



# The MI Marsh Chatter



Michigan Ducks Unlimited



Volume 1, Issue 1

2nd Quarter, 2015

## A Word from our Chairman

*Dave Steinbach: 2015 & 2016 State Chairman*



It's hard to believe that the first quarter of 2015 has gone. WE are in the thick of the spring banquet season and our volunteers are stepping up to the challenge with plenty of gusto. I have attended several of these events and the energy is tremendous.

We started with our annual Volunteer Leadership conference in the RAM center at Higgins Lake. This gathering was well attended, and some great ideas and networking came out of both the meetings and the hospitality room. If you missed it, make you plans now to come next year. I really would like to get input from all of our volunteer leaders.

My next stop was to attend the Pure Michigan winner presentation with Treasurer, Dale Borske, at the DNR Natural Resources meeting in Lansing, where we presented the winners with a new shotgun from DU Michigan. The presentation event was followed closely by the GLARO chili cook-off, and the MSU University dinner.

With about 10 students and one faculty advisor the MSU students really hit a homerun and set the bar high for all university events. Wherever this young people end up I hope they continue as volunteers because they all were really impressive. Next up will be the Saginaw Bay dinner (celebrating 30

years!) on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March and the Monroe Mega-event on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Both of which from what I hear are shaping up to also be great events.

I know there are many more events that have happened recently or are about to happen, and I wish I could support and report on them all. Each chapter should know that what you do makes Michigan DU that much better, and is very important to our mission. If there is something I can do to help your event please let me know and I will do what I can.

Outside of events we need to really push the new DU Michigan license plate. If you are a volunteer what better way to show you passion then to slap that license plate on your vehicles. The Secretary of State's office will also prorate the renewal fee, so **you don't have to wait until your renewal date.**

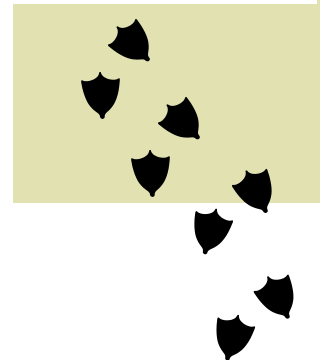
As we move into spring please give thought to attending our upcoming conventions. Both the National Convention, May 27<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>, and our own State Convention August 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>, will be packed with fun and DU information. I promise that either or both of these will fully recharge your DU batteries.

Again, Thank You for all you DU,

Dave Steinbach

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## North American Wetlands Conservation Act – More wetlands for MI!

The North American Wetlands Conservation Act, or NAWCA as it is commonly referred to, has been a model piece of federal legislation when it comes to DU's wetland conservation mission. NAWCA has resulted in HUGE acres for MI; Michigan currently has 47 NAWCA projects either completed or underway. These projects have conserved a total of **47,272 acres of wildlife habitat**. NAWCA funding of more than \$16.7 million stimulated partner contributions of more than \$58.1 million.

Even with these great accomplishments, DU MI staffers Jason Hill and Dane Cramer still

have more projects that will require NAWCA funding. DU's Strategic Plan says there is much more habitat work needed for ducks in MI, and that is where YOU COME IN.

You see, NAWCA must be acted upon by Congress every five years for it to continue to fund projects. Right now, NAWCA must be REAUTHORIZED, and there is a bill in the Senate, the Sportsmen's Package, that would do just that. The House of Representatives is working on a similar bill but it hasn't been reintroduced as of this printing.

Your part to continue NAWCA is simple. Call your Senator

and Representative, and tell them that you support the North American Wetlands Conservation Act and want to see it reauthorized. For our Senators, you can reference their supporting the Sportsmen's Act. Your message to your U.S. House member can be the same, with reference to NAWCA.

Remember, the funds you raise at your local banquet are leveraged and multiplied by NAWCA, and ensuring NAWCA's future only takes a few minutes. Call your legislators today, and thanks for supporting the ducks!

(Your U.S. legislators contact information can be found at: <https://www.opencongress.org/people/zipcodelookup> )



### Monroe Banquet Marks Another Huge Event!

The Monroe Chapter held their 39th Annual Spring Banquet on Saturday, March 28th at the MB&T Expo Center in Monroe. For the fourth consecutive year they have had a sell out with more than 1000 attending. The highlight of the evening included the thirteen new and upgraded Ducks Unlimited Life Sponsors totaling \$210,000 in donor pledges.

Pictured at Left: 13 New and Upgraded Major Donor Sponsors. Below: Panoramic View of the Filled Hall



## Recipe of the Quarter

*Submitted by David Steinbach*

### Chicken/Pheasant Quesadillas

4 – 4 piece servings

**Ingredients:**

1 Cup shredded smoked or grilled Chicken or Pheasant

1½ Cups shredded Monterey or Mexican cheese

1/3 Cup Ranch Dressing

1/4 Cup diced green Chilies, rinsed and drained

4 - 10 inch flour tortillas

**Directions:**

Combine Pheasant (or chicken), Cheese, Dressing, and Chilies.

Place about 1/2 cup of the mixture on 1 half of each tortilla and fold in half. (Also works great in a Quesadilla Maker)

Bake on cookie sheet at 350° F for 15 minutes or until cheese is melted

Cut into wedge shaped quarters.

Serve with salsa and guacamole if desired.



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## State's Annual Convention Planned for August 6th-8th in Traverse City!

Every year the Michigan DU State Convention is held at one of our State's finest resort facilities to celebrate and recognize our State's valuable volunteers. This year is no different because we are going to the Great Wolf Lodge in the beautiful town of Traverse City!

We have some great amazing things planned for adults and greenwings alike. Starting with the fact that we will be at the kid friendly water park at Great Wolf

Lodge. Your stay there includes 4 water park passes for each night you stay and our group rate allows you to enjoy at a deep discount from their normal nightly rates.

For the adults, the weekend starts Thursday with a fun filled Duck Waddle Pub Crawl at the local business in downtown Traverse. Friday has a Charter Fishing Trip planned along with our State Council and Committee Meetings. We have a fun dinner planned for Friday as well! Saturday we are planning a chartered Wine

Tour, a Trap Shoot and our Annual Awards Dinner. Children will be invited to our kid friendly Fun Pizza Party that evening.

Space is filling up fast so don't delay! You may register on the Michigan Events Page on Ducks.org or by contacting Diana Anderson- [djmf1994@gmail.com](mailto:djmf1994@gmail.com) or Shannon Steinbach- [Shannon.steinbach@gretchenshouse.com](mailto:Shannon.steinbach@gretchenshouse.com)

**COME JOIN THE FUN!!**

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## Call For Sponsor Print Artists!

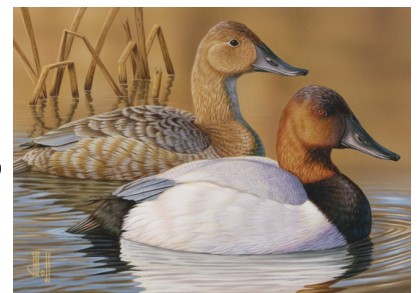
The Sponsor Print "Call for art for 2016" will launch in April with a postcard mailing to 300 artists around the country followed by a mass emailing to artists and a Facebook campaign.

The species for artists to choose from will be; Ruddy Duck, Canada Goose, and Red- Breasted Merganser.

Artists interested in obtaining a set of

rules may request one at [KathyK-ru2@aol.com](mailto:KathyK-ru2@aol.com) or at [586-939-5286](tel:586-939-5286).

Please share this information in as many formats as available. It is great to use social network to reach many artists and I welcome more contacts that will connect me to forums where artists communicate.



*The Royal Couple*

**2015 Michigan State**

**Sponsor Print**



# Saginaw Bay Chapter Holds Another Successful Event!



in our fundraising endeavor. Members, business donors, and volunteers all together for one great cause. And recognition by all of our local state representatives and Michigan



The Saginaw Bay DU Chapter held its annual banquet at the Pinconning Knights of Columbus Hall on March 27th. There were several raffles and drawings. The Arenac County Register reported "Huge crowds" and "Hundreds of People" Dale Borske commented, "It was great to see so many in the community come and support DU and the chapter

DNR for the accomplishments of the chapter on our 30th anniversary banquet. Everyone should feel proud of the accomplishments we were able to make.:

Awesome job to the committee of Saginaw Bay. Thanks for all you DU!



## What is The Feather Society?

Have you heard of the Feather Society, Ducks Unlimited's gift planning program? When you joined DU, you demonstrated your care and concern for wetlands and waterfowl conservation. Now, you can help DU ensure the future of these beloved natural resources for future generations by joining this important group of supporters.



Feather Society members pledge a gift from their will, trust or estate. Other ways to enroll include transferring appreciated assets such as stocks or gifts of land, or by naming DU as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy, IRA, 401k or retirement plan. To document your pledge, simply add DU as a primary beneficiary and submit the change of beneficiary form to DU.

By planning your legacy gift to Ducks Unlimited, you can make a gift that costs nothing during your lifetime, minimize tax liability for your heirs or even provide an annual income. Your gift is meaningful and will leave a lasting legacy.

Learn more about the options available at [www.ducksgift.org](http://www.ducksgift.org) or contact Sarah McCallum, Director of Gift Planning at [smccallum@ducks.org](mailto:smccallum@ducks.org) or 734-623-2031.

## Ducks Hosts Informational Booth on Opening Day!

A Ducks Unlimited informational booth was held at Nayanquing State Game Area opening day. Pictured is Dale Borske, Bill Roth Zone Chairman, and Brandy Dybas-Berger MI DNR Site Manager. Refreshments were served all day to the hunters and visitors to the state game area along with giving each



youth hunter in the afternoon a DU membership, DU hat, DU magazine, and DU Buck Gardner duck call. We presented DU project information for the Saginaw Bay area along with the rest of the Michigan projects past and ongoing. Attendance was estimated at around 400.

### Don't Wait to Get Your Plates!

Jason Hill

Don't wait to order your Michigan Ducks Unlimited License Plate. Before September we have a 2,000 plate quota to meet and we've got a long ways to go. Consider printing the order form and leaving a few on each table at your event. You can order it at any time, even if you are not up for renewal. See the attached order form or click the license plate right here to get yours today! Find the form at [https://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1585\\_1595\\_9026-336981--,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1585_1595_9026-336981--,00.html) or on page 9 of this newsletter



Well, spring is springing and the ice is melting. Soon the forested wetlands across Michigan filled by snowmelt and spring rains will be the stage for the romance of Michigan's most abundant breeding waterfowl and one of my favorite species of waterfowl, the wood duck. I've always been fascinated with wood ducks and constructing and installing a wood duck box on a small wetland behind my grandparents house was probably my first conservation project, and doing the same is a great way to get kids involved in conservation. With last week's warm spell, wood ducks will be

here in short order and pairs will be looking for a place to nest. Right now is the last opportunity to construct and install a nest box if you're interested and if you've already got one, its time to head out and do a little spring cleaning before the lake ice is gone. Improperly installed or unmaintained wood duck boxes can do more harm than good so its essential that you get out there now in advance of their arrival. Click [here](#) to learn more about wood duck conservation, biology, nest box plans, and nest box placement. Good luck, enjoy, be safe, and thanks for all you do for waterfowl!



The Royal Couple

- Dane Cramer

## Pure Michigan Hunt winners take home their prizes

Contact: Jordyn Richardson, [269-615-0318](tel:269-615-0318) or [Ed Golder, 517-284-5815](tel:517-284-5815)

Feb. 13, 2015

Mike DiLorenzo of Rochester, Michael Sikkenga of Whitehall and Jason Eurich of Saginaw, the most recent winners of the Pure Michigan Hunt drawing, all came to yesterday's Natural Resources Commission meeting in Lansing to take home their winnings. [Pictured: Pure Michigan Hunt winners (front row, left to right) Michael Sikkenga, Jason Eurich and Mike DiLorenzo with (back row, left to right) Dale Borske and David Steinbach of Ducks Unlimited, which donated three 12-gauge shotguns to the prize package.]

Each won 2015 hunting licenses for elk, bear, antlerless deer and spring and fall turkey, as well as first choice at a managed waterfowl area on opening morning.

In addition to the hunting licenses, the Pure Michigan Hunt winners also received the ultimate hunting prize package, valued at more than \$4,000 per winner. Many Michigan businesses and organizations were present to meet the winners and donate their prizes.

Winners received the following prizes donated by Michigan companies and organizations:

- Annual subscription and more - Michigan Outdoor News
- Camouflage pop-up blind - Ameristep in Clio
- 12-gauge camouflage shotgun - Michigan Chapter of Ducks Unlimited
- Predator crossbow package - Darton Archery in Hale

- 30.06 rifle and memberships - Michigan Gun Owners
- GoPro outdoor camera - St. Clair Flats Waterfowlers
- Quiver accessories - Kwiikee Kwiver in Williamsburg
- Hunting accessories - Harmon Scents in Williamsburg
- Traps, DVDs, calls and more - Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association
- Turkey hunting gear - Michigan

- Guided spring turkey hunt - East Lake Outfitters in Essexville
- Memberships - National and Mid-Michigan Chapter of Safari Club International
- Custom waterfowl mount - Trophy Room Taxidermy Studio in Clare and Allendale
- \$100 gas card - MUCC
- \$100 Jay's Sporting Goods gift card - 9&10 News in Cadillac
- Sweatshirt and hat - Waterfowl USA in Erie



- Custom-made shooting ear plugs - Michigan Hearing
- Half-day, fully guided five-bird pheasant hunt - Bear Creek Hunt Club of Saline

The 2015 Pure Michigan Hunt drawing drew a total of 32,422 applications. Dollars generated from this opportunity fund wildlife habitat restoration and improvements in Michigan.

Chapter of National Wild Turkey Federation

- Herd monitoring kit - Michigan Chapter of Quality Deer Management Association
- \$100 Cabela's gift card - Saginaw Field and Stream Club
- Made in the USA, quilt-lined Realtree Xtra jackets and bib overalls - Carhartt
- Shotgun case and American Woodcock Society hat - Ruffed Grouse Society
- Eberlestock team elk pack - Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Applications for the 2016 Pure Michigan Hunt go on sale at retail license agents and online starting March 1. Hunters may purchase as many \$5 Pure Michigan Hunt applications as they like. Visit [www.michigan.gov/puremichiganhunt](http://www.michigan.gov/puremichiganhunt) to purchase, or for more information.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations. For more information, go to [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr).



# Second Quarter Events

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## **April**

4th	Chesaning	Cindy Zietz-Lemaire	zclcritterbabe@hotmail.com
10th	Dowagiac	Ryan Laylin	rlaylin07@hotmail.com
10th	Roscommon	Doug Becker	berkert@charter.net
11th	Chain-O-Lakes	Linda Hoogerhyde	marykay@torchlake.com
11th	Munising	Sara Ruitter	elocinaras@hotmail.com
17th	Midland Spon	Dr. James Freye	canvasbackone@aol.com
17th	Fife Lake	Randy Hendges	rhendges@charter.net
17th	Clinton County	Chris Mikula	wildcam@aol.com
17th	Saginaw	Kevin Machata	duckswatter24@hotmail.com
18th	AuSable Valley	Paul Thompson	ausablevalleyducks@gmail.com
24th	Eastern UP	Dan Heuer	duckman@jamadots.com
24th	Red Cedar	Rich Jess	rljj10400@aol.com
25th	Monroe 5k Run	Bryan Miller	bryanmiller363@yahoo.com
25th	St Clair Flats	Larry Posey	l.j.posey@comcast.net
25th	Cadillac	Bob Inglis	binglis@cadillaccasting.com
25th	Indian River	Greg Krot	gkrot@sbcglobal.net
27th	Calhoun County	Andrew Winter	thevictors2009@gmail.com
30th	Escanaba	Trent Bellingar	trent.bellingar@gmail.com

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## **May**

5th	Reese	Neil French	Neil.french@adm.com
6th	North Oakland	Chuck Myers	chuck7230@hotmail.com
7th	N. MI Petoskey	Mike Vigneau	mike@vaneerden.com
7th	Russ Bengal Cptr	TBD	Contact Craig Curtis for Info
8th	Traverse City	Rich Duell	rpduell@hotmail.com
8th	Western Washtenaw	Ric Eakin	reakin@umich.edu
9th	Thunder Bay	Sue Crittenden	scrittenden24@yahoo.com
12th	Grand Blanc	Jim Toth	jagermeisterjt@gmail.com
14th	Lowell	Travis McLeod	travismcleod@gmail.com
16th	Flat River	Max Lehman	max_lehman@big-l-lumber.com

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## **June**

6th	Onaway	Virgil Smith	virgsmith@msn.com
17th	Mi DU 4Wheeler Draw	Billie Ray Fann	bfann@ducks.org



## The Ducks Unlimited Michigan License Plate is **NOW AVAILABLE!**

**What is it?** FINALLY - A specialty fundraising license plate featuring the Ducks Unlimited logo.

**How much does it cost?** The first time you purchase the plate it will be an additional \$35, with \$25 going to Michigan Ducks Unlimited. Annual renewals will generate a \$10 donation to DU in addition to the state's renewal fee. For an additional prorated fee, your plate may be personalized.

**What is it for?** The proceeds from the sale of each license plate goes to Ducks Unlimited and must be used to support wetland habitat conservation in the state. Some funds may be used for communication and education.

Ducks Unlimited leverages funds to obtain additional federal and state dollars, such as those available through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and the North American Wetlands Conservation Act, and uses them to enhance and restore wetlands across the state. In addition to government sources, DU receives support from corporate and private sponsors, and typically leverages every dollar at least four times, maximizing the returns for the Great Lakes state.

Thank you for your support and efforts over the years in securing this DU Specialty License Plate! Ducks Unlimited has conserved more than 72,655 acres in Michigan with the support of more than 27,600 members across the state. Your purchase of a Michigan DU license plate ensures we can continue our conservation effort with wetlands sufficient to fill the skies with waterfowl today, tomorrow and forever.

**Don't wait! You can order your DU license plate at any time, even if you're not up for renewal!**

**Visit [www.michigan.gov/sos](http://www.michigan.gov/sos) to order your plate today!**







## Order Your Ducks Unlimited Fundraising License Plate Today!

To replace a valid license plate with a Ducks Unlimited plate, or to purchase a collector version, fill out this application. When you purchase a Ducks Unlimited plate, \$25 of the \$35 purchase fee is given to the special cause. For an additional prorated fee, your plate may be personalized. Check for the availability of a personalized plate using [Plate it Your Way](#). Personalized plates may only be ordered at a Secretary of State office. Your new plate will arrive by mail within 21 days. Note: A \$10 fee is added to your vehicle registration fee when renewing a fundraising plate. The university or special cause receives the \$10.

### To Purchase by MAIL:

Complete the order form below. If paying by check or money order, make payable to **State of Michigan**. If paying by Discover, MasterCard or Visa credit card, complete the credit card section below. Mail the completed application along with payment to: **Michigan Department of State, Renewal By Mail Unit, Lansing, MI 48918.**

### To Purchase by FAX:

If purchasing by fax, you must pay by credit card. Fax the completed application to: **517-322-6822, 24 hours a day/7 days a week.**



### Ducks Unlimited Collector Plates

When you purchase a collector plate for \$35, the special cause or university receives \$25. Collector plates are for **display purposes only — not for vehicle registration**. Each collector plate includes the word "SAMPL," the special cause or university logo and name. Collector plates cannot be personalized. To order by mail or fax, complete this form, making sure to include your address.

### SPECIAL CAUSE LICENSE PLATE ORDER FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Plate Number(s)	Special Cause Code	Current Plate Number(s)	Special Cause Code
_____	<b>DKU</b>	_____	<b>DKU</b>
_____	<b>DKU</b>	_____	<b>DKU</b>

<input type="text"/>	Special Cause License Plate(s) Quantity
<input type="text"/>	Collector License Plate(s) Quantity
<input type="text" value="0"/>	X \$35 =
<input type="text" value="0"/>	<b>TOTAL DUE</b>

### Complete this section if purchasing Collector License Plate(s) ONLY

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

My payment is by (select one):

Discover   
  MasterCard   
  Visa   
  Check (enclosed)   
  Money Order (enclosed)

Credit Card Number

Credit Card Expiration Date

Enter TOTAL FEES here

\$

My signature below authorizes the Michigan Department of State to charge my account.

Please SIGN your name x \_\_\_\_\_

Please PRINT your name x \_\_\_\_\_





Business Tagline or Motto

Michigan Ducks Unlimited

State Chairman- David Steinbach  
State Treasurer- Dale Borske  
State Secretary- Diana Anderson

steinbac@umich.edu  
cruiseplanner1@chartermi.net  
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734-475-0119  
989-876-7341  
734-755-2020

## Marsh Chatter Needs You!

Marsh Chatter is a quarterly newsletter put out by the volunteer group of Michigan 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 State Secretary, 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 the beginning of the quarter. March for April publication, June for July publication, September for October publication and December for January publication.



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