

Our April, 2018 Show
will feature decoys from
the Stoughton, WI area
like this Enoch Reindahl
Canvasback

Midwest Decoy Collectors Association NEWSLETTER

Fall 2017



Welcome to the Fall Issue!

As winter is just approaching, it means that the “show season” is still some months away. We hope that this Fall Issue of the MDCA newsletter will help the time pass more quickly and contribute to your continuing enjoyment of this great hobby we all share. In this issue you will find:

- 2018 Show Preview
- Member Update
- Summer Auction Highlights
- Member Profile: Jim & Patti Aikin
- 2018 Table Registration Form



Enjoy!



Discover • Preserve • Celebrate

MIDWEST DECOY COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

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WHO WE ARE

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. The purpose of Midwest Decoy Collectors is to foster the hobby of decoy collecting by attracting new collectors, seeking out and preserving old decoys, gathering data about carvers and their methods, and holding an annual show for decoy collectors and carvers.

OUR HISTORY

The **Midwest Decoy Collectors Association** was started in 1966 by a small group of dedicated decoy collectors as a gathering in Ottawa, Illinois to reconnect, share stories and trade decoys. Since then, the Club has grown to nearly 800 enthusiasts from all over North America and from all walks of life. They write books on collecting, manage auction companies, publish collector magazines, carve world class decoys, calls and collectibles, provide appraisal services, and form a core network of knowledge on sporting collectibles and their history. That humble gathering of collectors in 1966 has grown to become the **North American Vintage Decoy and Sporting Collectibles Show** – the largest show of its kind. The annual show features room-to-room trading, a tabled show and a major decoy auction in addition to a variety of networking events and educational activities including seminars, displays and carving demonstrations.

DISPLAY ADVERTISING is now being accepted in select issues of the MDCA newsletter. Contact Jeff Seregny at jseregny@gmail.com or 586-530-6586 for rates and availability.

www.midwestdecoy.org



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Your association is healthy, on good financial footing and growing nicely. Thank you all! Our 2018 show plans are set and will delight those able to attend. Pheasant Run is making progress and we will have more space available in 2018 for our activities.

Plan time for outreach. The waterfowl and our members are on the move in the fall. Duck migration has begun and early hunting reports are filled with stories of great fun. Many of our members are preparing for their annual move south to see friends and winter in warmer weather. Call ahead and stop to see your collecting friends along the way. If a Memphis stop is in the cards, check out the DU display of Detroit factory decoys (see the story in our ("Member Update" inside). Find a favorite decoy, new or old and share it with our fast-growing Facebook group. Let us know if you will help mentor as we have nearly a hundred new members to coach.

Looking forward. This quarter is the time during the year when we refresh our five-year plans. It is wise to have a road map for the various show displays as it takes a lot of coordination to accomplish these key activities. Your input for these future focus areas is needed and appreciated. Please think about waterfowl and fish decoys, featured carvers, calls and any other areas that you believe would enhance our event and create more learning for the membership.

There is considerable interest in our identification and appraisal activity and we will continue to grow the energy that we allocate for that effort.

Remember, this often feeds into our silent auctions which provides both collecting opportunities for our members and financial support for club.

In addition, there is growing demand for more seminars on black lighting, x-rays and other techniques and tools for evaluation. There are always questions about preservation and restoration strategies and choices. Please consider volunteering to organize one of these educational activities.

We continue to look at opportunities for an additional event as your input shows good support for an additional rendezvous. I like the idea of a rotating through locations around the area but so far the logistics of this type of event aren't easy to manage. We will figure it out and keep testing various ideas.

Special thank you! I need to thank Jeff Seregny for the terrific leadership that he has provided to elevate our communications and this newsletter to a high level. Our newsletter has become an extremely valuable asset linking a significantly diverse association. Please take time to thank him and share your content ideas for future communication.

Don't forget! Send your dues by January 1, and make your reservations now for 2018 as we ran out of space on Friday night last year.

Enjoy a great hunting and collecting season and Happy Holidays!

Rick
Rick Sandstrom

Member News

2018 Member Dues Payable by January 1



Just a reminder that your 2018 club dues are due by the first of January, 2018. All members who owe for 2018 will soon be receiving a dues invoice in the mail. We urge you to pay your dues upon receipt of this invoice to ensure that you are current in the coming year. This means that you will continue to receive all the benefits

that the club offers including the printed membership directory and updates, free admission to the show, as well as access to the online Members Only area of our website, which includes the ability to search the member database online, pay your dues online, and participate in our very active buy/sell/trade Facebook group. You can make your payment online (after you create your personalized online account) at midwestdecoy.org, or by sending a check for \$25 (\$70 for three years) made out to the MDCA to: Matt Bryant, 17114 Erskine Street, Omaha, NE 68116.

New Members

We've had several new members join the Association since our last newsletter. Ours continues to be the largest and most active decoy and sporting collectibles club in North America. And the diversity of interests continues to be strong including all sorts of hunting and fishing related items from creels to calls; sporting art to shotgun shell boxes. Please welcome the new members listed below:

Travis Cota

Highland, MI

Michigan, Ontario, Lake St. Clair Fish, and Duck Decoys in preening, drinking, calling poses

Kevin Miller

Washington, MI

Duck Decoys by Ben Schmidt, Mason, Dodge; Fishing Lures: Pre-1940 wood lures, pre 1900 metal lures; Fish Decoys by Bud Stewart, Carl Christian, Marcel Meloche, Sonny Bashore; Hunting & Fishing Advertising

Ken Plagge

Mason City, IA

Todd L Reinhardt

Bismarck, ND

Illinois River decoys, duck calls and sporting collectibles



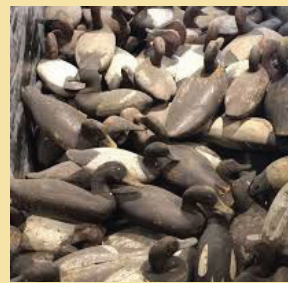
Darlene and Jim Goodman visit the DU display in Memphis

Club DU Relationship Deepens

In a past issue we reported on the involvement of Jim Goodman and Bill Dodge with Ducks Unlimited and their work to provide Detroit factory decoys for display at the DU Waterfowling Heritage Center in the Bass Pro Shops store at the Pyramid in Memphis. The Center also features displays of contemporary carvings, calls, shotgun shell boxes, punt guns/boats and DU memorabilia. This is important work in that it exposes many potential collectors to our hobby in an environment that makes perfect sense. The facility is expected to attract over 2 million visitors a year!

Following up on that project, Jim and Bill have been asked to advise DU on future displays for the Center, including decoys and other hunting related collectibles. At present, they are considering a Louisiana decoys display, which will need the help of other MDCA members who collect in this area.

This important relationship has the potential to expand even further with decoy displays at the DU National Headquarters building as well as at future DU national conventions. We'll need all of our members' help to maximize this and other opportunities as they arise. Thanks to Jim and Bill for spearheading this effort!



We Want Your Help

We all agree that the "thrill of the hunt" for that next decoy to add to our collection is a big part of the enjoyment of collecting. The stories behind those finds are often treasures in themselves, and we'd love to

share your stories with our members in future issues of the club newsletter. So please send us your best stories from your years of collecting. They can be about the ones you've successfully added or about the ones that got away. They can be funny or just surprising. Please email your stories along with pictures (if available) to Jeff Seregny at jseregny@gmail.com or you can mail them to Jeff at: 6699 Ferry Road, East Jordan, MI 49727.



Be sure not to miss the buy/sell/trade/learn activities in the club's Facebook group!

The 2018 Show Sneak Preview

NORTH AMERICAN Vintage Decoy & Sporting Collectibles Show

The 2018 Show in St. Charles is already shaping up to be a great one. While we can't guarantee temperatures in the 70's again, your Board is hard at work to make the show one to remember. There will be the usual Room-to-Room Trading, Guyette & Deeter auction, and the MegaCenter tabled show coupled with a variety of activities throughout the week including the annual gathering of The Callmakers & Collectors Association of America.



APRIL 24-28, 2018

Pheasant Run Resort

— ST. CHARLES, IL —

The sporting collectibles displays in the MegaCenter are always a hit with attendees and we plan to feature a variety once again this coming year. Here are just a few.

MEMBER DISPLAY: Stoughton, WI Decoys



While topping last year's Midwest Mini display will be tough, this coming year's display will feature the life-like decoys made by carvers from the Stoughton, Wisconsin area such as Enoch Reindahl, Ferd and Mandt Homme, Russell "Raz" Barry and many more. Under the discerning eye of Board member and Wisconsin native Jim Wierzbza, this display will include a broad range of rarely seen pieces from this rich hunting area.

Lake Chautauqua Fish Decoy Display



This year's display will focus on the work of the unique fish decoys made around the Lake Chautauqua area in Upstate New York. These fish decoys are old, rare and fine examples of American folk art. More than 100 hundred years after winter spearing on the lake was declared illegal, this display will be an opportunity to view some of the rarest of the rare.

Book Now!

It's not too early to make plans for next year's show!

- For room reservations call Pheasant Run at 630-584-6300
- For selling tables, print out the Table Reservation Form on the last page of this newsletter and send it with payment to Matt Bryant at the address provided.

Contemporary Exhibit Featuring the Work of Pat Gregory



In 1984, Pat Gregory began pursuing a decoy carving legacy that started in his family in the late 1890's. His great grandfather, Illinois River decoy carver, George "Homerun" Barto, was his inspiration, along with his love of hunting ducks. Our 2018 featured contemporary carver's exhibit will be highlighted by an assortment of Pat's work including his teal rig, his layout rig of diver decoys and other assorted rigs used by Pat to hunt ducks. Specialty rigs on display will include some of his 2014 Delta Marsh Rig and a recent rig of restored Jim Wicks decoys, demonstrating Pat's wonderful ability to restore old decoys and put them back into service.

The Cream Always Rises to the Top

As the last few autumn leaves fall and winter is in the wind here in northern Michigan, our thoughts turn wistfully back to the warmer days of summer. For we collectors, this certainly includes the summer auctions and the excitement created by the sale of several truly iconic pieces that transcend sporting art through their sculptural form and rarity.

Two of these – a Canada Goose by Charles Safford of Newburyport, Massachusetts and a Wood Duck by Canadian Tom Chambers – were top lots in their respective auctions and created a buzz that is still running through the collecting community today.

Here's a closer look at these two gems and the men who made them.

The Chambers Wood Duck, ca. 1900

A Thomas Chambers Wood Duck from the Donal O'Brien collection set a record for its maker and a record for any Canadian decoy sold at auction. It sold at Copley Fine Art Auction's July sale for a whopping \$270,000 including the buyer's premium. This was more than double its pre-auction estimate of \$80,000 -120,000.

Few decoys have evoked the mystique of this Wood Duck, which has never before been offered for public sale. As a Wood Duck, it is certainly among the greatest carvings of this species from any region. As one of only two Chambers Wood Ducks known to exist, this example with its exceptional form, paint, and condition is the better of the two. Chambers captured the likeness of this species of this summer duck effectively, paying special attention to the subtle nuances of the duck's bill, eyes, and crest. Well over 100 years old and a testament to Chambers' craftsmanship, the decoy maintains nearly invisible neck and bottom board seams.

The bird is branded "GEO. M. HENDRIE." George Muir Hendrie (1885-1942) was "the sporting son of a sporting father" and was a lover of thoroughbred horses, sporting dogs and "game chickens." The Hendrie family had business interests in a variety of areas including railways and rail promotion, cartage, contracting and manufacturing, as well as the iron and steel business in Hamilton, Ontario. Hendrie was a St. Clair Flats Shooting Company member through the years 1889 to 1943.

Interestingly, the bottom board on this Wood Duck was fashioned from a food-packing crate and is also branded on the underside "GUARANTEED BY H.J. HEINZ."

Many collectors consider this wood duck carving to be the finest Canadian decoy known. Co-authors Clune Walsh, Jr. and Lowell Jackson, as well as Paul Johnsgard, chose this exact decoy for the cover of their respective books, "Waterfowl Decoys of Michigan and the Lake St. Clair Region" and "The Bird Decoy: An American Art Form".

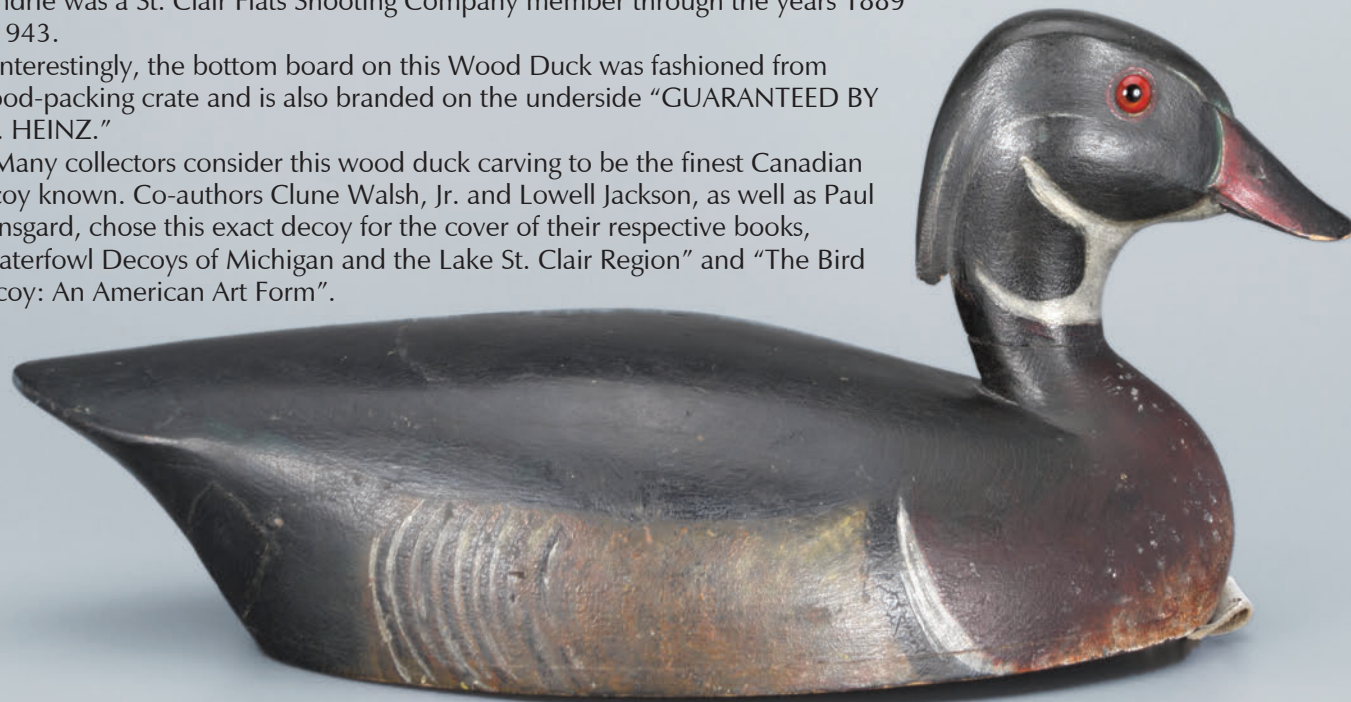


Provenance:

George M. Hendrie - acquired at the St. Clair Flats Shooting Company

Ronald Swanson Collection, acquired from the estate of the above, c. 1970

Donal C. O'Brien Jr. Collection, acquired from the above



Tom Chambers: **The Maker**



Many thanks to the Canadian Decoy and Outdoor Collectibles Association and Copley Fine Art Auctions for allowing us to use their copy and photos for this story.

Thomas Chambers (1860-1948) was born in Toronto, Ontario. He hunted ducks and geese at an early age along the Toronto waterfront in Ashbridge's Bay, selling his excess quarry to the market. Chambers first involvement in decoying was when he became the manager at the St. Anne's Club on the Chenal Ecarte part of the Lake St. Clair marshes. While the hunting club was formed by 1882, the start date of his employment at the club is not known.

After the St. Anne's clubhouse fire in 1900, the nearby St. Clair Flats Shooting Company was looking for a new Keeper. They asked the noted sportsman and ex-member George Warin for his counsel on this. He recommended Tom Chambers and thus began a 40-year relationship with the fabled club.

Incorporated in 1874, the St. Clair Flats Shooting Company, also known as the Canada Club, was one of the oldest hunting clubs on Lake St. Clair. Chambers lived on the club's property with his wife and three daughters and would remain the club's Keeper until his retirement in 1943. According to author/collector Barney Crandell, it was during this time as manager that the 6-foot 1-inch Chambers earned his nickname "King Tom" for his authoritarian air.

As an adjunct to his work for the Club, Chambers was also an accomplished decoy maker. His decoys were typically hollow, well-proportioned and reflective of the species being represented. Species he carved included canvasbacks, redheads, bluebills, blacks, pintails, mallards, teal, geese, the two known drake Wood Ducks and a one-of-a-kind whistler hen. His decoys were in high demand from the club members and, even during the 1930's, a rig of a dozen Chambers decoys would command the unheard price of \$75.

The Safford Sleeping Canada Goose, ca. 1900s



This sleeping Canada Goose decoy brought \$517,500 including buyer's premium at Guyette & Deeter's auction event in Portsmouth. From the Vinal collection, this imposing figure dates to circa 1900-1910. According to decoy expert Robert Shaw, "Safford's unique sleeper is all about the complex relationships between the big, powerful body and the elegant curves of its carefully observed, muscular neck pulled up from the right across its chest, its head then turned back laterally so the tip of its bill rests against the carved inside edge of its right wing."

Safford is said to have created a rig or two of geese for his own camp. These were monumental carvings not only in size, but in weight. Individual decoys must have been floated on triangles or similar apparatus. His geese were carved either from a single large section of a log or meticulously assembled from individual pieces of wood. Many of his carvings were in the classic pose, but he did vary the form of individual bird including this masterpiece. The only sleeper in the rig, this prize decoy is made from 15 pieces of laminated construction.

This singular sleeping goose is Charlie Safford's undisputed masterpiece and one of the greatest of all American decoys. Its meticulous craftsmanship and elemental sculptural power place it in a rarified league with the finest of all Massachusetts working goose decoys—the back-preener and its rigmates made by Captain Charles Osgood now in the Shelburne Museum; the two hisser and unique sleeper made for the Brayton family by Joseph Lincoln (the sleeper and one of the hisser are currently in the renowned collection of Paul Tudor Jones II); and the three mortised-head geese by an as-yet-unidentified master that were discovered by Adele Earnest and have been treasured and cared for over the years since by such other legendary collectors as Stewart Gregory, Dr. James M. McCleery, Donal C. O'Brien Jr., and Jerry Lauren.



Charles Safford: **The Maker**



Although Safford is universally acknowledged as creating some of the finest decoys ever to have originated on Massachusetts' fabled north shore, pitifully, little is known about this talented carver.

Charles A. Safford was born in 1877 in the fishing hub of Gloucester, Massachusetts. He was the son of Charles N. and Addie (Pierce) Safford. He lived at 28 Oakland Street in Newburyport and moved to the town of Lynn for the last 15 years of his life. Safford was known as a highly skilled craftsman, working at various times as a cabinetmaker, boat builder, and sculptor. His true passion, however, was wildlife, especially the abundant ducks, geese, and shorebirds to be found amongst the dunes, marsh, and shoreline of neighboring Plum Island. It was here that he maintained a shack and gunning stand at Hale's cove, and he spent as much time as possible at that location.

For a number of years, he worked as a successful market hunter shipping his birds to nearby Boston. Ultimately, beginning in 1934, he became the first caretaker and warden for what was eventually to become the 1,500 acre "Annie Brown Bird Sanctuary" on Plum Island. As a warden, he patrolled the reservation on horseback attempting to protect the birds from what many locals saw as an unnecessary curtailment of their historical hunting rights. He remained in that position until the reservation was purchased from the Audubon Society in 1942 and expanded upon to become today's 4,662 acre Parker River National Wildlife Refuge (ref: "Plum Island – The Way It Was").

Many thanks to Guyette and Deeter
for allowing us to repurpose their catalog copy
and photos for this article.

MEMBER PROFILE:

Jim & Patti Aikin

We recently had an opportunity to sit down with Jim and Patti Aikin in their beautiful log home nestled in the woods on the northern shore of Lake Michigan to talk decoys and take in their collection which includes one of the finest groups of Ben Schmidt decoys anywhere. While the first floor of their lake-side home is accented by other carvings, including some marvelous pieces by Jim Schmiedlin whom the Aikins considered a close friend, the bulk of the collection resides in the inviting confines of their lower level decoy room. After nearly 50 years of chasing, they have assembled a collection sure to delight even the most discerning eye.

MICHIGAN COUPLE FOCUSED ON *Quality*



Jim & Patti in their decoy room
with the standing Labrador
Duck by Ben Schmidt.



Drake Goldeneye,
ca, 1940s



Widgeons, ca. 1940s



Buffleheads, ca. 1940s



Early Pintails, ca. 1930s



Rare Blue Goose,
ca. 1930s



Rare Drake Ringbill,
ca. 1950s



Green Wing Teal, ca. 1950s



Blue Wing Teal, ca. 1950s



Sleeping Black Duck,
ca. 1950s



Rare Snow Goose, ca. 1930s

The Beginning

Jim's interest in decoys was first piqued in 1972. Most of his waterfowling was done on the Saginaw Bay where he hunted over what he now characterizes as "real clunkers." It was during a trip into Canada that he first had an opportunity to handle a number of vintage decoys by Ontario maker Tom Chambers. He was immediately smitten by the artistry and obvious effort that went into the making of these tools that were meant to do nothing more than bring some unsuspecting prey within shotgun range.

Jim recalls that his first decoy purchase was an inexpensive decorative Red Breasted Merganser at a local Ducks Unlimited event. While this didn't quench his emerging appetite for old decoys, it certainly helped get him started.

However, to truly enjoy collecting old, working decoys Jim knew that he needed to get smarter about the genre, and to formulate a direction for his collecting going forward.

His education really began when he attended the Monroe show in Detroit's "downriver" area near the Ohio border. There he met a number of longtime collectors such as Alan Haid and Joe Tonelli who were happy to help Jim appreciate the artistry and form of these old decoys. He would continue to attend other shows to further this early "training."

He augmented these hands-on experiences by consuming everything written on the subject he could find. In particular, he recalls reading decoy collecting pioneer Hal Sorensen's repeated recommendations to "specialize" – to find one specific area of interest

All decoys pictured in this profile were made by Ben Schmidt unless otherwise noted.

Redheads, ca. 1950s



Sleeper Canvasbacks, ca. 1950s



Canada goose with Slot Neck Removable Head, ca. 1940s



to build a collection around. Jim heeded this sage advice and decided that his specialization would be Mason factory decoys because they were relatively plentiful and so well-documented. He would focus even more narrowly on decoys in original paint and excellent condition. His new mantra “condition is everything” would be his driving acquisition philosophy for years to come. By the late 70’s he had accumulated over 100 pristine Mason decoys in various grades and species.

Shifting Gears

Throughout the 1970s, Jim continued to learn everything he could about his new-found passion. He went to shows, visited many other collections, and sought out contributors to the collector books of the time. It was then that Jim and Patti began attending the Midwest Decoy Collectors Association show in the Chicago area in 1976 (and would return for the next 35 years!). There they befriended early collectors/authors Barney Crandell and Lowell Jackson who would become good friends and collecting mentors who would have the greatest influence on their future collecting. Jim recalls with excitement visiting Barney’s home and seeing his huge collection including “Canada Geese decoys stacked up like cord wood” in his basement.

It was Jackson who would have the most profound impact on their collection’s future direction. Through Jackson’s booklet, “Ben Schmidt: A Michigan Decoy Carver 1884-1968,” and “Waterfowl Decoys of Michigan and the Lake St. Clair Region” co-authored with Clune Walsh, Aikin developed a

fascination with decoys made by Ben Schmidt in addition to many other Michigan makers. To this day, he asserts that Ben Schmidt was “one of the premier carvers of all time.” He shakes his head in amazement at the time and effort Schmidt took to apply feather stamping and beautifully blended paint when something that took much less effort and time would have been sufficient for the job. He contends that Schmidt was quite shrewd in his understanding that this extra work would enhance the sale of his birds.

A Hard Lesson

Jim recalls that an important part of his decoy education came not from a book or another collector, but from one particular acquisition experience. Some years ago, a long time hunting partner called him about a small group of decoys he had just come across. The friend knew nothing about vintage decoys and his description of the birds was less than glowing. One particular bird he described as being “mostly black with some white on the head.” It sounded to Jim like a decorative carving and he referred his friend to another collector friend and simply forgot about it. Well, Jim later learned that his friend had, in fact, bought that “decorative” bird which turned out to be a near mint and very rare decoy by Ben Schmidt. The happy ending to the story is that Jim was able to buy it years later for significantly more money than he would have had to pay originally. However, from this experience he certainly learned the value of fully exploring every collecting opportunity regardless how insignificant it might seem at the outset.

Moving Forward –The Collection Takes Form

With this new direction set, Jim and Patti began a 30-year love affair with Ben Schmidt decoys remaining focused on acquiring examples in excellent paint and condition. This has required great patience and perseverance but has paid off in a collection of unique quality and breadth. Today, the collection includes virtually every species made by Schmidt and features a rare grouping of geese – Blue, Snow, and Canada, two of which are slot neck models with removable heads. The collection also includes what may be Schmidt’s only Drake Hooded Merganser as well as what Jim calls his “favorite” – an amazing, $\frac{3}{4}$ size, standing and reaching Labrador Duck. The story behind this one and the path it took to the Aikins’ collection is fascinating.

In the mid-1940s, Schmidt’s wife Florentina came across a picture of a Labrador Duck in a John James Audubon book of wildlife prints. She was so enamored with it that she asked her husband to make her one. As any good husband would, he obliged. For years after Ben’s death in 1968, collector Dr. Ed Bowman tried to buy it from Florentina, and was ultimately successful. After Bowman passed away years later, the piece showed up at auction. It had been consigned by Bowman’s daughter who had inherited it from her mother. After some more time had passed, it found its way to auction through Guyette & Schmidt in Boston where the Aikins acquired it. Despite its well-traveled past, the one-of-a-kind Labrador Duck is certainly not going anywhere else for quite some time.



*Capt. John Schweikart
Canvasbacks, ca. 1900s*



*Ferdinand Bach Bluebills,
ca. 1940s*



*Lou Rathmell, Sleeping Black
Duck, ca. 1940s*

The Aikin's collection, while firmly focused on Ben Schmidt decoys, includes wonderful examples by many other highly-regarded Michigan makers. This includes a pair of "tin wing" Canvasbacks by Capt. John Schweikart, a pair of near mint Bluebills by Ferdinand Bach, a rare Hen Blue Wing Teal by Bill Finch, and a one-of-a-kind Hen American Merganser by the Christie Brothers from the Saginaw Bay area.

Even the most disciplined collectors happen on pieces outside of their chosen areas of interest that simply appeal to them on some deep level. The Aikins are no exception. In addition to the Michigan decoys on display, the collection includes a selection of excellent pieces from several other regions. Among these is a preening blackduck by Connecticut's Lou Rathmell, a Bluebill by the Illinois River's Robert Elliston, and a pair of sleeping canvasbacks by Bill Enright of Toledo, Ohio, who is historically identified with the St. Anne's Club on Lake St. Clair.

The Collector

While the decoys give the Aikins countless hours of pleasure, they count the many friends they've made and the

experiences they've shared over the years as their greatest treasures. Jim counts that being asked to sit on the Board of the MDCA was one of his "biggest thrills" in collecting. His 19 years of service allowed him to create lifelong friendships with the likes of Joe Tonelli, Randy Root, Roger Ludwig, Len Carnaghi, Ken Cole, Jim Schmiedlin, and many, many more. In the end, that's really why this is such a great hobby that we all share.

Even after relinquishing his Board seat to "give someone else a chance," Jim and Patti continued to give back. They, along with Michigan collectors Len Carnaghi and Ken Cole, assembled a display of Michigan decoys for the St. Charles Show in 2006. They produced a professional looking, four-color booklet featuring photos of the display decoys and detailed histories on their makers. Jim gives Patti 100% of the credit for doing all of the research on over 50 Michigan decoy makers that made the booklet such an interesting and valuable tool.

We should be grateful to Jim and Patti for helping to preserve the history of this great folk art and for contributing to our enjoyment of this great hobby.



Rare Hooded Merganser, ca. 1940s



Ed "One Arm" Kellie Canvasbacks, ca. 1930s



MIDWEST
Decoy Collectors
ASSOCIATION

Please send this completed form
and your payment to:

Matt Bryant

17114 Erskine Street
Omaha, NE 68116
(785) 201-2923
matt.bryant@wilsonco.com

Make check payable to:

Midwest Decoy Collectors Association

2018 MEGA CENTER EVENT EXHIBITOR TABLE REGISTRATION FORM

Primary table holder:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone #: _____

_____ Dues are paid up through 2018 (Y/N)

Person sharing table:

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Dues are paid up through 2018 (Y/N)

PLEASE NOTE: All exhibitors must be MDCA members in good standing. If not already paid for 2018, you can pay your dues online at midwestdecoy.org or by including your dues along with your table payment.

If someone is sharing your table they must either be a family member, or be a MDCA member in good standing. They can join online at midwestdecoy.org or by including their dues payment and member profile information along with this form.

Checks should be made payable to the MDCA. Amount

_____ # of Table(s) @ \$75 each (\$100 each if after March 15th) \$ _____

Dues @ \$25 for one year or \$70 for 3 years \$ _____

TOTAL PAYMENT INCLUDED \$ _____

_____ Do you want the same table location as last year? (Y/N)

Special requests: _____

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