



Midwest Decoy Collectors Association NEWSLETTER

Fall 2013

2014 will feature
New Jersey decoys,
including this Shourds
black duck



Decoys lure us the first time – the people keep us coming back!

Our 48th annual event in April at St. Charles, IL included some enjoyable improvements. Activity and sales were up.

We noticed it was difficult to see all the rooms during the room-to-room trading days so we took a lead from Ricky Simpson and added a “slider bar” in the hallway to make it easier for folks to gather. The convenience and the \$3 price were a big hit. Next year we are going to expand the hallway “slider bar” and bring it into the Mega-Center for all to enjoy.

The list of events during the week seems to grow each year and it's very difficult to take in everything that is going on at St. Charles. The list included room trading, preview reception, member meeting, auction, member display, contemporary carving, table show, appraisals, silent auctions, call collector activities, etc. etc.

It is clear that we enjoy the opportunity to gather and each year brings new experiences. For instance, we invited the Sisters of St. Roger Abbey to the Mega-Center and their French pastries were a big hit for both young and old attendees. Their proceeds help support a homeless program to help the hungry.

Plans are in the works for even more next year so confirm your plans now. Visit midwestdecoy.org to sign up.

St. Charles gives all ages the chance to enjoy and dream too.



Reggie signs one of his creations while visiting with Matt and Kate.

MIDWEST DECOY COLLECTORS

OFFICERS

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bill Claussen	Roger Ludwig
Gene Davis	Tom O'Key
Herb Desch	Rick Sandstrom
Bill Dodge	Jeff Seregny
Curt Froyen	Joe Tonelli
Alan Haid	Jim Wierzba
Steve Handevidt	

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Midwest Decoy Collector's organization 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

2013 was a turning point on the decoy collecting front. We saw things slow beginning in 2006 as the economy certainly had its impact on discretionary spending. This year it was great to see that people were adding to their collections again, in the rooms and at the show. Many experienced great selling.

The show drew increased paid admissions (561) and we had over 700 members attend with over 900 room nights at Pheasant Run. The Maryland display was a big hit thanks to Joe Engers' leadership and we're building wonderful show support for the contemporary carver activities which included auctioning a decoy carved and painted at the show.

Thank you to all the volunteers that make the St. Charles experience special.

A special thanks to Rose Claussen and Peter Marsh who have done a great job supporting the organization and have elected to step off the board. Bill Claussen and Curt Froyen have been added with Bill leading the show and Curt focusing on membership.

Three years ago we started our member town hall meetings. The result of this dialogue is that we conducted a member survey to get a better understanding of priorities and issues. The survey results show that you love the networking and socializing. In fact, you initially come for the decoys, but stay for the people.

There is a large following for room trading, Mega-Center Show and GS&D Auction. But, there is strong sentiment for reducing the week and eliminating overlap of events. Jeff Seregny is leading the effort to develop some options to help improve the week's schedule. Expect more on this soon.

The Pheasant Run contract has been extended and the new reservation capability is in place. We had to eliminate the old paper forms as they presented a security risk to our members. We have renewed our agreement and it will result in a nice savings over the 2013 pricing. The new agreement allows one rate throughout the hotel eliminating the sharing fee and tower surcharge. Please call and confirm your plans with Pheasant Run at (800) 999-3319 or (630) 584-6300 now.

Our material content is gathered for the next newsletter which will include the member display decoys from New York and Maryland, the member survey overview and more.

Decoys are real American Folk Art, special to North America and there are many coming available for the first time. **We have to make space so that old friends can return and new ones can engage.** It will require us to continue to adapt. Please make sure that your membership is current. Happy Collecting!

Rick
Rick Sandstrom

NORTH AMERICAN Vintage Decoy & Sporting Collectibles Show

The premier gathering of Sporting Collectibles enthusiasts from across North America.

A wide range of decoy folk art is always available and free appraisals are provided by the experts in attendance. Modern carvers are also on hand doing demonstrations.



sporting items for sale



vintage decoy displays and sales

April 22 - 26, 2014

Pheasant Run Resort
St. Charles, IL

Open to the public
\$5.00 Admission

Tuesday, April 22

Room-to-room trading
Meet-and-Greet rendezvous – 1pm

Wednesday, April 23

Room-to-room trading
New Jersey decoy seminar – 10:30am
Meet-and-Greet rendezvous – 1pm
Auction preview reception – 6pm

Thursday, April 24

Room-to-room trading
Member town hall meeting – 8:30am
Registration in library – 9:30am to 1pm
Guyette, Schmidt & Deeter Auction Day 1 – 11am
Meet-and-Greet rendezvous – 1pm
Evans Collectors meeting – 4pm
Call makers auction and party – 6pm
Karaoke – 8:30pm

Friday, April 25

Call makers meeting and judging – 8am
Guyette, Schmidt & Deeter Auction Day 2 – 10am
Table Show & Decoy Displays in Mega Center – 2pm to 7pm
Vintage New Jersey Decoy Display
Vintage Fishing Decoy Display
Member appreciation hospitality and music – 5pm to 7pm
Contemporary Carver Demonstrations and display
Networking Dinner Buffet

Saturday, April 26

Table Show & Decoy Displays in Mega Center – 9am to 2pm
Contemporary Carver Demonstration and auction
Free identification and appraisals
Walk-in auctions

**PRESERVING THIS ORIGINAL AMERICAN
FOLK ART HISTORY SINCE 1966**



national decoy auction



decoy carving

midwestdecoy.org

312-337-7957

Join MDCA for \$25 – Includes free admission to show, newsletters, and annual member directory



The Midwest Decoy Collectors Association is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to collect and preserve the history of the decoy as original American folk art.



6 E. Scott Street, #3
Chicago, IL 60610

*We enjoyed Cameron McIntyre carving at the 2012 show.
He will share his hunting rig at the 2014 show.*



Midwest Decoy Collectors Association

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