

Minnesota Decoy Collectors Association

MDCA Spring Newsletter

May 1, 2007



The Decoy Ladies – keep all our ducks in a row! From Left to Right; Allison Barry, Chrissy Crocker and Sam Dille.

The Decoy Ladies

All of you that come to our show have to stop by our front desk and register, pay dues, look for table assignments, etc. Besides your membership, we have our buttons for sale along with other valuable information about upcoming shows.

We are very fortunate to have a veteran crew of ladies that help us out every year. They really do a fantastic job keeping track of everything and making sure that the crowds move smoothly through the front doors. We thank them for their efforts every year. They already told me they are already looking forward to next year.



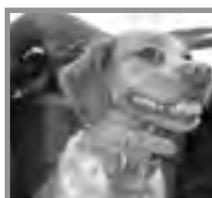
Standing Room Only – some of the largest crowds ever attended the 2007 show. Preserving and collecting the folk art of decoy carving



2007 Show Highlights

This year's exciting show 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
- Youth Carving Contest Saturday
- Hospitality room for exhibitors Friday night
- Several decoy & call authors with their books
- Great socializing with fellow decoy collectors



No Pets Allowed?

The Ramada has informed us that it is no longer allowing pets in the blocked rooms set aside for our association. If pets are brought in, the pet owner will be required to move to a room that would allow a pet. This area will not be in our room to room area, but instead be "away from the action". We want you to be aware so as not to be disappointed when you visit us next year.

Inside this Issue:

More Show Photos	2
MDCA Contact Info	2
President's Letter	3
2007 Minnesota Display	4
Best Bird Results	4
Table Talk	5
Collectors Choice Results	5
Auction Highlights	5
MDCA Bulletin Board	6
Youth Carving Flyer	7
Youth Contest Results	8

2007 Show Photos

Were You There?



MINNESOTA DECOY COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION Board of Director Contacts:

Dues and Membership	thomforde@deskmedia.com	Larry Thomforde (507) 732-7074
Table Reservations	maryandbob7855@hotmail.com	Bob Sauer (952) 949-9880
Hotel Information	southworthjj@msn.com	John Southworth (651) 455-7114
Auction Information.....	dollslures@comcast.net	Wally Wegleitner (651) 771-8926
Best Bird Contest Information.....	southworthjj@msn.com	John Southworth (651) 455-7114
Newsletter	doug@dougandpaul.com	Doug Lodermeier (612) 922-9674
Advertising & MN Decoy Foundation Display, Donations and Information.....	hansondecoys@aol.com	Marty Hanson (952) 440-4767
Minnesota Display Information	Howard V. "Andy" Anderson	(651) 464-8861

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



“Hail Call”

Thoughts from our President

W “What a good show”, “great crowds”, “can’t wait for next year”. These were the comments I heard during and after our MDCA show held at the Ramada Mall of America hotel.

It all started several weeks before the actual show, when many out state and local outdoor writers wrote some very nice things about our upcoming decoy show. We have considered them all friends of our association for some time. They always come through with some interesting related material and always mention our show and the dates. This year the crowds of people that came to our show were very much a result of the wonderful articles in the newspapers.

The show started on Wednesday with room to room sales. There was a good amount of rooms open and the people who came to this event were pleasantly surprised.

On Thursday, the number of rooms that were open for room to room grew and so did the general public coming through the doors. Many of them said they heard about it or read about it and they wanted to come and see what it was all about. I mentioned to some friends that it was almost like the old days with the halls and rooms crowded. Many people brought decoys to get appraised and there were some real surprises.

The exhibit hall opened on Friday afternoon for the exhibitors to set up. After the tables were set and ready to go, we opened the doors for members, and it stayed busy right up to closing. The auction started at 7:00 P.M. and lasted about ninety minutes, with some nice decoys heading to new homes. Our Collectors Choice exhibit, along with a nice selection of Minnesota decoys in our Minnesota Display, was well received.

On Saturday morning, we opened the exhibit hall to the general public as well as members. The crowds returned and it was busy all day long. One of our features on Saturday is the Best Bird Contest. This year the featured specie was the Widgeon. We had some outstanding birds entered in all the categories. To our delight, we had four young carvers who entered their own handmade Widgeon decoys in the youth category. Again on Saturday, we had the Collectors Choice Display that allowed people to have the chance to see some outstanding decoys that they normally do not get a chance to view. The decoys in these displays are judged in the morning and the winning birds were displayed proudly with their ribbons for all to observe and enjoy. We were all fortunate to have Marv Meyer and Marv Bernet carving decoys and answering questions from the crowd, and there were plenty of interested onlookers. The show ended at 4:00 with a lot of tired people heading home. My wife and I met with some of our good friends and enjoyed a relaxing meal and some good conversation.

I wish to thank all of my fellow Board members who all worked together to put this show on. It is a lot of work and planning, but we love it. To all of you members who came and supported us, Thank you very much. To those who support us but couldn’t make it this year, I say Thank You, and hope to see you here next year. I want to thank all of the exhibitors who come to support us. Without all of you, there really would not be a show. A very special Thank You is going out to all of the ladies who work in so many areas to help make this show a success. Without their help and dedication, it wouldn’t be near as successful and enjoyable. Our sincere gratitude to all of you ladies!

We on the Board are already looking forward to, and planning for next year. I am anxiously awaiting the other local events. I urge all of you to support as many shows as you can. We cannot afford to lose any of them. Too many friendships and good times are at stake. I’ll be seeing you at the shows!

Best Regards,

John Southworth

John A. Southworth

MN Foundation Decoys Featured at 2007 "Minnesota Display"



The 2007 "Minnesota Display" featured decoys from the collection of the Minnesota Decoy Foundation. It was the sixteenth anniversary of the Foundation that was organized in 1991 to preserve the decoys made by Minnesota carvers. The Foundation over the years has received donations of decoys, hunting memorabilia and funds. It has also purchased Minnesota decoys, artifacts and documents for permanent exhibition. A permanent display of some of the decoys can be viewed at the Gander Mountain Sporting Goods Stores at Lakeville and Columbus.

A fine selection of decoys representing a cross section of the waterfowling heritage of Minnesota were on display at the show. Here is a brief list of some Minnesota classics that were shown.

- Harry Gresser Sr. (1849-1971) of Blue Earth showing his drake mallard, pintail and canvasback..
- Heron Lake Canvasbacks dating to 1900 or before.
- Alfred Moes (1896-1960) of Lakeville showing his mallard headless feeder, sleeper and high head.
- Leon Theissen (1913-2000) of Mankato showing his mallard pair.
- Anderson of Heron Lake showing his mallard pair and another hen, all circa 1920.
- John Tax (1894-1967) of Osakis showing his canvas drake mallard.
- Tuveson Manufacturing Company of St. James showing a drake flying canvasback, circa 1930.
- Horne & Dantz (c1881-1915) of St. Paul showing a mint condition metal snow goose field silhouette.
- Fredrick Sallet of New Ulm showing his redhead pair circa 1920
- Louis Setka (1902-1985) of Montgomery showing his hen mallard.
- Kenneth Cleland (1897-1981) of Northfield showing his drake bluebill.
- Herter's, Inc. (c1935-1977) of Waseca showing a balsa great horned owl and crow.

The "Minnesota Display" for 2008 will feature canvasback decoys made in Minnesota. If you have a canvasback you would like to show in the display, contact Andy Anderson at 651-464-8861, Bruce Hoaglund at 320-796-6993 or Jeff Hedtke at 952-467-2486.



Best Bird Contest Results - Wigeon

One of the fun events of the show is the best bird contest. It is open to all members of the mdca and their families. The purpose of the contest is to let everyone have the opportunity to enter a decoy that they feel has a good chance to win a ribbon, for best in its class.

We have five divisions. They are antique factory, antique hand carved, modern working, modern decorative, and a relatively new division which is for young carvers ages 16 and under.

This year our show specie was the wigeon. To our surprise, we had a great number of wigeons entered. One of the exciting things about this years contest was, we had four entries by some young carvers who entered decoys that they had carved and painted. It is great to see the talent that these young people have, and we hope that every year this category will grow in entries.

The judges had their hands full trying to pick the winners in all categories. After the judging was over, the winning decoys were put on display with their well earned ribbons. The members flock around the display area looking to see which decoys won. This is always a fun time for all and it gives all of us a great opportunity to see some decoys that we ordinarily would not have the chance to see.

Start looking at your decoys on those shelves for next year. The best bird in 2008 will be the wood duck.

Antique Factory:

1. Dodge Hen – Julie Rigsbee
2. Mason Premier Drake – Loy Harrell
3. Wildfowler Drake – Vaughn Walters

Antique Hand Made:

1. Roy Discher Drake – Bill Rigsbee
2. Herman Wendt Drake – Burt Callmer
3. Herman Wendt Hen – Pat Callmer

Modern Working:

1. Marv Bernet Drake – Pat Meneely
2. Unknown Drake – Noel Silverman
3. Mark Olson Drake – Mark Olson

Modern Decorative:

1. Mark McNair Drake – Bob Bradley
2. Marty Hanson Standing Drake – Marty Hanson
3. Heck Whittington Drake – Dennis Entwhistle

Youth Carving Competition:

1. Zack Entwhistle Drake
2. Hunter Rooney Drake
3. Wyatt Wiseman Hen
4. Luke Wiseman Hen

Congratulations!

Dodge Hen
Julie Rigsbee



Roy Discher Drake
Bill Rigsbee



Marv Bernet Drake
Pat Meneely



Mark McNair Drake
Bob Bradley



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 Wigeon is featured on the 2007 show button and MDCA membership directory.

The original artwork based on Pat Meneely decoys was auctioned on Friday night of the annual show and gaveled at \$500.00.

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



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

This year's button as well as past buttons are available for sale. See the bulletin board on page 6 for details.

Table Talk Bob Sauer – Table Chairman

Our 2007 show was one of the best ever as more tables were rented out to more people than ever before.

The majority of our tables were rented out early as the demand to set up at our quality show is recognized nationally. Twenty-one new exhibitors from across the country and Canada brought many quality calls and decoys.

Collectors traveled from twenty-two different states and one Canadian province to exhibit. We have truly outgrown the **Hall of Tribes Room** as the demand exceeds the available tables for rent.

There is great news for 2008! Our show will be moving across the hall to the **Menominee Room** which is about 4,000 square feet larger to accommodate our exhibitors. The **Menominee Room** will provide better lighting, wider aisles and a space to sit behind your table.

I am looking forward to another great show in 2008!

Remember to get your table reservations in early in December to insure your table space.



Auction Highlights

The Auctioneer – John "Doc" Baillie.

The auction again this year was a great success with the help of many volunteers. Doc Baillie, our auctioneer, always does a super job with good doses of humor along the way. The desk crew of Lisa Valley, Barb Hanson and Sherrie Wegleitner do a remarkable job keeping things straight. Larry Thomeforde also does a great job of accounting during a very hectic evening. Special thanks to the worker bees, Gene Dankowski, Pat Meneely and Paul Mikkelson for holding up the auction birds and doing a wonderful job.

We had a nice selection of 73 decoys this year, including a Mason Tack-eye Hen Goldeneye that fetched \$700. Also a super Peterson Hen Mallard that brought \$850. But the highlight had to be the rare and unusual **Fred Lexow Bluebill Drake that hammered a record setting \$2,600.** How fitting that a Minnesota decoy brought top honors!

The MDCA also received some great publicity during the auction by a film crew recording for KARE 11. Many of us became instant celebrities on the Ron Shara show that aired after the show.

Again, thanks to all that consigned decoys, bought decoys and helped out before, during and after the show.



Collectors Choice Display Results

Congratulations!

Listed below are the decoys selected by you, the enthusiasts in attendance at the 2007 show. A very nice selection of birds made selecting winners a difficult process. Congratulations to the winners!

1. Bert Graves mallard pair – Jim Krebsbach collection
2. Elmer Crowell goldeneye pair – John Southworth collection
3. Elmer Crowell mallard drake (three-quarter size) – Pat Meneely collection

Sponsored by:



Graves mallard pair



Crowell goldeneye pair



Crowell mallard drake (three-quarter size)

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:
MDCA
 PO BOX 144
 ZUMBROTA, MN 55992

\$15.00 VHS
 ADD \$3.00 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) 231-0384



ONLY
\$5.00 EA.

MDCA COOKBOOK!

HOSPITALITY ROOM COOKBOOK 2007



ONLY
\$12.00

LOOK FOR COPIES
 AT VARIOUS 2007
 SHOW STOPS!

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

45 MINS

RENOWNED CALL MAKERS
 IN ACTION!

- PAUL ENGLUND
- MARTY HANSON
- MARV MEYER

MAKE CHECKS TO: MDCA

SEND ORDER TO:
MDCA

PO BOX 144
 ZUMBROTA, MN 55992



\$15.00 VHS
 ADD \$3.00 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

2300 East American Boulevard • Bloomington, MN 55425-1228

2008 Featured Species (drake or hen)

Wood Duck

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: 952-767-0320 daytime

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

MWA Co-Sponsors Youth Carving Contest

This past February 3, the Minnesota Waterfowl Association (MWA) and the Minnesota Decoy Collectors Association (MDCA) cosponsored a youth decoy carving contest. This was the fourth year for the contest started by the MDCA and it also marked the first year the MWA participated in the event.

The MDCA holds their annual decoy show at the Ramada Mall of America in Bloomington the first Saturday in February and the preceding Friday afternoon and evening. Serious collectors and dealers arrive on Wednesday for the start of the ever popular room-to-room trading. Dealers buy, sell and trade antique and contemporary waterfowl decoys, hunting and other sporting collectibles in their room. Collectors and dealers that came for this show traveled from both coasts and points in between.



2007 Youth Winners –Wyatt Wiseman, Luke Wiseman, Zack Entwistle and Hunter Rooney.

To continue and promote the great heritage of decoy carving in Minnesota, the MDCA holds a youth carving contest on the Saturday of the show. This year, the MWA contributed by promoting the upcoming contest at state and local chapter events and by word of mouth. The MWA also provided prizes for the young carvers. The decoy carvings were judged from first place through third place. Each carver was awarded a placement or participation ribbon and a duck call from the MDCA. The first place winner was given

their choice of prizes donated by the MWA and successive winners and participants followed.

The waterfowl species to be carved is changed annually by the MDCA. The wigeon was the feature duck for the 2007 contest. The feature duck for the February 2008 contest will be the wood duck. Any boy or girl age 16 or under can participate in the contest. Four energetic carvers participated in this year's contest but there is always room for more. Why not join the fun and plan now to carve a wood duck decoy for the next contest? For more information about the MDCA carving contest contact the MWA at 952-767-0320 or Jeff Hedtke at 952-467-2486.

Editors Note: please refer to the carving contest flyer on page 7 of this newsletter and help us spread the word to young carvers.

MDCA – Board of Directors

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

Board Members:

Howard Anderson	Pat Meneely
John Baillie	Paul Mikkelson
Dick Brust (Founder)	Doug Lodermeier
Gene Dankowski	Bob Sauer
Marty Hanson	Dick Tyrrell
Jeff Hedtke	Wally Wegleitner
Bruce Hoaglund	

Minnesota Decoy Foundation (MDF)

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.

MDF - 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

We're on the Web!



Check us out at:

MnDecoyCollectors.com

All Photos: Doug Lodermeier
Design and Layout by:

Lodermeier Montei
DESIGN

M&M Boys at Show!



Marvelous Marvs – Marv Meyer and Marv Bernet put on carving demonstrations at this year's show and was a real crowd favorite.