



# Duck Tracks™

*Dedicated to Making a Difference*

The Official Journal of the National Duck Stamp Collectors' Society

Summer 2007

Whole No. 48

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## Art for Conservation on Sanibel Contest for 75th Duck Stamp in October



The nation's oldest, most prestigious art contest is coming to the J.N. 'Ding' Darling National Wildlife Refuge and Sanibel, Florida, where artwork will be chosen for the 75th Federal Duck Stamp.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced the contest would be held at BIG ARTS cultural center in Sanibel October 12-13, 2007, to honor Darling, the nationally-known cartoonist and conservationist who designed the first Federal Duck Stamp in 1934. The Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, also known as the 'Duck Stamp,' was created by Darling as the federal tax required for hunting migratory waterfowl.

"We are excited to bring the Federal Duck Stamp Contest to Sanibel and 'Ding' Darling Refuge," said Dale Hall, Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "I can think of no better place to honor 'Ding' with the selection of artwork for America's 75th Federal Duck Stamp."

Today, the \$15 stamp is the cornerstone of one of the most world's most successful conservation programs. Money from Duck Stamp sales are a vital tool for wetland conservation, with 98 cents of every dollar generated going to purchase or lease wetland habitat for the National Wildlife Refuge System. Since the stamp's inception, nearly \$700 million has been raised to acquire

more than 5.2 million acres of habitat and hundreds of refuges across the Nation to conserve America's fish and wildlife resources.

The winning artwork selected at the 2007 contest will grace the 2008-2009 Federal Duck Stamp, which will be the program's 75th stamp. It will be available for sale in summer, 2008.

"As we select the art to appear on the 75th stamp, it is an opportunity to remind the American public how important these stamp funds are for wildlife conservation," said Hall. "In addition to the migratory waterfowl hunters who purchase stamps, we encourage all bird-watchers and other nature enthusiasts to buy duck stamps to help conserve wildlife habitat throughout the country."

From Darling's first design in 1934 through the 1949 stamp, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service appointed an artist to create the stamp. In 1950, the Service started an annual juried contest to select the artwork for the stamp. Since that time, a panel of five judges with expertise in waterfowl, stamp design, and artistic detail have been chosen for each year's contest.

Today, the Federal Duck Stamp Contest is the only federally-sponsored art competition. Hundreds of prominent wildlife artists from across the country enter each year, with the winning design gracing the following year's stamp. While the winner receives

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### New Members

**Welcome to all our new members!**

<u>Membership Type</u>	<u>Active</u>
Wayne A. Glasco	Elm Grove, LA
Dr. Edwin Gunter.	Shreveport, LA
Anita M. Ilustre	Springfield, VA
Rebekah Nastav	Amoret, MO
John Ross	Sioux City, IA
Sid Schaap	Zeeland, MI
Verrill D. Stalberg	Bellingham, WA
Francis W. Sorrenti	Concord, MA
Wedgemount Enterprises	Whistler, BC

#### **New Life Member**

Raymond Corwin	Port Jefferson, NY
Charter - Life ..... 29	
Life ..... 32	
Associate, Charter - Regular, Regular, Junior .... 268	
Total Active Membership ..... 329	
Total Complimentary Copies ..... 16	
Total Mailing List ..... 345	
<b>New Members Since 1/1/2007 ..... 15</b>	

### *NDSCS Financial*

<b>Certificates of Deposit:</b> .....	<b>\$ 10,000.00</b>
<b>Checking Account:</b> .....	<b>\$ 5,129.84</b>
<b>Total Assets:</b> .....	<b>\$ 15,129.84</b>

*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. © 2007 NDSCS

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e-mail: ritadumaine@aol.com

### Letters



*Editors note:* the hue and cry began even before the mailing date to send in your entry forms. Here is a selection of letters sent to the NDSCS, Sam Houston Duck Co., and even one directed to the Federal Duck Stamp Office.

I received my RW74b and was horrified to see that they mailed them with no envelope stiffener at all. Mine has a minor bend and other people that I have talked to also received theirs the same way. Is your experience with these the same, or did others arrive in perfect condition?

Ed Lacher  
Somerset, NJ.

Pat,

I have sent off my application for an "Artist Signed Pane of One". Whether I am able to secure a mini-sheet or not I do want to comment on the process.

I consider the process to be less than fair. If there are 10,000 collectors in Texas and surrounding states, I have no fear that they will obtain virtually the entire supply before my application even arrives.

If the desire is to have a lottery, then hold a lottery: Only applications with limited postmarks would be eligible; all entries would be examined to ensure the one-per-person/two-per-household rule with all applications from the household being discarded if the rule is not obeyed; start processing randomly until 10,000 are sold. At least that method would be more fair.

Thank you. I'll be hoping for a better process for the following years.

Craig Close  
Baltimore, Md.

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

# New Federal Mini-Sheet Distribution Approach - New CA License Handbook

## President's Corner



by Ira Cotton

The biggest duck stamp news story since the last issue of *Duck Tracks* is certainly the new distribution system announced by the Duck Stamp Office (DSO) for the 2007 mini-sheet (RW74b). Few duck stamp collectors are unaware of the difficulties in obtaining copies of the first two mini-sheets at original issue prices. I was among the many who criticized the DSO for their mis-

handling of distribution for the first two years. Based on an article I just read in *Linn's Stamp News*, I'm wondering if the DSO didn't flub the job three years in a row!

In the first year, only 1,000 artist-signed mini-sheets were sold with practically no advance publicity. One knowledgeable dealer was able, entirely legally, to buy over half the issue and prices rose steadily to over \$2,000. (Most of the enterprising dealer's purchase went to new issue customers at normal markups, and I saw the remainder offered in *Linn's* at prices that started under \$50.) In addition, the artist used three pens with different colors of ink to sign the mini-sheets, creating three collectible varieties.

Last year, the quantity issued was raised to 10,000 artist-signed mini-sheets that also included a blank signature line for the engraver. Half of the sheets were sold at an international stamp show in Washington, D.C., where the engraver signed some, but not all copies requested. However, people in line at the show were each allowed to buy up to 10 copies, and with dealers offering to buy them at prices approaching \$100 each, the first 500 people in line (including entire families with kids) pretty much bought out the stock at the show. The other half was sold to phone and mail order customers who placed their orders prior to the officially announced date. I understand that after the show, one major dealer (not the same as the one referred to above) was able to assemble a relatively large quantity and arrange for the engraver to sign them.

This year the DSO announced a new approach, details of which were emailed to NDSCS members and posted on our society web site. The quantity issued was kept at 10,000, all copies were signed by the artist (with no addi-

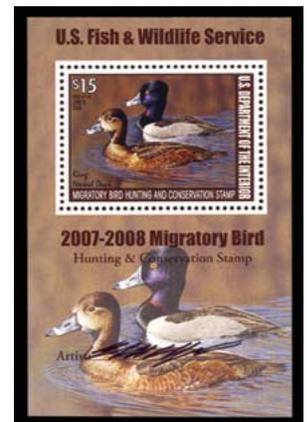
tional signature line provided) and all initial sales were to be conducted by mail, with a limit of one per customer and no more than two to any single address. All orders had to be postmarked on or after June 22 and had to include postage and signature confirmation charges of \$2.90 (plus an additional \$5 for foreign orders).

I have heard criticism from dealers that this approach is unduly complicated, but I think it's a pretty fair way to give everyone an equal chance at buying a mini-sheet at the issue price. I do think the charge for signature confirmation was unnecessary, but I suppose it could be viewed as a fraud prevention measure. However, if I read the article on Page 14 of the July 16, 2007 issue of *Linn's* correctly, there's a real storm brewing about the DSO's "first come, first served" policy.

According to the distribution policy, a mini-sheet would be sent to each of the first 10,000 orders received with the proper postmark. According to the *Linn's* article, the DSO announced a sell-out on June 27 based on mail delivered up to that day. This raises the question, what about collectors who live far distant from the Grand Prairie, Texas mailing addresses given for orders? Doesn't a "first come, first served" policy unduly favor collectors in Texas and surrounding states and discriminate against collectors in distant locations such as Alaska, Hawaii and armed services personnel around the world mailing through APOs? I had expected that orders would be filled by a lottery system from all those received with the proper postmark within some reasonable time such as, say, three weeks.

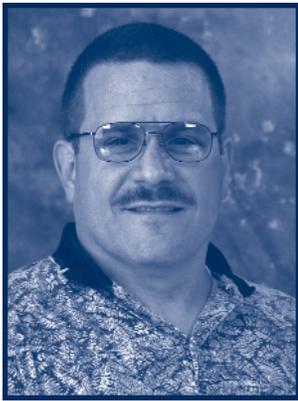
I hope I'm wrong about this aspect of the DSO's distribution system, but based on past experience with the mini-sheet program, I fear I'm not. If that is the case, the DSO deserves all the criticism it will get as collectors learn why their orders were not filled. Once again, the DSO will be guilty of failing to listen to any outside advice or considering the need to be fair to all collectors.

My wife and I ordered each ordered one mini-sheet for  
*continued on page 11*



RW74b

## Secretary's Column



by **Tony Monico**

Another Federal Duck stamp makes its debut and several items make it stand out - RW74 has the third earliest First Day of Sale, (The earliest ever First Day was for RW73, sold at the Washington International Stamp Show in 2006, the second earliest was RW64 held at the NAPEX stamp show in 1997.)

The First Day of sale was held in conjunction with a sponsor and most notably the Single Sheet controversy continues.

Congratulations to Richard Clifton for his winning artwork. The last few duck stamp PSA issues have been very interesting to say the least and his is no exception.

Now let's get right into the "stamp sheet of one" discussion for this year. The Federal Duck Stamp Office tried something different this year and many people including the members of the NDCS Operating Board have their opinions on how this should be produced and sold. As a collector, who likes to make things easy, it was much easier for me to go to one my duck stamp dealers and buy one of these "stamp sheets of one" and get it along with my new other federal duck stamp material. This year the FDSO made it extremely hard for any dealer to buy more than 2.

It also made it hard for a collector with the cash/check, postmark deadline, mail-in only process they implemented. In the last two weeks, several of these "stamp sheets of one" started to appear on e-Bay and most are selling for over \$150. I was beginning to worry about my order, but mine arrived in the mail today! After I opened the envelope and finally figured out what it was, I was shocked at the packaging of the sheet - no envelope stiffener or protection for the stamp other than a sheet of paper. I took a hard look at the sheet delivered and I wondered aloud why the stamp was not inscribed on the back like a normal water activated stamp? I wondered how Richard Clifton felt after signing 10,000 of these and how much his signature varies on them? I have heard thru the rumor mill that the "stamp sheets of one are sold out" but I can't get anyone to confirm this. If the issue sold out then that is great and the FDSO should raise the print quantity again next year.

I bet many non-collectors have them in hand just as before and the profit to be made from them will be wider spread than the previous two years. Is that really what the FDSO should be trying to accomplish or should it be trying to find more ways to sell duck stamps and raise funds for wetland purchase and upkeep?

Note: All members who have mailed renewal checks over the last few months. I have been tardy in processing renewals and getting the checks off to our treasurer for deposit. The mailing labels reflect all renewals received since late-March thru approximately August 4. There has not been a *Duck Tracks* newsletter produced and mailed since Issue # 47 which was mailed at the end of March 2007. Please excuse the delay and rest assured that you did not miss any *Duck Tracks* mailings.

On to the society business items -

Web Site: Check out our web site [ndscs.org](http://ndscs.org). Late breaking information and membership renewal, by credit card and printing of membership forms for mail-in, is available from this site. Our e-commerce affiliate website allows for secure credit card renewals and general donations. We continually update the site with useful information so make it a point to check it out at least monthly.

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: JULY 2007 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 by using our on-line e-commerce site powered by BigStep.Com at this URL: <http://www.ndscs.bigstep.com/>. 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 pro-  
*continued on page 11*

# Crow Creek Sioux Tribe Waterfowl and Spring Light Goose Stamps

by Charles Souder

As follow up to my article in the last edition of *Duck Tracks*, on the 1997 Crow Creek Spring Waterfowl stamps that were printed but not used, there have also been Tribal Member, Affiliate Member, 1-Day Nonresident and Season Nonresident Annual Waterfowl; and Tribal Member, Affiliate Member and Nonresident Spring Light Goose stamps required for hunting waterfowl or spring light geese. The *Scott U.S. Specialized Catalogue* has not updated the Crow Creek waterfowl stamps since 1999, and has not yet included the Spring Light Goose stamps that started in 1998. I have been working with Scott Publishing's New Issues Editor to have them included in next year's catalogue, and at this point I'm optimistic they will be included.

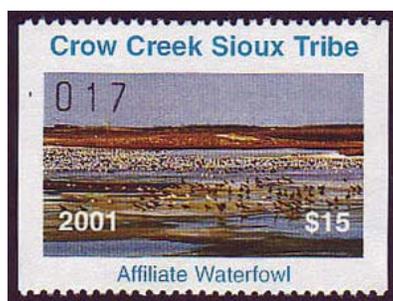
The designs for the 1998 through 2005 Spring Light Goose and 1996 through 2005 Waterfowl stamps are the same. In 2006, the designs for the waterfowl and spring light goose shifted to the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe Great Seal. With the exception of the 2000 Spring Light Goose stamps, none of the 2000 and later stamps have been available on the market until recently. This includes Waterfowl, Spring Light Goose, Upland/Small Game, Tribal Guide, Tribal Member Trapping, Varmint, Whitetail

and Mule Deer, Antelope, and Fishing stamps.

One of the significant deviations is that in 2001, the Affiliate, 1-Day Nonresident and Season Nonresident stamps were initially printed with the previous year's fees, though the fee had increased. This required a second printing of the correct fee stamps for the \$20 Affiliate, \$40 1-Day Nonresident and \$100 Season Nonresident stamps. A similar situation occurred with the 1994 Crow Creek Daily Waterfowl stamp (which is Scott listed).

In an attempt to more closely manage resources, the Tribe has systematically reduced the number of hunters licensed each year - also resulting in stamp printing quantities being reduced. Unfortunately this has resulted in stamps running out at the different points of sale. As an accommodation to stamps running out, one example is in 2004, a 1-Day Nonresident stamp was modified to read "Tribal."

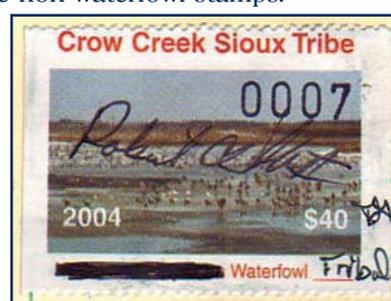
Of the stamps left over at the end of each season, no mint examples were remaining of the 2004 Tribal Waterfowl (proof only exists), 2004 Tribal Member and Affiliate Member Spring Light Goose, and none of the 2005 Waterfowl or Spring Light Goose stamps. The only surviving examples of any 2005 hunting/fishing Crow Creek stamps are single booklet panes of several different of the non-waterfowl stamps.



\$15 Affiliate Waterfowl



\$5 Tribal Member Waterfowl



\$40 Modified Non-res stamp



\$10 Tribal Mem. Spring Lt. Goose



\$10 Tribal Member Waterfowl



\$5 Tribal Member Spring Geoses

Because of the reduced printing numbers, the mint examples left over for the 2003, 2004 and 2006 stamps, are generally fewer than the coveted 1989 Affiliate Waterfowl stamp (which is reported to be 21 mint examples).

## Third round tie-break determines Louisiana winner



The 2007 Louisiana stamp, third in the dog series.

An unprecedented third round of voting was required as a tiebreaker to determine the winner of the 19th annual Louisiana Waterfowl Conservation Stamp Competition sponsored by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

After a second place finish in the 2004 and 2006 competitions and a third place finish in 2005, Tony Bernard, of Lafayette, La., prevailed over nine other participants and second place finisher Jeffrey Klinefelter from Indiana in the closest competition in the history of the event. Third place went to Joanne Graham of California.

“It was tense sitting there watching this take place,” said Bernard. “I knew it would be close, but I didn’t know there would be a tie. It was just an awesome feeling to win.”

Bernard’s painting of a chocolate Labrador retriever gazing into the horizon as a flock of mallards descends upon a body of water will be featured on the 2007 Louisiana Duck Stamp.

“When I took second last year with the yellow lab and third with the black lab the year before that, I hoped that I would move up the ladder and get first with the chocolate lab,” said Bernard. “According to the rules, once you win you have to sit out two years. So if I would have won the prior years, I wouldn’t have been able to paint all three labs.”

In addition to wildlife art paintings, Bernard has been commissioned to produce original art for local and regional festivals, professional athletic teams, NASCAR and Southeastern Conference sporting events. Bernard features his art and duck stamp competition paintings at [www.bernardstudio.com](http://www.bernardstudio.com).

LDWF initiated the “Retrievers Save Game” series two years ago 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, which must also include live waterfowl selected by the artist.

The Louisiana Waterfowl Conservation Stamp program was established in 1988. The program has generated over \$9 million for wetland conservation in Louisiana since 1989, with over \$500,000 from last year’s competition alone.

“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 that includes LDWF, Ducks Unlimited (DU) and the Federal Natural Resources Conservation Services, has also benefited private lands.

Helm said that prints of the Bernard painting would be available from the artist this summer. The 19th anniversary 2007-08 stamp, featuring Bernard’s work, will be issued as a \$5.50 resident stamp and a \$25 non-resident stamp.

### 20th Louisiana stamp to feature Golden Retriever

LDWF has announced that the golden retriever will be featured in the “Retrievers Save Game” series for the 2008 Louisiana Waterfowl Conservation Stamp, or Louisiana duck stamp competition.

The golden retriever must be prominent in the design and each entry must also include live waterfowl selected by the artist. Artists may also choose to include harvested waterfowl, duck decoys, hunting scenes and other backgrounds along with wetland habitats.

Golden retrievers are a rather recent breed, developed in Britain in the late 1800s. Originally termed yellow retrievers, early breeders used water spaniels, Newfoundlands and Irish setters in the development of the original goldens. The initial vision for the golden retrievers was for a dog that would have great enthusiasm for retrieving waterfowl. Over time the golden has become a popular family pet, show dog, a guide dog for the disabled and continues

*continued on page 10*

**Letters continued from page 2**

Frankly, I am not surprised they are sold out, and I have had this feeling all along that overseas applicants would not be very lucky, well, we shall see.

Sincerely,  
John Wells  
Hertfordshire, England

Yes, I sent in the form on the June 22, the same day I attend the event at Handover Maryland.

I received the stamp via certified mail on July 9. I believe this is by far one of the best way of handling the distribution. If there are to be more then I hope they would do it the same way.

Keep up the great work  
Jim Barrett  
Clinton, Md.

FYI I sent by Express Mail two checks in the same mailer, one for me one for my wife, with personal checks. dated the appropriate day, wasn't it June 22?

Last Monday, July 9, got a Bingo! in the mail with a mini-sheet for each of us. Incidentally, the personal checks didn't clear my bank account till yesterday.

What do you know? Was the sale only just successful? Or was it a smash? Are screaming collectors lining the streets around your business office demanding mini-sheets? Please advise!

Buck Jordan  
Cambria, Calif.

I did receive the mini-sheet. It was available to collectors who knew the procedure to follow and did so in a very timely manner, whereas it really was not available to collectors in prior years. It will be interesting to see how this method of distribution affects the price as compared to last year.

Dick Haydon  
Leawood, Kan.

My wife and I applied and two from my office also applied, all through the USPS, postmarked appropriately. None have been received. If I don't get one, obviously I'll have a pretty low opinion of how the sale was handled. Is there any way to find out if they've all been shipped? Probably not. I suppose I'll learn when they return the checks or we, or any of us, receive the stamps.

John Moss  
Jackson, Tenn.

I do not think that the distribution of the mini sheets was handled well at all this year. Not so much due to the fact of knowing if we would receive them, but then not knowing the condition that we would receive.

If they would be Superb, XF, VF, or just F-NH. Next year I think it should go back to normal in them letting us get them through stamp dealers so collectors can then know what we will be receiving.

Jana Henderson  
Puyallup, Wash.

I'm very disappointed by this way, because it's impossible for a foreigner buyer to buy this mini-sheet because the office doesn't accept credit card, cash or PayPal.

And now I can only buy on eBay or seller and with the speculation they are already very expensive.

Have a great day  
Pierre Pécaut  
Wavrechain Sous Denain, France

I applied but never received my stamps. I thought it should be open to anyone to get. I never heard anything or received any word on them and this is a month now.

Charles Stepp  
Greenville, Penn.

I did attend the Bass Pro Shop event in Gurnee, Ill. It was well-attended, even had the mayor, U.S. Post Office personnel, and Fish and Wildlife biologists.

My experience with the mini-sheets was not very good! I probably started too early because no one at any number I called knew what I was talking about! So any tips for the future would be appreciated.

Howard James  
Lake Bluff, Ill.

I made a trip downtown (Minneapolis) to the Post Office Stamp Shop for collectors to purchase the new duck stamp. I was informed by the postal clerk that the only place I could purchase the new water activated duck stamp was the Stamp Fulfillment Services in Kansas City.

I called Kansas City and informed the clerk that I wanted to purchase two stamps, both with good centering and one with a block number. He informed me that the order is filled by the computer and no special orders taken.

As a serious duck stamp collector this is a very big mistake by your department and may cause many of us to end our collections.

*continued on page 10*



**Alabama**

Canvasback by C. Stewart



**Alaska**

Pintail, mllrd, gw teal - Bob Steiner



**Arizona**

Canada goose by Tom Finley



**Arkansas**

Mallard by Scot Storm



**California**

White-frntd goose by S. Meline



**Colorado**

Ring-neck by Michael Ashman



**Connecticut**

Bufflehead by Paul Fusco



**Delaware**

Red-brst merg. by R. Clifton



**Hawaii**

Blk francolin by S. Hamamoto



**Illinois**

Pintail by Gerald Putt



**Indiana**

Gadwall by Chuck Riggles



**Iowa**

Ring-necked duck by S. Meline



**Kentucky**

Mallard by Chris Walden



**Louisiana**

Yellow lab by Eddie Suthoff



**Maine**

Ring-necked by J. Staples



**Massachusetts**

Long-billed curlew by R. Julius



**Michigan**

Wigeon by Peter Mathios



**Minnesota**

Mallard by Joe Hautman



**Mississippi**

Black lab by Joe Mac Hudspeth



**Nebraska**

Wood duck by Brett Cooper



**Nevada**

Tundra swan by J. Klinefelter



**New Hampshire**

Common eider by J. Collins



**New Jersey**

Golden ret by Roger Cruwys



**North Carolina**

Lesser scaup by Gerald Putt



**North Dakota**

Text



**Oklahoma**

Wigeon by James Hublick



**Oregon**

Pintail, mallard by Bob Steiner



**Pennsylvania**

Pintail by Kerry Holzman



**Rhode Island**

Canvasback by Keith Mueller



**South Carolina**

Black duck by Dick Benson



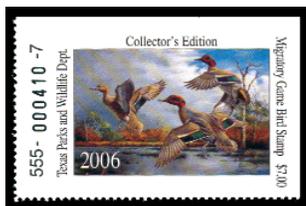
**South Dakota**

Text



**Tennessee**

Canada goose by L. Pollard



**Texas**

Green-winged teal by D. Maass



**Virginia**

Black duck by Tim Donovan



**Washington**

Wigeon, mallard by Bob Steiner



**Wisconsin**

Green-wing teal by Tim Schultz



**Wyoming**

Cut-throat trout by S. Greenig



**Ohio**

Pintail by Gregory Clair



**Maryland**

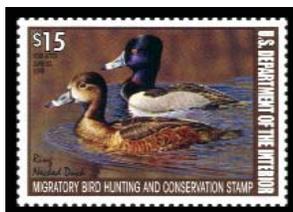
Canada gse by Paul Makuchal



**Vermont**

Canada goose by R. Bishop

**No stamp: FL, FA, ID, KS, MO, MT, NM, NY, UT, WV.**



**Federal**

Ring-necked by R. Clifton



**Junior**

Wigeon by Paul Willey



**Canada**

Brant by P. Leduc



**Russia**

Green-winged teal



**United Kingdom**

Red grouse by Ben Hoskyns

**Duck Stamp Ballot**

My favorite stamp of 2006 is: \_\_\_\_\_

My favorite state duck of 2006 is: \_\_\_\_\_

I think the best design for 2006 is: \_\_\_\_\_

I think the worst design for 2006 is: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Rita Dumaine, P.O. Box 820087, Houston, TX 77282  
or e-mail to: ritadumaine@aol.com. Results will be published in the next edition of Duck Tracks.

## Killen to produce series of S.C. Duck Stamps



Nationally acclaimed wildlife artist Jim Killen's painting print, "Redheads at Winyah Bay," was chosen as the 2007 South Carolina Duck Stamp.

*Design for the 2007 SC duck stamp.* The S.C. Migratory Waterfowl Committee recently chose Killen to commission prints for the program for the next four years, 2007 to 2010.

Killen, who has reaped national and international awards, was also named Southeastern Wildlife Expo "Artist of the Year" in 1987. Born and raised in Minnesota, the pheasant fields and prairie potholes inspired him to strive to preserve these gifts of nature for future generations.

### Louisiana continued from page 6

as a hunting companion. Early golden retrievers were generally darker in color, but today range from cream to dark golden. They are known for their beauty and are the most glamorous of the retrievers.

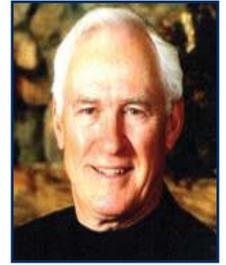
"Retrievers are very popular among Louisiana sportsmen and we think that some people who might not be attracted to the more traditional duck stamp art might consider purchasing a print featuring a dog," Helm said.

Entries for the competition will be accepted from Oct. 15 to Oct. 19. To enter, an artist must submit an original, unpublished work of art, along with a signed and notarized artist's agreement and a \$50 entry fee. Entries should be addressed to Robert Helm, Louisiana Waterfowl Conservation Stamp Program, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, or P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898. For more information, contact Robert Helm at 225-765-2358 or [rhelm@wlf.louisiana.gov](mailto:rhelm@wlf.louisiana.gov).

A panel of judges with experience in waterfowl biology and/or artistic method will select the winning design. Judging will take place on Oct. 24, at LDWF headquarters in Baton Rouge.

The competition is open to all artists 18 years of age and older. Employees of LDWF and members of their immediate families are ineligible.

The 2007 duck stamps go on sale July 1 for the upcoming season and cost \$5.50 each. South Carolina duck hunters age 16 and older are required to have the state waterfowl stamp in their possession while hunting. Duck hunters purchase about 24,000 stamps each year, and collectors buy another 5,000 stamps.



Jim Killen

A collection of Killen dog stamps is a very obtainable and beautiful set. The list of dog stamps includes: **Black Labrador** - GA14 1998; IL25 1999; KY11 1995; NJ20 2003; SC11 1991; **Chesapeake Bay Retriever** - IL28 2002; **Chocolate Labrador** - IL29 2003; **Golden Retriever** - IL26 2000; **Spaniel** - SC8 1988; **Yellow Labrador** - IL27 2001.

### Letters continued from page 7

The mini sheet is another problem area and I suggest, as I did in an earlier e-mail that 50,000 of these sheets be printed and sold at all of the Stamp Shops for collectors across the country.

Jack A. McPhee  
Brooklyn Park, Minn.

*And from the Federal Duck Stamp Office, answering the question why the stamp on the mini-sheet has no printing on the reverse (as all gummed duck stamps have had since RW13):*

Since the mini-sheet is a value-added product, we do not expect the embedded stamp to be removed and used for waterfowl hunting. Therefore, it is unlikely that the Duck Stamp would be detached from its mini-sheet carrier and used for hunting. If it were removed, this would lessen the value of the collectible. Because we don't consider it a stamp, the back was left blank.

Patricia Fisher  
Chief, Federal Duck Stamp Office  
Arlington, Va.

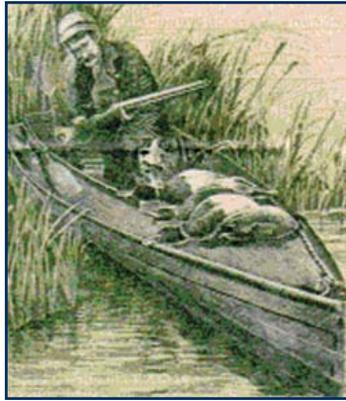
## Attention Members!

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](http://ndscs.org)

**President con't from pg. 3**

our address in Nebraska and received them on July 21. Each mini-sheet was simply placed between the folds of two sheets of paper (one an invoice and one blank) in a legal envelope. They were not in a glassine or stock card and there was no stiffener in the envelope to prevent bending. As a result, one of the mini-sheets we received has a minor corner bend and I have heard that other buyers received mini-sheets in far worse condition. This inadequate packaging shows a callous disregard for collectors and is yet another strike against the DSO.

Now that the initial ordering deadline has passed, I can not find any mention of the mini-sheet on the DSO web site. I wish the DSO had adopted my suggestion of incorporating the Junior Duck stamp into the mini-sheet along with the federal stamp, and hope they will consider that for some future year. I also think the mini-sheets should bear serial numbers. Finally, I recommended that the price be raised to at least \$50, the same as the price charged for the Artist's card. The market might even bear a higher price. Dealer buy ads for the mini-sheet are about \$100 and I have seen sales on eBay over \$150, though prices seem to be receding somewhat. With a higher initial sales price, more money could be raised for conservation while preserving the limited size of the edition.



Artwork from California hunting and fishing licenses.

Shifting to another topic, I am pleased to report that I have completed and self-published a new handbook covering California's pictorial hunting and fishing licenses and related ephemera. With the help of a number of collectors who are acknowledged in the preface, I was able to obtain scans of all the resident pictorial licenses and a good representation of other classes of license, along with a wide variety of related material. The book contains 79 pages illustrated in full color and is available in either of two bindings - spiral or center-stitched.

The illustrations on these licenses are quite remarkable as some of these examples show. I shamelessly recommend this handbook for those who collect this material to deepen their knowledge, and for those who don't to expand their horizons. Further information may be found at [www.PaperQuestPress.com](http://www.PaperQuestPress.com), including the Table of Contents, a sample page, and ordering information. Please contact me by mail if you're still an Internet holdout. Ira Cotton, 9939 Broadmoor Road, Omaha, NE 68114.

**Secretary continued from page 4**

vides the details on the current membership by type. The mailing labels used for this issue of *Duck Tracks* were generated around August 4, 2007. 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, except 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. If you want to receive timely electronic messages sent by the society, please keep your e-mail address up-to-date as well so this time sensitive information gets to you before it gets too old. E-mail your address changes to [ndscs@hwcen.org](mailto:ndscs@hwcen.org). We use a method to keep the mailing list secure so don't hesitate to join it at this time. We also mail a full color preview copy of *Duck Tracks* to this mailing list; if you prefer not to receive these relatively large PDF files, please let us know. 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!

# Pennsylvania Duck Stamp & Print



*"The Suitors" by Gerald Putt*

Celebrating 25 years of Pennsylvania duck stamps and prints. Images are 6½x9 inches and sell for \$135 each. For framed prints, add \$85. Single stamps are \$5.50, signed stamps are \$8.50.

**Special 25th anniversary** canvas giclee prints (edition size 300), \$300; for framed giclee prints add \$110. PA residents add 6% sales tax. Medallion edition prints and posters also available.

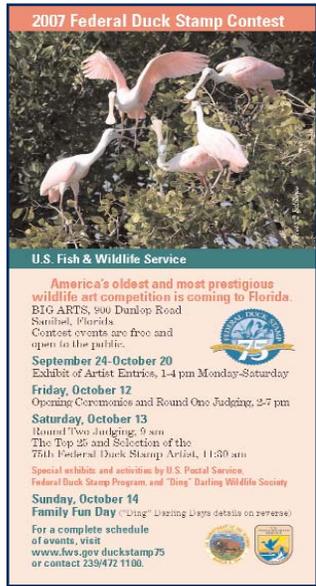
Make checks payable to Pennsylvania Game Commission and send to: Pennsylvania Game Commission, Dept. MS; 2001 Elmerton Ave.; Harrisburg PA 17110-9797; or call 1-888-888-3459 with your credit card.

Visit "The Outdoor Shop" at [www.pgc.state.pa.us](http://www.pgc.state.pa.us) to shop for other duck stamp and print products.

#### S&H Charges

\$1.00 to \$6 =	\$1.25
\$6.01 to \$20 =	\$2.95
\$20.01 to \$35 =	\$4.95
\$35.01 to \$60 =	\$6.95
\$60.01 to \$100 =	\$8.95
\$100.01 to \$150 =	\$10.95
\$150.01 to \$200 =	\$14.95
\$200.01 to \$250 =	\$14.95
over \$250 =	\$16.95

Contest continued from page 1



**2007 Federal Duck Stamp Contest**

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

America's oldest and most prestigious wildlife art competition is coming to Florida. BIG ARTS, 900 Dunlop Road, Sanibel, Florida. Contest events are free and open to the public.

**September 24-October 20**  
Exhibit of Artist Entries, 1-4 pm Monday-Saturday

**Friday, October 12**  
Opening Ceremonies and Round One Judging, 2-7 pm

**Saturday, October 13**  
Round Two Judging, 9 am

The Top 25 and Selection of the 75th Federal Duck Stamp Artist, 11:30 am

Special exhibits and activities by U.S. Postal Service, Federal Duck Stamp Program, and 'Ding' Darling Wildlife Society

**Sunday, October 14**  
Family Fun Day (Ding Darling Days details on reverse)

For a complete schedule of events, visit [www.fws.gov/duckstamp75](http://www.fws.gov/duckstamp75) or contact 239/472 1100.

no money from the federal government, the winning artist benefits from the increased visibility and sale of their prints and artwork.

"We're excited to host such an important national contest," said Rob Jess, manager of the 6,400-acre Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge that hosts more than 800,000 visitors annually. "Part of our mission is to celebrate 'Ding's' legacy. When he created the first duck stamp, I wonder if he knew what a tremendous influence he would have on conservation in this country."

"This is a great opportunity for the area to showcase its wonderful nature, where visitors can experience exceptional wildlife viewing," said D.T. Minich, executive director of the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau. "Sanibel Island with its 'Ding' Darling National Wildlife Refuge is such a fabulous example of Ding's conservation legacy."

J.N. 'Ding' Darling National Wildlife Refuge was created when President Harry Truman signed an Executive Order in 1945 to create Sanibel National Wildlife Refuge. It was established as a result of a campaign led by 'Ding' Darling himself to protect this special place. Darling lived near the refuge on Captiva Island. He first came to the area in 1934, shortly after he had created the first Migratory Bird Conservation Stamp. He became a winter resident in the late 1930s, and resided on the island for two decades. In 1967, the refuge was renamed J.N. 'Ding' Darling NWR after the man that worked so hard to protect it.

In 2005, more than 1.6 million people purchased a Federal Duck Stamp. Every waterfowl hunter over the age of 16 is required to buy a Federal Duck Stamp in order to hunt waterfowl. In addition, Federal Duck Stamps are highly sought after by collectors, and provide free entry into any national wildlife refuge in the country that charges an entrance fee.

**Grand Gala Planned**

The air is charged with excitement the night before a Federal Duck Stamp final round of judging and will be especially so this year as the program celebrates the selection of the image for the 75th stamp. On Sanibel Island,

where the judging takes place, 'Ding' Darling Wildlife Society (DDWS), in partnership with Ducks Unlimited, will plug into that energy on Friday, October 12, when it hosts its "Art for Conservation on Sanibel" fundraiser for Sanibel's J.N. 'Ding' Darling National Wildlife Refuge and DU's Wetlands for Tomorrow Fund.

Live and silent auctions will feature original cartoons by Darling, designer of the first Federal Duck Stamp and Pulitzer Prize-winning political cartoonist of the early 1900s, and an Audubon print appraised at \$11,000. Many past winners of the duck stamp competition have donated artwork for the auction, along with other nationally renowned wildlife artists. The 2006-07 Duck Stamp winner, Richard Clifton, will be honored that evening.

"This is the oldest and most prestigious wildlife art contest in the nation," said Robert Jess, refuge manager. "Wildlife artists, stamp collectors, and conservationists from around the country will be watching to see who makes it on the 75th stamp."

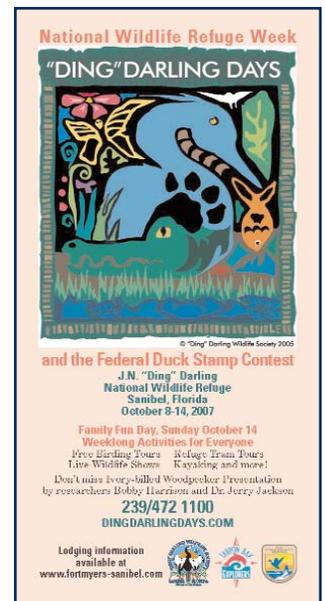
Attendance to the "Art for Conservation" fundraiser, which begins at 6:30 p.m. on October 12, is by reservation only. Tickets are \$250 each and include heavy hors d'oeuvres and cocktails. They can be purchased by calling 239-472-1100 ext. 228. Event sponsorships are also available, please contact Birgie Vertesch at 239-292-0566.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and DDWS, have planned a week of activities to showcase the second most-visited refuge in the nation.

'Ding' Darling Days will coincide with the contest events, and will include birding tours, kayaking, a Florida Junior Duck Stamp awards ceremony, live wildlife presentations, and a free Family Fun Day. The public is also invited to attend the exhibit of Federal Duck Stamp contest entries and to sit in on the judging that week.

The island community is pitching in with special lodging rates and other discounts for duck stamp holders.

For more information on attending the "Art for Conservation" fundraiser and contiguous events, visit [fws.gov/duckstamp75](http://fws.gov/duckstamp75) or [dingdarlingdays.com](http://dingdarlingdays.com), or call 239-472-1100 ext. 221.



**National Wildlife Refuge Week**

**"DING" DARLING DAYS**

© "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society 2005

and the Federal Duck Stamp Contest

J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge  
Sanibel, Florida  
October 8-14, 2007

Family Fun Day, Sunday, October 14  
Weeklong Activities for Everyone

Free Birding Tours    Refuge Tram Tours  
Live Wildlife Shows    Kayaking, and more!

Don't miss I-ory-billed Woodpecker Presentation  
by researchers Bobby Ilerstein and Dr. Jerry Jackson

239/472 1100  
DINGDARLINGDAYS.COM

Lodging information available at [www.fortmyers-sanibel.com](http://www.fortmyers-sanibel.com)

## Wood Ducks win 34th Maryland Contest



Jim Taylor took home top honors and his artwork will be pictured on Maryland's 2007 Migratory Game Bird Stamp.

The painting features a pair of wood ducks and was selected by five judges from a field of 38 entries at the 18th Annual Patuxent Wildlife Art Show. Twenty-one Maryland artists entered the highly competitive contest.

The honor represents Taylor's second Maryland win. His first win came in 1997 and he was a top 20 finalist in the 2006 and 2007 Federal Duck Stamp Contest. Mr. Taylor's interest in wildlife art began in his early teens and was elevated through college at the Baltimore-based Maryland Institute - College of Art. His favorite subjects are waterfowl and songbirds. Prints are available from the artist at 410-825-9158 or e-mail jimtaylorart@comcast.net.

## 2008 Delaware Duck, Trout Stamp Winners Chosen

Wilmington artist John Stewart's painting featuring the greater scaup duck with the Delaware Breakwater Lighthouse will become the 2008 Delaware Duck Stamp, and a painting of brown trout by Micah Hanson of Dakota, Minn., will appear on the 2008 Delaware Trout Stamp.



**Winning design for the 2008 DE duck stamp.**

The paintings won top honors in the DNREC Division of Fish and Wildlife's annual stamp art competition, held Saturday, March 31 at the Ducks Unlimited Greenwings Event in Greenwood. This year's event drew 28 entries for the 2008 Duck Stamp and 20 entries for the 2008 Trout Stamp. The 2008 Trout Stamp winner, Micah Hanson, receives \$250 and retains the rights to reproduce and sell prints of the stamp.

*continued on next page*

## Decoys Draw Attention on Canada Post Stamps

Stamps featuring four duck decoys from the Canadian Museum of Nature's art collection have recently been issued by Canada Post.

"Canada Post approached us in 2005," says Richard Martin, Intellectual Property Officer with the Nature. "They wanted to do a stamp with birds and remembered that our museum had a display on decoys in the 1970s."



2006 Canada decoy stamps

The decoys selected were: Red-breasted merganser by Clovis Landry; Barrow's goldeneye by Gilles Camirand; Black duck by David Nichols; and a Mallard, by an unknown carver.

Each stamp's artwork includes a depiction of the decoy and a

rendition by artist Pierre Leduc of the bird in flight. The stamp designer, Dennis Page, assisted in the selection of the decoys from Nature's collections.

"The decoys chosen for this stamp issue represent four different regional species and carving styles," says Danielle Trottier, manager of Stamp Design and Production at Canada Post. "The Red-breasted merganser represents the Maritimes; the Barrow's goldeneye, Quebec; the Black duck, Ontario; and the Mallard, the Prairie region."

An article on the decoy stamps was written by Jim Phillips, Director, Stamp Product Division (Canada Post), and appears in the July-September issue of Canada Post's magazine *Details*. The magazine shows Phillips posing beside the decoys in the CMN collections.

A sheet of domestic rate (51¢) stamps includes a note that the decoys are from the Canadian Museum of Nature's archives.

In addition to being available for a one-year period, the stamps will also be included in the 2006 edition of Collection Canada, Canada Post's annual souvenir collection.

For more information, check Canada Post's web site at - [www.canadapost.ca](http://www.canadapost.ca).

**Delaware continued from previous page**

The 2008 Duck Stamp winner, John Stewart, will receive a \$2,500 prize and 150 artist's proofs of the limited edition print series of his first place duck entry. A Wilmington native and self-taught artist, Stewart balances his love of art with his job at Del Castle Golf Course. His subjects include portraits, landscape and wildlife. This is Stewart's first win, but he has previously placed in both the Federal and Delaware Duck Stamp contests, including an honorable mention in the 2007 Delaware competition.

Second place went to Ken Michaelsen of McCloud, Calif.; and third place to Jerome Hageman of Orchard Park, N.Y.

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.

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.

# Classified Ads

● **Wanted: Nebraska licenses and ephemera** for new handbook, especially non-resident, trapping, and short-term licenses. Will pay fair price for all items I need. If you have an interesting license you don't want to sell, I would appreciate a high-resolution (300 dpi) scan of both sides and permission to picture it. Ira Cotton, 9939 Broadmoor Road, Omaha, NE 68114 (Cotton@Novia.net)

● **New Signed and Numbered Limited Edition Print Release** by Jim Hautman. "Bluebirds and Blossoms" Image Size 9.5" x 12.5" \$50. Inquire at 952-445-5595, or visit the web site - **hautman.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**.

● **Discount prints, frames, stamps and more!** Duck stamps for collectors and framed duck stamp prints, also Ducks Unlimited items and stamp mats for your collection. All on our web site - **DuckStampCity.com**.

## NDS-CS 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](http://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:  
NDS-CS Secretary, P.O. Box 43, Harleysville, PA 19438-0043

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

Phone (w) \_\_\_\_\_ (h) \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## Arkansas teen wins Junior Duck Contest

A pair of wigeons is featured on the 2007 Federal Junior Duck Stamp. The design, painted by 18 year-old Paul Willey of Conway, Ark., was chosen by a panel of judges on April 27 at the Federal Junior Duck Stamp Design Contest held at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C.

The mixed media entry, entitled "An Elegant Pair" was judged the top entry among the Best-of-State entries from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and American Samoa.

Proceeds from Junior Duck Stamp sales are used to support environmental education efforts and awards for contest winners.



JDS15 - the 2007 Junior duck. "Paul's eye for the natural world and his skill in putting their observations to canvas is an inspiration."

Madelyn Yohn, 18, of Myerstown, Penn., took second place with an acrylic painting depicting a pair of northern pintail ducks called "Dabbling in the Marsh."

Third place went to Paige Brevick, 16, of Chatfield, Minn. for her rendition of a fulvous whistling duck done in acrylic.

The Junior Duck Stamp Contest winner receives a free trip, along with their art teacher, a parent, and the state

coordinator, to be honored during the First Day of Sale Ceremony. The first-place winner receives a \$5,000 award. The second place winner receives \$3,000 and the third-place winner receives \$2,000.

Paul Willey, has entered the Junior Duck Stamp Competition since he was twelve. That first year, he won first place in his age division in the Arkansas state competition and has entered every year since, winning the Arkansas Best of Show four times. The Junior Duck Stamp Program has been instrumental in broadening his knowledge of conservation and his artistic repertoire. His teacher, Suzanne Kunkel, introduced him to the contest in sixth grade and has encouraged him annually on his quest for a national win.

Willey enjoys experimenting with all forms of art but he says his favorite is realism. "I want to capture a moment in time found in nature, and if I can accurately portray that moment, that feeling, as authentic and as beautiful as it is in real life then I feel I have succeeded," he said.

You can learn more at the artist's web site:

**[secondnaturegallery.com](http://secondnaturegallery.com)**



Willey with his winning entry.

## Nominations now being accepted!



The National Duck Stamp Collectors Society is now accepting nominations for all officer positions. This includes: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Nominate a good candidate or volunteer to run for office!

The Society needs your help to continue to grow ... please mail your nominations to the NDSCS Secretary, Mr. Tony Monico, P.O. Box 43, Harleysville, PA 19438 or e-mail your nominations to NDSCS President, Dr. Ira Cotton at [cotton@novia.net](mailto:cotton@novia.net).