

Schoenheider Sr.
Pintail Drake
Ice Duck

midwest
D•E•C•O•Y
collectors association
NEWSLETTER

40th ANNUAL SHOW WAS OUTSTANDING!



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Behind the scenes there was worry about our 40th Anniversary Show. The value of our decoys has increased considerably and many of our members are enjoying their prize collectibles in the privacy of their own homes. We have had some turnover in the advertising area and we didn't get the quality of show communication that we know is critical for continued success. The Good News is out. **"This year's show was great!"**

The traffic started on Monday and by Tuesday it was very busy. The parking lots were active as people were eagerly making the

deals and trades. Set-up went quickly as the room count reached the expected Wednesday peak. There was great quality at the show and our members enjoyed a good selection for their review. The quality of the event was evident in the smiles on the faces as people moved quickly around the hotel to view this years offering. Congratulations to all who attended and to all the volunteers who work so hard to make this event special. We have enclosed some pictures of this year's event to share with our membership. Have a great summer and Happy Collecting!

MIDWEST DECOY COLLECTORS

OFFICERS

Herb Desch	President
Roger Ludwig	Vice-President
Tom O'Key	Treasurer
Ed Wojciechowski	Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tom Bosworth	Roger Ludwig
Rose Claussen	Tom O'Key
Ken Cole	Rick Sandstrom
Herb Desch	Joe Tonelli
Alan Haid	Jim Wierzba
Steve Handevidt	Ed Wojciechowski

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Midwest Decoy Collector's is to foster the hobby of decoy collecting by attracting new collectors, by seeking out and preserving old decoys, gather information about old carvers and their methods of historical records, and hold an annual show for decoy collectors and carvers for the exchange of information about their origin.

The Midwest Decoy Collectors Association is a nonprofit, educational organization, incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois. It invites membership to all persons who have an interest of any kind of collecting decoys and sporting collectibles.

DUES

Dues are \$15.00 a year, or \$40.00 for three years, payable on January 1. This entitles members and a guest free admission to the April show, newsletters and an annual directory listing all members. The mailing address label indicates what year's dues have been paid. Please mail your dues with checks payable to M.D.C.A. to the following address:

Tom O'Key • (847) 842-8847
310 Woodview Road
Lake Barrington, IL 60010-1731

WEBSITE

www.midwestdecoy.org

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

This year's Show was special — it was our 40th consecutive annual Show (the National Show). A special thank you should go to all those who worked so hard over these many years to make the Midwest Decoy Collectors Association what it is today. As I say to those who ask, our name may say Midwest but we are North American in scope.

It is hard to recognize all those who had a role in this year's Show for fear of leaving someone out. Rose Claussen pitched to help with Registration in addition to organizing the 2nd Collectors Seminar. This has been well received and will be continue to be part of the Show week. Donna Tonelli contributed artwork and articles for the press. Tom O'Key and Tom Bosworth put together a terrific exhibition of Illinois River decoys. This was the 3rd year of this event and will also continue. Next year will feature Michigan decoys. Jim Wierzba and his crew of helpers once again had events running smoothly at the Exhibition Hall. A special buffet was offered for the first time on Friday evening after the Show closed for the day. Two hundred fifty three (253) members took advantage of this opportunity. It was not well publicized since we only reached agreement with Pheasant Run the week before to offer the buffet. I expect more to attend next year.

I frequently am asked to provide statistics about the Show. So here we go!

There were 314 members staying at Pheasant Run during the week. They stayed 1103 nights for an average of 3.5 nights per member. There were 360 tables occupied in the Exhibition Hall. Fifty three (53) new members joined and fifteen

(15) former members rejoined. We are now at the highest membership level we have ever experienced at this time of year (1,007). We typically are just under or over 900 at the end of the Show.

Our contract with Pheasant Run expired as of this year's Show. A new three year contract has been negotiated that is more favorable to our members. The current room rate was \$105 per night plus a \$5 amenities fee and tax.

The rate for the next three years will be \$109 and the elimination of the \$5 amenities fee. This applies to the Courtyard and Golf wing rooms. The Tower rooms have been extensively remodeled and will increase to \$119 for 2006 and \$129 for 2007 & 2008. Double occupancy is unchanged at an additional \$10 per night. We will also negotiate a lower rate for Courtyard by Marriott which is across the street for those looking for a less expensive alternative.

The Board of Directors met on Thursday morning prior to the Show. Randy Root and Dick Brust did not run for re-election. Tom Bosworth and Ken Cole were elected to replace them. Our congratulations to Tom and Ken. We look forward to working with them. The absence of Dick and Randy on the Board is a milestone. Randy was elected to the original Board in 1973 and has served since that time. Dick came aboard in 1989. We all owe Dick and Randy our thanks for a lot of hard work. Please thank them the next time you see them. Dick will continue to work with the Board in the role of Historian and mentor.

That's all for now. I hope you all have a great summer.

Herb

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

Collector's Seminar is Growing Nicely!



Randy Boot and Dick Brust were recognized for over 50 years of service to the MDCA.



Tom Bosworth joined the board and has helped arrange the special display.

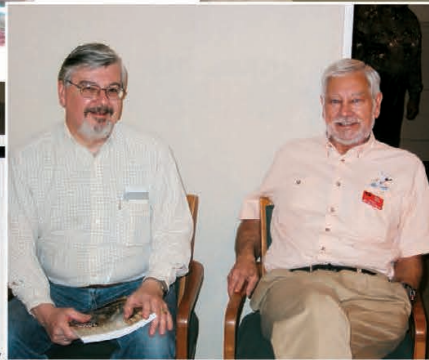


Membership Renewal and Table Reservation is Active on Thursday



Rose Claussen organized registration and collector's seminar.

ROOMS STARTED MONDAY AND



"I was blown away by the whole week. I had no idea how much it had grown!"



HAD BRISK ACTIVITY ALL WEEK!



*Something
for
Everyone.*

VIEW FROM THE SHOW



VIEW FROM THE SHOW



ILLINOIS RIVER DECOYS WERE A BIG HIT!

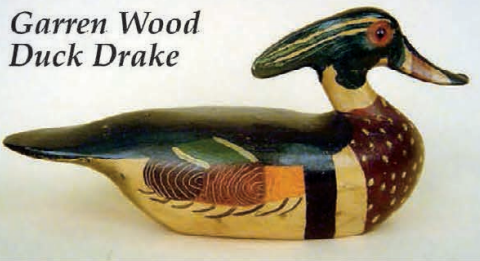
Kefer (Civil War Era)
Bluebill Drake



Garren Hooded
Merganser Hen



Garren Wood
Duck Drake



Althoff Pintail Drake



Doren Owl



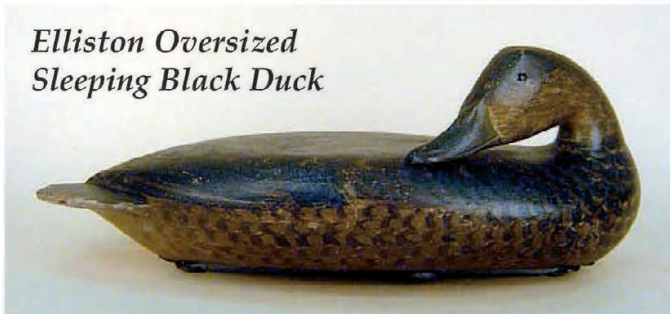
Allen Redhead Drake



Elliston Coot



Elliston Oversized
Sleeping Black Duck



Barto High Head
Pintail Drake



Elliston Blue-winged
Teal Drake



"This display is a special opportunity to see the best. It's worth the trip by itself!"



*Graves Canvasback
Drake*



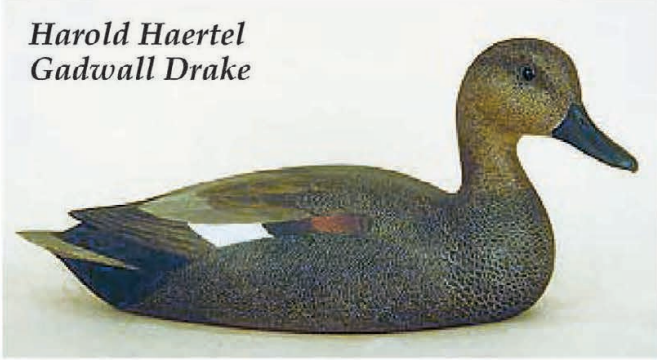
*Graves Sleeping
Mallard Hen*



*Graves Oversized
Mallard Drake*



*Eskin Green-winged
Teal Drake*



*Harold Haertel
Gadwall Drake*



Holmes Pintail Drake



Holtz Mallard Hen



Keller Mallard Hen

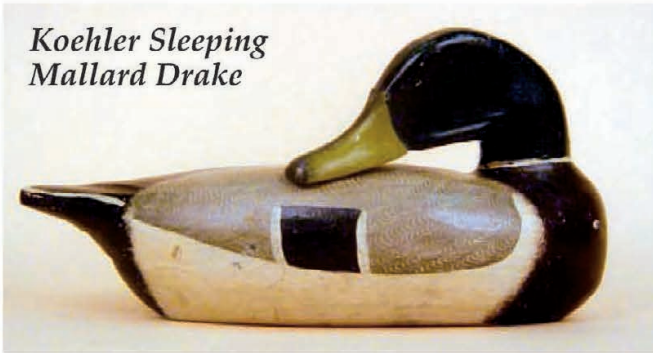


Kelly Mallard Hen



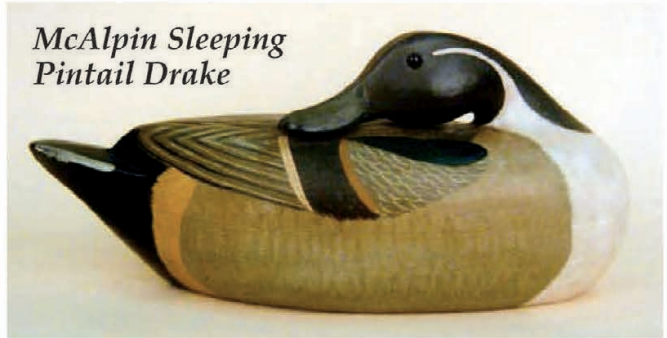
Kessler Widgeon Drake

*Koehler Sleeping
Mallard Drake*



*Each carver has a unique
style that was clearly visible
in the display.*

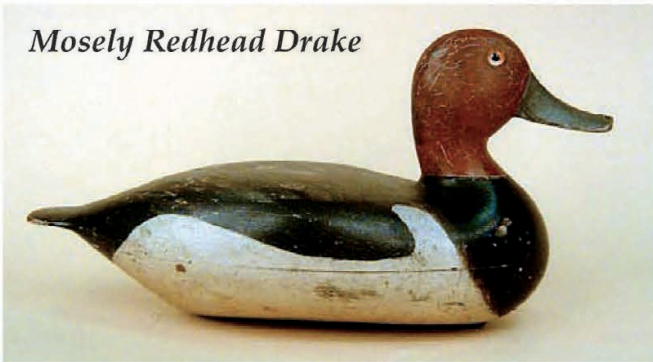
*McAlpin Sleeping
Pintail Drake*



*Perdew Carved Cheek
Mallard Drake*



Mosely Redhead Drake



*Perdew Calling/
Flapping Crow*

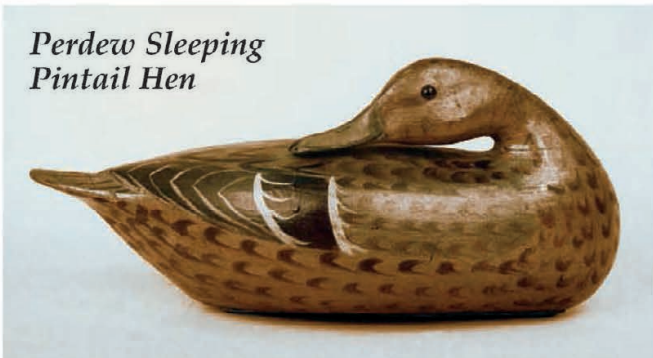
*Perdew Green-winged
Teal Drake*



Lohrman Pintail Hen



*Perdew Sleeping
Pintail Hen*



*Perdew Sleepy-Eyed
Mallard Hen*



ILLINOIS RIVER DISPLAY WAS SUPERB!

*Schoenheider Sr. Blue-winged
Teal Drake*



*"Lots to learn from this
superb display! Seeing them
all together is special!"*

Stephan Lane Pintail Drake



Stachowiak Pintail Drake



Walker Canada Goose



Whittington Canada Goose



Walker Pintail Drake



*Richard Wilcoxen
Green-winged Teal Drake*



SPECIAL INTEREST



Make Plans For 2006 Show – April 28 & 29 *It's Simply a Lot of Fun*

Midwest Decoy Collectors Association

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