

The DUCK REPORT

A Journal for Duck Stamp Collectors

March 2003

RW1 Plate Block Sells for record \$27,500

by Bob Dumaine

A nearly perfectly centered, mint, never-hinged plate block of six of RW1, the first federal duck stamp sold for \$27,500, including the 10% buyer's premium, in Robert A. Siegel's Sept. 20 auction in New York City.

Catalog values for this elusive multiple range from \$10,000 to \$12,500 – obviously a bit low for this particular offering.

The record price is understandable, because of the centering of the plate, color, and what Siegel describes as “A true condition rarity” – that is, a philatelic object that is rare by virtue of its overall quality.

The description mentions “usual few tiny natural gum skips and faint natural gum bends as always found on this issue.” I would take exception to their use of their

phrase “always found on this issue,” as I have seen at least a half dozen of these plate blocks free of such anomalies.

The plate block does have full side selvage, a definite plus, and the centering is spectacular.

Usually some perf separations are present on this issue, and since none are mentioned in the description, it could qualify as a condition rarity. In fact, a plate block of the 1934 issue is a rarity in anybody's book, in nearly any condition.

Why is this plate block so difficult for collectors to find?

To answer that question, we must refer to the Postal Regulations issued in 1934, which among other things, allowed only one stamp be sold per patron. The stamp had to be affixed to a state license or Form 3333 in the presence of the postmaster.

It was not until June 15, 1935, long after hunting season ended, that post offices were permitted to sell multiples of this stamp. Since the stamp was taken off sale on June 30, a window of only two weeks existed for the public to buy multiples.

A fair presumption would be that some postal window clerks were not aware of these regulations, and sold



This RW1 plate block realized \$27,500 in a recent auction.

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Remarque fares well in NYC auction

A remarked 1959 duck stamp, the popular King Buck black Labrador stamp was offered by New York City auction house, Robert A. Siegel Auctions in their December 17, 2002 sale.

The stamp, lot 1571, a remarked plate number single fetched \$490, including commission. This is the first instance of which we are aware, of a major public auction house selling a remarked duck stamp.

This is the first known instance of a remarque being offered by one of the large philatelic auction houses.

Remarque is a French word, loosely meaning redrawn, and is a technique used by artists to paint an

original image on a stamp or print.

The stamp was signed by the artist, Maynard Reece, and remarked by Ken Michaelsen in recognition of Reece's work. Reece himself no longer does remarques. Reece was a five-time winner of the federal stamp design, for the RW15, RW18, RW26, RW36, and RW38 stamps.



Spectacular RW26 remarque.

New printer wins bid for 2003 federal duck stamp

Ashton Potter, a company in Buffalo, New York, has been chosen as the printer for the 2003-2004 Federal Duck Stamp. The outsourcing of the stamp printing has saved hundreds of thousands of dollars a year over the past two years that can better be used to purchase additional wetlands for the Refuge system.

The Bureau of Printing and Engraving was the printer for the first 68 duck stamps, from 1934 to 2001, and did an outstanding job. They lost the contract for the 2002 stamp, which was awarded to Banknote Corporation of America.

The Banknote Corporation's first issue has the dubious distinction of containing the least engraving of any of the 69 stamps issued since 1934.

The centering of the 2002 stamps is also

of very poor quality compared to other recent duck stamps. Sam Houston Duck Co. has purchased over 70 panes of twenty so far, and after returning many to the Kansas City outlet for exchange, we were informed by the postal clerks "this is the best we have on hand."

Hopefully, future low bidders will not mean reduced quality, regardless of who does the printing. The tradition of a top quality federal stamp should be maintained for the best waterfowl conservation program in the world. If you have an opinion either way, let the Duck Stamp Office hear from you. They have recently moved, so note their new address: Federal Duck Stamp Office, 4501 N. Fairfax Dr., Mail Stop MBSP-4070, Arlington, VA 22203. 703-358-2000, fax: 703-358-2009.

Jr. Duck Contest set for April

This 2003 Junior Duck Stamp Contest will take place on April 26 in Ocean City, Maryland at the Ward Museum, during the World Wildfowl Carving Competition and Festival. (www.wardmuseum.org)

Junior Duck Stamp state coordinators are gearing up for their annual Junior Duck Stamp Art Competitions. The deadline for entries in the states is March 15 each year.

Each Best of State entry, along with the winners from Puerto Rico, Guam and American Samoa, will go on to the national contest in Maryland.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is pleased to announce new awards for first, second and third place national winners.

The first place national winner receives a \$4000 cash award and a free trip to Washington, DC in the fall to attend the Federal Duck Stamp Contest, along with his/her art teacher, one parent and the state coordinator. The national first place winning design is used to produce the federal junior duck stamp.

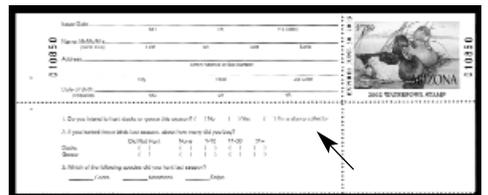
Second place receives a \$2000 cash award and third place receives \$1000.

Post Office 'Sold Out' of artist cards

The United States Postal Service reports that the 2002 federal duck stamp Artist Commemorative Cards and Ceremony Programs have sold out in a record six months.

Because of this, the Federal Duck Stamp Office estimates that preliminary orders for next year's Artist Cards and Ceremony Programs will double, providing more funds to help preserve America's natural heritage.

Arizona changes hunter stamp format



Design of the 2002 Arizona hunter sheets, with "stamp collector" notation.

Arizona has changed the design of their hunter stamps which are issued in books of ten, two stamps per page.

The new format maintains the size of the duck stamp and the tab from previous years, however, a second part has been added.

This additional tab collects more information, including the purchasers intent to hunt ducks or geese, bag totals from the previous year and other species hunted.

An option is even provided for stamp collectors. One of the questions is "Do you intend to hunt ducks or geese this season?" The answers are "No," "Yes" and "I'm a stamp collector."

The collector stamp is still issued in a sheet of 30, as it has been since the program began in 1987.

New York issues "Thank You" stamp



New York's habitat "thank you."

Legislation signed by Gov. George Pataki in 2002 created a new habitat stamp that will be available to people who want to support the Department's effort to conserve habitat and increase public access for fish and wildlife-related recreation. Beginning

last August, the stamp was available to anyone for \$5, wherever sporting licenses are sold. The 2002 habitat stamps features a pen and ink rendering of a ruffed grouse about to flush from a fresh stump. Ruffed grouse often benefit from forestry practices that create early succession stage habitats.

A habitat stamp is not required to hunt, fish or trap, nor do you have to purchase a sporting license to buy a habitat stamps. Habitat is the key to fish and wildlife abundance, and the new habitat stamps will provide money to help improve and conserve fish and wildlife habitat for the future as well as increase public access to public and private lands for fish and wildlife-related recreation. Buying a habitat stamp is the perfect way for young or old, angler or hunter, birder or photographer to help conserve New York's fabulous wildlife heritage. By law, all monies raised through purchases of the habitat stamp must be deposited in the state's conservation fund in a newly created habitat account.

The Duck Report

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Publisher Bob Dumaine
Editor Rita Dumaine

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Louque wins with Snow Goose



Ron Louque's winning design will be featured on RW70.

Virginia wildlife artist Ron Louque was the clear winner in the 2002 Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest. He has entered the contest every year since 1973 and has come close several times, but has never won.

Louque's acrylic painting of a pair of snow geese bested 249 other entries and will become the 2003-2004 Federal Duck Stamp, which will go on sale July 1, 2003. The Federal Duck Stamp Contest is sponsored each year by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

"Waterfowl hunters are required to buy Duck Stamps, and stamp collectors, art lovers and conservationists have purchased Duck Stamps for years to add to their albums, enjoy as works of art, and contribute to waterfowl conservation," said

Assistant Secretary Craig Manson. "But today we're going big time. Our National Wildlife Refuges are turning 100 and we're asking all Americans who care about the environment to consider buying a Duck Stamp as a way of ensuring these great lands are protected for the next 100 years."

"I am thankful that the judges appreciated my painting," were Louque's first words. "It's a dream come true. I wanted a fool

proof entry so I created 300 compositional studies to show to friends. I got that narrowed down to four and then was stuck. I had eight days to paint what usually takes me two weeks."

The painting's background depicts the lighthouse at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge.

"I wanted to use a refuge with a distinctive feature as background since next year is the National Wildlife Refuge System's Centennial," said Louque. "The lighthouse is such a majestic feature, plus my painting is based on the effect of light, so I called the manager at Chincoteague NWR and he sent me photos of the lighthouse. There was a flock of snow geese in the picture ... it must have been a sign."

Louque, a taxidermist since a child, used two stuffed snow geese and photographs as reference. Louque has also been an avid duck hunter since childhood.

"I wanted a painting that hit the heart, not the intellect," said Louque. "The light source evoked an emotional response to the painting. Also, I am glad that my wife, Anne, put up with me these last six months."

Second place in this year's Federal Duck Stamp Contest went to Terry Doughty of Brookfield, Wisconsin, for an acrylic rendering of a male and female wood duck.

Third place, after a two-way tie, went to Karen Latham of Hastings, Minnesota for her watercolor rendition of a ring-necked duck. Latham is the mother of two Junior Duck Stamp Contest winners. Latham's

daughter Bonnie won the National Junior Duck Stamp contest a few years ago and daughter Rebecca placed third a year prior.

Judges for this year's contest were: Tom Fulgham, editor-in-chief, *Ducks Unlimited Magazine* since 1997 and former editor of *American Hunter*.

June Lyon, artist with a Fine Arts Major has worked in most of the major mediums. Since 1987 she has spent most of her time as a wildfowl carver, earning many Best of Show awards and has served as a judge in the prestigious Ward World Waterfowl Carving Competition.

Robert McDowell, President of the International Assoc. of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, as well as long-time Director of the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife.

John P. Rogers, Former Chief of the Office of Migratory Bird Management and Assistant Regional Director for Refuges and Wildlife in Alaska. John is a retired FWS employee.

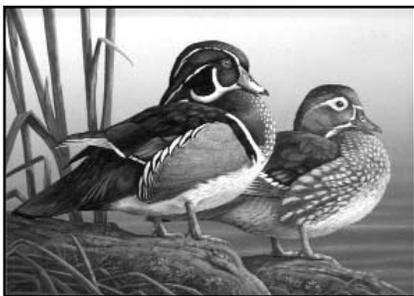
Peter Schreyer, Executive Director of the Crealde School of Art in Winterpark, Fla. Peter's photography has been exhibited around the world, as well as published in four books of his work.

Eligible species for this year's contest were the gadwall, snow goose, wood duck, wigeon and ring-necked duck.

The greater snow goose is slightly larger than the more common lesser snow goose. The greater snow goose nests in the extreme eastern Arctic areas of Canada and in Greenland. The geese migrate during the fall and winter months along coastal marshes and crop lands from New Jersey to North Carolina. They winter in large flocks and their raucous calling can be heard for miles.

Duck Stamps bearing this year's winning design will go on sale at post offices, national wildlife refuges, some national retail chain stores, and various sporting-goods stores nationwide July 1, 2003. The 2003-2004 Duck Stamp will be available at select locations in both a self-adhesive format and the traditional gummed format. Duck Stamps can also be used to gain admission to those national wildlife refuges that charge entry fees.

Species eligible for the 2003 contest will be: brant, Ross' goose, Northern shoveler, redhead and the ruddy duck.



Second place wood ducks by Terry Doughty.



Third place ring-necked duck by Karen Latham.

Remember – sign up for our e-mail notices and receive news, auction announcements, first shot at specials and more!

Register at shduck.com

2002 Federal Duck Contest Scores

Round 1 — 30 entries selected

(7 bring backs – # 44, 101, 116, 194, 227, 230, 231,).

Round 2

Entry #	Artist	Species	Fulgham	Lyon	McDowell	Rogers	Schreyer	Total
32	Rob Leslie	Wigeon	3	5	4	2	3	17
35	Ken Buckle	Wood duck	3	3	3	2	3	14
44	Phillip Crowe	Wigeon	1	2	4	2	3	12
50	Terry Doughty	Wood duck	5	4	5	3	4	21
57	Greg Alexander	Snow goose	2	2	3	3	4	14
58	Robert Metropulos	Snow goose	2	2	4	3	3	14
61	Harold Roe	Wigeon	5	2	3	5	4	19
66	Louis Frisino	Ring-necked duck	3	1	2	4	3	13
70	Ernest Simmons	Wood duck	3	1	4	2	3	13
92	Rebecca Latham	Ring-necked duck	3	1	3	3	4	14
98	Scot Storm	Wood duck	2	4	3	4	3	16
101	Bonnie Latham	Ring-necked duck	2	1	4	3	3	13
102	Karen Latham	Ring-necked duck	1	3	5	4	3	16
107	Gerald Putt	Wood duck	4	1	3	5	3	16
116	Peter Mathois	Wigeon	3	1	3	2	3	12
123	Bruce Miller	Wood duck	2	2	5	3	3	15
164	Robert Copple	Wigeon	1	2	3	2	4	12
166	Charles Shauk	Wood duck	1	2	4	3	4	14
167	Greg Farrell	Ring-necked duck	2	1	5	3	3	14
179	Jeffrey Klinefelter	Ring-necked duck	2	1	4	3	5	15
193	Wilhelm Goebel	Gadwall	3	4	4	1	3	15
194	Mark Mueller	Wood duck	2	1	4	2	3	12
202	Richard Clifton	Wood duck	2	2	5	1	4	14
208	Ron Louque	Snow goose	5	5	5	2	5	22
213	Jim Hautman	Wood duck	4	2	5	2	4	17
225	Samuel Timm	Wigeon	2	2	3	2	4	13
227	John Nelson Harris	Gadwall	1	1	2	1	4	9
230	Les Didier	Snow goose	3	2	3	2	3	13
231	Daniel Brevick	Gadwall	1	3	3	2	3	12
236	Darren Mauer	Ring-necked duck	2	1	4	5	3	15

Round 3

Entry #	Fulgham	Lyon	McDowell	Rogers	Schreyer	Total
32	3	4	4	3	3	17
50	5	4	4	4	4	21
61	5	3	3	5	4	20
98	3	4	3	4	3	17
102	3	4	5	5	3	20
107	4	3	3	5	3	18
208	5	5	4	3	5	22
213	4	3	5	3	4	19

Round 4 tie break

Entry #	Fulgham	Lyon	McDowell	Rogers	Schreyer	Total
61	5	3	4	4	5	21
102	3	5	5	5	3	21

Round 5 tie break

Entry #	Fulgham	Lyon	McDowell	Rogers	Schreyer	Total
61	5	3	4	4	4	20
102	3	5	5	5	3	21

Former federal contest winners entered:

Neal Anderson	Bruce Miller
Al Gilbert	William Morris
Wil Goebel	Maynard Reece
Jim Hautman	Dan Smith
Ron Jenkins	Bob Steiner

The new address for the Duck Stamp Office is:
Federal Duck Stamp Office, 4401 North Fairfax Dr., Mail Stop MBSP-4070, Arlington, VA 22203-1622. 703-358-2002 Fax 703-358-2009 <http://duckstamps.fws.gov>

Texas on Sale!!

We have just purchased a modest quantity of full, unexploded Texas duck, fishing and dove stamps and can offer GREAT PRICES while supply lasts!!
First come basis!

Texas Duck Stamps

Cat. No.	Year	C.V. Book/10	Special C.V. Book/10	Singles
TX1	1981	\$ 450. . . \$ 300.	\$ 45. \$ 32.	
TX4	1984	250. . . . 175.	25. 18.	
TX5	1985	100. . . . 60.	10. 7.	
TX6	1986	100. . . . 60.	10. 7.	
TX7	1987	100. . . . 60.	10. 7.	
TX8	1988	100. . . . 60.	10. 7.	
TX9	1989	100. . . . 60.	10. 7.	
TX10	1990	100. . . . 60.	10. 7.	
TX11	1991	100. . . . 60.	10. 8.	
TX12	1992	100. . . . 60.	10. 8.	
TX13	1993	100. . . . 60.	10. 8.	
TX14	1994	100. . . . 60.	10. 8.	
TX15	1995	100. . . . 60.	10. 8.	
Beginning in 1996, stamps were issued in a book of 8 different.				
TX16	1996	95. 75.	75. 75.	
TX17	1997	75. 60.	60. 40.	
TX18	1998	65. 50.	50. 35.	

The very scarce 1996 duck stamp is available!

Order now —
quantities are limited!
1-800-231-5926

Texas Saltwater Stamps

Cat. No.	Year	C.V. Book/10	Special C.V. Book/10	Singles
TXSF1	1985	\$ 350. . . \$ 195.	\$ 35. \$ 20.	
TXSF2	1986	200. . . . 140.	20. 15.	
TXSF3	1987	150. . . . 99.	15. 11.	
TXSF4	1988	150. . . . 99.	15. 11.	
TXSF5	1989	150. . . . 99.	10. 8.	
TXSF6	1990	100. . . . 75.	10. 8.	
TXSF7	1991	100. . . . 85.	12. 9.	
TXSF8	1992	100. . . . 75.	10. 8.	
TXSF9	1993	100. . . . 75.	10. 8.	
TXSF10	1994	100. . . . 75.	10. 8.	
TXSF11	1995	100. . . . 75.	10. 8.	

Texas Dove Stamps

Cat. No.	Year	C.V. Book/10	Special C.V. Book/10	Singles
TXD1	1971	\$ 15. . . . \$ 11.	\$ 1.50 95¢	
TXD2*	1972	30. . . . 18.	1.50 95¢	
TXD3*	1973	30. . . . 18.	1.50 95¢	
TXD4*	1974	30. . . . 18.	1.50 95¢	
TXD5*	1975	400. . . 295.	20.00 . . 13.00	
TXD6*	1976	120. . . . 75.	6.00 . . . 3.00	
TXD7*	1977	30. . . . 18.	1.50 95¢	
TXD8*	1978	120. . . . 75.	6.00 . . . 3.00	
TXD9	1979	15. . . . 11.	1.50 95¢	
TXD11	1981	15. . . . 11.	1.50 95¢	

* indicates book of 20.

Wade wins SHDC Award



Evening Glow by Dave Wade

Dave Wade, of Salt Lake City, Utah, received the Sam Houston Duck Company Award for best waterfowl painting in the 2002 Arts for the Parks contest.

The \$1,500 award is co-sponsored by Bob Dumaine and Jeanette Cantrell Rudy, a duck stamp collector and sportswoman.

The Arts for the Parks program is designed to celebrate representational artists, enhance public awareness of the National Parks, and to contribute to programs benefiting the National Park System as well as the public.

For additional information contact: Arts for the Parks, P.O. Box 608, Jackson Hole, WY 83001 800-553-ARTS or e-mail-info@artsfortheparks.com

www.artsfortheparks.com

Indiana discontinues stamp competition

The Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources (Division of Fish and Wildlife) has announced its decision to discontinue the biennial stamp and calendar art contest.

Becky Mauser, program director, says the move to cancel the competition was a matter of prudence. "We've decided to commission the art instead of holding a contest. It's less expensive and less time consuming in tight-budget times."

Artists interested in contacting the state may do so at: Indiana DNR, 402 W. Washington, Room W273, Indianapolis, Ind. 46204-2267.

Decoy and Collectibles show

The 40th annual Midwest Decoy Collectors Association show will be held April 25-26 at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles, Missouri.

This "granddaddy of all Midwest shows" will highlight decoys, carvings, sporting art and the great outdoors in general.

Guyette & Schmidt, the antique decoy auction firm, will hold a specialized decoy auction during the show.

www.midwestdecoy.org

Now in stock! Arkansas Imperfs



2002 Imperfs available!

Arkansas is the only state that regularly issues non-serially numbered imperforate proof stamps. The stamps were originally intended as samples for print buyers, but have become very popular with collectors. All are available in either vertical or horizontal pairs, except AR3p (which were all cut into singles by the publisher). Plate number blocks do not exist.

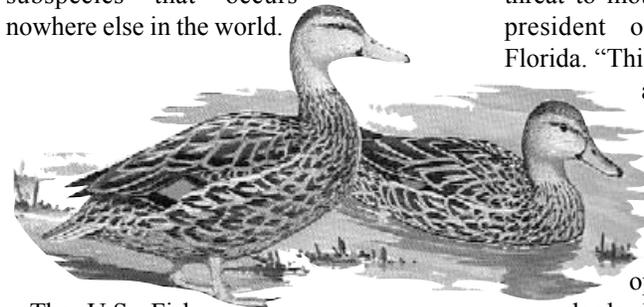
Limited time offer

Order AR22p (horizontal or vertical pair, please specify) for \$8.50 each, a full sheet of five pair is just \$40.

AR1p 1981 pair \$ 45.00
 AR2p 1982 pair 45.00
 AR3p 1983 single 45.00
 AR4p to AR21p per pair 14.00
 Complete set - all 22 *Only* 195.00
Huge savings on complete set!

Environmental groups support plan to protect unique duck sub-species

Federal and state wildlife officials are cooperating in an effort to preserve the genetic purity of Florida's mottled ducks - a subspecies that occurs nowhere else in the world.



The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service accepted public comments through August 30, 2002, on a draft environmental assessment of a proposal to grant the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) permits to remove artificially introduced mallards from state waters where mallards mix with mottled ducks.

"The permit would be part of a comprehensive effort by the FWS and FWC to conserve mottled ducks through scientific management and public awareness," said Sam D. Hamilton Southeast Regional Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

To ensure the FWC and permitted trappers remove only artificially introduced mallards; the permits would be valid May through August. Wild mallards are migratory, and few of them are present in Florida during that period. Artificially introduced mallards, however, do not migrate and sometimes pair up with mottled ducks during mating season.

"The state and federal wildlife agencies have our complete support in this project," said Dr. Paul Gray of Audubon of Florida. "Florida's mottled ducks are unique, and we could lose the whole sub-species if we don't stop them from breeding with mallards."

As another part of their mottled duck conservation plan, the FWC is undertaking a public education and communication plan to promote citizen understanding and support for the mottled duck preservation effort. Officials believe most of the offending mallards are ducks that owners may have released (which is illegal in Florida) or who otherwise escaped captivity.

"The key to success of this effort is to educate the public so they know artificially released mallards are an environmental threat to mottled ducks," said Kevin Hall, president of United Waterfowlers of Florida. "This is a problem that will require a comprehensive solution. It will require people-management as well as wildlife management."

State and federal wildlife agencies have not expressed opposition to ownership of mallards, but emphasize that owning a mallard requires a 10-year commitment to be diligent about keeping the mallard away from wild ducks.

"This whole issue illustrates the complexities of preserving Florida's living resources," said Dr. Franklin Percival, leader of the Florida Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at the University of Florida. "It takes partnerships between government agencies and concerned citizens. That's the only way we can ensure that unique species like Florida's mottled ducks will be around for future generations to enjoy. The FWS and FWC are doing what has to be done, and they have our support on this issue."

If the FWS issues the permit to remove mallards during non-hunting seasons, as proposed in the EA, removal will be limited to public waters and private waters where landowners offer the FWC and its permit holders access. Removal can involve lethal and non-lethal means. In many cases, the non-migratory mallards reside in urban ponds where trapping is the most practical removal option.

FWS officials said an open hunting season on mallards during the May - August period is not an option for reducing the crossbreeding problem because of the locations of the mallards and the fact that hunting seasons are structured to maintain wildlife population levels. The objective of the mallard removal permit, on the other hand, would be to reduce the population of non-migratory, free-ranging mallards in areas where mallards are causing problems.

Did you know?

Hanover, Illinois is the mallard capital of the world, and the site of the world's largest mallard duck hatchery.

Florida issues 2002 duck stamp in reverse;

Correct design is the scarce stamp!

by Bob Dumaine

The Florida 2002-03 waterfowl stamp has the dubious distinction of being the only state stamp issued in reverse – at least to my knowledge. The stamp error is a mirror image of the artwork and was detected by the artist when he received the stamps to be matched to prints.



Fla. stamp with correct design.

The stamp itself is quite attractive. Harris painted the duck flying from left to right, and published the print the same way. But somehow the actual stamp issued by the state showed the duck going the wrong way – from right to left!

The error was not noticed until all the stamps were printed, and the distribution process to state agents was already well along.

Some may think the design flip-flop is a minor matter – but not to the artist.

According to Harris, “The design is copy-

righted by the artist and used by the state under contract with the artist. However, in this case they made the mistake and had already issued many of them to the public before I found out about the error.

“I alerted them to this mistake and had them destroy all the artist stamps and then print them properly as per the copyrighted



Incorrect design first issued by state.

righted.”

The state catered to his demands, as they should have done, and reprinted 1,008 stamps with the left-to-right flying duck. At 12 stamps per pane, 84 sheets were reprinted.

Another difference in the revised issue is that its stamps are rouletted on all four sides. The first stamp with the flopped fowl was a die-cut issue.

The reprinted stamps were used by the artist for sale with prints, and the ones not needed for prints were sold publicly. Tens of

thousands of the incorrectly designed stamps had already been distributed, so those with the corrected design are far scarcer than the error stamps.

Some similar problems in the transition from artwork to stamp have occurred in the past – but only a few.

In 1980, the Nevada stamp by Dick McRill was issued the same as the original painting, but the artist’s prints were issued reversed. Those prints were never corrected, so all that exist are the opposite image of that on the stamps.

The 1983 Michigan stamp, wood ducks by Rod Lawrence, also was issued in a flopped format, but was never corrected.

FL24 (as issued by state) \$ 6.
FL24A (reprinted by state) 29.
Set of two 33.
Artist Signed
FL24(s) (as issued by state) . . \$ 25.
FL24A(s) (reprinted by state) . 45.
Set of two 65.
1-800-231-5926
First come – limited stock!

Plate block *continued from page 1*

multiples prior to the authorized date. However, most probably did follow the new rule. Another factor in the rarity of multiples of this issue was surely the cost of \$1 per stamp – a lot of money in 1934.

Not many would pay \$6 for a plate block. Those who would had to find a clerk who still had six stamps in plate block form, and was willing to sell them, perhaps in spite of postal regulations.

Now, let’s talk about the survivors. Of the very few sold 68 years ago, how many do you think made it to 2002 intact?

Of those, how many were well-centered, never-hinged? How many of them were free of faults? In my experience, about 15.

We must add to the mix one more substantial factor: the existence of the Jeanette Cantrell Rudy collection, which contains about 12 perfect or near-perfect 1934 duck stamp plate blocks.

Mrs. Rudy obtained these plates for her collection over the last 20 years in her effort to complete all plate numbers of all duck stamp plate blocks. She has not completed the feat, lacking only this first issue, and one

or two other oddball plate blocks. Her collection will be donated to the National Postal Museum upon her death.

All these factors have caused collectors to get into a bidding frenzy when a top-quality plate block comes on the market. The result was a realization of \$27,500 for that plate block on that day.

The same sale also offered most other duck stamp plate blocks, including a perfect 1935 plate block (RW2).

This second issue plate also brought a very high price of \$15,950, including commission, over a catalog value in the \$9,000 to \$10,000 range.

The 1935 issue is the scarcest federal duck stamp, with only 448,204 sold, versus 635,001 duck stamps of 1934. Plate blocks are not as scarce for the reasons mentioned earlier surrounding the first issue, but an impeccable 1935 plate block is hard to find nonetheless.

Although I have not seen the item personally, this example would certainly seem to qualify as such a gem and earn the premium price it brought.

Dates for Federal Contest/Entries set

The Federal Register has posted notice regarding the upcoming Federal Duck Stamp Art Competition, its dates, locations and requirements.

Artists may mail-in their entries to the 2003 Federal Duck Stamp Contest between July 1 and September 15, 2003. Entry forms will be mailed to all artist who entered the 2002 contest. Others can download the form at duckstamps.fws.gov or call 703-358-2000. All entries must be date-stamped no later than midnight, September 15, 2003.

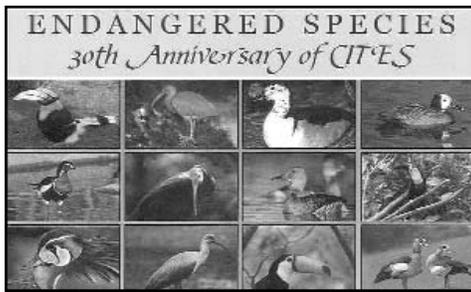
This year’s Federal Duck Stamp Contest will be held November 3 - 5, 2003, Monday through Wednesday.

Public viewing will begin on Monday afternoon with the judging beginning on Tuesday morning. The winner will be announced Wednesday.

The event will be held at the Department of the Interior building, 1849 C St. NW., Washington, DC.

Hautman designs featured on United Nations issue

On April 4, 2003, the United Nations Postal Administration will issue the



Endangered Species - 30th Anniversary of CITES 37¢, F.s. 0,90, € 0,51 stamps (12 designs - sheets of 16 stamps) 3 maximum cards

eleventh set of 12 commemorative stamps in the Endangered Species stamp series. The stamp series is designed by the award-winning Hautman brothers, multiple winners of the Federal Duck Stamp contest.

The 2003 Endangered Species Annual Collection folder and three maximum cards will also be released on the same day.

As the first day of issue of the 2003 Endangered Species Series will coincide with the Postage Stamp Mega Event, a special "show cachet" will be available. At this time, all three Hautman brothers are expected to be on hand for the ceremony.

To obtain the show cachet, send self-addressed envelopes to the address below, affixed with UN/New York stamps only (UN/Geneva and UN/Vienna stamps are not acceptable). The envelopes will be imprinted with the requested show cachet and returned through normal mail channels. Requests for this show cachet should be postmarked no later than March 27, 2003.

UN Show Cachet – Postage Stamp Mega Event
c/o Mr. Roger Lyons
UNPA, P.O. Box 5900, Grand Central Station
New York, N.Y. 10163-5900
212-963-7684 or 1-800-234-UNPA.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service releases state-by-state report on fishing, hunting and wildlife-associated recreation

Populous states had the largest number of hunters and anglers, but less populated states had the largest percentage of residents who hunted or fished, according to the preliminary state report of the National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation published by the Interior Department's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service last June.

Wildlife-related recreation continues to be an important outdoor activity in all regions and states of the U.S. Nationally, the number of participants increased from 77 million in 1996 to 82 million in 2001. While 38 percent of the population 16 years and older enjoyed some type of wildlife recreation in 1996, 39 percent did so in 2001.

Not all regions, states, and wildlife recreation activities experienced increases. Some of the most populous states and regions had the largest declines, and hunting declined by 7 percent nationwide since 1991.

"It is clear we still have a lot to do to assure that wildlife and their habitat are an integral part of the lives of urban Americans. Children growing up in the cities and suburbs today are the Nation's potential conservationists of tomorrow," said Service Director Steve Williams. "We need a strong public/private effort to assure adequate protection of our wildlife resources and their availability for all Americans to enjoy."

A comparison of the number of hunters, anglers, and wildlife watchers for the past three surveys (1991, 1996, and 2001) reveals regional variation for each type of recreation. Although there was no statistically significant difference in the number of anglers nationally, participation did drop in

six of the nine Census Regions from 1991 to 2001. The biggest drop, 16 percent, was in the Middle Atlantic (NY, NJ, PA). The Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, NM, UT, WY) and West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD) regions had increases.

The seven percent decline in the number of hunters nationwide from 1991 to 2001 was led by a 24 percent drop in Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA) hunters. The Pacific trend was dominated by the drop in California. The West South Central (TX, OK, AR, LA) had an 8 percent increase. The West North Central had no decline but the remaining six regions dropped by 5 to 13 percent from 1991 to 2001.

In 2001 residential (around the home) wildlife watching rebounded slightly from its 1991 to 1996 decline, with the Mountain Region surpassing its 1991 level. Five Regions had increases from 1996 to 2001 – West North Central led with a 21 percent increase. The participation declines in four Regions were 5 percent or less.

Nonresidential (away from home) wildlife watching continued its 1991 to 1996 downward trend nationally and in most Regions. From 1996 to 2001 there were small increases, eight percent or less, in participation in the West North Central, Mountain, and Pacific Regions.

In a state-by-state breakout for hunting, Texas tops the nation with 1,201,000 in-state hunters, followed by Pennsylvania with one million, Michigan with 754,000, New York with 714,000 and Wisconsin with 660,000.

In Montana, 24 percent of the people in the state hunted. Montana was followed by

North Dakota with 19 percent; West Virginia and Wyoming with 17 percent; and Alaska, Arkansas, Idaho, and South Dakota with 16 percent.

Florida attracted 3,104,000 in-state anglers. California follows with 2,444,000, Texas with 2,372,000, Minnesota with

"It is clear we still have a lot to do to assure that wildlife and their habitat are an integral part of the lives of urban Americans. Children growing up in the cities and suburbs today are the Nation's potential conservationists of tomorrow." Dir. Steve Williams

1,624,000 and New York with 1,555,000.

In Alaska, 41 percent of the state's population enjoyed fishing. Alaska is followed by Minnesota at 36 percent, Wyoming at 32 percent, Montana at 31 percent and North Dakota at 29 percent.

California tops the charts with 5,720,000 wildlife watchers, followed by New York with 3,887,000, Pennsylvania with 3,794,000, Florida and Texas with 3,240,000, and Ohio with 2,897,000.

In Vermont, 60 percent of the state's citizens observed wildlife. Minnesota follows with 54 percent, Alaska and Wisconsin with 53 percent, Maine and Montana with 52 percent and Oregon and Washington with 49 percent.

According to the 2001 National Preliminary Report, the 82 million Americans who engaged in wildlife-related recreation in the United States spent more than \$110 billion pursuing their activities. These expenditures accounted for 1.1% of the gross domestic product, a considerable contribution to the U.S. economy.

Best vs. Worst – State Duck Stamps for 2002

by Bob Dumaine

The conclusion of a year is the proper time to review the state duck stamps released. In the duck stamp business, I see duck stamps all day, every day, and some leave a lasting impression, for better or worse. Remember, they are just my opinions, certainly not intended to upset any of these talented artists.

Before getting into the mud-duck slinging, there were 44 states issuing stamps in 2002, the same as 2001. The absentees were Georgia, Idaho, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico and Utah. Georgia, Missouri, and Nebraska should hang their heads in shame for not having successful programs. These are major duck areas, replete with hunters and collectors willing to buy stamps.

All states issued pictorial stamps except North Dakota. Their publisher had a fire which destroyed the printing presses, so they issued a text only stamp this year. All but two states depict waterfowl, Hawaii (Chukar partridge) and Wyoming (river otter). These states are not eligible for recognition since these animals are not migratory waterfowl. Thankfully, since both offer mediocre images.

The most popular species depicted was canvasback (5), followed by green-winged teal (4), and wigeon with (3). Two states, Illinois and South Carolina featured retrievers, and Connecticut and Maryland have a lighthouse in the scene.

Five previous federal winners also had 2002 state designs to their credit. Adam Grimm (NY), Ron Louque (NC); Jim Hautman (NJ); Joe Hautman (TX); and Bob Steiner (AK, CA and OR). Steiner once again led the pack with three states to his credit.

Perhaps the award for the smallest image should be retired, since it appears Florida will reign in this dubious area. Very nice artwork, but certainly not meant for all to see. This state seems overwhelmed with paperwork, dedicating approximately 60% of stamp space for reporting data.



Nevada is hot, hot, hot!

Nevada is a hot state, in more ways than one. Their 2002 design wins the most obnoxious color award, being a loud orange-brown. When looking at all the 2002 issues, Nevada

is blinding. Too bad, as the artwork, by first-time state duck artist Jeff Hoff, is lovely, but the color is much too harsh, albeit realistic for a desert environment.



Arkansas' overpopulated stamp.

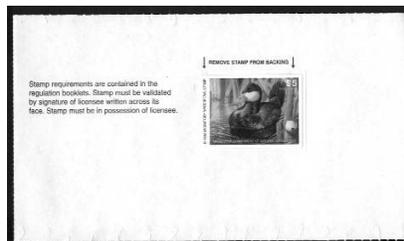
I estimate about 200 ducks, but many are just specks. Perhaps the original artwork was larger and the scene reduced. If so, it was crammed too much for clear recognition of the waterfowl. All due apologies to this state and their great program which ranks among the very best in the nation.

The enigma award this year goes to **Washington**, with artwork by Don Nicholson Miller. The green-winged teal are fantastically detailed, and photo-like. You get the feeling you can touch them, and each feather is vivid and obvious. Take a look at what appears to be reeds in the background. The size of these reeds makes them more like trees, and the ducks are way too small and out of proportion to the setting. It's a puzzling image, especially if you could see the water and reflection under the words at the bottom.



Washington – weird background stamp.

In the no-award category, **Minnesota's** artwork is drab and lifeless, perhaps due to the printing process. The design of a swimming ruddy duck by John Freiberg, is grainy and indistinct, and difficult to collect being on a backing of about 4" X 8". Presentation is everything, they say.



Minnesota, over-size and poorly printed.

Louisiana wins the award for taxing their neighbors. Their non-resident stamp has a \$25 face value, but their resident stamp is

only \$5.50. It's plain that in Louisiana they don't want anybody shooting their ducks but folks who live there. Perhaps the bordering states, Texas, Arkansas, and Mississippi should reciprocate by upping their non-resident fee. It seems Louisiana may not be a "Sportsman's Paradise" for non-residents.



Louisiana's expensive non-resident stamp.

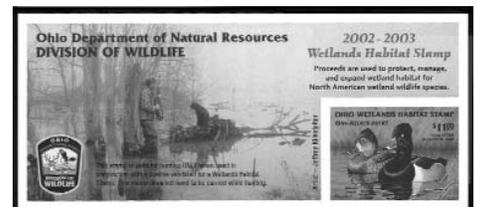
This year's crop of stamps is below the aggregate norm. Several are rejects from the federal contest, and others have dark designs, miniscule ducks, or outrageous colors. My least-favorite design for 2002 is the **Montana** stamp. The featured species is a sandhill crane, horses, cowboys, and mountains. The design is also vague, and the light pastel color makes it difficult to see the detail in the objects. Their Chamber of Commerce, however, should be very pleased with the design.



Montana – Least favorite award, but garners "Chamber of Commerce" mention.

The last award is actually two awards, and goes to **Ohio** and artist Jeffery Klinefelter, along with a gutsy state game and fish design department. Take a look at the life-like pair of ring-neck ducks serenely drifting on a pond. The artwork is very detailed, imaginative, and in-your-face. The overall form is dollar-bill size, mimicking the federal self-adhesive type stamp, although the Ohio stamp is gummed.

The hunter and his faithful black lab are waiting in the shallows on a misty morning. Decoys are set in place, the lab is eager, and the scene real. This is a stamp a hunter and/or collector can enjoy, and certainly gives a better feeling about spending \$11, even if they get shutout!



Ohio – Best of 2002.

NWR birthday continued from page 3

America by protecting fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people

Scenic Getaways

The National Wildlife Refuge System appeals to strong cultural traditions of American society, such as enjoying the wonders of the outdoors and ensuring wild, open space for future generations. More than 35 million Americans visit national wildlife refuges each year to enjoy unique outdoor experiences. Most people come during peak periods of bird migration, when refuges are thriving with wildlife. Hundreds of thousands of schoolchildren visit refuges each year to learn more about the natural world. Sportsmen come to fish or hunt, while others savor the solitude of these special places.

And over the last several years, more people and a variety of organizations have united to protect and strengthen the National Wildlife Refuge System. This support is most visible through new legislation and other Congressional action, and growth in community advocacy, volunteerism and partnerships. However, a large segment of the American people have yet to discover their National Wildlife Refuge System.

Poised for a New Century

The USFWS is undertaking a number of special, nationwide efforts to strengthen the National Wildlife Refuge System, and will use the centennial anniversary as an opportunity to build broad public understanding and appreciation of the value of these conservation lands to society.

To learn more about the National Wildlife Refuge System, visit www.refuges.fws.gov, and remember, your duck stamp will serve as your admission to any National Wildlife Refuge!

Harold Roe Wetlands dedicated

Harold Roe, wildlife artist and conservationist, was honored with the dedication of the Harold Roe Wetlands, in Harpster, Ohio.

Roe's long list of accomplishments includes being named DU International Artist of the Year in 1984 and 1998, two Kentucky duck stamps and four Ohio stamps (the state's only four-time winner).

The Harold Roe Wetlands is located in the Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area (near Marion, Ohio). Ultimately, the project will restore approximately 180 acres of wetlands and 270 acres of warm-season grasses.

Duck stamp collector named 2003 Budweiser Outdoorsman of the Year

In an announcement at the Shooting, Hunting, and Outdoor Trade (SHOT) Show, Budweiser named Sandi Beitzel of Manitowoc, Wisc., the winner of the prestigious Outdoorsman of the Year Award. Budweiser and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) will distribute a \$50,000 grant among Beitzel's conservation groups of choice.

"The big picture has always been about the habitat and the outdoors people who support its conservation," said Beitzel. "The future of our wild places and wild wings depends so much on like-minded organizations, such as Budweiser and Ducks Unlimited, to protect these habitats for wildlife and the people who take wonder in their creation."

Budweiser's Outdoorsman of the Year award recognizes individuals with extraordinary conservation leadership. Beitzel, a long-time DU volunteer and board member since 1998, was one of four finalists selected for the competition. The winner is selected by public vote in a national contest.

Beitzel is an active volunteer for DU and several other conservation organizations. She serves on DU's board as well as the

Marketing / Communications Committee.

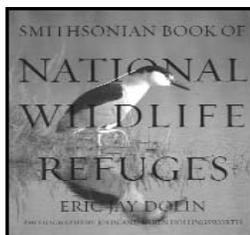
Beitzel is also a member of the National Wild Turkey Federation, Wisconsin Bowhunters, National Wildlife Federation, Walleyes for Tomorrow, the Nature Conservancy, National Wildlife Federation and Becoming an Outdoors Woman, as well as a federal and state duck stamp collector.

With more than a million supporters, Ducks Unlimited is the world's largest wetlands and waterfowl conservation organization. Since its founding in 1937, DU has raised more than \$1.7 billion to conserve nearly 11 million acres of critical wildlife habitat across North America. Wetlands are nature's most productive ecosystems, but the United States alone has lost more than half of its original wetlands, and continues to lose more than 100,000 wetland acres every year.



Sandi Beitzel

New book celebrates refuges



Smithsonian Press is pleased to announce the publication of the *Smithsonian Book of National Wildlife Refuges*.

The book, by Eric Jay Dolin, with photographs by John and Karen Hollingsworth, coordinates with the 100th anniversary of the National Wildlife Refuge System, and makes a very worthy companion.

From the cypress swamps of Okefenokee to the marshes of San Francisco Bay, America's most treasured natural habitats have been protected as National Wildlife Refuges for one hundred years.

Initiated in 1903 when Theodore Roosevelt signed a proclamation preserving Florida's Pelican Island as the first of 538 National Wildlife Refuges, they now occupy an incredible 95 million acres of the American landscape.

Linking his text with the stunning photographs of John and Karen Hollingsworth,

Dolin draws on the rich history surrounding the refuges to reveal an interconnected story of people and nature.

Dolin explores how the fledgling conservation movement found in Teddy Roosevelt a champion who set in motion one of the greatest conservation movements the world has ever seen.

Following his lead, seventeen U.S. presidents – against a backdrop of two world wars, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War – signed proclamations, resulting today in an incredibly diverse and biologically rich refuge system that helped earn the United States its reputation as a leader in global conservation.

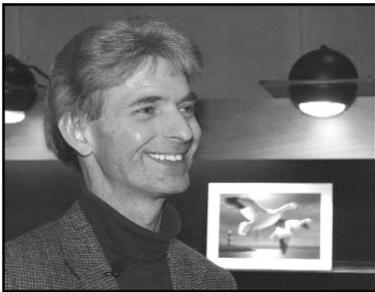
Eric Dolin is the author of four books including *The Duck Stamp Story*. John and Karen Hollingsworth have worked as a team photographing refuges for a variety of publications including *National Geographic* and *Field and Stream*.

208 pages; 9 x 10 inches; 40 b/w photographs; 200 color photographs, hardcover. Order from Sam Houston Duck Co.

\$39.95 plus \$3 shipping.

Profile: Ron Louque – Where art and science meet

For Ron Louque (pronounced Luke), the study of nature began as a young boy in the bayou country of Louisiana. At the age of nine, he enrolled in a taxidermy correspondence course, which led him seriously into the world of birds and animals and their natural habitats. The young boy who had an unusually strong attraction to birds and nature, was preparing for his life's work at this early age by sheer instinct. By the age of eighteen, the young naturalist had become an expert taxidermist, and following high school, enrolled as a zoology student at Louisiana State University. Up to that time, he had not been introduced to art, and had never even thought of being an artist. In his second year at LSU in 1972, however, Ron discovered art through the Museum of Natural History curator Ambrose Daigre, and graduate ornithology student-bird illustrator John O'Neill.



A happy Ron Louque with his winning entry.

Since his humble beginning in 1972, Louque has made major advances both in his knowledge of art and in his reputation as an artist. He has had no formal art training, but has learned much from his friend and mentor Adolf Sehring, a highly esteemed

master, realist painter. Louque emphasizes the use of light and composition, which add dramatically to the impact of his paintings. This orchestration of light, combined with a masterful arrangement of the elements of nature, enables Louque to create depth and atmospheric effects, which are essential to good art.

Now after 28 years of professional discipline in his field, Louque has emerged as a nationally known artist. He has designed conservation stamps for the National Wildlife Federation, painted covers for Ducks Unlimited and many other magazines, won the 1984 World Championship Wildfowl Painting Competition sponsored by the Ward Foundation, and has won an incredible 27 state conservation stamp contests since 1985, a record which has earned him the distinction of being one of the top five stamp artists in the nation. His crowning achievement however, came when he was chosen as the winner of the Federal Duck Stamp Art Competition.

The artist has also become highly diverse in his range of subject matter over the years. A feat that few artists are able to achieve

with a high degree of proficiency. In addition to wildlife, his portfolio now includes landscape, still life, and figure paintings, as well. Louque believes in giving credit where it is due, and always thanks the Lord for giving him talent and success as an artist.

The artist is also thankful to the many conservation organizations that help to preserve the wild places he has loved so dearly since his childhood. Through his studies of nature over the past 30 years, Ron has come to realize the importance of preserving our natural wilderness areas and wetlands. He understands the important role that nature plays as a healing power to our souls in the stressful society that we live in. "If we don't do our best now to preserve these natural areas, we will be doing ourselves, our children and grandchildren a great injustice," he says. "We must be good stewards of the natural resources that have been placed in our care by our Creator."

Duck Stamps by Ron Louque

RW70, AK7, CA20, DE12, FL9, FL10, IN11, LA5, LA8, LA11, NJ3, NC6, NC18, NC19, NC20, ND6, ND17, OH4, OK11, PA7, VA1, WA6, WV3.

2002 Connecticut duck stamp to be last "Collector Edition"

Connecticut has announced that the 2002 duck stamp will be the last "Collector Edition" issued. In coming years, waterfowl hunters will still be legally required to purchase a stamp, but it will be a simple stamp (similar to the state's pheasant stamp).

Since its inception in 1993, Connecticut duck stamp sales have raised over \$1 million specifically for wetland conservation. Each year project proposals are submitted, those deemed most beneficial are funded.

Duck stamp revenues have been an important source of funds used for wetland restoration. In the early years of the Connecticut program, many people were interested in duck stamp artwork and purchased prints and collector stamps. Sales of duck stamp related artwork generated substantial funds. However, as expected, sales declined over time. In recent years, very few prints and collector stamps have been sold. In fact, the cost of producing the artistic stamp and print now exceeds the funds raised from their sale. As a result, 2002 will be the last year that Connecticut will publish duck stamp prints and artistic stamps.

It is unfortunate to lose Connecticut as an artistic stamp producing state. They have always offered a beautiful stamp, with artwork done by some of the nation's best known wildlife artists, and have also produced a very popular lighthouse series.

Many publishers and collectors nationwide would agree that print sales are down, but that hardly seems a good reason to downgrade the entire program. Would stamps alone make enough money for the state? There would surely be less printing costs involved if only the stamps were produced. Connecticut could follow the example of Tennessee and use the winning artwork from their Federal Junior Duck Stamp contest on the state stamp, thereby removing any compensation given to the commissioned artist.

If you have any comments or suggestions for the state, we urge you to write Connecticut Bureau of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division, Connecticut Dept. of Environmental Protection, 79 Elm St., Hartford, CT 06106-5127, Attention Dale May. Telephone 860-424-3011.

Echo Chamber

Q. You often read that a duck's quack does not echo? Is it true? Why?

A. This is a good example of a question that flies in the face of logic. It smells fowl.

Echoes are a little bit like a reflection in the mirror. You look in a mirror, your reflection bounces back at you.

Instead of being a light wave, though, an echo is a sound wave that bounces back after sound hits a solid object. Unless ducks are the vampires of the audio world, there just would be no logical explanation for having echo-proof quacks. Ducks also appear during the day, and if they were vampires, this couldn't happen.

Bottom line: The quack of a duck does indeed echo.

Game Conservancy Trust hosts the launch of 2002 United Kingdom conservation stamp

by John Wells

The 2002 annual Game Fair, hosted as usual by the Countryside Landowners Association (CLA) took place last July in the beautiful surroundings of Broadlands, Romsey in Hampshire, the historic and stately home of Lord and Lady Romsey, formerly the home of Lord Romsey's grandfather, Earl Mountbatten of Burma.

The Broadlands estate embraces farming, forestry, fishing and parkland, while the imposing mansion, which stands on the bank of the River Test, was remodeled under the directions of the 2nd Viscount Palmerston who enlisted the services of Lancelot "Capability" Brown to rebuild the house and redesign the grounds; this work was undertaken between 1767 and 1779.

As usual the occasion incorporated the Champagne Reception in the presence of Teresa Dent, Chief Executive of the Game Conservancy Trust, to launch the 2002 United Kingdom conservation stamp, the twelfth to be issued by the Wildlife Habitat Trust. The Trust was established in 1986 by the British Association for Shooting and Conservation, but operates independently

and is dedicated to the acquisition, creation and management of all types of wildlife habitat. The launch of this year's stamp however, also supports the Game Conservancy Trust and its work in protecting the declining grey partridge, the subject of this year's stamp.

The stamp which features a pair of grey partridge in their natural habitat of rough grass with added protection from flowering wild brambles, was painted by the well known British wildlife artist Terance James Bond. The stamp is also available in a minisheet pane of six with a very colorful surrounding border of farmland birds such as the yellowhammer, corn bunting and tree sparrow. These birds have all been identified on the UK Biodiversity Action Plan, a conservation plan currently in operation in Britain.

As with so many species of wildlife, the grey partridge has been in decline for a number of years, mainly due to modern farming methods where the use of various pesticides to protect crops has meant that very little insect food for the young is available. However, since partridges also nest near hedges, bushes, grass banks and ditches, perhaps these have a greater chance of survival. An unusual feature of the partridge is that they roost together in groups facing outward in order to watch for predators.

About the artist: Terance James Bond attributes his passion for natural history to his childhood upbringing on his parents' farm in Suffolk, but as can be seen from his many works of art, he was obviously born with a natural talent. Thankfully, Terance gave up a position

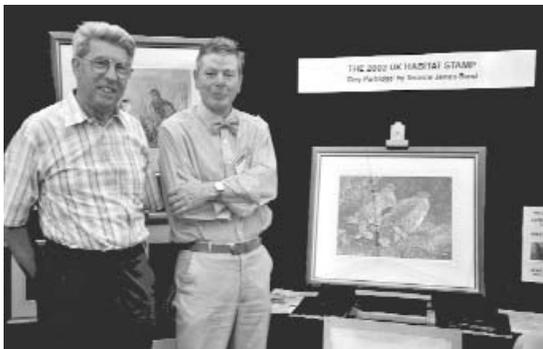


2002 UK sheet of six with decorative selvage.

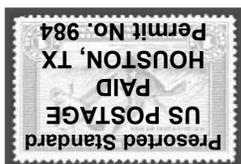
in engineering design to pursue a full time career as an ornithological artist. As a result, some thirty years on, he has given great pleasure to many art lovers with over twenty exhibitions (all complete sell-outs) in the U.S. and Great Britain. Terance's future plans, together with wife Jill, is to create a ten acre wildlife habitat around his home.

The 2003 event will take place from August 1-3, in the grounds of the Harewood House, Harewood, Yorkshire, owned by David and Diane Lacelles. The Harewood Estate manages approximately 4000 acres of the beautiful West Yorkshire countryside on which many activities take place, such as farming, forestry, game and wildlife conservation. A significant feature is the Bird Garden where 120 different species of exotic birds can be seen.

As with this year's occasion, a special International Visitors Reception will welcome overseas visitors from every corner of the globe, so make a note of the date and make the trip to Harewood which is about 200 miles north of central London but can easily be reached by road, train or air.



The author with artist Terance James Bond at the July 2002 Game Fair.



Sam Houston Duck Co.
P. O. Box 820087, Houston, TX 77282
shduck.com