



# The MI Marsh Chatter



Michigan Ducks Unlimited



Volume 1, Issue 2

3rd Quarter, 2015

## A Word from our Chairman

*Dave Steinbach: 2015 & 2016 State Chairman*



Summer is here!

Michigan DU had a great spring season and hopefully we are all now spending some quality time with our families.

Soon those chapters with fall events will once more, begin to crank up the DU machine here in the Great Lakes state. Our State Convention will be the kick-off this fall season. Starting today the days are beginning shorten, the gosling on our lake are getting their adult plumage, and before you know it they will be flying. You have all worked hard in your support of DU here in Michigan. Last year we conserved almost 66,000 acres in Michigan and are closing in on 2 million grassroots dollars raised. As the State Chairman I would love to see us reach this milestone before the end of 2016. Following are a few areas I would like to comment on.

The Michigan DU State Convention is just around the corner (August 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>), and is packed with fun and plenty of DU information. What better place could you take your family then Traverse City in August! From the opening evening pub-crawl to salmon fishing on Lake Michigan, I promise you that you will not want to miss this event and there is still time to register. It will fully recharge your DU batteries.

The 2016 calendars are here! Your RDs will begin to get them to you shortly. This year Pete Albrecht will be coordinating the tracking and collection of dollars and tickets for the calendar program. If you are selling these please keep track of your calendars, move them as quickly as you can and get the proceeds to Pete. More information on this will come shortly.

Our RD's are also planning District meetings beginning in July. If you are an Area, District, or Zone chairman I would

encourage you to attend the one in your area. Great information will be passed on to help in making all of our future events bigger and better. I hope to make many of these and would love input from our volunteer leaders.

Having returned recently from the National Convention I can tell you Michigan DU is truly one of the top states in the country. The Grassroots, Sponsors, and Major Donors categories all are doing well. We continue to improve in the area of college chapters, but are struggling a little with getting Varsity (High School) chapters up and running. I am still looking for someone to head up this area of Youth and Education. If you are interested in work to get these programs up and running please contact me.

**LAST BUT NOT LEAST!** We still 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.** If we do not get enough license plate purchased in the first year, which ends in September, we will lose our license plate forever.

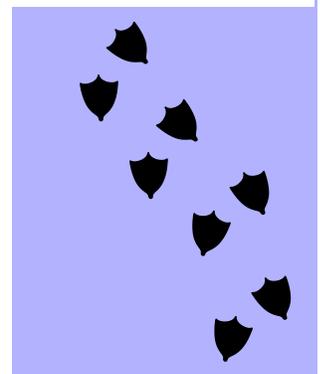
As always please know that I am here to help wherever I can. If you have an event you would like me to attend, need help in getting something done for your chapter, let me know and I will help if I can.

Again, Thank You for all you DU,

Dave Steinbach

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## Michigan's Sponsor Print Program

I want to thank Diana Anderson for asking me to explain the process behind our important fund raising Sponsor Print program.

It is essential that we all realize without Dow as the underwriter of this program it may not exist or may be far less competitive. Many States are less fortunate and struggle to have a program at all.

To begin with, each spring we look to last year's Federal Duck Stamp program for a selection of species. The Federal program allows Artists to choose from 5 possible species. However, there are always a few that are not seen in Michigan so, Chuck Myers and Terry Laymon help me with the species selection. We always have 2-3 that qualify for our contest and this will be our lineup 2 years later. The idea behind this process is to allow Artists to enter both contests with 1 painting and has led to our program attracting some of the Nation's top duck painters.

Once the species have been determined I update the rules and application for the next contest. A campaign for entries begins approximately 4-5 months prior to the contest with a post card mailing to all past Artists and a general mailing list of about 275 Artists Nationwide. The postcard displays the current years winning image. I also begin a Facebook call for art on two different Facebook pages for Duck Artists and Duck art contest organizers, updating the posts periodically leading up to the contest. All marketing requires Artists to contact me for their application, allowing me to have an idea of how many Artists may be entering our contest.

by Kathy Krupa

The artwork arrives at my home the week prior to our State Convention where it is numbered and cataloged since no names or signatures are allowed on the original.

We display up to 10 finalists at the convention where each ticket holder to the convention is allowed to vote for their favorite and the winner is announced Saturday evening. Artwork is returned to the Artists and the winning piece is signed and shipped to Foremost Printing in Grand Rapids where they prepare a proof for the Artist and myself to approve. Following approval the prints are made and shipped to the Artist for signing and numbering. The Artist also compiles a profile bio with photo for the jacket cover and I have the Ducks Unlimited mission and accomplishments information updated. After signing the prints are shipped back to Foremost where they are assembled for delivery.

The best part is when the prints make their way to our dinners and are included with each sponsor dinner ticket. The original painting for the year is then sold as part of the Live Auction at that year's State Convention.

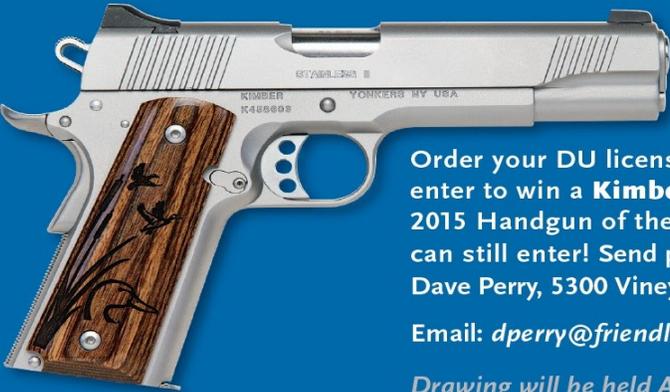
Dow Chemical receives 3 remarked prints as a token of our appreciation for the underwriting of all shipping, marketing, printing, and framing of the original painting.

I hope you find this interesting and remember to thank Dow for their support.



2015 Michigan State

Sponsor Print



# WIN A GUN!

Order your DU license plate before August 1, 2015 and you can enter to win a **Kimber Stainless II 1911**, Ducks Unlimited's 2015 Handgun of the Year. Already purchased your DU plate? You can still enter! Send proof of purchase (copy of registration) to: Dave Perry, 5300 Vineyard Dr, Monroe, MI 48161

Email: [dperry@friendly4d.com](mailto:dperry@friendly4d.com) • Questions? Call: 734-755-8388

*Drawing will be held August 8, 2015 at the DU Michigan State Convention*

Want to win this Kimber Stainless II 1911? See Page 8 to find out more!

## Recipe of the Quarter

Submitted by David Steinbach

### Walleye Chowder

**Ingredients:**

- ½ lbs. walleye fillets cut in bite size pieces
- 4 cups diced Yukon Gold Potatoes
- 1 cup onion diced
- ¾ cup diced Carrot
- 4 slices of bacon diced
- 1 can cream corn
- 2 cups Half & Half

**Directions:**

In a stock pot add vegetables and just cover with water.

Cook over medium heat until vegetables are tender.

Reduce heat to low and add Bacon and cook another 10 minutes.

Add Half & Half and cream corn heat back to bubbling.

Add Walleye and cook 10 minutes more, stirring often to prevent sticking on the bottom of the pot.



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## 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

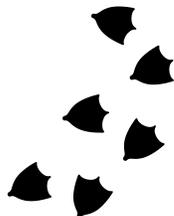


Jason Eurich sent a picture of him filling his first Pure Michigan Tag that he filled Turkey Hunting using the Ducks Unlimited Gun he won in the Pure Michigan Hunt Drawing and sporting his Ducks Unlimited Hat!

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## Last Chance to Join the Convention in Traverse City!

**There is still time to join the dedicated DU volunteers in beautiful Traverse City to celebrate at the Ducks Unlimited 2015 State Convention!** The fun starts on Thursday evening, August 6th at the fun filled Great Wolf Lodge. We have lots of fun and informational events planned for the Thursday, Friday and concludes with our Annual Awards banquet on Saturday evening. Come for part or all of the festivities. For more information, visit our site at Ducks.org, click on Michigan and Local Events or call Shannon Steinbach at 734-475-0119 or Diana Anderson at 734-755-2020. Hope to see you there!!



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# 78th National Convention

By Pete Albrecht



On May 26<sup>th</sup>, Ducks Unlimited volunteers and staff from throughout North America gathered in Milwaukee for the 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention.

In addition to the various committee and volunteer leadership meetings that are part and parcel of a convention, there were a number of fun and informative tours and seminars.

Since Milwaukee is the historical beer brewing capital of the United States, it goes without saying that brewery tours were available and well subscribed. They included tours of the historic Frederic Pabst mansion and the old and now defunct Pabst brewery site with a stop (and beer) in the now restored office building and tap room. For the less historically inclined there was a half day tour of the modern Miller brewing facility that culminated in a stop at the visitor center and tap room there.

With Lake Michigan and Green Bay forming much of its Eastern door step and the Mississippi River on the West, Wisconsin has a significant wetland and waterfowl heritage. Convention attendees were able to study and enjoy part of that heritage with day long tours of Green Bay's west shore and a visit to Horicon Marsh Wildlife Area.

The Green Bay watershed and coastal wetlands make up 50% of all remaining wetlands in the Lake Michigan Basin. This tour visited four different DU projects in addition to several historic Wisconsin sites.

Horicon Marsh, at 33,000 acres, is the largest fresh water cattail marsh in the United States. As such, it is home to or visited by 20 different species of ducks and 3 species of geese. The southern third of the marsh is managed by the Wisconsin DNR and the northern two thirds is a National Wildlife Refuge. Our tour visited sites throughout the marsh and looked at historical aspects and restoration initiatives of which DU is an active partner of both the DNR and USFWS.

Additionally throughout the week, there were other tours; Milwaukee City Tour, Magnificent Churches Tour, Milwaukee by Land & Water Tour, and a fun shoot at Wild Wings Sportsman's Club. When you add in the seminars on cooking, dog training, photography, and estate planning, it made for a busy week of activities.

Due to the broad scope of the agenda, the general business meeting was broken into two sessions; one on Friday morning and the other on Saturday morning.

Friday morning's session was opened with a very moving presentation of the colors, national anthem and pledge of allegiance by US Army members and Medal of Honor winner Gary Wetzel. Following the business portion of the meeting, we were given a report on the Great Lakes Initiative by John Coluccy from GLARO, awards ceremonies recognizing the top events and states in various categories, and keynote addresses by US Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack and Purina CEO Joe Sivewright. The highlight of the morning was the introduction to "Rescue Our Wetlands". This is a campaign to raise \$2,000,000,000.00 for wetlands throughout North America. You will be hearing a great deal more about this in the near future.

On Friday evening, conventioners were bused to the Harley

## **78th National Convention cont'd**



Davidson Museum for an evening of food, drinks, and self-guided tours of the museum and exhibits on the grounds of the museum. There is a lot of history on display, making this a very worthwhile stop when visiting Milwaukee.

Saturday morning's business session was initiated by election of national officers. This was followed by passing of the gavel from John Newman to George Dunklin and the Presidents Crest from George Dunklin to Paul Bonderson. We then moved on to awards ceremonies honoring Top Ten States in various categories, which I am very proud to say that, Thanks to all of you, Michigan did well in. Microsoft Chairman, WAT Board member, and avid duck hunter, John Thompson, was the keynote speaker for the morning. Doug Oberhelman, Caterpillar Chairman& CEO and WAT Board member, then gave us more insight to the "Rescue Our Wetlands" campaign.

The convention was capped with the 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention Gala. This is a formal dinner and cocktail reception highlighted by the King of DU live auctions -this one raising some \$184,000.00. The Gala was followed by an evening of music and dancing.

All in all, the national convention is a great way to recharge your DU batteries. Please join us in Anchorage Alaska for the 79<sup>th</sup> Convention. I guarantee that you will have a great time.



**FEATHER SOCIETY**

**Four Ways to Leave a Legacy**



You can leave a conservation legacy for the Ducks. All planned gifts are meaningful and in most cases do not involve any upfront costs, yet do so much for the future of DU's habitat restoration and conservation efforts. Here are four simple ways to join:

Make a bequest to DU in your will or trust. Find out how easy it is to put wildlife in your plans.

Realize the value of your retirement plan or 401k by making DU a beneficiary.

Consider giving a life insurance policy you or your family has "outgrown" and name DU as a beneficiary.

Build your gift by using real estate or personal property.

**For more information contact Sarah McCallum, Director of Gift Planning, Great Lakes/ Atlantic Region at (734) 623-2031 or [smccallum@ducks.org](mailto:smccallum@ducks.org)**

## Youth Learn About DU

By Todd Sloggett, Midland Area Chair

Chad Wasco, Senior at H.H. Dow High School, developed and presented a poster session highlighting the conservation efforts of Ducks Unlimited as part of senior project event at the high school on April 24, 2015. Chad, who also was part of a conservation club at Dow High School, has been interested in the local conservation efforts of Ducks Unlimited and Ruffed Grouse Society. Chad stated, "how this project opened my eyes and showed me truly how big DU is and how I am glad to be a part of it." As shown in the picture of his poster session, he has great taste and is green from head to toe with even a matching duck tie for the occasion! The Midland Chapter of Ducks Unlimited congratulates Chad for a great job keeping DU alive for generations to come."



## Michigan DU Volunteers Help with Bird Banding

By Craig Curtis



On June 6, 10 volunteers from Three Rivers and Paw Paw helped the MI DNR with a banding project in Southern Michigan. The volunteers got to do some hands on work with the geese. They got to participate in the herding and capture of over 200 geese on 3 locations. This a very important project the state does for waterfowl populations. The banding for the hunters gives them some "bling" for the lanyards, while the bands provide critical information to the Department of Fish and Wildlife to set harvest numbers for the State. This chance to get some hands on waterfowl work was handled by about 30 total volunteers and 6 to 8 MI DNR employees. From my own personal experience it was a ton of fun to do something extra for the waterfowl and a chance to experience something new. My daughter, Avery brought a friend that doesn't have a lot of outdoor experience and she had a blast getting to handle the birds up close. My advice is if you ever get the chance to help band birds – DO IT – it was a great time spending a day with my daughter and my DU friends.



# Third Quarter Events

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## *July*

21st	St Clair Flats District Meeting	Larry Posey 248-321-0711
22nd	Huron River Valley District Meeting	Jim Toth 810-869-5323
22nd	Flint River District Meeting	Jim Toth 810-869-5323
28th	Clinton River District Meeting	Chuck Myers 248-909-6502
29th	South Kent Shoot	Joe Zupancic 616-813-6053
29th	Down River District Meeting	Dave Perry 734-755-8388
30th	Lake St. Clair District Meeting	Rex Marshall 586-933-3886

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## *August*

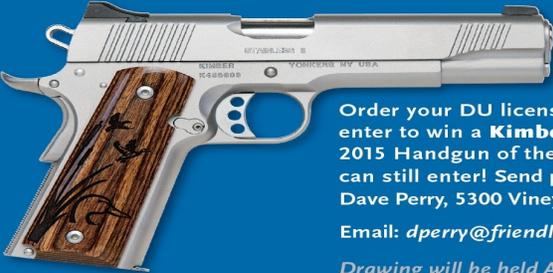
1st	Clinton County Area Dinner	Sue Tokar 906-293-3189
6th-8th	Michigan State Convention	Shannon Steinbach 734-475-0119
8th	Michigan Licesnse Plate Gun Raffle	Dave Perry 734-755-8388
18th	Southeast MI DU Shoot	Doug Freshwater 313-460-7238
21st	No Oakland Golf Outing & Wild Game Dinner	Chuck Myers 248-909-6502
21st	Davison Sportsman Night Out	Jim Toth 810-869-5323
26th	East Jordan Shoot	Mark Lercel 231-675-3867
27th	Allegan Dinner	Rob Marciniak 269-673-1855
31st	No Oakland DU Bass Pro Hunt	Chuck Myers 248-909-6502

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## *September*

8th	Rochester-Romeo Dinner	Scott Allen 248-259-0505
10th	Greater Grand Rapids Dinner	Ed Berry 616-262-5810
12th	Gratiot Co Dinner	Deb Vuscih 989-682-4044
12th	Benzie Co Dinner	Gaylord Jowett 231-651-0963
13th	Ducks Unlimited Woods & Water Booth	Jack Watters 231-360-0887
16th	West Oakland Dinner	Billie Ray Fann 248-464-5474
17th	Midland Dinner	Todd Sloggett 989-600-0186
17th	So Oakland Dinner	Chuck Yago 248-761-6862
17th	Down River Dinner	Scott Wilkie 734-231-1931
19th	Montmorency Co Dinner	Mike Hachigian 989-657-3189
19th	Presque Isle Co Dinner	Dave Smrcek 989-734-4392
22nd	No Oakland Sponsor Event	Chuck Myers 248-909-6502
24th	Fenton Area Dinner	Wes Nolde 810-625-0276
25th	Sanilac County	Dean Noble 810-275-2828
26th	Thumb Area Dinner	Dave Dybowski 989-553-4535
30th	Gladwin	Neldin Emans 989-948-8846

You can also visit <http://www.ducks.org/michigan/events> for more information



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Email: [dperry@friendly4d.com](mailto:dperry@friendly4d.com) • Questions? Call: 734-755-8388

Drawing will be held August 8, 2015 at the DU Michigan State Convention



*Dave Steinbach*  
State Chairman - Ducks Unlimited Michigan

13851 SAUER DR • GREGORY, MI 48137 • (734) 474-3241 • [steinbac@umich.edu](mailto:steinbac@umich.edu)

April 14, 2015

Greetings Ducks Unlimited Supporters,

Now is the time to Show Your Colors!

As many of you know Ducks Unlimited in Michigan had a successful 2014 where we worked to pass legislation in support of the Michigan DU license plate. Currently, Ducks Unlimited is the only conservation organization who has a Michigan specialty plate.

Be proud of this special organization that has spent over \$33 million dollars on projects here in Michigan, conserving over 76 thousand acres of waterfowl related habitat. No other conservation organization has done this much for waterfowl and waterfowl habitat in Michigan.

Now you can help even more. By purchasing a plate for \$35 dollars, \$25 dollars of your license plate fee goes directly to Ducks Unlimited Michigan for use on projects only in Michigan. That's right; this money stays right here in the Great Lake State!

As the State Chairman of Ducks Unlimited, I am personally asking you to further support our efforts here and purchase your plate today. You do not have to wait until your current plate needs renewing and if you want to personalize your plate, go to the Secretary of State office near you and renew your plate. "GOMIDU" is a great example of what your plate can be!

Thank you again for all of your support and work for DU.

Dave Steinbach

Michigan DU State Chairman

*LEADER IN WETLANDS CONSERVATION*



## 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
_____	DKU	_____	DKU
_____	DKU	_____	DKU

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

### 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

\$  **0.00**

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

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

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



The 2015 Summer Michigan Waterfowl Legacy Newsletter is here! We hope you enjoy reading the attached newsletter featuring summer birding tips and the DNR Duck Banding Team. Be sure to check out the regular updates from the DNR Duck Banding Team on the [MWL Facebook page!](#)



## Banding Together for Waterfowl

### Michigan Ducks Unlimited

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

steinbac@umich.edu  
cruiseplanner1@chartermi.net  
djmf1994@gmail.com

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.

Many Thanks to ITC for their 2014 and 2015 Michigan State Convention Sponsorship! Their support helps us continue the DU Mission through our volunteers!



### *Fish Point Lodge on Saginaw Bay*

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