



# The MI Marsh Chatter



Volume 1, Issue 3

4th Quarter, 2015

## A Word from our Chairman

*Dave Steinbach: 2015 & 2016 State Chairman*



It's Fall! Soon we will hear the distant morning thunder over our marshes.

Michigan DU fundraising has had a fairly peaceful summer with just a few events. We focused a lot on our License Plate program, but still need your support. If your car or truck is not sporting a DU plate, it's time for you to head to the Secretary of States office and correct this.

All I can say was the Michigan DU State Convention was a BLAST! If you were there I need to say nothing more. If you missed it, you missed one of the best conventions in a long time. We pub crawled, fished, swam, shot, ate, drank, networked and raffled our way through 3 wonderful days. My hat is off to Diana, Dave Perry and the rest of the convention committee for a job well done. I am looking forward to next summer at the Garlands, for as good, if not an even better time. Make sure you get those dates on your calendar, and an early thanks to Bowers, and Bissells for volunteering to work on the Garlands event. If you would like to take charge of part of the 2016 convention please contact Diana Anderson.

The 2016 calendars are out there and being sold! This year Pete Albrecht is 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.

This summer I attended a number of District meetings where the dedication of our volunteers really shines. I have to say I am extremely proud and somewhat humbled by the passion I see in all of you, our volunteers here in Michigan. As we are moving into the

fall events all I can say is thank you for your time and efforts.

We continue to improve in the area of college chapters, Billy Ray has a group starting at the University of Michigan and at the Midland dinner, I talked with several students from Northwood University who were also fired up to get a chapter started. We also hope to have events at Michigan Tech., and NMU shortly. I am still looking for someone to head up this area of Youth and Education. If you are interested in working to get these programs up and running please contact me.

Another area I would like to stress as we enter this busy season, is volunteer recruitment. We can never have too many volunteers, and many hands makes for light work and more fun. If you are going to a meeting for your event, take a friend with you. All you have to do is ask. Above all make sure these new people get engaged and HAVE FUN! I can not say it enough times that if you the volunteers are not having fun doing this we have a problem we need to fix.

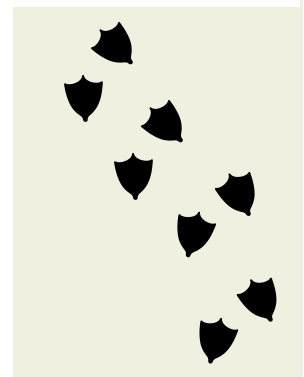
As always please know that I am here to help wherever I can. If you have an event you would like me to attend, or need help in getting something done for your chapter, let me know and I will help if I can.

Again, Thank You for all you DU,

Dave Steinbach

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## Michigan's Sponsor Print Program

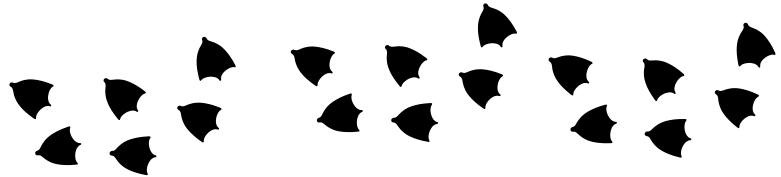
by Kathy Krupa



**2016 Michigan State**

**Sponsor Print**

AND THE WINNER IS....The 2016 Michigan Ducks Unlimited Sponsor print image was voted on and selected at the State Convention in Traverse City in August. There were several amazing submissions but this was out winner. Our 2016 Artist is Chris Wozniak from Alpena. You may look forward to this image being a part of your sponsor dinner ticket package throughout 2016.



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## GLARO participates in MUCC's Camo at the Capitol

By Chris Sebastian

DU was one of several Michigan conservation groups taking part in Camo at the Capitol on Wednesday, Sept. 9.

The event was organized by the Michigan United Conservation Clubs and was part of Conservation Week in Lansing. The event provided an opportunity for conservation groups to talk with state lawmakers about the importance of hunting, fishing and conservation.

Attending and pictured at right are DU volunteer David Bowers, DU Michigan Policy Chief Steve Wyckoff and GLARO Public Affairs Coordinator Chris Sebastian.



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

Jason Hill

Don't wait to order your Michigan Ducks Unlimited License Plate. 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



## Recipe of the Quarter

### Pheasant with Wild Rice

**Ingredients:**

**2 1/2 lbs dressed Pheasant**

**1/4 c flour**

**1/2 butter or margarine**

**1 onion chopped**

**1 stalk celery chopped**

**1 cup chicken broth**

**1 cup whipping cream**

**3 whole allspice**

**2 tblsp sherry**

**1/2 tsp salt**

**1/2 tsp pepper**

**2 cups cooked wild rice**

**Directions:**

Cut pheasant into quarters.

Dredge pieces in flour.

*Submitted by Diana Anderson*

Melt butter in oven-safe skillet over medium-high heat.

Add pheasant, and cook until browned on both sides, turning once.

Add onion and next 7 ingredients.

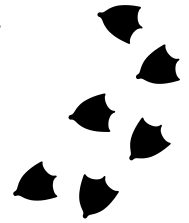
Put oven-safe skillet in oven.

Bake, covered, at 350°F for 1 1/2 hours or until tender.

Remove pheasant from skillet, and keep warm.

Cook pan drippings in skillet over medium-high heat until reduced to 2 cups.

Serve with pheasant and rice



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## 2015 State Convention– Something for Everyone

by Diana Anderson

The 2015 State Convention is in the books and no matter your age, gender, time involved with DU or your reasons for being there, The Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City had something to offer for everyone. The event started on Thursday evening with nearly 50 people participating in a DU version of a pub crawl– a Duck Waddle. Teams were taxied downtown, asked to solve riddles and take pictures for points. The winning team received gift cards and a special prize DU flask. The fun continued on Friday where 20 fishermen headed out before dawn to fish and compete against the other boats to catch the most fish. There were sidewalk sales downtown where many headed to do some shopping and all made it back safely to participate in the biannual State Committee meeting. A fun dinner with some great food followed and of course, the now famous Hospitality room was enjoyed by all. On Saturday, the day started with informative breakout meetings and following lunch, several attendees went on a guided wine tour or headed to the Cedar Rod and Gun Club for the annual Sporting Clay shoot. The evening festivities began with a cocktail party where several members gave a moving and informative message about their DU involvement followed by dinner and our Annual Awards Banquet. Several chapters were recognized for their achievements and many individuals were given recognition with the State Chairman Awards. The evening culminated with the awarding of the Russ Bengle Award to Dave Perry. A long time volunteer and MC at our State Convention. So, if you missed attending, you certainly missed a GREAT TIME. Next years convention will be held at the beautiful Garlands Resort in Lewiston on August 11, 12 and 13, 2016. More info will be available on our Website soon! [www.ducks.org](http://www.ducks.org)



## FEATHER SOCIETY

Submitted by Sarah McCallum



### What is the Feather Society?

The Feather Society is Ducks Unlimited's recognition program designed to distinguish those members and supporters who have included DU in their estate plans. Gift commitments help you leave a conservation legacy that will ensure the future of wetlands and waterfowl for our children's children. One member said it best:

*"Ducks Unlimited is as important to me as my family, and therefore I have elevated DU to family status in my estate planning by making provisions to provide DU with money when I'm gone."*

### Simple Gifts are the Best Gifts

There are several ways for you to make an impact on DU's mission. Many of the options are "no hassle" gifts that require little or no professional or legal advice. The following gift types make up 85% of all planned gifts that DU receives:

*Retirement Plans:* Most of us can change the beneficiary designation on our IRAs, 401K, and qualified pension plans without a trip to a lawyer. These are great assets to gift to DU (in whole or in part) and 100% of their value will benefit the organization.

*Appreciated Assets:* The gift of an asset, mutual fund or stock is a valuable way to make a gift and receive tax benefits based on the value of the asset(s).

*Life Insurance:* One of the easiest "no hassle, no cost" ways to benefit the ducks is to add DU as a beneficiary on your life insurance policy.

*Simple Bequest:* We all know we should have one, yet more than 70% of us will pass away without having a will in place. Once we die, neither we nor our family has control of our assets; the courts take over.

A Feather Society pledge is achievable for most members and is an excellent way to "endow" your DU giving beyond your lifetime.

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

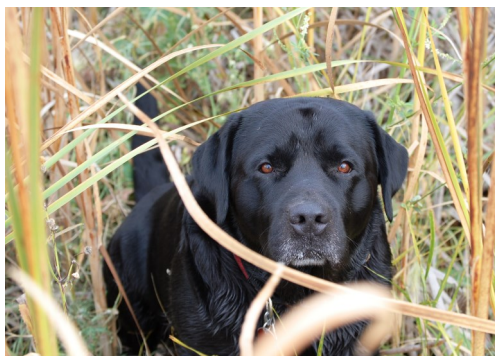
## Get a chance to win new firearms at DU Gun Bash on Oct. 8

The Great Lakes/Atlantic Regional Office Chapter of Ducks Unlimited hosts its 2015 Gun Bash from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 8, at the Chelsea Rod & Gun Club, 7103 Lingane, Chelsea, Mich.

One gun will be raffled for each 10 tickets sold. The more people who buy tickets, the more guns that will be available. All proceeds benefit Ducks Unlimited wetland conservation projects. Tickets cost \$100 and include dinner, drinks, a one-year Ducks Unlimited membership and one entry into the raffle. Other gun and prize drawing opportunities will happen throughout the evening. Winners do not need to be present to win a gun. Guests, who do not want to enter the main raffle, can attend the evening for \$20.

Here is the list of guns for the main raffle:

- Browning A5
- CVA Scout V2 .44 Mag
- DPMS 556 Oracle
- Franchi Affinity
- Glock 22 Gen .40 cal
- Howa M1500 .308 Win w/Scope and Bipod
- Ruger LCR .38 Special
- Kimber Custom II .45 ACP
- Remington 870 Super Mag
- Ruger 10/22 Take Down



The poster features the Ducks Unlimited logo on the left and the 'Rescue Our Wetlands' logo on the right. The main title '2015 GLARO GUN BASH' is in large green letters. Below it, the date and time 'THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015 • 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm' and location 'Chelsea Rod & Gun Club, 7103 Lingane, Chelsea, MI' are listed. A large '\$100' is prominently displayed. To the right of the price, three bullet points state: 'Admission includes DU membership', 'Free dinner and hosted bar', and '1 gun raffled off for every 10 tickets sold'. A fourth bullet point says 'Need not be present to win'. Under the heading 'Gun Bash Raffle includes:', a list of firearms is provided, including a Glock 22 Gen .40 cal, Ruger LCR .38 Special, Kimber Custom II .45 ACP, Browning A5, Remington 870 Super Mag, Franchi Affinity, CVA Scout V2 .44 Mag, Ruger 10/22 Take Down, Howa M1500 .308 Win, and DPMS Panther Arms 556 Oracle. To the right of the list are images of several of these firearms. Below the list, it says 'Additional gun raffles throughout the night!'. At the bottom, it provides the website 'www.ducks.org/michigan/events/' for ordering tickets online, contact information (734.623.2000), and the address of the Great Lakes/Atlantic Region office in Ann Arbor, MI. A small note at the bottom right of the firearm images says 'Guns not shown to scale'.



Photos submitted by David Bowers

## Chapter News



The MSU Student



Ducks Unlimited Chapter started in January 2014. The chapter began with only four committee members, dedicated to raising funds to conserve our nation's wetlands and waterfowl. We grew to nine active members and held our first banquet February 13, 2015. We also participated in area habitat projects and volunteered at another DU chapter banquet.

The chapter has adopted a wood duck box project at Sleepy Hollow State Park for the past two years. We help build new boxes, repair those in the field and gather data on their use. The chapter visits the park during the winter and checks boxes by walking on the ice. We clean out old nesting material and replace it with new wood chips, while gathering data on nest success, predation and use of the box by wildlife other than wood ducks. Sometimes we meet with surprises like screech owls, raccoons, squirrels and other critters. We hope to expand to include the Maple River State Game Area this winter. Chapter members have also helped the Michigan DNR with duck banding, learning how to age, sex and band mallards and wood ducks.

Volunteering as a college student is a very rewarding experience. The students in the committee have been involved in countless opportunities that would have been unavailable otherwise. Because the committee is so small, everyone had a key role in planning the banquet, from gathering donations to assisting with running the banquet. Five members were able to participate in Ducks University's Third Term at DU national headquarters in Memphis, TN. It was an experience of a lifetime to meet, share and learn from DU student chapter members from across the country. Besides networking, the habitat projects also allow the students to get in the field and be a part of waterfowl conservation. There is nothing more rewarding than being a part of a Ducks Unlimited Chapter and knowing the difference you are making.



The first banquet was held this past February at Reno's East in East Lansing. The chapter worked with our MSU advisor, Dr. Chuck Nelson from the Department of Community Sustainability and DU Regional Director, Craig Curtis, to ensure a successful initial banquet. Due to our high efficiency rate of a net of more than 60% of our gross receipts, we received the national Grand Slam award while at Third Term this summer, one of the very few chapters in the nation to do this! We are off to a good start, but there is always room for improvement. Come and join the team!

# Third Quarter Events

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## *October*

7th	White River Annual Membership Dinner	Brad Shafer 231-286-3473
7th	Greater Kalamazoo Sponsor Dinner	Corey Van Dyke 269-377-0661
8th	Traverse City SNO	Richie Duell 231-632-8444
8th	GLARO Gun Bash	Jason Hill 734-623-2000
14th	Jordan Valley Dinner	Mark Lercel 231-675-3867
17th	The Islands Chapter Dinner	Nathan Harrison 906-430-1399
22nd	Ogemaw County Dinner	Don Dobler 989-621-3984
22nd	Claire County Dinner	Lloyd Wilson 231-627-5965
24th	Sebewaing Dinner	Jeff Kroll 989-883-3526
28th	Waters SNO	Rick Nash 989-390-1632
28th	Lapeer Cnty DU Happy Hour	Steve Morehead 810-869-4806
31st	North Oakland Bass Pro Month	Chuck Myers 248-909-6502

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## *November*

6th	Eastern UP Mega Gun Extravaganza	Dan Heuer 906-248-2191
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### ***DU Website– A Wealth of Valuable Information!***

Have you been on the DU Website lately? Did you know that you can find a wealth of information there, not only for DU Nationally, but for our State? If you look near the top of the page, you can select your state, and under the State of Michigan, you can find local events, the latest news around the state, the latest fundraising information, DU facts and State Contact information. So please be sure to go to [www.ducks.org](http://www.ducks.org) and select Michigan to find a wealth of valuable information!



Photo courtesy of David Bowers



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





## 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 \_\_\_\_\_



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	steinbac@umich.edu	734-475-0119
State Treasurer- Dale Borske	cruiseplanner1@chartermi.net	989-876-7341
State Secretary- Diana Anderson	djmf1994@gmail.com	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

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



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