

Ohio Duck Tales

Ohio Ducks Unlimited

Volume 1, Issue 1

1st Quarter, 2017

A Word from our Chairman

Bill Ebert



Welcome everyone to the resurrection of the "Duck Tales" Ohio newsletter.

It has been far too many years since our last publishing of an issue, so long ago it was in the forgotten form of a real "paper" newsletter! Many things have

changed over those years, some negative, but far more for the good of the habitat and our beloved waterfowl.

We are drawing close to the end of another year of most waterfowlers' favorite time of year. I hope that everyone had the opportunity to get out and enjoy the outdoors and nature this year, even if you didn't fill your bag. The fall is my personal favorite time of year, the smell of the harvested crops, and the changing leaves make me feel good and inspire me to do more for the ducks.

It's easy to become overwhelmed with all the climate change and algae bloom and habitat loss articles, that we don't reflect on the positive work that DU does on a daily basis

Change is something that we should embrace with positive actions, especially when it involves our environment. You are a member of one of the best conservation organizations in North America and among the top in the world. In this and future publications, you will see several articles to evidence such from Russ Terry, Chris Sebastian, and many staff people from both GLARO and DU national. DU and many other private and government agencies are partnering in many wonderful projects to enhance projects in crucial areas including many in Ohio.

I have personally had the opportunity since becoming chairman to witness such programs in

Saskatchewan at "Ducks University" and also in Ohio this fall at the "partnership hunt" which included a bus tour to several projects in the Lake Erie region. Our dollars do help, I encourage you to continue with all the effort that you can provide to further our mission.

This is all of our newsletter, if you have upcoming events or stories that you would like to share, or a favorite recipe that we could all enjoy please contribute.

Welcome and especially the utmost gratitude to our new editor of "Ducktales", Diana Anderson. She and her husband Marshal were long time members of local and state committee in Michigan. Fortunately for us, through her professional life they have been transferred to Ohio. It is a great coup for us to have their continued support here in Ohio. Please welcome Diana as our editor and Marshall as the state major donor chair. They reside in the greater Dayton area and I'm sure that you will see them in the future at our awards celebration in February and many other events throughout the state. Please take the time to introduce yourself to them and welcome them into our Ohio family.

I encourage all of you to attend the awards celebration this year, once again in Wilmington this February. It's a very exciting evening with many new committee awards and recognition. You will see the new national package there as well as several one of items in the auction and raffles as well. The hospitality, hosted by our convention chair, April Blaylock, needs no introduction. If you haven't witnessed it personally, this lady knows how to throw a party.

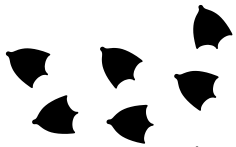
Look forward to seeing all of you soon! *Bill*

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Want to be a Life Sponsor?

Submitted by Bill Ebert



Would you like to become a life sponsor but \$10,000 isn't in your near future?

How about the next best option? Would you be willing to contribute \$100 and be a part of the "canvasback society"?

Many years ago the state committee started the Canvasback Society to mirror several other states that have done a "group life sponsor" such as the "Old Coots" or the "Gray Goose". It enables those who are willing, to make a group effort for a "life sponsorship" at the national level.

It takes 100 individuals a \$100 pledge to complete a life sponsorship. Recognition is as a group instead of each persons' contribution. You will receive a lapel pin that you can proudly display to show your commitment.

We implemented our pledge many years ago and through the changes of chairpersons, the downturn of the economy, and whatever other excuse we can think of, it slipped through the cracks.

It was brought up at a recent district meeting this fall if we had ever completed it or not. Just the mention of it at that meeting prompted five of those attendees to contribute to the completion of our said pledge.

I made a personal commitment to see this to fruition in my time as state chair. We currently lack \$5700 to meet our goal. My personal goal, is to finish it this February at the annual awards celebration. If you would like to help us meet this number please contact: John Murphy, 5084 Garrett Dr. North Ridgeville, Oh. 44039 or murph@oh.rr.com



Featured Duck Dog

Submitted by DU Member
Steve Seedorf

Our Dog of the Month is Tika a 7 year old Black Lab Male owned and trained by Steve Seedorf of the Henry County Chapter. Tika has hunted in Ohio and North Dakota and has retrieved 22 different species of Waterfowl.



Featured Decoy

Submitted by DU Member
Steve Seedorf

This month's Decoy is a pair of Mason Blue Bills that are in the collection of Henry County Committee Member Steve Seedorf. The Mason Decoy Factory was located in Detroit and was in business from 1895-1924. They made 5 grades of decoys: Premier, Challenge, and Standard with Glass, Tack, or Painted Eyes. This pair are Standard Grade with the drake being a glass eye and the hen being a tack eye. Values for Masons vary depending on species and condition with a large percentage being in the \$150-5,000 range. Masons can be had for as low as \$50 and the current world record is a Premiere Wood Duck that sold in 2014 for \$690,000.

Recipe of the Quarter

Stuffed peppers with Duck or Pheasant Submitted by Bill Ebert

Ingredients

Duck or pheasant breasts 4-6
Celery – ½ bunch
Green bell peppers -2
Red bell peppers –as many breasts as you have. cut out the top and hollow seeds
Onions-2
Carrots- 2 cups
Ham sliced medium
Cajun seasoning
One cup of chicken stock
Shredded Mozzarella and Cheddar cheese

Instructions

Dice the green peppers, onion, celery and carrots and place in the bottom of a high-sided clay pot or casserole dish
Take a breast and pound it flat and layer it

with ham slice, a liberal amount of Cajun seasoning sprinkled on with a little shredded cheese. Roll them up and stuff them into the hollowed red peppers.

Carefully nestle each of the peppers into the pot of diced vegetables so that they are supported upright.



Pour the chicken stock over the entire dish. You can use a little garlic salt and pepper if you like it a bit more spiced. Then cover the entire dish with shredded cheese. Bake @350F for 1:30 or until the cheese is nice color of brown.

This sometimes produces more liquid than the dish will hold, so a drip pan is highly recommended!

We use the leftovers all combined the next day as a base for a wonderful crockpot of "THE BEST" soup that you've had in a long time.

2017 Ohio State Convention-Come, Meet New Friends and Celebrate!

The 2017 Ohio State Convention will be held on Saturday, February 18th at the Roberts Centre in Wilmington, OH. Rooms can be reserved at a group rate of \$119 per night by contacting 1-800-654-7036. A block has been reserved under Ducks Unlimited Group until February 5th. There will be a hospitality room open Friday night at 8pm. Guests should bring a bottle of liquor to be part of the raffle drawing. The **tentative** agenda for Saturday is as follows:

*Tentative Sporting Clay Shoot 8am
State Committee Meeting 11am
Calendar Sales Meeting to follow
Luncheon will follow the Calendar Sales Meeting
Duck Stamp Judging Contest
Dinner and Awards 6pm
Hospitality opens immediately following dinner

*Persons interested in the Sporting Clay Shoot should contact Bill Ebert at 513-607-3333 or Marshal Anderson at 734-755-0374.

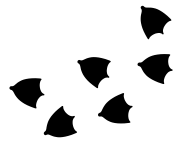
The Roberts Centre is located at 123 Gano Rd, Wilmington, OH 45177

2016 Ohio Hunt Unites, Educates Partners

Ducks Unlimited, Ohio Division of Wildlife, Lake Erie Marsh Association host 15th Annual Ohio Partnership Hunt in October.



Ducks Unlimited teamed up with the Ohio Division of Wildlife and the Lake Erie Marsh Association to host the 15th Annual Ohio Partnership Hunt in October. More than 120 participants were treated to three days of hunting, tours of wetland conservation projects and other activities across the Lake Erie marsh region of northwest Ohio.



three

The Ohio Partnership Hunt celebrates the broad conservation work DU and our partners are doing in the Great Lakes," said Russ Terry, DU's regional biologist for Ohio. "Our supporters and members can get a firsthand look at the habitat work which

supports waterfowling and water quality."

About 20 private hunting clubs and other landowners hosted hunts in this waterfowl-rich area of western Lake Erie. Guests harvested mixed bags of ducks and geese and had the rare opportunity to visit historic properties such as Winous Point Shooting Club. Participants also toured several DU projects encompassing several thousand acres of northern Ohio coastal wetlands.

Representatives from Ducks Unlimited, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Ohio Division of Wildlife and other conservation groups discussed the importance of partnerships in conducting large wetland restoration projects in this region.



"This event is a great way to showcase the past successes of the partnership and discuss ideas for the future," said Scott Butterworth, Ohio Division of Wildlife district manager. "The enthusiasm to undertake new projects is incredible, everyone is always looking forward to the next project."

Receptions and dinner events held during the evenings gave participants the opportunity to meet members of DU's state and national leadership as well as representatives from the Ohio Division of Wildlife and other conservation organizations. The Ohio Partnership Hunt was sponsored by Community Choice Financial and Mossy Oak. Event hosts included Zink Calls and Demars Point Hunting and Fishing Club.



Great Egret Marsh Enhanced

The two coastal wetlands became unproductive, full of undesirable fish and had poor water quality



Ducks Unlimited and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) this summer completed a 60-acre coastal wetland enhancement project on TNC's Great Egret Marsh Preserve.

The preserve is on the Catawba Peninsula west of East Harbor State Park. The two coastal wetlands at the preserve lacked water level control and became unproductive, full of undesirable fish and had poor water quality which lacked wetland vegetation.

The project installed infrastructure to reconnect the wetlands with West Harbor and connect two wetlands for improved water level management and to allow seasonal fish access for spawning. TNC secured Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funds from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to complete this project.

Ducks Unlimited is enhancing 460 acres of coastal wetland at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge



The project is reconnecting the wetlands with Crane Creek. It is funded through a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant awarded to The Nature Conservancy by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. DU has completed survey work, engineering design, bidding and contracting, and is overseeing construction by three contractors on site.

This is the latest project at the refuge. DU has improved, engineered and constructed four wetland projects at the refuge in 2014 and 2015, improving nearly 315 acres. These projects provide improved habitat for breeding and migrating waterfowl and other wetland-dependent wildlife, and spawning and nursery areas for important fish species such as northern pike.

Please visit the DU Website to find information on your local chapter events! www.ducks.org



We'd be happy to help you

*get your ducks
in a row*



Planning now for how your affairs will be handled, whatever your stage in life, is a good idea. A few simple steps today through an estate plan can give you peace of mind tomorrow by ensuring that you and your loved ones are protected.

Your estate plan can also be used to support charitable causes that matter most to you, such as Ducks Unlimited's conservation mission. Legacy gifts are critical to the long-term sustainability of DU.

We encourage you to request a helpful planning booklet, "Planning Your Legacy, A Guide to Planning Your Will & Trust." Our program is tailored to provide all of the assistance possible to you, your family and your advisors.

For more information, contact **Sarah McCallum**, DU director of gift planning, at (734) 623-2031 or smccallum@ducks.org. You can also visit us at www.ducksgift.org

Upcoming 1st Quarter Events

JANUARY

21st	Allen County Dinner	Dave Yohe 419-230-2855
26th	Maumee Valley Dinner	Dave Hughes 419-308-7663
28th	Cleveland Hailers Dinner	April Blaylock 216-749-7758

FEBRUARY

18th	Zanesville Dinner	Ben Whitacre 740-454-2545
18th	Ohio State Convention	April Blaylock 216-749-7758
25th	Union County Dinner	Brad LeMaster 937-578-3881
25th	Big Island Dinner	Brandon Biesiadecki 614-361-4476

MARCH

4th	Lake County Dinner	Nick Agins 440-227-6829
11th	Madison County Dinner	Chuck Miller 937-206-1035

Ohio Facts– Your DU Dollars at Work

Total Membership* 18,376

** Excludes Canine Members*

General Members 16,391

Greenwings 1,170

Legacy Greenwings 61

Sponsor Members 625

Major Sponsors 129

Grassroots Dollars Raised Last Year \$1,168,485

Total Acres Conserved in Ohio 79,915

The Ohio DU license plate is a great way to support wetland conservation. Since 1999, \$15 for each plate sold or renewed goes directly to DU to conserve wetlands. More than 90 percent of Ohio's original wetlands have been drained and remaining wetlands are threatened by development and urban sprawl. The DU license plate is another way people can contribute directly to the conservation of Ohio's natural resources. Go to: <http://www.bmv.ohio.gov/vr-sp-organization.aspx>



I wanted to take a little bit of space in the newsletter to say introduce myself. My name is Diana Anderson and several years ago, I became involved with DU as a way to meet new people in a new town. After a few years on a local committee, I raised my hand to do more because I believed in the mission DU stood for. During my time at DIU, I have been served as a local chair, State Convention Chair and the State Secretary, where parts of my duties were to publish a quarterly newsletter. Early last year, I accepted a promotion in my "day" job and moved to Ohio and have since began my journey to become involved again and make a new DU family. I have so enjoyed my time, made some amazing and lifelong friendships, and learned so much! I want to encourage all of you reading this to consider raising your hand to become more involved in DU with the State. I guarantee, if you do, not only will you not regret your decision, you will get more than you give. Volunteering for DU has truly been one of the best decisions I have ever made. There are open positions in the State. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact your Regional Director or State Chair, Bill Ebert.

I look forward to meeting you at a DU Event soon! *Diana Anderson*

State Chairman- Bill Ebert

State Treasurer—Mike Walker

State Secretary- Jessica Jones

Feather Society Chairs- North- Brent Bunnell

South- John Calder

Greenwing Chair- Jim Beitel

Major Gifts/Campaign Chair- Marshal Anderson

Special Projects /State Sponsor Chair- Brian Rees

Region Recruitment Chairs- North- Steve Seedorf

State Calendar Raffle Chair- Shane Riley

Web Administrator- Jeremy Brandenburg

Duck Tales Needs You!

Duck Tales is a semi-annual newsletter put out by the volunteer group of Ohio Ducks Unlimited to help keep our members and volunteers up on the latest happenings around the State. To make sure we have the latest information, we need YOU! Please submit articles about events and happenings in your area to Editor, Diana Anderson. We will include all appropriate articles depending on space constraints.

Articles should be 175 words or less. Longer articles may be submitted but may be edited or omitted due to space constraints. Feel free to include pictures. All articles need to be in to Diana no later than the middle of the month prior to publishing month. June for July publication and December for January publication.

