



Duck Tracks™

Dedicated to Making a Difference

The Official Journal of the National Duck Stamp Collectors' Society

Winter 2009

Whole No. 51

Operating Board

President:

Wes Miller
Clearwater, FL

Vice President:

Phil Reiland
Lakeville, MN

Secretary:

Anthony J. Monico
P.O. Box 43
Harleysville, PA 19438

Treasurer:

Larry Wolfe
Palmyra, VA

Society Founder:

Bob Dumaine
Houston, TX

Immediate Past Pres.

Dr. Ira Cotton

Founding President:

Nicholas E. Oglesby, Jr.
1921-1999

Historian:

David Gallagher
Wilkes-Barre, PA

Governors:

Eugene German
Lincroft, NJ

Joe Hautman
Plymouth, MN

Christopher D. Koss
Key Biscayne, FL

Jeanette C. Rudy
Nashville, TN

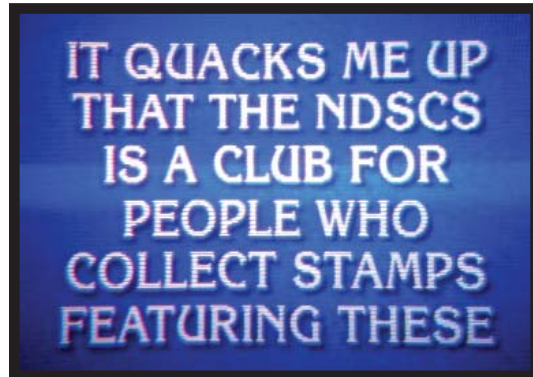
William B. Webster
Frontenac, MN

Legal Counsel:

Charles Durante

APS Chapter # 210

Duck Society appears on Jeopardy!



The clue, as it appeared on Jeopardy!

The October 7, 2008, edition of the popular television show Jeopardy!, featured a question regarding the National Duck Stamp Collectors Society.

The correct answer, in the form of a question, was given by Kitty O'Rourke of Fort Walton Beach, Fla, "What are ducks?"

Spies wins Federal Duck Contest

Wildlife artist Joshua Spies of Watertown, S.D., won the 2008 Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest - the oldest and most prestigious wildlife art competition in America - with his depiction of a long-tailed duck. H. Dale Hall, director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announced the winner in front of a crowd of more than 300 people at the contest, held Oct. 17 and 18 in Bloomington, Minn.

Spies' painting - chosen from among 270 entries - will be featured on the 2009-2010 Federal Duck Stamp, which will go on sale in late June 2009. Duck Stamp sales generate about \$25 million each year to fund wetland habitat acquisition for the National Wildlife Refuge System. The annual Federal Duck Stamp Contest is the only federally sponsored juried art competition, and is



*2008 Federal Duck Stamp Contest
winner by Joshua Spies.*

run by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Spies' winning art depicts a single male long-tailed duck afloat, with a decoy in the background. The last time a long-tailed duck (formerly known as old squaw) appeared on the Federal Duck Stamp was on the 1967-68 stamp, painted by the late Leslie Kouba of Minnesota. Spies is the third South

Continued on page 6

Table of Contents

Uncatalogued Stamps	3
Let us know!	3
PSE to grade junior ducks	5
Best and Worst from 2007	5
New York stamp show gets new venue	5
Artists wanted for state contests	7
Federal duck price increase not passed	7
RW73A printing flaw discovered	8
Duck stamp judge report	9
Images from the Federal Contest	10
Rare Federal Proofs discovered	15
Julius wins Massachusetts	16
Denney designs Alabama stamp	16
Clifont wins Delaware contest	17
Storm wins Minnesota contest	17
First-time duck stamp artist wins Michigan ..	17
Renamig the Old squaw	18
Upcoming Events	19
Classified Ads	19

Amazing Duck Facts

Mystery ducks – The location of the spectacled eider's wintering grounds remained a mystery until March 1995, when researchers followed birds marked with satellite transmitters into the heart of the Bering Sea. There they found massive concentrations of spectacled eiders gathered in pack ice fissures.



There they found massive concentrations of spectacled eiders gathered in pack ice fissures.

NDSCS Financial

Certificates of Deposit:	\$ 10,000.00
Checking Account:	\$ 2,381.88
Total Assets:	\$12,381.88

Duck Tracks is published by the National Duck Stamp Collectors Society. Subscriptions are included with membership, which is available by writing to the secretary. Submit articles, photographs and advertising materials to the editor. © 2009 NDSCS

Editor - Rita Dumaine Sugar Land, Texas
e-mail: ritadumaine@aol.com

To receive a copy of this newsletter in full color via e-mail, send your request to: kward33@cogeco.ca

Welcome to all our new members!

New Regular Members

Barbara Dominguez	Southbury, Conn.
Don Burns	Kenosha, Wisc.
Cecilia Hoffland	Long Beach, Calif.
Lynnwood B. McCauley	Tallahassee, Fla.
Kent Bedenbaugh	Columbia, S.C.
Steven Carter	Colorado Springs, Colo.
David Millford	Bloomington, Minn.
Ouida Edington	Youngville, N.Y.
Capt. John Hugg, Jr.	Solomons, Md.
Jerry Buda	Poughkeepsie, N.Y.
Charles W. Crampton	Vail, Iowa
Don Callahan	San Leandro, Calif.
Gerald Weast	Reno, Nev.
Paul A. Kleespies	Cranford, N.J.
Carolyn B. Fisher	Bridgewater, Conn.
Forrest Mastel-Lipson	Ironton, Minn.

New Life Members

Michael Driver	Midland, Mich.
----------------	----------------

Member totals as of January 27, 2009

Charter - Life	29
Life	36
Associate, Charter - Regular, Regular, Junior	297
Total Active Membership	362
Total Complimentary Copies	26

Crow Creek – Sioux Tribe Waterfowl Stamps

The 2008 Scott Specialized Catalogue lists all Crow Creek waterfowl stamps through 2006.

Interested in completing your collection of waterfowl stamps?

Visit www.dickeiser.com and click on "Fish and Game" to see a complete list of all available Crow Creek Sioux Tribe waterfowl, fish and game stamps.

Quantities are limited. Only several sets of the very scarce '03 waterfowl set are available!

Call for quote.

DK Enterprises

9960 Silverdale Way NW, #11, Silverdale, WA 98383
360.692.3818 e-mail: stamps@dickeiser.com

President's Corners

Arbitrary Catalog Listings To List or Not to List?



by Ira Cotton*

I recently read an announcement by Scott Publishing that the new duck stamp anniversary souvenir pane will not receive a full catalog listing due to its \$50 cost. Presumably this means that Scott Platinum, National and Duck Stamp album supplements will not

provide a page for the sheet.

I have never felt that catalogs should set themselves up as arbiters of what customers should collect, but should instead simply record and report what legitimate



RW75 Anniversary Sheet.

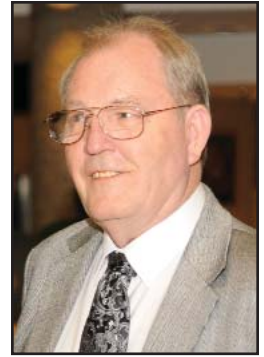
stamp issuing authorities issue. In the case of duck stamps and related items issued by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS), all funds received are devoted to conservation and habitat preservation for the benefit of migratory birds. In a very real sense, collectors who buy duck stamp products are being conservationists.

I have taken issue in the past with the FWS' Duck Stamp Office (DSO) for the way in which they have introduced and managed the sale of the new products, starting with the first signed mini-sheet. I have never objected to the items themselves, except to suggest that a higher price might yield more funds for conservation. I also suggested a sheetlet containing both a duck stamp and a Junior duck stamp that might sell in the \$50 range. I hope the DSO will consider that for future, non-anniversary years.

continued on page 14

*This is a picture of my wife Marcy and me enjoying a kids' literacy show. Hobbies should be fun and I had as much fun as this looks while serving the society, writing articles, and collecting.

Let Us Know!



by Wes Miller

It is with mixed feelings that I am your new President. Dr. Ira Cotton our long time president has resigned in order to devote more time to his writing and family. He has promised to continue to assist me as well as being an active member of your board of directors. I am pleased to take up where Ira left off and have dedicated ten hours a week to these duties for this year.

According to the by-laws, I have appointed Phil Reiland as Vice President to succeed me. I met Phil at the Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest this past October in Bloomington Minn. Phil voiced an interest becoming more active with NDSCS. As Publisher/Editor of *Outdoors Weekly*, an avid duck hunter and duck stamp collector, Phil brings a great deal of experience to our board. He is a very welcome addition.

My first duty is to announce that an election of officers is in order. I direct your attention to our bylaws that are located on the NDSCS web site. Essentially nominations are now open and any interested member may nominate a member for an office. Send these nominations to our secretary Tony Monico. His and any officer's e-mail address is linked at our web site.

The deadline for sending nominations is March 1, 2009. Ballots will be prepared and counted prior to the Duck Stamp Art Contest held in October. At press time, the USFWS has not released a date or venue.

The board recently met by teleconference to decide our course as an organization. We had many very good ideas which will be implemented in the near future. We are considering different ways to stimulate new membership. One way is by having more presence in the conservation and philatelic communities. We are committed to making ourselves available to these communities by volunteering to speak or give presentations. If you know of or belong to either a philatelic or conservation organization let them know that we have people that can assist with programs. Let one of your board members know of any organization amenable to entertaining our programs.

continued on page 15

Secretary's Column



by **Tony Monico**

This issue finds us getting ready to adjust to a new presidential administration, a new duck stamp winner, winter and most importantly the holiday season for many of the world's religions.

A new presidential administration could mark more changes at the Federal Duck Stamp Office. It could also mean changes to the longest standing art contest for the most prestigious program an wildlife artist can win. It is often said that a Federal duck stamp contest win propels an artist to instant fame and possibly fortune. Stay tuned in to our newsletter and website for any upcoming news on proposed program changes.

This fall saw a relative new comer, Joshua Spies, win the 2008 contest. His painting will grace the face of the 2009 Federal Duck Stamp (RW76). Jim Hautman, an NDSCS Life Member, placed second and Gerald Mobley placed third. Congratulations to Joshua and all the artists that entered the contest.

Winter has hit us in North America. It has been relatively warm and snow free so far, but the almanac is calling for high snow fall amounts this year. We'll see.

As the holiday season approaches, remember the many things we can all be thankful for - a pane of ducks, a remarked stamp or print. Sorry wrong list! It is a time to cherish our gifts and give thanks for the small things in life. In this tough economic time, reach out and spend some quality time.

Our society needs more members volunteering to become active in the society activities. Please consider sharing some of your free time with the society. As you can see, we have shuffled some of the current operating board members around but we still need more help. Consider nominating yourself for a position in next year's election.

On to the society business items -

Web Site: Check out our web site ndscs.org. Late breaking information and membership renewal, by credit card and printing of membership forms for mail-in, is all available from our web site. Sign up for the Society e-mail list. Your e-mail address will never be sold or shared and you will be first to receiving breaking duck stamp news along

with a full color PDF of the newsletter.

Society membership business - Your *Duck Tracks* mailing label is the key to your membership expiration date (Expires: Month Year). All memberships that have a note of EXPIRES: October 2008 or earlier on the first line of their mailing label are now past due! Please renew your membership as soon as possible to risk missing the next society newsletter or e-mail information message.

Using your mailing label as a guide, jot your membership number on your check and save the society time and money by renewing as soon as possible. The society also accepts VISA and MASTERCARD for your renewal using PayPal on our on-line payment web page. A reminder, your dues are fully US TAX DEDUCTIBLE!

Membership Renewal Invoices - We continue to use the *Duck Tracks* mailing to send a renewal invoice in all envelopes of past-due, current-renewal and coming-due members to make it easier for members to renew their memberships. This saves the society time and money so please use your mailing label and the invoice enclosed in your *Duck Tracks* mailing envelope to renew today, if applicable.

Mailing Labels - The Membership Summary Table provides the details on the current membership by type. The mailing labels used for this issue of *Duck Tracks* were generated around December 20, 2008. All membership renewals received through that date are reflected on the mailing labels. If you feel there is something wrong with your membership expiration date - drop me a quick note and we will resolve it quickly. If your renewal arrived after that time, accept our apology and the next mailing should reflect your update.

Address Changes - Please continue to let us know when you move or change mailing addresses so your copy of *Duck Tracks* and any other society mailings can follow along with you without interruption.

E-Mail List - We continue to build our e-mail mailing list for society use only. We use the mailing list to provide you late breaking duck stamp news and a preview copy of *Duck Tracks*. If you want to receive timely electronic messages sent by the society, please keep your e-mail address up-to-date by e-mailing your address changes to ndscs@hwc.org. Also, note that the NDSCS does not sell our mailing list or e-mail list to anyone! Your personal information is used to only send Duck Stamp information and society mailings to you.

Continued success in your collecting adventures!

PSE to Begin Grading Junior Duck Stamps and other Revenues



Professional Stamp Experts (PSE) has announced that effective immediately, they will begin assigning grades to U.S. Revenue Stamps, (R-prefix series) and stamps in the Junior Duck Series (JDS-prefix series).

In making the announcement, PSE President Michael Sherman noted that: "Due to the enormous range of sizes, shapes and designs in the Revenue series, there may be a few issues which PSE will be unable to grade. However, it is expected that the vast majority of Revenue stamps will lend themselves to grading on the standard 100-point scale that we have been using since 2001. Obviously, we'll have to make a few modifications

due to the widespread occurrences of straight-edges as well as cut and manuscript cancels. We'll be consulting with the Revenue specialists on our Board of Experts to get their input."

The Junior Duck Stamp program began in 1993, and involves an annual competition among students of high school age and younger, the winner whose entry appears on the annual stamp issue. Despite their youth, the quality of the art on these stamps rivals their adult counterparts, and PSE is proud to add these outstanding works to its repertoire of certifiable items.

Questions regarding the submission and grading of either of these new categories may be directed to PSE by calling 949-567-1346 or e-mailing pse@collectors.com.

... And the winner is ...

The votes have been counted and here are the choices of NDSCS members for the best and worst of the 2007 duck stamps (see *Duck Tracks* #50). Thanks to all who participated.

2007 Favorite!



2007 Wisconsin

For the second year in a row, Wisconsin has been voted the "Best State Duck Stamp!" The Redhead by Arthur Anderson was the clear winner in the NDSCS annual poll. congratulations to artist Arthur

Anderson and his beautiful painting of redheads. Other favorites included: Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Illinois, Mississippi, Nevada, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and Washington.

2007 Worst

The winner of the dubious "Worst Stamp Award" goes to Connecticut, a black duck by Keith Mueller. However, it is not the artwork that annoys the collectors, but the printing process selected by the state.



2007 Connecticut

Hopefully, Connecticut will return to the gorgeous full color stamps they issued from 1993-2002.

Tied for second place are North and South Dakota. Others receiving the "dis" honor of worst stamp votes: Calif., Ill., Mass., S.C., Vt., Wy. and Canada.

Michigan Handbook Released



Michigan badges

A new handbook has been published by Dr. Ira Cotton - **Michigan fish and Game License and**

Club Badges - a Handbook and Valuation Guide.

The handbook covers Michigan's hunting and fishing

license badges and more. Information is presented for all items and all are illustrated in full color.

For additional details and to view sample pages from the book, visit www.PaperQuestPress.com. The book is \$33.50 for a bound edition or \$34.50 for spiral binding, plus \$5 shipping. Mail orders should be sent to PaperQuest Press, 9939 Broadmoor Rd., Omaha, NE 68114.

Federal Contest continued from page 1

Dakota artist to win the Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest.

Second place in the contest went to Jim Hautman, of Chaska, Minn., who painted an acrylic of a pair of Canada geese. Hautman has previously won the Duck Stamp Contest three times, in 1990, 1995 and 1999. Third place went to Gerald Mobley of Claremore, Okla., who painted a pair of northern shovelers in acrylic. Mobley's art was featured on the 1985-86 Federal Duck Stamp, and he is a multiple winner of the Oklahoma waterfowl stamp competition.

Joshua Spies, 35, is a first-time winner of the Federal Duck Stamp Contest, although he has previously entered the contest. In 2003, he won the South Dakota Duck Stamp.

"I didn't dress up because I didn't want to jinx myself," Spies, 35, told the crowd of about 500. "Last year, I got voted out in the first round. So to all you artists out there, keep pounding at it."

Spies had seen only one long-tailed duck up close -- they're seafaring birds "but sometimes they screw up on the flight pattern," he said -- so he relied on "lots and lots of photos" to portray a pair of the birds on canvas. It took a few weeks, "and I don't know how many hours. When you love to do something, you don't count the hours." "I just wanted to keep the design simple and pour a lot of details into it," Spies said.

A few other contestants had painted long-tailed ducks but had been eliminated because of improper backgrounds, said judge Wes Miller. "The other entries had the long tails in vegetation, which is not right," said Miller, of Clearwater, Fla. "Some very good artwork did not get in because of the wrong setting. It has to be technically correct, in anatomy and habitat."

Miller, a stamp collector, was one of five judges with different specialties or backgrounds; the others were a wildlife professional, an art professional, a hunter and an educator. On Friday, they worked through the 270 entries, simply rating them "in" or "out" by majority rule. Spies and Hautman were among only five artists who got "in" unanimously. That pared the field to 43.

Saturday morning, the judges gave each of those entries a rating between 1 and 5. One of their tools looked like a magnifying glass but was actually a "reduction glass" that "takes the picture down so you can see what it looks like small," Miller said. That round winnowed the competition down to five.

Spies earned 24 points to 20 for Hautman and Gerald Mobley, whom Hautman vanquished in a subsequent tie-break for second place.

Then it was time for Spies to celebrate.

"In about four minutes from right now, the pheasant season is gonna open in South Dakota. A group of friends are out there, and they're texting me like crazy. But it's worth missing that for this, of course," he said.

Eligible species for this year's contest were brant, Canada goose, ruddy duck, long-tailed duck and northern shoveler.

The five judges for this year's competition were selected by the Secretary of the Interior for their dedication to conservation and professional expertise.

They were: Richard Slaughter, of Easton, Md., publisher of *Attraction* magazine; Steven A. Williams, executive director of the Wildlife Management Institute in Washington, D.C.; Don Soderlund, Jr., a wildlife artist from Minnesota; Donald T. Luce, an author, zoologist and scientific illustrator; and Wes Miller, vice president of the National Duck Stamp Collectors Society. The alternate judge was Jeff Hedtke, a wetland restoration technician with the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, and author of articles about waterfowl decoy carvers.

The long-tailed duck is a rare sighting in the Midwest. The duck breeds in the Arctic and winters along North American coasts.

Jim Hautman had about 40 family members and friends at the competition Saturday. He said coming in second would have stung a bit more if he hadn't won before.

"I'm happy it made a good showing," he said of his painting. "The expectations were pretty high. When I heard the contest was here, I decided I really needed to put in some extra effort."

Spies' piece caught Jim Hautman's attention. "When I first started looking through the entries, that was the one I feared the most. It will make a great stamp," said Hautman. "When you get second, you just hope a good piece wins. And a good piece won today."

There is no cash prize in the contest, but winners can charge top dollar for limited editions of their prints, which become collectors' items.

Waterfowl Fact

Geese are easy to age. Simply look at their tail feathers. Juvenile geese have a "V" notch at the tip of their tail feathers. Adult geese, however, have a rounded or pointed tip on their tail feathers.

California, Colorado and Massachusetts seek talented artists for contests

California Duck Stamp Contest

The California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) has announced an art contest for the 2009 design for the state's duck stamp. This is the first time since 1994 a contest will decide the stamp's art.

The contest is open to all U.S. residents aged 18 and over. Entries will be accepted from March 1 until the April 30 contest deadline. The species selected by the Fish and Game Commission to appear on the 2009 duck stamp is the northern shoveler.

A duck stamp is required for hunting waterfowl in California. The money generated from stamp sales can only be spent on waterfowl-related conservation projects. Since it began in 1971, the California duck stamp pro-

gram has raised more than \$22 million. It is also the first, and oldest, state duck stamp program in the country.

DFG sells about 70,000 duck stamps annually, which includes sales to collectors who value them for their artist depiction of native ducks and geese. In addition to duck stamps, DFG typically issues signed, limited edition prints that are valued by art collectors.

The duck stamp contest will be judged by a panel of citizens with expertise in the fields of ornithology, conservation, art and printing. The winning artist will be selected during a public judging event to be held in May. A date has not yet been set for the judging.

The top entries will then be displayed in July at the Pacific Flyway Decoy Association's art show in Sacramento. The winning entry will be reproduced on the 2009 California Duck Stamp and will be available as collectible limited edition prints.

For contest information and entry forms, please visit the DFG Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/about/duckstamp. or contact Lorna Bernard, DFG Office of Education and Outreach, 916-322-8937

Colorado Duck Stamp Contest

Since its inception in 1990, the Colorado Waterfowl Stamp has raised \$6.7 million to help preserve more than 19,500 acres of waterfowl habitat from development.

But the most hotly contested piece of real estate associated with this program may be the tiniest of all -- the one-square-inch stamp itself. Like the Federal Duck Stamp, the Colorado Waterfowl Stamp has come to be seen as a unique art form, and the original artwork, a sought-after collectible.

Each year, the Colorado Waterfowl Stamp program holds a contest for original waterfowl artwork to be depicted on the Colorado Waterfowl Stamp. The Colorado Division of Wildlife has announced that entries for this year's contest are now being accepted.

"We have approximately 30 artists who enter this contest each year, from across the nation, and we hope to have even greater participation this year," said Brian Sullivan, Division of Wildlife Wetlands Coordinator. "This is a tremendous opportunity for artists to showcase their work and also contribute their talent to a cause that greatly benefits the state's wildlife."

continued on page 18

Price increase for Duck Stamp dead for now

The price of a federal Duck Stamp -- \$15 -- hasn't been increased in 17 years, the longest span without a change since the stamp was launched in 1934 to raise money for waterfowl habitat.

And it appears as if the price will remain the same in the foreseeable future although conservation groups such as Ducks Unlimited and Delta Waterfowl argue that the stamp price should be raised because inflation has eroded the stamp's buying power. The \$15 stamp in 1991 dollars is worth only \$9.48 in 2008 dollars. Had the stamp price been indexed to inflation, it would cost \$23.74 this year.

"Fifteen dollars today doesn't go nearly as far as it did in 1991," said Neil Shader, Ducks Unlimited communications specialist. "Land costs have gone through the roof."

Two recent separate proposals would have increased the stamp price. The Wetland Loan Act was a proposal to borrow \$400 million from future duck stamp sales and use the cash to protect vital wetland habitat now, at today's prices.

The plan would have increased the price of a stamp by \$10 immediately, and another \$10 in 2015.

The bill is dead in the water for now, Shader said. The next Congress will have to decide whether to pick up the idea. President Bush's 2009 budget had proposed raising the price of the stamp by \$10, but that proposal also died.

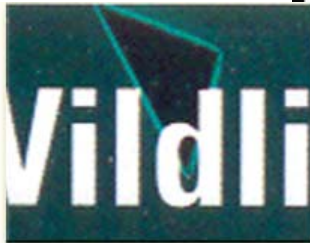
2006 Duck Stamp Printing Flaw Discovered

by Bob Dumaine

A collector in New Hampshire has discovered a printing flaw on RW73A, the pressure sensitive type duck stamp. The fault is located on the Press Sheet formatted stamps in position 12, or third row, fourth stamp down. The triangular-shaped “flying saucer” appearing flaw is located between the “l and d” of Wildlife in the green border at top, and is 6mm x 4mm in size.

In going through our stock of a dozen or so Press Sheets, only about one-half had the flaw present. The flaw's color ranges from black to bright green, with a “lighted” border surrounding the anomaly, which is very obvious once called to a viewer's attention. We also looked through our entire stock of singles without finding a single flawed stamp.

Only (250) of these Press Sheets were issued, and thus far it appears the “flying-saucer” corrected itself as some point in the printing process. It has been our experience that such type flaws are due to foreign objects entering the printing matt or roller equipment which the normal application of ink.



Red arrow points to area with flaw, enlarged here.



Congratulations!

After the 2008 Federal Duck Stamp Contest, a drawing was held from attendees who registered to win a three-year membership in **NDSCS**. In addition to the complimentary membership, the winner will receive a Stearns and Fink Duck Stamp album, donated by Sam Houston Duck Co. of Houston, Texas.

The winner was Forrest Mastel-Lipson of Ironton, Minn.

Congratulations, Forrest and welcome to the National Duck Stamp Collectors Society!

Thank you!

A big thank you to **NDSCS** life member Phil Reiland of Lakeville, Minn. Phil is the owner and publisher of **Outdoors Weekly**, a hunting and fishing newspaper in the Minneapolis area.

This past fall, Phil volunteered the space on the Outdoor Weekly web site (outdoorsweekly.com) to host the Federal Duck Stamp Contest entries. This allowed duck stamp lovers worldwide who were unable to attend the contest to be able to view each contest entry. Way to go, Phil!

Shout Out!

A public “Shout Out” was given to **NDSCS** member, Dr. Murray Touche, of Motherwell, Scotland, during the Federal Duck Stamp Contest last October.

Dr. Touche, a regular contest attendee, was recognized by Paul Schmidt, the Assistant Director for Migratory Birds and State Programs for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

In front of a packed auditorium, Schmidt thanked all for attending and mentioned one duck stamp collector who did his best to attend the contest each year. He gave the (verbal) long-distance award to Dr. Touche, who stood to resounding applause!

Attention Members!
 Sign up for e-mail notices of
 breaking news and upcoming events.
 Receive your duck stamp news when
 it happens! Register today at
ndscs.org

2008 Federal Duck Stamp Contest

by Wes Miller

One of my lifetime goals was accomplished this past October.

Early last summer I received a call from Pat Fisher of the Federal Duck Stamp Office. She requested a brief biography because I had been chosen as a Judge for the Federal Duck Stamp Contest to be held in Bloomington Minnesota. The difficult part of this news was that I could not reveal to anyone this exciting honor! Until the day of the contest opening, the Judges names are not revealed.

Shortly thereafter, I received a formalized letter along with the rules, and a list of the five waterfowl species for the contest.

I spent the summer researching the ruddy duck, shoveler, brant, Canada goose and long-tailed duck (Old Squaw to us old-timers). It was with a great deal of pleasure that I was able to view the entries online prior to arriving at the contest. For the past two years, the images have been published well in advance of the contest. This year our own Vice President, Phil Reiland, hosted the images on his website *Outdoors Weekly*.

I did notice that upon arrival at the contests, that images many times do not due justice to the actual artwork. However, I do feel that being able to view the entries well in advance is a helpful aid to the judges. I hope this practice of publishing the images continues.

In addition, during the summer, I was receiving invitations to associated events. Unfortunately as a Judge, I was instructed not to attend these festive events. Every effort to maintain the integrity of the judging is in place I really wanted to attend the 'Meet the Artist Night' and the 'Duck Stamp Gala'. Later I learned that both events were spectacular.

The 2008 Art Contest was the 10th contest that I have attended and it surpassed all others. Since taking the contest on the road, a new format was instituted. Currently the regions of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service bid on hosting the contests. This year's contest was hosted by the Midwest region under the direction of Robyn Thorson, Regional Director. The Midwest region set a benchmark that will be difficult to surpass. Many fine organizations stepped to the plate volunteering to sponsor and participate in a week long celebration of Nature Conservation. Among the sponsors were; Audubon Minnesota, Bell

Museum, City of Bloomington, Bloomington Art Museum, Cabela's, Dick's Sporting Goods, Ducks Unlimited, Delta Waterfowl, Eagle, Optics, Minnesota Federation of Stamp Clubs, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Minnesota Horse & Hunt Club, Minnesota Waterfowl Associations, Pheasants Forever, and Wildlife Forever. The Fish and Wildlife Retiree's Association held their annual conference in conjunction with the art contest. If the next art contest receives the support the Midwest Region had, it will be a contest worth traveling across the country to attend. Currently, the NDSCS board is considering having the annual meeting at the next contest.

In attendance were many fine wildlife artists too numerous to name. I would not want to omit anyone that was there and did not have the opportunity to meet. It was a pleasure meeting the artist after the completion of the final round. I always learn so much from the artists. It is a special treat to have a winning artist in audience. This year the winner and second place were in attendance.

On Thursday, the Judges convened in the City of Bloomington's city council chambers to be briefed by Pat Fisher, Chief of Duck Stamp Office; Larry Mellinger, Office of the Solicitor of the US Department of the Interior and Ray Bentley, Waterfowl Biologist, USFWS. We learned four entries were disqualified for violations of the published rules. We agreed the entries did not conform to the rules. We received a comprehensive education on the five waterfowl species with actual mounted ducks and wing parts as well as video clips of waterfowl in their appropriate habitat.

After the briefing, we went to the Minnesota Valley NWR, just a short drive from the art contest venue. There was a festive banquet held for the Judges sponsored by Delta Waterfowl. The Dale Hall, Director of US F&WS, was a very cordial emcee. Dale really had fun with the word philatelist, eventually conceding that philatelist were an integral part of wildlife conservation. The welcome by Robyn Thorson, Director of the Midwest was truly, heartwarming.

The actual judging seemed a blur of waterfowl flying by at supersonic speed. I do recall wondering if I were in the minority upon hearing the results. Each Judge held up an in or out card after which it was announced whether the entry was in or out. I kept thinking that I was voting the

continued on page 12

Federal Duck Stamp Contest Events



Wes Miller examines the entries.



Judges vote in the "In/Out" round.



The crowds look at the entries.



Jeffrey Hedtke examines the entries.



Steve Williams uses his reduction glass while viewing the entries.



Bruce Miller (top) and Bob Hautman (bottom) at the "Meet the Artist Night" hosted by Wildlife Forever.



The five judges study the final five entries.



Mila Hautman, Dodi Hautman and Bob Dumaine the "Meet the Artist Night".



Rita Dumaine of Sam Houston Duck Company and Laurie Shaffer of the Federal Duck Stamp Office. Ms. Shaffer is the Director of Marketing and Development for the Federal Duck Stamp Office.



Joe Hautman and Bob Dumaine play "Rock Paper Scissors" while artist Frank Mittlestadt looks on during "Meet the Artist Night".



Bill Anderson of the Minnesota Federation of Stamp Clubs at the "Meet the Artist Night".

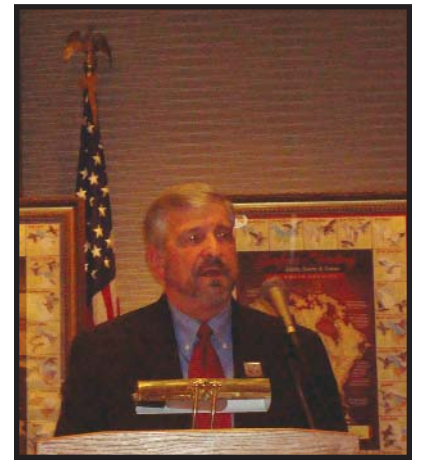
If you have photographs to share of the duck stamp contest, please e-mail to kward33@cogeco.ca and she will post on the NDSCS web site. Include any information you have to accompany the photo. Photos by Bob Dumaine, Rita Dumaine, Wes Miller and Garry Tucker.



Dorothy Hautman at the DU Gala.



Jim Hautman reacts to Jared Brown's stories during Friday's Ducks Unlimited Gala.



Dale Hall speaks at Friday's DU Gala.



Jared Brown of Ducks Unlimited TV served as MC and auctioneer at the DU Gala.



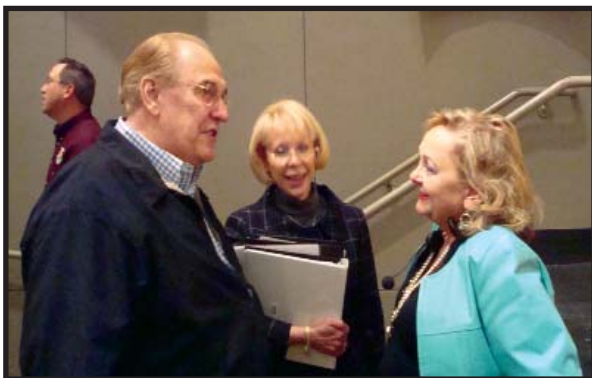
A crowd watches the judging on Saturday morning at the Bloomington Center for the Arts.



Joshua Spies with Dale Hall of the Fish & Wildlife Service.



Spies is greeted by John Tomke, current President of DUMexico.



Bob Dumaine congratulates Pat Fisher and Laurie Shaffeer, of the duck stamp office, on another well-run contest.



Joshua Spies with son, Sam and wife, Heather.

Contest continued from page 9

opposite of my fellow Judges. In retrospect, the background of the Judges will naturally cause a disparity and insures that individual bias will not influence the outcome of the contest.

My fellow Judges represented many facets of the wildlife conservation community. Each has outstanding credentials in his particular area of expertise. Richard Slaughter was the alternate Judge last year in Sanibel. He is a former owner of the Washington Wizards and Washington Capitals sports team as well as the publisher of the nature and conservation magazine, *Attractions*, which serves the Eastern shore of Maryland. Additionally Richard is a collector of working decoys and Federal and State duck stamps.

Steven A. Williams is a former Director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Steve has served in numerous wildlife agencies as well as holding Bachelors, Masters and Doctorate degrees in forest management, and environmental resources management.

Don Soderlund was disappointed in missing the opening of duck hunting season in Minnesota that coincided with the contest. Don has painted wildlife for over 60 years earning degrees at Minneapolis School of Art and University of Minnesota. He is renowned for authoring the publication "Waterfowl Identification in the Central Flyway".

Donald T. Luce the current curator at the Bell Museum of Natural History in Minneapolis is also an author and scientific illustrator. Don has served as project director for US Fish and Wildlife Service to create exhibitions of wildlife conservation.

Fellow NDSCS member Jeff Hedtke served as Alternate Judge. Jeff has worked in natural resource management for 25 years in Minnesota as a wetlands restoration technician. He is very active in Ducks Unlimited and Minnesota



Miller casts his vote in the In/Out round.

W a t e r f o w l Association. Jeff has penned numerous articles on decoy carvers. He will be an Active Judge at the 2009 Federal Duck Stamp Contest.

I am in awe of the credentials these

men brought to the contest. I wonder why I was selected, being just a stamp collector.

In the first round, all of the Judges were amazed at the number of entries we had eliminated. I recall at the contests held in Washington, Sometimes a hundred "in's" were not unusual. I feel having been able to view the entries on line prior to the contest actually speeds up the judging process. Needless to say many of the entries going into the second round were quality pieces of art.

Prior to the second round judging, the surviving entries were placed in a separate room and the public was allowed to view the semi-finalists. One of the Judges asked that the entries be rearranged by species. This worked rather well enabling the Judges to compare the art species by species.

The second round brought the entries down to five. Each was a very fine piece of art and could have won. The winner was Joshua Spies with a beautiful long-tailed duck and decoy. Second was Jim Hautman with a regal pair of Canada geese. Third was Gerald Mobley with a pair of Northern shovelers. These paintings can be viewed by on link at our web site. www.ndscs.org.

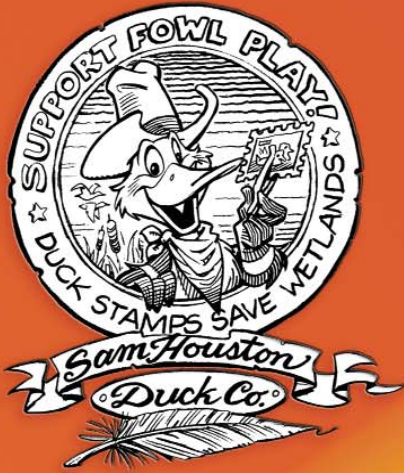
Since leaving Washington and going on the road, so to speak, the Federal Duck Stamp contest is becoming a week long celebration of the arts, conservation and the contest. Since the first outside contest in Memphis, the Art Community has truly embraced this contest. The melding together of the arts and conservation communities can only further enhance the Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest.

I was impressed by the professionalism of those responsible for putting this event together. It was comforting to know that others appreciate wildlife conservation, duck stamp art and duck stamp collecting. If it were not for NDSCS and the Federal Art Contest, I do not believe I would still be a duck stamp collector. I belong to numerous philatelic organizations in my area and enjoy stamp collecting. However, in my area, I am the only duck stamp collector and sometimes feel lonely as a "ducker" as one of my stamp collecting friends calls me. "Birds of a feather flock together". Membership in NDSCS prevents that loneliness.

I would willingly serve every year as a federal contest judge if allowed. Alas, serving as a Judge for the Federal Duck Stamp Contest is allowed only once in a lifetime.

If you have never attended the Duck Stamp Contest, You should consider doing so this year. It will be well worth your while!

Join the Club!



Now you can build your duck stamp collection in an orderly, ongoing basis, month by month at Special Member prices! New issues or older stamps, the **SAM HOUSTON DUCK CLUB** makes it easy for you!

Let us do the work for you! Select the service you would like to have – Golden Wings for older issues or our New Issue Service, and we'll begin immediately. Satisfaction guaranteed!

The **SAM HOUSTON DUCK CLUB GOLDEN WINGS SERVICE**, offers a varied selection each month for at least 15% off our regular low prices. We will do our best to send the stamps we feel have good growth potential, mixed with more current issues.

Federal, state, hunter, artist signed, remarques – whatever YOU want to collect, we will be happy to send to you. \$200 per month minimum.

The **SAM HOUSTON DUCK CLUB NEW ISSUE SERVICE** supplies the stamps issued each year. For just \$1.50 over agency cost, we will ship you all the new state duck stamps, federals and foreign issues, whatever you collect! Considering time, postage, return envelopes, money orders ...

WE CAN DO IT FOR LESS!



Call and get started today!
2009 New Issues arriving soon!
1-800-231-5926

Yes, sign me up!

Sam Houston Duck Club

Please send \$ _____ per month (\$200 minimum).

New Issue Service Please indicate if you want federal and state, plus any special requests (i.e. hunters, artist signed, mini-sheets, Governor Editions, Fish, Conservation, etc.)

Federal **State** **Special**

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 E-mail _____ @ _____
 CC # _____ Exp _____

Call if you have any questions – 1.800.231.5926

Sam Houston Duck Co.
The Leader in Collectible Duck Stamps

Bob Dumaine – APS Life, ASDA, NDSCS Life
 P.O. Box 820087, Houston, TX 77282
 1-800-231-5926 • shduck.com

President continued from page 4

I find Scott Publishing's decision to not list the anniversary pane quite inconsistent with their current policy of listing state Governor duck stamps, some of which sell for far more than \$50. For example, the current Rhode Island Governor's stamp sells for \$97.50! [Interestingly, some



1992 and 2002 Rhode Island Governor Edition stamps.

years ago when the RI Governor's stamp sold for \$57.50, the price and surcharge were both printed on the stamp; now even though the price is much higher, only the license value of the stamp is shown, not the surcharge.]



1994 New Mexico Patron.

A state issue unlisted by Scott, about which I have written in the past, is the 1994 New Mexico wetlands patron stamp. This stamp sold for less than the Rhode Island Governor stamp of the same year, yet Scott deemed it abusive and refused to list it nor provide space in their album pages.

I hope Scott Publishing will reconsider its policy regarding the anniversary pane and recognize that most duck stamp collectors will want a page in their album and a listing in their catalog for this legitimate U.S. Government issue. After all, the duck stamp in the souvenir sheet could be removed and used to validate a license. I suggest that all collectors who use Scott album pages to mount their duck stamps write or e-mail Scott to voice their desire both for a catalog listing and inclusion in the upcoming supplement pages. [Reach the Scott editors through the parent organization, Amos Publishing: Amos Hobby Publishing, P.O. Box 828, Sidney OH 45365-0828; phone 1-800-572-6885, e-mail cuserv@amospress.com.]

Finally, I just read that the 2008 duck stamp mini-sheet only sold about half of its printing of 10,000. A contractor will be selling the remainder for \$30 each with no limitation on quantities. When this happened last year, large purchasers soaked up all the remaining stock within the first 10 minutes. I suggest that the Duck Stamp Office limit quantities to 10 per caller for the first week. I would also

point out that the anniversary sheet is currently being sold through the U.S. Postal Service's Stamp Fulfillment Service with a total shipping and handling fee of just \$1 regardless of how many stamp products are in the order. I think they would make a better outlet for future mini-sheets than the current contractor who charges much more for shipping and handling.

This will be my final article as President of the NDSCS. I resigned effective December 31, 2008, to allow Wes Miller to assume that role. With the consent of our Governing Board, I had served more terms as president than our bylaws allowed. This was necessary because we had no one willing and able to step into the position. I believe that regular changes of leadership are important to the continued vitality of any organization. Wes is both willing and able to be effective as president, and I look forward to supporting him as Past-President. I plan to continue writing for Duck Tracks, though not necessarily for every issue. I have a number of other writing projects that I am pursuing (please see www.PaperQuestPress.com for more information), including organizing and editing my prior columns into a handbook for duck stamp collectors. It was a privilege to be president for so long, and I enjoyed every minute!

Sam Houston issues new souvenir sheets

A new series of duck stamp souvenir sheets has been issued by Sam Houston Duck Company, of Houston, Texas.

The commemorative sheets, frequently called show labels, were first issued by the company in 1986, in honor of the AMERIPEX stamp show. Since that time, additional shows and events have been featured, along with a series of "Famous Filatlists."

The new series has been broken in to several different categories. Stamps have been issued honoring the Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge, the eligible species for the 2007 Federal Duck Stamp Contest (mallard, green-winged teal, pintail, harlequin, and canvasback), a series of hunting dogs, and lighthouses.

The Hunting Companion dog series includes a black lab, Brittany spaniel, chocolate lab, English setter, English Springer spaniel, chocolate, yellow and black lab pups, Shorthair pointer and a yellow lab.

Souvenir sheets continued on page 16

Remaining mini-sheets go on sale



RW75b

The Federal Duck Stamp Program has announced that beginning February 9, 2009, it will offer for sale the remaining 5,000 of the original offering of 10,000, 2008-2009 Artist-Signed Panes of One featuring the 75th Federal Duck Stamp, a pair of northern pintails by Minnesota artist Joseph Hautman.

The remaining sheetlets will be sold for \$30 each on a first-come, first-served basis through the Duck Stamp Program's Fulfillment Center until the supply is exhausted.

There will be no limits or other restrictions on orders. For this sale only, the Fulfillment Center will accept both telephone orders and payment by credit or debit cards. For more information call 1-800-852-4897.

Let Us Know continued from page 4

We are mulling over ideas in how to participate in philatelic shows. If you have an exhibit or would like to prepare an exhibit for a stamp show, let us know and we will try and assist you. If you have exhibited in the past let us know we could use your help.

As you know, we have an award-winning newsletter. We know that many of our members have writing skills that could contribute to our newsletter. We encourage you to do so. If you do not like you writing, please do not let that stop you from submitting an article. Our editor, Rita Dumaine, is in fact a very fine editor and can punch up your article. If you don't want to write, perhaps you have an idea for an article. LET US KNOW.

Bob Dumaine has agreed to host a question forum in *Duck Tracks*. Are you curious why CA2 is so expensive? See our next *Duck Tracks*. Bob does not have the time to answer individual questions and only questions that appeal to a number of members will be published. So go ahead and ask that question you have tucked back in the old memory. Submit your questions to the editor via e-mail ritadumaine@aol.com or mail to P.O. Box 820087, Houston, TX 77282-0087. Let's see if we can throw Bob some "brain teasers".

On occasion, your board learns of some late breaking news that will be of benefit to the membership. We send

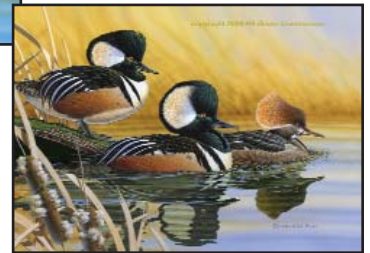
Gerald Putt wins NC and Pennsylvania



2009 North Carolina

His artwork will be featured on the 2009 North Carolina stamp and the 2009 Pennsylvania stamp.

After winning the North Carolina contest, Putt stated, "I was happy after being commissioned in the previous years." Putt has previously done four stamps for N.C. and seven for Pennsylvania.



2009 Pennsylvania

this news out in an e-mail to the membership. We do not have a large e-mail list and if we do not have your e-mail address on file you will not receive the breaking news. If you e-mail me, I will make certain your name is added to our e-mail. You can reach me at wesmiller3@aol.com, or submit your e-mail address via the link on our web site NDSCS.org. We do not sell or share our e-mail list and promise not to spam you.

Investigation is underway to determine how we can make our website more productive to you as well as a centralized meeting point. We hope we can implement a blog. If you have any experience in this area, please let us know, the society would appreciate input, guidance, even volunteers! Keep checking the website to see the improvements.

Did you know that your Secretary, Tony Monico, is an expert on black Labradors on stamps? Maybe we can talk him into sharing this knowledge in a future *Duck Tracks*. I hope to prepare an article on artist signed stamps in the next *Duck Tracks*. Do you have a specialty you care to share? LET US KNOW.

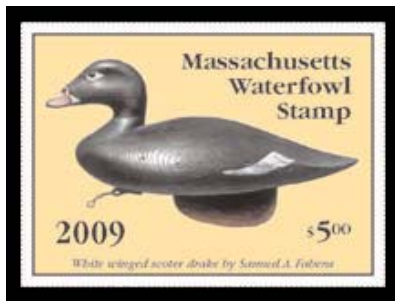
LET US KNOW has been used several times herein. Your board and officers can only serve you if we know what you want, need or feel. So once again LET US KNOW. By e-mail, snail mail, telegraph, telephone or smoke signals.

State Duck Stamp News

Julius sweeps Massachusetts

Barry Julius' painting of a white-winged scoter drake decoy will appear on the 2009 Massachusetts Waterfowl Stamp. The decoy was crafted by Samuel A. Fabens, formerly of Marblehead.

In winning the competition, Barry Julius completed a sweep of the 2009 Massachusetts Conservation Stamps,



The design of the 2009 Massachusetts stamp by Barry Julius.

having previously won the competitions for the 2009 Archery stamp and 2009 Primitive Firearms stamp. This "stamp sweep" is a first in agency history according to Ellie Horwitz, MassWildlife Chief of Information

and Education and coordinator of the stamp programs.

Julius, a Brockton resident, is a well known wildlife artist who enjoys participating in the state's art contests. An active sportsman since childhood, Barry Julius grew up in East Bridgewater. He studied graphics and design at Massasoit Community College and initially planned to pursue a career in advertising. He taught art for many years and now serves as a recreation officer for the Massachusetts Department of Corrections. His art remains an active hobby. Julius had previously won the archery/primitive firearms stamp competition in 1995, the archery stamp competition in 2002 and the Massachusetts waterfowl stamp competition in 2001. He has also placed high in wildlife art contests in other northeastern states.

The Massachusetts waterfowl stamp is the only waterfowl stamp series in the country requiring designs to be of working decoys - ducks, geese or shorebirds - made by deceased Massachusetts decoy makers. The Massachusetts waterfowl stamp series, which began with a wood duck drake decoy in 1974, has raised over \$1 million for the conservation and management of key waterfowl lands. Arrangements for this cooperative international effort are handled through a partnership with Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Denney designs 2009 Alabama stamp



John Denney painted wood ducks for the 2009 Alabama stamp.

A pair of wood ducks painted in acrylic by John Denney of Alexander City, Ala. will appear on the 2009 Alabama state waterfowl stamp.

Denney, a repeat participant in the contest, faced competition from 14 other artists. For the second consecutive year, a Denney designed the top stamp.

Brother Jim Denny, won the 2007 contest with his painting of hooded mergansers.

"It's amazing that these twin brothers share their love of art and wildlife in their talents and both have achieved the esteemed honor of winning this contest," said Wildlife Assistant Chief and contest coordinator David Hayden.

"Jim won last year, the first time he entered and John won this year, keeping it all in the family."

Entries were judged on suitability for reproduction as a stamp, originality, artistic composition, anatomical accuracy and general rendering. The designs were limited to living species of North American migratory ducks or geese.

The artwork competition for the Alabama Migratory Waterfowl Stamp design is held each year in February and is open to Alabama residents only.

Souvenir sheets continued from page 14

Lighthouses pictured on the souvenir sheets include Boston Lighthouse (Mass.), Drum Point Lighthouse (Md.), Portland Head (Maine), Bandon Lighthouse (Ore.), Heceta Head (Ore.), Machias Seal Isle (Maine), Nantucket Isle (Mass.), Bass Harbor (Maine), Point Reyes (Calif.), Cape Ann Lighthouse (Mass.), Delaware Breakwater, and Nauset Beach (Mass.).

All souvenir sheets in the new series feature artwork by Ken Michaelson.

A complete list of all the souvenir sheets is available from Sam Houston Duck Co., P.O. Box 820087, Houston, TX 77282. The list is also available on the company's web site - shduck.com.

Clifton wins 2009 Delaware contest

Richard Clifton's painting featuring black ducks will become the 2009 Delaware Duck Stamp, marking Clifton's fifth win in the annual competition since 1992.

This year's event drew 31 entries for the 2009 Duck Stamp. Clifton, will receive a \$2,500 prize and 150 artist's proofs of the limited edition print series of his first place duck entry. A Milford native and self-taught artist who specializes in wildlife, Clifton has won a total of 26 state competitions, plus the 2007 Federal Duck Stamp competition.



Richard Clifton with his winning Delaware entry.

The Division of Fish and Wildlife, in partnership with Ducks Unlimited, began the duck stamp and print program in 1980 to raise funds for waterfowl conservation, including acquiring and improving the wetland habitats that are vital for the survival of migratory waterfowl. To date, more than \$2.3 million has been raised. Duck Stamps are required when hunting migratory waterfowl in Delaware.

Delaware Trout Stamp Contest

A painting of rainbow trout by Jeffrey Klinefelter of Etna Green, Ind., will appear on the 2009 Delaware Trout Stamp. Twenty-two entries were received for the trout stamp contest. The 2009 Trout Stamp winner, Jeffrey Klinefelter, receives \$250 and retains the rights to reproduce and sell prints of the stamp.

The Division began requiring trout stamps in the 1930s. Trout stamp art was first used in 1977. The fees paid for trout stamps are used to purchase rainbow and brown trout from commercial hatcheries. The purchased trout are stocked in selected streams in northern New Castle County for Delaware's spring trout season.

Residents 16 to 64 years of age are required to have a Delaware trout stamp, which costs \$4.20. Residents ages 12 through 15 years old are required to have a young angler trout stamp, which costs \$2.10. Non-residents 12 years of age and older are required to have a non-resident trout stamp, which costs \$6.20.

Storm wins 2009 Minnesota contest

The common goldeneye, painted by Scot Storm, will be featured on the 2009 Minnesota Migratory Waterfowl Stamp.

Storm's entry was chosen as the winning design from among 28 entries in the stamp contest sponsored by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR).



Scot Storm's design for the 2009 Minnesota stamp.

All waterfowl hunters ages 18 to 64 must purchase the state waterfowl stamp, which costs \$7.50. Stamp sales generate between \$500,000 and \$900,000 per year for habitat enhancement projects in state wildlife management areas and shallow lakes.

Each year the entries are limited to a predetermined species that breeds or migrates through Minnesota. The eligible species for the 2010 stamp design will be the wood duck.

2009 Michigan Duck Stamp pictures Cans

The 2009 Michigan duck stamp will feature a pair of canvasback drakes on an icy pond by Lorna Poulos. Poulos is only the second woman in the history of the duck stamp competition to win this honor.



A self-taught artist, Canvasbacks will be featured on the Poulos uses her own 2009 Michigan duck stamp. photography as the basis for her wildlife and landscapes. Poulos and her husband, Glenn visit many spots in Michigan during the wildlife migration seasons, and they both spend hours photographing all that Michigan has to offer ... which is quite amazing!

Besides painting, Poulos also sculpts, using papier-mâché clay to create interesting characters, often working on them in the early hours of the morning and weekends.

Contests - continued from page 7

The subject for this year's competition is the Barrow's Goldeneye. A stamp and a print of the stamp will be made available to waterfowl hunters, bird watchers and stamp and print collectors. Hunters are required to purchase a stamp to hunt waterfowl in Colorado.

Entries will be accepted until the March 6, 2009 contest deadline. The Colorado Waterfowl Stamp Art Committee will judge the contest, and the winning entries will be announced by Monday, March 31, 2009. Cash prizes will be awarded for the top three entries, but only the first-place selection will be depicted on the stamp.

"We are looking to represent Colorado and waterfowl hunters with the best portrayal of the Barrow's Goldeneye," said Kirk Davidson, Ducks Unlimited Regional Director and contest judge. "We really want something that appeals to hunters because they purchase the greatest number of stamps. I look forward to seeing this year's entries and selecting the artwork that best represents this effort."

The Colorado Waterfowl Stamp program is designed to conserve wetlands for waterfowl and other wetland-dependent wildlife. All revenue generated from the program is used to fund wetlands projects throughout the state. Participation in the Waterfowl Stamp program by hunters and non-hunters alike is an effective way to contribute to the conservation of this precious resource. Wetlands conservation efforts improve habitat for ducks, geese and many other species of birds, amphibians, reptiles, fish and mammals.

For further information regarding contest rules, entry forms and artwork submission guidelines, please visit the Division of Wildlife Web site at:

<http://wildlife.state.co.us/LandWater/WetlandsProgram/WaterfowlStamp>

Waterfowl stamps and prints from previous years are available through the Colorado Wildlife Heritage Foundation. They can be purchased online (<http://www.cwhf.info/ShopOnline/index.asp>) or by contacting Terrie DeLoria (Terrie.DeLoria@state.co.us).

For more news about Division of Wildlife go to: <http://wildlife.state.co.us/news/index.asp?DivisionID=3>

For more information about Division of Wildlife go to: <http://wildlife.state.co.us>.

Massachusetts Duck Stamp Contest

The Massachusetts Waterfowl stamp is unique in that it is the only waterfowl stamp series in the country that uses decoys as the annual stamp design. Stamp designs must

be of working decoys - ducks, geese or shorebirds - created by known or unknown deceased Massachusetts decoy makers. This requirement celebrates both the art of decoy creation - an integral part of Massachusetts' migratory bird hunting heritage -- as well as the artwork of the contestant!

Entries for the 2010 Waterfowl Stamp Competition must be received in the MassWildlife Westboro Office by June 30, 2009. Artwork remains the property of the artist.

All qualifying entries will be included in an exhibit for 2-3 weeks at a cooperating museum open to the public.

Species are not eligible for entry in the contest for five years after being chosen as a winning entry. The five ineligible species for this contest are: white-winged scoter, black duck, long billed curlew, American goldeneye and long-tailed duck (old squaw).

When did the Old squaw become a long-tailed duck?

When the long-tailed duck was listed as an eligible species for the 2008 Federal Duck Stamp Contest, many asked, "What is a long-tailed duck?"

Formerly known as the old squaw, it should be noted that the 1998 American Ornithologists' Union Checklist lists both names. The Sibley Guide to Birds, published in 2000, mentions old squaw in the index, but the entry refers you to the long-tailed duck.



RW34 Old squaws

The American Ornithologists' Union changed the name in part due to the fact that old squaw was considered demeaning by some Native Americans.

RW34 and RW76 will not be the only federal stamps with the same species identified differently.

RW9 is identified on the stamp as a baldpate, but the same species appears on RW51 as a widgeon (also spelled wigeon).



RW9 Baldpate



RW51 Widgeon

Upcoming Events

- **South Carolina - February 13-15** Southeastern Wildlife Exposition, Charleston. sewe.com
- **Texas - February 20-22** APS AmeriStamp Expo and TEXPEX, Arlington Convention Center. stamps.org
- **Missouri - February 27-March 1** St. Louis Stamp Expo, St. Louis Renaissance Airport Hotel. stlouisstamp-expo.org
- **Tennessee - March 14-15** Nashville Stamp Show, Music Valley Event Center, nashvillephilatelic.org
- **Ohio - March 27-29** Garfield-Perry March Party, Masonic Auditorium, Cleveland. garfieldperry.org
- **New York - April 16-19** ASDA Mega Event, The New Yorker Hotel, New York City. asdaonline.com
- **Washington, D.C. - April 22** 10:00 a.m. Federal Junior Duck Stamp Contest National Postal Museum. fws.gov/duckstamps
- **California - April 24-26** WESTPEX Stamp Show, San Francisco Airport Marriott Hotel, Burlingame. westpex.com
- **Michigan - April 25-26** Plymouth Show, Central Middle School, Plymouth. plymouthshow.com

Classified Ads

- **WANTED - Text license stickers, on/off license** (AZ, GA, ID, FL, LA, MD, MI, MS, MT, ND, SD, VT, WA, WV), particularly archery, muzzleloader, paddlefish, set-line. Ira Cotton, 9939 Broadmoor Road, Omaha, NE 68114, Cotton@Novia.net.
- **California Duck Stamps and Prints** also Indian Reservation hunting and fishing stamps. Discount prices. Contact Tom Richardson 530-894-1057 or e-mail tomr@trducks.com.
- **Catch the wave! The hottest thing in stamp collecting! Graded stamps - Ducks and United States.** One of the best selections in the country! Inventory constantly updated, color photos at our NEW web site devoted solely to graded stamps - shpgraded.com.

Sign up for e-mail notices of breaking news and upcoming events. Receive your duck stamp news when it happens! Register today at ndscs.org

NDSCS Member Application

All membership categories except Associate and Junior require the applicant to be 18 years of age.

Membership Categories

- Patron Life Member Limited to 50 \$ 500.
- Life Member Limited to 150 \$ 250.
- Junior Member Must be under age 18 ... per year \$10.
- Associate Member Open to any non-profit stamp club, society, association or corporation, museum, public library or school per year \$30.
- Regular Membership One year \$20 Two years \$35
 Three years \$55 Five years \$90

Privacy Information

The Society publishes each new member in the Quarterly Newsletter. Your name, city/state, collecting interests and e-mail address will appear unless you check any or all of the following boxes:

- Name/Membership Number City/State
- Collecting Interests E-mail Address

Online application and dues payment at ndscs.org

Collecting Interests

- Federal Ducks State Ducks Foreign Ducks
- Souvenir Cards/Appreciation Certificates First Day Covers Artist Signed Prints Other

Event Participation

Would you be interested in contributing to the Society newsletter, *Duck Tracks*? Yes No

Are you interested in participating in Society functions and stamp shows? Yes No Local only

Send completed application to:

NDSCS Secretary, P.O. Box 43, Harleysville, PA 19438-0043

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Country _____

E-mail Address _____@_____

Phone (w) _____ (h) _____

Birth date _____

Signature _____

It's a TALL Order...

But We Can fill It.



For Grading Submission Forms
visit our website or call.



Professional Stamp Experts

P.O. Box 6170 • Newport Beach, CA 92658

www.psestamp.com

(949) 567-1346 fax (949) 567-1173

The Grading Authority

© 2008 Collectors Universe, Inc. 801101