



The MI Marsh Chatter



A Word from our Chairman

Pete Albrecht: 2013 & 2014 State Chairman

As I pen this, it is mid-March and all of us are wondering where Spring is, the UP with -9 F temps. and -20 F wind chills, and Southern Michigan digging out from what they hope is their last winter storm. In spite of Mother Nature, our 2014 spring event season is up and going. I am hearing mixed reports with some chapters experiencing declining attendance and others with good attendance & positive numbers. Remember that the personal touch is still the best way to sell event tickets and "fill the hall".

On January 31st and February 1st, we held our annual Leadership Conference in the Higgins Lake, DNR RAM Center. Despite the adverse weather, we had more than 75 volunteers and staff in attendance. Among the topics covered were the event invitation and mailing program, the new event management system from DU NHQ, the electronic Blue Sheet, Calendar Raffles 2014 and 2015, and selection of our next State Chair-Elect.

Our 2014 calendar raffle netted us just over \$100,000.00 and was a virtual sell-out with very few glitches to mar the success. At this point we are almost ¼ of the way through the drawings for 2014 and have had no problems. As a result of the success of the current raffle, we have increased the number of calendars for 2015, to 5000 and the number of guns to five per week. Make sure to get your chapter involved in the action. Talk to your RD regarding the event management system and electronic Blue Sheet. The EMS is not for everyone but the blue sheet is a true time saver.

Our new State Chairman-Elect is Dave Steinbach. He has been a volunteer with the West Washtenaw chapter since 1990. He became their Area Chairman in 1992, a Zone Chair in 1994, District Chair in 1999, Executive Coordinator in 2004, Chairman of the State Council in 2007 & 2008, and has served as State Secretary since 2011. During that time he has been active on various state committees including bylaws & state convention and has edited Marsh Chatter since 2011. Please welcome Dave in his new role.

On February 13th, Dale Borske and I were on hand for the Pure Michigan Hunt presentation in East Lansing to which Michigan DU had donated three Mossberg 535 Waterfowl shotguns for this great program. Also during January and February, Dale and I attended three Volunteer Appreciation events in Southern Michigan. At each of these events, a lucky volunteer also won a Mossberg 535 Waterfowl shotgun donated by the state organization, in appreciation, for our volunteers.

On a somber note, I regret to report the passing of three long-time volunteers and friends: Leon Wildey from the Hiawatha Chapter in Escanaba, Betty Shefferly from the Monroe Chapter, and most recently, Jay Mason from the Algonac-St Clair Flats Chapter. My heartfelt condolences go out to all of the families.

In closing, I would like to once again remind all of you that DU is a volunteer organization and that we must never stop looking for new members to join our ranks.

Thank you for all you DU, & I hope to see you along the way.

APRIL-JUNE 2014

In this issue:

Pure Michigan Hunt winners



Again this year Michigan Ducks Unlimited supported the Pure Michigan Hunt with a donation of 3 shotguns.

[Full story on page 2](#)

Michigan Greenwing Events



Another great Greenwing event with the Flat River chapter in Greenville.

[Full story on page 6](#)

DU partners up!



Ducks Unlimited announces new partnerships with NWTF, Pheasants Forever, and Quail Forever

[Full story on page 6](#)

Turkey Season is here



Try this Wild Turkey recipe for something new!

[Full Recipe on page 4](#)

Follow our Biologists



See what Jason and Dane are up to as they forward the interests of DU in Michigan.

[Full Stories on page 2 & 3](#)



MI DU supports DNR's PURE MICHIGAN HUNT



Three lucky hunters won a new Mossberg shotgun thanks to Michigan Ducks Unlimited, in the Pure Michigan Hunt drawing.

The latest winners - Bill Kring of Cadillac, Bruce Shaneour of Osseo and Frank Zrepskey of Algonac - will have a pocket full of hunting licenses and over \$4,000 worth of hunting gear.

"I had a voicemail to call Russ Mason," said Shaneour, who works in sales at Signature Ranch Collection. He returned that call to hear the DNR Wildlife Division chief explain that he is one of the lucky Pure Michigan Hunt winners. "I didn't tell many people until I got the paperwork in the mail," Shaneour added.

Zrepskey, now retired from the City of Detroit, said he was "one happy camper." A member of the St. Clair Flats Waterfowlers, Zrepskey said he couldn't believe he is a winner.

When Kring, the general manager at 9&10 News in Cadillac, got the phone call from Mason, he said, "All I could think is - are you kidding me?" Kring explained that he had heard about the Pure Michigan Hunt from a past winner in the area and thought he would buy five applications because it goes to a good cause.

Pictured with the Lucky winners are Dale Borske, our State Secretary (left), and Pete Albrecht, our State Chairman (right).



Jason Hill, Manager of Conservation Programs

Proposals, proposals, proposals! As Ducks Unlimited conservation staff, we are relentless in our pursuit of local, state, federal, and foundation, funding opportunities that help maximize the DU dollars you raise for the ducks. The first quarter of the year is what I call "proposal season", especially considering the millions of dollars that become available this time of year via the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

Here are a few of the things keeping Jason busy

Worked with Michigan Department of Natural Resources staff to develop and submit two proposals to secure funding needed to implement the St. John's Marsh - Phase I project. DU submitted a \$1,088,534 pre-proposal funding request in mid-February to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation - Sustain Our Great Lakes program.

Attended the Michigan Conservation Coalition meeting at the Michigan United Conservation Clubs office in East Lansing to discuss items including, the Asian carp U.S. Army Corps Report, Scientific Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, Michigan DNR budget priorities, update on Belle Isle Park, MI DNR habitat conservation grant opportunities, and other items.

Prepared for the Healing Our Waters Coalition - Great Lakes Day visits with multiple reps and senators on Capitol Hill. More to come next month...

Attended a multi-partner Great Lakes Phragmites Collaborative Steering Committee meeting.

Worked with DU engineering staff on permit modification needs for the Erie Marsh Preserve Phase I & Phase II project design (Monroe Co.).

Worked with several of DU's Saginaw Bay to Lake Erie Coastal Habitat Initiative - Phase III North American Wetlands Conservation Act partners to further multiple acquisition, restoration and enhancement projects in the Lake Erie Watershed.

Attended Billie Ray Fann's Volunteer Appreciation event in St. Clair Shores at Barrister Gardens.

Just a reminder that the Michigan Ducks Unlimited license plate will be available in June 2014! Proceeds will go to wetlands conservation here in Michigan!

Dane Cramer, Regional Biologist - Michigan

There's grant writing season in the winter, and construction season in the summer, and of course, duck season in the fall (although despite my best attempts no one pays me to duck hunt). Cabin fever hits me here at the office the same way it does at home. And in the same way that we are all making plans to get out to the garage to do some spring cleaning. I'm making plans to get out and find some new wetland projects. In the last half of March and first half of April, I'll be out of the office more than I'll be in. Not only is it going to feel good to get out to watch the world shed its winter blanket, it's going to be nice to stretch the legs and get some fresh air, too.

Here are some of the things keeping Dane busy

Wrote and submitted the fourth annual report for the Southeast Lake Michigan Coastal Habitat Project North American Wetlands Conservation Act grant (Lake Michigan region).

Continued to work on developing a \$1 million North American Wetlands Conservation Act proposal to support a second phase of the Southeast Lake Michigan Coastal Habitat Project to conserve of wetlands and wetland-associated wildlife throughout a 28-county project area in western and southwestern Michigan.

Modified our existing agreement with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to allow us to invoice contractor costs for the nearly completed Maple River B pump (Grafton County).

Generated the annual funding report to the Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative Network for their support of the "Michigan Waterfowl Legacy - Implementation in the Saginaw Bay" project.

Wrote and submitted the third annual report for our National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Sustain Our Great Lakes grant to restore wetlands and fish passage in the Shiawassee Flats

Wrote a Sustain Our Great Lakes pre-proposal, for a second phase of the Restoring Wetlands and Fish Passage in the Shiawassee Flats project to continue our work reconnecting floodplain forested wetlands to the river system at Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge.

Completed National Environmental Protection Act and Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act clearances for the 940-acre "Restoring Wetlands and Fish Passage in the Shiawassee Flats" project. National Historic Preservation Act clearance is currently under review.

Second Quarter Events

April

4 th	Chesaning	Cindy Zietz-Lemaire	zclcritterbabe@hotmail.com
5 th	Paw Paw Youth Day	Craig Curtis	ccurtis@ducks.org
10 th	Warren	Billie Ray Fann	bfann@ducks.org
10 th	Swartz Creek	Matt Somers	matt@midstatesbolt.com
11 th	Macomb-Lk. St Clair	Gary Stahl	garystahl810@hotmail.com
11 th	Midland Sponsors	Dr. James Frye	canvasbackone@aol.com
12 th	Chain-O-Lakes	Linda Hoogerhyde	marykay@torchlake.com
14 th	Calhoun County	Kevin Winter	kevin.winter.rnml@statefarm.com
16 th	Dowagiac	Ryan Murray	dowagiadcu@yahoo.com
17 th	Fife Lake	Randy Hendges	rhendges@charter.net
18 th	Red Cedar	Rich Jess	rijj0400@aol.com
19 th	Raisin Valley	Troy Vance	tvance@hva.org
19 th	Brooklyn	Greg Meschke	gmeschke@msn.com
24 th	Sault Ste. Marie	Dan Heuer	duckman@jamadots.com
25 th	Bay Co.	Brian Kunz	woodman21@chartermi.net
25 th	Clinton Co.	Joe Woodruff	joe.woodruff@mi.usda.gov
25 th	Saginaw	Joe Woodruff	joe.woodruff@mi.usda.gov
26 th	Cadillac	Bob Inglis	binglis@cadillaccasting.com
26 th	St. Clair Flats	Larry Posey	l.j.posey@comcast.net
TBA	Roscommon	Doug Becker	beckert@charter.net
TBA	Indian River	Greg Krot	gkrot@sbcglobal.net

May

1 st	Russ Bengal Dinner	Ira Huff	irahuff@ymail.com
3 rd	Flat River	Max Lehmen	max_lehman@big-1-lumber.com
3 rd	Thornapple Valley	Marv Walker	mdwalker0901@gmail.com
6 th	Reese	Carl Pickleman	carl.pickleman@gm.com
7 th	North Oakland	Chuck Meyers	chuck7230@hotmail.com
8 th	Petosky	Mike Vigneau	mikev@vaneerden.com
9 th	Traverse City	Rich Duell	rpduell@hotmail.com
10 th	Western Washtenaw	Ric Eakin	reakin@med.umich.edu
15 th	Metro Detroit	Tim Droeg	tdroeg@novo-mas.com
15 th	Lowell	Travis McLeod	travisdmcleod@gmail.com
16 th	Onaway	Virgil Smith	virgsmith@msn.com
TBA	G. Grand Sponsors	Ed Berry	eberry1258@mac.com

June

7 th	North Oakland GW	Chuck Meyers	chuck7230@hotmail.com
12 th	SE MI Yamaha Raffle	Larry Posey	l.j.posey@comcast.net

July

26 th -28 th	State Convention	Diana Anderson	djmf1994@gmail.com
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Recipe of the Quarter

Wild Turkey Breast with Peach & Pecan Chutney

Compliments of Dave Steinbach

Ingredients:

2 wild turkey breasts, skin removed
1 cup dry sherry
1/4 cup soy sauce
1/2 cup orange juice
1/3 cup peanut or soy oil
4 garlic cloves, minced
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
6 cups warm cooked rice



Chutney

6 medium firm peaches; peeled, and coarsely diced.
1 tsp. salt
1 -2 jalapeno peppers, seeded and finely minced
3/4 cup granulated sugar
1/2 cup white vinegar
2 tsp. fresh ginger, minced
1/2 cup roasted pecans, chopped

Instructions:

Combine sherry with next 5 ingredients.
Add to turkey in a plastic, ceramic or glass bowl.
Cover and refrigerate for 2 to 4 hours.

Prepare chutney:

Combine all ingredients & simmer until peaches are soft.

Remove turkey from marinade and discard marinade.
Grill breasts, but do not cook beyond 150 degrees.
Allow the cooked breasts to rest for 5 minutes before slicing.
To serve, mound some rice on each plate.
Slice turkey and arrange slices over rice.
Spoon the chutney over the turkey slices.



Tips to help your committee grow!

The following are ideas and suggestions for your committee to discuss when planning ways to increase the size and strength of your committee:

Committees need to discuss and recognize that the key for growth and sustained success lies in committee expansion.

Remember, a committee person is anyone who makes a single positive contribution to your event, regardless of whether they attend a single committee meeting. Keep all committee members informed and active.

Ask people to sell event tickets. Adding event ticket sellers to your committee is the best way to increase your events success.

Add diversity to your committee by recruiting people from professions, neighborhoods, age groups, etc, which are not currently represented on your committee.

Double your committee size by applying the “Each One Recruit One” approach every year. Bigger is Better regardless of existing committee size.

Recruit for specific chapter positions: Recruit a local accountant to be your treasurer or recruit a “PR” person for your chapter’s publicity chair position.

Be organized – organize and assign specific tasks to specific committee members.

Recruit people who have interest in DU’s mission and who also have a strong connection in the community, i.e. doctors, lawyers, business owners, etc. The busy guy who’s into everything. Sometimes these busy guys are good bets.

Recruit constantly. Recruiting is a constant job. All committees need to make this a # 1 priority. The committees that are top performers need to recruit to maintain this level. Weaker committees can only improve through recruiting new people.



Billy Ray Fann

Michigan Greenwing Update



Hello MI DUers!

Hello MI DUers! The first quarter of 2014 was relatively quiet as everyone stayed indoors with the cold winter weather. There was a great turnout in Greenville for a wood duck box building day at the Big L Lumberyard, hosted by Flat River Chapter Area Chairman, Max Lehman. The kids were excited about wood duck boxes and the group built 32 boxes! All of the supplies were donated by Big L! Attached is a picture of the kids with their boxes!

Spring is here and so are the ducks! Head out with your kids and watch the brilliantly colored birds participate in their courting rituals. It is a sight to be seen, and don't forget to look to the trees for the wood ducks.

Sincerely,



Want to volunteer for a youth event? Want to learn more? Please contact Pete Wyckoff at pwyckoff@ducks.org, or at 734.623.2000. Thank you!

Zone 3 RVP Bing Taege note:

Action taken by the National Winter meetings in Charleston, S.C. by your Board of Directors: Four national organizations team up for conservation. Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, Quail Forever, and the Wild turkey Federation have formed a partnership and signed a memorandum of understanding with the goal of furthering sporting traditions across North America.

We will now be able to reach more than 1 million conservation supporters throughout North America. We are losing 6000 acres of habitat per day and less than 10 percent of the American population hunt so the funding source is going away. We can't solve this alone and the partnership is way bigger than any one organization.

For more information about the partnership visit: www.ducks.org, www.nwtf.org, or www.pheasantsforever.org.



GLARO Open House

Come join us as we dedicate our Conference Room
And meet the people who use the dollars we raise!

Join us
FOR AN OPEN HOUSE

AS WE DEDICATE THE GLARO
CONFERENCE ROOM TO
MR. HAROLD ROE

APRIL 24, 2014 • 4:00 TO 8:00 PM
DUCKS UNLIMITED, ANN ARBOR, MI
1220 EISENHOWER PLACE, ANN ARBOR, MI 48108

Please come and join us as we recognize our partners in wildlife habitat conservation and make a special dedication to wildlife artist, Harold Roe. Regional leadership and conservation staff will be on hand to provide an overview of operations in the region and to acknowledge the many accomplishments within the Great Lakes/Atlantic Region. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be provided.

*Please RSVP by April 17 to Debra Gray
at 734-623-2000 or dgray@ducks.org*



GREAT LAKES &
ATLANTIC REGION