



# The Michigan Waterfowler

Publication of the Michigan Duck Hunters Association

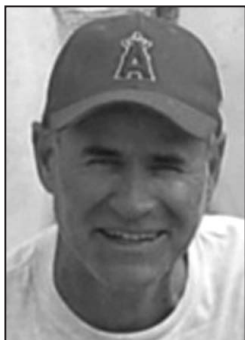
Volume 29, Issue 1

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

Winter 2012

## George Lockwood wins 2012 Michigan Duck Stamp Competition

The 2012 Michigan Duck Stamp competition had 45 entries, including 11 from Michigan artists. This year's competition was won by George Lockwood of California, with a beautiful rendition of a pair of Ringneck Ducks.



*George Lockwood*

After graduating from California Polytechnic State University, in San Luis Obispo, with an Agricultural Management Degree, George spent 19 years guiding in Alaska before retiring in late 2003. Living in the Alaskan bush and watching animals for months at a time played an important part in his art. He has won numerous awards and gained national recognition for his work depicting wildlife and landscape including several state duck and game bird stamps. George now paints primarily commissioned pieces and participates in a few select shows around the country each year. His paintings are a record of experiences and they can be found in private and corporate collections throughout the United States and around the world.

Some of George's accomplishments include: 20 State Duck and Game Bird Stamps; Nation's Best Duck Stamp Design twice; Ducks Unlimited National Art Package; Federal Duck Stamp Top 20 National Tour; Foundation For North American Wild Sheep Artist of the Year; Birds in Art Exhibition; Society of Animal Artists National

Tour, Award of Excellence and Leonard Meiselman Award. George now lives on California's Central Coast with his wife and two children.

To learn more about George Lockwood and his art, visit [www.lockwood-art.com](http://www.lockwood-art.com).



## 2012 Michigan Duck Stamp goes to print

*By Bob Bissonnette & Mike Driver, MDHA Duck Stamp Program*

Duck Stamp Program coordinators Mike Driver and Bob Bissonnette recently supervised the printing of the 2012 Michigan Duck Stamp at the F.P. Horak Company in Bay City. We first reviewed the color separations mounted in the presses and samples run to approve the printing. The presses print in 4 colors to create our prints and stamps. After a couple of adjustments were made and more samples were run, we were all in agreement, and we approved the printing. The printing process itself takes a very short amount of time, and quality is monitored by checking random samples approximately 10 times throughout the process to ensure that everything is lined up correctly. When the correct number has been printed, they are removed to a storage area to finish completely drying before they are released to be proofed and signed by the artist. In total, the process takes around 3 hours, provided there are no problems, and the entire



process is done under the watchful eyes of MDHA volunteers and F.P. Horak employees before being placed in a secure area and sealed. Once serial numbers are applied, the stamps and prints are complete and are ready for the artist to sign and be released to the public.

Introduced In 1976, the first Michigan duck stamps were designed as a ten stamp pane selling for \$20 at \$2 a stamp. The first 15 Stamp pane format was printed in 1995 and sold for \$75.00 each (\$5 per stamp). The 2012 Duck Stamp Program is reintroducing the ten pane format, making it more affordable for collectors to purchase the Michigan Waterfowl panes at \$50 each. This also will also make artist signing easier with more room for a Remarque.

The collectable Singles & "Top 3 Strips" are still available for \$5.00 / 20.00 Orders can be made with the stamp order form in this issue. Also, Stamp Prints are \$145.

# The Michigan Duck Stamp Program – a brief history lesson

The Michigan Duck Stamp program started in 1976 with a requirement of all Michigan waterfowl hunters age 17 and older to carry a signed stamp, which at that time cost \$2.10. In 1998, due to legislative action and the new computerized retail licensing system, Michigan hunters were required to obtain a waterfowl hunting permit, which at that time cost \$5. A physical duck stamp was no longer required. However, In 1999, the Michigan Duck Hunters Association signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in order to keep the actual stamp program alive. Since that time the MDHA has been responsible for the annual competition, printing and distribution of both stamps and prints. Per the MOU, the DNR receives 10% of the net profit from all print sales. According to the DNR, since its beginning in 1976 through 2010, the sales of Michigan duck stamps, prints and waterfowl hunting permits have raised \$7.4 million dollars, which is used exclusively for wetlands acquisition in Michigan.

*FP Horak  
printing staff*



*MDHA Stamp  
Program Coordi-  
nator Mike Driver  
reviewing stamps*



## The Michigan Waterfowler

Volume 29, Issue 1

Winter 2012

The Michigan Waterfowler is published quarterly (May, July, September, and January) and is distributed to all members of the Michigan Duck Hunters Association. The views expressed in this publication do not reflect the views of the Michigan Duck Hunters Association or Morning Star Publishing Company.

Copy deadline is the first day of the month preceding publication. Submitted copy will be published at the editor's discretion.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Michigan Waterfowler invites letters from readers. All letters must include the authors name, complete address and phone number and/or email address (only name and city/town will be printed in the publication). Letters should be limited to 250 words or less. Form letters will not be printed. The Michigan Waterfowler reserves the right to edit all submissions.

### ADVERTISING

Advertising must be camera-ready, in good taste, and not offensive or misleading.

#### Advertising Rates:

Full page .....	\$300
Half page .....	\$200
Quarter page .....	\$125
Eighth page .....	\$75
Sixteenth page (vertical) .....	\$60
Sixteenth page (horizontal).....	\$50
Thirty-second page .....	\$40

Advertising discount of 50% with a commitment to advertise in four consecutive issues. Terms are 30 days net

### CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads are free to MDHA members, with a maximum of 20 words. These ads will run for one issue unless resubmitted before the deadline for the next issue.

All letters to the editor, inquiries and correspondence regarding submission of copy, advertising and classifieds should be addressed to the editor at:

Dan Dykstra  
10344 Williams Road  
DeWitt, MI 48820  
Email: justducky@dishmail.net  
Phone: (517)331-0412



## 2012 Annual Event



Join us for a night of great fun and fellowship featuring some of the finest products on the market, as well as high quality artwork, decorations, several guns, raffles, a live auction, hunting trips, and always several surprises. 100% of All Funds Raised stay RIGHT HERE in Michigan to ensure the future of Waterfowl and Waterfowl Hunting in our Great State! Funds raised go to support our Youth Events, Habitat Projects, Public Outreach and Education and More! As Always, Bottomless cups of Beer and Soda included with each dinner ticket!  
We expect a Sold-Out Crowd, So Don't Delay!!

### Lake Effect Gives Back Goods Drive

For every item you bring to the event, you receive one raffle ticket. Drawing will be held just prior to dinner for a \$100 Raffle Package and 4 Upper Tier Tickets—A \$200 Total Value! Any non-perishable food item or any household item will be accepted. This goes to benefit the West Michigan Catholic Charities Loaves and Fishes Pantry.

### Where?

Trillium Banquet and Conference Center  
17246 Van Wagoner Rd  
Spring Lake, MI 49456

### When?

Thursday February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012  
Doors Open at 5:30PM with Social Time from 5:30-7PM  
Buffet Dinner of Prime Rib and Applewood Smoked Chicken served at 7PM  
Raffle Drawings and Live Auction Beginning at 8pm

Early Bird Raffle Packages must be postmarked by February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012

(See Registration Form)

For More Information Contact Chapter Chairman Kevin Bouwman at 231-740-2927

# From The Duck Blind

Dan Dykstra, Editor



Another hunting season is in the books, at least for guys like me who don't purposely chase geese. Most hunters I've talked to had a typical year with some good days, and some slow days. But there seems to be one common question from all corners...where's our winter? As I write this in mid-January, we have very little snow cover, and only a skim of ice on the waters around me. My ice fishing gear is sitting at the ready, but it's looking more and more like that season will be over before it even gets started. The wildlife should get a break this winter, but at the expense of winter sports enthusiasts, as well as those businesses that benefit from it. Let's hope we eventually get enough winter to make everyone happy.

There was some interesting news coming from The MDHA State Board meeting in December. Scott Berg, member of the Grand River Chapter of MDHA, and former Delta Waterfowl Regional Director, has been voted in as our new President. Scott has expressed that his goals include strengthening the organization by increasing membership, improving the overall identity and presence of MDHA, and providing more leadership from the state board. He intends to be very active with the various chapters, and will be attending chapter meetings and functions as much as possible. Look for more information about Scott in a future edition. As we welcome in a new President, we also thank outgoing President Drew Deters for his many years of service providing leadership and direction to the organization. He has committed to staying involved with the state board, and helping in the transition in any way possible. Thanks Drew!

Also on the news front, on behalf of MDHA I attended the Conservation Coalition meeting sponsored by the MUCC in December in Lansing. Many organizations have said they would gladly volunteer to help the department accomplish their goals, but they have no idea what is happening in their area of the state. So they have requested that the DNR do a better job of communicating with sportsmen and women, and be more inclusive and transparent in the work they are doing around the state. At this meeting, the DNR leadership of several divisions made presentations on their efforts to do just that. The Fisheries and Wildlife Divisions both gave updates on interactive databases they are developing, which will list all current projects that they are working on around the state. With a simple click of the mouse, all interested parties will soon be able to see what work is currently being done in their area of the state, as well as those projects the department would like to accomplish in the future. Many of these projects are relatively small or easy to accomplish, but are low on the department's priority list due to shortages in funding and/or manpower. Examples include brush/invasive species clearing and habitat work, maintenance of parking lots, sign placement and/or maintenance, etc. By having this information at their fingertips, local conservation organizations will be able to see opportunities in their areas to get involved and partner with the department to accomplish some of these projects. The DNR intends for these interactive tools to eventually be posted on their website, so look for more on that in the near future.

DNR Director Stokes also announced that the department will be undergoing agency-wide strategic planning in order to provide clear direction and goals. This again was something that the Conservation Coalition suggested would help the department in improving credibility in the eyes of the conservation community. Many of you recall that the DNR Wildlife Division recently completed their version of a strategic plan, which they titled "GPS". This highly acclaimed document is available for viewing on the DNR's website, and it appears that the other divisions will now follow-suit with their own version.

In other news, the DNR has partnered with MDHA, Ducks Unlimited, MUCC and others to create the new Waterfowl Legacy workgroup (see article in this edition by DNR Waterfowl and Wetland Specialist Barb Avers). This effort

is similar to the current pheasant restoration initiative, and is intended to be an on-going collaborative effort over the next decade to enhance and improve Michigan's waterfowling opportunities. The fact that MDHA has been invited to be a partner in this initiative once again shows the importance of our organization in helping set policy and direction for the state.

The DNR is also continuing the discussion regarding the potential for modifying the waterfowl hunting zone structure, which began at the CWAC meeting in March of 2011. The issue in a nutshell is the USFWS has offered flyway states the opportunity to consider creating a fourth zone. However doing so would mean giving up the opportunity to provide a "split" season, which we have had here for many years now. So the DNR is soliciting input on whether to keep our current zone configurations, modify the existing three zone configuration in some fashion, or add a fourth zone. CWAC members have been gathering input from their respective areas of representation, and providing the DNR staff with that input. The CWAC will be reviewing the proposals and discussing them at the March 2012 CWAC meeting. I would encourage any of you who have ideas regarding potential changes to our current zone configuration to contact a CWAC member and offer them your ideas, or contact DNR staff directly. For a list of current CWAC members, go to [Michigan.gov/dnr](http://Michigan.gov/dnr), and in the search box type "cwac", which should take you to a list of contact information for current CWAC members. Note that some members represent only a group or organization (as listed), while others are "at large" and will accept input from individuals. However, before you contact any of them, your ideas should be well formulated, and include justification for why you feel a change is necessary such as what benefits you would expect for the change, what information you used to develop your ideas, who you talked to, and what level of support (or not) you received.

Now for some somber news. Many of you are aware that on October 20, 2011, fellow waterfowler Sean Monschau was tragically killed in a hunting accident at Fish Point Wildlife Area. I happened to know Sean personally, and have hunted with him and his brother Kevin. Since this tragic loss, the Fish Point Wildlife Association has been working with the DNR on creating a memorial in Sean's name at the Fish Point DNR office. They are also developing plans for a handicapped accessible blind to be constructed in one of the units in honor of Sean's love of Fish Point and waterfowling. Sean's family and closest friends have been involved in this process, and with their input plans are being finalized. The Fish Point Wildlife Association has set up a fund for donations to these projects. Any donation would be appreciated. All funds raised will go towards these projects, and any money leftover will be donated to Sean's family. Donations can be sent to:

Independent Bank  
8880 Unionville Road  
Sebewaing MI, 48759  
ATTN: Sean Monschau Memorial Fund - Account # 74562976  
Donations can also be made in person at any Independent Bank branch in Michigan, using the above account information.

I want to personally thank the FPWA, and the DNR, for doing this in memory of Sean. I'm sure he'd be honored by your generosity. Any questions regarding these projects can be addressed to Ron Hohne, President, Fish Point Wildlife Association, (810)335-0591, or email at [rhohne223556@att.net](mailto:rhohne223556@att.net).

To those of you still chasing geese, I wish you the best of luck. And for those of you, like me, who are waiting for safe ice, keep your fingers crossed! Be safe on the water...wear your PFD's! See you in the marsh!

# Michigan Duck Hunters Association Executive Board

CONTACT US VIA OUR WEBSITE: [www.midha.org](http://www.midha.org)

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 Brandon Yuchasz Property Chairperson  
 Pat Murray Vice President  
 Richard Soderquist Trustee

Dan Dykstra Secretary  
 Curt Meppelink Treasurer  
 Mike Driver Stamp Program Coordinator  
 Bob Bissonnette Stamp Program Competition and Marketing Coordinator

## Michigan Duck Hunters Association Roster of Chapter Officers

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 Bob Cleveo..... Vice President  
 vacant..... Secretary  
 Mike Ulrich..... Treasurer

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 Matt Rowloff..... Vice President  
 Marsha Standler..... Secretary  
 Russell Teyner..... Treasurer

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 Greg Bouwman..... Vice President  
 Ryan Soulard..... Secretary  
 Chris Simpson..... Treasurer

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 Chase Turkstra..... Secretary  
 Rick Kolk..... Treasurer

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 Brad Van Dike "bvd7"..... Secretary  
 Nick Hanline "Duckman Racing"..... Treasurer

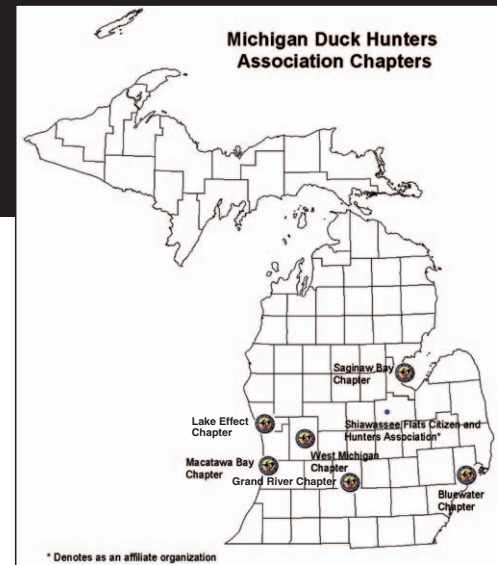
### SHIAWASSEE FLATS CITIZENS & HUNTERS ASSOCIATION (SFCHA)

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 Bud Dankers..... Membership [ydankers@tds.net](mailto:ydankers@tds.net)

### GRAND RIVER CHAPTER

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 Todd Rusnell..... Treasurer  
 Scott Dick..... Secretary  
 Lyle Adams..... Special Project Coordinator

# Michigan Duck Hunters Association Membership Application



Return Form & Payment (check, credit card, PayPal or money order) to:  
**Michigan Duck Hunters Association (MDHA)**  
 Post Office Box 20, Midland, MI 48640  
 or visit our web site: <http://www.midha.org>  
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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Residence ( ) Business E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

( ) \$ 25 General Chapter Affiliated Membership - MDHA Membership Card, Window Decal, State Duck Stamp, and one year subscription to "The Waterfowler"

( ) \$500 Lifetime Chapter Affiliated Membership ( ) \$250 Senior (62 years of age) Lifetime Chapter Affiliated Membership\*

(\*Copy of Drivers License or State Identification Card as proof of age required)

Life Member Card, certificate and Window Decal, Annual State Duck Stamp, Lifetime subscription to "The Waterfowler", current year State Duck Stamp Print with jacket

( ) \$250 Conservation Donor Membership\* - Conservation Donor Certificate, one year subscription to "The Waterfowler", current year matted State Duck Stamp print, and recognition as Conservation Donor in "The Waterfowler".

Please indicate the Chapter you wish to be affiliated with; ( ) Bluewater ( ) Macatawa Bay ( ) Saginaw Bay ( ) Not Sure? ( ) Grand River ( ) Lake Effect

### L I F E T I M E M E M B E R S

**Roland Bell**  
 Bluewater Chapter  
 2002

**Scott Cain DDS**  
 Saginaw Bay Chapter  
 2001

**Mike Driver**  
 Saginaw Bay Chapter  
 2001

**Jim Jacobone**  
 Bluewater Chapter  
 2006 Senior



# MDHA Chapter News

**Bluewater Chapter** - Regular chapter meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm at Perch Point Conservation Club. For more information, contact Jim Bahr at 586-293-3201.

**Grand River Chapter** - Regular chapter meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 at Eagle Eye Golf Club, Chandler Road, East Lansing. For more information, contact Scott Berg at 517-712-2129, or email Roger Courey at rbcflyby@comcast.net.

**Lake Effect Chapter** - The Lake Effect Chapter of MDHA had a great year in 2011! We had our annual Youth Day the end of August, a booth at Sportsman For Youth event, and a Courtesy table at the opening day of the Muskegon WW hunt. We also took a group of women on a guided hunt in November, and got several youths out and active in the field this year!

The Chapter is busy preparing for the Annual Event on Thursday February 23rd, 2012 in Spring Lake, MI (see flyer in this paper). Right now we are currently holding two meetings a month in preparation of the big night. Following our event in February, we will return to our regularly scheduled once a month meetings at Sam's Joint in Norton Shores, until the next big event that requires more meetings. As always anyone is welcome to attend any of our meetings, it is a very laid back atmosphere, with about a one hour formal meeting, followed by social time to visit and what not.

Several members will be tending to hen houses and wood duck boxes in the area this spring, throughout the Muskegon and Grand River marshes, as well as some private areas. Also several members will be traveling to both Missouri and South Dakota in search of snow geese...Best of luck to them and Safe travels in your adventures free lancing!

We will also once again be participating in the West Michigan Environmental Action Council's annual Grand River Cleanup in April. For more details how to get involved and help us out, email us at lakeeffectmdha@gmail.com Details and Dates/times are TBA at this point, but it is normally around earth day, which is April 22nd this year.

Regular chapter meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 at Sam's Joint Restaurant, 6618 Grand Haven Road, Norton Shores, MI. We are always looking for some like minded individuals to get involved and help us with upcoming ideas, bringing new ideas to the table, suggestions, etc. If you would like to get involved, contact Kevin Bouwman at 231-740-2927, or drop us an email at lakeeffectmdha@gmail.com. Our website is now up and running in a blog format at www.lakeeffectmdha.org. Also, look for us on facebook, keyword: Lake Effect MDHA

**Macatawa Bay Chapter** - At our December meeting, DNR Lt. Dave Shaw came and spoke about what the different fly ways are considering for changes, including the possession limits, season dates, daily limits, and looking at breaking Michigan into a four zone state. Here in

Michigan, the CWAC may propose making the goose season a straight 120 days, and there are once again talks of allowing two hen mallards on our daily bag. Consideration is also being given to adding a 4th zone in Michigan. Dave also talked a little about his new role with the DNR. Dave is the lieutenant for district 4 which includes; Benzie, Grand Traverse, Lake, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, Wexford. Dave is currently living in Cadillac.

Upcoming events include the Wood Duck Box Building Night on February 21 at Evergreen Commons at 6:30, and the Wild Game Dinner on March 13 at the Holland Fish and Game Club, at 6:30. All volunteers are welcome to help.

Regular chapter meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Holland Fish & Game clubhouse located at the Paw Paw Drive & Business I-96 interchange. For more information on Macatawa Bay activities, contact Drew Deters at 616-772-1234, or drop us an email at macatawbaywaterfowlers@hotmail.com.

## **Saginaw Bay Chapter**

For meeting locations or more information, contact Ed Standler at 989-667-4214, or drop us an email at yellowdawgg@hotmail.com.

## **Shiawassee Flats Citizens and Hunters Association (SFCHA)**

The SFCHA held their annual banquet in September, and once again had a sellout crowd, resulting in \$15,000 in proceeds, which will be used to enhance and maintain the Shiawassee River State Game Area managed waterfowl unit.

Some of the major projects that the DNR and SFCHA are currently collaborating on at Shiawassee River SGA include:

- Phase 3 of the radial gates restoration project.
- Conducting a controlled burn in the Wahl Road marsh to create better habitat, as well as more hunting opportunity.
- Controlled draw down in units 23-28 (the old federal marsh), followed by creation of numerous openings in the cattails, and hand seeding millet.
- Creation of openings in the flooded woods.
- NE Prior Road refuge unit gate and tube installation.

Regular association meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month (except during waterfowl season) at 7:00 at the Shiawassee River State Game Area DNR office in St. Charles. All volunteers (members or non-members) are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Bud Dankers at 989-823-2526, go to the SFCHA website at www.shiawasseefflats.com, look us up on facebook: key word "Shiawassee Flats", or drop us an email at ydankers@tds.net.



## DNR Partners with MDHA and Others to Create the New Michigan Waterfowl Legacy

*Barbara Avers, DNR Waterfowl and Wetland Specialist*

Did you know that 2012 celebrates the 75th anniversaries of Ducks Unlimited (DU), Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC), and the Wildlife and Sport Fisheries Program (otherwise known as Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid)? It is also the 65th anniversary of the Pointe Mouillee Waterfowl Festival and the 25th anniversary of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP). What better way to celebrate all of these milestones than with a re-commitment to our waterfowl and wetland resources in Michigan?

The Department of Natural Resources has partnered with MDHA, DU, MUCC, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Citizens Waterfowl Advisory Committee, Delta Waterfowl, the Michigan NAWMP Steering Committee, and Knutson's Sporting Goods to create the Michigan Waterfowl Legacy (MWL). The MWL is a cooperative partnership to restore, conserve, and celebrate Michigan's waterfowl, wetlands, and waterfowl hunting heritage.

The group will be looking to Michigan's waterfowl hunters to help lead this important initiative and spread the word about the benefits of the great waterfowl and wetland resources we have in this state, and how important it is to commit to their protection and conservation for the future.

The MWL will have three focus areas: Waterfowl Populations and Wetland Habitat, Waterfowl Hunting Heritage, and Marketing and Policy of Michigan's Waterfowl Legacy. Some of the goals include improving wetland areas managed for waterfowl, increasing waterfowl habitat on public and private lands, increasing the number of waterfowl hunters, increasing appreciation and awareness of Michigan's waterfowl and wetland resources and hunting heritage, and establishing a long-term plan to adequately conserve and manage Michigan's wetlands.

Look for more information about MWL early this year leading up to exciting MWL events and celebrations later in 2012!

## East Marsh Restoration Project at Nayanquing Point Wildlife Area

*By Brandy Dybas-Berger,  
DNR Wildlife Technician, Nayanquing Point Wildlife Area*

In recent years, the East Marsh at Nayanquing Point had become dense with cattail vegetation growth. While this is part of the natural cycle of wetlands, waterfowl respond best to an even mix of open water and diverse marsh vegetation. In order to achieve and maintain this balance, some type of habitat management is required. Techniques include prescribed burning, herbicide treatment, and careful timing of drawing water down and re-flooding.

The 298 acre East Marsh at Nayanquing Point was scheduled to be burned in the winter of 2010. This was intended to reduce cattail stem densities. According to marsh management guidelines, by subsequently flooding the stubble in the following spring many shoots will die before emerging above the water surface. The key to this is to re-flood the marsh deep enough to drown out a sufficient quantity of cattail shoots to thin out the vegetation and also to improve interspersion of open water to vegetation. The desired condition is a mosaic of vegetation and open water with a greater variety of plant and wildlife species.

In December of 2010 the East Marsh was burned with only 50% success on the north half. This was due to the openings in the marsh that did not allow the fire to carry. Using water from two agricultural units the East Marsh was flooded but only until the water equalized, since there was no permanent pump in place. A small tractor pump was used until the water supply was exhausted in an attempt to flood the marsh to a level that would be effective in cattail reduction. This was only partially attained. A pump system that allowed for more effective movement of water would improve habitat management capabilities on the East Marsh.

In March 2011, the south half of the East Marsh was mowed in attempt to further reduce cattail densities. In July 2011, new pump station construction began with a completion date of October 1st. The funding for this grant was made possible by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative with

Ducks Unlimited taking the lead. Partners also included MDHA and DNR. In October 2011, an aerial herbicide application occurred, treating 24 acres. Once the pump was operational flooding began and continued through the waterfowl season.

In preparation for an increase of hunter participation in the East Marsh, gravel was added to the observation tower parking lot and repairs and improvements were made to allow boat access. With an increase in water levels and improved access, waterfowl use and harvest increased. The percent harvest in the East Marsh was 8.4% in 2011 up from 1.9% in 2010 and 3.8% in 2009. The success of harvest was 1.3 ducks per hunter trip.

We will need to carefully manage water levels, allow muskrats to remove cattail, and watch for invasive species that may have established after the habitat disturbance caused by the water drawdown and prescribed fire. With all these things in mind, waterfowl production and use will continue to increase and hunter access as well.



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# MICHIGAN WATERFOWL STAMP ORDER FORM

Your purchase of Michigan Waterfowl Stamps & Print helps to ensure continued acquisition of wetlands and habitat. Co-operated by Michigan Duck Hunters Association (MDHA) and Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Please write to the address below for information concerning Artist Prints and other available Waterfowl Program products. Or contact Michael Driver, Michigan Duck Stamp Program Coordinator - 989 631-5079 1-6pm EST

**Limited Edition Prints \$100.00ea.**

2012 w/ Mint Stamp .....	Qty _____	total: \$ _____
2011 w/ Mint Stamp .....	" _____	total: \$ _____
2010 w/ Mint Stamp - (Available until 5/12) .....	" _____	total: \$ _____

**Mint Stamps \$5.00ea.**

2012 Mint Stamp .....	" _____	total: \$ _____
2011 Mint Stamp .....	" _____	total: \$ _____
2010 Mint Stamp - (Available until 5/12) .....	" _____	total: \$ _____

**Top Strips \$20.00ea. ( 3 Stamps w/ Michigan Waterfowl & year )**

2012 Mint Stamp .....	" _____	total: \$ _____
2011 Mint Stamp .....	" _____	total: \$ _____
2010 Mint Stamp .....	" _____	total: \$ _____

**Mint Stamp Panes \$75.00ea. (15 Stamps)**

2012 Mint Pane .....	" _____	total: \$ _____
2011 Mint Pane .....	" _____	total: \$ _____
2010 Mint Pane .....	" _____	total: \$ _____

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>> Save S & H charges by sending S.A.S.E. (stamp single(s) orders only!)

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Mint Stamp Singles & Top Strips - First Class Mail	\$ .75 .....	\$ _____
Prints & Stamp Panes – Priority w/Delivery Confirmation & Insurance (required)	\$8.25 .....	\$ _____
	Sub-Total:	\$ _____
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Check No: _____	(Amount Enclosed) Grand Total:	\$ _____

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# The Michigan Waterfowler

Publication of the Michigan Duck Hunters Association



*15 year old Jake Van De Velde on the youth hunt at Shiawassee River*



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*Shiawassee hunter Leo Gross with a beautiful drake*