



NORTH AMERICAN  
Decoy Collectors  
ASSOCIATION

Winter 2026 Newsletter

# Our 60th Anniversary is Here!

## Come Celebrate With Us!

### April 21-25, 2026



2026 marks a truly special moment for the North American Decoy Collectors Association — our 60th anniversary show. For six decades, we've brought together collectors, carvers, and historians to celebrate the rich heritage of the decoy as folk art. This milestone event will feature special exhibits, tributes to our founding members, and one-of-a-kind experiences that honor our past while looking ahead to the future of collecting.

What started out as a small gathering of collectors and carvers

in 1966, has become the largest and longest running show and collecting club anywhere. Our roots are deep. The founders were among the who's who of pioneering collectors – Hal Sorensen, Will Pennington, Ralph Loeff proclaimed themselves to be the “Official Self-Appointed Meeting Committee.” The show attracted many other names that are still well-known to today's collectors - Ben Schmidt, Harold Haertel, Heck Wittington, William Schultz, Gene Konopasek,

Joe French, not to mention Dave Spengler and Joe Tonelli. It's time to recognize these early trailblazers and to celebrate how far we've come.

We look forward to having you join us at the North American Vintage Decoy & Collectibles Show, April 21-25, 2026 at the Westin Chicago Lombard hotel in Lombard, Illinois. Whether you've been coming for years or it's your first time, this will be a show to remember — a true celebration of our shared legacy.



*The First Show, 1966, Ramada Inn, Ottawa, IL*

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*Discover • Preserve • Celebrate*

# NORTH AMERICAN DECOY COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

## OFFICERS

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Jim Wierzba	Vice President
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## DIRECTOR EMERITUS

Joe Tonelli	Randy Root
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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 table 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](mailto:jseregny@gmail.com) or 586-530-6586 for rates and availability.

[www.nadecoycollectors.org](http://www.nadecoycollectors.org)



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

2025 was a year of great progress and success.

Interest in decoys was demonstrated with an exciting and active market. There were many factors contributing to this including many long-time collections being sold with items that had not been available for decades.

Our membership is strong with many new members and a nice increase in attendance at our event. Our association finished last year in a strong financial position giving us the ability to continue to evolve and do more to enhance the show experience. We have extended our relationship with the Westin hotel that ensures that we have the space for our current footprint through 2028 as well as support for potential growth.

Feedback from our 2025 show attendees was inspiring and has helped us shape future shows. We must thank our volunteers as throughout the year they work to deliver an unmatched experience.

## Looking Ahead

Our 2026 event will be an opportunity that should not be missed. We are celebrating the joy of collecting and will recognize our 60th year with some very special activities.

Our annual event is unique with three major activities beginning with room-to-room trading, the Guyette & Deeter auction, and the ballroom show. The room-to-room selling

activity runs from floor two through six with 150 rooms, some of which have three different occupants during the week's activities.

Guyette & Deeter will begin the selling of the Jim & Diane Cook Collection which took over 40 years to assemble and represents one of the finest decoy collections ever assembled.

There will be many contemporary carvers attending our event and their work is inspiring and that market is on fire. It is special to be able to work directly with the artist and create something for your collection.

We are working with a growing group of collaborators to provide a richer experience throughout the week. Our goal is to give every attendee the opportunity to learn and connect with a larger network. Last year documented attendees from 37 states and most Canadian provinces.

Room booking is already higher than last year. Please reach out to your collecting friends encourage them to take advantage of the opportunity. Renew your membership - it's a great value. Firm up your travel and make your hotel reservations early. We are essentially building a "decoy shopping mall" in the hotel, so the early information gives us the time we need to build more effective room and show table plans.

See you soon. Joyful Collecting in 2026!

*Rick*

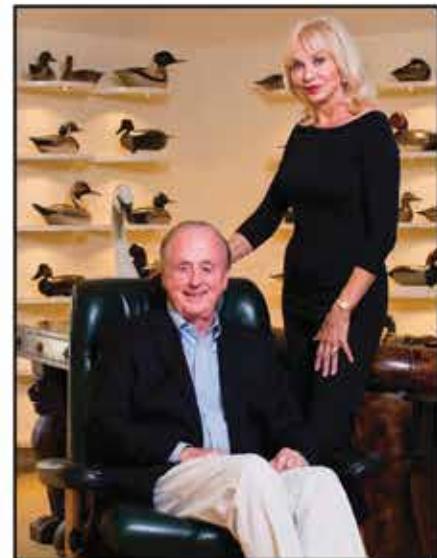


auctions since 1984

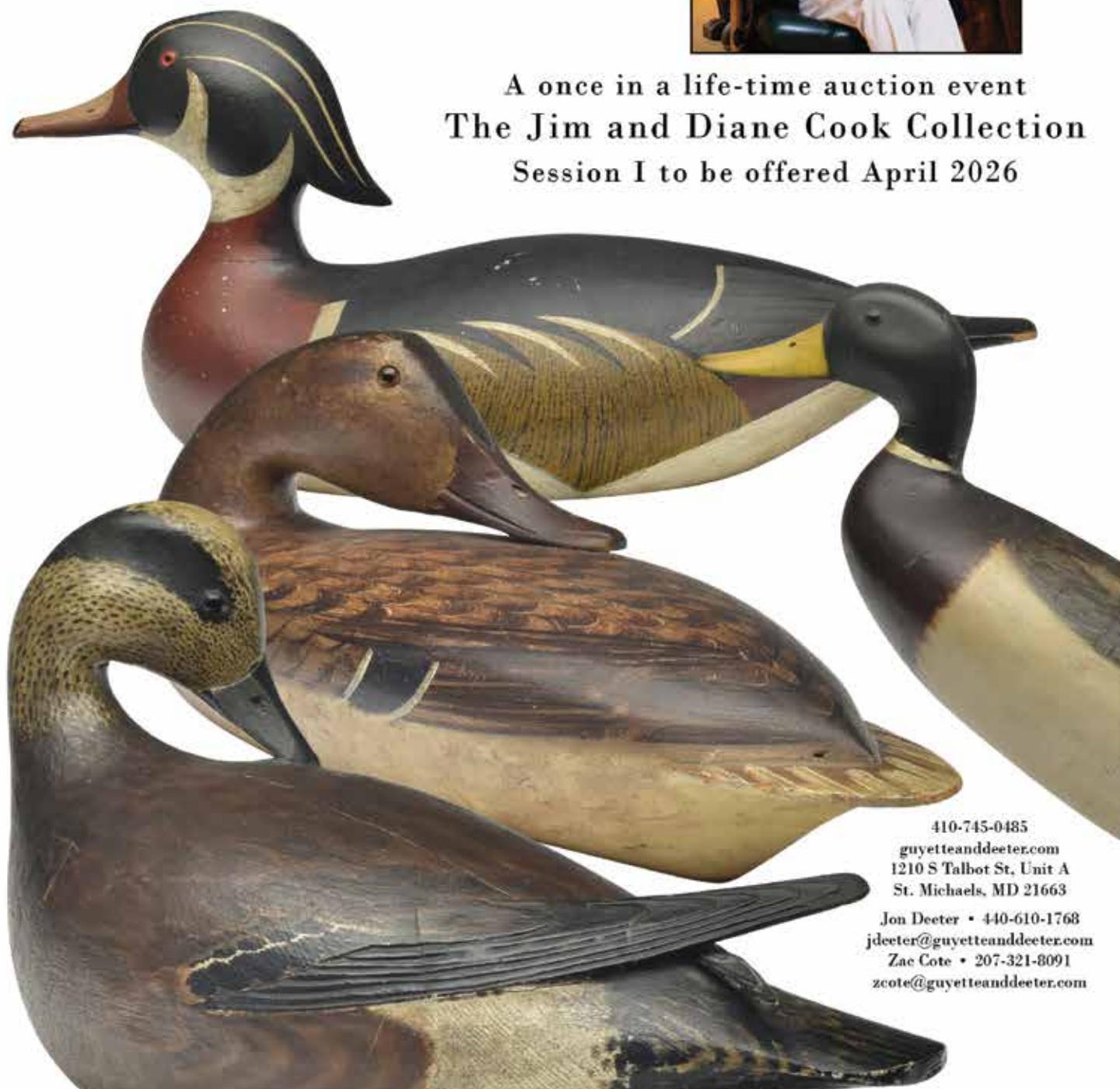
*Decoys | Art | Fine Sporting Arms*

## Decoy and Sporting Art Auction April 23 & 24, 2026

Held in partnership with the North American  
Decoy Collectors Association Show



A once in a life-time auction event  
**The Jim and Diane Cook Collection**  
Session I to be offered April 2026



410-745-0485

[guyetteanddeeter.com](http://guyetteanddeeter.com)  
1210 S Talbot St, Unit A  
St. Michaels, MD 21663

Jon Deeter • 440-610-1768  
[jdeeter@guyetteanddeeter.com](mailto:jdeeter@guyetteanddeeter.com)  
Zac Cote • 207-321-8091  
[zcote@guyetteanddeeter.com](mailto:zcote@guyetteanddeeter.com)

# Member News

## Membership Remains Strong

With nearly 750 active members, the NADCA remains the largest decoy and sporting collectibles organization anywhere. Since our 2025 show, we've added over 75 new members, signaling great interest in our hobby. Representing nearly every state in the U.S. and a number of Canadian provinces, our members collect a broad range of items related to the outdoors. In addition to decoys, this includes animal traps, shell boxes, fishing tackle and lures, canoe cups, ammunition company advertising and pinbacks, powder tins, folk art, and more. A list of new members who have joined since our last publication is below. Please welcome them.

### Jamie Anderson

East Dundee, IL  
*Wisconsin Decoys*

### Chris Aurand

Berwick, PA  
*Ducks*

### Dustin Beernink

Hudson, IL

### Bryan Beernink

Hudson, IL

### Brian Blasingame

Decatur, IL

### Bryan Boprey

Green Bay, WI  
*Decoys*

### Michael Corteen

Huntley, IL

### Harris Darling

Worthington, MN  
*Primitive decoys*

### Roy Fedewa

Lowell, MI  
*Fish decoys; Goldeneye ducks*

### Eric Fett

St Clair Shores, MI  
*Tom Schroeder, Ferdinand Bach, Thomas Chambers, Ben Schmidt, Gus Moak*

### Peter Gambitsky

Smithtown, NY

### Barbara Gatshall

Downers Grove, IL

### Brett Grinwis

Kalamazoo, MI  
*All*

### Peter Hansen

Mequon, WI

### Chris Hare

Monroeville, AL  
*Calls*

### Doug Harmon

Nevada City, CA  
*All*

### Michael Hasty

Peoria, IL  
*Decoys and waterfowl artwork*

### Ned Hill

Sonoma, CA  
*San Francisco Bay & California decoys*

### Pat Hockings

Spring Valley, IL

### Chris Jahnke

Cologne, MN  
*Decoys, calls*

### Lee Kjos

Webster, MN

### Jordan LaPine

Kalamazoo, MI  
*Antique decoys (fish/ducks), signs, artwork*

### Donald Mayden

Alhambra, IL  
*Illinois River decoys*

### Nicole McDaniel

Shrewsbury, MA  
*Specializing in restoration of books, posters, shot boxes, and paper goods*

### Trent McFadden

Oklahoma City, OK

### Paul McGovern

Lynnwood, WA

### Andrew McNally

Winnetka, IL

### David Mears

Franktown, VA  
*Working decoys*

### George Mesires

Chicago, IL  
*Thousand Islands/ St Lawrence River carvers*

### Steven Michaan

Pound Ridge, NY

### Michael Mielens

Bay City, MI  
*Decoys and wildlife art*

### Kyle Mrosko

Conroe, TX  
*Contemporary: McNair, Hanson, McIntyre, Gibian, Ward, Schmiedlin*

### Scott Mrosko

Conroe, TX  
*Harvey & George Stevens decoys*

### Patrick O'Neil

Faribault, MN  
*Vintage advertising*

### Gary Orlandi

Dalzell, IL

### Wade Palashewski

Andover, MN  
*Mason decoys*

### Terry Petersen

Letts, IA  
*Decoys*

### Rob Protzman

Loveland, CO

### Dave Quindt

Hinckley, IL

### Ryan Reidmiller

Olathe, KS

### David Seng

Jasper, IN  
*Vintage collectible advertising*

### Sean Shannahan

Madison, WI  
*Decoys*

### Joe Smoode

Granville, IL

### Cody Stokes

Hazelwood, MO

### Craig Tisdale

Grayslake, IL

### John Tomczyk

Empire, MI  
*Mason decoys & Oscar Peterson*

### J.T. Skip Tubbs

Bozeman, MT  
*Sporting antique dealer*

### Chad Vandermeersch

Arlington, IL

### Lucas Wentz

West End, NC  
*Old fishing lures & decoys*

### Elaine Williams

Brewster, MA  
*Crowell decoys*

### Chris Williamson

Greenville, SC

### Mike Woodward

Lexington, NE

### Kevin Worfe, Sr.

Helotes, TX  
*Duck decoys and memorabilia*

## Cameron McIntyre Featured on DU Podcast

In early December, board member Katie Burke, Curator of the Ducks Unlimited Waterfowling Heritage Center in Memphis, Tennessee, sat down with Cameron McIntyre in his Virginia studio to discuss his solo auction, *Portrait of a Farm*, that was presented by Guyette & Deeter later that month. Cameron shared insights into the artistry and methodology behind his decoys, while also opening up about the collection of paintings featured in the auction. The conversation explored his history with landscape painting, the inspirations that fuel his work, and how this milestone event blended tradition, craftsmanship, and personal vision. Check it out online at [dupodcast.transistor.fm/people/katie-burke](http://dupodcast.transistor.fm/people/katie-burke).

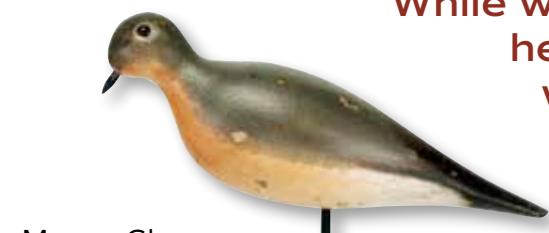


# RUSS GOLDBERGER

QUALITY DECOYS & FOLK ART FOR 40+ YEARS

THIS YEAR'S NORTH AMERICAN DECOY SHOW  
PROMISES TO BE THE BEST IN YEARS

While we miss being at the show,  
here are some decoys  
we have available...



Mason Glasseye  
Passenger Pigeon



Mason Premier  
Wigeon Drake



A Trio of Mason Premier  
Black Ducks



Mason Premier  
Mallard Pair



Mason Challenge  
Goldeneye  
Rigmate Pair



Mason  
Canada Goose



Mason Glasseye  
Bufflehead Pair



Lloyd Parker  
Canada Goose



Frank Schmidt  
Black Duck

MORE ON OUR WEBSITE!

[RJGAntiques.com](http://RJGAntiques.com)

603.433.1770 • [Russ@RJGAntiques.com](mailto:Russ@RJGAntiques.com) • P.O. Box 60, Rye, NH 03870



NORTH AMERICAN  
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# Member News

## Club Facebook Group Continues to Grow

 Late last year our club Facebook group was opened up to non-members. This was to both engage a broader collecting audience and to introduce more collectors to the club. Those requesting to join the group are vetted before approval, allowing us to ensure that they are actually collectors and not someone just trying to create mischief. As a result of this shift, we've increased our participation to nearly 700 collectors and it is growing every day. We hope that this will engage more and more collectors over time and continue to help support the club and our hobby.

## Full Member Directory Coming in 2026

Our Member Directory has long been a valuable reference tool used by our members to network with fellow collectors and to access useful collecting information. In 2025, we issued a short update that only listed new members who joined during the previous year. In 2026, we will once again produce a full Member Directory which will include the name, contact information and the collecting interests of every active member of the club. We ask all members to check their current directory to ensure that all of their information is still correct. Any updates should be sent to [jseregny@gmail.com](mailto:jseregny@gmail.com).



## Instagram Show Promotion Debuts

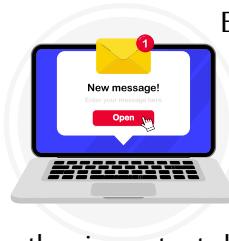
 Our promotional efforts to help drive traffic to the show and to recruit younger members to the club began in earnest in January and continues right up to the week of the show in April. While many of us participate in the many decoy and sporting collectibles groups on Facebook, this is simply not where younger folks engage with one another. While we will continue to promote our show through Facebook and other traditional print channels, we are investing in new media to significantly expand our reach to a larger, younger audience. If you are on Instagram, be sure to check it out, and like and share our posts to help us build our audience.

### SPECIAL OFFER:

Join by March 31, 2026  
and get a FREE  
NADCA hat!\*



## 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 other 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 on file for you. So check your listing in your member directory and if there is not an email address listed for you, or if it is no longer correct, please send the correction to [jseregny@gmail.com](mailto:jseregny@gmail.com) and we will update our database so that you won't miss out on any future club news.

# Not an NADCA Member?

## JOIN NOW to Experience All of the Benefits of Membership

- Access to the largest decoy and sporting collectibles community in North America
- Printed Member Directory which is also full of other valuable collector information
- Full subscription to our three times per year Club newsletter including our email only versions
- Free entry to our annual show, including access to the Members Only "Early Bird" session
- Participation in our 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)!

You can simply use a credit card to JOIN ONLINE at [nadecoycollectors.org](http://nadecoycollectors.org), or complete and mail the application below. Either way, JOIN BY MARCH 31 and get a FREE NADCA hat! \*

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

\*NOTE: Free hat offer valid for non-renewal, first time memberships only.

### HAVRE DE GRACE DECOY MUSEUM



A rare 1890's pair of Holly family canvasback decoys that were donated to the Museum in 2006 by the Michael Family. "These decoys transcend the decoy as art, folk art and fine art." C. John Sullivan, Jr.

Found at the confluence of the Lower Susquehanna River and the Upper Chesapeake Bay, the Museum is dedicated to the collection, preservation, and interpretation of waterfowl decoys.



215 Giles Street  
Havre de Grace, MD 21078

Monday - Saturday:  
10:30 AM - 4:30 PM  
Sunday: 12:00 - 4:00 PM



Learn More!

Come Visit & See for Yourself!

44TH ANNUAL

### Decoy & Wildlife Art Festival

May 2 & 3, 2026

STAR Centre  
700 Congress Avenue  
Havre de Grace, Maryland 21078

Saturday, May 2  
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday, May 3  
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Honorary Chairman  
Chad Tragakis



[decoymuseum.com](http://decoymuseum.com) • 410.939.3739



COPLEY

FINE ART AUCTIONS

## SELLING THE FINEST DECOYS



A. Elmer Crowell  
SOLD \$60,000



A. Elmer Crowell  
SOLD \$1,140,000



A. Elmer Crowell  
SOLD \$210,000



Dovetailed Canada Goose  
SOLD \$810,000



Lee Dudley  
SOLD \$234,000



PREVIEW THE UPCOMING SALE AT [COPLEYART.COM](http://COPLEYART.COM)  
COPLEY FINE ART AUCTIONS, LLC | [info@copleyart.com](mailto:info@copleyart.com) | 617.536.0030



Thomas Chambers  
SOLD \$270,000



Nantucket Curlew  
SOLD \$228,000



Charles Safford  
SOLD \$594,000



John English  
SOLD \$246,000

## ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS THE SPORTING SALE 2026

Contact a specialist



Steve O'Brien Jr., Owner  
Decoy and Fine Art Specialist  
[steve@copleyart.com](mailto:steve@copleyart.com)



Colin S. McNair  
Decoy Specialist  
[colin@copleyart.com](mailto:colin@copleyart.com)



Jim Allen  
Decoy Specialist  
[jim@copleyart.com](mailto:jim@copleyart.com)



Ben Davenport  
Fishing Tackle and Watch Specialist  
[ben@copleyart.com](mailto:ben@copleyart.com)



NORTH AMERICAN  
Decoy Collectors  
ASSOCIATION

# 2026 Show Preview



## The North American Vintage Decoy & Sporting Collectible Show April 21-25, 2026



### A Special 60th Anniversary Celebration

The 2026 North American Vintage Decoy & Sporting Collectibles Show will be a special one indeed. It's the 60th year of the largest and longest running decoy and sporting collectibles show of its kind. In addition to room-to-room trading, a Guyette & Deeter premier auction, and a 2-day exhibit hall dealer sales event, we will celebrate this important milestone with:

- A display chronicling our long history
- A special gathering to honor our founders
- Commemorative 60-year merchandise

More than ever, the show is simply a "must attend" gathering for anyone interested in America's hunting and fishing past and the captivating folk art that grew from it. We hope you will come to celebrate with us.

### Make your plans to attend now!

Make room reservations at the Westin Chicago Lombard hotel one of two ways.

- Go to the Club website at [nadecoycollectors.org](http://nadecoycollectors.org), click on "Upcoming Events" and reserve directly with the hotel online.
- Call Westin Chicago Lombard 24/7 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 Fri. – Sat. Grand Ballroom dealer event one of two ways:

- Complete and mail in the "Table Reservation Form" in the back of this newsletter.
- Click on the "Join or Renew Now" tab on the club's website home page.



### Show Schedule

#### Tuesday, April 21

All Day – Room-to-Room Trading

#### Wednesday, April 22

All Day – Room-to-Room Trading

3:00pm-4:00pm – Seminar:  
The Cook Collection

4:00pm-5:00pm – Show Registration

5:00pm-7:00pm – Auction Preview Reception

#### Thursday, April 23

All Day – Room-to-Room Trading

10:00am – Guyette & Deeter Auction (Day 1)

2:00pm – Evans Collectors Meeting

7:00pm-11:00pm – Call Makers Auction & Party

#### Friday, April 24

8:00am – Call Makers Meeting  
& Contest Judging

9:00am-11:00am – Dealer Ballroom Set-Up

10:00am – Guyette & Deeter Auction (Day 2)

11:00am-1:00pm – Members Only  
"Early Bird" Show

Noon – 60-year Founders Event

1:00pm-6:00pm – Public Grand Ballroom  
Dealer Event

- Wisconsin Waterfowling Display
- Jon & Amy Sarver: Featured Carver Exhibit
- Carving Demonstrations/Displays
- Continuous Silent Auctions
- Hourly \$50 Show Voucher Drawings
- Free Identification and Appraisals

#### Saturday, April 25

9:00am-2:00pm – Public Grand Ballroom  
Dealer Event

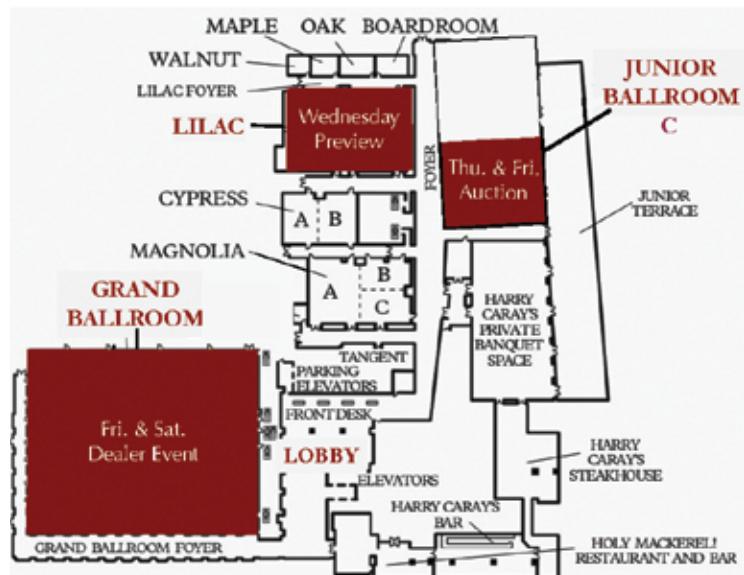
- Member Favorite Decoy Contest (Sleepers/Preeners)
- Displays / Exhibits / Demonstrations
- Silent Auctions / Appraisals / Drawings Continue



## It's All Happening at The Westin Chicago Lombard

The entire show takes place at the Westin Chicago Lombard hotel in Lombard, Illinois. The property features large sleeping/selling rooms, well-lit exhibit space and countless amenities, including a 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 range of additional dining and shopping options.

**A preview of the many activities planned for this year's show follows. There's something for everyone!**



*The Dealer Show and the Guyette & Deeter auction are conveniently located just steps apart on the same level which allows attendees to easily experience both Friday events at the same time. A TV monitor in the Grand Ballroom lets show attendees stay current on the auction's progress.*

# DECOY MAGAZINE

*Celebrating America's finest folk art*

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

### SUBSCRIBE NOW!

*Includes 6 bi-monthly issues plus an annual Year in Review issue*  
In the U.S.: \$45 year • \$80 for 2 years | In Canada: \$60 year • \$110 for 2 years

Sample Copies: \$12.95 each  
includes shipping

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*Gas Wilcox*  
*lifelike greenwing black duck*

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## Room-to-Room Trading: Tuesday – Thursday



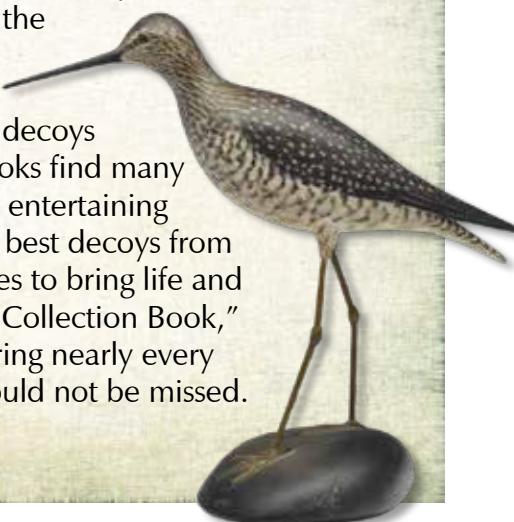
The show opens by offering attendees an opportunity to discover countless decoys and other sporting collectibles in a casual, relaxed atmosphere that encourages learning, selling, and buying. If you haven't experienced a room-to-room event before, you're in for a real treat. Our dealers will occupy rooms on five floors of the Westin hotel and be open for collectors roaming the hallways looking for that next "must have" piece to add to their collections. If you are looking for something specific, odds are that you'll find it here among the thousands of items available for sale.

Room-to-Room trading generally runs from 10am in the morning until 9pm at night and gives collectors the chance to interact with and learn from our dealer members. Whether you're a seasoned collector or new to the hobby, you'll find our members to be extremely knowledgeable and more than willing to help guide your collecting journey. So come early, walk around, and sit and "talk decoys." It's great fun!

## Educational Seminar: Wednesday

### The Jim & Diane Cook Collection

Once again, this year's seminar is a noteworthy one. In a session moderated by Jon Deeter, principal at Guyette & Deeter, Joe Tonelli, legendary collector and friend to the Cooks, will discuss the journey taken by Jim and Diane Cook to acquire what is regarded by many as the finest collection of waterfowl decoys ever assembled. Tonelli, who helped the Cooks find many of their rare pieces, will share fascinating and entertaining stories about their four-decade pursuit of the best decoys from around North America. This seminar promises to bring life and context to the recently published "The Cook Collection Book," an educational, coffee table-style book featuring nearly every piece in the collection. This 3pm session should not be missed.





# AMERICAN SPORTING AUCTIONS

**DECOYS | SPORTING ART | CALLS | FISHING**

*some consignments selling in 2026*



ELMER WOLF | WINOUS POINT



JUDE BRUNET | RINGBILLS



LAFRANCE | EX. DOC STARR

Regardless of value, let us work for you

**Fair Rates | Multiple Bidding Platforms | Fast Payouts**

***Visit us in room 333 at the North American Decoy Collectors Show!***

**WR** Pop Pickle | \$16,200



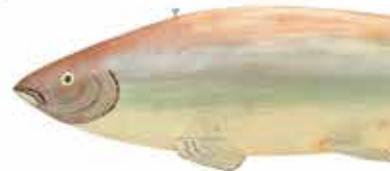
Cameron McIntyre  
\$4,080



William Koelpin  
\$6,300



Ken Bruning  
\$4,560



Consistent Feature and Monthly Auctions **Consign Today!**

**WR**

Keith Mueller  
\$8,100



Mike Borrett  
\$3,240



Heck Whittington  
\$5,880

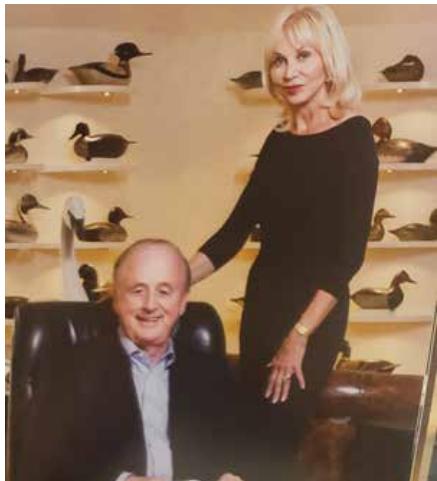


**REGISTER & BID TODAY!**

MIKE MARTIN | 315-576-6058  
P.O. BOX 15623 SYRACUSE, NY 13215

AMERICANSPORTINGAUCTIONS.COM

**Sold with GUARANTEED CONDITION REPORTS and convenient in-house shipping.** We specialize in antique and contemporary duck, goose, fish, and shorebird decoys along with duck calls, sporting art, folk art, and hunting and fishing collectibles. Our focus is in highlighting the history of each item in addition to providing an outlet that thoroughly advertises collections where most items are less than \$25,000. Subscribe on our website for future updates. We are always accepting consignments and pay referrals



## Guyette & Deeter Auction: Wednesday (Preview); Thursday-Friday



Guyette & Deeter will continue the momentum established at last year's show by offering yet another iconic collection in 2026. Following up on Wednesday's seminar, the sale will feature the first installment of the Jim and Diane Cook collection of outstanding waterfowl and shorebird decoys, many of which were recently on display at the Havre de Grace Museum.

This sale will also include a wonderful selection of decoys from the collection of Wisconsin collector Dr. J. Michael Shanahan, as well as a selection of outstanding fish decoys from Michigan and Lake St. Clair.

Showgoers can get a first look at the sale items at the Auction Preview Reception on Wednesday evening from 5-7pm. On both Thursday and Friday, the auction will begin at 10am with more previewing available both days beginning at 8am. There will be a television monitor on hand in the Grand Ballroom on Friday so that all attendees can keep tabs on the auction progress.

## Wes Douglass

(209) 761-1638

backwaterwes@yahoo.com

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



Come see me  
In Room # 237





auctions since 1984

Decoys | Art | Fine Sporting Arms

Premier grade greenwing teal, Mason Decoy Factory, Detroit, Michigan. **SOLD! \$8,640**



*"The Eastern Shoreman"* goose call, Sean Mann, Trappe, Maryland. **SOLD! \$7,920**



Black duck, Elmer Crowell, East Harwich, Massachusetts. **SOLD! \$5,040**



Yellowlegs, John Fulcher, Corolla, North Carolina. **SOLD! \$9,480**



Curlew, Eastern Shore of Virginia. **SOLD! \$6,240**

Miniature pair of canvasbacks, Leonard Pryor, Elkton, Maryland **SOLD! \$2,640**



Group of yelper calls, Billy Buice. **SOLD! \$15,600**



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# Grand Ballroom Dealer Event: Friday-Saturday



The final event of our 60th anniversary show will take place in the hotel's Grand Ballroom where nearly 300 tables are covered with every kind of sporting collectible imaginable available for sale. While some of the dealers occupied rooms earlier in the week, many others will bring tons of fresh inventory to sell.

There's just so much to experience during this 2-day event. Sporting collectibles displays. Decoy carving demonstrations. Special exhibits by our featured decoy makers. Silent auctions and more.

## A Special 60th Anniversary Event

On Friday at noon, all members are invited to come together during the Member "Early Bird" session to celebrate our 60th year. Prior to the public opening, we will salute our founders and celebrate our hobby and its role in preserving the history of this uniquely American folk art. There will be some surprise announcements that members will not want to miss.



Other exciting activities on Friday and Saturday include:

- **Free Appraisals:** Our experts will be on hand throughout the event to help identify and appraise items that attendees bring into the show.
- **Member "Early Bird" Session:** At 11am on Friday, members get a first look at dealer offerings prior to the public admission at 1pm. This is a great opportunity for anyone not currently a member to join the NADCA. Join at the door, online at [nadecoycollectors.org](http://nadecoycollectors.org), or by mailing in the Member Application found on page 7.
- **\$50 Voucher Drawing:** An opportunity to win a \$50 voucher to use toward the purchase of any item at the show. Drawings are held hourly.
- **Silent Auctions:** These run continuously during the 2-day event. This is a chance to snag some neat items for your collection.

# CONSIGNMENTS WANTED



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## Celebrating Wisconsin Waterfowling



In this, our 60th year, what better way to celebrate the rich history of American sporting collectibles than to feature the uniqueness and breadth of Wisconsin's duck hunting past. During the past several years, show attendees have enjoyed examining the ingenuity of classic Lake Poygan (WI) gunning boxes. These unique, multi-purpose, wooden "totes" were tools of the Wisconsin hunting trade that allowed these early waterfowlers to more easily transport and organize everything they needed for a successful hunt.

This year we will examine a more in depth view of duck hunting in Wisconsin. This display will include a full view of the many items that are unique to Wisconsin waterfowling. This will include decoys with their classic folky form; handmade, canvas-covered wooden duck skiffs built to navigate the state's many lakes and rivers, hand-hewn marsh skis that helped hunters cross muddy areas to reach remote hunting areas, and

other related pieces. This display will transport attendees back in time, providing a glimpse into the fascinating history of duck hunting in the Badger State. This will be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, so be sure to check it out.

# CONTEMPORARY CORNER

## FEATURED MAKER EXHIBIT:

### Jon & Amy Sarver



For the first time in our club's history this year's featured decoy maker is a carving couple: Jon and Amy Sarver, from East Peoria, Illinois. It is significant that in this anniversary year the Sarver's represent a continuation of the legacy of great Illinois carving couples like Charles and Edna Perdew, Robert and Catherine Elliston. Just like these early couples, Jon and Amy collaborate to produce some wonderful pieces. Jon began by taking carving lessons from member Pat Gregory, while Amy is a university trained artist and was mentored by Virgil Lashbrook on the intricacies of decoy paint. In addition to creating so many great original pieces, the team has become a "go-to" restoration source for many collectors in the Midwest.



### ON-SITE DECOY MAKING DEMONSTRATIONS

In addition to our featured decoy makers, many 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 contemporary masters. These popular demonstrations represent a great learning opportunity for every budding decoy maker.



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## Member “Favorite” Decoy Contest: Saturday “Wake-Up” Call for All Sleepers/Preeners

The NADCA will hold its annual member “Favorite” Decoy Contest on Saturday morning, the final day of the show. This year the focus is on form as the contest will feature decoys in classic sleeper/preening postures. As always, there will be two separate categories — one for vintage decoys (made for hunting prior to 1960), and one for contemporary birds (made in 1961 or later). An entry in both categories is encouraged, and pairs count as a single entry.

Members should begin thinking about the decoys they want to enter now. Judges will select a “Best in Show” in both categories. This competition is sure to bring lots of fantastic looking birds to the table. Contest entries will be on display until early afternoon on Saturday in the Grand Ballroom for all attendees to admire.



## Callmakers Club Comes to Lombard

The Callmakers and Collectors Association of America (CCAA) will once again hold their annual meeting at the show. On Thursday evening, the group conducts a Fancy Call Contest followed by a Pizza Party and Custom Call Auction. On Friday and Saturday, the Fancy Call contest entries and results will be on display in the Grand Ballroom, and many members will offer their calls for sale. This is a great opportunity to see the fine work by these talented craftsmen and to pick up a call for the collection.

## MEMBER PROFILE:

# Ryan Graves:



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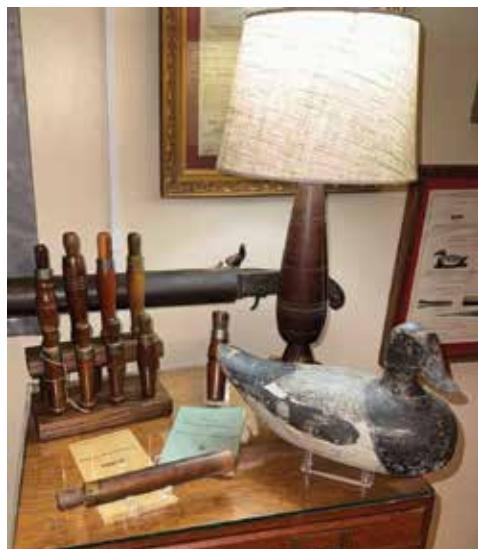
## COLLECTING THROUGH PERSISTENCE, HARD WORK, AND PASSION

That Ryan Graves has assembled such a remarkable collection of waterfowling-related artifacts is both predictable and astonishing. On one hand, nearly every chapter of his life has been shaped by duck hunting. On the other, his chosen profession—far removed from wealth or leisure—would seem to preclude the pursuit of anything beyond modest collecting. Ryan jokes, “I couldn’t find anyone willing to pay me to hunt ducks for a living, so I became a schoolteacher.”

Ryan grew up in Marion, Illinois, once celebrated as “the goose hunting capital of the world.” Hunting was a way of life there, and he spent nearly every free moment as a teenager in the swamp with friends, chasing ducks. He later chose to attend Western Illinois University in Macomb largely for its proximity to the legendary hunting grounds of the Illinois River. Through a mutual friend and fellow duck club member, he met his wife, Katie, whom Ryan insists is a saint. Today, Ryan, Katie, and their two sons, Eli and Harper, live in Mayfield, Kentucky—just 30 miles east of the Mississippi River, one of North America’s great waterfowl corridors. In every sense, Ryan has lived a life deeply rooted in duck hunting, pursuing waterfowl across the United States, Canada, and Argentina.

## The Collector

Collecting runs in Ryan’s blood. His mother is an avid collector



**Charles Grubbs Display: Calls, Advertising Pieces, Rare Bluebill Decoy**



**Charles Perdew Mallards, Henry, IL, ca. 1940**



**Charles Perdew Pintails, Henry, IL, ca. 1940s**



**Charles Walker Mallard, Princeton, IL, ca. 1940**



**George Sibley Bluebill, Whitehall, MI, ca. 1920**

of Americana, while his father focuses on vintage automobiles and Winchester shotguns. It was only natural that Ryan would develop similar instincts. As a child, he collected baseball cards, saving money from mowing lawns to purchase higher-quality vintage examples rather than contemporary issues. This early commitment to “quality over quantity” became the foundation of his collecting philosophy.

Ryan’s passion for sporting artifacts was sparked in 1996 when his father gave him an old Ken Martin goose call. Not long after, Ryan moved that call—along with a Pascagoula factory mallard hen decoy that had long been displayed in his family’s living room—into his bedroom. Captivated by their aesthetic and historical presence, he began actively seeking vintage calls and decoys.

## Immersion Begins

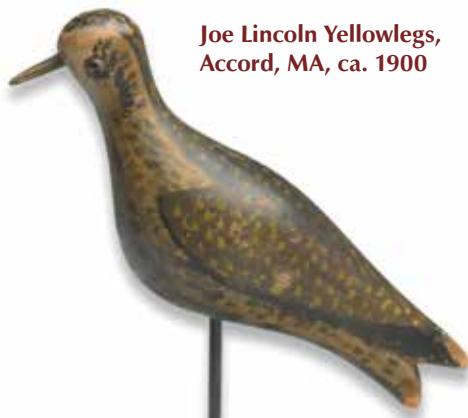
Describing himself as having “champagne taste on a beer budget,” Ryan quickly realized that education—not capital—would be his greatest advantage. His approach was methodical and disciplined, reflecting his background as an educator. He understood early on that knowledge would be the key to acquiring truly significant pieces.

Ryan began by building a library of collector reference books, reading voraciously about duck calls and decoys. Volumes on Mason, Illinois River, and Mississippi Flyway decoys soon filled his shelves. In 1996, he acquired “Duck Calls of Illinois” by Robert Christensen, a book that would profoundly shape his future. In 2009, he purchased several important vintage calls on eBay with the intention of reselling them. While he recognized



**Perdew Display**

the makers, he was uncertain of their true value. Hesitant but determined, he reached out to Christensen, who not only offered guidance but also introduced Ryan to fellow collectors. A close friendship followed—one that endures to this day.



**Joe Lincoln Yellowlegs,  
Accord, MA, ca. 1900**

During his research, Christensen had put together an extensive archive of correspondence, catalogs, articles, and ephemera. Eventually, he entrusted this invaluable body of material to Ryan. Building on this treasure trove of information, Ryan has assembled one of the most comprehensive collections of duck call research and documentation in existence, with plans to do the same for decoys.

While Ryan's expertise in calls is widely recognized, he readily admits that he is still learning about decoys. He credits seasoned collectors Dick McIntyre, Joe Tonelli, Hugh Chatham, and Dave Kneebone with mentoring



**Robert Elliston Pintail, Bureau, IL, ca. 1890s**



**Lou Kelly Pintail, Peoria, IL, ca. 1930**

him in areas ranging from paint and condition to repairs, authenticity, and trust.

Ryan also possesses an invaluable asset—a photographic memory. He rarely forgets a conversation, image, or passage from a book, allowing him to instantly draw upon decades of accumulated knowledge.

## **Building the Collections**

Unlike many novice collectors, Ryan resisted the temptation to buy indiscriminately. Instead, he focused on historically important pieces in honest, original condition—particularly early examples that shaped the future of the craft.

With limited financial means, Ryan spent his first decade collecting by buying and selling strategically, reinvesting the profits to buy better and better things. He credits eBay as an essential tool, allowing him to buy and sell quickly using more accurate descriptions and informed pricing.

His commitment was relentless. Ryan estimates that he logged more than 200,000 miles in his Honda Civic chasing artifacts throughout the Midwest. Though he doesn't recommend it, his mantra was often, "Buy first and worry about how to pay for it later." He admits to taking substantial risks, including maxing out multiple credit cards to secure pieces he believed were irreplaceable. Often times the pressure was immense to sell out in order to get out of debt but Ryan believed his perseverance would pay off. With a wry smile, he jokes that although the credit card debt is now gone, he remains perpetually broke—still unable to pass on something truly exceptional.

## The Call Collection

Through years of study, risk, and perseverance, Ryan has assembled one of the finest and most comprehensive vintage duck call collections in the country—without the financial advantages



Phillip Olt, South Pekin, IL, ca. 1940s

enjoyed by many collectors. His focus has been on premier calls from Illinois, Tennessee, Missouri, and Arkansas, including examples by the Glodo family, J.T. Beckhart, Charles Perdew, Charles Grubbs, Tom Turpin, and Perry Hooker, among others.

What truly distinguishes the collection is the context Ryan provides. A self-made historian, he has curated his collection as a narrative rather than a display of isolated objects. His den features carefully designed vignettes

highlighting individual makers and their contributions.

One display centers on Charles Grubbs of Senachwine, Illinois, widely regarded as one of the earliest pioneers of modern duck calls. It includes multiple Grubbs calls, among them the famed "Illinois River Duck Call," the earliest known commercially marketed duck call dating to 1868, along with late 19th century promotional material, as well as a rare Grubbs bluebill decoy.

Another vignette highlights Charles Perdew, featuring several calls, associated ephemera, and an exceptional Perdew mallard drake in Charlie paint. Also included is a VL&A call long attributed to Perdew but now correctly identified as the work of Arkansas maker James Beckhart.

Wall-mounted shelves organize calls by maker and region, including a grouping of calls by the Glodo family of Southern Illinois and the Reelfoot Lake region of West Tennessee—credited with



Tom Turpin, Memphis, TN



Top Row Victor Glodo, Glodo Family, Victor Glodo Hornbeak model, John Nicholas Glodo. Bottom Row Joseph Glodo, Victor Glodo, Albert Glodo, Glodo Family



developing the iconic Reelfoot call and its distinctive checkering pattern. Ryan places the Glodo family alongside Virginia's Cobb family in terms of historical significance and influence. Among his most prized pieces is an early call ca. 1890s by Victor Glodo, widely regarded as the father of American duck calls.

## The Decoy Collection

Ryan readily acknowledges that his decoy collection remains a

work in progress. While he has always collected decoys, they were often the first things sold to fund call acquisitions. His primary focus is on Illinois River birds, featuring strong examples by Charles Walker, Robert Elliston, Bert Graves, and Charles Perdew.

He also appreciates outstanding work beyond Illinois, particularly by folk artists such as the Caines Brothers, Ira Hudson, Duncan Ducharme, Ned Burgess, and the

Cobb family, while also admiring the refined craftsmanship of carvers like the Ward Brothers and Elmer Crowell. Ryan dreams of someday owning a Nathan Cobb decoy but admits that, absent a miracle, it may remain just that—a dream.

One of his most memorable decoy collecting stories occurred during the 2016–2017 duck season, when an older friend mentioned that he had an old decoy with a weight marked "Perdew." Expecting a repainted example, Ryan didn't see a need to rush to see it. When he finally visited after the season, he was stunned to find a pair of Perdew mallards in original paint, along with several Perdew miniatures.

When asked if there was anything else, the owner casually mentioned a few items on a shelf in the living room. Turning the corner, Ryan was confronted with two Charles Walker pintail drakes, an early Perdew pintail in original



Unknown maker, IL,  
ca. 1890s



Claude Stone,  
Senath, MO,  
ca. 1920



Duncan Taylor,  
Chandlerville, IL,  
ca. 1900



James Beckhart,  
Big Lake, AR,  
ca. 1900



John "Sandy"  
Morrow, Holcomb,  
MO, ca. 1900



Charles Grubbs, Lake  
Senachwine, IL, known  
as the "Improved Illi-  
nois River Duck Call"  
and is one of the earli-  
est historically signifi-  
cant calls that exists

Edna paint, several Charles Walker mallards, some other Illinois River birds, and a small group of vintage calls. His jaw dropped. Though the owner wished to sell, Ryan wasn't in a position to purchase the collection himself. Instead, he arranged to consign the birds to Guyette and Deeter, where they were sold in their April and July 2017 auctions. Ryan notes—only half-jokingly—that if the owners of those Walker and Perdew pintails ever want to sell, he would welcome the opportunity.

## Other Collectibles

Beyond calls and decoys, Ryan has assembled an impressive collection of pre-1950 waterfowling artifacts. His collection room includes Parker shotguns, Wisconsin gunning boxes, push poles, powder tins, an early punt gun, shot dispensers, photographs, paintings, periodicals, and a raft of other historically significant waterfowling literature.

Among the most distinctive pieces are two extraordinary lamps crafted by unexpected hands. One is a one-of-a-kind floor lamp carved by Charles Perdew, featuring a VL&A-style barrel, intricate detailing, and carved turtle heads forming the feet of the base. The other is a 1940s lamp by Clyde Hancock of Stuttgart, Arkansas, carved in the form of one of his iconic duck calls.



One-of-a-Kind Perdew Lamp



Perdew Lamp Detail



Perdew Lamp Base



Clyde Hancock Lamp, Stuttgart, AR

## Contributions to the Hobby

Ryan's willingness to share his knowledge, combined with his depth of research, has made him one of the most trusted authorities on vintage duck calls in the country. As such, he plays a vital role in preserving the legacy of these important artifacts. He has authored articles on early call makers for Mossy Oak and the Call Collectors Association of America, regularly assists collectors in building world-class collections, and consults with auction houses, insurance companies, and estate attorneys to ensure accurate attribution and valuation.

We thank Ryan for sharing his story and for his generous, selfless contributions to the waterfowling collecting community. He can be reached at [rkegraves@gmail.com](mailto:rkegraves@gmail.com).

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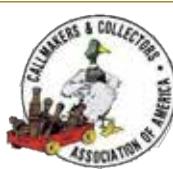
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# Reserve Your Show Tables Now!

To reserve your tables for the Friday-Saturday show, fill out the Table Reservation Form on the next page and return it, along with your check, no later than March 15, 2026. (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 canceled check is your confirmation. **NOTE: You can now also reserve and pay for your tables online at nadecoycollectors.org. Just click on the "Join or Renew Now" tab on the home page.**

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

- \$75 per table for reservations and payment by March 15, 2026

- \$100 per table for reservation and payment after March 15, 2026

## Grand Ballroom Set-Up Time

Set-up will start on Friday morning at 9am. The doors will be open at 11am for a Members Only "Early Bird" session before the public comes in at 1:00pm. 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 Wednesday afternoon, and then again on Friday morning during set-up. Please wear this badge in the Grand Ballroom at all times.

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

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**Primary table holder:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Dues are paid up through the year of the show (Y/N)

**Person sharing table:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_ Dues are paid up through the year of the show (Y/N)

**PLEASE NOTE:** All exhibitors must be NADCA members in good standing. If not already paid for the year of the show, you can pay your annual dues online at [nadecoycollectors.org](http://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](http://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 tablecloths.

Special requests:

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

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