



Duck Tracks™

Dedicated to Making a Difference

The Official Journal of the National Duck Stamp Collectors' Society

Summer 2005

Whole No. 43

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APS Chapter # 210

Come, Fly With Me to Memphis Federal contest settles in new nest

The Federal Duck Stamp Contest has moved to Memphis, Tenn. for 2005.

This marks the first time in the history of the program that the contest has been held outside of Washington, D.C.

In 1949, the first Federal Duck Stamp Art Competition was held at the Interior Department in Washington, with a panel of judges selecting an image of two trumpeter swans by Walter Weber to become the 1950-51 stamp from among 88 entries. The competition is now an annual tradition, with hundreds of artists from around the nation competing for the honor of being the next Federal Duck Stamp Artist. Winning the competition is a significant boost for each winning artist, increasing the value of their work and enabling them to sell products with images of the Duck Stamp art.

"We are very excited to work with Ducks Unlimited and the Greater Memphis Arts

Council to bring the Federal Duck Stamp Art Competition to Memphis this year," said U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service acting Director Matt Hogan. "The Duck Stamp is one of the world's great conservation successes, raising hundreds of millions of dollars to fund important habitat acquisitions for the National Wildlife Refuge System. We hope that by bringing the competition to the banks of the Mississippi River, more Americans can be introduced to the Duck Stamp and the network of public lands it supports."

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is proud to announce an expanded schedule of events celebrating the rich history and major achievements of the Federal Duck Stamp Program.

While the actual contest will be held on September 14-15 at the Memphis College of Arts (MCA), bring your family for the kick-off event, Family Day, on September 11. The Memphis College of Art is located at 1930 Poplar Avenue in Memphis.

Family Day, held at the MCA will feature lectures, demonstrations for kids, a play entitled "The Ugly Duckling" and the Junior Duck Stamp Contest 50 Best of Show entries.

On Tuesday, September 13, Mark Anderson, 2004 Federal Contest



*Memphis College of Art - new home of the
Federal Duck Stamp Contest.*

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Member Letters

I enjoy reading *Duck Tracks*. I disregard any other mail until I have read *Duck Tracks*.

Ken Kavon, Madison, WI

Nice new look to the *Duck Tracks*!

Greg Park, Cincinnati, OH:

Display Advertising

Duck Tracks advertising rates for camera-ready copy are:

- Full page\$ 100.
- Half page\$ 60.
- Quarter page\$ 35.

Classified word ads are free for Society members. Submit copy to ***Duck Tracks*** editor.

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Duck Tracks™

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NDSCS Financial

NATIONAL DUCK STAMP COLLECTORS SOCIETY

Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2004

July 1, 2004 - June 30, 2005

Beginning Balance, July 1, 2004 ... \$ 6,419.75	812 - Bigstep.com fee (refund to L. Wolfe) . \$ 269.40
Income:	Total expenses \$ 8,155.89
602 - Dues Charter Life Member \$ 985.80	Ending balance as of 6/30/05 \$ 4,271.43
605 - Dues Life Member 735.35	Net change from previous year \$ 2,148.32
606 - Dues Regular Member 4,255.62	Investment income (6 Certificates of Deposit)
607 - Interest earned (checking) 30.80	Initial purchase \$ 11,000.00
608 - Miscellaneous ---	Value as of June 30, 2004 15,500.41
Total income \$ 6,007.57	Interest earned in current year 379.17
Total cash available \$ 12,427.32	Value as of June 30, 2005 \$ 15,879.58
Expenses:	For July 2005
800 - Advertising \$ 216.00	Beginning balance \$ 4,271.43
802 - Miscellaneous 375.00	Deposits 2,142.44
803 - Postage 2,182.97	Checks and fees 570.60
804 - Printing 4,448.12	Interest earned 2.50
809 - Credit card processing fee 403.40	Ending balance \$ 5,826.77
810 - Website development 261.00	

<u>Membership Type</u>	<u>Active</u>	<u>Membership Type</u>	<u>Active</u>
July 31, 2005 Statistics			
Charter-Life	29	Associate, Charter-Regular,	
Life	29	Regular, and Junior	263
Total Mailing List	336	Total Active Membership	321
		New Members Since 1/1/05	11

New Members

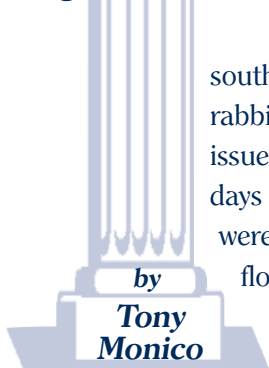
New Regular Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Ryan P. Casey	Fort Worth, TX
Edward J. O'Reilly	Austin, TX
Vernon M. Kleen	Springfield, IL
George E. Leath	Keystone Heights, FL
Ann Shaw	Arlington, TX

New Charter Life Members

Bob Pratsch	Suamico, WI
Jack L. Morris	Dallas, TX

Secretary's Column



Summer is coming to an end in the northern hemisphere and soon the migrations of our feathered friends will begin. Wildlife will go through its annual trek south for the winter. Remember the baby rabbit I told you about in the spring issue? Well, it was moved by the mother days after our dog found the nest, there were a pair of rabbits appearing in the flower beds shortly after that so we can only assume our furry friend survived our dogs inquisitive nose.

I made this statement in the last issue as well - "One thing about my duck stamp collection though - it never fluctuates in beauty and uniqueness - you all can probably say the same thing!

"Another tradition that has stood the test of time is the U.S. Federal Duck Stamp program; keep up your enthusiasm and support for this excellent way to preserve wetlands in the U.S. and obtain a magnificent miniature work of art for your collection as well."

As you will read in an article in this issue, the Electronic Duck Stamp bill might alter the format and delivery mech-

anisms of our mainstay program. Please get ready for the call to arms and the rallying of all hunters, collectors and conservationists to come to the aid of the U.S. Federal Duck Stamp program. The time will come for our collective voices to be heard - don't hesitate to pick up a pen or the telephone to do your part.

The 2005-2006 Federal Duck Stamp, in my humble collector's opinion, is an eye popping, colorful, stamp. No disrespect to our other artist member intended. It reminds me Adam Grimm's stamp (RW67) and brings the discussion of the "purple band vs, the white band" back to mind. Congratulations to artist Mark Anderson for his win and on his beautiful piece of art. Also a thank you to Robert L Williams, Jr., who works in the Federal Duck Stamp Office for arranging for our members to receive the invitations to First Day event.

Check out our web site NDSCS.org. Membership renewal by credit card and printing of membership forms for mail-in are available from this site. Our e-commerce affiliate website allows for secure credit card renewals and general donations. We continually try and update the site with useful information so make it a point to check it out at least monthly.

Society membership business - your *Duck Tracks* mail-

continued on page 19

RW72 has two First Day Ceremonies

by Wes Miller

This year the First Day Ceremony for the new federal duck stamp was really a two day event.

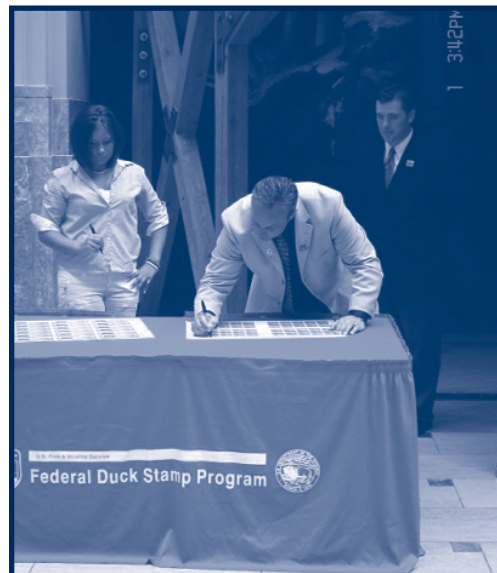
Many received invitations to a ceremony in the Senate office building the day before the first day ceremony. I tried in vain to attend this ceremony. Unfortunately, bad weather interfered with my flight, and I was not able to attend the June 30 ceremony at the Senate office building.

Friday, July 1, as collectors waited for the gates to be opened at the Postal Museum for the second of the first day ceremonies, no one appeared.

Finally, someone led us outside, down the street and then wound through the bowels of the Stamp Museum until we arrived at the usual site. By that time the gates had opened and many attendees did not have the arrival adventure we "early ducks" had. (After all, it wasn't a "bird event!")

The ceremony was short and to the point. Mark Anderson related his story of being notified he was the

winner of the contest in very humorous fashion. He related that when he opted to paint the mergansers, he wanted to do something different and decided to paint two drakes rather than the more traditional drake and hen. He was accom-



Mark Anderson signs the federal duck sheet destined for the Smithsonian with his stamp design while Junior duck stamp winner Kerissa Nelson looks on.
Photo by Wes Miller

continued on page 6

President's Corner

by Ira Cotton

I had planned on continuing my discussion of foreign duck stamps in this issue, but so much has happened since the last *Duck Tracks* that I will devote this column to commentary and

resume with foreign stamps in the next issue.

By now most members should be aware of two new special formats for duck stamps, issued in limited quantities by the Duck Stamp Office: an artist-signed mini-sheet of one and press sheets of both the water-activated and self-adhesive federal duck stamps.

These have certainly attracted a lot of attention along with rapid escalation in prices, but I wonder if all the attention is positive.

The most interesting item is the new mini-sheet that was put on sale, without any prior notice to collectors, in a limited edition of 1,000 at a price of \$20 - a premium of \$5 over face.

Each mini-sheet was signed by the artist and thus promoted as a philatelic product rather than a new format for the license stamp. It is a most attractive item that I hope will be continued in subsequent years, but under very different circumstances than this year.

I have read two explanations for the limited number of sheets that were sold - one that it was due to signing fatigue on the part of the artist, and the other that the Duck Stamp Office was uncertain how many could be sold and didn't want to print too many. Both explanations sound rather disingenuous to me.

Certainly the major printing expense had to be in the design and production of

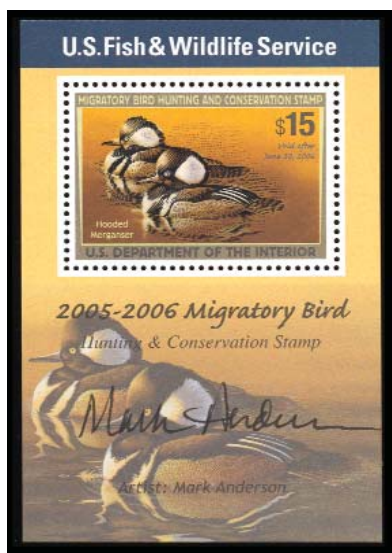
the plate, so that the cost of even many thousands of additional copies would have been trivial. Both signed and unsigned copies could have been offered, so that collectors could choose the format they prefer and could have obtained at least an unsigned copy (my personally preferred format) without having to chase prices higher and higher.

I suspect that the intent was to create an instant rarity and thereby generate as much publicity as possible. I applaud the creation of the item and the publicity it did generate for both conservation and our hobby, but I condemn the disregard for the many collectors who were unable to obtain a copy due to the rapid sell-out and lack of any rationing of sales. That's right - not only was there no advance notice, but those "in the know" were able to buy as many as they wanted, and I understand that one individual collector bought 100 copies (10% of the entire issue).

Even if the Duck Stamp Office doesn't know any better, the Postal Service (which sold most of the issue) should, based on its prior experience in rationing such scarce items as the recalled Legends of the West sheet. I consider this year's exercise a fiasco and believe that the issue should be reprinted and offered without the artist's signature to all collectors.

On the bright side, our members and collectors who check our web site regularly learned about the issue before it sold out - courtesy of society founder, Bob

continued on page 7



RW72b Mini Sheet.



RW72 Cross-Gutter Block from Press Sheet.

... And the winner is ...

The votes have been counted and here are the choices of NDSCS members for the best and worst of the 2004 duck stamps (see *Duck Tracks* #42).

A wide variety was selected, often the winner only prevailed by one vote!

Thanks to all of you who participated.

Overall Best



The winner is RW71, the federal duck stamp by Scot Storm.

Second place was a tie between Delaware and Kentucky.

Other favorites included: Arkansas, Louisiana, Washington, Pennsylvania,

Colorado, Wisconsin, Maine, South Carolina, Iowa and the Junior duck stamp.

Best Design



The winner is AR24, mallards by Ralph McDonald.

Second place was a tie between Ohio and RW71.

Other favorites included: Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oregon,

Washington, Wyoming and the Junior duck stamp.

State Best



A four-way tie for first place!

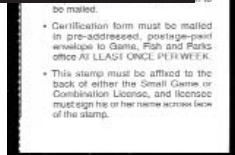
An equal number of votes for Arkansas, Kentucky, New Jersey and South Carolina.

Arkansas features Mallards by Ralph McDonald; Kentucky is black ducks by Chris Walden; New Jersey has a hooded merganser decoy and yellow lab by Phillip Crowe; and South Carolina is a black lab and pintail by Eddie LeRoy.

You can see two themes here - the Arkansas and Kentucky stamps are very much hunting scenes, while the other two chosen features dogs as the main subject matter.

Other favorites included: Connecticut, Delaware, Iowa, Louisiana, North Carolina, Washington and Wisconsin.

Overall Worst



A three-way tie for first place!

An equal number of votes for North Dakota, South Dakota and Vermont.

North and South Dakota are both text stamps, the only two states who use this format (obviously not preferred by collectors).

Other cited for worst include some favorites from other categories: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Canada, Kentucky, Minnesota, Mississippi, South Carolina and Washington.

Voter Comments

“I like South Carolina and New Jersey because I am partial to the labs in the artwork.”

“I dislike South Carolina as the dog with the dead bird bothers me.”

“Mississippi would be a very nice stamp and would have

been my pick for the best design if it were not for the white background where the stamp number is printed. It should have just been printed on the stamp, not in a white box.”

“Many artists are focusing so much on the background that the ducks get lost and the design is too busy.”

Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest

This September, the Greater Memphis Arts Council and Ducks Unlimited join together in a regionally unique collaboration to celebrate Conservation Through Art and co-host the Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest in Memphis.

Sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, this event is moving out of Washington, D.C. for the first time in its 71-year history. It is one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious wildlife art competitions, and one of the most successful wildlife conservation programs ever initiated.

The Presenting Sponsor for this historic week of events is SunTrust Bank. The following Conservation Through Arts events are scheduled:

Sun., September 11, Noon to 4 pm: FAMILY DAY

Preview the art contest entries and see the complete Federal Duck Stamp collection. Children will enjoy hands-on art activities, performances of "The Ugly Duckling" by Voices of the South, duck calling, a visit with the Tennessee Junior Federal Duck Stamp Coordinator, and much more. All FREE and open to the public at Memphis College of Art.

September 12-17

Art exhibit open and FREE to the public, Memphis College of Art.

Monday, September 12, 5:30 pm

Private VIP Preview Reception for Legislators, Media, and Sponsors to view art entries and Federal Duck Stamp collection, Memphis College of Art.

Tuesday, September 13, Noon

Artist lecture with Mark Anderson, 2005 Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest winner, Memphis College of Art.

First Day Ceremonies continued from page 3

panied by his wife and two children and it was very evident he was a true family man.

Kerissa Nelson is the sixth Junior Duck stamp winner, that I have met.

She and the others demonstrate the picture of the All-American Student Kerissa was a very good public speaker and demonstrated a maturity and confidence that well exceeded her years. Kerissa and the previous winners are the fine example to counter the age old complaint of "what is becoming of our youth." I expect good things to happen



Wednesday, September 14, 10:00 a.m.

Opening of Public Judging of art entries at Memphis College of Art (exhibit FREE and open to the public during judging).

Thursday, September 15, 10:00 a.m. approx 2:00 p.m.

Judging continues until final winner selected; public announcement; public and media welcome.

6:00 pm: Private VIP Reception at the Memphis College of Art.

7:30 pm: Conservation through Art Celebration Dinner in memory of Harry J. Phillips Sr. at Memphis Brooks Museum. Tickets to the Conservation through Art Celebration dinner (\$1,000 each) are limited; please contact Alice Gray (agray@memphisartscouncil.org) or call 901-578-2787, ext. 302 as soon as possible to reserve a seat for this special event!

Friday, September 16, Noon

Workshop with David Maass, winner of the 1974 and 1982 Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest, and Scot Storm, winner of the 2004 contest. Art exhibit remains on display at MCA through Sat. Sept. 17.

September 17-18

Ducks Unlimited Expo at Memphis Agricenter International. Check ducks.org for more information.

with Kerissa and all the other Junior Duck Stamp winners.

Much has already been written about the RW72b mini-sheet, but it is notable that there was no mention of this during the ceremony.

There was an announcement regarding the availability of the uncut press sheets.

Frankly, I was quiet surprised when Bob Dumaine asked me about the souvenir sheet. I know he though I was either dumb or trying to corner the market on these sheets! I was at the event and Bob scooped me.

President's Corner, continued from page 4

Dumaine - and had the opportunity to order. Members who are registered to receive e-mail notifications for duck stamp information received an e-mail about the issue. (To register your e-mail address, send a request to: NDSCS@hwcn.org.)

The other format used the first time this year for the federal duck stamp was the uncut press sheet of four panes each. Only 100 press sheets for each type of federal duck stamp (water-activated and self-adhesive) were issued, but this is typical of the quantities of press sheets for all types of stamps.

The press sheet for the water-activated duck stamp contains 4 panes of 20 stamps and sold for \$1320 - a \$1.50 premium over face for each stamp. The self-adhesive press sheet contains 18 single-stamp panes and sold for \$297. For those who can afford it, a press sheet or position piece from one make an interesting addition to a collection. It will be nice to see these continued annually.

The other important development in the duck stamp area is also taking place in Washington, DC, where Congress is considering a bill to allow duck stamps to be issued electronically. H.R. 1494, a bill for the Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2005, was introduced by Representatives Ron Kind (Wisconsin) and Charles Pickering (Mississippi) on April 6, 2005 and referred to the House Committee on Resources.

(See full text of bill beginning on page 10.)

The bill proposes to authorize a seemingly innocuous 3-year pilot program under which up to 15 states would be authorized by the Secretary of the Interior to issue "electronic" duck stamps. Such "stamps" would be sold through automated means on the states' licensing web sites and through special sales terminals in retail outlets authorized by the states. The electronically issued "stamps" would constitute a certification that the federal duck stamp fee had been paid and would validate waterfowl hunting licenses in any state for up to 45 days, during which time the state would be required to deliver a physical duck stamp to the purchaser. The states would be authorized to charge "reasonable" fees to issue the electronic stamps, keep records, remit the duck stamp fees and licensee information to the Secretary of the Interior, and send the physical stamps.

Though not explicitly stated in the bill, the ostensible benefit of the program to the public is to facilitate the collection of federal duck stamp fees from hunters who may

not have been able to obtain one from normal sales points, such as Post Offices.

The reason I called the bill "seemingly innocuous" is because it still provides for delivery of a physical duck stamp to all purchasers. Thus, the collectability of duck stamps would arguably not be impaired and presumably the annual art contest would continue.

However, I have to agree with the many opponents of this bill who believe it is the first step down a slippery slope to significant reductions in duck stamp production and the possible elimination of additional state programs, if not the federal duck stamp program itself.

As a result of electronic licensing, we have seen many states eliminate their duck stamp programs altogether, and a smaller number of states print only a non-mandatory stamp that is not used by hunters and purchased mainly by collectors. I think at least some states that are considering eliminating their stamp programs would be pushed over the edge by this "pilot program."

As more and more hunters purchased electronic duck stamps, there would be reductions in duck stamp printings and deliveries to Post Offices as a cost-cutting measure. With fewer stamps in Post Offices and other outlets, more and more stamps would be sold electronically, leading inevitably to elimination of the national distribution of duck stamps, electronic-only sales of "hunter" stamps, and centralization of the few stamps printed each year for sales to collectors.

Another negative that I have not seen mentioned in testimony against the bill is the collection of hunter information by the federal government. Why does the Department of the Interior need to know who buys a duck stamp for a license? Licenses are issued by the states, despite the requirement to affix the federal stamp. Providing purchaser information to the federal government seems unnecessary to me and a further creeping invasion of privacy by "big government."

I urge NDSCS members to express your opinion of HR 1494 to your members of Congress and to Representative Richard W. Pombo (California) who chairs the Committee on Resources. Postal mail can be sent to him at 1324 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515; email can be sent to resources.committee@mail.house.gov. Please identify yourself as an NDSCS member and send us a copy with permission to reproduce it on our web site or in *Duck Tracks*. I have explained why I think you should oppose this bill, but all opinions are welcomed.

Relatively unknown artist wins Nevada Contest



Gadwall's by Adam Oswald on the 2005 Nevada stamp.

Nevada's state duck stamp for 2005-06 will feature a striking pair of gadwall ducks in flight painted by Adam Oswald of Brandon, S.D.

Not only was this the relatively unknown artist's first entry in Nevada's contest, it was also his first win in any state-sponsored duck stamp contest. Oswald said that he only enters two or three contests a year. He has placed in the top five in several other state contests. With his artistic talent and eye for color, undoubtedly other first place wins won't be far behind.

The 27-year-old artist said that while he's been painting ever since he can remember, he's only been seriously painting for the last eight years. Oswald works as a full-time graphic designer. In his free time, he enjoys hunting, fishing, golfing and, of course, painting.

While many wildlife artists paint from photos of birds, Oswald says that he likes to use mounted specimens of ducks for models. He said that he entered Nevada's contest because he likes gadwalls and not many states use this species for their stamp.

The Nevada Department of Wildlife's contest was sponsored by the Nevada Waterfowl Association this year. The contest was open to all artists regardless of residence. Under the contest rules, all entries were required to feature the gadwall. A total of 30 paintings were received from across the U.S. and Canada. Since Nevada is one of the last remaining states to hold an actual art contest to solicit artwork for the state's duck and trout stamps. The winning artist does not receive a financial prize, but does maintain full reproduction rights.

The gadwall is a common breeding species across the Great Basin wherever suitable habitat occurs. Gadwalls are one of the top three breeding species in Nevada, and high numbers of these birds can be found in the state during

both migration periods. It is a slender, medium-sized gray duck. The males are gray-brown (very dark breast), with a white belly and a black rump. Their bills are black in color and the legs and feet are an orangish-yellow. Females are similar to males, but have a mottled brown appearance, a slate-gray bill with a slight orange edge and some black spotting. When in flight, mature birds have a white speculum and chestnut and black portions on the wing coverts are displayed.

Oswald's painting will be depicted in full color on the state's 2005 duck stamp. The \$10 stamp, which is required of all who hunt waterfowl in the state, will be issued in late September.

By law, proceeds from the sale of the Nevada duck stamp must be used for the propagation of migratory game birds and for the acquisition development, and preservation of wetlands in the state.

Wood Ducks on Wisconsin



Doughty's wood ducks for Wisconsin. winner of the Wisconsin Waterfowl Stamp contest; he also won in 1991 and 2002.

This was the 28th annual judging of the stamp contest, which began in 1978.

Twenty-four paintings were submitted this year and the contest was very competitive, according to Michele Cipiti, DNR Assistant Wetland Habitat Coordinator.

"We received a very diverse collection of entries and it was exciting to see that many of the artists this year were new to the competition," Cipiti said."

Because of the Automated Issuance License System (ALIS) duck and goose hunters will be purchasing "stamp approval" in order to have a valid license, but will not receive an actual stamp unless they request it. DNR Service Centers will have the stamps available for free to everyone with stamp approval. Anyone else interested in collecting the stamp may purchase one directly from the DNR.

Texas makes many changes to hunting stamps

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

A recently passed legislative bill reorganized the stamp fees that hunters pay for the right to pursue certain species of game animals. The white-winged dove stamp was abolished and doves were lumped with waterfowl to create a Migratory Game Bird Stamp. (In Texas, the licenses are electronic and the stamps are collector-type.)

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

It was time for the white-wing fee to go away. That stamp was created in the 1980s when white-wings suffered huge habitat loss from cold weather in the Rio Grande Valley.



Artwork for the 2005 Texas duck stamp.

Since then, white-wings have migrated north, adapted to cooler temperatures and essentially saved themselves.

The stamp

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

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

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

The 2005 Texas migratory game bird stamp (*editors note: we will still call it the duck stamp*) will picture mallards by Herb Booth. The face value will increase from \$3 to \$7. The upland game bird stamp will have a \$7 face value and picture turkeys, artwork by Scott and Stuart Gentling.

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

The Texas quail stamp by Ken Carlson, will have a bob-white quail pair and a \$5 face value.

Contest continued from page 1

winner, will give a lunch lecture on Federal Duck Stamp art.

The Contest will begin on September 14 at 10:00 a.m. at the MCA and will conclude at approximately 2:00 p.m. on September 15. The eligible species for 2005 contest include brant, northern shoveler, Ross' goose, ruddy duck and Canada goose.

The winning artist flies to Memphis on Friday to be featured with the winning entry during the Ducks Unlimited Outdoor Expo on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 17 and 18. The public can view the entries at the Memphis College of Art beginning Sunday, Sept. 11, continuing throughout the week.

On Friday, September 16, Federal Duck Stamp artists Scot Storm and David Maass will also present a lunch lec-

ture at the MCA.

The capstone for the whole week will be the Ducks Unlimited Expo at the Agricenter in Memphis from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on September 17 and 18.

Famed wildlife artist and conservationist J.N. "Ding" Darling, who was then director of what would later become the Fish and Wildlife Service, created the image for the first Federal Duck Stamp in 1934. In doing so, Darling began what would become an annual tradition of featuring the work of some of the nation's finest wildlife artists on the stamp. For the first 15 years of the stamp's existence, the Service commissioned an artist to design the stamp. Soon, artists began submitting their artwork unsolicited for possible inclusion on the stamp.

All events are free and open to the public. For additional information and a full schedule of events, see page 6.

Electronic duck stamp goes before Congress

On July 21, 2005, Dr. Joseph Hautman, federal duck stamp artist and NDSCS governor, testified before a Congressional Subcommittee on a program to implement a test program for the electronic issuance of the federal duck stamp.

The entire transcript follows:

Statement by the Honorable Wayne T. Gilchrest, Chairman, Subcommittee on Fisheries and Oceans at the Legislative Hearing on H. R. 1494 and H. R. 3179: July 21, 2005.

Good morning, today, the Subcommittee will hear testimony on legislation affecting our nation's two Federal Duck Stamp laws.

First established in 1934, the Federal Duck Stamp program has been a remarkable success. Through the purchase of annual duck stamps, the Fish and Wildlife Service has collected nearly \$700 million that has been used to purchase or lease over 5.2 million acres of essential habitat. These lands support hundreds of migratory bird species and other wildlife including property inhabited by the recently rediscovered ivory-billed woodpecker in the Cache River National Wildlife Refuge in Arkansas.

The first bill, H. R. 1494, introduced by our Subcommittee colleague Congressman Ron Kind, would allow up to fifteen states to participate in a three-year pilot program to issue Federal Duck Stamps in an electronic format. While nearly every state now allows its citizens to obtain state hunting and fishing licenses online, this would be the first time for the Federal Duck Stamp program. For that reason, it is important to carefully examine the consequences of this change on the traditional printed duck stamp, the impact on the availability of these stamps, and the additional costs to the interested customer.

The second bill, H. R. 3179, was recently proposed by our Subcommittee colleague Congressman Solomon Ortiz. This measure would extend the popular Junior Duck Stamp Program. This program, first enacted in 1994, is an art contest designed specifically for all students from kindergarten through high school. Its goals are to expose students to migratory waterfowl and to motivate them through art to take a leadership role in the conservation of these species.

This legislation will extend this program at a slightly higher funding level until September 30, 2010. It stipulates how the proceeds from the licensing and marketing of the stamps will be spent and how appropriated dollars shall be allocated.

I look forward to hearing the views of our distinguished witnesses on this legislation and I now recognize the Ranking Democratic Member, Congressman Frank Pallone of New Jersey.

**TESTIMONY OF JOSEPH HAUTMAN
BEFORE THE: U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE
ON FISHERIES AND OCEANS
CONCERNING: H.R. 1494, ELECTRONIC DUCK
STAMP ACT OF 2005 & H.R. 3179, THE JUNIOR
DUCK STAMP REAUTHORIZATION AMENDMENTS
ACT OF 2005
Thursday, July 21, 2005
WASHINGTON , DC**

Introduction

Mr. Chairman, and members of the Subcommittee, my name is Joseph Hautman. I am a wildlife artist, a waterfowl hunter, a two-time winner of the Federal Duck Stamp Design Contest, and a governor of the National Duck Stamp Collector's Society. I have a PhD in Physics and was carrying out scientific research at the University of Pennsylvania when I won my first Federal Duck Stamp Contest in 1991. Since winning the contest my sideline of painting wildlife has turned into a full-time occupation. In addition to the federal stamps, I have also designed conservation stamps in five different states, published and distributed duck stamp prints, and collaborated with a number of conservation groups to raise money for wetlands and waterfowl through the sales of duck stamp prints and other wildlife art.

As Federal Duck Stamp contest winner I have traveled extensively around the country, talking to widely diverse groups of people to help promote greater public awareness of the program and its accomplishments.

The Junior Duck Stamp program has always had my enthusiastic support. I have been a judge of the contest at the state level three times and have made presentations

continued on next page

Stamp resolution con't from page 10

on Duck Stamp Art to students at the grade school, junior high and senior high levels.

Artwork and Conservation Stamps

The artwork on the traditional Federal Duck Stamp is an important tool for the sales of duck stamps and contributes to the public image and visibility of the Duck Stamp program.

- For the thousands of philatelic collectors of the stamp the imagery is essential. Six to ten percent of Federal Duck Stamps sold are purchased by this group. Without the artwork the interest in the stamp as a collectible would fall to negligible levels.

- Waterfowl hunters will purchase a "stamp" regardless of its form, but with the electronic purchase some hunters could resent what would appear to be no more than an extra "tax" on their state hunting license. For many hunters the traditional paper stamp is more than just a receipt for a tax paid, it is a badge of honor, a symbol of a hunter's respect for the natural resources they are privileged to use. Over the years, the Federal Duck Stamp has inspired a loyalty and respect among hunters, not just for the program it represents, but also for the importance of wetlands conservation in general. Duck hunters are proud of their sport, proud of their heritage, and proud of their Duck Stamp Program. Like many people, I first learned about the Duck Stamp when I saw it, with its colorful and inspiring image, on my fathers hunting license. I am not sure that I would have asked about it, or learned to appreciate it, if it were only a number on a receipt.

Section 7, subsection (c.) of HR1494 allows 45 days for the delivery of the paper stamp to the purchaser. However, many hunters buy their licenses shortly before they go hunting and a good share do not hunt after the opening day of the season. So some hunters could go through their entire hunting season without needing to have the actual paper stamp in their possession. This could seriously affect the perceived relevance of the traditional Duck Stamp.

- Another important role of the artwork on the Federal Duck Stamp is in exposing non-hunters and non-collectors to the program. Many of these people benefit from the wetlands and refuges funded by Duck Stamp dollars, and many will buy stamps if they are made aware of the quality and integrity of the program. In my experience promoting the program it has always been the Duck Stamp artwork that has motivated people to start asking questions.

The visibility and exposure of the program at art shows, stamp shows, fundraisers, and in the media can only be hurt if the relevance of the artwork is decreased.

The major wildlife conservation groups, including Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, National Wildlife Federation, National Wild Turkey Federation, the state Waterfowl Associations, and many others, are aware of the power of wildlife art to inspire people to contribute to conservation efforts. Fundraising events often rely on auctions and raffles of framed artwork and products bearing wildlife images. When I published the Duck Stamp Print in 2002, I estimate that well over 5000 Duck Stamps were sold to accompany framed Duck Stamp prints. That year over 2500 of these prints were sold or auctioned off by non-profit groups at fundraising events. These prints hang in people's homes and on office walls, and every Duck Stamp, every print sold, and every Duck Stamp poster carries a message about the Duck Stamp conservation program. This is how new people are made aware of the program, its role in conservation, and of particular issues like wetland preservation and restoration.

All of the above mentioned benefits of the imagery on the traditional paper Duck Stamp would adversely affected by any decrease in the relevance, visibility and prestige of the artwork.

The Junior Duck Stamp

The educational and inspirational potential of the Duck Stamp artwork is most obviously realized in the Junior Duck Stamp program. The artwork opens the door to teaching young people about waterfowl, the importance of habitat, and the need for conservation. In my experience, nothing makes a person, young or old, observe and appreciate something better than trying to draw it. Depicting nature demands careful observation, and that observation leads to awareness, appreciation, and often a passion for wildlife and the natural world. In the case of the Junior Duck Stamp program, the exposure to wetlands and waterfowl conservation doesn't end with the schoolchildren but can become an education of entire families.

Conclusions

In conclusion, I believe that H.R. 1494, ELECTRONIC DUCK STAMP ACT OF 2005 could have a detrimental impact the effectiveness of the traditional paper Duck Stamp because:

The option of an electronic stamp can only reduce expo-

Stamp resolution can't from page 11

sure to duck stamp artwork which plays an important role in inspiring the loyal support of hunters, and the education and engagement of the general public.

2. The electronic stamp is likely to reduce the perceived relevance of the pictorial stamp since many hunters may actually be done hunting for the season before they actually have the paper stamp in their possession. This could have a negative impact on the prestige, visibility, and media coverage of the Duck Stamp Program.

Reduced visibility and relevance of the Duck Stamp artwork would also have a negative influence on young peoples' participation in the Junior Duck Stamp program. It is also likely to have a detrimental effect on the many State Duck stamp programs which have been estimated to raise over a million dollars every year for state conservation projects.

In the event that this Act does proceed forward, I recommend additions to the evaluation section to include not just the enumeration of duck stamps sold and the dollars collected, but also :

Direction to include in the evaluation any changes in both the hunters' and the general public's perception of the Federal Duck Stamp program.

2. Direction as to which parties are to be included in the evaluation process. In particular, I would recommend input from representatives of private conservation groups who may be indirectly affected by the changes in the relevance of the traditional paper stamp.

These measures could help to ensure that the introduction of an electronic stamp does not hurt the visibility and public perception of the Federal Duck stamp program nor limit the public's awareness of its mission.

I also recommend, in the event that the Act is passed, that some thought be given to alternative ways of incorporating the Duck Stamp design into the electronic process. For example, it has been suggested that the design be printed, or preprinted, in some form on the back side of the printed electronic receipt. This could help to offset any reduction in the visibility and relevance of the Duck Stamp artwork on the traditional stamp.

Regarding H.R. 3179, The Junior Duck Stamp Reauthorization Amendments Act of 2005, I unequivocally support the reauthorization. In an era where public funding of the arts is fraught with controversy, and school art programs are being cut, it is especially important to preserve this hugely successful educator of both children

and adults.

Finally, I would like to add two comments. The first was passed on to me by Kip Koss, the grandson of Ding Darling, a former Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service and a wildlife artist who designed the first Duck Stamp in 1934 and played an essential role in the creation of the Federal Duck Stamp Program: In Section 2, Findings, (3), the statement '... stamps have generated more than \$600,000,000 in revenue ...' is made. Using the published Bureau of Labor Statistics inflation adjustment factors for each year of the program, the number in today's dollars is nearly \$2,000,000,000. To be precise, Duck Stamp sales from 1934 through 2004 actually total \$1,922,780,770 or "nearly two billion dollars."

Second, I would like to respectfully remind the subcommittee of the recent Senate resolution 183 of June 28 of this year in which the Senate " expresses strong support for the continued success of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp." For you reference I have attached a copy of that resolution as Addendum A.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Subcommittee, thank you for giving me the opportunity to contribute to these proceedings. I am honored to have the chance to share my views on two such important and successful programs as the Federal Duck Stamp Program and the Junior Duck Stamp Program.

**Addendum A
SRES 183 ATS
109th CONGRESS
1st Session
S. RES. 183**

Recognizing the achievements and contributions of the Migratory Bird Commission on the occasion of its 72nd anniversary and the first day of sale of the 2005-2006 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

June 28, 2005

Mr. COCHRAN (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, and Ms. SNOWE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the achievements and contributions of the Migratory Bird Commission on the occasion of its 72nd anniversary and the first day of sale of the 2005-2006 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp.

Whereas the 2005-2006 Migratory Bird Hunting and

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The story behind the 2005 Arkansas duck stamp



Chandler's design for the Arkansas duck stamp before adding the ivory-billed woodpecker.

by Larry Chandler

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

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

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

One morning in April, I received a very exciting phone call from my pal Bobby Harrison. "Larry," he said, "I am on my way to Washington D.C., the genie is out of the bottle! Cornell Lab of Ornithology has arranged a press release about the rediscovery of the Ivory-bill."

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

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

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

Classified Ads

- **Collector seeks better fish & game stamps** and licenses. Send description with scan if possible to Cotton@Novia.net or write to I. Cotton, 9939 Broadmoor Road, Omaha, NE 68114.
- **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**.
- **Everything for your duck stamp collection!** Find it all at: **shduck.com**.

Remember - classified ads are free for all members!

Shovelers on Colorado



Klinefelter's 2005 Colorado artwork

A painting of a male and female northern shoveler titled "Arapaho Shovelers" by Jeffrey Klinefelter was chosen by the Colorado Division of Wildlife for the 2005 Colorado Waterfowl Stamp.

The Colorado Waterfowl Stamp Program was initiated in 1989 to help conserve wetlands for waterfowl and water birds. The licenses in Colorado are electronic, but the state has continued to print stamps as a collectible item. To date the stamp has raised more than \$6.7 million for wetlands habitat.

Klinefelter is quickly establishing himself as a leading wildlife artist throughout the country. Klinefelter graduated from Indiana University's Herron School of Art. He primarily paints wildlife and landscapes with waterfowl as a favorite subject. Some of his art accolades include winning state contest in Nevada, New Hampshire, Delaware, Indiana, Florida, North Dakota, South Carolina, Louisiana and Oklahoma. Jeff is director of the Potawatomi Wildlife Park, a member of Indiana's Wildlife Artist Associates, the Nature Conservancy and Ducks Unlimited.

He has also won the Upland Gamebird Stamps in Indiana, Florida, New Jersey and Oregon and well as the Trout and Salmon contest in Delaware and Indiana. He is most proud of placing in the top ten of the Federal Duck Stamp Contest.

Klinefelter believes that first hand knowledge of a subject he is painting is very important. Because of this, each spring and fall he spends hours studying and photographing waterfowl in their natural habitat. He is a member of the Nature Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited and the Indiana Wildlife Artist Associates. He is also the director of the Potawatomi Wildlife Park.

The Waterfowl Stamp Program is part of the larger DOW wetlands conservation effort, the wetlands program. This program is designed to conserve wetlands through voluntary, incentive-based means.

Upcoming Stamp Shows & Events

Tennessee – Sept. 14-15

Federal Duck Stamp Contest, Memphis College of Art, 8 S. Third, St., 901-578-ARTS

Texas – September 16-18

Greater Houston Stamp Show, Humble Civic Ctr., 8233 Will Clayton Pkwy, Humble. stottsjd@swbell.net; houstonphilatelic.org. Sam Houston Philatelics will hold a public auction in conjunction with the show on Saturday, Sept. 17 and 12:30 p.m. (cdt)

Wisconsin – September 16-18

MILCOPEX, Milwaukee Phil. Soc. Inc., Four Points Milwaukee Airport, 4747 South Howell Ave., Milwaukee. milwaukeephilatelic.org; burrobb@wi.rr.com; 262-968-2392.

Ohio – September 17-18

AIRPEX, Dayton Stamp Club, Dayton Convention/Exhibition Ctr., 5th & Main St., Dayton. 937-299-9297.

Georgia – September 23-25

Southeast Stamp Show, Cobb County Civic Ctr., 548 S. Marietta Pkwy., Marietta. mark_s@bellsouth.net; stampclubs.com; 770-619-2917.

Nebraska – September 23-25

Omaha Stamp Show, Durham Western Heritage Museum, 801 S. 10th Street, Omaha. omahaphilatelicsociety.org; 402-571-4533.

California September 30-October 2

Filatelic Fiesta 2005, Parkside Hall, 180 Park Avenue, San Jose. hjames-sauer@yahoo.com; 408-445-2694.

Pennsylvania – September 30, October 2

Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition, Valley Forge Convention Center, 1160 First Ave., King of Prussia. pnse@earthlink.net

California – October 7-9

SESCAL, Federated Phil. Clubs of Southern California, Radisson Hotel at Los Angeles Airport, 6225 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles. wamcraig@aol.com; sescal.org; 714-525-8579.

Illinois – October 8-9

MSDA Fall Stamp Show, Midwest Stamp Dealers Association, Wingate Inn, 600 Milwaukee Ave., Prospect Heights. jfb7437@aol.com; msdastamp.com; 847-634-2676.

New York – October 20-23

Postage Stamp Mega Event, Madison Square Garden, 4 Pennsylvania Plaza, New York. asdashows@erols.com; 516-759-7000.

Virginia – October 28-30

VAPEX, Virginia Philatelic Federation, Virginia Beach Pavilion Convention Center, Virginia Beach. dvarrenmd@cox.net; www.members@aol.com/vashow/; 804-693-5866; 804-695-9226.

Illinois – November 18-20

CHICAGOPEX, Chicago Philatelic Society, Sheraton Chicago Northwest, 3400 W. Euclid, Arlington Heights. afkugel@hotmail.com; chicagopex.com; 630-323-9434.

Louisiana selects Yellow Lab for '06 Contest

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has announced that the yellow Labrador retriever will be featured in the "Retrievers Save Game" series for the 2006 Louisiana duck stamp competition.

The yellow lab 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.

After 16 years of featuring waterfowl, the program switched to the retriever series last year by featuring a black lab, because all of the popular waterfowl species had already been used.

"Instead of repeating one of the previously used ducks or geese, we decided on this new approach last year," Robert Helm, LDWF waterfowl program manager, said. "We were encouraged by last year's participation in the new retriever series and look forward to additional entries this year."

Labradors come in black, yellow and chocolate color phases. Only the yellow lab will be allowed on entries this year. Labradors came from Canada in the most eastern province of Newfoundland and Labrador. It has been said that fishermen from this area carried these hardy retrievers in boats to retrieve fish coming off the trawls in the north Atlantic. The Labrador's hunting and swimming ability, and his good disposition did not go unnoticed by English sportsmen, who introduced these dogs to Europe in the mid-1800s.

American sportsmen adopted the breed from England and subsequently developed and trained the dog to fulfill

the hunting needs of this country. Today, as in the past, the versatile Labrador will eagerly enter in ice-cold water to retrieve a duck and work all day in the heat of a dove field. They are very adaptable and their mild temperament makes them ideal family companions.

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

The Louisiana Legislature authorized the Louisiana Waterfowl Conservation Stamp program in 1988. The program was created to generate revenues for conservation and enhancement of waterfowl populations and habitats in Louisiana. During the last 17 years, more than \$8 million has been generated for wetland conservation with approximately \$4.5 million spent on land acquisition.

In the 1999-2000 licensing year, the Department initiated an automated licensing issuance system. This electronic system allows customers to purchase almost all recreational hunting and fishing licenses on a single document. No longer is the state duck stamp a license for waterfowl hunting and has become primarily a collector's item.

A panel of judges with experience in waterfowl biology and/or artistic method will select the winning design. Judging will take place on Oct. 26, at LDWF headquarters in Baton Rouge. The public is welcome to attend.

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

For more information, contact Robert Helm at rhelm@wlf.louisiana.gov or 225-765-2358.

Plan now to participate!

WANTED

Digital images of interesting duck stamp items.

NDSCS is planning participation in Washington 2006, and we hope to have several screens highlighting duck stamps. Also we would like exhibits of duck stamps. Anyone have digital sound of ducks or duck calls?

In addition, we seek assistance in manning the booth. Three or four hour shifts would really help the cause, but any time you have available would be appreciated.

It is our goal to provide education and information about the fantastic hobby of collecting duck stamps.

If you plan on attending Washington 2006 or have any of the items above, please contact Washington 2006 Chairperson, Wes Miller at 727-215-3998 or e-mail wesmiller3@aol.com.

See you at the big show!



What do those duck stamp dollars really mean?

by Kip Koss

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

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

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

sible for acquiring and protecting over five million acres of habitat.

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

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

enues. The results are shown on the next page.

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

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

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

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

Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge

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

Creation of the refuge began in the early 1940s, when "Ding" Darling learned that the State of Florida was nearing agreement to sell 2,200 pristine acres of Sanibel's mangrove wetlands to developers for 50¢ an acre. Quickly gathering his allies, Darling arranged for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife

Service to lease the threatened land to form the Sanibel Island National Wildlife Refuge. Taken just in the nick of time, this was the first step in protecting forever this crucial wildlife habitat.

Darling recognized the special
continued on next page

Darling Refuge continued

qualities of this place where land met sea, saltwater met freshwater, and temperate climate mixed with tropical climate to produce a habitat that is uniquely productive for wildlife. The surrounding estuary with its rich sea grass meadows, mudflats and mangroves produces shelter and huge amounts of food for birds, fish, reptiles and a host of other animals.

Today the J. N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge is one of the most visited refuges in the nation, with almost a million visitors annually. Five-mile Wildlife Drive winds through the mangrove forest and

tidal flats making wildlife watching accessible to everyone. Sunny afternoons in winter are the best times for watching alligators and maybe even to catch a glimpse of the resident crocodile.

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

low legs, anhingas, cormorants, blue-winged teal, ospreys and bald eagles. During the fall and spring migration of songbirds, the Refuge provides a resting place as well as food for the energy required for their remarkable flights.

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

The J. N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge now encompasses over 5,200 acres and its professional staff manages an additional 1,000+ acres under cooperative agreements.

These lands are preserved, restored and maintained as a haven for indigenous and migratory wildlife as part of a nation-wide network of

continued on next page



Mark Anderson to be at Ding Darling Days

Mark Anderson of Sioux Falls, S.D., will offer a presentation Oct. 15 on his painting that was used for the design of the 2005-06 United States federal duck stamp, RW72.

Anderson will explain his contest-winning painting of two hooded merganser drakes beginning at 11 a.m. at the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge, Sanibel Island, Fla.

The \$15 Hooded Mergansers federal duck stamp was issued June 30.

His presentation is part of the refuge's annual "Ding" Darling Days eco-festival being held Oct. 9-15. Darling was the U.S. official recognized as the father of the federal duck stamp.

Anderson will be on hand throughout the day in the refuge's education center to sign duck stamps (for sale at

the refuge bookstore), and he will sell other works of his wildlife art.

The duck stamp presentation at J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge headlines the festival's free Family Fun Day and a week's worth of birding; environmental, cultural, and children's events; tours; programs; and activities.

For more information about the event, visit the web site www.dingdarlingdays.com or telephone 239-472-1100.



Autumn Marsh by Mark Anderson.

Federal Duck Stamp Sales by Year

<u>Year</u>	<u>Stamps Sold</u>	<u>Cost per Stamp</u>	<u>Total Revenue (1)</u>	<u>Inflation Factor (2)</u>	<u>Adjusted Revenue (3)</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Stamps Sold</u>	<u>Cost per Stamp</u>	<u>Total Revenue (1)</u>	<u>Inflation Factor (2)</u>	<u>Adjusted Revenue (3)</u>
1934-35	635,001	\$1.00	\$635,001	14.31	\$9,086,864	1972-73	2,184,343	\$5.00	\$10,921,715	4.59	\$50,130,672
1935-36	448,204	1.00	448,204	14.00	6,274,856	1973-74	2,094,414	5.00	10,472,070	4.32	45,239,342
1936-37	603,623	1.00	603,623	13.80	8,329,997	1974-75	2,214,056	5.00	11,070,280	3.89	43,063,389
1937-38	783,039	1.00	783,039	13.32	10,430,079	1975-76	2,237,126	5.00	11,185,630	3.57	39,932,699
1938-39	1,002,715	1.00	1,002,715	13.60	13,636,924	1976-77	2,170,194	5.00	10,850,970	3.37	36,567,769
1939-40	1,111,561	1.00	1,111,561	13.80	15,339,542	1977-78	2,196,774	5.00	10,983,870	3.17	34,818,868
1940-41	1,260,810	1.00	1,260,810	13.70	17,273,097	1978-79	2,216,421	5.00	11,082,105	2.94	32,581,389
1941-42	1,439,967	1.00	1,439,967	13.05	18,791,569	1979-80	2,090,155	7.50	15,676,163	2.64	41,385,069
1942-43	1,383,629	1.00	1,383,629	11.77	16,285,313	1980-81	2,045,114	7.50	15,338,355	2.33	35,738,367
1943-44	1,169,352	1.00	1,169,352	11.09	12,968,114	1981-82	1,907,120	7.50	14,303,400	2.11	30,180,174
1944-45	1,487,029	1.00	1,487,029	10.90	16,208,616	1982-83	1,926,253	7.50	14,446,898	1.99	28,749,326
1945-46	1,725,505	1.00	1,725,505	10.66	18,393,883	1983-84	1,867,998	7.50	14,009,985	1.93	27,039,271
1946-47	2,016,841	1.00	2,016,841	9.84	19,845,715	1984-85	1,913,861	7.50	14,353,958	1.85	26,554,821
1947-48	1,722,677	1.00	1,722,677	8.60	14,815,022	1985-86	1,780,636	7.50	13,354,770	1.78	23,771,491
1948-49	2,127,603	1.00	2,127,603	7.96	16,935,720	1986-87	1,794,484	7.50	13,458,630	1.75	23,552,603
1949-50	1,954,734	2.00	3,909,468	8.06	31,510,312	1987-88	1,663,470	10.00	16,634,700	1.69	28,112,643
1950-51	1,903,644	2.00	3,807,288	7.96	30,306,012	1988-89	1,403,005	10.00	14,030,050	1.62	22,728,681
1951-52	2,167,767	2.00	4,335,534	7.38	31,996,241	1989-90	1,415,882	12.50	17,698,525	1.55	27,432,714
1952-53	2,296,628	2.00	4,593,256	7.24	33,255,173	1990-91	1,408,373	12.50	17,604,663	1.47	25,878,854
1953-54	2,268,446	2.00	4,536,892	7.18	32,574,885	1991-92	1,423,374	15.00	21,350,610	1.41	30,104,360
1954-55	2,184,550	2.00	4,369,100	7.13	31,151,683	1992-93	1,347,393	15.00	20,210,895	1.37	27,688,926
1955-56	2,369,940	2.00	4,739,880	7.16	33,937,541	1993-94	1,402,569	15.00	21,038,535	1.33	27,981,252
1956-57	2,332,014	2.00	4,664,028	7.05	32,881,397	1994-95	1,471,751	15.00	22,076,265	1.29	28,478,382
1957-58	2,355,190	2.00	4,710,380	6.83	32,171,895	1995-96	1,539,623	15.00	23,094,345	1.26	29,098,875
1958-59	2,176,425	2.00	4,352,850	6.64	28,902,924	1996-97	1,560,121	15.00	23,401,815	1.22	28,550,214
1959-60	1,626,115	3.00	4,878,345	6.59	32,148,294	1997-98	1,697,590	15.00	25,463,850	1.20	30,556,620
1960-61	1,725,634	3.00	5,176,902	6.48	33,546,325	1998-99	1,685,006	15.00	25,275,090	1.18	29,824,606
1961-62	1,344,236	3.00	4,032,708	6.41	25,849,658	1999-00	1,683,713	15.00	25,255,695	1.15	29,044,049
1962-63	1,147,212	3.00	3,441,636	6.35	21,854,389	2000-01	1,720,505	15.00	25,807,575	1.11	28,646,408
1963-64	1,448,191	3.00	4,344,573	6.27	27,240,473	2001-02	1,694,739	15.00	25,421,085	1.08	27,454,772
1964-65	1,573,155	3.00	4,719,465	6.19	29,213,488	2002-03	1,629,372	15.00	24,440,580	1.07	26,151,421
1965-66	1,558,197	3.00	4,674,591	6.09	28,468,259	2003-04	1,616,093	15.00	24,241,395	1.04	25,211,051
1966-67	1,805,341	3.00	5,416,023	5.92	32,062,856						
1967-68	1,934,697	3.00	5,804,091	5.74	33,315,482	Totals	120,866,668	\$ 696,305,440	\$1,922,780,770		
1968-69	1,837,139	3.00	5,511,417	5.51	30,367,908						
1969-70	2,072,108	3.00	6,216,324	5.23	32,511,375						
1970-71	2,420,244	3.00	7,260,732	4.94	35,868,016						
1971-72	2,445,977	3.00	7,337,931	4.74	34,781,793						

NOTES:

- (1.) Source: Federal Duck Stamp Office (then-year dollars)
- (2.) Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Inflation Calculator
- (3.) In 2005 Dollars

Darling Refuge continued

Refuges administered by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

The "Ding" Darling Wildlife Society, a group of volunteers working in support of the Refuge's professional staff, has recently completed the funding, design and construction of a new Education Center located at the beginning

of Wildlife Drive. The Center provides an excellent springboard to the enjoyment of the Refuge. The contributions of this Society are so significant that other refuges look to its volunteers for guidance in establishing their own friends groups. To learn more about the Refuge and the Society, link to the group at www.dingdarlingsociety.org.

Secretary's column continued from page 3

ing label is the key to your membership expiration date. All memberships that have a note of Expires: July 2005 or earlier on the first line of their mailing label are now past due! The October 2005 renewals are next up for renewal. 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 on-line at ndscs.org. A reminder, your dues are U.S. TAX DEDUCTIBLE!

Membership Renewal Invoices - We completed a very successful extensive renewal campaign after the last Duck Tracks mailing to all pre April 2005 member expirations and plan another membership renewal mailing reminder within a few weeks of this issue hitting your mailbox.

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 at the end of August. 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 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 - The recent Whole #42 Duck Tracks mailing seems to have had a very small number of postal 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 you without interruption.

E-Mail List - We continue to build our e-mail mailing list **for society use only**. If you wish to receive timely electronic messages sent by the society, please keep your e-mail address up-to-date. E-mail your address changes to ndscs@hwcen.org. We use a method to keep the mailing list secure, so don't hesitate to join it at this time. Also, note that NDSCS does not sell our mailing list or e-mail list to anyone! Your information is used to only send duck stamp information and society mailings to you, as in the case of the invitation you recently received from the Federal Duck Stamp Office for the First Day Events.

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 _____

Canvasback on 2006 Alabama

A canvasback duck by Clarence Stewart of Brewton, Ala., is the winner of the Alabama Waterfowl Stamp Art Contest. The winning artwork will adorn the 2006 Alabama Waterfowl Stamp. Although Stewart had entered the contest in previous years, this is the first time one of his renderings has won the competition.

Second place was a pair of flying Ross's geese by Steven Burney; third place a pair of buffleheads by David Nix.

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, and winning species from the past three years - wood duck, ringneck and Canada goose - were not eligible subjects for the 2005 contest.

The law requires that any waterfowl hunter 16 years of

age and older must carry a valid Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp - or duck stamp - signed in ink across the face. Like the federal migratory waterfowl stamps, state issued stamps are popular with collectors.



Artwork for the 2006 Alabama stamp.

The artwork competition for the Alabama Migratory Waterfowl Stamp design is held each year in February and is open to Alabama residents. For information, call 334-242-3469 or visit the Alabama Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources web site: outdooralabama.com.

Resolution continued from page 12

Conservation Stamp, popularly known as the 'Duck Stamp', marks the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission's 72nd anniversary;

Whereas June 30, 2005, will be the first day of sale for the 2005-2006 Duck Stamp;

Whereas the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission was created by Congress in 1929 to consider and approve any areas of land or water recommended by the Secretary of the Interior for purchase or rental by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service under the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act, and to consider the establishment of new waterfowl refuges;

Whereas the Waterfowl Population Survey, operated by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2005 and is featured on the 2005-2006 Duck Stamp; and

Whereas since its inception in 1934, the Federal Duck Stamp Program has raised over \$700,000,000 through the sale of Duck Stamps to hunters, stamp collectors, and conservationists to help purchase 5,200,000 acres of wetlands habitat for the National Wildlife Refuge System: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate--

(1) recognizes the achievements and contributions of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission on the occasion of its 72nd anniversary and the first day of sale of the

2005-2006 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp;

(2) expresses strong support for the continued success of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp;

(3) encourages the United States Fish and Wildlife Service in its efforts to broaden understanding of, and appreciation for, the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp and the National Wildlife Refuge System by increasing partnerships on behalf of the National Wildlife Refuge System that will contribute to increased growth and development of the system; and

(4) reaffirms its commitment to the National Wildlife Refuge System and the conservation of the rich natural heritage of the United States.

- END -



Artist Mark Anderson and family at the first day event.

Photo by Wes Miller