



## Sherrie Russell Meline wins federal contest

For the second time in history, a woman has won the Federal Duck Stamp contest. Wildlife artist Sherrie Russell Meline, from Mt. Shasta, California, won the Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest on September 15, in Memphis, Tennessee.

“Sherrie Russell Meline’s beautiful rendition of Ross’ geese continues the Duck Stamp’s tradition of outstanding wildlife art,” said Matt Hogan, acting Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. “More important, it will help us convey the importance of preserving our Nation’s wetland habitat and the wildlife and communities it supports.”

Russell Meline’s painting of Ross’ geese bested 232 other entries and will grace the 2006-2007 Federal Duck Stamp (RW73). The sale of Federal Duck Stamps raises approximately \$25 million each year to fund waterfowl habitat acquisition for the National Wildlife Refuge System.

This year was the first time in the stamp’s 71-year history that the design was chosen outside of Washington, D.C. Along with its move to Memphis, the competition was co-hosted for the first time by Ducks Unlimited, Greater Memphis Arts Council, and the Memphis College of Art. The competition was surrounded by a week of public events at the Memphis College of Art, Bass Pro Shops, and the Peabody Hotel. The week culminated with the 2005 Ducks Unlimited Expo.

“The Federal Duck Stamp contest is the nation’s oldest and most prestigious wildlife art contest, and Memphis has welcomed us with open arms,” Hogan said. “We want to thank our partners for making this such a successful event. Hopefully more people learned about the contest this year and will go out and purchase a Duck Stamp.”

“Congratulations to Sherrie Russell Meline,” said Ducks Unlimited Executive Vice President Don Young. “The Duck Stamp story is a great story, and its value to all Americans in helping build the national



*This Ross’ goose, by Sherrie Russell Meline will be featured on RW73, the 2006 Federal duck stamp.*

wildlife refuge system, providing places for waterfowl hunters and others who enjoy the outdoors, and protecting millions of acres of wetlands and waterfowl habitat makes it one of the greatest conservation programs of all-time.

“And it’s certainly one waterfowl hunters can be proud of. It’s that story that makes this event so special,” said Young. “DU and Memphis are proud to play a leadership role in growing the public’s awareness of this remarkable conservation and art success story.”

All waterfowl hunters age 16 and older are required to purchase and carry Duck Stamps. Ninety-eight percent of the proceeds from the \$15 Duck Stamp goes into the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund, which purchases wetlands for the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Russell Meline has entered the Federal Duck Stamp competition 15 times over the last 25 years.

“I am very honored and flattered,” said Russell Meline. “I am completely honored to have been in the competition with the best artists out there, and I’m totally shocked that I won.”

Russell Meline’s winning artwork is a close-up of a

# Duck Stamp Office gets new Chief

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has announced the selection of Patricia Fisher to head the Federal Duck Stamp Office. A Service employee for nearly 17 years, Mrs. Fisher will be responsible for overseeing the annual Federal Duck Stamp Contest, issuing the Federal Duck Stamp and coordinating the Junior Duck Stamp program.

"I am delighted to have a person with this breadth of experience and passion for the Duck Stamp Program as the new chief for this high profile office," said Acting Service Director Matt Hogan. "These are exciting times for the program as we seek to broaden its appeal to a new generation of stamp enthusiasts and employ new technologies to better serve our traditional cus-

tomers, while working to maintain and enhance its tradition and delivery of conservation."

Prior to accepting this position, Fisher was member of the Service's public affairs office. For six years, she represented the Federal Duck Stamp and Migratory Birds programs and edited the Service's newsletter, *The Fish and Wildlife News*. In 1991,

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## 2006 Louisiana Duck Contest Winner Announced



2006 Louisiana duck stamp design by Edward Suthoff.

The 18th annual Louisiana Conservation Stamp and Print Competition sponsored by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries announced the winning design on Oct. 26 that will be featured on the 2006 Duck Stamp.

Edward Suthoff's painting of an alert yellow Labrador retriever emerging from an open field while a pair of mallards fly in the background was the chosen winner from a field of eight other paintings. Tony Bernard from Lafayette placed second and Wayne Atkinson from Irving, Texas was third.

Suthoff is from Mississippi, but has been displaced to northeast Arkansas because of Hurricane Katrina. He was the winner of

the 1993 Mississippi duck stamp contest at the age of 23. He was also chosen the 2004 and 2005 Artist of the Year at the Louisiana Wildlife Festival and designed the poster for the 2004 world championship duck-calling contest.

LDWF initiated the "Retrievers Save Game" series last year when it featured a black Labrador, because all of the waterfowl species were used in the first 16 years of the

competition. The contest rules stipulate that the retriever must be prominent in the design, but must also include live waterfowl selected by the artist.

The Louisiana Waterfowl Conservation Stamp program was established in 1988 by the Louisiana Legislature to generate revenue for conservation and enhancement of state wetlands and other worthy programs that benefit Louisiana's ducks and geese. This program has generated over \$8.5 million for wetland conservation since 1989.

"These dollars have helped acquire several tracts of land in need of duck and geese habitat improvement," Robert Helm, LDWF waterfowl program manager said. "Money is also budgeted each year from this fund to help repair levees and perform other wetland management practices on our state's Wildlife Management Areas. This money is extremely important to this department and to waterfowl and wetland habitats."

The Louisiana Waterfowl

Program, a cooperative endeavor between LDWF, Ducks Unlimited and the Federal Natural Resources Conservation Services has also benefited private lands.

Helm said that prints of the Suthoff painting would be available from the artist in the summer. The 18th anniversary 2006 stamp, featuring Suthoff's work, is expected to go on sale June 1, 2006. For information on prints call toll free 1-866-225-9907 or visit [edwardsuthoffart.com](http://edwardsuthoffart.com). The artist then retains the original artwork and will have reproduction rights to the image for prints and other commodities after LDWF has used the image to produce the stamps.

Judges for the competition included Dr. Headley Adelman, artist and retired biology professor from Hammond; Jerry Bower, frame shop and art studio owner in Lafayette; Clint Jeske, waterfowl and wetlands biologist with the United States Geological Survey wetlands research center from Lafayette; Bob Kennon, retired Baton Rouge attorney and lifelong Labrador trainer and judge; and Mike Benge, current state chairman of Ducks Unlimited.



Eddie Suthoff poses with his winning entry.

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# RW72 Duck stamp plate variety discovered

by Bob Dumaine

The 2005 duck stamp, RW72 has provided collectors with a major stamp variety apparently lost in the mini-sheet excitement. The water-activated stamps have been discovered both with and without outside frame lines around the design. Some stamps have frame lines on three sides, top, right and bottom, while others are totally without any lines.

PSE expertizer Steve Rosen discovered the existence of three frame lines on some stamps and none on others. Since the stamp being examined belonged to me, Randy Shoemaker, PSE Senior Expert, called and inquired about the two types, and which was normal. These major plate differences caught me flat-footed, and apparently all others except eagle-eye Rosen, since the two types have gone unreported since their June 30, 2005, issue date.

At this point, which is “normal” seems to be questionable. I examined sheets Press Proof sheet of 80 stamps, and found all stamps on the two right panes had three frame lines, top, right, and bottom, whereas those on the left side are plain.

It then seems possible that the water-activated mini-sheets were produced from the same plates, and would also have two types. I only had a few to look through, and all were the frame-less variety, as were all PSA dollar-bill size stamps examined. My conclusion is that perhaps only the normal water activated stamps show the

different types, but then again, my sample was very limited. Collectors should examine their stamps to determine which type they own, and if they find a PSA stamp with frame lines. A mini-sheet with three frame lines would seem to be extremely desirable at this time.

The Press Proof sheets tell the story that equal amounts of both types probably exist, since the sheets are equally divided between the two types. If this breakdown holds true, then equal amounts were produced; however it would not be an indication of how many were actually sold. Of the approximately one million water-activated stamps produced annually, only 100,000, or 10% have been actually sold. The PSA type was introduced in 1998, and over a million sold annually since they became the main type distributed to hunters.

Robert Williams, Manager, Stamp Development and Marketing, Federal Duck Stamp office comments: “The lines on the edges of the stamps on the right side of press sheets do not appear on the stamp model approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. According to the printer, the lines on the edge of some stamps are computer-generated holding lines. All of the lines should have been deleted when

the offset printing film was processed. Some lines remain as a result of a process error in making the offset printing film.”

Williams also states: “The lines do not impact the functionality or security features of the stamp. Therefore, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service will not issue a recall.”

Jim Kloetzel, Editor of the *Scott Specialized Catalogue* advises; “We have decided to list type I and type II varieties. The type I variety will be the stamp as it was meant to be issued, without frame lines. Type II stamps are those with the frame lines at top, right and bottom. The type II stamps with frame lines will receive a lettered minor Scott number, RW72c. A footnote will describe the varieties and indicate that they appear in equal quantities.”

If equal amounts were distributed, then the value of each should also be equal in theory. Time will tell which type are scarcer, and if significant, the market will reflect the price.



RW72C - with frameline on the top, right side and bottom.

## Hall to be U.S. FWS director

Interior Secretary Gale Norton has announced the Senate's confirmation of H. Dale Hall to be director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

“Dale Hall is an exceptional biologist with vast experience managing our nation's fish and wildlife resources, from the Everglades to the old growth forests of the Pacific Northwest to the high desert of the Southwest,” Norton said. “He will be an outstanding director for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as we seek more effective ways to conserve and restore our nation's fish and wildlife and their habitat.”

Hall replaces Steve Williams, who resigned to become president of the Wildlife Management Institute. Matt

Hogan, the Service's deputy director, has been acting as director during the confirmation process.

A 27-year career employee of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Hall has served in Albuquerque, N.M. as the Southwest Regional Director since 2001.

During his tenure as regional director, Hall helped in bringing consensus to the Multi-Species Conservation Plan for the Lower Colorado River. That plan is a 50-year conservation initiative that provides more than \$620 million in federal and local funding to protect fish and wildlife along 400 miles of the lower Colorado River, while meeting the needs of farmers, tribes, industries and urban residents who rely on the river for water and power supplies.

Hall's experience includes a term as Deputy Regional Director in Atlanta, Ga. and one as Assistant Regional Director for Ecological Services in Portland, Ore. He started his career with the Service in 1978 when he did field work in wetlands ecology in Vicksburg, Miss. He continued in ecological services in Galveston and Houston where he worked as Outer Continental Shelf Coordinator with



Dale Hall.

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**Round 1** In / Out Round. 234 contest entries. Judges select 123 entries to continue to Round 2. Each judge has the option to select up to five paintings to “bring back” to the competition. No bring backs were selected.

**Round 2** Scores 1 to 5. Judges vote, scoring 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) on each painting. At the end of Round 2, the top five scores are selected and those paintings return for Round 3.

| Entry # | Species      | Artist                | Burton | Runnels | Crawford | Lavino | Bridgeforth | Score | Entry # | Species      | Artist              | Burton | Runnels | Crawford | Lavino | Bridgeforth | Score |
|---------|--------------|-----------------------|--------|---------|----------|--------|-------------|-------|---------|--------------|---------------------|--------|---------|----------|--------|-------------|-------|
| 1       | Canada goose | Vern Pond             | 2      | 2       | 2        | 2      | 2           | 10    | 123     | Canada goose | Bob Hautman         | 3      | 3       | 3        | 2      | 3           | 14    |
| 3       | Ross' goose  | George Schelling      | 1      | 1       | 1        | 2      | 3           | 8     | 124     | Ruddy duck   | James Johnson       | 1      | 1       | 2        | 2      | 4           | 10    |
| 4       | Shoveler     | Harold Roe            | 3      | 2       | 3        | 3      | 3           | 14    | 126     | Ruddy duck   | Charles Shauk       | 1      | 3       | 3        | 4      | 3           | 14    |
| 8       | Shoveler     | Joanna Rivera         | 2      | 1       | 2        | 2      | 4           | 11    | 131     | Canada goose | Tom Crain           | 2      | 2       | 1        | 2      | 3           | 10    |
| 11      | Shoveler     | Jim Borggreen         | 1      | 2       | 3        | 2      | 2           | 10    | 135     | Canada goose | James P. Edwards    | 1      | 4       | 1        | 2      | 3           | 11    |
| 13      | Canada goose | Everett Hatcher       | 1      | 1       | 3        | 2      | 4           | 11    | 136     | Canada goose | Joe Hautman         | 3      | 2       | 1        | 4      | 3           | 13    |
| 14      | Canada goose | Mark Kness            | 2      | 2       | 4        | 3      | 3           | 14    | 138     | Shoveler     | Ken Michaelsen      | 1      | 1       | 2        | 2      | 4           | 10    |
| 16      | Ross' goose  | Michael Collins       | 5      | 5       | 5        | 1      | 4           | 20    | 139     | Shoveler     | Greg Alexander      | 1      | 2       | 4        | 4      | 3           | 14    |
| 17      | Ruddy duck   | Kim Diment            | 1      | 1       | 3        | 4      | 5           | 14    | 140     | Ross' goose  | Jim Taylor          | 2      | 3       | 5        | 2      | 5           | 17    |
| 18      | Canada goose | James Sanderson       | 1      | 1       | 4        | 1      | 4           | 11    | 141     | Brant        | Larry Felder        | 2      | 1       | 4        | 2      | 2           | 11    |
| 19      | Canada goose | Joanne Diehl          | 1      | 1       | 1        | 2      | 3           | 8     | 145     | Ruddy duck   | Bryan Phillips      | 1      | 2       | 2        | 1      | 3           | 9     |
| 20      | Shoveler     | Terry Doughty         | 3      | 2       | 3        | 2      | 4           | 14    | 146     | Shoveler     | Robert Clay Connor  | 1      | 1       | 2        | 2      | 4           | 10    |
| 21      | Ruddy duck   | Dale Pousson          | 1      | 2       | 2        | 3      | 3           | 11    | 147     | Canada goose | Donnie Hughes       | 1      | 2       | 1        | 1      | 3           | 8     |
| 24      | Canada goose | Robin Myers           | 1      | 1       | 3        | 2      | 2           | 9     | 148     | Canada goose | Ronnie Hughes       | 1      | 2       | 1        | 2      | 3           | 9     |
| 25      | Canada goose | Al Gilbert            | 1      | 1       | 1        | 1      | 4           | 8     | 154     | Shoveler     | Jeffrey Klinefelter | 1      | 2       | 1        | 2      | 5           | 11    |
| 26      | Canada goose | Allan Kraayvanger     | 1      | 3       | 3        | 4      | 3           | 14    | 155     | Ross' goose  | Robert Richert      | 1      | 2       | 4        | 3      | 3           | 13    |
| 27      | Shoveler     | Robert Kray           | 3      | 2       | 2        | 3      | 4           | 14    | 159     | Ruddy duck   | Sara Stack          | 1      | 3       | 4        | 2      | 4           | 14    |
| 29      | Snow goose   | S. Russell Meline     | 5      | 5       | 5        | 4      | 4           | 23    | 160     | Brant        | Rob Leslie          | 1      | 2       | 2        | 4      | 4           | 13    |
| 32      | Shoveler     | Kreig Jacque          | 1      | 2       | 1        | 2      | 4           | 10    | 163     | Canada goose | Thomas Moen         | 2      | 1       | 2        | 2      | 3           | 10    |
| 33      | Ruddy duck   | Robert Metropulos     | 1      | 1       | 3        | 4      | 3           | 12    | 165     | Ruddy duck   | Wilhelm Goebel      | 1      | 2       | 4        | 3      | 4           | 14    |
| 35      | Canada goose | Phillip Crowe         | 1      | 1       | 4        | 3      | 2           | 11    | 166     | Shoveler     | John Harris         | 1      | 3       | 2        | 2      | 3           | 11    |
| 38      | Ruddy duck   | Andrew Denman         | 1      | 3       | 2        | 3      | 2           | 11    | 167     | Shoveler     | Wes Dewey           | 1      | 1       | 3        | 3      | 2           | 10    |
| 40      | Canada goose | Robert Bealle         | 3      | 2       | 5        | 2      | 3           | 15    | 168     | Shoveler     | Neal Anderson       | 1      | 3       | 3        | 3      | 5           | 15    |
| 41      | Brant        | Louis Frisino         | 1      | 4       | 4        | 2      | 2           | 13    | 170     | Brant        | John Heidersbach    | 3      | 3       | 4        | 2      | 2           | 14    |
| 44      | Ross' goose  | Robert Leum           | 1      | 2       | 3        | 2      | 3           | 11    | 172     | Shoveler     | William Magee       | 1      | 1       | 1        | 1      | 3           | 7     |
| 45      | Canada goose | Joshua Spies          | 3      | 2       | 4        | 3      | 3           | 15    | 173     | Canada goose | Stephen Hamrick     | 1      | 3       | 2        | 4      | 3           | 13    |
| 54      | Shoveler     | Les Didier            | 1      | 1       | 2        | 2      | 3           | 9     | 174     | Shoveler     | Jim Caturia         | 2      | 3       | 4        | 4      | 5           | 18    |
| 57      | Ruddy duck   | Richard Goodkind      | 1      | 3       | 2        | 3      | 5           | 14    | 175     | Ruddy duck   | John Perry Baumlin  | 2      | 4       | 3        | 4      | 4           | 17    |
| 58      | Ruddy duck   | Beverly Simone        | 1      | 2       | 1        | 3      | 3           | 10    | 177     | Ruddy duck   | Elaine Byrd         | 1      | 3       | 2        | 2      | 3           | 11    |
| 59      | Ruddy duck   | Michael Braun         | 2      | 2       | 3        | 3      | 3           | 13    | 178     | Canada goose | Michael Graham      | 1      | 2       | 2        | 3      | 3           | 11    |
| 60      | Shoveler     | Dee Dee Murry         | 2      | 3       | 4        | 2      | 3           | 14    | 180     | Canada goose | Judith Hartke       | 1      | 3       | 3        | 4      | 3           | 14    |
| 62      | Canada goose | Erik Gile             | 1      | 1       | 1        | 2      | 4           | 9     | 183     | Ross' goose  | George Lockwood     | 3      | 4       | 4        | 3      | 3           | 17    |
| 67      | Shoveler     | Chris Angrisani       | 1      | 1       | 4        | 2      | 3           | 11    | 185     | Canada goose | Heather Rolleston   | 1      | 4       | 2        | 2      | 4           | 13    |
| 68      | Shoveler     | Darren Mauer          | 1      | 1       | 1        | 2      | 5           | 10    | 186     | Ruddy duck   | Mark Clifton        | 1      | 1       | 2        | 2      | 3           | 9     |
| 71      | Canada goose | Ronald Turle          | 1      | 2       | 3        | 1      | 4           | 11    | 189     | Shoveler     | Susan Hearing       | 1      | 1       | 1        | 2      | 3           | 8     |
| 72      | Canada goose | Peter Eades           | 2      | 3       | 1        | 3      | 3           | 12    | 190     | Canada goose | Linda Faulkner      | 1      | 1       | 1        | 2      | 2           | 7     |
| 73      | Canada goose | Katherine Cudney      | 3      | 3       | 3        | 4      | 3           | 16    | 191     | Canada goose | Thomas Creaser      | 1      | 1       | 2        | 3      | 4           | 11    |
| 76      | Canada goose | Larry Beckstien       | 2      | 3       | 5        | 2      | 3           | 15    | 196     | Shoveler     | Ron Kleiber         | 1      | 2       | 5        | 3      | 5           | 16    |
| 77      | Shoveler     | Hank Buffington       | 4      | 3       | 4        | 3      | 3           | 17    | 198     | Ruddy duck   | John Freiberg       | 1      | 1       | 2        | 3      | 4           | 11    |
| 79      | Ruddy duck   | Judy Schrader         | 2      | 2       | 2        | 3      | 2           | 11    | 201     | Canada goose | Dwight Kirkland     | 1      | 1       | 1        | 1      | 2           | 6     |
| 80      | Canada goose | Gunner Hilliard       | 2      | 4       | 3        | 3      | 5           | 17    | 202     | Shoveler     | Ron Jenkins         | 1      | 2       | 1        | 1      | 2           | 7     |
| 81      | Shoveler     | Dietmar Krumrey       | 1      | 1       | 2        | 2      | 3           | 9     | 203     | Ruddy duck   | Lauri Waterfield    | 1      | 1       | 4        | 2      | 3           | 11    |
| 82      | Brant        | Dick Benson           | 2      | 3       | 5        | 2      | 4           | 16    | 205     | Ruddy duck   | Richard Clifton     | 2      | 4       | 2        | 3      | 3           | 14    |
| 83      | Canada goose | Joseph Sang           | 1      | 3       | 1        | 3      | 3           | 11    | 206     | Canada goose | Don Moore           | 1      | 1       | 2        | 2      | 2           | 8     |
| 84      | Shoveler     | Shanna Herman         | 3      | 3       | 4        | 4      | 4           | 18    | 207     | Shoveler     | Steven Hovel        | 1      | 2       | 3        | 2      | 3           | 11    |
| 87      | Ruddy duck   | Tommy Humphrey        | 1      | 4       | 3        | 3      | 3           | 14    | 210     | Shoveler     | Garrett Jacobs      | 1      | 1       | 1        | 1      | 4           | 8     |
| 91      | Shoveler     | Gregory Clair         | 3      | 2       | 2        | 2      | 4           | 13    | 211     | Shoveler     | Thomas Miller       | 2      | 4       | 4        | 2      | 3           | 15    |
| 95      | Ross' goose  | Ben Beaty             | 1      | 3       | 3        | 2      | 3           | 12    | 212     | Shoveler     | Paul Bridgford      | 2      | 3       | 3        | 3      | 3           | 14    |
| 99      | Shoveler     | Bruce Miller          | 3      | 3       | 5        | 4      | 4           | 19    | 214     | Canada goose | Todd Sweet          | 1      | 2       | 1        | 2      | 5           | 11    |
| 103     | Shoveler     | Christopher Smith     | 1      | 1       | 2        | 3      | 4           | 11    | 215     | Shoveler     | Peter Mathois       | 2      | 2       | 2        | 3      | 3           | 12    |
| 104     | Canada goose | Russell Duerksen      | 1      | 4       | 4        | 2      | 3           | 14    | 218     | Shoveler     | H. Cobb Gilbert     | 1      | 1       | 1        | 2      | 5           | 10    |
| 108     | Shoveler     | John Gotter           | 1      | 1       | 1        | 2      | 3           | 8     | 221     | Shoveler     | Jocelyn Beatty      | 1      | 2       | 3        | 2      | 4           | 12    |
| 109     | Shoveler     | Jean Dunn             | 1      | 2       | 3        | 3      | 5           | 14    | 222     | Ross' goose  | Karen Latham        | 5      | 3       | 4        | 4      | 4           | 20    |
| 110     | Ross' goose  | Adam Grimm            | 1      | 2       | 4        | 3      | 5           | 15    | 223     | Canada goose | Eddie Leroy         | 1      | 1       | 4        | 3      | 4           | 13    |
| 111     | Shoveler     | Timothy Donovan       | 5      | 3       | 3        | 3      | 3           | 17    | 224     | Ruddy duck   | Richard Hiner       | 1      | 2       | 1        | 2      | 3           | 9     |
| 114     | Canada goose | Anthony Padgett       | 1      | 1       | 2        | 3      | 2           | 9     | 225     | Ruddy duck   | John House          | 1      | 1       | 1        | 5      | 4           | 12    |
| 115     | Canada goose | Ronald Lape           | 1      | 1       | 1        | 3      | 5           | 11    | 227     | Ross' goose  | Robert Steiner      | 1      | 2       | 5        | 3      | 4           | 15    |
| 116     | Shoveler     | Gerald Putt           | 2      | 2       | 4        | 4      | 5           | 17    | 228     | Shoveler     | Larry Denton        | 1      | 1       | 1        | 2      | 3           | 8     |
| 118     | Ruddy duck   | Mark Mueller          | 1      | 1       | 2        | 3      | 3           | 10    | 230     | Shoveler     | Clarence Stewart    | 2      | 2       | 1        | 2      | 3           | 10    |
| 120     | Ruddy duck   | Len Rusin             | 1      | 1       | 4        | 2      | 4           | 12    | 232     | Canada goose | Marty Coulter       | 1      | 2       | 1        | 2      | 2           | 8     |
| 121     | Ruddy duck   | Christopher Westafall | 1      | 1       | 1        | 3      | 3           | 9     | 233     | Brant        | Mark Allan Thone    | 2      | 4       | 4        | 2      | 2           | 14    |
| 122     | Canada goose | Jim Hautman           | 3      | 3       | 4        | 2      | 3           | 15    |         |              |                     |        |         |          |        |             |       |

## Round 3

| Entry # | Burton | Runnels | Crawford | Lavino | Bridgeforth | Score |
|---------|--------|---------|----------|--------|-------------|-------|
| 99      | 5      | 4       | 4        | 5      | 5           | 23    |
| 111     | 3      | 4       | 3        | 3      | 4           | 17    |
| 116     | 3      | 3       | 3        | 3      | 4           | 16    |
| 140     | 3      | 3       | 3        | 3      | 4           | 16    |
| 174     | 3      | 4       | 5        | 4      | 4           | 20    |
| 175     | 3      | 4       | 3        | 3      | 3           | 16    |
| 183     | 3      | 3       | 3        | 3      | 3           | 15    |
| 222     | 3      | 3       | 4        | 3      | 3           | 16    |

### Former federal winners with entries.

|               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| Neal Anderson | Joe Hautman    |
| Al Gilbert    | Ron Jenkins    |
| Wil Goebel    | Ken Michaelsen |
| Adam Grimm    | Bruce Miller   |
| Bob Hautman   | Robert Steiner |
| Jim Hautman   |                |



*Entry 16 – Ross' goose  
by Michael Collins.*



*Entry 29 – Ross' goose  
by Sherrie Russell Meline.*



*Entry 40 – Canada goose  
by Robert Bealle.*



*Entry 46 – Canada goose  
by Joshua Spies.*



*Entry 73 – Canada goose  
by Katherine Cudney.*



*Entry 76 – Canada goose  
by Larry Beckstein.*



*Entry 77 – Shoveler  
by Hank Buffington.*



*Entry 80 – Canada goose  
by Gunner Hilliard.*



*Entry 82 – Brant  
by Dick Benson.*



*Entry 84 – Shoveler  
by Shanna Herman.*



*Entry 99 – Shoveler  
by Bruce Miller.*



*Entry 110 – Ross' goose  
by Adam Grimm.*



*Entry 111 – Shoveler  
by Timothy Donovan.*



*Entry 116 – Shoveler  
by Gerald Putt.*



*Entry 122 – Canada goose  
by Jim Hautman.*



*Entry 140 – Ross' goose  
by Jim Taylor.*



*Entry 168 – Shoveler  
by Neal Anderson.*



*Entry 174 – Shoveler  
by Jim Caturia.*



*Entry 175 – Ruddy duck  
by John Perry Baumlin.*



*Entry 183 – Ross' goose  
by George Lockwood.*



*Entry 196 – Shoveler  
by Ron Kleiber.*



*Entry 211 – Shoveler  
by Thomas Miller.*



*Entry 222 – Ross' goose  
by Karen Latham.*

**Vote for your favorite at [shduck.com](http://shduck.com)**

# Scenes from the Federal duck stamp contest



Ken Michaelsen poses in front of the remarque display he designed for Bob Pratsch.



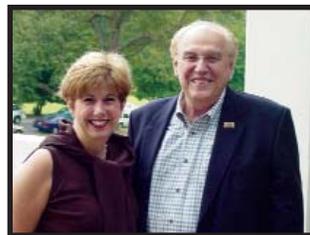
Gathered at the Peabody Hotel (L-R) Rita and Bob Dumaine, Ken Michaelsen, Bob Pratsch, Judy Michaelsen and (seated) Lloyd Pratsch.



Bob Dumaine discusses the future of the Federal duck stamp program with former Chief, Vaughn Collins. Collins is now a lobbyist for Ducks Unlimited in Washington.



Dr. Murray Touche has his federal duck stamp mug signed by artist Mark Anderson. Dr. Touche, president of the American Stamp Club of Great Britain, travels from Scotland each year to attend the Federal duck stamp contest.

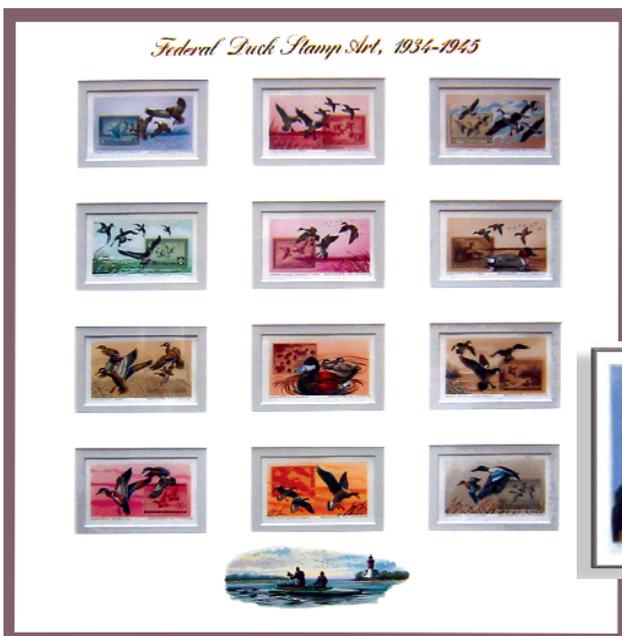


Bob and Rita entering the Memphis Museum of Art for the final day of judging.



Examining an RW72 mini-sheets during a lunch break. (L-R) Judy Michaelsen, John Moss, Ken Michaelsen and Bob Dumaine.

## Remarque display debuts at Federal Contest



A beautiful display of federal duck stamps, each with an accompanying remarque, made its debut during the Federal Duck Stamp Contest in Memphis, Tenn.

The display, owned by Bob Pratsch of Suamico, Wisc., was designed by Ken Michaelsen, who cre-

ated the original artwork for each stamp.

The set, one of five Pratsch has commissioned from Michaelsen, was a real crowd pleaser, attracting much attention. Many viewers were amazed to realize that each piece of original art was surrounding an actual federal duck stamp.

On display in the main hall of the museum, with all the Federal contest entries and Junior duck stamp contest winners, the remarque display was a nice addition to the long history of the duck stamp contest.

Also on display, near the entry to the auditorium, was Ducks Unlimited's complete set of Federal duck stamp prints.

For additional information on the display, contact Bob Pratsch at 920-434-8256 or c/o Impressions Ltd., 3136 Deerfield Ln. W., Suamico, WI 54173-7923. E-mail [implimited@aol.com](mailto:implimited@aol.com).



A panel featuring RW1-12 and the RW26 stamp and remarque.

Remember to check our web site for the latest in remarques

[shduck.com](http://shduck.com)

In addition, many are available for auction – [shpauctions.com](http://shpauctions.com)

# Goebel wins Maryland contest



*Goebel's design for Maryland.*

**W**ilhelm Goebel took home top honors for the second time at the 31st Annual Maryland Migratory Game Bird Stamp Design Contest with his painting of a ruddy duck. His work was selected from a field of 36 entries.

Goebel's work is well known in wildlife circles. Born in New Jersey, his talents as a world-class wildlife artist are supported by his selection as a winning artist in duck, trout and conservation stamp contests in many different states. In 1997, his surf scoters won the highly coveted Federal Duck Stamp Competition. In 2001, he won his first Maryland Migratory Game Bird Stamp contest with a pair of wigeon springing skyward from a cattail marsh.

In addition to his past success in the

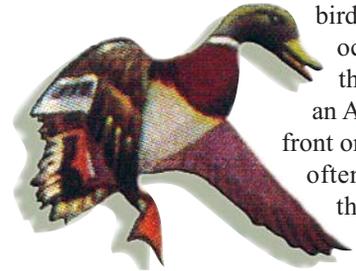
Federal Duck Stamp Competition, his most prestigious awards include Ducks Unlimited's International Artist of the Year, the National Wild Turkey Federation's Artist of the Year and Stamp Print Artist of the Year, and Maryland's Grand National Waterfowl Association's Artist of the Year. His artwork has benefited wildlife through organizations such as Pheasants Forever, Quail Unlimited, Ducks Unlimited, Wildlife Forever and the National Wild Turkey Federation. A solo exhibition of his work was held this past summer at the Ward Museum of Wildlife Art in Salisbury, Maryland.

The Maryland Migratory Game Bird Stamp Design Contest, the fourth oldest in the United States, has showcased the talents of Maryland's artists since 1974. The contest serves as the selection mechanism for the Maryland Duck Stamp which is a required purchase by all those who hunt migratory game birds in Maryland (hunters are reminded that they are no longer required to sign and attach the stamp to their license). The stamps are also highly coveted by stamp enthusiasts worldwide. Proceeds from the sale of the stamps have generated over \$4 million to create and improve habitats and conduct valuable wildlife research.

Prints of the winning entry will be available later this year and purchased directly through Mr. Goebel at [wjgoebel@intercom.net](mailto:wjgoebel@intercom.net) or call 410-749-9564.

# The red-legged mallard

**E**very duck season, waterfowlers eagerly await the arrival of flights of mallards from the north. The big push of these hardy



birds usually occurs on the heels of an Arctic cold front or blizzard, often late in the duck season.

Legend has it that these late-arriving mallards have bright red legs and feet because of cold temperatures in northern latitudes. This is partially true, in that ducks do have increased circulation in their extremities in cold conditions, but this process doesn't affect the coloration of their legs.

In reality, the legs and feet of drake mallards turn bright red because of rising testosterone in their bodies. This hormonal surge occurs in association with courtship activities that take place in late fall and winter. Just as the comb of a rooster or the wattles of a gobbler turn blood-red during the breeding season, so do the legs of drake mallards while pairing. Older, heavier mallards, typically begin pairing earlier in the fall than juvenile birds, so they are the first to exhibit bright red legs. These mature birds also are more capable of withstanding bitter cold weather, which explains why the "northern redlegs" are often especially large birds and are among the last to arrive on their wintering grounds.

Unlimited is working with the game department to enable collectors and dealers to acquire stamps and prints as they have since Ducks Unlimited began managing the program in 2000.

Virginia DU envisions two additional stamp formats, a booklet strip for distribution by a fulfillment agent (for telephone and Internet sales) and another booklet format with a stub for hunter contact information.

The 2005 stamp pictures a wood duck pair by artist Guy Crittenden.

# Va. validates duck stamp



*Virginia's wood ducks by Guy Crittenden.*

**V**irginia Ducks Unlimited is pleased to announce the passing of legislation that will make the duck stamp mandatory for Virginia hunters. The Virginia duck stamp has been a voluntary purchase since it was first issued in 1988.

With this legislation, the price of the stamp will increase to \$9.75 per stamp. All net proceeds will go into a special fund limited to waterfowl research and enhancement and will be divided equally between the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and not-for-profit organizations for work in Virginia.

The stamp will be required for hunting beginning in 2005. The legislation requires the stamp to be carried by the hunter, however, there will be provisions for the "stamp" to be purchased by telephone or the Internet. The purchaser will receive a code indicating that a stamp has been purchased that will be acceptable for the Game Warden until an authentic stamp is received by mail for the purchaser to attach to their hunting license. Virginia Ducks

# What do those duck stamp dollars really mean?

by Kip Koss

All of us who love duck stamps know that there is more to the program than just being among the most beautiful set of stamps ever issued by the federal government.

When Jay N. "Ding" Darling pushed through the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act in 1934, it was against all odds. Our country was in the midst of a severe economic depression with accompanying depression of confidence and spirit. At the same time a severe drought prevailed in the prairie states, our wetland resources were rapidly disappearing and waterfowl populations were plummeting. In an era when hunting still provided the meat on many tables, it seemed there were more hunters than ducks.

The Federal Duck Stamp Act required that each waterfowl hunter purchase a Duck Stamp to affix to his or her hunting license. Sidestepping the hazards encountered by later so-called "Trust Funds," Darling crafted his legislation to ensure that all receipts from sales of Duck Stamps went directly to the purchase of critical wetland habitat. In the past three-quarters of a century since the advent of Duck

Stamp sales, the program has been responsible for acquiring and protecting over five million acres of habitat.

As the number of hunters has decreased, the purchase of Federal Duck Stamps by collectors has made an increasingly significant contribution to saving our nation's wetlands. While hunters still represent the largest number of purchasers of duck stamps, the collector input is huge. We can track their contribution by comparing the sales of self-adhesive duck stamps to the sales of gummed stamps. Gummed stamps are mainly sold to collectors. They are not available at sporting goods stores nor at many post offices, the normal distribution centers for hunters. Approximately 100,000 gummed stamps are sold per year at \$15 each. That is \$1.5 million going into the conservation fund that may be contributed by people who have never raised a shotgun to their shoulder.

It is problematical that duck stamp revenues have always been quoted in then-year dollars, unadjusted for inflation. Using the Federal Duck Stamp Office's unadjusted revenue figures, I applied inflation factors supplied by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to develop inflation adjust-

ed Federal Duck Stamp Program revenues. The results are shown on the next page.

To say that the first year of duck stamp sales in 1934 totaled \$635,001, while accurate, is nonsensical. Adjusted to today's dollars, with which we are all more familiar, first years sales totaled \$9,086,864. Similarly, total duck stamp sales through 2004 are often stated as "nearly \$700 million." Adjusted to 2005 dollars, duck stamp sales from 1934 through 2004 actually total \$1,922,780,770 or "nearly two billion dollars."

I believe that the inflation adjusted numbers more accurately reflect to our audiences the critical contribution of the Federal Duck Stamp Program to the acquisition and preservation of wetland habitat.

At some point in the future, the continuation of the Federal Duck Stamp Program may well depend on the better understanding of the significance of the program that can only be conveyed by using inflation adjusted numbers in our presentations.

*Koss, president of the Ding Darling Foundation, has followed the inspiration of his grandfather, dedicating his life to conservation.*

## Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge

Named one of the top ten birding spots in this nation, the J. N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge is located on Sanibel Island, Florida. The Refuge is easily reached via a causeway connecting the mainland to Sanibel Island in the Gulf of Mexico near Ft. Myers.

Creation of the refuge began in the early

1940s, when "Ding" Darling learned that the State of Florida was nearing agreement to sell 2,200 pristine acres of Sanibel's mangrove wetlands to developers for 50¢ an acre. Quickly gathering his allies, Darling arranged for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to lease the threatened land to form the Sanibel Island National Wildlife Refuge. Taken just in the nick of

time, this was the first step in protecting forever this crucial wildlife habitat.

Today the J. N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge is one of the most visited refuges in the nation, with almost a million visitors annually. Five-mile Wildlife Drive winds through mangrove forest and tidal flats making wildlife watching accessible to everyone. Sunny afternoons in winter are the best times for watching alligators and maybe even to catch a glimpse of the resident crocodile.

Darling recognized the special qualities of this place where land met sea, saltwater met freshwater, and temperate climate mixed with tropical climate to produce a habitat that is uniquely productive for wildlife. The surrounding estuary with its rich sea grass meadows,

mudflats and mangroves produces shelter and huge amounts of food for birds, fish, reptiles and a host of other animals.

Low tides from mid-October through April often result in thousands of wading, swimming and diving birds feeding on the mudflats. These include great egrets, snowy egrets, wood storks, roseate spoonbills, great and little blue herons, white and brown pelicans, tri-color herons, yellow-crowned night herons, short and long-billed dowitchers, yellow legs, anhingas, cormorants, blue-winged teal, ospreys and bald eagles. During the fall and spring

*continued on next page*



# Federal Duck Stamp Sales by Year

| Year      | Stamps Sold | Cost per Stamp | Total Revenue (1) | Inflation Factor (2) | Adjusted Revenue (3) | Year  | Stamps Sold        | Cost per Stamp | Total Revenue (1)     | Inflation Factor (2) | Adjusted Revenue (3)   |
|-----------|-------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1934-1935 | 635,001     | \$ 1.00        | \$ 635,001        | 14.31                | \$ 9,086,864         | 1972-1973   | 2,184,343          | \$ 5.00        | \$ 10,921,715         | 4.59                 | \$ 50,130,672          |
| 1935-1936 | 448,204     | \$ 1.00        | 448,204           | 14.00                | 6,274,856            | 1973-1974   | 2,094,414          | \$ 5.00        | 10,472,070            | 4.32                 | 45,239,342             |
| 1936-1937 | 603,623     | \$ 1.00        | 603,623           | 13.80                | 8,329,997            | 1974-1975   | 2,214,056          | \$ 5.00        | 11,070,280            | 3.89                 | 43,063,389             |
| 1937-1938 | 783,039     | \$ 1.00        | 783,039           | 13.32                | 10,430,079           | 1975-1976   | 2,237,126          | \$ 5.00        | 11,185,630            | 3.57                 | 39,932,699             |
| 1938-1939 | 1,002,715   | \$ 1.00        | 1,002,715         | 13.60                | 13,636,924           | 1976-1977   | 2,170,194          | \$ 5.00        | 10,850,970            | 3.37                 | 36,567,769             |
| 1939-1940 | 1,111,561   | \$ 1.00        | 1,111,561         | 13.80                | 15,339,542           | 1977-1978   | 2,196,774          | \$ 5.00        | 10,983,870            | 3.17                 | 34,818,868             |
| 1940-1941 | 1,260,810   | \$ 1.00        | 1,260,810         | 13.70                | 17,273,097           | 1978-1979   | 2,216,421          | \$ 5.00        | 11,082,105            | 2.94                 | 32,581,389             |
| 1941-1942 | 1,439,967   | \$ 1.00        | 1,439,967         | 13.05                | 18,791,569           | 1979-1980   | 2,090,155          | \$ 7.50        | 15,676,163            | 2.64                 | 41,385,069             |
| 1942-1943 | 1,383,629   | \$ 1.00        | 1,383,629         | 11.77                | 16,285,313           | 1980-1981   | 2,045,114          | \$ 7.50        | 15,338,355            | 2.33                 | 35,738,367             |
| 1943-1944 | 1,169,352   | \$ 1.00        | 1,169,352         | 11.09                | 12,968,114           | 1981-1982   | 1,907,120          | \$ 7.50        | 14,303,400            | 2.11                 | 30,180,174             |
| 1944-1945 | 1,487,029   | \$ 1.00        | 1,487,029         | 10.90                | 16,208,616           | 1982-1983   | 1,926,253          | \$ 7.50        | 14,446,898            | 1.99                 | 28,749,326             |
| 1945-1946 | 1,725,505   | \$ 1.00        | 1,725,505         | 10.66                | 18,393,883           | 1983-1984   | 1,867,998          | \$ 7.50        | 14,009,985            | 1.93                 | 27,039,271             |
| 1946-1947 | 2,016,841   | \$ 1.00        | 2,016,841         | 9.84                 | 19,845,715           | 1984-1985   | 1,913,861          | \$ 7.50        | 14,353,958            | 1.85                 | 26,554,821             |
| 1947-1948 | 1,722,677   | \$ 1.00        | 1,722,677         | 8.60                 | 14,815,022           | 1985-1986   | 1,780,636          | \$ 7.50        | 13,354,770            | 1.78                 | 23,771,491             |
| 1948-1949 | 2,127,603   | \$ 1.00        | 2,127,603         | 7.96                 | 16,935,720           | 1986-1987   | 1,794,484          | \$ 7.50        | 13,458,630            | 1.75                 | 23,552,603             |
| 1949-1950 | 1,954,734   | \$ 2.00        | 3,909,468         | 8.06                 | 31,510,312           | 1987-1988   | 1,663,470          | \$ 10.00       | 16,634,700            | 1.69                 | 28,112,643             |
| 1950-1951 | 1,903,644   | \$ 2.00        | 3,807,288         | 7.96                 | 30,306,012           | 1988-1989   | 1,403,005          | \$ 10.00       | 14,030,050            | 1.62                 | 22,728,681             |
| 1951-1952 | 2,167,767   | \$ 2.00        | 4,335,534         | 7.38                 | 31,996,241           | 1989-1990   | 1,415,882          | \$ 12.50       | 17,698,525            | 1.55                 | 27,432,714             |
| 1952-1953 | 2,296,628   | \$ 2.00        | 4,593,256         | 7.24                 | 33,255,173           | 1990-1991   | 1,408,373          | \$ 12.50       | 17,604,663            | 1.47                 | 25,878,854             |
| 1953-1954 | 2,268,446   | \$ 2.00        | 4,536,892         | 7.18                 | 32,574,885           | 1991-1992   | 1,423,374          | \$ 15.00       | 21,350,610            | 1.41                 | 30,104,360             |
| 1954-1955 | 2,184,550   | \$ 2.00        | 4,369,100         | 7.13                 | 31,151,683           | 1992-1993   | 1,347,393          | \$ 15.00       | 20,210,895            | 1.37                 | 27,688,926             |
| 1955-1956 | 2,369,940   | \$ 2.00        | 4,739,880         | 7.16                 | 33,937,541           | 1993-1994   | 1,402,569          | \$ 15.00       | 21,038,535            | 1.33                 | 27,981,252             |
| 1956-1957 | 2,332,014   | \$ 2.00        | 4,664,028         | 7.05                 | 32,881,397           | 1994-1995   | 1,471,751          | \$ 15.00       | 22,076,265            | 1.29                 | 28,478,382             |
| 1957-1958 | 2,355,190   | \$ 2.00        | 4,710,380         | 6.83                 | 32,171,895           | 1995-1996   | 1,539,623          | \$ 15.00       | 23,094,345            | 1.26                 | 29,098,875             |
| 1958-1959 | 2,176,425   | \$ 2.00        | 4,352,850         | 6.64                 | 28,902,924           | 1996-1997   | 1,560,121          | \$ 15.00       | 23,401,815            | 1.22                 | 28,550,214             |
| 1959-1960 | 1,626,115   | \$ 3.00        | 4,878,345         | 6.59                 | 32,148,294           | 1997-1998   | 1,697,590          | \$ 15.00       | 25,463,850            | 1.20                 | 30,556,620             |
| 1960-1961 | 1,725,634   | \$ 3.00        | 5,176,902         | 6.48                 | 33,546,325           | 1998-1999   | 1,685,006          | \$ 15.00       | 25,275,090            | 1.18                 | 29,824,606             |
| 1961-1962 | 1,344,236   | \$ 3.00        | 4,032,708         | 6.41                 | 25,849,658           | 1999-2000   | 1,683,713          | \$ 15.00       | 25,255,695            | 1.15                 | 29,044,049             |
| 1962-1963 | 1,147,212   | \$ 3.00        | 3,441,636         | 6.35                 | 21,854,389           | 2000-2001   | 1,720,505          | \$ 15.00       | 25,807,575            | 1.11                 | 28,646,408             |
| 1963-1964 | 1,448,191   | \$ 3.00        | 4,344,573         | 6.27                 | 27,240,473           | 2001-2002   | 1,694,739          | \$ 15.00       | 25,421,085            | 1.08                 | 27,454,772             |
| 1964-1965 | 1,573,155   | \$ 3.00        | 4,719,465         | 6.19                 | 29,213,488           | 2002-2003   | 1,629,372          | \$ 15.00       | 24,440,580            | 1.07                 | 26,151,421             |
| 1965-1966 | 1,558,197   | \$ 3.00        | 4,674,591         | 6.09                 | 28,468,259           | 2003-2004   | 1,616,093          | \$ 15.00       | 24,241,395            | 1.04                 | 25,211,051             |
| 1966-1967 | 1,805,341   | \$ 3.00        | 5,416,023         | 5.92                 | 32,062,856           | <b>Totals</b>   | <b>120,866,668</b> |                | <b>\$ 696,305,440</b> |                      | <b>\$1,922,780,770</b> |
| 1967-1968 | 1,934,697   | \$ 3.00        | 5,804,091         | 5.74                 | 33,315,482           | <b>NOTES:</b>   |                    |                |                       |                      |                        |
| 1968-1969 | 1,837,139   | \$ 3.00        | 5,511,417         | 5.51                 | 30,367,908           | (1.) Source: Federal Duck Stamp Office (then-year dollars)    |                    |                |                       |                      |                        |
| 1969-1970 | 2,072,108   | \$ 3.00        | 6,216,324         | 5.23                 | 32,511,375           | (2.) Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Inflation Calculator |                    |                |                       |                      |                        |
| 1970-1971 | 2,420,244   | \$ 3.00        | 7,260,732         | 4.94                 | 35,868,016           | (3.) In 2005 Dollars  |                    |                |                       |                      |                        |
| 1971-1972 | 2,445,977   | \$ 3.00        | 7,337,931         | 4.74                 | 34,781,793           |   |                    |                |                       |                      |                        |

## Darling Refuge continued

migration of songbirds, the Refuge provides a resting place as well as food for the energy required for their remarkable flights.

When "Ding" Darling passed away in 1962, his friends and admirers formed the J. N. "Ding" Darling Foundation. The trustees of the Foundation realized that as long as key parcels within the Refuge were leased, not owned, the future of the Refuge was in jeopardy. The Darling Foundation's very first project, therefore, was to lead an effort to consolidate the lands within the Sanibel National Wildlife Refuge under federal ownership and the control of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. After a five-year effort, the lands were successfully acquired and the refuge was rededicated in September, 1967 as the J. N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge.

The J. N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge now encompasses over

5,200 acres and its professional staff manages an additional 1,000+ acres under cooperative agreements. These lands are preserved, restored and maintained as a haven for indigenous and migratory wildlife as part of a nation-wide network of Refuges administered by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

The "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society, a group of volunteers working in support of the Refuge's professional staff, has recently completed the funding, design and construction of a new Education Center located at the beginning of Wildlife Drive. The Center provides an excellent springboard to the enjoyment of the Refuge. The contributions of this Society are so significant that other refuges look to its volunteers for guidance in establishing their own friends groups. To learn more about the Refuge and the Society, link to the group at [www.dingdarlingsociety.org](http://www.dingdarlingsociety.org).

## House ponders bill to name post office for Malden

Congress seems poised to name a Los Angeles post office in honor of actor Karl Malden, a member of the United States Postal Service's Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee.

Legislation that would name the post office at 200 S. Barrington St. in honor of the 93-year-old stamp collecting actor was unanimously passed Sept. 19 by the House Government Reform Committee and sent to the full House. The bill has 50 House cosponsors.

In a Sept. 21 floor speech, Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney, D-N.Y., praised Malden's nearly 15 years on the stamp committee.

If approved by Congress and signed into law, Malden likely would be the first CSAC member to ever have a postal facility named in his honor.

# The story behind the 2005 Arkansas duck stamp

# Nebraska's back! Next stamp in 2006



Larry Chandler's design for the 2005 Arkansas duck stamp with the ivory-billed woodpecker added.

by Larry Chandler

Having knowledge to one of the greatest rediscoveries of our lifetime, I was sworn to complete secrecy by my good friend Bobby Harrison. Bobby is a fantastic birder and photographer. We have shared a long friendship and interest in wildlife and ornithology. After Bobby and Tim Gallagher's sighting of the long thought extinct Ivory-billed woodpecker, I was faced with the problem of sitting on the news. Boy, was that task ever tough. But I honored my promise and, in secret, I sketched and worked on a painting of a bird that I wondered if anyone would even recognize.

Having designed and painted the 1997 and 2000 Arkansas Duck Stamps with long time friend and publisher Larry Grisham, I was honored to be asked again in 2005 to do it again. The previous years had been quite successful because of the addition of duck hunting dogs into the design. So, this was the theme again for 2005. A Black Lab on a tree stand in flooded timber with Mallards coming in to land. I thought I had a different angle on the design by placing a hen mallard as the spotlight duck in the composition. I sent a preliminary sketch to Larry and kept my fingers crossed.

I also had a hunter and another drake mallard in the design to start with. After the regular haggling over the design, Larry convinced me to remove the hunter and one of the drakes. The design was finalized and sent to the printing company. Larry Grisham is the best duck hunter I have had the privilege to hunt with. He is the perfect specimen of the traditional Arkansas Duck Hunter.

One morning in April, I received a very exciting phone call from my pal Bobby Harrison. "Larry Chandler," he said, "I am on

my way to Washington D.C., the genie is out of the bottle. Cornell Lab of Ornithology has arranged a press release about the rediscovery of the Ivory-bill."

I sat glued to the TV for hours as report after report from all of the news networks announced the news of the rediscovery. I received a phone call from Cornell shortly after that, asking permission to use my painting of the Ivory-bill they had seen on my web site. It was very exciting to see the story unfold and hope was found in a flash of black & white feathers in the Arkansas flooded timber.

I pondered this excitement for day or so until ... Pow! The idea came to me. Here is a painting of typical Arkansas flooded timber. If the bird has been hiding out there all these years in the swamp, why not hide one in the duck stamp painting, like a "Where's Waldo?" I called Larry Grisham and ran the idea past him. The phone was silent for a minute. Expecting a major rejection, Larry came back with "Wow, that sounds great! Let me see if I can get it approved and I will call you back." It was a long wait, but Larry finally called back and said the powers that be had approved the idea and it was a Go!

Larry called the printer and stopped the presses. They shipped the painting back to me and the Ivory-bill was innocently hidden in among the trees - like it had been there all along. I hope that the design is embraced by the hunters and collectors of Arkansas and they realize how blessed they are to live in "The Natural State."



Nebraska plans to begin issuing state duck stamps again for 2006. The state will use the artwork of each year's winner of the Nebraska Federal Junior Duck Stamp Contest held in March (unless the Nebraska entry wins the national contest, then the state would use the runner-up).

The first stamp in Nebraska's revitalized program will feature the artwork of 16-year old Brett Cooper and the image is of a drake wood duck at rest on the water. Cooper's painting was selected from more than 500 entries across the state and was sent to the national competition.

The stamp will have a face value of \$5. Nebraska will issue a traditional gummed and perforated stamps to sell in addition to e-stamps (electronic stamps). Details are still being worked out regarding artwork, but the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission is working with a potential vendor for prints. The perforated stamps will not be available for sale until after December 1, 2005.

The mandatory state duck stamp goes into effect on January 1, 2006 and so will be required by those still hunting the late waterfowl seasons that carry over into the first couple of months of 2006 (high plains duck season and the snow goose conservation season). The stamp runs on the calendar year. In other words, each year's stamp is valid from January 1 - December 31.

Money from the sales of the Nebraska waterfowl stamp will be used to increase waterfowl habitat and duck and goose populations in the state.

## Keep your head down

After a Swedish hunter shot a goose out of the sky, it came down directly on his father's head. Ulf Ilback, the dad, was knocked unconscious! "I guess the goose wanted revenge," said Ilback, after he was revived.

# Texas makes many changes to hunting stamps

The Texas Legislature certainly knows how to pluck the goose that laid the golden egg! Collectors are going to be missing a few extra tail feathers when they buy their stamps in 2005.

One legislative bill that was recently passed reorganized the stamp fees that hunters pay for the right to pursue certain species of game animals. The white-winged dove stamp was abolished and doves were lumped with waterfowl to create a Migratory Game Bird Stamp.

This one is the big deal, finance-wise, because it requires dove hunters, including mourning dove hunters, to buy the \$7 migratory game bird stamp. Texas has 400,000 dove hunters. The majority of them have never shot a white-winged dove and many of them have never bought a white-wing stamp.

It was time for the white-wing fee to go away. That stamp was created in the 1980s when white-wings suffered huge habitat loss from cold weather in the Rio Grande Valley. Since then, white-wings have migrated north, adapted to cooler temperatures and essentially saved themselves.

The stamp reorganization likewise dissolved the Texas turkey stamp but turkey hunters aren't getting off scot-free. Turkeys will now be covered by a new Upland Game Bird Stamp that is also required of quail, pheasant and chachalaca hunters.

Texas Parks and Wildlife said it does not know how much additional revenue the stamp reshuffle will generate, but it could be close to \$2 million.

One advantage of the stamp reconfiguration is that it allows revenues to be spent where they are needed. The stamp money is dedicated. The turkey stamp revenues could only be spent on turkeys and the white-wing money only on research or habitat to benefit white-wing doves.

The 2005 Texas migratory game bird stamp (*editors note: we will still call it the duck stamp*) will picture mallards by Herb Booth. The upland game bird stamp will have a \$7 face value and picture turkeys with artwork by Scott and Stuart Gentling.

The freshwater stamp has a \$5 face value and pictures a white crappie by John Dearman. The saltwater stamp has a \$10 face and feature a tarpon by Al Barnes. The non-game stamp is \$3 and has a long-billed curlew by D.J. Cleland-Hura. The \$7 archery hunting stamp is a scene of young girl getting ready to release an arrow by Clemente Guzman. The 2005 stamp set consists of these six stamps.

The Texas quail stamp (*listed as a society conservation stamp in our catalog*), by Ken Carlson, will have a bobwhite quail pair and a \$5 face value.



Artwork for the 2005 Texas duck stamp.

## Sec. Norton unveils ivory-billed woodpecker painting



Ruthven's ivory-billed woodpecker painting.

## Cutthroat featured on 2006 Wyoming stamp



Cutthroat and Redside Shiners by Scott Greenig won the 22nd annual Wyoming Conservation Stamp Art Contest. The painting bested 64 other entries in the competition. "Although this year's subject was very specific, causing the entry numbers to be lower than past years, we received a good number of quality pieces that left the judges with very

hard decisions," said Beth Edwards, competition coordinator. "Greenig's acrylic will reproduce very well onto the 2006 stamp."

Greenig, 54, is a Vietnam War veteran, having served two tours, first as a combat engineer and then as a combat artist for the Marine Corps. His oil painting of a Marine patrol climbing a hill in intense heat once hung in the Marine commandant's office in the Pentagon. The Minnesota native also works as a fishing guide.

All paintings can be viewed on the Wyoming state website:

<http://gf.state.wy.us/services/publications/stamp/2006>.

Next year's competition subject will be the blue grouse.

The rediscovery of the ivory-billed woodpecker continues to make headlines. Pictured above is a painting of the bird by John Ruthven.

The painting was unveiled by Gale Norton, Secretary of the Interior, at a press conference in Washington, coinciding with the confirmation of seven sightings of the rare bird within the last 15 months in eastern Arkansas. Until these, there had been no confirmed sightings of the bird in 60 years.

The bird is about 20 inches long, making him the second largest woodpecker, behind the imperial woodpecker of Mexico, which is thought to be extinct.

The ivory-billed woodpecker's primary range was in the swamp land forests of America's southeast, from North Carolina to Florida to eastern Texas and Arkansas.

# Massachusetts offers separate stamps for Archery and Firearms

In an unusual decision, two pieces of artwork were selected by a panel of judges for the 2006 Massachusetts Archery and Primitive Firearms stamps.

For the Archery stamp, a watercolor of a White-tailed buck standing in the snow by Joy Keown of Laramie, Wyoming was selected. The Primitive Firearms stamp will feature a painting of a family heirloom caplock and powderhorn by Bill Knox of Vashon Island, Washington. The stamps are required of all archery and blackpowder season deer hunters.

"In the past, one image has been used for both the archery and primitive firearms stamps," said Ellie Horwitz, MassWildlife Information and Education Chief and coordinator of the stamp competition. "We have considered the possibility of using two images in the past. This year's entries were outstanding and the judges felt these two pieces of art were best for next year's stamps."

Keown's artwork has been in a number of venues. She has been chosen as a winning artist for the Hawaii Conservation Stamp in both 2003 and 2004. Keown is a recently retired biology teacher who has worked as a park ranger at Yellowstone

National Park. Her illustrations have been published in a number of books and she has exhibited award winning artwork in shows in Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana.

Bill Knox is a retired industrial designer and an avid outdoorsman who describes his painting hobby as his "retirement project". The caplock in his painting was used by his great-grandmother and is still owned by the family. Knox recently won the 2006 New Jersey Trout Stamp competition and in 2000 was selected as the winning artist for the Oregon Steelhead Trout Association.

The judging for this competition was held at MassWildlife's Field Headquarters in Westborough. Keown's and Knox's paintings will be reproduced on the state's 2006 archery and primitive firearms stamps respectively. Increasingly, these stamps are also being sought by philatelists and other collectors of wildlife art. Last year, the sale of archery stamps and primitive firearms stamps netted over \$283,000 for wildlife research, management and restoration in the Commonwealth. The 2006 stamps will go on sale in early December at hunting license outlets throughout the state.

# Julius wins Mass. Contest

Randy Julius of East Bridgewater, Massachusetts, captured top honors in the Massachusetts Waterfowl Stamp Competition for his exceptional rendering of a long billed curlew crafted by an unknown Massachusetts carver. Julius' painting was selected in a fully blind judging process in which the judges are given no information about the painting other than the provenance of the decoy.

Julius' curlew will be reproduced on Massachusetts' 2006 waterfowl stamp, the thirty-third in the series, and sold for \$5 wherever hunting licenses are sold. Income generated from the sale of these stamps is dedicated to the acquisition and management of wetlands critical to the conservation of migratory birds throughout North America. These same areas provide important habitat to a host of other wetland dependent species of wildlife as well. MassWildlife's waterfowl stamp program, in conjunction with Ducks Unlimited, Inc. and other partners, has raised over \$500,000 for conservation. The stamps are required of anyone hunting waterfowl in Massachusetts and are also sought by collectors who appreciate the beauty of the decoys and the fine reproduction thereof.

Julius is no stranger to the Massachusetts competition. He first won the competition in 1978 (1979 stamp) with a painting of a ruddy turnstone. He also painted decoys that appeared on Massachusetts' Waterfowl Stamps in 1981, 1983, 1985, 1992 and 2000.

Randy is well known among wildlife artists in Massachusetts. In addition to his duck stamps, he has been commissioned to design the Sponsor Print for Ducks Unlimited and he is, through donations of his art, a major supporter of projects and programs that benefit wildlife in Massachusetts.

## Calif. police hunt man who ran over ducks

When managers of a Campbell, California, car wash arrived for work recently they were stunned to discover a gruesome scene — the mangled bodies of ten ducks, favorites of the community who lived in a nearby pond.

When they turned to security cameras at the Delta Queen Classic Car Wash, the managers discovered the culprit. A man in a red two-door Acura is seen driving over the ducks five or six times. The grainy images also show him climbing out of the car several times to chase the birds, and apparently pick up one or two of them and slam them against the car.

"These ducks are an icon in Campbell — everyone knows these ducks," said Campbell police Captain Russ Patterson. "For someone to purposely, willfully do this — there's no reason for it."

Unfortunately, the car's license plate

was not clearly captured on the tape during the incident which occurred shortly after midnight August 5. Car wash manager Mike Davis said it appeared to be a California vanity plate, but the characters were unreadable.

Davis said as many as 15 ducks survived the attack. Ducks have lived at the Delta Queen pond since 1972, when customers dropped off a pair named Cheese and Quackers. The pair went on to produce many offspring.

Police are searching for the driver, who appears to be in his late teens or early 20s, with short, dark brown hair. He was wearing a black T-shirt and blue jeans.

Patterson said officers were distributing a still photo of the car, hoping that people might recognize it or could identify the license plate. The Delta Queen has also released portions of the security video.

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**May 27-June 3**

**Federal Duck Stamp**

**First Day Ceremony**

**scheduled for June 1.**



### *Duck Chief con't from page 2*

she was presented a special award for her work on behalf of the Duck Stamp program by Jeanette Cantrell Rudy, noted Tennessee duck stamp collector and advocate. In addition, Fisher has been the press officer for the Service's Fisheries, Federal Assistance, International Affairs and Law Enforcement divisions.

As the press secretary for the United States delegation to the bi-annual meeting of the parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, she was responsible for conveying U.S. positions to worldwide media representatives. Also, Fisher was the only "civilian" media officer recruited to help write a media outreach curriculum for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. Throughout the years, she has been recognized for organizing effective outreach efforts, special events, and press conferences for many complicated international environmental issues such as African and Asian elephant conservation, panda conservation, the illegal trade in tigers and rhinos, and most recently, beluga sturgeon conservation. She also was part of the team that developed the Service's "Suitcase for Survival" program, designed to teach school children about conservation.

The Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp – commonly known as the duck stamp – was created with the passage of the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act. Under this Act, all waterfowl hunters 16 years of age and older must annually purchase and carry a Federal Duck Stamp. Stamp collectors and non-hunting conservationists purchase the stamp as well. Proceeds from the sale of stamps go to purchase and conserve migratory bird habitat for the National Wildlife Refuge System. Since the passage of the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act, approximately \$700 million has been raised and over 5 million acres of critical bird habitat has been conserved. Approximately 98¢ of every duck stamp dollar is used to purchase bird habitat, which makes the Federal Duck Stamp program one of the most successful conservation programs ever initiated.

Fisher hails from a family of duck stamp collectors and enjoys spending time outdoors, boating and fishing and visiting Refuges with her 16 year old twins and husband David, who used to be the Duck Stamp Contest official.

## Mallard wins Minnesota contest



*Mallard by Joe Hautman to appear on 2006 MN duck.*

The mallard will be featured on the 2006 Minnesota Migratory Waterfowl Stamp (Duck Stamp).

The painting by Joseph Hautman of Plymouth was chosen as the winning design from among 37 entries in the stamp contest sponsored by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Six entries advanced to the second stage of judging, from which four finalists were selected during the contest held Sept. 8 at the DNR building in St. Paul. The other finalists were Kevin Nelson of Burnsville,

second place; Michael Sieve of Houston, third place; Edward DuRose of Roseville, fourth place.

The \$7.50 Duck Stamp is required of all Minnesota waterfowl hunters ages 18 through 64. Stamp sales generate between \$500,000 and \$900,000 per year for habitat enhancement projects in state wildlife management areas and shallow lakes.

The DNR offers no prizes for the stamp contest winner, but the winning artist retains the right to

reproduce the work, which is usually done as limited edition prints. The 2006 waterfowl stamp, which will be the 30th Minnesota stamp, will be available for sale in March 2006.

This is Joe Hautman's first win in his home state of Minnesota. Dr. Hautman has won the federal duck stamp contest twice (RW59 and RW69). In addition, he has done a number of state duck stamps, including Connecticut, New Jersey, South Carolina and Texas.

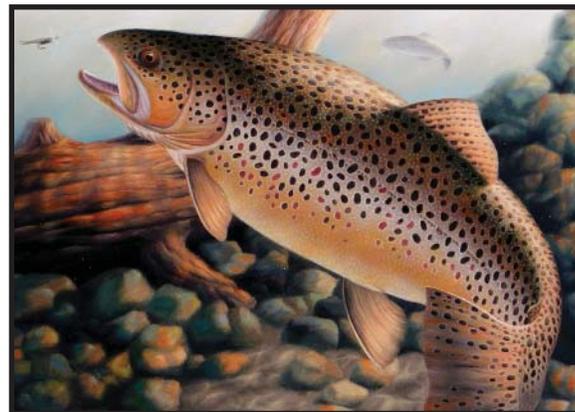
## House wins Minn. Trout and Salmon contest

An under water scene of a brown trout pursuing a wet fly will be featured on Minnesota's 2006 Trout and Salmon Stamp. John House of Evansville painted the winning oil design, his first entry in the Trout and Salmon Stamp contest.

A professional wildlife artist, House is a past winner of Minnesota's Waterfowl and Pheasant Stamp contests and placed second in the 2006 Turkey Stamp contest, which was won by David Chapman.

The Minnesota Trout and Salmon Stamp is required for those who fish in designated trout streams, designated trout lakes, Lake Superior, or who possess trout or salmon. They must also purchase a regular Minnesota fishing license.

The DNR sell approximately 95,000



*Brown trout for the 2006 MN trout and salmon stamp.*

stamps every year for \$10 each, according to Mark Ebbers, DNR Fisheries Trout and Salmon Program consultant. He said proceeds are used for trout and salmon habitat improvement and stocking programs for streams and lakes.

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# Data on duck populations full of positives and negatives

Waterfowlers looking to divine some insight into what to expect for this autumn's duck seasons can be excused if they read mixed signals in the just-released data on duck breeding populations and habitat conditions on the major nesting grounds of the north-central United States and prairie Canada.

Overall estimated population of the 10 major duck species is about the same as a year ago – 31.7 million, statistically similar to the 2004 estimate of 32.2 million ducks.

But look closely at the population estimates for individual species and data on habitat conditions, and things become a bit murky.

Mallards, the continent's most common duck and the species that drives much of the annual regulatory process, are down – this year's estimate of 6.8 million birds is the lowest mallard index in more than a decade and down more than a third from 1999's estimated population of 10.8 million mallards.

Pintails saw an encouraging bump in population but remain barely half as numerous as they were in the 1970s.

Estimates of gadwall population were down 16 percent from a year ago. But the "gray ducks" remain well above their long-term average.

Blue-winged teal, which account for a majority of the ducks taken early in the regular duck season and almost all of the birds harvested in the September teal-only season, saw a good population increase this year.

But the increase, from 4.1 million to 4.6 million, was about 100,000 birds short of the 4.7 million blue-winged teal required to expand the September teal-only season from nine to 16 days.

Six of the 10 major duck species recorded breeding population declines.

Four saw increases.

And the population of three of the four species that increased remain below their target population as set in the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

This year's 31.7 million ducks are more than 10 million fewer than estimated just a decade ago.

But that's the pessimistic stuff.

There's plenty on the positive side of the ledger, too.

While this year's estimate is nowhere near the 40-plus million of the mid-1990s, it's much better than the 25-27 million ducks that hit the nesting grounds in the late 1980s and early 1990s at the peak impact of a decade-long drought in those areas.

More encouraging, weather appears to have given ducks a big break.

When the first migrating ducks hit the prairies this spring, they found depressingly dry conditions, particularly in the north-central U.S.

For early-nesting species such as mallards, this was not good news.

But by the middle of May, "Nature turned on the faucet," said Dave Sharp, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's representative to the Central Flyway Council.

Lots of rain fell on the Dakotas and southern prairie Canada beginning about the third week of May and continuing through June – just as the USFWS and Canadian Wildlife Service were conducting their annual joint waterfowl population and habitat surveys.

Water is a crucial element for nesting waterfowl. It provides temporary "sheet" water and temporary shallow wetlands, plus recharges deeper, mostly permanent wetlands – all important for pairing, providing invertebrate for food and open water for brood rearing and molting. Water is also crucial for fueling growth of grass and other vegetation that provides nesting cover for hens.

This summer, ducks are awash in water. This is particularly true in much of prairie Canada, where dry conditions coupled with dwindling grasslands have over the past few years spelled serious problems for ducks such as pintails, birds greatly dependent on the quality and quantity of habitat in Alberta and western Saskatchewan.

The May "pond counts" in prairie Canada and the parkland (mixed grassland/forest) region to its north showed an index of 3.9 million "ponds."

This was up more than half from the 2004 estimate of 2.5 million ponds in Canada and about 12 percent above the long-term average of 3.3 million Canadian ponds.

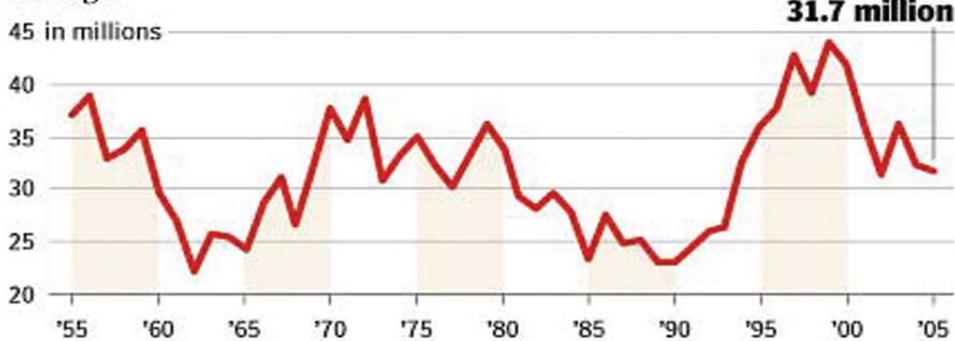
The May estimate of wetlands on the U.S. portion of the traditional survey area was 1.5 million ponds, very similar to 2004 numbers. The pond count for the main duck-producing areas in Canada and the United States was up 37 percent from a year ago.

And that doesn't take into account the additional wetlands created in the Dakotas from rains that fell after the pond counts, Sharp said.

*continued on page 19*

## DUCK POPULATION INDEX, 1955-2005

The annual May duck breeding population survey, conducted on major duck breeding and nesting areas in north-central U.S., Alaska, south-central and northwest Canada, has tracked the number of the 10 most populous duck species for the past 50 years. This year's population index has been pegged at 31.7 million birds, similar to an estimate of 32.2 million in 2004 and 5 percent below the long-term (1955-2005) average.



NOTE: Spring breeding population estimates for 10 major duck species, mid-continent North America, 1955-2005. (Includes: mallard, gadwall, wigeon, green-winged teal, blue-winged teal, shoveler, pintail, redhead, canvasback, scaup.)

Source: Trends in Duck Breeding Populations 1955-2005, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Migratory Bird Management

## California artist produces first duck stamp

Artist Rich Radigonda, a San Francisco native, grew up spending a lot of time on the shores of the San Francisco Bay. He was fascinated with waterfowl, and unbeknownst to his parents, he built rafts to try (unsuccessfully) to get closer to the ducks loafing near Hunter's Point.

At a very early age, Rich was introduced to duck hunting, auto racing, and air shows by his father. These three activities would shape his life. Discovering his ability to draw by age five, Rich drew ducks, race cars, and World War II airplanes. In the late 1950s, Rich served aboard the aircraft carrier Ticonderoga. There, he made many sketches of flight deck action and painted cartoons and nose art on the fighter planes. Once he left the service, Rich wanted to attend art school, but was told to "get a job" by a stern father. Having good mechanical ability, he decided to work in an auto repair shop. Within three years, Rich had opened his own shop, which was successful for many years. He sold the business in 1998 to paint full time.

In the early 1960's, Rich sponsored a race car and performed the associated mechanical work. The car won the 1963 Northern California Championship and held records at three tracks.

By the late 60s, Rich began collecting antique duck decoys and developed an interest in the contemporary decoy carving contests being held on the East Coast. He tried his hand at carving, and his fourth creation won a Blue Ribbon – and his part-time art career was launched.

Deciding the West Coast needed its own carving show, Rich co-founded the Pacific



The 2005 California duck stamp, 35th in the series.

Flyway Decoy Show with two other men. It was a great success. In fact, the event recently celebrated its 35th anniversary. In the 1970s, Rich began to photograph wildlife, particularly

*con't on pg 16*

## Storm wins Minnesota Pheasant contest

A painting by Scot Storm was chosen as the winning design from among 22 entries in the 2006 Pheasant Habitat Stamp contest sponsored by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Thirteen entries advanced to the second stage of judging, from which three finalists were selected during judging Sept. 29 at the DNR Headquarters in St. Paul. Nick Reitzel of Karlstad took second place and Ed DuRose of Roseville took third. Storm won the 2004 Migratory Waterfowl Stamp contest in 2004 and the Pheasant Stamp contest in 2000.

The \$7.50 Pheasant Stamp is required of all Minnesota pheasant hunters ages 18



Storm's design for 2006 Minnesota pheasant stamp.

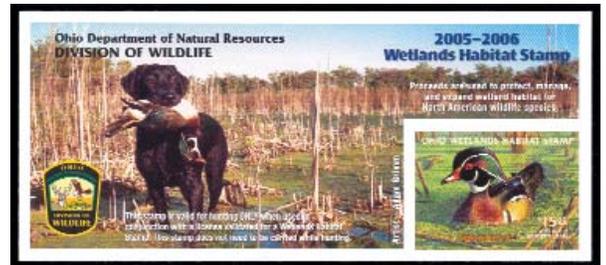
through 64. Stamp sales generate money for habitat enhancement efforts on both public and private lands in the pheasant range of Minnesota.

The 2006 Pheasant Stamp will be available for sale in March.

## Ohio stamp pictures artist's dog

The 2005 Ohio Duck stamp is shown here. The image on the card is a photograph taken by the stamp artist, Adam Grimm.

Adam's dog, Dakota, is featured retrieving a drake wood duck, harvested by the artist, in the Willow Point wildlife area near Fremont, Ohio. The winning stamp design is shown in the lower right corner.



## Audubon Birds Centennial Edition

A Centennial Edition of John James Audubon's "The Birds of America" has been published in celebration of the 100-year anniversary of the National Audubon Society. The Centennial Edition includes the entire Double Elephant Folio of 435 bird images as created by Audubon and printed by R. Havell & Son, London, in the early 19th century.

This is only the third time in 168 years that a complete facsimile of the Havell Edition has been offered and the first time that each image has been completely restored to its original beauty.

Published as giclees on archival paper, embossed with the National Audubon Society logo, each image is limited to 200 with 50 being reserved for collectors of complete suites of 435. Full and half plates 28½ x 39 inches, retail for \$1,200; quarter plates 11 x 15 inches, for \$500.

Further details are available from the distributor, DawnLyn Fine Arts, 4116 PGA Blvd., Loehmann's Plaza, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410. Toll Free: 877-691-4293, Fax: 561-691-4692. Web site: dawnlyn.com.



"Great Blue Heron" by John James Audubon, Centennial print release.

### *California con't from page 15*

ducks and other water birds. This brought a change to his whole outlook on wildlife. He found more challenge in photographing fast-moving birds than shooting at them. While he still hunts, the days of having to always get a limit are past.

Spending so much time photographing ducks inspired Rich to start painting on canvas. Many paintings followed, and the dream of winning a duck stamp art contest burned deep. After placing many times in the top five in the duck stamp competitions, winning the 2005 California Duck Stamp made the dream come true.

Rich's achievements in art include being named Ducks Unlimited (DU) California Artist of the Year in 1987 and winning the Decoy Carver of the Year Award in 1989. He is the only artist in the nation to accomplish this task.

In the last few years, paintings of World War II aircraft and vintage race car scenes have also been created by Rich. He was honored to do a large painting (8ftx18ft) depicting the Col. Doolittle 1942 Raid on Tokyo that is on permanent display at Travis AFB. Traveling to various vintage aviation and race car get-togethers, he has met many of his boyhood heroes that flew in the war or drove at Indianapolis.

Rich has conducted several wildlife drawing sessions with children. As he draws with them he talks about the wonders of nature around us and encourages them to learn more.

Rich is committed to creating many new works of art in the years to come.

### **AWARDS:**

1987 DU California Artist of the Year.

1989 DU Decoy Carver of the Year.

Blue Ribbon winner in 15 National Decoy shows, including two **Best of Shows**.

1995 2nd Place Kodak Regional Photo contest.

1995 CA Waterfowl Assoc. Life Sponsor Artist.

2000 Parradox Label for Duckhorn Vineyards.

2003 CA Waterfowl Assoc. Life Sponsor Artist.

2005 California Waterfowl Stamp.

### *Meline con't from page 1*

Ross' goose in reeds with several flying birds in the background. She completed the work over a four month period. Russell Meline was born and raised in Madison, Wisconsin, and graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a degree in fine arts. She began her art career doing three-dimensional art, but was inspired to paint waterfowl after she began collecting waterfowl decoys.

While she studies mounts for the fine detail of her paintings, she also spends time watching live birds. "I watch the birds a lot and get to know them," said Russell Meline.

Russell Meline and her husband, Kevin, own a gallery, *Wingbeat*, in Mt. Shasta. Her artwork has been used for more than 30 state waterfowl stamps, including Arizona, Texas, Nevada, and Iowa. Over the next four years, she will be working on a commission to paint waterfowl stamps for the 12 provinces of Canada. Her art can be seen at [wingbeat.com](http://wingbeat.com)

Second place went to Bruce Miller of Mound, Minnesota, who painted a pair of northern shovelers. Third place went to Jim Caturia of Cottage Grove, Minnesota, who also painted a male northern shoveler.

Eligible species for this year's contest were the brant, northern shoveler, Ross' goose, ruddy duck and Canada goose.

The five judges for the competition were chosen by the Secretary of the Interior for their dedication to conservation and their professional expertise.

Ward Burton's passion for racing is equal to his passion for the outdoors. Winner of the 2002 Daytona 500, Burton long ago dedicated himself to natural resource conservation. Initially funded out of his NASCAR earnings, today the Ward Burton Wildlife Foundation is a fast growing education-oriented organization dedicated to promoting awareness for the need of wildlife conservation, habitat enhancement, and proper stewardship of America's natural resources.

Bill Crawford is an innovative and committed wildlife Conservationist. He was Budweiser's 2005 Conservationist of the Year. Crawford spearheaded one of the most ambitious projects ever undertaken by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. The project has received national attention for its importance to migratory waterfowl, shorebirds and wading birds. Crawford is an avid international hunter, angler, and active member of Safari Club International.

Steve Runnels is the President and CEO of the American Birding Association in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He began his career as a curator for the Dallas Museum of Natural History, eventually becoming the CEO of the museum. He has also served as the Regional Director of Stewardship for the National Audubon Society. Runnels has been an active member of local groups in his community including the Rotary, Chambers of Commerce, Audubon and Junior League. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in zoology and botany.

Ruby Bridgeforth is the Postmaster / Metro Manager in Memphis, Tennessee. She began her postal career in 1981 in Anchorage, Alaska. Her educational accomplishments include Bachelor of Science from University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff; Master, Music Education from Arkansas State University; and Master, Business Admin. from Belhaven College.

Jane Lavino is the Curator of Education for the National Wildlife Art Museum for the past 16 years, where she has built an award winning education program reaching over 12,000 adults and children a year. Lavino was the 1996 recipient of the Wyoming Alliance for Arts Education "Friend of the Arts" award. She has served as the Wyoming State Coordinator for the Federal Junior Duck Stamp program for 11 years. Jane Lavino has a Bachelor of Arts in Visual Art and Cultural Anthropology and is a certified art educator in New York and Wyoming.

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## *And the duck said ...*

**T**hree male crows are flying overhead when one spots a dove. He swoops down, picks up the dove and takes it into the bushes.

After a few minutes, the dove comes out and says, "I'm a dove and I've been loved!"

16 *shduck.com*

The crows continue on. A little later the second bird sees a lark. He swoops down, picks it up and goes into the bushes. A few minutes later, the lark comes out and says, "I'm a lark and I've been sparked!"

The crows continue on. A little later the third one sees a duck.

He swoops down, picks it up and takes it into the bushes. After a few minutes the bird comes out, then goes back in. Then the duck comes out and says, "I'm a drake and there's been a big mistake!"

*I bet you thought the duck would have said something else ...*

# Ohio contest features outstanding artwork

The artwork of a Northern pintail by Ohio native Gregory Clair won first place at the Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp design competition. Clair's painting will appear on the Ohio wetlands stamp in the fall of 2006.

The winning entry was selected from a field of 28 original paintings submitted by artists in 14 states, including 11 entries from Ohio.

This was Clair's second win in the Ohio conservation stamp competition. In 1991, he was the winner with a painting of a greater scaup. He also placed fourth in the federal duck stamp competition in 2004. Clair was the 2005 artist of the year for Ohio

Ducks Unlimited.

More than 35,000 wetland stamps are purchased every year, according to the Division of Wildlife. Proceeds from stamp sales help fund vital wetland habitat restoration projects in Ohio. Such habitats are important to many resident wildlife species, including trumpeter swans, wetland birds, amphibians, and numerous migratory species such as ducks and shorebirds.

Second place honors went to Edward Suthoff for his rendering of snow geese. Third place went to Ron Lape for his portrait of wigeons. Semi-finalists included Jeffrey Klinefelter and Ron Louque.



Northern pintail by Gregory Clair



Snow geese by Edward Suthoff



Wigeons by Ron Lape

## Bird Bands

When a duck or goose hunter spies a shiny metal band on the leg of a downed bird, you can bet that if he is not alone, there will be a heated discussion as to whose shot did the killing – and who can string the prize onto their call lanyard. But there's more than one kind of band, and each has its own story. Here is a breakdown of the various types. Remember to always report any bands you recover.

### Federal Band



Since 1920, nearly 18 million ducks, geese, and swans have carried the aluminum bands issued by the Bird Banding Laboratory of the U.S. Geological Survey. Over the years, 3.5 million have been recovered, the vast majority by hunters.

### Colored Leg Band



These plastic bands are used by a wide range of researchers to identify individual birds in the field, but the Bird Banding Laboratory is not involved. They are most commonly seen on species that walk around or are viewed in the nest.

### Duckling Band



Researchers interested in nest predation and chick survival often use metal bands with an inner ring of clay that wears away as a duckling grows. By the time a hunter recovers one, all that remains is a short band with a locking tab.

### Neck Collar



To date, 577,336 geese, swans and whistling ducks have been fitted with neck collars. Like colored leg bands, they allow researchers to keep track of individual birds from a distance. Hunters have reported 95,098 of them.

### Jack Miner Band



The work of Ontario native Jack Miner, who tagged ducks with Bible verse – inscribed bands starting in the early 1900s, was instrumental in the passage of conservation laws. Family members and volunteers continue his efforts today.

### Pen-raised Duck Band



Pen-raised ducks let go by private groups often carry labeled bands. One of these groups, the South Carolina Waterfowl Association, has released nearly half a million banded mallards in the last decade; 19,876 were returned last year.

from *Field and Stream*

# Scoring glitch alters outcome of PA duck contest

**P**ennsylvania Game Commission officials have announced that the 2006 Pennsylvania Duck Stamp winner was Kerry L. Holzman, of Bernville. His winning entry features two male and one female pintail.

Holzman, 50, has been a faithful entrant in the agency's Pennsylvania duck stamp contest and has submitted entries for more than 10 years, in which he has placed in the top five for the last eight years.

A professional artist for the past 20 years, Holzman credits as the inspiration for his artistic endeavors the agency's official monthly magazine, *Pennsylvania Game News*, which he has read since he was a youth.

"As a young boy, I started reading *Pennsylvania Game News* with my father," said Holzman, who works out of his home. "It inspired me to start painting at a young age, and then I eventually began taking my work to art shows."

Holzman winning painting is a trio of pintails, two males and one female, done in acrylic. He said he chose pintails because they are "one of the better looking ducks, that are graceful, elegant and sleek."

Jocelyn Beatty, placed second; third place went to Scott Calpino; followed by Brian Blight in fourth, and Randy Zigo in

fifth. There were 19 entries for this year's contest.

"Due to an error in how points were awarded in case of a tie, it was mistakenly announced that Beatty had won," said Robert Wesoloskie, Game Commission marketing specialist and facilitator of the contest. "However, the next day, after reviewing the rules that had been distributed to all contestants, it was discovered that we inadvertently allowed judges to assign points for first and second place, rather than just for first place.

"When all the points were reviewed, it was revealed that in the first round, Holzman lead Beatty by 48 to 46 points. In the final round, Holzman and Beatty tied at 22 points each. In the tie breaking round, judges should have just awarded points for first place and no points for second. If that had been done, Holzman would have won by a vote of 3 to 2.

"We are deeply saddened by this mistake, and we certainly do believe that both artists have done outstanding work. However, in order to maintain the integrity of the contest, we must follow the rules that all contestants had received prior to submitting their entries. In doing so, it does require that we correct the mistake

made in awarding points, which also changes the results.

"On behalf of the agency, I sincerely apologize for this mistake and for any confusion and hurt feelings it may have caused."

In 2002, Beatty became the first woman to take Pennsylvania's top honors in the contest, when her entry depicting a pair of canvasbacks – which included the first man-made structure to ever appear on the winning artwork – won the 2003 Pennsylvania Duck Stamp Contest. The 2003 stamp Beatty created had, in the background of the late winter scene, the Presque Isle Lighthouse near Erie on Presque Isle State Park.

"Jocelyn is an outstanding artist and her previous work has been a very positive addition to the Pennsylvania Duck Stamp program," said J. Carl Graybill Jr., Game Commission Bureau of Information and Education director. "This mistake was solely the error of the Game Commission and in no way should negatively reflect on the tremendous artistic talent of Jocelyn."

The 2006 voluntary duck stamp and fine art print will be available early next year. The voluntary duck stamp has a face value of \$5.50.

## Engraver selected for RW73

**P**ostage stamp engraver Piotr Naszarkowski will begin work shortly engraving the 2006 United States federal duck stamp, RW73.

A painting of Ross's geese by Sherrie Russell Meline is the basis of the design for next year's duck stamp.

The federal duck stamp is slated for

issue on June 1, 2006, at the Washington 2006 international philatelic exhibition in Washington, D.C.

In an article in *Linn's Stamp News*, Naszarkowski said he is planning on attending Washington 2006 on June 1 for the release of the new stamp.

In 2004, Naszarkowski finished engraving RW72, the \$15 Hooded Mergansers federal duck stamp, when engraver Czeslaw Slania was unable to complete the project.

He said that he was contacted in October 2004 to work on the duck stamp.

Slania died March 17, 2005, and the stamp was issued July 1. Naszarkowski is a longtime protege and associate of Slania.

The highly engraved stamps are welcomed by duck stamp collectors, who had become disappointed in the amount and quality of engraving when the stamps were no longer produced by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, who had done spectacular work for years.

## Sports Illustrated honors King Buck

**T**he July 11, 2005, issue of *Sports Illustrated* featured **SI's 25 Amazing Animals**.

Included in the group was King Buck. The text accompanying a photo of RW26 was: "In 1952 and '53 he outlasted hundreds of dogs over scores of competitions to win consecutive National Retriever Championships – a feat not duplicated for more than 40 years. 'The first really famous retriever,' as he's called by **American**



**Kennel Club** retriever expert Bill Speck, was honored on the '59 federal duck stamp, the only dog to ever appear on one. All for a retriever who weighed just 60 pounds, 20 pounds less than many others. 'He was a little boy,' says Speck, 'but he had a big heart.'"



Naszarkowski autographs the Greta Garbo stamp he engraved.

## High flying goose

The highest migration flights made by waterfowl are those of the bar-headed goose, which crosses Mount Everest in the Himalayas at just under 31,000 feet.

The Bar-headed goose is the most striking of the grey geese. The name of this very gracefully built bird derives from the two prominent horse shoe shaped, brownish-black bars enhancing the white head. This is a beautiful goose. The elegant shape, pretty color and long slim neck are particularly appealing. It is perfectly hardy and breeds readily. Being highly sociable it does not molest other birds. Sexes are similar in their plumage and the birds are easy to recognize, due to the two horizontal



Bar-headed goose (*Anser Indicus*)

black stripes on their heads; one stripe runs forward to the eye and the other is lower and only runs partway forward.

The general color is pale grey. A slightly greater wing area for its weight, compared with other geese, enables the Bar-headed to migrate at exceptionally high altitudes over the Himalayas. The breeding is largely Central Asia and migration for the winter is to India, Assam and northern Burma.

The favored summer habitats are the lakes at high altitudes where the short surrounding grass is appreciated. Most winter grazing areas are currently under cultivation and the Bar-headed has become reliant on wheat, barley and rice crops resulting in considerable damage to the shoots of these crops.

Breeding is inclined to be in colonies consisting of thousands of birds. Avian predators, such as ravens, crows, kites and sea eagles, as well as foxes take their toll, but the overall population is possibly increasing.

In the wild, these geese nest in very dense colonies, nests often being within pecking distance of the neighbors. The usual clutch consists of 3-4 eggs which are incubated for 28-30 days.

### Breeding population con't from page 14

"I really have to believe that we're going to see better production and recruitment this year than we did last year," Sharp said. "The habitat conditions are so much better in a lot of areas."

In particular, the parkland habitat looks outstanding.

"Almost all areas look good, but the parkland has to be the standout," Sharp said. "It hasn't been in this good a shape in a decade."

While the prairies get a lot of deserved attention for their importance as duck producers, the parklands are equally important, particularly for some species.

Wigeon, scaup, ring-necks and a considerable number of mallards make use of the parkland habitat, Sharp said. Those birds should see good production this summer.

Also, the late-spring/early-summer rains that blessed the prairies bode good things for late-nesting species such as gadwall and blue-winged teal.

Also, the abundance of water nearly guarantees improved success for ducks

that lose their first nest and attempt second efforts.

Re-nesting efforts inevitably result in smaller egg clutches and lower duckling survival. But the good habitat conditions in most areas this summer should improve odds for those second nests.

Waterfowl managers are looking at that right now. Biologists this month are conducting production surveys – brood counts – across the major duck-producing areas.

Those brood counts won't be as wide-ranging as in past years – budget cuts to migratory waterfowl monitoring programs are to blame.

But what information is sifted from those production surveys will be added to the breeding population estimates, pond counts, harvest estimates from this past season and other data to provide the basis for hunting proposals for the 2005-06 duck seasons.

Those proposals will come late this month, when the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's regulations committee meets in Washington.

## 2005 CCA stamp pictures redfish



CCA23 by John Dearman

The 2005 Coastal Conservation stamp, 23rd in the series, pictures redfish by artist John Dearman.

Dearman has captured the pair in a race for a shrimp lunch. The angler aims for the jumping shrimp, knowing that something is likely to strike.

The redfish, emblematic of the CCA's conservation efforts, and the speckled trout are among the most wide ranging and popular among anglers in the CCA states.

Dearman is considered by many to be among the best sporting artists on the Southwest scene. Dearman's art has been featured in the conservation efforts of the Coastal Conservation Association, Ducks Unlimited, along with Arkansas and Texas duck stamps.

### Hall con't from page 3

responsibility to work with Minerals Management Service to protect sensitive areas in the Western Gulf of Mexico. He was also the office supervisor in Texas for four years. Along the career path he worked as Deputy Assistant Director for Fisheries in Washington, D.C.

A native of Harlan, Ky., Hall served in the Philippines and Italy during his stint with the U.S. Air Force. Hall also has private sector experience having managed catfish farms in the Mississippi Delta after returning to civilian life. His education includes a bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry from Cumberland College in Kentucky and a master's in fisheries science from Louisiana State University.

Hall has been honored with the Department of the Interior's Meritorious

Service Award. He and his wife, Sarah, have three children.

# 2005 State Duck Stamps

*Please retain as a supplement to your Sam Houston duck stamp catalogue.*

| State          | Species                          | Artist                | Cat. # | Mint  | Artist Signed (s) |
|----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|-------|-------------------|
| Alabama        | Canada goose                     | Eddie LeRoy           | AL27   | 8.50  | 25.00             |
| Alaska         | Hooded merganser                 | Don Moore             | AK21   | 8.00  | 25.00             |
| Arizona        | Pintail                          | Tom Finley            | AZ19   | 10.00 | 25.00             |
| Arkansas       | Mallard / black lab              | Larry Chandler        | AR25   | 9.50  | 25.00             |
| Arkansas       | Non-resident                     |                       | AR25A  | 26.50 | 35.00             |
| California     | Pintail                          | Richard Radigonda     | CA35   | 17.50 | 35.00             |
| Colorado       | Shoveler                         | Jeffrey Klinefelter   | CO16   | 8.00  | 25.00             |
| Connecticut    | Mallard                          | Paul Fusco            | CT13   | 12.50 | 25.00             |
| Delaware       | Common merganser / lighthouse    | Joanna Rivera         | DE26   | 12.00 | 25.00             |
| Hawaii         | California quail                 |                       | HI10   | 12.50 | 25.00             |
| Illinois       | Green-winged teal                | Gerald Putt           | IL31   | 13.00 | 25.00             |
| Indiana        | Bufflehead                       | Jeffrey Klinefelter   | IN30   | 9.50  | 25.00             |
| Iowa           | Green-winged teal                | Neal Anderson         | IA34   | 11.00 | 25.00             |
| Kentucky       | Canada goose                     | Chris Walden          | KY21   | 10.00 | 25.00             |
| Louisiana      | Pintail / black lab              | Ken Michaelsen        | LA17   | 8.00  | 20.00             |
| Louisiana      | Non-resident                     |                       | LA17A  | 29.50 | 40.00             |
| Maine          | Canada goose                     | Daniel Cake           | ME23   | 11.00 | 25.00             |
| Maryland       | Ruddy duck                       | Wil Goebel            | MD32   | 12.00 | 30.00             |
| Massachusetts  | Oldsquaw                         | Donald Little         | MA32   | 7.50  | 25.00             |
| Michigan       | Blue-winged teal                 | Christopher Smith     | MI30   | 7.50  | 25.00             |
| Minnesota      | White-winged scoter / lighthouse | David Chapman         | MN29   | 10.00 | 25.00             |
| Mississippi    | Blue-winged teal                 | Joe Mac Hudspeth, Jr. | MS30   | 13.50 | 30.00             |
| Nevada         | Gadwall                          | Adam Oswald           | NV27   | 12.50 | 25.00             |
| New Hampshire  | Oldsquaw / lighthouse            | Jim Collins           | NH23   | 7.00  | 25.00             |
| New Jersey     | Ches Bay ret. / Canvasback decoy | Phillip Crowe         | NJ22   | 9.00  | 25.00             |
| New Jersey     | Non-resident                     |                       | NJ22A  | 15.00 | 30.00             |
| North Carolina | Green-winged teal                | Gerald Putt           | NC23   | 12.50 | 30.00             |
| North Dakota   | Text stamp                       |                       | ND24   | 8.50  | —                 |
| Ohio           | Wood duck                        | Adam Grimm            | OH24   | 19.50 | 30.00             |
| Oklahoma       | Snow goose                       | Jeffrey Klinefelter   | OK26   | 12.50 | 30.00             |
| Oregon         | Hooded merganser                 | Robert Steiner        | OR22   | 12.50 | 30.00             |
| Pennsylvania   | Red-breasted merganser           | Gerald Putt           | PA23   | 8.00  | 25.00             |
| Rhode Island   | Black duck / lighthouse          | Keith Mueller         | RI17   | 10.00 | 30.00             |
| South Carolina | Canvasback                       | Rodney Huckaby        | SC25   | 8.00  | 25.00             |
| South Dakota   | Text stamp                       |                       | SD23   | 8.50  | —                 |
| Tennessee      | Mallard                          | Joshua Lester         | TN25   | 12.50 | 25.00             |
| Texas          | Mallard                          | Herb Booth            | TX25   | 12.50 | 30.00             |
| Vermont        | Canvasback                       | Richard Bishop        | VT20   | 7.50  | —                 |
| Virginia       | Wood duck                        | Guy Crittenden        | VA18   | 12.50 | 25.00             |
| Washington     | Barrow's goldeneye               | Dan Smith             | WA20   | 13.50 | 30.00             |
| Wisconsin      | Wood duck                        | Terry Doughty         | WI28   | 9.50  | 25.00             |
| Wyoming        | Burrowing owl                    | Ron Staker            | WY22   | 13.00 | 30.00             |



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