



Minnesota Decoy & Wildfowl Carving Club

Monthly Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 8

October 2008

September Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Steve and a motion was made and passed to accept the minutes of the August 2008 meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Balance of \$5857.12 with the recent addition from Game Fair.

Secretary /Editor Report: Tom Flemming was unable to attend the meeting, but did send a thank you to all those who volunteered their time at the recent Game Fair.

Steve Stortz was contacted by the Bloomington Art Center to see if the MDWCC would be interested in occupying a booth at the Sept. 20th flea market at the Center. The 2009 Federal Duck Stamp competition will be held at the Art Center this October. They would like our club to do some carving demos. Steve has asked for volunteers.

Librarian's Report: Bring back books for re-checking

Program—Feather Painting

MDWCC member Jim "I can't paint" Bonham finally presented his eagerly awaited program on the technique of airbrush feather painting using actual feathers as templates. Jim admitted that painting realistic feathers on his decoys had long been a source of frustration. Sound familiar? Well, Jim began to think a little outside of the box. Instead of wearily continuing to make what he felt were the same unsatisfactory feather groups, he decided to try something that just made good sense to him. What better way to replicate a feather than to actually use the real thing? Voila!!

Using feathers as a template makes a lot of sense for Jim since he is an avid hunter and

Program: The October program will be about different techniques of gluing wood pieces together, particularly focusing on attaching decoy heads to bodies. There seem to be many ways to do this and members are encouraged to bring examples of what they feel has been successful for them. Hopefully this will be a learning experience for all of us.

A suggested future program/activity is for MDWCC members to make cork body decoys. The cork will be supplied by the club. A committee of Steve Froelich, Bruce Bauer, and Donn Mattsson are to come up with suggestions/ guidelines for the project.



certainly is never short of materials. Ducks and geese are loaded with templates, or feathers. Probably the thing Jim has to be the most careful about is not to work in a drafty area where his feathers may take off.

Jim uses different feathers to achieve certain effects. Goose wing feathers seem to make good side pocket groups. Tertials can be used for the secondaries on the back. The feathers, when airbrushed, will show the soft edges and splits you might want to show.

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MDWCC Officers 2008

President

Steve Stortz 763.360.8123

Vice President

Frank Berry 612.724.4188

Treasurer/Membership

Bruce Bauer 952.471.9084

Secretary/Editor

Donn Mattsson 952.935.6910

Librarian

Todd Moucha 952.912.9992

Program Chairs

Marv Meyer 612.861.4616

Jim Bonham 651.748.9234

MDWCC website:

www.mdwcc-carving-club.com

Next Meeting: 7:00 PM

October 7th

Program: Gluing Techniques

Hope Lutheran Church

5728 Cedar Ave. So.

Mpls. MN



Show & Tell

Marv Meyer

Mallard drake—antique decoy

Common Loon— butternut, to be stained with a natural finish

Dennis Finden

Miniature duck boats and decoys

Steve Froelich

Common Eider decoy—Gus Wilson style, hollowed cedar with mortised head. Painted with oils

2 Duck calls



It's a bird, it's a plane, ...

September Show and Tell



Program cont. Notice Jim's handy painting stand (right)



Side pocket using goose feather



Now for the secondaries



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program cont.

Jim uses combinations of Raw Umber, Raw Sienna, and Burnt Umber to achieve the brown tones he desires. However he warns that no two paint manufacturers seem to create the same Burnt Umber color. There is actually a lot of variation which probably allows for more individual interpretation, i.e. artistic license, among carvers.

Jim has certainly come up with a very interesting and personal painting technique. For a guy that “can’t paint a lick” it looks like he has come up with a very pleasing and a rather, dare I say it, artistic way of painting his decoys. Thanks Jim, it was worth the wait.

