



NORTH AMERICAN
Decoy Collectors
ASSOCIATION
Winter 2022 Newsletter

You're Invited to the Collecting Experience of the Year!

55th North American Vintage Decoy & Sporting Collectibles Show

April 26-30, 2022

Welcome to the North American Decoy Collectors Association's Pre-Show newsletter.

After two cancelled North American Vintage Decoy & Sporting Collectibles Shows in 2020 and 2021, we are all anxious to get back to some sense of normalcy in 2022. While our more modest September gathering was a great success, our collectors are looking forward to returning to the largest gathering of its kind anywhere.

Our plans for the 2022 immersive experience that is the North American Vintage Decoy & Sporting Collectibles Show are coming together well and we look forward to hosting an enthusiastic group of collectors at the Westin Lombard hotel. In addition to room-to-room trading, Guyette & Deeter's premier auction and a tabled ballroom show, the week will include displays, educational seminars, decoy contests, carving demonstrations, silent auctions, free appraisals, and more.

You'll find a detailed show preview in this newsletter, as well as other interesting collector information. If you are not a member of the North American Decoy Collectors Association, please consider joining to enjoy the benefits that come with membership including three of these informational newsletters, free entry to the show and many more.

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Discover • Preserve • Celebrate

NORTH AMERICAN DECOY COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

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WHO WE ARE

The **North American 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 North American 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 **North American 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 NADCA newsletter. Contact Jeff Seregny at jseregny@gmail.com or 586-530-6586 for rates and availability.

www.nadecoycollectors.org



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Nothing is normal. Our family plans each night for the next day and adjusts as the day evolves. I advise many small businesses, and everything from customers to supply chain and employees are constantly changing. Our team had planned the annual decoy event for 2020 and 2021 only to cancel because of the conditions. Our September event had to adapt to public closure the week before, and that change resulted in 310 room night cancellations the weekend before the show. As I write this, the COVID infection rate is peaking again in many places, but it is forecast that this trend will change as we move into spring.

We learned from our September event, and all those lessons are helping us develop a thoughtful and prudent event plan for April. We have great support from our hotel team and our Mayo Clinic connections. Our April program focuses on a flexible environment to allow everyone to engage and operate as they choose. The hotel has upgraded HVAC with improved air filtration, disciplined sanitization procedures, and unique meeting space. For example, the auction preview and reception area open to the outside deck overlooking the lake. The rooms are larger and allow everyone to manage their own space as they choose. Some will prefer open selling and access, others will schedule appointments, and some will shop and use the open ballroom space for their setups. The beauty is that all options are possible.

An exciting trend is emerging as interest in sporting history and collectibles surges. We see it in the numbers of online bidders and new collectors. We have planned a comprehensive gathering for April, and it is much more than a show. It is a week-long collecting experience that is flexible and can accommodate a wide range of needs. This newsletter shares all the details for our upcoming event.

One hundred years ago, the world was battling the Spanish flu and was concerned about the impact of working in office and factory jobs. You will enjoy our seminars as we explore two talented Americans who adapted to this environment and created excellent American Folk Art. Oscar Peterson and Elmer Crowell both emerged from a sporting background to develop outstanding and collectible works. Their stories and work will be the subject of this year's educational seminars.

I understand that you have to make the right decision for your situation. We need and appreciate your support. Your membership is vital to our success. Please renew your membership now.

We are creating a thoughtful plan for April and want you to consider attendance. Talk to your friends and find the best plan for you. We need to see your reservations to develop an optimum event plan. Our hotel agreement allows late cancellation without penalty. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call. I have already talked with more than 400 members. There is clearly great interest.

We are working through the plan to update our web and its tools. The rate of change in the web is rapid, and we need to build a new generation communications capability. If any of you have connections or can help us, it would be appreciated.

We know that things have changed, but that makes it even more important to connect with one another. Focus on being a better you each day. We can do so much more together. We are working hard to do the right thing for the right reason.

Stay strong and Happy Collecting! Liz and I are grateful for all the tremendous support.

Rick



The Annual Show is Always Tons of Fun!





THE WORLD'S LEADING DECOY AND SPORTING ART FIRM

With an emphasis on **quality over quantity**,
Copley sold **6** of the top **7** decoy lots at auction in 2021.

Crowell Plover Trio
SOLD \$984,000



THE WINTER SALE 2022
Preview at copleyart.com

THE SPORTING SALE 2022
Accepting consignments

SELLING THE TOP DECOYS IN TODAY'S MARKET

Since 2009, Copley has placed more decoy lots on the "100 All-Time High Prices" list than all of the other auction firms combined. Source: *Decoy Magazine*

COPLEY	31
GUYETTE AND DEETER	19
DECOYS UNLIMITED	2
SOTHEBY'S	2
CHRISTIE'S	2



SOLD FOR \$186,000



SOLD FOR \$221,400



SOLD FOR \$186,000

DECOY SPECIALISTS

With a combined **44 years in the industry**, Stephen B. O'Brien Jr. and Colin S. McNair help buyers and sellers make educated and informed decisions. Contact one of our specialists today for a free consultation on your individual bird or your entire collection.



Stephen B. O'Brien Jr.
Fine Art & Decoy Specialist
steve@copleyart.com
617.388.0792

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MA #2428

Member News

Life Membership Has Many Benefits



Thanks to Curt Froyen, David Maren, Mike Martin, Andy Rauh, and Bruce Lowe for joining the growing ranks of NADCA Life Members. In addition to eliminating the need to keep track of your membership status, writing checks every year, and absorbing future dues increases, Life Member Curt Froyen has identified a tax advantage due to the association's status as a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

For those of you who are required to take a minimum distribution from your IRA, making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) allows you to get a financial benefit from your charitable contributions and still take your full standard deduction.

A QCD allows you to transfer as much as \$100,000 annually from your IRA directly to a 501(c)(3) organization such as the North American Decoy Collectors Association. A \$500 Life Membership counts toward your required minimum distribution and reduces the taxable amount of your IRA distribution. You lower your adjusted growth income and taxable income without reducing the amount of your standard deduction.

This certainly isn't intended to give tax advice, however, if you believe this strategy might work for you, contact your tax advisor and consider a Life Membership in the North American Decoy Collectors Association as a Qualified Charitable Distribution.

Al Steffen Joins NADCA Board



Please welcome Al Steffen to the NADCA Board of Directors. Al has spent over 32 years in law enforcement and has long lent his expertise in arranging security for our annual show. He grew up in Wisconsin learning to hunt, fish and trap and fondly recalls hunting over homemade wooden decoys as a

young boy. Collecting decoys started at the Edgerton, WI show in the early 90s where he met Art Hansen who he credits with "graduate level training in all things sporting collectibles." Today, he focuses on Wisconsin decoys with particular interest in the history of Lake Koshkonong.

Al currently lives in Silver Lake, WI with his wife Jeannie, and when not working you'll find him training his Deutsch Drathaar (Dozer) or at his hunting camp in the Jackpine sand barrens of Northwest Wisconsin.



Phil Jones to Create Art for Show Pins

The passing of Lou Shifferl last year was certainly met with sadness throughout the collecting community. Since 1978 Lou had created the artwork that graced the pinback buttons produced for our annual show.

We are thrilled to announce that Phil Jones will succeed Lou in designing our pin for 2022 and beyond. Phil has attended every show since 1989 and for many years has volunteered his time to coordinate all show contemporary carver activities. Phil started watercolor painting in 2011 specializing in images of classic decoys in addition to other sporting themes. His work has become very popular among show attendees. Phil admits that carrying on from Lou will be "a tough act to follow," but we are certain that he will more than do justice to the legacy established by Lou well into the future.



Member News

Make Sure We Have Your Correct Email Address



Email communications is the fastest and most efficient way to get important Club news to you. This includes two out of three of our information-packed newsletters as well as important show information. If you are not receiving newsletters or other club communications via email, it means that we don't have a good email address for you on file.

If your listing in the Member Directory doesn't include a good email address for you, make sure you provide it to us so that you get all of the Club information you need. Just send your correct email address to Jeff Seregny at jseregny@gmail.com and we'll add it to your record in the Club database.

2022 Directory to Mail After Show

The annual Member Directory is overwhelmingly hailed as an invaluable tool used by our membership throughout the year. It not only includes a full roster of current members, but is also a treasure trove of useful collecting information including a complete listing of books and magazines of interest to collectors, a list auction houses that deal in sporting collectibles, and much more.

This year we plan to issue the 2022 Member Directory after the show in April to ensure that it is as up-to-date as possible. Since so many members are still in the habit of renewing their memberships at the show each year, many have neglected to renew since 2019 as the result of the 2020 and 2021 shows being cancelled. This timing will also allow us to capture all those who join for the first time at the show. Once completed, the Directory will be mailed to all members who are current with their dues at that time. So, if you haven't already done so, please make sure that you renew your membership as soon as possible.



Members Only Facebook Group Growing Every Day



If you are not among the 225 NADCA members currently participating in our Facebook collecting group, you are missing out on an opportunity to share your collection, get help with ID and valuation, and even buy/sell/trade with other members in a secure and safe environment. Unlike some other online collector groups, there's the assurance that you always know with whom you are dealing. To join the group, just go to the "North American Decoy Collectors Association (Members Only)" group on Facebook and request to join. Once approved, you'll be ready to take part in the fun!



New Website Coming Soon

Every day technological advances continue to make the internet easier and more efficient to navigate for all of us. Using one of today's more user-friendly platforms, we are in the process of revamping the club's website to make it better suited to our members' needs. The new site will allow us to keep the content fresher and more useful for our members, and do so in a more accessible form. We hope to have the new website up and running in the second quarter of the year. In the meantime, you'll still find some basic club and show information at nadecoycollectors.org while the new site is under construction.



CENTER FOR AMERICAN DECOYS

MASTERWORKS OF THE ILLINOIS RIVER

The Center for American Decoys is dedicated to preserving the traditions of American waterfowl history through the art of the decoy.

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Member News

SPECIAL OFFER:
Join today and get a
FREE NADCA hat!*



Share Your Collecting Stories

We all agree that the "thrill of the hunt" for that next item to add to our collection is a big part of the enjoyment that comes from collecting. The stories behind those exciting finds are often treasures in themselves, and we'd love to be able to share those experiences 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 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: 5 Lenox Lane, Hilton Head, SC 29926.

Not an NADCA Member?

JOIN NOW to Enjoy All of the Benefits of Membership

If you enjoy receiving these newsletters, join the NADCA to receive more like this and many other benefits reserved exclusively for our members including:

- Access to the largest decoy and sporting collectibles community in North America
- Printed annual Member Directory, which is also full of other collector information
- Full subscription to our three times per year club newsletter including our email only versions
- Free entry to the annual show, including the "Early Bird" session, and networking opportunities
- Access to the Members Only Facebook group where you can share decoy stories, get help with ID, and buy, sell and trade with other members in a secure environment

All this for only \$25 a year (or \$70 for the more efficient three year option)!

Just complete the application below to join...and get a FREE NADCA hat! *

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Spouse's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email: _____

Primary Phone: _____ Secondary Phone: _____

Collecting Interest(s): _____



NORTH AMERICAN
Decoy Collectors
ASSOCIATION

- ☐ \$25 Membership Fee (1 year)
☐ \$70 Membership Fee (3 years)
☐ \$500 Membership Fee (Lifetime)

Make check payable to: North American
Decoy Collectors Association

Mail check to: Matt Bryant
17114 Erskine Street
Omaha, NE 68116

* Free hat offer valid for first time members only.

In Memoriam



John Freimuth | It is with sadness that we report that long time club member John Freimuth passed away this past December at the age of 82. John was an avid sportsman and knowledgeable collector, and a fixture at our annual show for many years. Always quick with a smile and a story to go with it, John will be missed by all who were lucky enough to have known him.



Jeff Hay | The shock and sadness throughout the decoy collecting community was palpable upon hearing the news that Jeff had unexpectedly passed away on January 19, 2022 from complications following a recent surgery. He was just 54 years old. Jeff, along with his wife Joyce and beautiful daughter Taylor, has long been a fixture at our annual show, always bringing an enthusiasm and energy that made the show a more enjoyable event. Jeff was passionate about his collection and enjoyed a vibrant community of like-minded friends from all over North America who will miss his presence immensely. Our deepest sympathies to Joyce, Taylor and their entire family.

2022 Show Preview

The Westin Lombard, April 26-30, 2022



An Experience to Remember

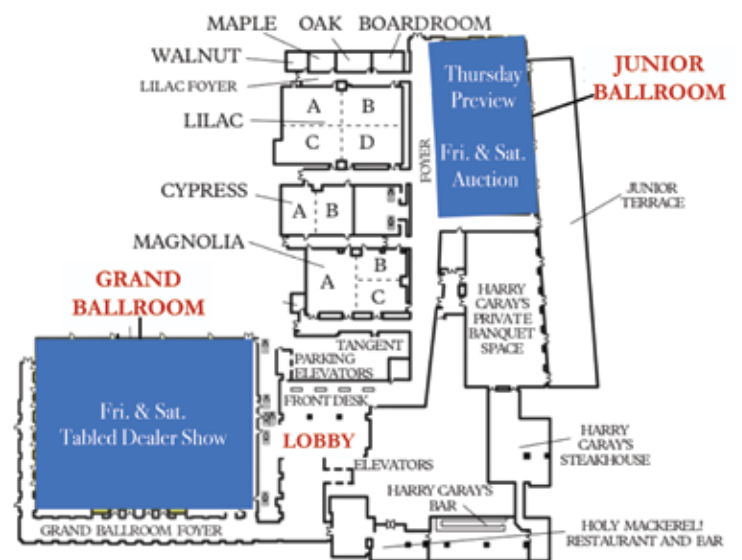
As the largest and longest running decoy and sporting collectible show of its kind, the 55th annual North American Vintage Decoy & Sporting Collectibles Show will once again offer something for everybody with room-to-room trading, the Guyette & Deeter auction, and a exhibit hall dealer sales event. For many this is their opportunity to rekindle old friendships and add a decoy, call or some other sporting collectible to their collection. The show is simply a “must attend” gathering for anyone interested in America’s hunting and fishing past and the great folk art that grew from it.

An Exciting New Location

For the first time, the North American Vintage Decoy & Sporting Collectibles Show will take place at the Westin Lombard hotel in Lombard, IL. The property features large sleeping/selling rooms, well-lit exhibit space and countless amenities. This modern hotel has all that one would expect from Marriott Corporation including large swimming pool, state of the art fitness center, and dining options at Harry Carays Bar and Italian Steakhouse and the Holy Mackerel Restaurant. Right across the street the Yorktown Center offers a broad array of additional dining options.

Many of our members were able to experience this new property last September at the first Chicagoland Decoy Show and all were very impressed. Suffice it so say, this hotel represents a huge upgrade for us all.

On the following pages you’ll find a preview of the many activities planned for this year’s premier collecting experience including a variety of displays and educational seminars that are so popular with show attendees. Check out the day-by-day calendar of events on the opposite page.



The Dealer Show and the Guyette & Deeter Auction are conveniently located just steps apart on the same level which will allow attendees to easily experience both events simultaneously. A TV monitor in the Grand Ballroom will let attendees stay current on auction progress.

Some Key Events to Remember

- › A **Members Only “Early Bird”** session in the Grand Ballroom on Friday will open at 10am prior to the public admission at 2pm. This is a great opportunity for non-members to come early, join the NADCA, and get the first look at dealer offerings before the general public. You can join at the door or send in the Member Application found on page nine of this newsletter.
- › **Silent Auctions** will run continuously for two days in the Grand Ballroom, starting with the 10am opening of the Members Only “Early Bird” session on Friday. You’ve missed a chance at acquiring some pretty interesting items if you haven’t participated in the past.
- › **Free Appraisals** are offered in the lobby of the Grand Ballroom on both Friday and Saturday. Think “Antiques Roadshow.” It’s a great opportunity for folks to learn about, and put a value on, those items that have been sitting in the attic for far too long. We’ve seen some very special items come through the doors over the years.



Make your plans now to attend now!

- For room reservations Call Kenia Izquierdo at (630) 719-8083; or Marriott Reservations at (888) 627-9031. Be sure to mention that you are attending the decoy show to enjoy our special rate.
- Reserve your selling tables for the Grand Ballroom dealer event using the “Table Reservation Form” in the back of this newsletter.



Show Schedule

Tuesday, April 26

All Day – Room-to-Room trading

Wednesday, April 27

All Day – Room-to-Room trading

Thursday, April 28

All Day – Room-to-Room trading

9am – Oscar Petersen Seminar

9:30am-1pm – Show Registration

3:30pm – Elmer Crowell Seminar

TBD – Evans Collectors Meeting

2pm-5pm – Auction Preview

5pm-7pm – Auction Preview Reception

7pm-11pm – Call Makers Auction & Party

Friday, April 29

8am – Call Makers Meeting
& Contest Judging

10am – Guyette & Deeter Auction Day 1

10am-2pm – Members Only
“Early Bird” Show

2pm-5pm – Public Grand Ballroom
Dealer Event

- Hays Decoy “Evolution” Display
- Lake Poygan Shooting Box Display
- Antique Powder Tin/Keg Display
- Featured Carver Exhibit – Jerry Cranwill
- Carving Demonstrations/Displays
- Continuous Silent Auctions
- Free Identification and Appraisals

Saturday, April 30

9am-3pm – Public Grand Ballroom
Dealer Event

Displays / Demonstrations / Appraisals Continue

10am – Guyette & Deeter Auction Day 2

3pm – Guyette & Deeter Summer
Auction Preview

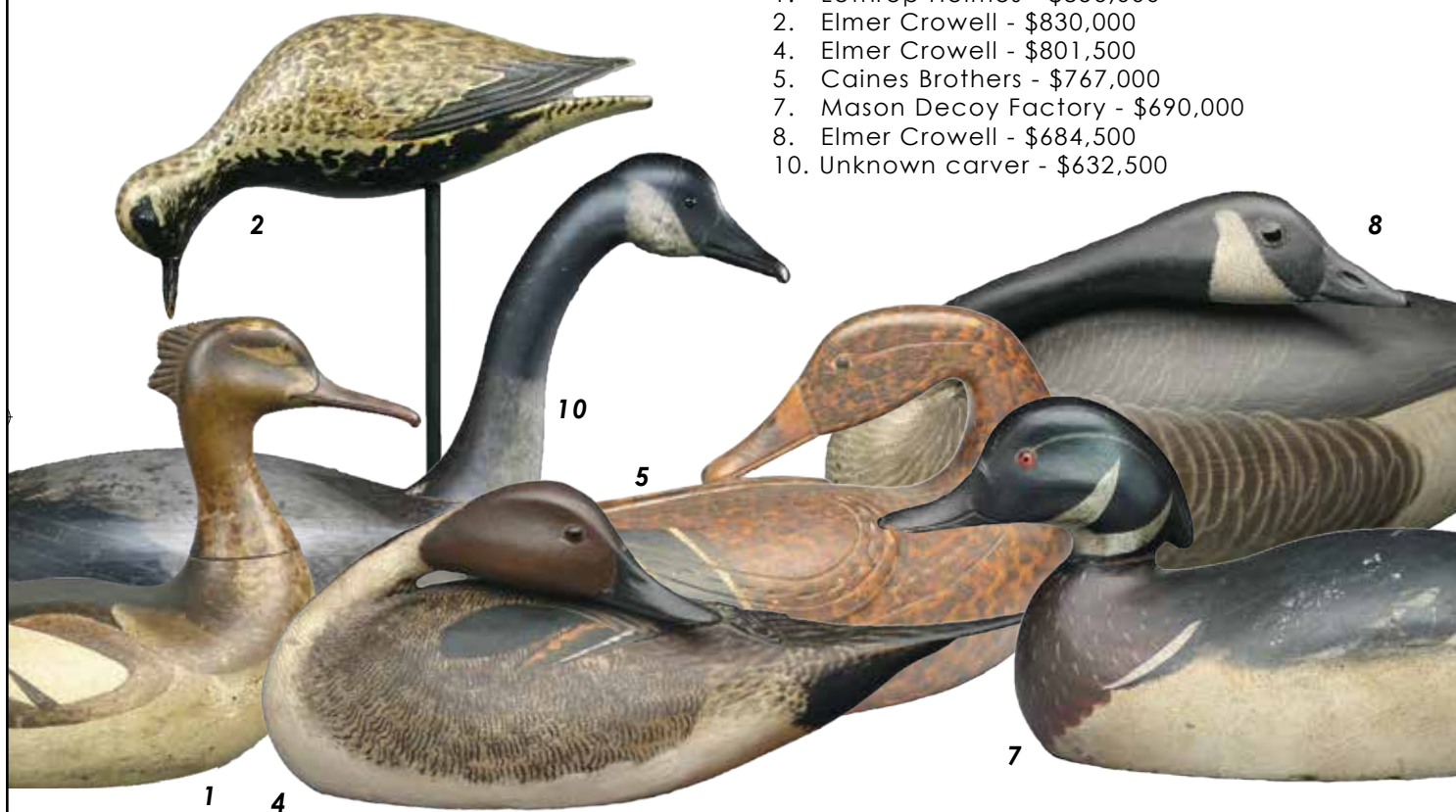
Guyette & Deeter, Inc.

The Leading and Most Trusted Decoy Auction Firm in the World
Guaranteed Condition Reports

For over 30 years working together with the North American Decoy Collectors Club to bring you the best annual show possible.

We have sold seven of the top ten highest priced decoys ever to be sold at auction.

1. Lothrop Holmes - \$856,000
2. Elmer Crowell - \$830,000
4. Elmer Crowell - \$801,500
5. Caines Brothers - \$767,000
7. Mason Decoy Factory - \$690,000
8. Elmer Crowell - \$684,500
10. Unknown carver - \$632,500



To discuss current values or future plans for your decoys and sporting art, contact :

Jon Deeter | jdeeter@guyetteanddeeter.com | 440-610-1768

Zac Cote | zcote@guyetteanddeeter.com | 207-321-8091

Gary Guyette | gary@guyetteanddeeter.com | 410-924-5678

Three Decoy Auctions Per Year

April 26-30, 2022 — Westin Chicago Lombard
Lombard, Illinois

July — Sheraton Harborside Hotel
Portsmouth, New Hampshire

November — Talbot Community Center
Easton, Maryland



410-745-0485

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Recent Sales

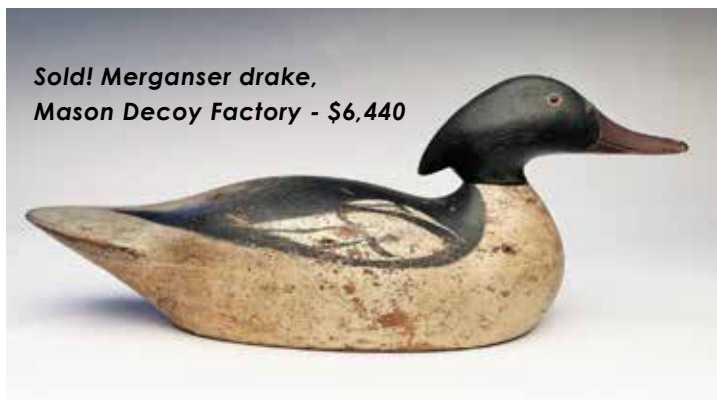
**Sold! Decorative hooded merganser,
Jim Schmiedlin - \$8,740**



**Sold! Three calls,
Yule family - \$2,875**



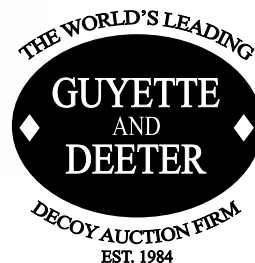
**Sold! Merganser drake,
Mason Decoy Factory - \$6,440**



**Sold! Standing wood duck,
Lloyd Sterling - \$14,950**



**Sold! Two perch decoys,
Oscar Peterson - \$5,347**



For questions or possible
consignments contact Cooper Rossner:

Cooper | 609-560-8028 | cooper@guyetteanddeeter.com

Educational Seminars:

MASTER FISH DECOY MAKER AND FOLK ARTIST

Oscar “Pelee” Peterson



Arguably one of the most prolific makers of fish decoys ever, Oscar Peterson’s

is among the best known and most widely copied fish decoy carver. His fish established the traits that have become known as the “Cadillac style.” His naturally colored fish were truly the design of an ingenious, self-taught folk artist. The volume and range of his work is simply breathtaking. He is believed to have created more than 15,000 works of art that included not just fish decoys, but also duck decoys, lures, plaques, vases and other decorative items.

Jon Deeter, of Guyette and Deeter, and Pete Siggelko, an ardent student of Peterson’s work, will talk about the history and identifying characteristics of these rare and remarkable carvings on Thursday morning at 9am. Siggelko will bring a number of spectacular examples of Peterson’s work from his personal collection providing the opportunity for attendees to view these extra ordinary pieces up close. Come early as this promises to be a very popular event.



Jon Deeter



Pete Siggelko



Celebrating the Legends

**SETTING THE STANDARD
BY WHICH OTHERS ARE
MEASURED**

Elmer Crowell

The work of Elmer Crowell of East Harwich, Massachusetts has long been lauded as among the finest ever produced and is coveted by collectors from coast to coast. Crowell is legendary for the artistry of his paint and sculptural form his pieces exude and is viewed by many as the most influential bird carver of all time.

On Thursday afternoon at 3:30pm Steve O'Brien, of Copley Fine Art Auctions, will discuss this groundbreaking artist and his impact on decoy making and folk art in general. As the co-author of the book, "Elmer Crowell: Father of American Bird Carving," O'Brien will trace Crowell's life from his early fascination with ornithology and hunting to his career as a market gunner in the late 1800s. This led to making decoys that would eventually land in the homes of the Fords, DuPonts, Rockefellers, and other prominent families of the 20th century.

This seminar will include a selection of carvings from some of the finest private collections in America, pieces that have been rarely viewed in public. While most of us can only hope to own one of his decoys, this seminar offers the opportunity for everyone to enjoy and marvel at the immense talent that Crowell brought to his work. This promises to be an immersive and educational windfall for all who attend.



**Steve
O'Brien**



Show Displays

Hays “True-to-Life” Decoy Display: Evolution and Identification



NADCA Member Greg Renner, along with members of his Jefferson City Decoy Study Group, will bring a wonderful display of decoys made by the J.M. Hays Wood Products Company. There has long been a good deal of confusion and misattribution associated with these fine decoys and this display will help attendees understand the characteristics that define them.

The Study Group has identified two distinct generations of Hays products. The first of these imitated decoys made by the Mason Decoy Company, while the second generation demonstrated

a clear redirection of the product line utilizing techniques of scratch and comb painting which eventually became the hallmark of later Jefferson City decoys made by Gundelfinger and Benz.

To further aid in identification of genuine Hays decoys, the display will also include examples of other decoys that have often been mistaken for Hays products, many of which are most likely later Mason products. Greg and other Study Group members will be on hand throughout the show to discuss and answer any questions attendees may have.

Classic Gun Powder Tin & Keg Display Debuts in 2022



For the first time ever, the show will feature a display of antique gun powder tins and kegs from a selection of the country's top powder producers such as DuPont, Hazzard, Laflin & Rand, Austin Powder, and smaller regional manufacturers. Examples from the early to mid-1800's thru to the turn of the century mirror the development and expansion of the country through multiple wars, hunting pursuits, and mining. These unique artifacts of the hunting trade represent an amazing array of sizes, shapes and label graphics, all designed to get attention on the retailer's shelf. Organized by NADCA Director and collector Matt Bryant, this display will draw from several private collections and include some of the rarest tins known. The intricacies of the label

graphics are sure to please all show attendees. These will be available for viewing both Friday and Saturday.



Show Displays

Gunning Box Display



This year the show will once again feature a display of what are referred to as “shooting” or “gunning boxes.” NADCA Director Emeritus Roger Ludwig will assemble a group of classic Lake Poygan (WI) gunning boxes. These unique, multi-faceted, wooden “totes” were tools of the Wisconsin hunting trade that allowed early hunters to more easily transport and organize everything they needed for a successful hunt. These boxes represent the epitome of creativity and ingenuity in their design as they often provided a cradle for a gun as well as housing for all sorts of related items. Attendees are encouraged to spend some time examining these boxes as each one is unique in its design and utility.

Wes Douglass

(201) 761-1638

backwaterwes@yahoo.com

Decoys from all regions
with an emphasis on
Mason factory decoys.



Come see me
In Room # 237



Member Decoy Contests

Blue-Winged Teal Take Center Stage



Each year we hold a species-specific decoy contest for our members. This year's contest on Saturday will feature Blue-Winged Teal decoys. We will conduct two separate contests — one for vintage decoys and one for contemporary decoys. So members should start planning for which Blue-Winged Teal they will enter — one entry in both the vintage and contemporary categories is allowed. This should be a great competition and is sure to generate a lot of interest among all show attendees as all entries will be on display throughout the day.

DECOY MAGAZINE

Celebrating America's finest folk art

The **ONLY** magazine dedicated exclusively to decoy collectors

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

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Contemporary

JERRY CRANWILL: FEATURED CARVER EXHIBIT

CORNER

We are excited that Manito, Illinois decoy maker Jerry Cranwill has agreed to share his unique talent with us at the 2022 show. As a young boy, Cranwill helped his uncles collect their duck decoys after hunts and this experience was key in influencing his interest in creating his own. This exhibit will feature a broad range of Jerry's work including waterfowl and upland birds. Be sure to make some time to spend in the Grand Ballroom enjoying his wonderful work on Friday and Saturday.



In addition to our featured decoy maker, more than a dozen other folk artists will showcase their talents in the Contemporary Corner on Friday and Saturday. This will include carving and painting demonstrations where attendees can learn the "tricks of the trade" directly from these contemporary masters. These popular demonstrations represent a great learning opportunity for every budding decoy maker.



Guyette & Deeter Auction: New Schedule, Outstanding Offering

As usual, the Guyette & Deeter sale features a broad array of wonderful items ensuring that there will be something to interest virtually every collector. From a swimming goose by Nathan Cobb Jr. to a large fish plaque by Oscar Peterson, this auction is sure to generate a lot of attention.

New this year is the schedule. It will begin with a Preview Reception on Thursday evening from 5-7pm in the Junior Ballroom. For those wanting to get a jump on previewing the sale, the ballroom will be open most of the afternoon on Thursday prior to the reception.

The first day of the auction is on Friday with the first lot going on the block at 10am with previewing available starting at 8am. The NADCA dealer show in the Grand



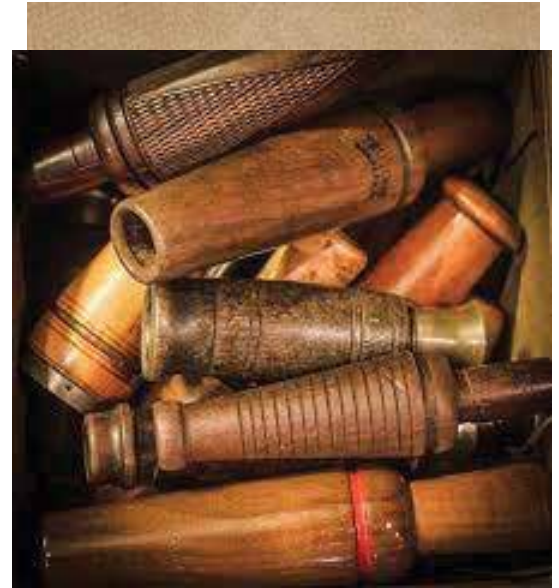
Ballroom will begin at the same time and there will be a television monitor on hand so that all dealers and show goers can keep tabs on which lot is being offered giving them plenty of time to make the short walk over to the auction to get in on the action.



The second day of the auction starts at 10am on Saturday, again with the opportunity to preview items one last time starting at 8am.

Summer Auction Preview:

Once the hammer goes down on the final sale item, pieces to be sold in Guyette & Deeter's Summer Auction will be available for inspection. Don't miss this opportunity to handle items to be sold at the July offering, particularly if you can't be in Portsmouth, NH this summer.



Callmakers And Collectors Come to Lombard

The Callmakers and Collectors Association of America (CCAA) will once again hold their annual meeting during our show. On Thursday evening, the group conducts a Fancy Call Contest followed by a Pizza Party and Custom Call Auction.

On Friday they hold their annual membership and business meeting. On Friday afternoon and on Saturday the Fancy Call Contest entries and results are on display in the Grand Ballroom for all to enjoy. This is a great opportunity to see the fine work by these talented craftsmen.

We are always looking for anything by Elmer Crowell for private sale or auction
or any quality duck decoys and shorebirds by known or unknown makers.

Thank You, Ted and Judy Harmon

Elmer Crowell decoys and decoratives from past auctions and private sales.



Bluebird by Elmer Crowell.



Baltimore oriole by Elmer Crowell.



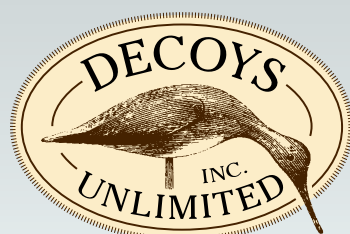
Elmer Crowell pre-stamp black duck
circa 1910-12.



Lesser yellowlegs by Elmer Crowell.



Life size screech owl by Elmer Crowell.



Theodore S. Harmon

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Check our website homepage slider to view decoys sold at past auctions
at www.decoysunlimitedinc.net.

MEMBER PROFILE:

Bruce Lowe:

FOR THIS LOUISIANA NATIVE,
WATERFOWLING AND DECOY
COLLECTING GO HAND-IN HAND

NORTH AMERICAN
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Getting Shreveport's Bruce Lowe to take time out to talk about his collecting during the two-month duck hunting season in Louisiana and Arkansas is no easy task.



He says he hunts "a lot," and while quick to add, "well, not every day," we got the sense that he means that he only takes a day off during hurricanes and other national emergencies. However, we were, in the end, lucky enough to pin him down for a few minutes to learn about his fantastic collection.

Bruce, a retired oral surgeon, didn't begin duck hunting until the late 1960's when he started dating his wife-to-be. It was his future father-in-law who introduced him to the sport, inviting him along to his "camps" on the gulf coast in Port O'Connor, Texas. He immediately caught the hunting bug and has jumped at every chance to pursue this passion ever since. For Bruce, collecting decoys allows him "to connect with the fun of duck hunting throughout the year."

Early Collecting Days

The first decoy that Bruce ever purchased was an inexpensive, primitive redhead drake that had been repainted multiple times. He recalls buying it on a whim in the late 1970's in a small antiques store near San Antonio, Texas. The demands of work and a growing family, as well as limited financial resources meant that this would be his only "collectible" decoy for many years to come. He still owns this unremarkable bird because it represents the beginning of what has blossomed into a collection of superb examples.

It wasn't until the early 1990's that Bruce started to think a bit more seriously about decoys. Like so many of us, he began by "dabbling," picking up a bird here and there as the opportunity arose. He admits that he was not very



Lafrance, Joefrau, Frederick canvasback drake, New Orleans, LA, ca. 1930

knowledgeable in those early days and really had no specific direction for his collecting, just buying whatever he liked when an opportunity arose.

Decoy Education Begins

By the mid-1990's Bruce decided to take his collecting to the next level. He knew that he needed to learn a lot more so he subscribed to Decoy Magazine, and he eventually bought nearly every book ever published about decoys and collecting. In 1996, he attended his first Midwest Decoy show which became the catalyst for an even greater interest in collecting. There he met Memphis derma-



Charles Perdew green-winged teal, Weeks rig, Henry, IL, ca. 1935



Mark Whipple (attrib.) mallard hen, Durapau rig, Bourg, LA, ca. 1920



Mark Whipple pintail drake with his classic broom handle tail, Bourg, LA, ca. 1925



Xavier Bourg coot, Larose, LA, ca. 1940



Cadice Vizier pintail hen, Galliano, LA, ca. 1940



Domingo Campo pintail drake, Shell Beach, LA, ca. 1920



Standing Ward Bros. green-winged teal drake, Crisfield, MD, ca. 1930



Mason Premier green-winged teal hen, Detroit, MI, ca. 1915

tologist Charlie Safley, who sadly passed away from complications from COVID in 2020. Bruce recounts meeting Charlie by chance on a Pheasant Run elevator. Realizing that Bruce was new and a fellow southerner, Charlie took him under his wing and spent the rest of the day talking about decoys and introducing him to other collectors, many of whom would become Bruce's mentors and life-long friends.

In Bruce's words that first Midwest show "just blew him away." The experience of room trading, the auction featuring the Hillman collection, and the exhibit hall event all combined to lay the groundwork for his future collecting. This experience convinced Bruce that nothing can replace the value of handling as many decoys as possible to learn to appreciate good paint, spot repairs, and understand specific makers' techniques. Ever since, he has made it a point to visit with other collectors at every opportunity.

One of the most memorable excursions came as the result of a trip to Europe cancelled on the heels of 9/11. He had cleared his calendar for two weeks and gave his office staff the time off, so he and his wife decided to use the opportunity to travel throughout the southeast and visit a few collectors along the way. This included stops at Dick McIntyre's and Dick Coen's in South Carolina. Both were as gracious as anyone could be, freely sharing their knowledge and their fabulous collections.

In 1997, Bruce met Brian

Cheramie at Pheasant Run. Brian is a leading authority on Louisiana decoys and was there signing his new book, "Louisiana Lures and Legends." Despite being a native Louisianan, Bruce knew little about these decoys since most were made in southeastern Louisiana around New Orleans and the lower Mississippi River, far from his hometown in the far northwest corner of Louisiana. Bruce was just smitten by these birds as Brian shared his vast knowledge and experience. Louisiana decoys would become a major focus of his collection going forward.



Mike Frady pintail drake, New Orleans, LA, ca. 1945

The Collection

In addition to Louisiana decoys, Bruce also collects what he refers to as “classic teal,” and he articulates his overall collecting philosophy as “quality instead of quantity.” Although his wife is more than a little skeptical about this statement, his over 300 examples represent a discerning eye and a very disciplined focus.

His Louisiana decoys include numerous vintage examples by virtually every significant maker from the region, as well as some contemporary carvings made by makers that he considers friends. Vintage pieces include decoys made by Mark Whipple, Xavier Bourg, Mike Frady, Domingo Campo and Mitchel Lafrance. His favorite is a pintail drake by Nicole Vidacovich of New Orleans, ca. 1920. While it’s certainly not his most valuable piece and the decoy’s original paint shows some wear, he just loves it’s eye-catching sculptural form. Added to its charm is that he bought the bird on eBay from well-known collector and historian John Delph. Bruce displays the decoy beside an old photograph of Vidacovich carving a pintail. He enjoys imagining that his decoy is the one in the photograph.

While decoys from his home state represent a large part of the collection, one of the first “collectible” decoys he ever bought was a Mason tackeye model blue-winged teal acquired at the 1997 Midwest show. This was the start



Lafrance, Joefrau, Frederick mallard hen, New Orleans, LA, ca. 1935



Mason painted eye green-winged teal drake, Detroit, MI, ca. 1910



Charlie Trahan mallard pair out of the “Pops” Glassell rig, Lake Arthur, LA, ca. 1940



George Sibley green-winged teal pair, Whitehall, MI, ca. 1900

of his “classic teal” collection that features both factory decoys and those made by many well-known individual carvers.

Bruce confesses that he’s not quite sure why he started to collect teal, but he likes the fact their diminutive size means that they take up less room on the shelves, which, of course, allows room for more decoys! Today, these “classic teal” include a number of spectacular blue and green-winged examples in various grades by the Mason factory, as well as birds by highly regarded carvers such as Charles Perdew, the Ward Brothers, George Sibley, and Elmer Crowell. His Sibley green-winged teal are among the finest known and were formerly owned by Dr. McCleery and then Joe French. He also has wonderful examples of teal from Canada, the Delaware River’s Philadelphia school, and the Evans factory in Wisconsin.

Like so many of us, Bruce enjoys the collecting experiences

and the people he’s met along the way as much as the decoys themselves. He fondly recalls buying a number of outstanding Louisiana decoys from former MDCA Director Tom O’Key, who was moving out of Louisiana decoys to concentrate on Illinois River birds. He considered Tom a good friend and another key contributor to his education about these southern birds.

Bruce also tells the interesting story of how he acquired his pair of Charlie Trahan mallards. About 10 years ago his name was mentioned in an article about a decoy show in Baton Rouge. A friend of his wife’s saw the story. Not knowing that Bruce collected, she offered to give him an old decoy that she had owned for a long time. It turned out to be a Charlie Trahan mallard hen with green felt glued to the bottom. Curious as to what might lie beneath, he started to carefully remove the felt. At first, a few letters emerged but he couldn’t quite make them out. He kept going only to find the “GLASSELL” name painted on the bottom. Bruce immediately recognized this as “Pops” Glassell, president of Ducks Unlimited in 1944 and 1945, and co-owner of the Lake Arthur Hunting Club south of Lake Arthur, LA. Glassell



Tanasia St. Germain preening mallard hen, Delacroix Island, LA, ca. 1930



Nicole Vidacovich carving a pintail decoy

had purchased the club during the Depression along with his friend Ray O'Brien. Ninety years later, the two families still operate the club. Bruce was particularly interested in this decoy because Glassell was a native of his hometown of Shreveport. As luck would have it, three years later Bruce found an exact rigmate drake on eBay and now the pair sit proudly in a special place in his decoy room.

Giving Back to the Hobby

Through his many years of collecting Bruce has accumulated a treasure trove of knowledge about Louisiana decoys and the various makers of "classic teal". He has always willingly shared this knowledge through nearly 20 articles published in Hunting & Fishing Collectibles and Decoy Magazine. His most recent story is in the November/December, 2021 issue of Decoy Magazine featuring



Nicole Vidacovich pintail drake, New Orleans, LA, ca. 1920



Albert Comardelle mallard drake, Bayou des Allemands, LA, ca. 1930

"Newt" Newton, a maker from the less well-documented southwestern part of Louisiana. Bruce has also been one of the primary drivers of the annual decoy show in Baton Rouge. Many thanks to Bruce for all he has done to further our decoy education and our collective enjoyment of this great hobby. You can reach Bruce at theduckstopshere@comcast.net.

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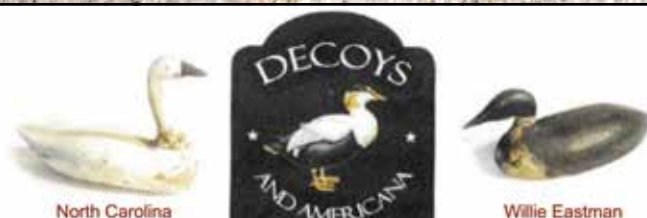
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Reserve Your Tables for the April 29-30, 2022 Grand Ballroom Dealer Show now using the Table Registration Form on the next page! >>>>>

As in the past, priority will be given to returning exhibitors who have held tables in prior years **provided your reservation and payment is received by March 15th. The table cost remains the same as last year:**

- \$75 per table for reservations and payment by March 15, 2022
- \$100 per table for reservation and payment after March 15, 2022

Early Grand Ballroom Set-Up Time!

Set-up time in the Grand Ballroom of The Westin will be on Friday morning from 8 a.m. until 10 a.m. The doors will be open at 10am for a Members Only "Early Bird" session before the public comes in at 2pm. Only table exhibitors will be allowed in the Grand Ballroom during the set-up hours.

A name badge will be provided for all exhibitors, available at the Show Registration Desk beginning on Thursday morning. Please wear this badge in the Grand Ballroom at all times.

Send in Your Table Reservation Form Now!

To reserve your tables, please fill out the Table Reservation Form on the next page and return it, along with your check no later than March 15, 2022 (Note that tables are 6' X 30".) Make sure to indicate at the bottom of the form if you would like your table(s) to be located next to another specific dealer. We will do everything we can to accommodate these requests. Your cancelled check is your confirmation.

You can contact Matt Bryant at (785)-201-2923 or matt.bryant@wilsonco.com if you have questions.



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2022 BALLROOM EVENT EXHIBITOR TABLE REGISTRATION FORM

Primary table holder:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

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Person sharing table:

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Address: _____

_____ Dues are paid up through 2022 (Y/N)

PLEASE NOTE: All exhibitors must be NADCA members in good standing. If not already paid for 2022, you can pay your dues online at nadecoycollectors.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 NADCA member in good standing. They can join online at nadecoycollectors.org or by including their dues payment and member profile information along with this form.

Checks should be made payable to the NADCA.	Amount
_____ # of Table(s) @ \$75 each (\$100 each if after March 15)	\$ _____
Dues @ \$25 for one year or \$70 for 3 years	\$ _____
TOTAL PAYMENT INCLUDED	\$ _____

****Note :** Tables are 6' X 30" with white table cloths.

Special requests:

We will make every effort to keep dealers who want to be placed next to each other together.

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