopkin's promise.

If Darling was anything, he was persistent. Frustrated by the White House, he went to Capitol Hill and enlisted the support of Senator Norbeck who agreed to ask for a unanimous consent for a Senate Resolution giving the Survey \$1 million out of the previous year's unexpended federal relief funds to be used to purchase refuges. He got that and more in what Darling called "one of the funniest incidents of the whole restoration procedure." Norbeck was approaching the end of an illustrious career in the Senate where he was much beloved by his peers, all of whom were well aware that he was dying of cancer. In early June 1935, on the final day of the debate over the Omnibus Bill for the Biological Survey, Norbeck asked Carl D. Shoemaker, Secretary of the Special Senate Committee on Wildlife, to come by his office. Norbeck wanted to attach a rider to the bill requesting the money he and Darling had discussed. Shoemaker wrote up the appropriate language and at Norbeck's request raised the ante from \$1 million to \$6 million. Norbeck read the language and then asked Shoemaker to follow him to the Senate floor. On the walk over, Norbeck was extremely uncomfortable. He had recently had all of his teeth extracted and his dentures were giving him great pain, so he took them out and placed them in his vest pocket. As Norbeck strode into the chamber, the Omnibus Bill was being called for a vote. Norbeck, waving the amendment in his hand, rushed to give it to the clerk. The presiding Senator, Bennett Champ Clark asked the clerk to read it out loud, which he did in a quick manner that was hard to decipher. Clark then asked Norbeck to read the amendment as well. With his dentures in Norbeck was hard to understand because of his thick Scandinavian accent. With his dentures in his vest pocket he was virtually incomprehensible. Shoemaker observed that his words sounded like "glut, glut, oogle, glut . . ." Out of respect for the man who had fought so hard, so long for migratory waterfowl, his fellow Senators passed the rider unanimously even though nobody knew exactly what it contained. That afternoon, Norbeck successfully steered the appropriations bill through the Senate-House conference committee, whereupon the bill was messengered over to the White House for the



Original drawing by "Ding" Darling for the first duck stamp, titled "Mallards dropping in." Credit: Jeanette Cantrell Rudy and the National Postal Museum, Smithsonian Institution (photo by Larry Gates).

President's signature. Time was of the essence because Roosevelt was heading off for a Caribbean fishing trip the next morning. Darling had told the President to keep an eye out for the bill and when he saw it on his desk just before leaving he signed it after giving it only a cursory glance. The President then went on vacation, blissfully unaware he had just given Darling's Survey \$6 million. The waterfowl restoration program was finally flush. . . .

With money and tremendous drive, Darling transformed the demoralized Biological Survey into a self-respecting organization proud of its work. Duck stamp revenues, combined with Norbeck's \$6 million and other appropriations, enabled many of the ambitious land acquisition and improvement projects which had been shelved for years to move forward. . . .

In addition to overseeing the purchase of key refuges and other lands, Darling took more direct steps to halt the decline in migratory waterfowl populations. In 1935, the open season was reduced to thirty days, bag limits for duck and geese were slashed to ten and four, respectively, magazine shotguns holding more than three shots along with bait and live decoys were outlawed. When asked to defend his actions, Darling said, "[t]he regulations will stay as long as they are needed to bring back the ducks, and if tougher restrictions are needed, we will find some tougher regulations."

Darling played a particularly unique role in the creation of the first duck stamp in 1934. With the bill in place, a duck stamp was needed. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP), however, required a design to work with before creating the stamp. Darling was asked to sketch out some ideas of what he thought a stamp might look like. "There was no one else available to make a design," Darling later recalled. So he made six sketches on six cardboard stiffeners that laundries use to keep shirts wrinkle-free. The reason for the unusual "medium" had to do with haste and availability of materials. He had to get the sketches done quickly and the cardboard stiffeners were easily accessible. Darling often worked late and he needed to be prepared for unexpected nighttime social or political engagements. He kept a supply of fresh shirts on hand in his office for this purpose, each one of which came with cardboard backing. Colonel Sheldon, the Bureau's Chief of Public Relations, rushed Darling's sketches to the BEP. Three days later Darling asked what the printers had done with the sketches, whereupon he was told they had selected one and the engravers had already started production. Darling, who thought his sketches were ideas for the BEP to elaborate upon, not drawings to be duplicated on the stamp, was very upset. "I could have murdered Colonel Sheldon and all the Bureau of Engraving personnel," he later recalled, "and every time I look at that proof design of the first duck stamp I still want to do it." Darling was concerned that the quickly drawn

design of a mallard hen and drake landing in a marsh would reduce the artistic merit of the first stamp and hurt sales. He needn't have worried. The stamp was a success and 635,001 of them sold.

Approaching sixty, Darling stepped down as head of the Survey in late 1935 to return to his first passion - political cartooning. He accomplished a great deal in his relatively short tenure and felt he left at the right time. Darling commented "what is it about the Washington atmosphere that makes a man, after brief exposure, unable to tell the truth? It's lucky that my stay was short." With characteristic humility, Darling downplayed the importance of his tenure at the Bureau. "Any other well-informed individual, freed from the fear of losing his job with the government, could have done equally well and probably better than I did." He was not only humble, but wrong. Darling's political skill and tenacity played a major role in garnering from federal coffers over \$20 million to further Survey programs, especially those relating to waterfowl. This money went towards the purchase of nearly half a million acres of refuges and restoration areas. Darling also was instrumental in getting the President to set aside over three million acres of public land through executive orders. This, combined with his earlier efforts on behalf of waterfowl, is the reason Darling clearly earned his honorary title, "the best friend ducks ever had."

To order a copy of the book, signed by co-author, Eric Jay Dolin, please send a check to Duck Book, P.O. Box 534, Garrett Park, MD 20896 (hardcover — \$39.95; softcover — \$23.95; add \$6 for shipping and handling and, if a MD resident, add 5% for MD sales tax). You can also order online by visiting www.duckstampstory.com



The very first federal duck stamp designed by Darling, with his signature across the face. Credit: Jeanette Cantrell Rudy and the National Postal Museum, Smithsonian Institution (photo by Larry Gates).

MUSEUM NEWS

New Library Hours

The Melvin A. Conrad Research Library at the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum will now be open on a regular basis! Here is your opportunity to research your favorite carver, determine the value of your collection, or learn about the heyday of market gunning. Each Friday, volunteer Angela Davis will be available to assist researchers from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. The library contains books, magazines, clippings, and videotapes relating to waterfowl hunting, decoy carving techniques, decoy heritage, Chesapeake Bay history and ecology, auction results, and much more.

Use of the library's resources is free of charge. If you are interested in visiting the library, please notify the Museum of your intentions so that we may be prepared for your arrival. Individuals may use the library during the remainder of the week by appointment only.

Yard Sale

The Museum held its 7th Annual Yard Sale on Saturday, July 22, 2000. Originally scheduled for July 15, the sale was postponed due to one of this summer's many rainstorms. But the weather was absolutely beautiful on the twenty-second, and patrons turned out in a steady stream throughout the day despite the rescheduling. As usual, the sale offered an enticing assortment of items — from decoys and books to patio furniture and silverware — and, by noon, the pickings were getting slim! The money raised will help the Museum to continue to expand



Shoppers discovered many treasures at the Museum's 7th Annual Yard Sale. (J. Jones)

its exhibits and programs. Thank you to all who supported the Museum by donating items and making purchases. And a very special thank you to the fifteen loyal volunteers who worked during the event.

Summer Youth Carving Classes

Five youngsters learned the art of decoy carving from master artist Jeff Moore during the Decoy Museum's summer youth carving classes. From July 10 through August 21, the class met on Monday mornings for three hours in the Museum's workshop. Each student was able to make the bird of his choice, and Mr. Moore helped each youngster on an individual basis with whittling, sanding, burning, and painting his decoy. Because the class was combined with the weekly adult carving class, the boys also benefited from the knowledge and experience of the older carvers. Congratulations to Nathan Sturgill, Jonathan Fritz, Caleb Burns, Aaron Day, and Ezra Countiss, III for successfully completing the class!

Welcome

On July 25, the Decoy Museum welcomed Mindy Elledge to its staff as the new Finance Assistant. Mindy



Finance Assistant Mindy Elledge.

recently moved with her husband to Havre de Grace from Boulder, Colorado, where she worked as the Financial/Membership Assistant of the Collage Children's Museum and the Finance Manager of the Colorado Dance Festival. With years of experience in non-profit financial administration, she has already made many contributions to the Museum's operations. Welcome, Mindy!

The Museum would also like to welcome a new regular volunteer to our family. Ms. Angela Davis, a former schoolteacher from Bel Air, Maryland, is now assisting the Museum as a docent, youth program leader, librarian, and front desk attendant. Her energy and enthusiasm make her a real asset to the volunteer program, and

she has already conducted several successful tours! We look forward to working with Angela for years to come!

Membership Month

September was Membership Month at the Decoy Museum, and the Museum made many new friends during that time. As a special thank you, the Museum presented individuals who signed up for membership in September a handy travel mug imprinted with the Museum's logo. Twenty-six new members joined the Museum, and 107 members took advantage of the opportunity to renew their memberships. In addition, two new life members, Bob Van Zant and Sharon J. Crider, joined the Museum during Membership Month!

Welcome new members, and thank you for your support!

Donations

Contributions have recently been made to the Decoy Museum in memory of Mr. John Camper by Charles and Anna Bryan and J. Lee and Phyllis Bailey. The following have made contributions in memory of J. Evans McKinney: Karen and David Davis, III, Camillus and Jean Kirk, Walter and Waltraud Buck, Paul and Lois Loder, Harlan and Mary Williams, Robert Reed, Helen

S. Tharp, Grace S. Price, Ruth B. Lemen, Marjorie Phillips, George and Nancy Kelley, Flora D. Marlowe, the Cecil County District Court, and the John K. Burkley Company. The Decoy Museum would like to thank each of these contributors and to express our sincere condolences to the Camper and McKinney families.

The Museum also appreciates a recent donation of Holly Family photographs by the Drennen family and Chad Tragakis.

New Membership and Admissions Policies

In order to accommodate rising costs of operation and to fund improved exhibits and programming, the Decoy Museum has re-evaluated its membership and senior citizens admission policies.

Beginning January 1, 2001, individual Museum membership dues will be \$25, and family membership dues will be \$40. Members will continue to receive free admission to the Museum, a subscription to *The Canvasback*, a 10% discount in the gift shop, and advance notification of special events.

Also beginning January 1, 2001, the admission fee for senior citizens (age 65 and over) will be \$3, and the rate for adult and senior group tours admissions will be \$2 per person.

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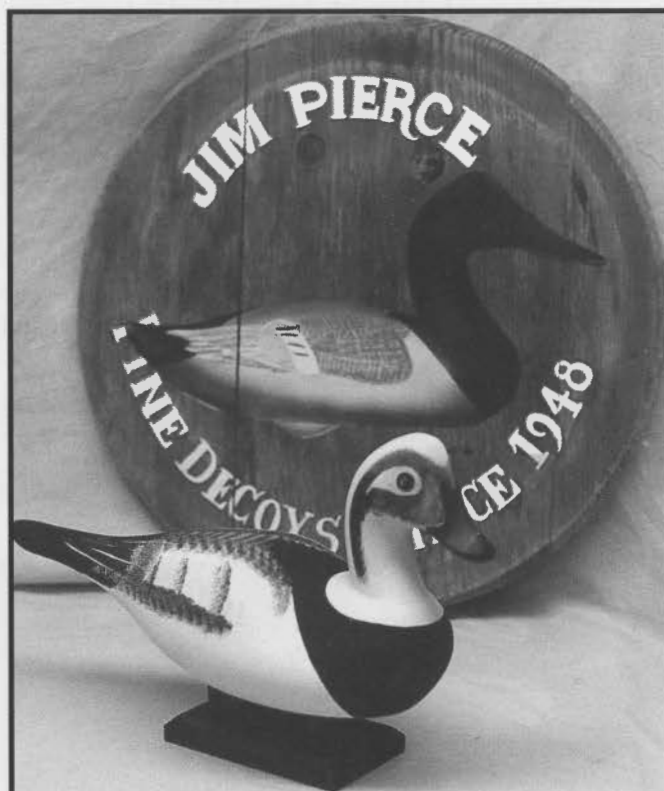
email: janec@currier-bb.com
www.currier-bb.com

CORRECTION

In the summer 2000 issue of *The Canvasback*, the winner of 1st place Blue-wing Teal Working Decoy was incorrectly listed.

First prize was won by Wayne Thayer.

We apologize for this error.



PIERCE'S DECOYS

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EXHIBIT UPDATE

New Permanent Exhibits

Regular visitors will notice many exciting improvements at the Decoy Museum over the next several months as the Museum revises its "What is a Decoy?" and "Honoring the Masters" exhibit galleries. One major part of this project will involve the completion of "What is a Decoy?" Intended as an introductory exhibit, this gallery will be infused with additional explanatory text and illustrative graphics to help even those entirely unfamiliar with waterfowl hunting understand the usage, heritage, and artistry of decoys. When completed, the exhibit will consist of twelve panels on the following subjects: the history and use of decoys, materials used, poses and species represented, factory decoys, the process of decoy construction, the distinction between working and decorative decoys, decoys of the four major flyways, Lower Chesapeake Bay decoys, Middle Chesapeake Bay decoys, Upper Chesapeake Bay Decoys, and the Havre de Grace Style. The centerpiece of the exhibit will be a large map of the United States that will trace the major flyways and display representative decoys made in each region of the nation.

In keeping with the Museum's strategic plan, all tributes to individual carvers will be relocated to the upstairs gallery. A large new case will be constructed to house the Museum's collection of R. Madison Mitchell decoys, and two smaller cases will be built for the decoys of Charles "Speed" Joiner and Harry Jobes. In addition, the Museum anticipates the arrival of a collection of decoys made by Oliver "Tutsy" Lawson, which will also be installed in "Honoring the Masters."

The Decoy Museum apologizes for any inconvenience visitors may experience during this time of transition. Unfortunately, there will be periods during which some exhibit cases will be vacant. It will take several months before the new exhibits are completely installed, but the final result will be well worth the wait!

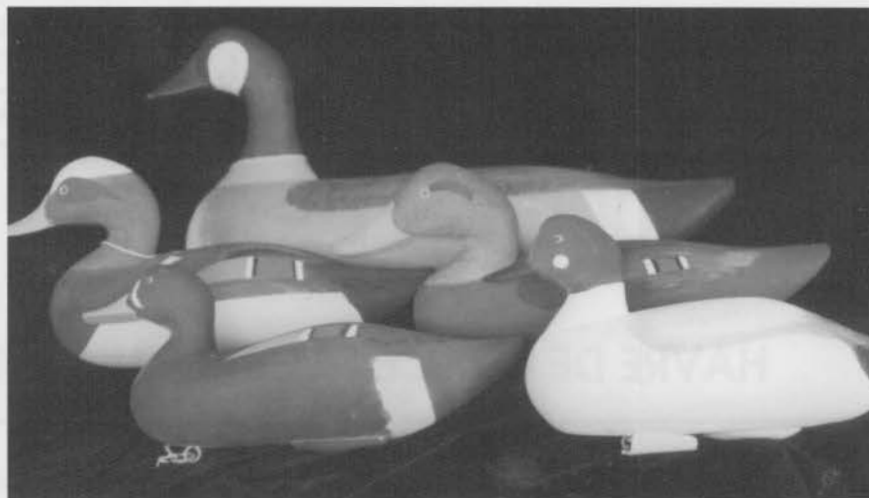
In order to complete these exhibit plans, the Decoy Museum needs your help! The Museum is seeking dona-

tions or long-term loans of decoys. The Museum is especially interested in decoys created by members of the Holly Family and Bob McGaw, as well as other pre-1950s decoys of the Susquehanna Flats region. In addition, we are seeking decoys from the Pacific, Central, and Mississippi Flyways. If you would like to help, please contact Curator Brenda Dorr at (410) 939-3739.

Donation of Gibson Decoys

In September, the family of the late John W. "Bill" Hitchens, Jr. generously donated a full collection of Paul Gibson decoys to the Museum. Mr. Hitchens had a long-standing friendship with Gibson that began when Norris Pratt introduced the two men. As a site manager for Philadelphia Gas Works, Mr. Hitchens had access to cedar utility poles, which he saved for Gibson to use for his decoys. For each delivery of wood, Gibson gave Mr. Hitchens a decoy. In this manner, Mr. Hitchens assembled an impressive collection of Gibson's work over four years.

The Hitchens family has donated thirty-one Gibson



A sampling of Gibson decoys donated by the Hitchens family.

decoys, including baldpates, black ducks, buffleheads, canvasbacks, green-winged teals, mallards, pintails, red heads, ringnecks, a scaup, a blue-winged teal, a Canada goose, and one of the last

tundra swans Gibson carved. These birds will be permanently installed in the Gibson case in the "Honoring the Masters" gallery, replacing decoys now on loan. In addition, the family has donated two McKinney canvasbacks, a Leonard Pryor canvasback, a Hagman green-winged teal, and a scaup and two canvasbacks of unknown origin. These birds Mr. Hitchens once hunted over on the Susquehanna Flats.

The Decoy Museum would like to extend its sincere appreciation to the Hitchens family for this extraordinary gift. The installation of the collection will proceed as part of the major revision of permanent exhibits and will be marked by an opening celebration. Watch your mailboxes for notification of this special event!

20th Annual Decoy, Wildlife Art & Sportsman Festival

DECOY AUCTION

CONSIGNMENTS WANTED

Saturday, May 5, 2000 at 5:30 p.m.

Havre de Grace High School Auditorium

700 Congress Avenue, Havre de Grace, MD

The Festival Committee is *now accepting consignments of fine quality decoys* to fill 100 lots. The commission rate will be 10% from the seller and 10% from the buyer. All proceeds will benefit the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum.

Consignments must be received by March 16, 2001.



Interested parties please contact:

Brenda Dorr

Curator

Havre de Grace Decoy Museum

215 Giles Street

Havre de Grace, MD 21078

(410) 939-3739

2000 FALL RAFFLE

TO BENEFIT

HAVRE DE GRACE DECOY MUSEUM



First Prize: Pair of R. Madison Mitchell Working Canvasback Decoys (signed & dated)

Second Prize: Flat Bottom Decorative Canvasback Drake by Paul Gibson (signed & dated)

Third Prize: Framed Print of R. Madison Mitchell's Decoy Shop by Paul Shertz (remarqued & signed by the artist and Mitchell)

\$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00

Winners drawn at the Museum during the Candlelight Tour and Carvers Celebration
on **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2000** at 8 PM.

For tickets, call the Museum at (410) 939-3739.

WHEN DUCKS WERE PLENTY

NEW!!



Ed Muderlak

"*When Ducks Were Plenty* should be owned and read by any waterfowl hunter who cares about the transitions and history of the sport. Ed Muderlak has done a great job selecting and editing stories from the early days of American duck hunting."

John Barsness, *Gray's Sporting Journal*

"The next best thing to a morning in the marsh is an evening in an armchair with this collection of wildfowling tales."

George Reiger, *Field and Stream*

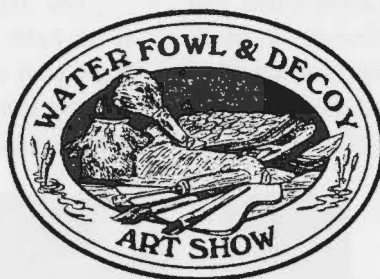
"Muderlak's deft transcription of the florid Victorian prose into modern English restores these dusty gems from America's golden age of shotgunning to vibrant life."

Bruce Buck, *Shooting Sportsman*

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Bel Air High School • Bel Air, Maryland

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Special Event Wrap-Up 4th Annual Sporting Clays Shoot



On Sunday, July 30, 2000, the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum hosted its 4th Annual Sporting Clays Shoot at Alexander's Sporting Farms in Golts, Maryland. An important part of the Museum's yearly special events schedule, the shoot once again provided a special opportunity for participants to demonstrate their marksmanship, engage in some good-natured competition, and enjoy the company of their friends.

A record-high seventy-three shooters entered the competition this year, which consisted of Lewis Class and Ladies Class contests, a quail flush, and a five stand. Mark Helmick won the High Overall Score award with a perfect score of fifty, and Alan Burdette captured the High Museum Member Prize with a forty-eight. Mai Manning's score of forty-seven garnered her the Ladies Class award. The Attendance prize was taken by Rod Reynolds.

Of course, there was much more to the event than just the competitions. Mike Veasey presided over a small auction to benefit the Decoy Museum. Included in the auction were decoys by Vernon Bryant, Bob Jobes, Bryon Bodt, John Clark, Jim Pierce, Charlie Bryan, Steve Lay, Dave Walker, and Charlie "Speed" Joiner. Many thanks to these gentlemen for their generous donations! There were also a series of

drawings for prizes provided by the Decoy Museum's Gift Shop, and the competitors enjoyed a very nice buffet lunch prepared by the Alexanders.

The Decoy Museum wishes to extend its gratitude to Event Chairman David Walker and the corps of loyal volunteers who helped to make the day a success! Special thanks go to Ontario Printing, Mert Street, Harford Alarm, Chesapeake Rent-All, Dave Walker, Mike Affleck, and Comer Construction for their financial support.

The 5th Annual Sporting Clays Event is scheduled to be held at Alexander's on Sunday, July 22, 2001. Mark your calendars now and watch for the competition registration form in the Spring 2001 issue of *The Canvasback*.



**Text and photos by
Kay Morrison**

2000 Duck Fair Auction

Prices Realized

Saturday, September 9, 2000

LOT/PRICE	ITEM DESCRIPTION		
1 \$325	Canvasback Drake by Bob Litzenberg, 1984, s&d	26 \$80	Canvasback Drake by Marion Hales ("The Whittler"), 1988, s&d
2 \$50	Redhead Drake by Jim Pierce, 1983, s&d	27 \$60	Pintail Drake, unknown carver (factory-made?)
3 \$175	Redhead Drake by R. Madison Mitchell, 1982, s&d	28 \$35	Mallard Drake, unknown carver (factory-made?)
4 \$200	Canvasback Drake by R. Madison Mitchell, 1984, s&d	29 \$55	Canvasback Drake, unknown carver
5 \$75	Black Duck Drake by Jim Pierce, 1983, s&d	30 \$25	Bluebill Drake by Ray Taylor of the Eastern Shore, 1980, s&d
6 \$65	Mallard Hen by Jim Pierce, 1972, s&d	31 \$25	Seagull from New Jersey, 1975
7 \$50	Baldpate Drake by Steve Lay, 1984, s & d	32 \$100	Wood Duck Hen, half-size, by William Coleman of Chestertown, MD, 1970
8 \$325	Mallard Pair by J. Evans McKinney, 1983, s&d	33 \$15	Canvasback Drake from the Eastern Shore, 1940s
9 \$85	Mallard Drake by Walter Smith, 1988, s&d	34 \$55	Canvasback Drake from the Eastern Shore, 1950w
10 \$125	Red-breasted Merganser Pair by Walter Smith, 1993, s&d	35 \$50	Canvasback Hen by Pat Vincenti, 1988, s&d
11 \$40	Miniature Swan by Walter Smith, 1989, s&d	36 \$25	Shore Bird by Tom Savage of Chincoteague, VA, 1985
12 \$80	Blue-winged Teal Pair, primitive, by Walter Smith, 1993, s&d	37 \$40	Shore Bird by Roy Shanklin, 1975
13 \$450	High-head Canvasback Drake by Charlie Bryan, signed	38 \$35	Shore Bird, 1960s
14 \$65	Mist Off the Flats," original black & white pencil drawing by Paul Treadway, 2000, framed & matted	39 \$30	Canvaback Swimmer, half-size, by Mike Caldwell, 1991
15 \$20	"Carry-lite" Factory Decoy with glass eyes	40 \$55	Shore Bird
16 \$30	"Victor & Co." Factory Decoy	41 \$50	Shore Bird
17 \$30	Antique Redhead with glass eye	42 \$30	1999 Duck Fair Open Head Whittling Contest - 1st Place, Joey Jobes
18 \$15	Antique Black Duck	43 \$20	1999 Duck Fair Open Head Whittling Contest - 2nd Place, Bob Jobes
19 \$25	Herter (?) Factory Cork Duck with glass eyes	44 \$22.50	1999 Duck Fair Open Head Whittling Contest - 3rd Place, Charlie Pierce
20 \$195	Bluebill Pair by Mike Smyser of Havre de Grace, signed	45 \$12.50	1999 Duck Fair Open Head Whittling Contest - Paul E. Butcher
21 \$75	Black Duck, cork, by M.G. Schwartz, 1982, signed	46 \$12.50	1999 Duck Fair Open Head Whittling Contest - Vernon Bryant
22 \$175	Canvasback Pair, Seneca Lake Mason	47 \$20	Snow Goose, miniature, by Steve Lay, 1997, signed
23 \$110	Mallard Pair by Harry Jobes, 1988	48 \$65	Puffin, half-size, by Alan Schaubert, 1999, s&d
24 \$100	Canvasback Drake, body by R. M. Mitchell, head by Joey Jobes	49 \$575	Whistling Swan, half-size, 12/25 by Charlie Joiner, 1996, s&d
25 \$70	Canvasback Drake, antique, unknown carver	50 \$130	Tundra Swan, half-size, by Jeff Moore, 1997, s&d
		51 \$25	Snow Goose, half-size, by Charlie Jobes, 1999, s&d
		52 \$220	Black Duck, half-size, by G. Strunk, signed
		53 \$140	Cormorant by Lee Scheeley of Chincoteague, VA, 1999, s&d

54 \$60	Snow Goose, half-size, by Bob Jobes, 1995, s&d	66 \$550	Mallard Pair by R. Madison Mitchell, 1957, s&d
55 \$35	Mallard Drake used in Middle River, Sparrow's Point, MD	67 \$575	Canvasback Pair by R. Madison Mitchell, 1957, s&d
56 \$55	Canada Geese Pair, miniature by Dick Robinson, 1988, s&d	68 \$20	Mallard Drake, miniature, by Herb Daisey of Chincoteague, VA, signed
57 \$30	Pintail Pair, miniature, Art Boxleitner, 1992, s&d	69 \$15	Mallard Drake, miniature, unknown carver
58 \$20	Ruddy Duck, miniature, Dick Robinson, 1991, s&d	70 \$30	Pintail Drake, miniature, Capt. Jess Urie
59 \$20	Blue Goose, miniature, Art Boxleitner, 1992, s&d	71 \$30	Goldeneye Drake, miniature, Capt. Jess Urie
60 \$35	Snow Goose, half-size, by Dick Robinson, 1989, s&d	72 \$375	Seagull by Charlie Bryan
61 \$60	Canvasback, Blue Goose, and Brant by Clarence "Titbird" Bauer, 1989 & 1990, s&d	73 \$70	Brant by John Clark, Honorary Chairman
62 \$250	Black Duck by R. Madison Mitchell, 1957, s&d	74 \$45	"Going Home" print by William Veasey
63 \$225	Redhead Hen by R. Madison Mitchell, 1957, s&d	75 \$80	Canada Goose Silhouettes
64 \$275	Baldpate Hen by R. Madison Mitchell, 1957, s&d	76 \$45	Goldeneye Drake by Bob Jobes
65 \$525	Blackhead Pair by R. Madison Mitchell, 1957, s&d	77 \$15	2000 Duck Fair Head Whittling Contest 1st Place — Harry Jobes
		78 \$22.50	2000 Duck Fair Head Whittling Contest 1st Place — Ronald Rue
		79 \$22.50	2000 Duck Fair Head Whittling Contest 1st Place — Charlie Bryan

17th Annual Ocean County WILDFOWL ART & DECOY SHOW

February 3 & 4, 2001

Featuring...Artists, Carvers, Suppliers (Over 125 Exhibits of the Finest Anywhere)

Carving Competitions (Decoys, Birds, Fish, Juniors, Cocktail, Miniature)

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I.W.C.A. Divisions

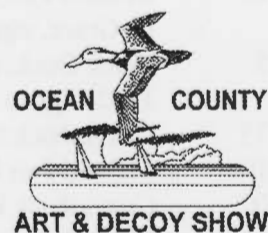
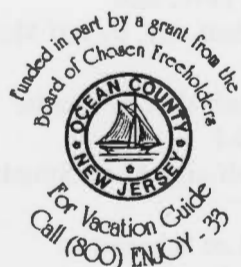
Kids & Adult Paint A Decoy

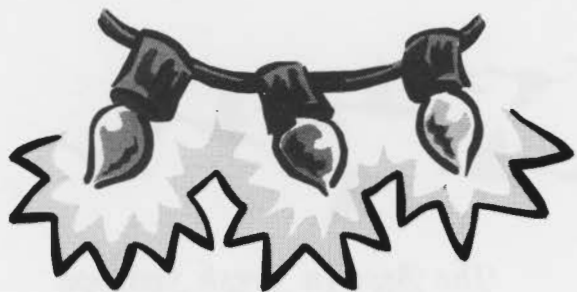
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*Happy
Holidays!*

CANDLELIGHT TOUR & SALE

AT THE HAVRE DE GRACE DECOY MUSEUM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2000

1 1:00 AM TO 8:00 PM

Join us at the Decoy Museum for our annual holiday celebration! Stroll through the museum and see our unique decorations, including the famous "Duck Head" Christmas Tree. Visit the carvers exhibiting their work upstairs to pick up special gifts. And don't forget to stop in our Gift Shop, where members will receive a 25% discount on all purchases.

FREE MUSEUM ADMISSION

25% DISCOUNT ON GIFT SHOP PURCHASES FOR MEMBERS

FALL RAFFLE DRAWING AT 8:00 PM

(TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE MUSEUM)

Tickets for the 28th Annual Candlelight Tour of Havre de Grace are available at the Decoy Museum or by contacting Madelyn Shank at 410-939-3947.





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**Heads or tails, you will always win,
if you become a member**

of the
Havre de Grace Decoy Museum

Membership Application

Membership in the Museum offers you significant benefits not available to the general public. Each member receives four issues of *The Canvasback* magazine free of charge. Additionally, members gain free entry to the Museum, notification of Museum events and a 10% discount in the Museum's Gift Shop.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Annual Membership Level:

Student: \$15 _____

Individual: \$20 _____

Family: \$35 _____

Business: \$100 _____

Life Member: \$500 _____

Please mail this form with your check or money order to:

Havre de Grace Decoy Museum, Membership

215 Giles Street

Havre de Grace, Maryland 21078

CALENDAR

November

4

14th Annual Havre de Grace Decoy Museum Anniversary Dinner. Havre de Grace, Maryland. Celebrate the evolution and growth of the Decoy Museum! Join members and friends for an entertaining evening of great food and merriment. Brief auction. Proceeds directly benefit the Museum. Held at the Bayou Restaurant. 6:00 p.m. For more information, call 410-939-3739.

10-12

30th Annual Waterfowl Festival. Easton, Maryland. Features paintings, carvings, sculpture, decoys, crafts, kids activities, great food and music throughout the historic town of Easton. 400 wildlife artists and craftsmen. For information, visit www.waterfowlfestival.org or call 410-822-4567.

December

10

Havre de Grace Decoy Museum Candlelight Tour and Sale and Carver Celebration. Havre de Grace, Maryland. Visit the Decoy Museum and see our unique holiday decorations, including the famous "Duck Head" Christmas Tree. Stop by the exhibitors' booths to pick up some very special gifts. Or browse through the gift shop, where members will receive a 25% discount on all purchases. Held at the Decoy Museum. Free admission. 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. For more information, call 410-939-3739.

January

13

Decoy Identification Day. Held in the Decoy Museum's library. Visitors may bring their old "mystery" decoys to the Decoy Museum for identification and analysis by decoy experts. Additional research materials will be available for use. 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. \$5.00 per decoy. For more information, please call (410) 939-3739.

February

3-4

17th Annual Ocean County Wildfowl Art & Decoy Show. Brick, New Jersey. Featuring artists, carvers, suppliers, carving competitions, seminars, kids and adult "paint-a-decoy," and the 2000 NJ State Championship Decoy Carving Competition. Held at Brick High School, 246 Chambers Bridge Road, Brick, New Jersey. Sponsored by the Ocean County YMCA. For more information, call 732-341-9622 ext. 2214.

10-11

28th Annual "California Open" Wildlife Art Festival. Del Mar, California. Features over 200 artists and carvers from the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Held at the Hilton San Diego/Del Mar. Saturday 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Entry donation \$5, children under 12 free. Presented by Pacific Southwest Wildlife Arts, Inc. For more information, contact Tom and Darlene Westbrook at 858-271-1714.

March

31-APRIL 1

3rd Annual Decoy and Waterfowl Art Show. Bel Air, Maryland. Features carvers and wildlife artists selling and showing their wares. Sponsored by the Greater Bel Air Community Foundation, Inc. and the American Red Cross. Currently accepting vendor applications. Held at Bel Air High School. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. both days. For more information, please contact the Foundation at 410-836-6366 or P.O. Box 412, Bel Air, MD 21014.

To have your event included in this calendar, simply mail us your information. Inclusion in the calendar is free. The deadline for submission for the Winter 2001 issue is January 5, 2001.

Weekend Carving Demonstrations

at the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum

Sat. Nov. 4	Ken Clodefelter	Sat. Dec. 2	Leonard Burcham
Sun. Nov. 5	Bill Streaker	Sun. Dec. 3	OPEN
Sat. Nov. 11	John Nickle	Sat. Dec. 9	Bill Streaker
Sun. Nov. 12	OPEN	Sun. Dec. 10	Joe Cook
Sat. Nov. 18	Mike Gleason	Sat. Dec. 16	Butch and Mary Carol Larrimore
Sun. Nov. 19	OPEN	Sun. Dec. 17	OPEN
Sat. Nov. 25	Butch and Mary Carol Larrimore	Sat. Dec. 23	OPEN
Sun. Nov. 26	OPEN	Sun. Dec. 24	OPEN
		Sat. Dec. 30	Mike Gleason
		Sun. Dec. 31	OPEN

If you are interested in becoming a weekend carver on any of the OPEN dates, please contact Pat Vincenti at (410) 734-6238. Thanks!

CLASSIFIED

For our members we offer free classified ads to buy, sell, and trade decoys or related objects. Please keep ads under 15 words. For non-members, the cost is \$5.00 for 15 words. Mail your classified ads to: Decoy Museum, 215 Giles Street, Havre de Grace, MD 21078.

FOR SALE: Paul Gibson's complete Decoy Collection (eleven pairs plus the swan and goose) with a framed and signed print of the collection. All pieces signed. All in mint condition. Telephone (703) 524-8298 and/or email aberdeene1@aol.com

FOR SALE: *When Ducks Were Plenty* by Ed Muderlak. Duck shooting from Frank Forester's 1840s to William Hazelton's 1920s. 400+ pages, 115 old-time photos and etchings. Limited edition (500) slipcased \$65 post paid. Old Reliable Publishing, Box 4, Davis, IL 61019.

FOR SALE: Hand carved decoys by Wilfred Bush. Three different sizes, twenty different kinds. Prices start at \$35 a pair. Call (309) 346- 2510 or write to 275 Derby Street, Pekin, IL 61554 for price list.

WANTED: Old waterfowling & shorebird hunting photos. Duck, goose, and swan neck and leg bands. Old duck hunting books. Dean Dashner, 349 S. Green Bay Rd., Neenah, WI 54954 or call (920) 725-4350.

FOR SALE: 1981 Maryland Duck Stamp Print. Remarque by Lem Ward & Jack Shroeder. Special edition. Call Jim Kelly at (410) 825-1522.

WANTED: New Jersey, Delaware River, Crisfield, Sterling - Wards, Illinois River, Ducks, Geese, Swans & Mergansers. Call Herb at (212) 861-1414.

WANTED: The Havre de Grace Decoy Museum seeks donations of long-term loans of decoys carved by members of the Holly family and Bob McGaw. Also seeking decoys from the Pacific, Central, and Mississippi Flyways. Call Brenda Dorr, (410) 939-3739

FOR SALE: Chesapeake Bay Decoys -- many makers -- call Jim at (703) 768-7264 or potomacduck@aol.com

FOR SALE: 30 Mitchell Decoys auctioned at the First Annual Decoy Festival in 1982. Special Shertz print mounted 6' x 8'. \$20,000. (410) 939-4536.

WANTED: Ducks and geese of the East Coast, New Jersey, N.Y., New England, and Illinois River. Call Herb (212) 873-2004.

WANTED: Decoy or body with "Reckless" Brand. Call Dan at (410) 586-2378.

BUYING: Any decoys, including miniatures, pictures, photos, and memorabilia of Douglas Jester (1876-1961) of Chincoteague, Virginia. Call Fitz Godwin at (703) 528-9800 or write to 26C Auburn Ct., Alexandria, Virginia 22305. All is of interest for purchasing, especially pictures of Mr. Jester's carving decoys or any pictures of his boats.

WANTED: Daniel Baker III full-size goose decoy, 1990. Call Matt at (410) 586-9585.



Geoff Tristram's exquisitely detailed paintings have earned him an international reputation, and his latest print, Ducks Deluxe is a fitting subject for his skills. Decoys are fast becoming recognized as the true folk art of America and Canada, and are now realizing very high prices at auction.

The decoys in Ducks Deluxe are some of the rarest in North America. The ultimate examples of the carver's art. Geoff is recording for posterity the work of other artists, long gone, but not forgotten.

This stunning watercolor is available as a limited, signed and numbered edition of 1200, plus a 'deluxe' edition of only 50 artist proofs, complete with original pencil sketch 'remarque' by the artist. Both versions are printed on 350gsm acid-free top quality artboard with lightfast inks. Each print will come with a certificate of authenticity and is available either tastefully framed with a double mount, or unmounted.

A portion from the sale of each print will go directly to Delta Waterfowl for their many research and conservation programs.

Image size: 17½ x 15 inches. Sheet size: 24 x 18½ inches.
Frame size: 30 x 25 inches.



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