

Duck Tracks

Dedicated to Making a Difference

The Official Journal of the National Duck Stamp Collectors' Society

Winter 2006 Whole No. 44

Operating Board

President:

Dr. Ira Cotton Omaha, NE

Vice President:

Wes Miller Clearwater, FL

Secretary:

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

Treasurer:

Larry Wolfe Springfield, VA

Society Founder:

Bob Dumaine Houston, TX

Historian:

David Gallagher Wilkes-Barre, PA

Founding President:

Nicholas E. Oglesby, Jr. 1921-1999

Governors:

Eugene German Lincroft, NJ Joe Hautman Plymouth, MN Christopher D. Koss Key Biscayne, FL Jeanette C. Rudy Nashville, TN William B. Webster Frontenac, MN

Legal Counsel: *Charles Durante*

APS Chapter # 210

2006 Federal duck stamp will be released on record early date!

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

"Sherrie Russell Meline's beautiful rendition of Ross' geese continues the Duck Stamp's tradition of outstanding wildlife art," said

Matt Hogan, acting Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "More important, it will help us convey the importance of preserving our Nation's wetland habitat and the wildlife and communities it supports."

Russell Meline's painting of Ross' geese



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

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

See RW73 - continued on page 8

Duck Office gets new Chief

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

"I am delighted to have a person with

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

See Fisher - continued on page 2

Table of Contents

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
President's Column	Remarque display has debut	14
Secrettary's Column	Show calendar	14
Sports Illustrated honors King Buck	WA 06 Seeks Stamp Ambassadors	15
Wetlands Loan Act Introduced in Congress	Hautman wins Minnesota contest	16
Wigeon for 2006 Oklahoma stamp5	Long-billed curlew for Massachusetts	16
Mystery Hunting Lodge	Virginia validates duck stamp	17
RW72 plate variety discovered	Ohio stamp pictures artist's dog	17
Engraver selected for RW738	California artist produces first duck stamp	18
2005 State Duck Stamp Poll	NDSCS Annual Meeting Schedule for WA 2006	18
Suthoff wins Louisiana Duck Contest	RW72b Remarque in upcoming auction	18
Classified ads	Michigan selects wigeon	19

Fisher continued from page 1

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

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

In 1991, she was presented a special award for her work on behalf of the Duck Stamp program by Jeanette Cantrell Rudy, noted Tennessee duck stamp collector and advocate. In addition, Fisher has been the press officer for the Service's Fisheries, Federal Assistance, International Affairs and Law Enforcement divisions.

As the press secretary for the United States delegation to the bi-annual meeting of the parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, she was responsible for conveying U.S. positions to worldwide media representatives. Also, Fisher was the only "civilian" media officer recruited to help write a media outreach curriculum for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center.

Throughout the years, she has been recognized for organizing effective outreach efforts, special events, and press conferences for many complicated international environmental issues such as African and Asian elephant conservation, panda conservation, the illegal trade in tigers and rhinos, and most recently, beluga sturgeon conservation. She also was part of the team that developed the Service's "Suitcase for Survival" program, designed to teach school children about conservation.

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

NDSCS Financial

Certificate of Deposit \$ 16,106.04.

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.

© 2006 NDSCS

Duck Tracks™

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

Membership Type	<u>Active</u>	Membership Type	Active
Charter - Life	30	Total Active Membership .	29
Life	29	Total Complimentary Copi	es1
Associate, Charter - Regu	ılar,	Total Mailing List	31
Regular, and Junior	238	New Members Since 1/1/0	052
		'	

New Members

Wm. Mahaffey Upper Sandusky, OH Glenn Mallory Aurora, CO Tom Westbrock Paso Robles, CA Andrew Markley Alpharetta, GA

Duane Barney Scottsdale, AZ **New Life Member** Alexander Kishinevsky Brooklyn, NY Welcome to the NDSCS!

..297

...14

..310

...20

President's Corner



by Ira Cotton

had intended (again) to devote this article to completing my discussion of forduck eign stamps (excluding Canada, which I already covered). As I began to write, however, I realized how little I know about these stamps. In particular, I don't know

if any of these stamps are actually required for licensing purposes or if they are all charity labels. I invite any reader who knows more to share that knowledge with me (Cotton@Novia.net) and to forward scans of any evidence (such as copies of regulations, stamps on license, etc.) that demonstrates their status. Then I will write an article that does more than just list and illustrate the stamps. Here's a list of the foreign duck stamps I know exist; corrections to this list are also welcome!

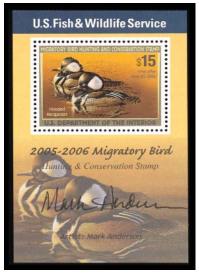
Country	<u>Series</u>	Country Se	<u>ries</u>
Argentina	1994, 96	Israel 1995,	98
Australia	1989-96	Italy 19	98
Belgium	1999	Mexico 1993-	97
Costa Rica	1992	New Zealand 1994-	97
Croatia	1997	USSR/Russia 1989-	04
Denmark	1995-97	Spain 19	96
Hungary	2002	Sweden 1996,98-	.99
Iceland	1991-95	United Kingdom 1991-	04
Ireland	1997, 99	Venezuela 1993-94,	96



Have you seen me on a license?

What I would like to talk about is the past year in duck stamps. I think the biggest duck stamp news by a wide margin was the unannounced release of 1,000 federal mini-sheets all signed by the artist, Mark Anderson. This new format caught everyone by surprise and prices rose rapidly after the quick sellout.

I watched prices for RW72b - the number Scott assigned - on eBay and saw them peak at about \$2,000. They seem to have come down just a bit recently, except for graded copies which are being offered in *Linn's* for well over that amount.



RW72b mini-sheet

There will likely be another bump upward when album supplements come out this spring and the last unknowing collectors discover there is a hole in their duck stamp collection. I am certainly looking forward to learning how the Postal Service will handle the 2006 mini-sheet!

2005 Stamp Issues

I put together a table showing the status of all fifty states along with the federal program for 2005. (See page 9.)

As I discussed in a prior column, the duck stamp is an endangered species, with state programs on the decline and automated sales of the federal stamp being proposed in Congress.



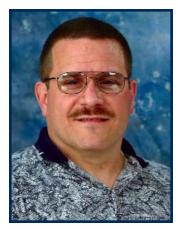
Design for the 2006 Nebraska stamp.

Eleven states did not issue a duck stamp in 2005, though my home state of Nebraska has resumed its program with a \$5 stamp for 2006. Of the remaining states, six only issue the stamp for sale to collectors – it is not required for hunting. That leaves 33 states with duck stamp programs (34 counting Nebraska), and you can bet the computer equipment makers are lobbying them all for automated registration.

It cost \$347.20 to buy the 39 state stamps plus the federal sheet stamp, the mini-sheet (at its issue price) and the Junior Duck stamp (42 stamps total). For \$55 more you could buy the three non-resident state stamps and for another \$132 you could buy all the hunter stamps (which include some state mini-sheets), making a total of \$534.20 for 60 stamps. So for about \$10 per week (at agency cost

See President - continued on page 9

Secretary's Column



by Tony Monico

Winter has set in on the east coast. While the days are short it is an interesting time to view different species from a different perspective. The deer have been very frisky this mating season. I have observed many a herd grazing and traversing the country roads on my way home from work. I have also observed several hawks and owls in flight during the early

twilight hours. Of course, the Canada geese are still here some trying to stay the course.

Since our last issue we welcomed a new winner in the U.S. Federal Duck Stamp program - Sherrie Russell Meline! The second female artist to win the coveted duck stamp competition. This year's contest was also the first time that the design was chosen outside of Washington, DC. - in Memphis, TN. I can't wait to see how this design is engraved for the RW73 stamp.

Check out our web site <u>ndscs.org</u>. Membership renewal by credit card is available from this site. In addition, new members can join using the on-line application. Our ecommerce affiliate website allows for secure credit card renewals and general donations. We continually update

SI honors King Buck

The July 11, 2005, issue of *Sports Illustrated* featured **SI's 25 Amazing Animals.**



Included in the group was King Buck. The text accompanying a

photo of RW26 was: "In 1952 and '53 he outlasted hundreds of dogs over scores of competitions to win consecutive National Retriever Championships - a feat not duplicated for more than 40 years. 'The first really famous retriever,' as he's called by American Kennel Club retriever expert Bill Speck, was honored on the '59 federal duck stamp, the only dog to ever appear on one. All for a retriever who weighed just 60 pounds, 20 pounds less than many others. 'He was a little boy,' says Speck, 'but he had a big heart."

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: OCTOBER 2005 or earlier on the first line of their mailing label are now past due! The January 2006 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.

Membership Renewal Invoices – We completed a very successful extensive renewal campaign after the last *Duck Tracks* mailing to all 2005 member expirations and plan another membership renewal mailing reminder within a few weeks of this issue hitting your mailbox. So everyone please, take a minute out of your busy schedule and renew your memberships while you are thinking about it and save me some time and society postage money by renewing today.

Mailing Labels – The Membership Summary Table provides the details on the current membership by type. The mailing labels used for this issue of *Duck Tracks* were generated around January 17, 2006. 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 – The recent Whole #43 **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 along with you without interruption.

E-Mail List – We continue to build our e-mail 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@hwcn.org. We use a method to keep the mailing list secure so don't hesitate to join it at this time. Also, note that the 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.

Wetlands Loan Act Introduced in Congress

DU Applauds Efforts to Address Immediate Habitat Needs

Ducks Unlimited reacted positively to legislation introduced Monday that would protect critical waterfowl habitat nationwide. The Wetlands Loan Act would borrow against projected revenue from the sale of federal duck stamps and promote partnerships to cost effectively protect and conserve wetlands for future generations.

"Waterfowlers and other conservationists have a 71-year history of supporting conservation through the purchase of federal duck stamps," said DU Executive Vice President Don Young.

But Young says more is needed.

"We continue to lose high quality wetlands and associated nesting habitat to development at an alarming rate despite the successes of the duck stamp program to date," Young explained. "We've got to act now to protect land vital to duck production and migration."

The Wetlands Loan Act, sponsored by Rep. Mark Kennedy (R-MN), is modeled after legislation first authorized in 1961. The new legislation mirrors the original by seeking to borrow funds against future federal duck stamp revenues from sales to hunters and other conservationists. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service would use funds generated by the Act to purchase lands for National Wildlife Refuges and to assist landowners in protecting existing wetlands and surrounding duck production habitat in essential breeding grounds and other areas across the United States.

"Similar to what was done in the 1960s and '70s, we

believe borrowing against projected revenue from the sale of federal duck stamps is a practical solution that will ensure the most valuable habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds is not lost forever," said DU President Dr. Jim Hulbert. "Many landowners want to protect their lands for waterfowl and other wildlife, but there's not enough money in existing programs to get it done. This legislation would make this money available now and protect these essential habitats."

To help repay the loan, the Wetlands Loan Act calls for an incremental increase in the price of the federal duck stamp over the next decade. Since the last price increase of the duck stamp 14 years ago, land values have skyrocketed (up 266 percent in some duck habitat areas) along with inflation. The past 15 years have seen no price increase in the federal duck stamp - the longest time period without a price increase in the stamp's 71-year history.

An analysis shows that if critical waterfowl breeding habitat is not secured now, the financial cost to hunterconservationists to assure the future of our sport will be several times what it is today.

"While no one is anxious to increase the cost of hunting even in this relatively small way when compared with other costs associated with the sport, it's important that waterfowlers maintain our tradition of leadership on behalf of habitat conservation," said Scott Sutherland, director of DU's Governmental Affairs office in Washington, D.C.

"Waterfowlers have always led efforts for habitat conservation," Sutherland continued. "And this money would be entirely used to permanently protect waterfowl habitat."

Wigeon to be featured on 2006 Oklahoma stamp

James Hublick from Harrison, Arkansas took first place in the 2006 Oklahoma Waterfowl Stamp competition with his painting of an American wigeon.

The Oklahoma duck stamp program was designed to ensure quality habitat for the hundreds of thousands of ducks and geese that migrate through the state. The program, which began in 1980, features portraits of the state's diverse waterfowl species by the nation's best artists.

"Throughout the years the duck stamp program has been highly successful for both waterfowl and waterfowl hunters," said Alan Stacey, wetland habitat biologist for the OK Dept. of Wildlife Conservation. "For instance, funds derived from the duck stamp program are used each year in our aerial millet seeding operations. This millet provides nutritious forage for ducks and provides good opportunities for duck hunters."

Many projects funded through duck stamp sales are focused on enhancing and renovating existing wetland areas. The program generates funding for waterfowl conservation projects through the sale of waterfowl licenses, which are required of waterfowl hunters, and stamp sales,

See OK continued on page 6

Mystery Hunting Lodge

by Tom Richardson

Here is a true story that illustrates what might turn up during one's pursuit of duck stamps. Finds like this don't happen often.

I was recently contacted by a retired gentleman in Arizona who said he had some duck stamps for sale.

He explained that they belonged to his deceased father-in-law who worked at, or was a member of, a duck hunting lodge in Michigan back in the 1930s and 40s. Apparently the stamps had been obtained over a period of years from hunters at the lodge. He said they appeared to be used, and were all signed "by the artists." He had no additional information on their background and since he and his wife were not stamp collectors, they wished to sell them

Being slightly skeptical, I asked for a scan of the stamps so that I might determine if the signatures were actually those of the artists, or merely those of members or guests of the hunting club. What I discovered was that they were likely both. I subsequently purchased the lot, many of which are now in my personal collection.

The image of the stamps received is shown below.



They all appear to be artist-signed, extending over a 13-year period from 1934 (RW1 by Ding Darling) to 1946 (RW13 by Bob Hines). Strangely, some of these stamps are on portions of licenses which do not appear to have been issued to the artist. I can only speculate that these stamps belonged to others who requested the artists to sign them, perhaps as souvenirs.

Typical faults often occurring on heavily used or poorly treated duck stamps were present. These included some thins and creases likely from improper handling or removal from a license. But the signatures appear genuine. If only duck stamps could talk, these must have some interesting stories to tell.

I would be happy to hear from anyone who may have some knowledge of these items and the mysterious Michigan Hunting Lodge frequented by the likes of Darling, Benson, Clark, Jaques, Ripley and other duck stamp greats.

Tom Richardson, is NDSCS member #265. You can e-mail him at: tomr@trducks.com

OK continued from 5

many of which are purchased by collectors. The program has helped purchase 11,675 wetland acres and enhance, create, restore and maintain thousands of additional acres of critical waterfowl habitat.

A selection of winning waterfowl stamp art from previous years is currently on display in the lobby of the Wildlife Department headquarters located at 1801 N. Lincoln, in Oklahoma City.

Hublick is a self-taught artist who began pencil sketching at 7 or 8 years of age. He retired in 1982 from General Motors after 30 years with the art department at GM's proving ground in Milford, Mich., lived in Florida before settling in Harrison. In 1982 he won first place as Michigan Ducks Unlimited artist of the year and first place in the Michigan Trout Stamp contest. He also won the 2003 South Carolina duck stamp contest.

In his younger days, Hublick duck hunted seriously around Saginaw, Mich., where he called duck hunting an "extreme sport." He grew up around Lake Superior where his father worked as a career U.S. Coast Guard chief. Today, in the Arkansas mountains, he lives near the White River, and enjoys all types of trout fishing. Hublick and his wife, Ola Deane, have four children and 11 grandchildren.

RW72 Duck stamp plate variety discovered

by Bob Dumaine

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

Robert Williams, Manager, Stamp Development and Marketing, Federal Duck Stamp office comments: "The lines on the edges of the stamps on the right side of press sheets do not appear on the stamp model approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. According to the printer, the lines on the edge of some stamps are computer-generated holding lines. All of the lines should have been deleted when the offset printing film was processed. Some lines remain as a result of a process error in making the offset printing film."

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

Jim Kloetzel, Editor of the Scott Specialized Catalogue advises; "We have decided to list type I and type II varieties. The type I variety will be the stamp as it was meant to be issued, without frame lines. Type II stamps are those with See RW72c con't on page16



Breakdown of a full federal sheet, showing Type 1 stamps on left side of the center gutter and Type II on right.

Engraver selected for RW73

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

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



The federal duck stamp is slated for issue on June 1, 2006, at the Washington 2006 international philatelic exhibition in Washington, D.C.

Linn's Stamp News, Naszarkowski said he is planning on

attending Washington 2006 on June 1 for the release of the new stamp.

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

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

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

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

RW73 continued from page 1

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

"Congratulations to Sherrie Russell Meline," said Ducks Unlimited Executive Vice President Don Young. "The Duck Stamp story is a great story, and its value to all Americans in helping build the national wildlife refuge system, providing places for waterfowl hunters and others who enjoy the outdoors, and protecting millions of acres of wetlands and waterfowl habitat makes it one of the greatest conservation programs of all-time."

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

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

Russell Meline's winning artwork is a close-up of a Ross' goose in reeds with several flying birds in the background.

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

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

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

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

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

The five judges for the competition were: Ward Burton; Bill Crawford; Steve Runnels; Ruby Bridgeforth; and Jane Lavino.

President's Message con't from page 3

from the states) you can fill all your duck stamp album spaces for 2005. Governor stamps would cost almost half again as much, but most collectors do not add them to their duck stamp collections.

It you want copies of all the stamps on license, that will be a challenge, but an achievable one (at least for those that are truly used for licensing).

I enjoy collecting all the issues from all the states each year and knowing that I am contributing to conservation efforts across the country. I hunt waterfowl and I enjoy putting a federal stamp on my license for its intended pur-



2005 Texas conservation stamp booklet pane.

pose. I enjoy reading about duck stamps and I enjoy writing about duck stamps. May you all be safe and healthy in 2006 and enjoy your collections!

	2	005	Fed	eral	and	Sta	te d	luck	stan	np i	SSU	es	
Federa	l gum sta						<u>State</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>Collector</u>	<u>Res</u>	<u>NR</u>	<u>Hunter</u>	<u>Gov*</u>
Federa	l self-adh	esive				15.	NH		4.00			4.00	95.00
Federa	l mini-sh	eet				20.	NJ			5.00	10.00	5./10.	
Federa	l Junior					5.	NM	X					
<u>State</u>	None	<u>Collector</u>	<u>Res</u>	<u>NR</u>	Hunter	Gov*	NY	X					
AL		6.00					NC		10.00			10.00 sa	ι
AK		5.00			5.00		ND		6.00				
AZ		7.50			7.50	55.50	OH		15.00				
AR			7.00	20.00	7./20.		OK		10.00			==0	
CA		14.20					OR		7.50			7.50	
CO		5.00					PA		5.50			7.50	07.50
CT		10.00					RI		7.50			7.50	97.50
DE		9.00			9.00		SC		5.50				
FL	X						SD TN		5.00 10.00				
GA	X						TX		7.00*				
HI		10.00					UT	X	7.00				
ID	X						VT	Λ	5.00				
IL		10.50					VA		9.75			9.75 (2) h/sa*
IN		6.75					WA		10.00			10.00 m	
IA		8.50					WV	X	10.00			10.00 111	.5
KS	X						WI	••	7.00				
KY		7.50					WY		10.00				
LA			5.50	25.00			Total	11	289.70	17.50	55.00	132.00	248.00
ME		8.50											
MD		9.00					Notes:						
MA		5.00					• Gover	rnor stamps	do not inclu	ude any st	tamps with	n just a sigr	nature or
MI MNI		5.00					only sol	ld with a pri	nt.				
MN MC		7.50					• SA in	dicates self-	adhesive sta	amp, (mai	led to hur	iters).	
MS MO	X	10.00					Virgir	nia issued a	hunter type	stamp in	a booklet	with tab, a	s well as
MT	X X						a self-ac	dhesive (doll	ar bill size) t	that is ma	iled to hu	nters who j	ourchase
NE	X						the star	np on line.					
NV	21	10.00			10.00		• The T	Гехаs stamp	can only be	obtained	in a mult	i-stamp pa	ne (\$20).

Congratulations to Ira Cotton, who is spreading the word about duck stamps in the philatelic press!

The September 2005 issue of <u>U.S. Stamp News</u> featured Dr. Cotton's article "Tennessee Wren Withdrawal Creates Rarity."

The October 28, 2005 issue of <u>Mekeel's and Stamps</u> carried his article titled "Electronic Duck Stamp Bill A Privacy Threat?"

For subscription information on either publication, call Elaine Dunn at 1-800-635-3351.

2005 State Duck Stamp Issues

Vote for your favorite

The annual NDSCS poll is now open for voting!

Here you can view all state

duck stamps issued in 2005.

Make your selection for best, worst, add any comments you want! Complete the ballot on the back cover, vote on line at ndscs.org or e-mail your ritadumaine@aol.com. The votes will be tabulated and published in the next issue of Duck Tracks.

Besides allowing NDSCS members the opportunity to choose their favorite, the poll will recognize outstanding duck stamp designs and the artist. It may even encourage some states to improve their programs!

Deadline for ballots is April 30, 2006.



Alabama Canada goose by Eddie LeRoy



Alaska Hooded merganser by Don Moore



Arizona Pintail by Tom Finley

2005



Arkansas Mallard/black lab by Larry Chandler.



California Pintail by Richard Radigonda.



Colorado Shoveler by Jeffrey Klinefelter.



Connecticut Mallard by Paul Fusco.



Delaware Common merganser Fenwick Island lighthouse by Joanna Rivera.



Hawaii California quail by Norman Nagai.



Illinois Wood duck by Gerald Putt.



Indiana Bufflehead by Ken Bucklew.



Green-winged teal by Neal Anderson.



Kentucky Canada goose by Chris Walden.



Massachusetts *Oldsquaw by Donald Little.*



Nevada Gadwall by Adam Oswald.



North Carolina Green-winged teal by Gerald Putt.



OregonHooded merganser by Robert Steiner.



LouisianaBlack lab / pintail by Ken Michaelsen.



Michigan *Blue-winged teal by C. Smith.*



New Hampshire *Oldsquaw / lighthouse by Jim Collins.*



North Dakota



Pennsylvania *Red-breasted merg. by Gerald Putt.*



Maine Canada goose by Daniel Cake.



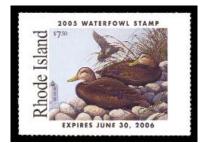
MississippiBlue-winged teal by J. M. Hudspeth.



New Jersey Ches. Bay retvr / decoy by P. Crowe.



OklahomaSnow goose by Jeffrey Klinefelter.



Rhode IslandBlack duck/lighthouse by K. Mueller.



South Carolina Canvasback by Rodney Huckaby.



Tennessee Mallard by Joshua Lester.



Texas Mallard by Herb Booth.



Vermont Canvasback by Richard Bishop.



Virginia Wood duck by Guy Crittenden.



Washington Barrow's goldeneye by Dan Smith.



Wisconsin Wood duck by Terry Doughty.



Wyoming Burrowing owl by Ron Staker.



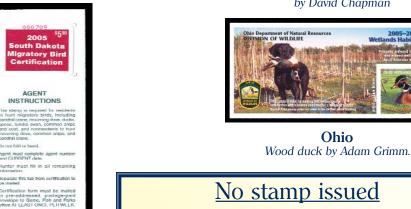
Minnesota White-winged scoter / lighthouse by David Chapman



Maryland Ruddy duck by Wil Goebel.



South Dakota



Ballot on back cover!

Florida Nebraska Georgia **New Mexico New York** Idaho **Kansas** Utah Missouri West Virginia *Nebraska does Montana

issue a habitat stamp that is required for waterfowl hunting, similar to the Wyoming stamp that IS considered a duck stamp!

2006 La Duck Contest Winner Announced



2006 Louisiana duck stamp design by Edward Suthoff.

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

Edward Suthoffs painting of an alert yellow Labrador retriever emerging from an open field while a pair of mallards fly in the background was the chosen winner from a field of eight other paintings.

Suthoff is from Mississippi, but has been displaced to northeast Arkansas because of Hurricane Katrina. He was the winner of the 1993 Mississippi duck stamp contest at the age of 23. He was also chosen the 2004 and 2005 Artist of the Year at the Louisiana Wildlife Festival and designed the poster for the 2004 world championship duck-calling contest.

LDWF initiated the "Retrievers Save Game" series last year when it featured a black Labrador, because all of the waterfowl species were used in the first 16 years of the competition. The contest rules stipulate that the retriever must be prominent in the design, but must also include live waterfowl selected by the artist.

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

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

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

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

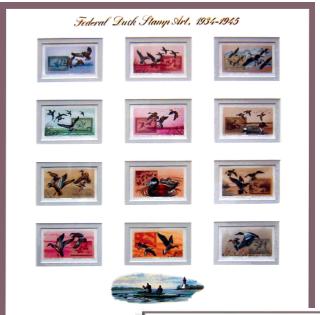
Judges for the competition included Dr. Headley Adelmann; Jerry Bower; Clint Jeske; Bob Kennon; and Mike Benge.

Classified Ads

- California duck stamps and prints, Indian Reservation hunting and fishing stamps. Discount prices! Contact Tom Richardson 530-894-1057 or email: tomr@trducks.com.
- Collector seeks Colorado 2nd day / 2nd rod stamps, early Arizona 2-pole stamps, many others. Email what you have or ask for my want list. Fair prices paid! Cotton@Novia.net.
- 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!

Remarque display has debut



A beautiful display of federal duck stamps, each with an accompanying remarque, made its debut during the 2005 Federal Duck Stamp Contest.



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

The display, owned by NDSCS Life Member Bob Pratsch of Suamico, Wisc., was designed by Ken Michaelsen, who created the original artwork for each stamp.

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

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

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

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

Upcoming Stamp Shows & Events

Florida – February 3-5 Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition. David Medeiros, 941-376-5689; qualitystamps@acun.com.

<u>Arizona</u> – February 10-12 ARIPEX, Arizona Fed. Of Stamp Clubs. Bill Chesser, 602-956-3497.

<u>Alabama</u> – February 11-12 ALAPEX, Birmingham Philatelic Society. Charles Hancock, 205-822-3826.

<u>Alaska</u> – February 24-26 APEX - 54th Anchorage Philatelic Soc. Pat Hoffmann, 907-346-2717; phoffmann@alaska.net.

<u>Missouri</u> – February 24-26 St. Louis Stamp Expo. Penny Kols, 800-782-0066; stlstampexpo.org.

<u>Nebraska</u> – February 25-26 LINPEX, Lincoln Stamp Club. Kenneth Pruess, 402-464-6939; kppruess@aol.com.

<u>New York</u> – March 4-5 BUFPEX, Buffalo Stamp Club. William Witschard, 716-826-1242; billwitz@aol.com.

<u>Ohio</u> – March 10-12 COLOPEX, Columbus Phil. Club. Tim Pusecker, tim@heldforpostage.com; <u>colopex.com</u>.

<u>Tennessee</u> – March 11-12 Nashville Stamp Show, Nashville Philatelic Society Bob Picirilli, 615-297-0183; repic@access4less.net; <u>nashvillephilatelic.org</u>.

<u>New York City</u> – March 16-19 Postage Stamp Mega-Event, 516-759-7000; asdashows@erols.com.

<u>Ohio</u> – March 24-26 Garfield-Perry March Party Tom Allen, tom@thomasfallen.com; garfieldperry.org.

<u>Canada</u> – April 7-9 AmeriStampExpo 2006, Toronto, Ont. Alan Hanks, 905-727-6993; alan.hanks@sympatico.ca; American Comm. Tom Fortunato, stamptmf@frontiernet.net; <u>rpsc.org/Shows/ameristamp2006.htm</u>.

<u>Texas</u> – April 7-9 TEXPEX, Southwest Phil. Foundation. Tom Koch, 972-883-4951; 972-883-2473; tkoch@utdallas.edu.

<u>California</u> – April 28-30 WESTPEX - 46th Annual Stamp Show. Edward Jarvis, ejarvis@westpex.com; <u>westpex.com</u>.

<u>Michigan</u> – April 29-30 Plymouth Show, W. Suburban Stamp Club. Andrew Mazzara, 313-441-6139; wssc@comcast.net.

<u>Massachusetts</u> – May 5-7 Philatelic Show, Northeastern Fed. Of Stamp Clubs. Jeff Shapiro, dirtycovers@aol.com.

Colorado – May 19-21 Rocky Mountain Stamp Show. Jerry Eggleston; 970-453-1206; jfe3@mindspring.com; <u>rockymountainstampshow.com</u>.

Washington, D.C. – May 27-June 3 Washington 2006. Ken Martin, info@washington-2006.org, washington-2006.org.

<u>Illinois</u> – August 24-27 STAMPSHOW, APS. Ken Martin, 814-933-3803; stampshow@stamps.org; <u>stamps.org</u>.

WA 06 Seeks Stamp Ambassadors

Be an international ambassador at Washington 2006, the once-a-decade international stamp show, and help welcome the public to the world of stamp collecting. The show committee is especially looking for volunteer ambassadors to work in the youth area, May 27-June 3, 2006. Volunteer for a few hours, several days, or throughout the show.

The show will be held in the Washington, D.C. Convention Center, 801 Mt. Vernon Place. Participants and visitors can easily access the show via the Washington, D.C. Convention Center Metro stop, Yellow/Green Lines.

Training is available for all volunteers, and seasoned youth workers will be there to help volunteers throughout the show. Youth area volunteers will help with activity stations, including story corner, Jeopardy history games, printing and writing stations, scavenger hunts, stamp soaking, Boy Scout and beginner stamp collecting skills tables, and a Hero/History timeline scavenger hunt area.

Enthusiasm, a positive attitude, and a willingness to share are all that's required!

Volunteers for any W2006 assignment may sign-up

online on the exhibition's web site at http://www.washington-2006.org, or write to: Washington 2006, PO Box 2006, Ashburn, VA 20146-2006.

For questions or more information specifically about youth needs, contact Nancy Clark by email at nbc@cape.com, or write to: Youth Volunteers, PO Box 427, Marstons Mills, MA 02648.

Donations of stamps to be used as handouts to visitors continue to be accepted in any quantity, separated into 4 categories: on or off-paper US, or on or off-paper worldwide.

Place these in envelopes and mail them to W2006 Stamp Zone, c/o Joan Bleakley, 15906 Crest Drive, Woodbridge, VA 22191 USA. These can be sent at any time. Include an email address to be notified when your shipment has

arrived.

As a 501(c)3 organization, individuals and companies may qualify for tax deductions to the full extent of the law for material and monies donated to Washington 2006.

washington-2006.org

Plan now to participate!



June 1, 2006

First Day of Issue for the 2006 Federal Duck Stamp!

<u>WANTED</u>

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.

Remember ... the first day ceremony for RW73, the 2006 duck stamp will be held on Thursday, June 1. This is your chance to combine a trip to a once-a-decade stamp show with the biggest day of the year for duck stamps.

Hautman wins Minnesota contest with Mallard



Mallard by Joe Hautman to appear on 2006 MN duck.

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

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

Six entries advanced to the second stage of judging, from which four finalists were selected during the contest held Sept. 8 at the DNR building in St. Paul. The other finalists were Kevin Nelson of Burnsville, second place; Michael Sieve of Houston, third place; Edward DuRose of Roseville, fourth place.

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

The DNR offers no prizes for the stamp contest winner, but the winning artist retains the right to reproduce the work, which is usually done as limited edition prints. The 2006 waterfowl stamp, which will be the 30th Minnesota stamp, will be available for sale in March 2006.

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

Long-billed curlew for Massachusetts

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

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

decoys and the fine reproduction thereof.

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

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

RW72c continued from page 7

the frame lines at top, right and bottom. The type II stamps with frame lines will receive a lettered minor Scott number, RW72c. A footnote will describe the varieties and indicate that they appear in equal quantities."

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

Virginia validates duck stamp

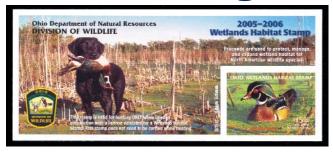


Virginia collector stamp with "M" suffix.

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

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

Ohio stamp pictures artist's dog



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

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

This is Grimm's first stamp design for his home state. He has won the federal duck stamp contest once (the youngest artist to ever win), and has also designed stamps for Alaska, New York and Washington.

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



Virginia self-adhesive with "L" suffix.

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

Virginia has a number of different varieties for this issue. Stamps with the "M" suffix are designated as collector type. The "A" suffix are stamps for the artist to use with artist proof prints. The "S" suffix indicates stamps which are used with the DU sponsor prints, and the "B" suffix and



Virginia from hunter book with "H" suffix.

stamps for use with the Governor's Edition print. There is also an "L" suffix, which is the self-adhesive stamp for hunters who purchase their stamp on line and receive the stamp in the mail. Finally, the "H" suffix is the stamp with the hunter tab from books of 12 sold through hunting license agents in Virginia.

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

Be sure to sign up for e-mail alerts! Receive first notice of news and more! Register today at:

ndscs.org

California artist produces first duck stamp

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

Discovering his ability to draw by age five, Rich drew ducks, race cars, and World War II airplanes.

By the late 60s, Rich began collecting antique duck decoys and developed an interest in the contemporary decoy carving contests being held on the East Coast. He tried his hand at carving, and his fourth creation won a Blue Ribbon – and his part-time art career was launched. Deciding the West Coast needed its own carving show, Rich co-founded the Pacific Flyway Decoy Show with two other men. It was a great success. In fact, the event recently celebrated its 35th anniversary. In the 1970s, Rich began to photograph wildlife, particularly ducks and other water birds. This brought a change to his whole outlook on wildlife. He found more challenge in photographing fast-moving birds than shooting at them. While he still hunts, the days of having to always get a limit are past.

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

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



The 2005 California duck stamp.

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

AWARDS:

1987 DU California Artist of the Year.

1989 DU Decoy Carver of the Year.

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

1995 2nd Place Kodak Regional Photo contest.

1995 CA Waterfowl Assoc. Life Sponsor Artist.

2000 Parradux Label for Duckhorn Vineyards.

2003 CA Waterfowl Assoc. Life Sponsor Artist.

2005 California Waterfowl Stamp.

NDSCS Annual Meeting Schedule for WA 2006

There will be an official meeting of the National Duck Stamp Collectors Society during the Washington 2006 Philatelic exhibition. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 1 at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting time was selected to allow NDSCS members the opportunity to attend the First Day Ceremony for the 2006 Federal and Junior duck stamps at 11:00 a.m.

The break will leave time for lunch or browsing at the stamp show before the meeting commences. Several invitations to duck stamp celebrities have been extended and announcement of the attendees will be made in the forthcoming issue of *Duck Tracks*.

In order to assure a large enough meeting room please drop Wes Miller an email at wesmiller3@aol.com to advise you will be in attendance.

RW72b Remarque in upcoming auction



RW72b with remarque.

A beautiful RW72b 2005 mini-sheet, remarqued by the stamp's artist, Mark Anderson, will be offered in the February 9, 2006, mail bid auction by Sam Houston Philatelics.

Anderson has firmly agreed to remarque only 10 of the mini-sheets, this being number two of 10. The #1 of 10 is going to the Smithsonian Institution through the

Jeanette Cantrell Rudy collection.

To receive a free catalog, call 281-493-6386 or view the auction on line at **shpauctions.com**.

Michigan selects wigeon for 2006

The 2006 Michigan state duck stamp will picture an American wigeon by artist Peter Mathios.

Pictured here is the beautiful painting created by Mathios. In addition is a color variety discovered by Mike Driver of the Michigan Duck Hunters Association (MDHA). Driver noticed when he received the stamps that the color was off and discovered it was missing a majority of the yellow.

The Michigan Duck Stamp program was established in 1976 by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources as a means of fund-raising for wetland acquisition. Once required of all waterfowl hunters, the Michigan duck stamp was replaced by a license issued electronically. The Michigan Duck Hunters Association (MDHA), a group of waterfowl hunters and conservation enthusiasts, took over the long-standing duck stamp program in 1999.

MDHA is a non-profit organization, dedicated to the restoration of wetland habitat and the conservation of waterfowl resources and protection of Michigan's air, soil, minerals, forest, water and wildlife. A portion of the sale of every stamp or print is used to fund MDHA projects, "preserving and restoring wetland in our own backyard." enriching waterfowl population all over the state. The 30 year old Michigan Duck Stamp Program is operated jointly with Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and 10% of generated revenue is used to purchase wetland habitat.

For more information on the 2007 Duck Stamp Competition, or Michigan Duck Collector's Items, please contact: Michigan Duck Hunters Association, Waterfowl Stamp Program, attn. Mike Driver, P.O. Box 20, Midland, MI 48640. The contest offers a \$2500.00 first prize award. MDHA arranges for printing, and announces the release of stamps and prints each season.

This win is Mathios' first state duck stamp, but he is no stranger to wildlife art enthusiasts. Mathios has a long string of credits including: 1999, 2000, 2001, 2005 and 2006 Oregon DU Artist of the Year; 2006 Michigan DU Artist of the Year; 2004-05 California Hunting Heritage Stamp; 10th Place 2004 Federal Duck Stamp contest; 11th Place 2002 Federal Duck Stamp contest; 2001-02 New Zealand Fish & Game Habitat Stamp;

2001-02 California DU Artist of the Year; 3rd Place 1997 Florida Duck Stamp Contest and many more achievements.

Behind each of Peter's paintings is inspiration that comes from past experiences. There has to be that breath-taking moment when everything comes together in a harmony that strikes the core of his soul in order for him to paint something. Moments like these usually stem from childhood memories and for Peter they originated from hunting ducks with his father and brother in the Suisun Marsh of Northern California. During this time, he really became interested in the different species of waterfowl and drew them religiously. During his free time, Peter even drew the wildlife photos that appeared in hunting magazines as well as fantastic hunting scenes he longed to experience.

Upon graduating from the University of California at Davis with a degree in art, Peter moved to Bend, Oregon to hunt, fish, ski, and, above all, paint. It was there that he met and married his wife, Rachelle. Together, they hiked the many trails around Central Oregon gathering reference and studying the abundant wildlife. They now reside in the rich, diverse Willamette Valley where Rachelle is a stay-at-home mom to their two children, Olivia and Simon. Peter is teaching art at Central Linn High School and painting the lush nature around them.

Peter has just been selected, for the fourth time, as the Oregon Ducks Unlimited Artist of the Year for 2005. He has twice been juried into the prestigious Birds in Art exhibition and has appeared in *Wildlife Art News* and *U.S. Art* magazines, as well as appearing twice on the cover of California Waterfowl. Internationally, he designed the 2002 New Zealand Fish and Game Habitat Stamp. His website is mathiosstudios.net.





(Left) The 2006 Michigan duck stamp with intended colors, right shows the variety with the yellow missing.

Duck Stamp Ballot						
My favorite state duck of 2005 is:	Feel free to comment on any program and we will forward your note to the correct agency.					
I think the worst 2005 state duck is:	jorward your note to the correct agency.					
Mail your ballot to: Rita Dumaine, P.O. Box 820087, Houston, TX 77282 or e-mail ritadumaine @aol.com Results will be published in the next edition of <i>Duck Tracks</i> .	Name Member # @ @					

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	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					
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	Address					
Online application and dues payment at ndscs.org	Birth date					



National Duck Stamp Collectors Society P. O. Box 43 Harleysville, PA 19438-0043