

# The MI Marsh Chatter



### Michigan Ducks Unlimited Newsletter

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Spring 2022

Ducks Unlimited conserves, restores, and manages wetlands and associated habitats for North America's waterfowl.

These habitats also benefit other wildlife and people.

### A Word From Our Chairman

Tracy Oberleiter: 2021 - 2022 State Chairman



#### Raising the roof for the ducks!

Your State Chairman, Tracy
Oberleiter was flying high above
the crowd as he raffled off a
crossbow at the Monroe
Banquet on March 19th. As
your state chairman I'm so very
pleased to share with you some
great results for Michigan as we
complete our Spring Fundraising
activities.

Michigan has rebounded from the limitations of covid and at the end of March 2022 our fundraising activities have netted \$1,570,040 which is an increase of \$824,420 from the same period last year. This represents an impressive 110% increase year over year! Our event attendance is also up from 6,915 in 2021 to 8.739 in March 2022 which represents an increase of 26%. Kudos to our hard working RD's and volunteers continuing to make a positive difference for Ducks Unlimited here in Michigan and our Region 3 including Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

We also had a record breaking State Convention this past January that raised \$23,800 for the ducks. This is the most successful state convention that we have had in recent history and our first convention blending a virtual

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fundraiser with our in person convention. Hats off to Dave Perry and his convention committee. Also I'm happy to report that we just finished up the accounting for our 2021 calendar sales and had an impressive net/net for the ducks of \$160,642. Sales went so well that our leadership team decided to increase the calendar order for 2023 from 5300 to 5500.

More plans are in the making to continue training our volunteers and staff to make Michigan even more successful and efficient by hosting Leadership Events on May 13th & 14th at the Wisconsin Dells for Region 3 and for Michigan specifically on July 30th at the Isabella County Sportsman's Club. Let's not forget about the opportunity to learn even more at the 85th DU National Convention In New Orleans this coming July. Let me know if you are interested in attending these events and you can join me.

Our four RD's Craig Curtis, Kevin Stoltz, Steve Morehead and Chris Anderson are all reporting record attendance and spending at most of their banquets so we can be looking for even more impressive numbers in the months to come. Also please welcome our newest Regional Director to our Michigan staff. Steve Morehead joined Michigan Ducks Unlimited in March as our new Regional Director for our SE Region. Prior to joining our staff Steve was also a long term volunteer with our Lapeer County Chapter serving in several leadership positions. Steve and his wife Amy and two sons, Jake and Alex live in Lapeer. We welcome Steve to our DU family and look forward to working with him.

And there is more good news to share...our next wetland dedication will be held on Sunday, September 18th at the Pt. Mouillee State Game Area in Rockwood, Michigan. Dave Steinbach and Kali Rush are leading a team to organize this event and there will be more information to share as plans get established.

Enjoy the Marsh Chatter and thank you for all your support of Ducks Unlimited.



### 2022 State Convention

by Tracy Oberleiter

Michigan Ducks Unlimited held our State Convention this past weekend and I thought I would share some highlights of the weekend.

For some it started out on Thursday night with a "practice" bingo to gain some experience on how fun and easy it is to do so we can bring back to our chapters for another fundraising opportunity.

Following bingo we held the Facebook drawing of our State Convention Online Raffle and gave away 21 great prizes and made the ducks some great money. Thanks goes out to Craig & Kevin for a job well done.

On Friday most started to arrive and had a great time at our Mardi Gras Party with many winning some great prizes...guns, crossbows, jewelry, cash and more. After



dinner we were entertained by a magician who tried to solve my problem of needing to be in two places at the same time! The evening ended in our Hospitality Suite sharing some great DU stories with our friends.

Saturday started with breakfast for all and the opportunity to go on a wine tour, casino run or make wreaths. Something for everyone to do. Lunch was served and soon after we all had the opportunity to attend the Major Donor Reception and learn



more about how our major donor dollars get matched several times over from grants and funding opportunities from many foundations and private supporters. Several Major Donor plaques were presented to major donors for completing pledges and several new pins were presented for new commitments. I believe the new commitments added up to an impressive \$80,000! Sara McCallum shared with us how easy it is to become a Feather Society member and the great benefits that brings to Ducks Unlimited. Are you a Feather Society member? Find out how easy it is to become a member by calling Sara at 734-945-8076.

The Awards Banquet on Saturday night rocked the night as we honored our chapters and volunteers for all their hard work and accomplishments in 2019, 2020 and 2021. Check out the attached Program Book to see what awards your chapter received. Jim Toth, our State Chairman for 2019-2020 gave his State Chairman Awards to David

Bowers, Charles Nelson, Cindy Zeitz-Lamaire, John Coric and Tim Bliss for their outstanding service and commitment to our organization.

Jim recognized Charles Myers, Area Chairman of the North Oakland Chapter as Area Chairman for 2019.

Tracy Oberleiter, State Chairman for 2021-2022 gave his State Chairman Awards to David Bowers, Jan Marra, Max Lehman, Blair Bissell and Dave Perry for their outstanding service to Michigan Ducks Unlimited.

David Bowers and Kyle Rorah presented the 2021 Michigan Ducks Unlimited Legislator of the Year Awards to State Representative John Cherry and State Representative Brad Slagh.



To finish the evening out the 2020 and 2021 Russ Bengel Awards were presented. The Russ Bengel Award is the highest Michigan Ducks Unlimited award that a volunteer can receive and was started in 1976 when Russ Bengel himself received the award for his outstanding service and commitment to our organization.



Congratulations goes out to Blair Bissell, our 2020 Russ Bengel recipient and Dan Schultz our 2021 Russ Bengel recipient.

Our evening again ended in our Hospitality Suite with yet more stories being told and friendships started.

If you were not able to join us this year I sure hope you can make it next year. Thanks for all you do for this great organization. What you do does make a difference.

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

Our next state convention will be on January 28th, 2023 at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City!

Below are a few pictures taken during the convention. There are more pictures posted at ducks.org/michigan/state-convention.

If you see a picture of yourself that you would like to have a full size copy of

















### DUCKS UNLIMITED NATIONAL CONVENTION

Join us July 13-16, 2022 in New Orleans for our 85th National Convention!



**New Orleans** is music, **New Orleans** is world class cuisine, **New Orleans** is a party... **New Orleans is the home for DU's 85th National Convention!** After two years away from our national convention we could not imagine a better city to have the DU leaders gather!

### Mark your calendars for July 13-16, 2022!

Make plans to attend DU's 85th National Convention. We will kick the festivities off Wednesday night with our first National Roadkill Cookoff, and close with our Saturday night Gala. With an informative two-day business session featuring keynote speakers that will inspire, educate, and entertain, to Friday's Wings Over Wetlands awards dinner, we will create an event you won't want to miss!

### **Brochure**

Download the **Convention Brochure** in PDF format for all the details!

### Register

Online registration is open! Register now!





### **Michigan Conservation Update**

by Kali Rush, Michigan Regional Biologist





Amid the spring migration, conservation staff took advantage of the opportunity to visit new and potential project sites, watch migrating waterfowl and waterbirds, and study the landscape in various focus areas around the state.

Many project sites hosted migrating Buffleheads, Common Goldeneyes, Redheads, Canvasbacks, Ringnecks, and



Lesser Scaup. We've started to spot broods of Canada Geese, and I expect Mallards, Wood Ducks, Hooded Mergansers, Sandhill Cranes and other broods will be out and about soon!

### Conservation, Environmental Organizations Enhance St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area for Wildlife and Outdoor Recreationists

by Chris Sebastian, DU, Communications & Media, Great Lakes Atlantic Region

Ducks Unlimited (DU), Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Audubon Great Lakes (AGL) led a behind-the-scenes tour of recent and ongoing wetland conservation projects to protect and enhance the St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area, which is improving conditions for vulnerable species while benefiting local communities and outdoor recreationists. Located in the St. Clair River delta – the largest freshwater delta in the United States – St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area comprises over 25,000-acres of habitat for birds and other animals, and welcomes thousands of recreational visitors from southeast Michigan, and beyond, each year. Urbanization and industrialization caused the St. Clair Flats region to lose an extraordinary amount of wetlands, which filter water, act as flood barriers, and serve as essential habitat for birds and other wildlife. This tour highlighted the immense level of cooperative management needed to maintain this natural area. During the tour, representatives shared how the following wetland restoration, research, and outreach projects are benefiting the wildlife and people in the region:

- Wetland enhancement efforts by Ducks Unlimited and Michigan DNR, which have conserved more than 2,600 acres of St. Clair Flats for migrating waterfowl and human recreation with funding help from state and federal grants.
- Audubon Great Lakes' efforts, in partnership with Michigan DNR and Detroit Audubon, to protect the Black Tern, which has
  experienced a dramatic population decline and is struggling to survive in Michigan. Audubon Great Lakes is leading an effort
  to study and understand what is driving this decline, developing conservation strategies, and restoring wetland habitat by
  removing invasive plants that prevent the vulnerable species from successfully nesting.
- MI Birds, a public outreach and education program from Audubon Great Lakes and Michigan DNR, aims to engage birders, outdoor enthusiasts, and all Michiganders with public lands.
- Michigan DNR's work to actively manage a multitude of habitats for dozens of native species.



St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area is recognized as a Michigan Department of Natural Resources' Wetland Wonder, and an Audubon Important Bird Area (IBA) for the sprawling wetland habitat it provides for breeding, migrating and wintering waterfowl and rare and vulnerable marsh birds including Least Bitterns, Marsh Wrens and Black Terns. It's also an oasis for outdoor recreationists.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, state public lands saw a marked increase in participation as residents

sought ways to safely recreate. Many residents discovered or re-discovered these quiet vistas and have continued to return. Experts will share why these public lands are crucial to the communities around them, and how conservation and outreach efforts are helping to increase recreation opportunities.

Locally, the town of Algonac and the community on Harsens Island rely on tourism dollars to drive the local economy. Many businesses thrive on the business brought in during the summer by boating and fishing enthusiasts and during the fall by waterfowl hunters.









Dale Borske
CWAC Representative
MI Ducks Unlimited

#### Greetings,

I just want to update everyone on the Citizens Waterfowl Advisory Committee. In our last newsletter I posted the results from our meeting in January in which the CWAC set the waterfowl hunting dates for the next three years. Those have been presented to the Natural Resources Commission at their meeting and they approved the recommendations that we put forth. Here is a copy of the opening dates again. This also includes a liberal bag for this season.

#### **DUCK SEASON DATES**

	North Zone	<u>MIddle</u>	<u>South</u>
2022	Sept .24 <sup>th</sup>	Oct. 8 <sup>th</sup>	Oct. 15 <sup>th</sup>
2023	Sept. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Oct. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Oct. 14 <sup>th</sup>
2024	Sept. 28 <sup>th</sup>	Oct. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Oct. 12 <sup>th</sup>

#### **GOOSE SEASON DATES**

2022	Sept. 1 – Dec. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Sept. 1 – Sept. 30 <sup>th</sup>	Sept. 1 – Sept. 30 <sup>th</sup>
		Oct. 8 <sup>th</sup> – Dec. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Oct. 15 <sup>th</sup> – Dec. 11 <sup>th</sup>
			Dec. 31 <sup>st</sup> – Jan. 8 <sup>th</sup>
			Ech 4th Ech 12th

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Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> – Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>

Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> – Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>

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Allegan Unit: Sept. 1 - 30, Nov. 5 - 13, Nov. 26 - Dec. 4, Dec 17 - Jan 31

Muskegon Unit: Oct. 15 – Dec. 22

Youth and Veterans Hunt: Sept. 17 - 18

The Michigan DNR is also looking at a ten year plan for the Managed Waterfowl Hunt Areas. They will be looking at many items pertaining to the use of these areas by hunters and non hunters alike. Two groups have been formed for the decision making process and they will be holding workshops in different areas and forming focus groups of hunters and non hunters for input on use and management of the areas. If you have any questions please send me an email to **cruiseplanner1@chartermi.net**.



I missed a very important picture submission in the last Marsh Chatter, Kalab's first duck!

Congratulations Kalab! – Jan





Ducks Unlimited will hold a dedication at the Pointe Mouillee State Game Area on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM, during the Pointe Mouillee Waterfowl Festival, in Monroe County, Michigan. The ceremony is to celebrate our major donors' commitment to DU and our mission of wetlands conservation.

DU project dedications, groundbreakings and other stewardship activities are important events in each state. These events celebrate our successes and acknowledge the important contributions of volunteers, donors, members, partners, and staff that make up the DU Team. The ongoing realization of our mission – to conserve, restore and manage wetlands and associated habitats for the benefit of North America's waterfowl, other wildlife, and people – depends on devoted conservationists.

Pointe Mouillee State Game Area consists of one of the largest, if not <u>the</u> largest, freshwater wetland restoration projects in North America. This area encompasses what historically was a broad estuary dominated by emergent wetlands. Located just 30 miles southwest of Detroit, Pointe Mouillee is at the confluence of the Detroit River, Huron River, and Lake Erie.

The Lake Erie watershed has experienced some of the most significant impacts from wetland drainage, native prairie conversion, development, and pollution in the Great Lakes ecosystem. The watershed once was a vast system of coastal wetlands, riverine marshes, emergent and scrub-shrub wetlands, wet prairies, hardwood swamps, and oak savannahs. Today, well over 90% of the wetlands in the western Lake Erie basin have been drained. Urban and industrial development continues to be a significant source of wetland loss and habitat fragmentation, negatively impacting fish and wildlife. Loss of coastal wetlands along Lake Erie's western shore is also severe; more than 95% of the original wetlands along the U.S. shoreline have been lost since the 1860s. The condition of many remaining wetlands has been further degraded by excessive loadings of sediments and nutrients, contaminants, shoreline modification, invasive species, and other stressors.

Ducks Unlimited and Michigan DNR have worked in close partnership, along with the Pointe Mouillee Waterfowl Festival committee and several other conservation groups to restore and enhance several wetlands at Pointe Mouillee.

The Pointe Mouillee Waterfowl Festival is held annually and is now in its 74<sup>th</sup> year. It's held by the DNR Headquarters building on the State Game Lands along Lake Erie. The festival runs from Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, is open to the public and admission is free.





### Across the State by Date



### Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> FLAT RIVER CHAPTER

### from Craig Curtis

Full house at the Flat River DU event tonight! Thank you to all the volunteers and attendees for coming out and raise dollars for the DUCKS!



### Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> LEGISLATIVE LUNCHEON

#### from Kevin Bisel

Had the opportunity to join this amazing group in Lansing today! This was a bipartisan support for Michigan wetlands today in Lansing. Ducks Unlimited legislative luncheon celebrated wetland champions and discussed need for continued policy support.



# Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> SANILAC COUNTY CHAPTER

### from Kevin Bisel

Big shout out to the Sanilac County chapter. They hosted a fabulous pheasant hunt that had 62 shooters. 256 birds were harvested, numerous sold-out gun blitzes, and LOTS of laughs and story telling!! Great job team and thanks for



### Feb. 17th NORTH KENT CHAPTER

### from Craig Curtis

North Kent DU had a soldout crowd on a super snowy night, they didn't miss a beat after a 2 year stoppage.



### Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> LUDINGTON CHAPTER

### from Craig Curtis

Ludington DU came back after a number of years of not having a chapter in the area. Sold out crowd of 120 people. New "Firearm Frenzy" event with this new committee. Huge thank you to the volunteers and the community of Ludington for their support to Ducks Unlimited.



# Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> FRANKENMUTH CHAPTER

### from Kevin Stoltz

Frankenmuth Chapter had a sold-out crowd. A Mich. LED neon sign sold for \$750 on live auction. It was their first in-person event in northern region for Spring '22.



### March 5<sup>th</sup>

#### SOUTH KENT AND PORTLAND CHAPTERS

#### from Craig Curtis

Big night in the SW MIDU region! I want to thank the Raisin River, Portland, and South Kent chapters for filling the halls. All three had great nights, thank you to the volunteers and the attendees for helping make the events a great success.

I could only get pictures from South Kent and Portland as I was at the Raisin River before they opened the doors.





# March 5<sup>th</sup> MANISTEE CHAPTER from Kevin Stoltz

The Manistee Chapter recognized two volunteers, Jesse Scutter & Mark Mantych, with 35-year pins. It was a record net/net in history of chapter, especially since 6 months prior the entire chapter had resigned, so I held a happy hour recruitment in November. All but 1 member, Mark Mantych, was new and yet pulled off a record year!!!!





### March 11th PAW PAW CHAPTER

### from Craig Curtis

Paw Paw had another full house of 280 people in early March, the event sold out in less than 2 weeks. This comes from an active chapter out selling seats to a great event.

Huge thank you to the Paw Paw DU committee on Filling the Hall and putting on a great event, there were a lot of happy people!



### March 18<sup>th</sup> TRI-CITIES CHAPTER

#### from Craig Curtis

Crazy night at the Tri-Cities DU! The room is full of people helping make a difference for wetland conservation! It takes volunteers + attendees = great time!



### March 18<sup>th</sup> - TUSCOLA CHAPTER from Kevin Stoltz

The Tuscola Chapter had a sell-out crowd. Two volunteers were recognized, Mike Bauerschmidt & Joe Greene, with pins.





### March 19<sup>th</sup> MONROE CHAPTER

### from Craig Curtis

1100 attendees tonight in Monroe, MI! This committee pours a ton of time and effort to pull this off every year. More habitat is going to happen! Thank you to the volunteers and the attendees for making a difference for clean water and more acres of habitat.









# March 21st MICHIGAN SCIENCE CENTER

Kali Rush, Kylie McElrath and Kevin Bisel had an amazing opportunity to attend the children's free day hosted by Axalta at the Michigan Science Center in Detroit. With over 2500 people coming through the door it was inspiring seeing the curiosity around waterfall and conservation. I cannot wait to be part of this event again!



### March 22<sup>nd</sup> KALAMAZOO CHAPTER

### from Craig Curtis

Congratulations to Greater Kalamazoo DU on a great event last night. 200 people filled the Kalamazoo CC for a fun night with the Ducks! Thank you to the volunteers for all they do and the attendees for keeping this event so lively!



### March 24<sup>th</sup> BIG RAPIDS-HAYMARSH CHAPTER

### from Craig Curtis

Big shoutout to the Big
Rapids-Haymarsh Chapter
for a outstanding event last
night. The committee set a
goal and made it happen.
Great crowd in the room
and a bunch of prizes that
made you want to take
them all home. Thank you to
the committee for keeping
the fires burning and the
attendees for your
continued support of
wetland conservation.



### April 2<sup>nd</sup> RUSS BENGEL CHAPTER

#### from Craig Curtis

The Russ Bengel Chapter hosted a full house! Once the doors opened: Boom! We were full and running at full speed. I want to that the attendees for the great support of wetland conservation and the volunteers of the Russ Bengal Chapter for all their great efforts as well.



### April 22<sup>nd</sup> FAMILY FUN NIGHT

from Kali Rush

After three years, GLARO hosted a successful Family Fun Night on Friday, April 22, 2022. We came back with one change, catering by Smokehouse 52 BBQ in Chelsea, and all the local favorites, games, raffles, and silent auction. We hosted over 170 attendees and made over \$20,000 for the Ducks! Nearly one quarter of all attendees were children. Our Greenwings had a wonderful time playing games and playing bucket raffles for a variety of prizes, including a hoverboard, Samsung Bluetooth headphones, a Meta Oculus, various Lego sets, puzzles, card games, stuffed animals, BB guns, and more! The rest of our adults enjoyed various raffles, including several funs, a crossbow, special edition Ducks Unlimited merchandise, artwork, and more. GLARO is excited to welcome back the community to our annual event and are already starting to prepare for the 2023 event! Thanks to everyone for a successful event following our three-year hiatus.





### April 23<sup>rd</sup>. FERRIS STATE CHAPTER

### from Craig Curtis

Big night in Big Rapids as the **Ferris State DU** chapter kicked off it's first event in front of a jam packed house on April 23rd. Over 220 people showed up for the party! I can't say enough about these young leaders, they ran a event like a group of seasoned volunteers. Thank you to each and everyone of those volunteers and the people who come out to help support wetland conservation.





# April 25<sup>th</sup> CALHOUN COUNTY CHAPTER

### from Craig Curtis

Calhoun County DU had a fun evening last night. Great crowd and a lively auction, as well as great people in attendance. Thank you to volunteers and attendees for coming out for the DUCKS! I am already looking forward to next year's event.

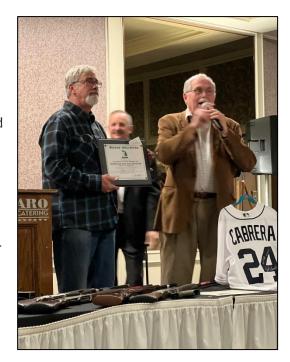


### April 29th

#### MACOMB-LAKE ST. CLAIR CHAPTER - Tracy Oberleiter

Congratulations to Macomb-Lake St. Clair Ducks Unlimited Chapter in celebrating 50 years of fundraising for Ducks Unlimited. As state chairman I have the privilege of visiting our chapter banquets and events and witnessing the hard work and dedication of our DU staff and volunteers and the support they get from their communities. I attended their 50th Anniversary Sportsman's Banquet on Friday, April 29th and was thoroughly impressed with the entire evening.

From the minute I arrived until the evening ended the DU staff and chapter volunteers offered many special raffles, quickies, reverse raffles, silent and live auction items and most of all a great family style dinner. Dave Perry, our State Treasurer, joined me as we raffled off our Michigan incentive Smith & Wesson hand gun as a complimentary donation to the chapter. Bravo to Area Chairman Gary Stahl and his committed volunteers Dale Cardinal, Matt Floor, Randall Pagel and all others that made the night a success. It makes a state chairman very proud to represent the state when you have chapters like this in Michigan.







### April 30<sup>th</sup> SAGINAW BAY CHAPTER

#### from Kevin Bisel

The Saginaw Bay Chapter hosted an amazing dinner. The vibes were awesome and lots of funds were raised for the ducks. I had the pleasure of recognizing even more volunteers with tenure pinsa 25 year, 30 year, and 35 year!! Many thanks to this hard-working, very innovational team.



### May 6<sup>th</sup> LOWELL CHAPTER

### from Craig Curtis

The Lowell DU event was one for the books!
Capacity crowd and all kinds of prizes to win in the name of wetland conservation. Thank you to all who came out and spent some time with the DUCKS! To the Lowell committee, thank you for hosting a great event, the next generation will have more open spaces because of your efforts.



### May 7<sup>th</sup> FLAT RIVER (GREENVILLE) CHAPTER

### from Craig Curtis

The Flat River(Greenville) had a great night of for conservation. This is one of the most time efficient chapters I have, 4 events with 5 meetings and raise a lot of dollars for the DUCKS.

Congratulations to Tom Butterworth for becoming a life sponsor as well. This chapter has a long list of donors to DU and Tom help continue that tradition.

Thank you to all that attended and the volunteers that put on a great event.







### Recipes

\*\*\*

Dave Steinbach shared these great recipes with us. There's a Cajun Jambalaya for those going to the National Convention this year and a Walleye recipe for the Walleye fishermen!

### Pheasant, Shrimp, and Venison Jambalaya

#### **Ingredients**:

- 1 lb. medium peeled, deveined shrimp
- 1 large pheasant, deboned and diced
- 1 lb. Venison or Andouille sausage, sliced
- 2 Tbsp. Cajun Seasoning
- ½ cup olive oil
- 1 cup diced onion
- 1 cup diced green bell peppers
- 1 cup diced celery
- 1 tsp. Sea salt
- ½ tsp. Black Pepper
- ¼ cup chopped garlic
- 1 cup diced tomatoes
- 4 bay leaves
- 1 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 2 Tbsp. hot sauce
- 3 cups long grain rice
- 6 cups chicken stock
- Chopped green onion tops

#### **Directions:**

Combine Shrimp, with 1 Tbsp. Cajun Seasoning, toss to coat evenly. Set aside.

Combine Pheasant with 1 Tbsp. Cajun seasoning and set aside.

Heat the oil in a large, heavy pot over medium heat.

Brown Pheasant and Sausage for about 3-4 minutes.

Add the onions, peppers, celery, salt and pepper and cook, stirring, for 10 minutes.

Add the garlic, tomatoes, bay leaves, Worcestershire and hot sauce.

Stir in the rice and slowly add the broth.

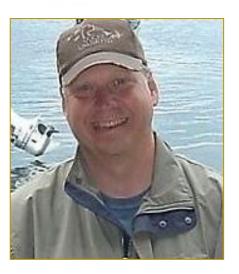
Bring the rice to a simmer, cover, reduce heat to low.

Cook until liquid is absorbed and the rice is tender, about 15 minutes.

Stir in the shrimp.

Cover and cook for 10 minutes longer.

Turn off the heat and allow the jambalaya to continue to cook 10



### **CAJUN Seasoning**

- 1 Tbsp. granulated Garlic
- 1 Tbsp. Onion powder
- 1 Tbsp. sweet Paprika
- 1 Tbsp. sweet Paprika
- 1 Tbsp. dried Thyme
- 2 tsp. Dried Oregano
- 2 tsp. Dried Basil
- 2 tsp. Cayenne powder
- 2 tsp. Sea Salt
- 1 tsp. Black Pepper

(Grind to fine powder in coffee grinder)





### **Garlic Walleye Cheek Pasta**

#### **Ingredients:**

- 1 lb. small Egg noodles
- 1 lb. Walleye Cheeks (Walleye fillets cubed up if you don't have cheeks)
- 2 Tbsp. minced garlic
- 1 Jalapeno Pepper diced
- 1 cup diced tomato
- ¼ cup Heavy Cream
- 2 Tbsp. Parsley, chopped
- Extra Virgin Olive oil
- Salt and Pepper to taste

### **Directions:**

Cook noodles per directions in salted water until just soft.

Drain, rinse, drain again, then toss with 1 Tbsp. EVO.

Set to the side.

In a large fry pan add 2 Tbsp. EVO Garlic and Jalapeno.

Sauté for about 2 minutes

Add the Walleye cheeks and sauté until the cheeks turn white.

Add the diced tomatoes and sauté for another 2 minutes.

Stir in Heavy Cream and Parsley.

Add the egg noodles and mix until noodles are well incorporated & sauce is bubbling. Salt and Pepper to taste.



### **Baltimore Oriole in Pear Tree**



Courtesy of David Bowers





### **People to Know**



#### **Steve Morehead**

Steve is originally from the Bloomingdale, Michigan, a small town 24 miles east of South Haven. He met his wife, Amy at college and graduated from Wayne State University with a degree in Mortuary Science. He has been in the funeral business for over 36 years and became a licensed Funeral Director 1995. In 1997 Steve and Amy moved to Lapeer and raised 2 boys Jake and Alex, now ages 21 and 18 respectively.

Steve started with DU as a member in 2002, then became a committee member and finally chairman of the Lapeer Chapter from 2010- 2019. He was Zone Chairman, just before Covid -19. He's very happy to be part of the Ducks Unlimited family as the new RD for SE Michigan.







### Be Part Of The Next Marsh Chatter



Hi Everyone,

You can be part of the next Marsh Chatter.

For the newsletter I'm looking for:

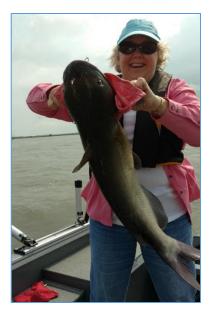
- Pictures: Events, Committee Activities & DU friends
- Pictures: Working dogs at their best, wildlife, stunning scenery and of course, ducks!
- Nominate someone for the "People to Know" spot.
- Recipes: Fish and Game
- Your stories: Hunting, fishing and DU!

Please send them to me at jan.mcdu@yahoo.com

Thank you in advance!

Jan Marra

March Chatter Editor



Jan and her cat!