



# The MI Marsh Chatter



Michigan Ducks Unlimited



Volume 2, Issue 1

2nd Quarter, 2016

## A Word from our Chairman

*Dave Steinbach: 2015 & 2016 State Chairman*



Spring is in the air!

This is a busy time of year, the cranes are dancing in the fields, the geese have staked out their territory and the ducks are in their most beautiful plumage. It is also the heart and soul of the Michigan DU fundraising.

The year began with a great leadership conference at the end of January. We had fun, and lots of DU interaction that I hope charged everyone's DU batteries as it did mine. It was also my pleasure to present our new State Chairman elect for 2016, Dale Borske.

For those of you who do not know Dale, he is also currently our State Treasurer. Dale hales from Au Gres and has been an outstanding volunteer for many years. He has filled more positions than I can list and has been a great person to work with. He has already jumped in with both feet and begun to tackle the task of volunteer recruitment. Assembling a team from all parts of the state he is manning a table at events with volunteers not from the local chapter to help recruit new volunteer for that chapter. Dale truly has the DU passion, which can be observed in all he does. So if you see him, congratulate him and also thank him for all he has done and all he will do for DU.

The 2017 calendars are in the works. The 2016 calendar program was up in dollars over the 2015, and with the addition of an ATV to this coming year's calendar we hope 2017 will be even better. Thank you again for supporting this important fundraising pro-

gram. It truly makes a big difference to our bottom line for Michigan DU.

The MSU student chapter started the collegiate chapter year out by setting the bar high. Kali and the spartans did another great job. She will be graduating this spring and we hope the best for her as she heads off to Missouri to collar elk for the summer. She will be leaving some big shoes to fill. It is really great to attend these events and interact with these outstanding young adults. They have such enthusiasm!

During this busy event season I have been from Brimley to Lake St. Clair, Flat River to Saginaw Bay, and the events keep coming. With the passion of the volunteers I have met, and with the gusto that our attendees are supporting the cause I feel this will truly be a great year here in Michigan DU

With that I would say goodbye to winter, hello to spring, and again thank all of you the volunteers of Michigan Ducks Unlimited, for your hard work and dedication to the Ducks.

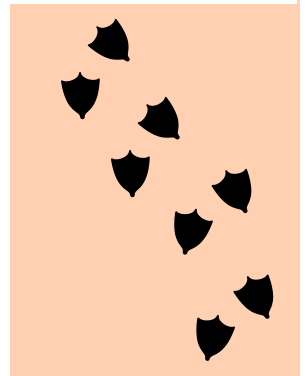
Turkeys, walleye, and morels are on the horizon!

Thank You for all you DU,

Dave Steinbach

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## Posting Your Events

From Jan Marra, Michigan DU Webmaster

Having your event posted on the Ducks.org/Michigan website is a great way to make sure your event is "seen".

Here are a few pointers for your web advertisement to help you get the most of this great service:

**1 – Remember the basics.** Put the important information (Who, What, When, and Where) right up at the top of your ad where it can be found easily.

**2 – Make it fun!** Describe the event and the activities. Do your best to make people want to come to your event.

**3 – Avoid long letters.** Keep your web ad to the design of a flyer. Writing a letter to your sponsors and past attendees is fine for a mailing, but not for the web.

**4 – Put up your flyer!** I can put your event flyer on the web for you. Send me your flyer in picture format (jpeg or png), or as a pdf. The width is limited to 500 pixels however, so you may have to modify your flyer. If you send me the flyer in a Microsoft Word format, then I can easily modify it for you.

**5 – No flyer? No Problem!** I can make one for you. Please send me the event information in Microsoft Word format and I'll put your web ad together for you.

**6 – Sell your event tickets online!** DU will handle the transactions for you. The first person listed as your contact on the web ad will receive an email for each transaction, so you always know your seating availability.

**7 – I'll post your pictures!** Send me up to six pictures of the highlights of your event and I'll post them in the Michigan DU Photo Gallery.

### A few things more...

I need the primary contact person's name, email address, and phone number for each event.

Be sure to give me the full address of the event location, for the map/directions feature.

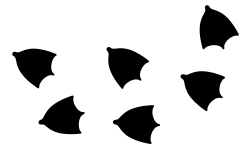
Please be clear what a buyer receives in a package deal.

Let me know if the annual DU membership is included with each ticket sold.

Send me any pictures in jpeg or png format.

Questions? Contact me at [jan.mcd�@yahoo.com](mailto:jan.mcd�@yahoo.com) or call me at (734) 735-4392.

Thanks, and have a fun and successful event!



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## Don't Wait to Get Your Plates!

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

Submitted by David Steinbach

### CORNED GOOSE

#### **Ingredients:**

- 4 -6 Goose Breasts**
- 1 cup Morton's Tender Quick**
- ½ cup sugar\***
- ½ cup pickling spice**
- 1 head garlic cloves (minced) about ¼ cup of minced from a jar.**
- ¼ cup of apple cider vinegar**

#### **Directions:**

In a non-metallic container that seals tight, mix brine and meat with enough water to cover meat.

Refrigerate for 7 days.

Shake at least once a day.

\*Note 1 (I have used a mix of both white and brown sugar)

After 7 days, rinse meat to remove loose spices.

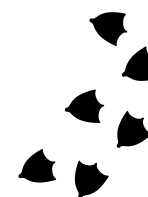
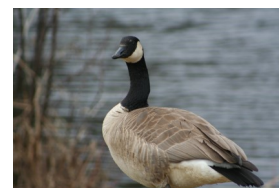
Put 4 tablespoons of pickling spice in two Bouquet Garni (Cheesecloth bags).

Put both the meat and the cloth bag into a pot of water with just a splash of apple cider vinegar.

Boil/Simmer for about 3 hours.

\*Note—You will need to add water while simmering.

Allow meat to cool before slicing.



## 2016 State Convention Announced

The 2016 State Convention is coming soon and now is the time to start making your plans to join us for this fun packed weekend event! The convention will be held August 11, 12 and 13 at the Garland's Lodge and Resort in Lewiston, MI. The fun starts Thursday with "Bar Olympics" which will include dinner, beverages and a team event. Friday will be our annual themed dinner filled with more games and fun. Saturday will have our annual awards dinner. There will be a variety of other activities to enjoy including a shoot, canoeing, a trout pond fishing tournament and much more! In addition, during the convention, the State Committee holds their annual meeting for all Area Chairs, District Chairs and other State Volunteers so please plan to attend. For more information, including information for hotel reservations and registration information, please visit the events tab on the State Ducks.org website.



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Planning now for how your affairs will be handled, whatever your stage in life, is a good idea. A few simple steps today through an estate plan can give you peace of mind tomorrow by ensuring that you and your loved ones are protected.

Your estate plan can also be used to support charitable causes that matter most to you, such as Ducks Unlimited's conservation mission. Legacy gifts are critical to the long-term sustainability of DU.

We encourage you to request a helpful planning booklet, "Planning Your Legacy, A Guide to Planning Your Will & Trust." Our program is tailored to provide all of the assistance possible to you, your family and your advisors.

For more information, contact **Sarah McCallum**, DU director of gift planning, at (734) 623-2031 or [smccallum@ducks.org](mailto:smccallum@ducks.org). You can also visit us at [www.ducksgift.org](http://www.ducksgift.org)



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## 2016 Pure Michigan Hunt Winners

In the photo to the right are the winners of the Pure Michigan Hunt and their prizes from Michigan Ducks Unlimited. State Chairman David Steinbach and State Chair Elect and Treasurer, Dale Borske attended the presentation again this year.

Just so you know they get a lot of merchandise along with all of the hunting licenses that are available during Michigan's Hunting Season. You can see the list of merchandise on the MI DNR website. Consider purchasing one or more of these chances and you may win something big. Even if you do not win you are supporting conservation efforts here in Michigan.



## Chapter News

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### **From the Great Lakes to downtown Lansing; Waterfowl Need Political Support**

submitted by Kyle Rorah, Government Affairs Representative

Nearly 50% of Ducks Unlimited's annual budget is public money derived from federal and state grants. These financial resources have enabled the organization to deliver 13.3 million acres of conservation work nationwide since 1937, over 65,000 of which have occurred right here in Michigan, giving Michiganders world-class waterfowling opportunities and the quality habitat needed to sustain healthy duck and geese populations year after year. The sobering reality of these important monetary sources is that they are all creatures of statute and could be eliminated tomorrow if legislative support for them weakens.

Federal programs like the Farm Bill, North American Wetlands Conservation Act, and Great Lakes Restoration Initiative all require congressional approval to remain intact. State programs like waterfowl habitat stamps, DU state license plates, and dedicated funding mechanisms like conservation sales taxes are also sources that DU relies on for significant levels of funding, and are often subject to the ebb and flow of political will.

Given this, building tight-knit relationships with our lawmakers in Michigan is imperative to accomplishing our organizational goals and advancing our mission. Thanks to the efforts of DU's committed volunteers and engaged membership, working in tandem with DU policy staff, the organization enjoys a strong relationship with the Michigan Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus, a bipartisan bicameral group of elected officials committed to advancing sportsmen's interests in the state. With over 80 members, this group of lawmakers is a powerful force standing ready to protect and advance the rights of hunters, anglers, and trappers in Michigan and to drive a conservation agenda critical to protecting wildlife habitat and safeguarding science-based management of our natural resources.

The Caucus is led by four Co-Chairs, Sen. Mike Green (R-Mayville), Sen. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights), Rep. Andrea LaFontaine (R-Columbus Twp.), and Rep. John Kivela (D-Marquette). DU has been extremely supportive and engaged with the Caucus over the last several years, regularly attending and sponsoring events, as well as serving on the Michigan Sportsmen's Caucus Advisory Council, which helps provide additional guidance and resources to our pro-sportsmen legislators.

"The opportunity to work with the Sportsmen's Caucus gives Ducks Unlimited a wonderful chance to interact with those legislators that have our interests in mind. By developing relationships with the men and women that make the state's decisions, when issues come up that can affect our mission, we have a ready-made contact with those that can move our issues forward," said MI DU State Policy Chair Steve Wyckoff. "In addition to the interaction with the legislature, the Sportsmen's Caucus also provides another opportunity to work with the Department of Natural Resources and other NGO's."

It is critically important for MI DU members to engage their elected officials and share their passion for the outdoors with them. Next time you speak with your Senator or Representative, ask them if they're members of the Michigan Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus. If they're not, encourage them to join and help protect Michigan's outdoor heritage and the incredible natural resources upon which this heritage depends. Also, invite them to your DU event and ask them to join DU!

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**Visit Ducks.org to find  
your local events or follow  
this link  
[http://www.ducks.org/  
michigan](http://www.ducks.org/michigan)**



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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!



Photos on this page courtesy of David Bowers



*Dave Steinbach*  
*State Chairman - Ducks Unlimited Michigan*  
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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: _____				<input type="checkbox"/>	Special Cause License Plate(s) Quantity
Daytime Telephone Number: _____				<input type="checkbox"/>	Collector License Plate(s) Quantity
Current Plate Number(s)	Special Cause Code	Current Plate Number(s)	Special Cause Code	<input type="text" value="0"/>	X \$35 =
_____	DKU	_____	DKU	<input type="text" value="0"/>	TOTAL DUE
_____	DKU	_____	DKU		

### 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

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

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

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State Chairman- David Steinbach  
State Chair Elect/Treasurer-Dale Borske  
State Secretary- Diana Anderson

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## 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!



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