midwest



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

Developing the Next Generation Collector





It is a special privilege to have grown up with several generations of sporting collectibles to use and enjoy on a daily basis. We all learned a great lesson last year when Brain Cheramie reminded us that Louisiana has battled serious weather throughout its history and continued to persevere and create outstanding folk art as a part of their culture. Each generation seemed to find a way to learn and try to improve on the past. Jim Schmiedlin shared his passion for duck hunting and you can feel his passion when you handle his decoys.

The many talented carvers and their work have given us a wonderful opportunity to share a special spirit and passion. Our 2012 show will give us the opportunity to gather again and St. Charles is ready for our arrival. Walt Hallbauer and Tom Eckert are working on the display and seminar focused on upstate New York decoys. It will give us an opportunity to share and learn about another region. As you review this newsletter please think about who you can invite to join and attend the show. Firm up your plans now!

Winter 2012 Founded 1966

MIDWEST DECOY COLLECTORS

OFFICERS

Rick Sandstrom President
Jim Wierzba Vice-President
Bill Dodge Treasurer
Steve Handevidt Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tom Bosworth Roger Ludwig
Rose Claussen Peter Marsh
Gene Davis Tom O'Key
Herb Desch Rick Sandstrom
Bill Dodge Joe Tonelli
Alan Haid Jim Wierzba
Steve Handevidt

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, gathering information about old carvers and their methods of historical records, and holding an annual show for decoy collectors and carvers for the exchange of information.

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 in collecting decoys and sporting collectibles.

DUES

Dues are \$25.00 a year, or \$70.00 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:

Herb Desch • (312) 337-7957 6 East Scott Street, #3 Chicago, IL 60610-2321

WEBSITE www.midwestdecoy.org

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Our association continues to be healthy and remains on solid financial footing. We are continuing to find new members who are eager to learn more about decoys. Like many collecting groups, the economy has stressed discretionary income and many collectors have held off their purchases. This environment has caused us some issues that we are watching closely. First, many members have reduced their attendance time at St. Charles, some even deciding to attend only every two or three years. This trend has given us some problems with membership as we missed some during renewal. We are taking steps to deal with this including Herb's call campaign. Second, Pheasant Run Resort's financial status is challenging. We are talking with them monthly and have had considerable communication with the owner. I have been assured that their plan for continued operation is sound, but this economy is a huge issue for the travel industry. We are continuing to communicate.

One of the challenges we are working is how to balance the needs of our diverse membership during show week. Yes, week. Our earliest attendees check in on Friday the weekend before the show and operate from the resort for their

Midwest antiquing. There are many attendees that only attend for a day. The week has stretched and Saturday has slowed for many reasons. These dynamics have been the subject of many discussions ever since the auction started their Wednesday night reception. The reality is that we are a diverse group that has many different needs for our annual gathering. We continue to discuss all changes that will enhance all aspects of our association and would love to hear from anyone who has ideas.

Pickers Pass is a new promotion for 2012. We are partnered with our members, regional shows and Zurko Promotions to help us distribute free passes to a new audience. We created a Pickers Pass that offers free attendance and appraisals on Saturday that will be widely distributed including electronically 60 days before the show. A copy is on the front page of this newsletter. Our attempt is to find more attendees and collectibles to walk into the show.

Enjoy this newsletter, make sure your show plans are booked and keep your dues current.

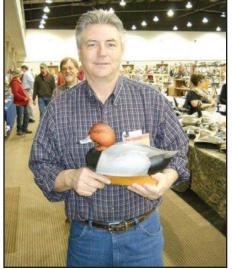
Happy Collecting!



CONTEMPORARY CARVER CORNER









































Our Member's Share Their Talent





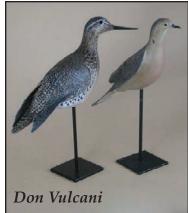


EACH YEAR HAS GROWN NICELY





















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2011 LOUISIANA DECOY DISPLAY



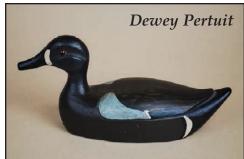




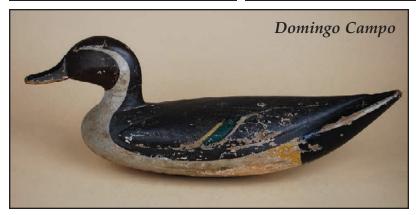










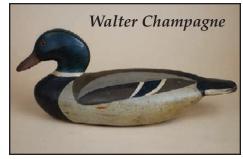






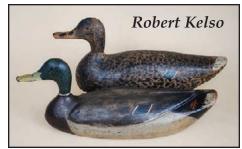














THANKS TO BRIAN CHERAMIE

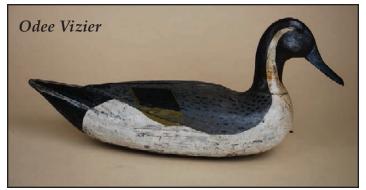














VOLUNTEERS MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN







































SPECIAL JIM SCHMIEDLIN SHOW DISPLAY





Renew Membership • Make your Reservations



























Show Dates: April 27 & 28, 2012 April 26 & 27, 2013 • April 25 & 26, 2014











Seminars, Displays, Room Trading, Show, Free Appraisals, Auction

Midwest Decoy Collectors Association

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