



Minnesota Decoy Collectors Association

MDCA Spring Newsletter **May 1, 2006**



photo: Mike Kordonowcy

Bud Grant talking decoys with Rick Simpson – you never know who will be at the state's premier decoy show.



2006 Show Highlights 2007 Preview

Our 2006 show was an exciting and fun time which included:

-  Room to Room starting on Wednesday
-  Big show Friday and Saturday
-  Auction Friday night
-  Best Bird Contest Saturday
-  Collectors Choice Display Friday and Saturday
-  Door Prizes
-  Hospitality room for exhibitors Friday night



photo: Doug Lodermeier

Action on the floor – buying, selling and trading were brisk as usual at the 2006 show on Friday evening and Saturday all day long.

-  Several decoy & call book authors with their books
-  A lot of socializing with fellow decoy collectors

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photo: Mike Kordonovy

Marv Meyer – of Richfield, Minnesota holding one of his beautiful decoys. This Specklebelly goose probably resides on another collectors shelf now!



photo: Mike Kordonovy

Did anyone travel farther? – Julie Sauer (Left), Stephen Doig (Back) and Kristi Kordonwy (Right). Julie and Stephen traveled from Melbourne, Australia to attend the show and plan their November wedding.

More Show Photos

A 2006 Collage



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• Mailing Address: **Minnesota Decoy Collectors Association, P.O. Box 144, Zumbrota, MN 55992** •

“Hail Call”

Thoughts from Our New President

We are well into 2006 and already several of the upper Midwest decoy shows are but a fond memory. As this newsletter goes to press I will be attending the big show seeing our friends that we unfortunately don't get to see that often. There is rarely a time that we don't make new friends at one of these fine events.

I am writing this letter as your new President of the Minnesota Decoy Collectors Association. I know a lot of you fellow collectors, but for those that I have not met, I hope to shake your hand and say Hi at one of the future shows. Our past President, Dick Tyrrell, decided to take some much deserved relaxation away from the hectic commotion of city life. He's still a member of the Board and I am very glad that he is relaxing and enjoying his retirement. While he works for MDCA.

Our Minnesota show in February was a real success. It started on Wednesday with room to room, and from what I saw and heard, it was definitely up from last year. We had 47 rooms booked for Wednesday night. 89 Rooms were booked for both Thursday and Friday nights. Even on Saturday, we had 15 rooms booked for all those people who were not leaving until Sunday.

Thursday had a good crowd also. A lot of people started walking in because they had read about our show in the Minneapolis Tribune. The article was a full page talking about the show and several of our members who carve. The main subject of the article was Marv Bernet. It was a wonderful story and people were coming in wanting to know where he was. Marv was at our show on Saturday to the delight of many.

Friday was show time! The afternoon was very busy getting everything set up in preparation for the show. After the tables are arranged and displays set up, we opened the doors and the show was on. The crowds were steady and the ladies at the front desk were kept busy signing up new and old members, selling buttons. The auction was well attended and there were some nice chances to pick up some “keepers”. The show closes down at 9:00 P.M. and the exhibitors head to the best darn hospitality room on the show circuit. The assortment of different delicious food was sure welcome after a long day. Meats, breads, salads, cheese, nuts, beans, etc,etc, but don't forget the desserts. Lots of desserts! So many people contributed so much to the meal and it was most appreciated by all. The food and beverages went fast and the conversation kept going on until well into the evening.

On Saturday, the crowds continued to be good all day. We had an exhibit called the Collectors Choice Display, which is a great exhibit of some wonderful decoys that was very interesting and informative. The Best Bird Contest was a lot of fun. This year the bird was the Goldeneye. We had as many birds entered as I have ever seen. I thought that maybe we would have a small grouping but I was pleasantly surprised. Next year, 2007, the bird will be the Wigeon. Start thinking of your best Wigeon decoy that you would like to enter. Don't forget, that we started a new entry category for young carvers, that we call the Youth Carving Awards. If you have a youngster or know of one who would like to carve a Wigeon and enter it for next year please urge them to participate. We feel this is important to keep the young people interested and involved in this wonderful hobby.

On Saturday afternoon at 4:00 P.M., the show came to an end. Everyone scurrying about and all of a sudden the big hall that an hour earlier was full of life was suddenly empty. I walked through to check things over, and walked out feeling good but tired and a little bit melancholy. I won't deny it. It's always a little bit sad to see the show can always have another one to look forward to.

I would like to thank everyone of you who attended our show and to those of you who couldn't make it but still signed up as members to support us, I thank you too. To the exhibitors who haul all their stuff here in hopes of selling some things-Thank You. There are so many people who make this Association and show work. Your Board of Directors do their best to make this happen. We meet several times a year to make sure it goes smooth, but without you, it wouldn't be a success.

The front desk team of ladies are a very special part of our show. They do a better job than any one of us Board members could do and more accurately. They always have some new ideas to make it more fun. Thank You ladies!!!!

The hospitality suite doesn't happen by magic. The ladies work hard getting everything just right so all of the exhibitors can enjoy some great food and beverages after a long day. Thank You to all the special ladies that help and add their special touch to the event. To all of you who contributed all sorts of different foods, and there were a lot of you, Thank You!!!!

Before I end this letter, I want to mention that the founder of the Minnesota Decoy Collectors Association, Bob Michelson, Passed away on February 15, 2006. He was 89 years old. We owe him a great deal of gratitude for his making this Association a reality. You started this Bob, and we'll do our best to keep it going strong!

Thanks again to all the shows because we don't want to lose any of them. Mark your calendars and go have some fun! We will be looking forward to next January 31—February 3, 2007. See You here!!

Best Regards,

John Southworth

John A. Southworth

Preserving and collecting the folk art of decoy carving

2006 Minnesota Display

Classic Minnesota Carvers of Both Decoy & Waterfowl Calls.



Decoys and waterfowl calls made by artists included:

- **Marv Bernet**
- **Leo Boutin**
- **Harry Gresser Sr. & Jr.**
- **Nels Hansen**
- **Martin "Marty" Hanson**
- **Herters, Inc.**
- **John Hoene**
- **Marv Meyer**
- **Francis Muehlstein**
- **Oscar Quam**
- **Alvan "Don" Sontag**
- **Art Theissen**
- **Henry "Heine" Thilgen**
- **Gordon & Ralph True**

Thank you to the members who contributed calls and decoys that made this memorable exhibit possible:

- **Andy Anderson**
- **Marv Bernet**
- **John Banholzer**
- **Gary Erickson**
- **Vern Ferch**
- **Dennis Finden**
- **Martin "Marty" Hanson**
- **Jeff Hedtke**
- **Bruce Hoaglund**
- **Doug Lodermeier**
- **John McCormick**
- **Marv Meyer**
- **Bill Nikoley**
- **Bob Sauer**
- **Kirk Schnitker**



photo: Doug Lodermeier

A very impressive display – the best assembly of calls and decoys made by Minnesota carvers who did both.

Best Bird Contest Results - Goldeneye

Antique Factory:

1. Mason Drake Premier – Loy Harrell
2. Stevens Drake – Ken Trayer
3. Mason Drake Challenge – Rick Simpson

Modern Decorative:

1. Richard Schiebel Hen – Julia Meneely
2. Marty Dahl Hen – Larry Thomforde
3. Marv Bernet Drake – Bruce Hoaglund

Antique Hand Made:

1. Elmer Crowell Hen – Barb Hanson
2. Cooper Hen – Bob Bradley
3. Phineas Reeves Drake – Julie Rigsbee

Youth Carving Competition:

1. Zach Entwistle Drake
2. Luke Wiseman Hen
3. Wyatt Wiseman Drake

Modern Working:

1. Marty Hanson Hen – Pat Callmer
2. Marty Hanson Drake – John "Doc" Baillie
3. Marv Meyer Hen – Bob Sauer

Congratulations!

Collectors Choice Display Results

Listed below are the decoys selected by you, the enthusiasts in attendance at the 2006 show. A very nice selection of birds made selecting winners a difficult process. Congratulations to the winners!

1. Alfred Moes mallard pair – Marty and Barb Hanson collection (drake) / MN Decoy Foundation collection (Hen)
2. John Redman mallard hen – Bob Bradley collection
3. Joe Lincoln green wing teal – Cap and Paige Vinal collection

sponsored by 

2006 Auction Highlights

2007 Auction Information

Thank You!

Ron Van Gilder, a past winner of the prestigious "Artist of the Year" by both The Minnesota Waterfowl Association and the Wildlife Heritage Foundation has again graciously donated his talents to the MDCA.

His beautiful rendering of the Goldeneye is featured on the 2006 show button and MDCA membership directory.

The original artwork based on Marty Dahl decoys was auctioned on Friday night of the annual show and gaveled at \$465.00.

We are very fortunate to count Ron as a member and for his very generous and continuing contributions.



photo: Marty Hanson

Friday night auction – Wally Wegleitner, Gene Dankowski, Paul Mikkelson and "Doc" Baillie look for bids from the crowd.

The 2006 decoy auction was conducted on Friday evening February 3rd. Again a very successful and exciting event taking place every year in conjunction with the annual decoy show.

Some of this years highlights included: • **Ben Schmidt Black Duck - \$665.00** • **Ben Schmidt Drake Bluebill - \$615.00** • **Mason or Peterson Hen Canvasback - \$900.00** • **Heron Lake Canvasback - \$425.00** • **Marty Dahl Black Duck - \$450.00** • **August Moak Hen Canvasback - \$900.00** • **Evans Drake Mallard - \$550.00** • **Mason Hen Redhead - \$ 450.00.**

Many thanks to all that participated and helped make this year's auction a huge success. The auction is limited to just 70 decoys per year. This means that you definitely want to consign your decoys early. For auction information contact Wally Wegleitner at (651) 771-8926 or email him at dollslures@comcast.net



Proceeds from the auction are vital to the MDCA's ability to finance the yearly show.

This years button as well as past button are available for sale. See the bulletin board on page 6 for details.

Good Luck & Thank You!



We all owe a great debt of gratitude to out-going MDCA President Richard "Dick" Tyrrell.

Dick has decided to relocate to the more pastoral settings of country life and leave the hustle and bustle of city behind.

Dick's leadership of the MDCA has helped the organization move forward and remain a diligent force in the preservation and continued enjoyment of the hobby of decoy collecting.

Kay Tyrrell and JoAnne Southworth would like to put together a cookbook with recipes exclusively from the members of the Minnesota Decoy Collectors Association. This should be alot of fun. So come on members and submit your favorite recipe and we will have the book ready for the 2007 show. The proceeds will go to the Minnesota Decoy Foundation. Send them to JoAnne at Southworthjj@msn.com or you can mail it to:

JoAnne Southworth
1555 Meadow Lane
West St. Paul, MN 5511

MDCA Bulletin Board

THE MAKING OF A DECOY

- RENOWNED CARVER MARV MEYER IN ACTION!
- 41 MINUTES LONG!
- INCLUDES CALL MAKING!

MAKE CHECKS TO: MDCA
 SEND ORDER & SHIPPING INFO TO:
 ANDY ANDERSON
 17855 KETTLE RIVER BLVD.
 FOREST LAKE, MN 55118

\$15.00 VHS
 ADD \$6.00 S&H PER ORDER
\$18.00 DVD



Past Show Buttons For Sale

A limited number of past MDCA show buttons are available for purchase. You can view the entire collection of buttons on our website.

Please Call:

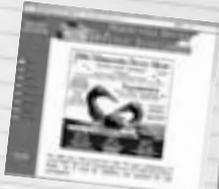
Paul Mikkelsen
 (320) 231-0387



ONLY \$5.00 EA.

MnDecoyCollectors.com

Checkout the MDCA on-line!



Suggestions?

We need your help! Please send photos, articles, and suggestions for your newsletter to:

Doug Lodermeier
 4600 Washburn Ave So.
 Mpls, MN 55410-1846

- or -
 doug@dougandpaul.com

The Making of a Duck Call

RENOWNED CALL MAKERS IN ACTION!

- PAUL ENGLUND
- MARTY HANSON
- MARV MEYER

MAKE CHECKS TO: MDCA

SEND ORDER TO:
 ANDY ANDERSON
 17855 KETTLE RIVER BLVD.
 FOREST LAKE, MN 55118

\$15.00 VHS
 ADD \$6.00 S&H PER ORDER
\$18.00 DVD



JOIN THE FLOCK!

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO SHARES YOUR INTEREST IN OUR HOBBY? INVITE THEM TO JOIN OUR ORGANIZATION!

- COLLECTOR NETWORKING
- ANNUAL DIRECTORY
- NEWSLETTER
- FREE SHOW ADMISSION
- APPRAISAL ASSISTANCE
- AND MUCH MORE

MAIL DUES TO:
 MDCA
 PO BOX 144
 ZUMBROTA, MN 55992

ONLY \$15.00 PER YEAR!

Youth Waterfowl Decoy Carving Contest

held annually in conjunction with the

Minnesota Decoy Show

- Held the First Saturday in February •

Sponsored by the Minnesota Decoy Collectors Association (MDCA)

- and -

The Minnesota Waterfowl Association (MWA)

STARTING AT 9:00 AM AT THE

Ramada Mall of America

(the former Thunderbird Hotel)

2201 E. 78th St. • Bloomington, MN

2007 Featured Specie (drake or hen)

WIGEON

Rules:

- Must be carved from wood or cork in likeness of the featured specie
 - Must be registered by 10:00 a.m. the Saturday of the show
 - Must be 16 years or younger
 - Must be painted
 - No "KIT" Decoys
 - One entry per person
 - Judges decisions are final

RIBBONS • PRIZES • FUN!

The carving contest is sponsored by the MDCA and MWA to promote the great waterfowling heritage in Minnesota and introduce young waterfowlers to the fascinating hobby of decoy carving and collecting.

For more information contact the MDCA: Jeff Hedtke – (952) 467-2486 evenings
or the MWA: 763-553-2977 daytime

NOTE: Please use this page or copies and post where young people can read!
Preserving and collecting the folk art of decoy carving

Minnesota Decoy Foundation Who We Are

The Minnesota Decoy Foundation was formed as a nonprofit organization in 1991 to encourage the preservation of decoys from Minnesota carvers. The foundation accepts donations of decoys, and related hunting collectibles, artifacts and documents as well as monetary donations to expand and fund a permanent exhibit.

Anyone interested in helping to promote the foundation's goals should contact any of the foundation contacts listed on page 2 or any of the contacts listed on the enclosed show flyer.

What's New

At the pre-show meeting a new board of directors leadership team was elected. The new president is Marty Hanson, new Vice President is Larry Thomforde and new Secretary/Treasurer is John Southworth.

Doug Lodermeier was elected to the board and outgoing President Andy Anderson resigned from the board. Thank you Andy for all your past work! A complete list of board members is listed on this page.



photo: Bill Riggsbee

A Fitting Tribute – the Foundation accepting a donation from the Association in memory of Robert ‘Bob’ Michelson. Bob was a founder and past president of the MDCA. The \$1,000.00 donation will be used for the addition of a Minnesota decoy to the permanent collection of the Minnesota Decoy Foundation.



Marv Bernet – providing a carving demonstration on Saturday. Mike Kordonowy, Bob Sauer and Dale Eggert learning “trick of the trade” from the master.

Minnesota Decoy Collectors Association (MDCA)

Board of Directors

President – John Southworth
Vice President – Steve Handevidt
Secretary/Treasurer – Larry Thomforde



Board Members:

Howard Anderson
John Baillie
Dick Brust (Founder)
Gene Dankowski
Mart Hanson
Jeff Hedtke

Bruce Hoaglund
Pat Meneely
Paul Mikkelson
Doug Lodermeier
Bob Sauer
Dick Tyrrell
Wally Wegleitner

We're on the Web!



Check us out at:

MnDecoyCollectors.com

Minnesota Decoy Foundation

Board of Directors

President – Marty Hanson
Vice President – Larry Thomforde
Secretary/Treasurer – John Southworth

Foundation Members:

Dick Brust (Founder)
Steve Handevidt
Doug Lodermeier
Dick Tyrrell



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Preserving and collecting the folk art of decoy carving