



Ducks, Etc...



*Connecticut Waterfowl Association
Spring 2019 Newsletter*

President's Message

A New Species of Waterfowl Nesting in CT?

In early June I volunteered my boat and time to help conduct a portion of the Connecticut Colonial Bird Survey in eastern Connecticut. This survey has been conducted every three years since 1978 and covers the entire Connecticut coast. Species such as terns, plovers, herons, oystercatchers, gulls and cormorants are surveyed. Tallies are taken on the number of birds and nests that are seen.

Unfortunately, due to staff reductions, the DEEP Wildlife Division (WD) was not going to be able to conduct the survey this year. Retired WD Wildlife Biologist, Julie Victoria, stepped up to the plate and assembled and coordinated a group of volunteers to get the job done! Long-term data sets on species' population status are critical to wildlife management.

Case in point, is that we saw 60 Common Eider from Stonington to New London! None were seen on the survey three years ago! All the Eider we saw were sub-adult non-breeders, except for four adults and we did not see any nests or broods. The presence of Eiders in eastern Connecticut in the summer may be "old news" to those of you who fish or boat there. If you are in those areas this summer, keep an eye out around rocky islands. Look for Eiders on a nest or a hen with a brood of young birds. If you see any, please take a photo and send it to DEEP!

Eiders may well be breeding in Connecticut now; it just needs to be verified. If they are not currently here, odds are they will be soon. Nesting Eiders have been documented at the Dumpling Islands in Long Island Sound in New York, a couple of stone throws from the Connecticut line.

Let's hope we can soon add this awesome species as a part of Connecticut's breeding waterfowl fauna!

Best to all,
Greg Chasko
President, CWA

2019 Elections

As an avid duck hunter, you are serious about your equipment-have to be. You know the birds just by size, shape & flight. Carry the rules & regs just to be certain.

But if you don't do more, it all could go away. Never before have we been squeezed so hard. Duck hunters all over the country are under pressure. But here in Connecticut it's the worst. Closed areas... Access restrictions...Reduced bag limits...Lack of support for DEEP.

Now is the time to protect your heritage, your rights, and your passion. Connecticut Waterfowl Association is the only conservation organization solely devoted to protecting waterfowling in Connecticut...for over 50 years!

Elections for CWA Board of Directors will take place in July. The Board meets 4 to 5 times a year



Ducks, Etc...



*Connecticut Waterfowl Association
Spring 2019 Newsletter*

in a location convenient for all. To be nominated, send a short simple bio of yourself and identify any areas you'd like to be active in such as conservation, education, events, fund raising, etc.

Your info can be sent to: boucherrj1@aol.com. Feel free to call with any questions Rick Boucher 203/906-9008.

Help CWA keep em flying!

aquatic vegetation to benefit waterfowl and other water-dependent wildlife. CWA and Delta purchased and split the cost of the water control structure and sign. The DEEP Wildlife Division's Wetlands Habitat Management installed the structure. Such cooperative efforts facilitate the improvement of Connecticut's wetlands.

Connecticut Federal Junior Duck Stamp 2019

Conservation News



Rich Chmiel, Vice-President, CWA (left) and Dave Lersch (right), Chairman of the CT Chapter of Delta Waterfowl hold and install sign at a recently completed wetland restoration project at the Nehantic State Forest in Lyme. The project was a cooperative effort among the CT DEEP Wildlife Division, CWA and Delta and will restore water to a six-acre area.

The project entailed installing a water control structure that will flood the area and allow water levels to be managed to optimize the growth of



The 2019 contest judging was held on March 22, 2019 at Cabela's in East Hartford. The winning image featured a pair of flying Blue-winged Teal painted by Sophie Archer. Sophie's painting was the overall contest winner and the best in the Group 3 grades 7-9.

Since its inception in 1989, the Connecticut Waterfowl Association (CWA) has coordinated the Connecticut Junior Duck Stamp Art (CT JRDS) Contest in Connecticut. The CT JRDS uses a science-based art curriculum to educate students from kindergarten to high school about



Ducks, Etc...



Connecticut Waterfowl Association Spring 2019 Newsletter

waterfowl habitat and conservation principles. The “Final Project” for these curricula is the Duck Stamp Painting.

2019 CWA Fundraising Banquet



CWA’s Annual Fundraising Banquet was held on April 14th at the Westbrook Elks Lodge. Over 100 attendees enjoyed a great meal and contributed more than \$12,000 toward waterfowl conservation in Connecticut.

<http://www.ctwaterfowlers.org/2019-fundraising-banquet.html>

Ward Museum World Championship – April 2019



This April at the Ward World waterfowl carving Championship in Ocean City MD, there were over 1200 carvings from all over the world. Some

of the best carvers were in attendance, with some beautiful works of art to display. This year the show recognized World Class carver and CWA member Keith Mueller with the prestigious Living Legend award!

Peter Johnson, a CWA board member, entered five different decorative miniature categories where the carving has to be 1/2 size or smaller - shorebird decoy, interpretive, champagne floating and non-floating.



He was honored with first best in show with a champagne floating cormorant and second best in show non-floating oyster catcher. The champagne cormorant will be on display at the Ward Museum for the next year!





Ducks, Etc...



Connecticut Waterfowl Association
Spring 2019 Newsletter



2019 Waterfowl Hunting Seminar



Among some of his other ribbons and rosettes was a first in division interpretive with a wood duck, and a second in division decorative mini with a hen turkey!

Sunday, September 8, 2019

Wallingford Rod and Gun Club

411 N. Branford Road, Wallingford, CT

Sponsored by the CWA in cooperation with the DEEP, this seminar will provide participants with all the basic information needed to get started or become a more successful waterfowl hunter! Expert instructors will provide interactive presentations on various aspects of duck and goose hunting including: decoy spreads, biology, shooting, calling and hunting techniques.

CWA is seeking a few volunteers to help out at this year's event. We need help deploying waterfowling gear in exchange for a free lunch! You may even pick up a few pointers during the seminar.

<http://www.ctwaterfowlers.org/2019-waterfowl-seminar.html>



Ryan "Duckboy" Torbett, Clint Chase, and Michael Braun, CWA members and supporters, were also in attendance.

<https://www.wardmuseum.org/>



Ducks, Etc...



*Connecticut Waterfowl Association
Spring 2019 Newsletter*

2019 Sporting Clays Fund Raising Shoot



September 22nd
Guilford Sportsmen's Association

Round up your friends and come enjoy a fun day of shooting and socializing at one of Connecticut's premier Sporting Clays courses. 100+ birds plus other shooting games. Bring enough ammunition! Breakfast at registration, shoot followed by lunch, auctions, raffles, and awards. Submit your teams to ctwaterfowlers@gmail.com and they will be posted on the web site as we organize the shoot. Tickets are on sale on the web site.

<http://www.ctwaterfowlers.org/2019-sporting-clays.html>

2019 Sporting Clays Sponsor Program



CWA is actively seeking sponsors for this year's Sporting Clays Fund Raising Shoot. We have developed a program for sponsors to partner with CWA to support waterfowl habitat conservation in Connecticut. Sponsors will receive advertising on our web site for a full year in exchange and

other benefits by supporting our event. See the web site for details on the Sponsor Program.

The purpose of this program is to establish partnerships with organizations that will contribute to CWA's charitable conservation fund raising efforts and gain a lasting, mutually beneficial relationship through advertising at our Sporting Clays Events and on our web site, this year and in future years. The Sporting Clays Sponsor Program identifies the exchange conditions at each sponsorship level.

2019 Sporting Clays Fundraising Sponsorship Levels

Title Sponsor: \$2,500

Full size banner with your company logo displayed at the event and then displayed on our web site for the entire year. Program recognition. Ability to place advertisements/swag in check-in handout bag. Admission for 4 for Sporting Clays.*

Banner Sponsor: \$1,250

1/2 banner with your company logo displayed at the event and then displayed on our web site for the entire year. Program recognition. Ability to place advertisements/swag in check-in handout bag. Admission for 4 for Sporting Clays.*

Platinum Sponsor: \$500

2 yard signs with your company logo (or advertisement) displayed at the event and then displayed on our web site for the entire year. Program recognition. Ability to place advertisements/swag in check-in handout bag.



Ducks, Etc...



*Connecticut Waterfowl Association
Spring 2019 Newsletter*

Program recognition. Admission for 2 for Sporting Clays.*

Gold Sponsor: \$250

1 yard sign with your company logo (or advertisement) displayed at the event and then displayed on our web site for the entire year. Program recognition. Ability to place advertisements/swag in check-in handout bag. Admission for 1 for Sporting Clays.*

Silver Sponsor: \$125

1 yard sign with your company logo (or advertisement) displayed at the event and then displayed on our web site for the entire year. Program recognition. Ability to place advertisements/swag in check-in handout bag.

Station Sponsor: \$50

Yard sign displayed at a shooting station. Program recognition.

*All shooters receive annual CWA membership or extension.

<http://www.ctwaterfowlers.org/sporting-clays-sponsors.html>

Win a Shotgun!



CWA wants to buy you a nice shotgun!

Participate in obtaining sponsors for our September Sporting Clays Event and earn a shotgun of your choice or accessory.

Anyone can participate. Any sponsors obtained earn at least an annual CWA membership or extension. But the potential rewards are much greater.

Sponsors are welcome to donate either cash or merchandise that we can auction or raffle.

CWA 2019 Sporting Clays Rewards

Value	Reward Choices
\$20,000	Shotgun MSRP <\$6,000
\$15,000	Shotgun MSRP <\$4,500
\$10,000	Shotgun MSRP <\$3,000
\$5,000	Shotgun MSRP <\$2,000
\$2,500	Shotgun MSRP <\$800
\$1,250	Shotgun MSRP <\$400
\$500	Shooting Vest MSRP <\$100
\$250	Tanglefree Floating Gun Case
\$125	Annual Membership/Extension



Ducks, Etc...



*Connecticut Waterfowl Association
Spring 2019 Newsletter*

Shotgun Fund Raising Raffle



Beretta Silver Pigeon Raffle

CWA members selected the Beretta Silver Pigeon for the CWA Fund Raising Shotgun Raffle. The objective of this fund raising program is to raise twice the value of the prize to generate funds for waterfowl habitat restoration in Connecticut. Only 62 are left. The winning ticket will be drawn at the 2019 Sporting Clays Fund Raising Shoot.

Tickets are \$20 each. Buy as many as you want. Tickets are on sale on our web site and the information from your order will be transferred to a physical ticket for you.

After the winning ticket is drawn, the lucky winner will be notified and they will have the opportunity to select the Silver Pigeon model of their choice. CWA will order the selected model for the winner and notify the winner when the gun has arrived at our FFL. A CWA board member will meet the winner at the FFL's shop to transfer the gun and take an award picture to publish on our web site.

<http://www.ctwaterfowlers.org/shotgun-raffle.html>

CWA Window Stickers



CWA has new windows stickers. The stickers are white clear vinyl adhesive in two sizes. 2.630"W x 3.250"H and 5.460"W x 6.750"H. The stickers are free to CWA members. See a board member for your stickers.

GOOSE BANDING WITH THE CT DEEP





Ducks, Etc...



Connecticut Waterfowl Association Spring 2019 Newsletter

Hi Folks,

Goose banding season is approaching and I wanted to give everyone a preliminary schedule of when and where we are going this year.

Attached is the tentative 2019 banding schedule. Our first day will be Monday June 17th. After the schedule is finalized, I will email it back out with the meeting place and time for each morning. If you are interested in coming out with us on one or some of the days please let me know so I can keep track of everybody.

Just a reminder to all of the volunteers, I am once again asking you to keep track of your mileage and time spent banding with us this year.

Thanks,

Kelly

Kelly Kubik
Wildlife Biologist Wildlife Division
Bureau of Natural Resources
Connecticut DEEP
Franklin Swamp WMA 391 Route 32, North
Franklin CT 06254
P: 860.418.5960
F: 860.642.7964
Email: kelly.kubik@ct.gov

2019 Canada Goose Banding Schedule – Tentative

June 17, Monday: Fairfield County
June 18, Tuesday: New London County
June 19, Wednesday: New Haven County
June 20, Thursday: Hartford County
June 21, Friday: NO BANDING

June 24, Monday: Tolland County
June 25, Tuesday: Litchfield County
June 26, Wednesday: Middlesex County
June 27, Thursday: Windham County
June 28, Friday: NO BANDING

Ducks Unlimited Spring Fun Shoot!



Sunday – June 23, 2019

Guilford Sportsman's Association
Hart Road, Guildford, CT 06235
Check in: 30am – 8:45 Shotgun Start 9:00am
Contact:
Jim Evans 860-214-8083
or
jimevansct@gmail.com