

Ohio Ducktales

Ohio Ducks Unlimited

Volume 1, Issue 2

3rd Quarter 2017

A Word from our Chairman

Bill Ebert



As we reach the middle of the year and the end of our fiscal year in June, I want to thank each and every one for all of the efforts that you have put forth for the ducks. Once again, for the fifth year in a row, we are very near the one million dollar mark in Ohio. This is an achievement

that takes a lot of effort from everyone, and is a very commendable accomplishment.

As a nation we are ahead of our goals and I'm confident that we will meet our lofty two billion dollar "Rescue Our Wetlands" goal. All of this is culminated in our 80th year as an organization, we have done some phenomenal work in wetlands conservation.

The one constant for the last eighty years is that no matter what the political climate, DU has been able to work with every administration to achieve its goals in wetlands preservation. We are able to partner and leverage funds from a multitude of sources to make both the environment and stewards of the land successful and happy. There are very few organizations with the ability to pull together so many willing partners. With the latest incoming administration this year in DC there has been no shortage of controversy concerning funding of many government programs for conservation such as the Great Lakes Initiative, CRP and NAWCA. I have the greatest confidence that DU and many other conservation partners will help steer our politicians to make the right decisions.

We are also actively involved with the Division of Wildlife and several supportive Sportsman's groups to raise the cost of hunting and fishing license fees by a modest amount so that we can still enjoy all of the benefits that the Division provides. They have not had an increase in fees for 15 years and although they are incredibly frugal with their funding, the time has come to raise more money to meet their operating costs.

They have been extremely involved with DU in the past with habitat monies and also many habitat improvements. Without this increase we stand to lose many public hunting lands and shooting ranges. Hopefully this will have passed with the current legislative session. If it hasn't though, I encourage you to contact your state representative and show your support.

It's the greatest of times to be in North America in the last 150 years. We are doing the most things possible to restore and maintain wetlands and waterfowl numbers to those that haven't been witnessed in our lifetimes. It gives us sportsmen and nature lovers more opportunity to enjoy what God created for us to enjoy and thrive on, and also to have cleaner waters that benefit all people. With the extremely wet winter, many of our one time drought stricken areas are seeing great conditions for yet another record breaking number of successful nesting conditions. This will result in high numbers of birds for hunting yet another year.

Over the years after being involved at the local, state and national levels through meetings, conventions and seminars, I have forged some long lasting friendships and relationships with like-minded people from all walks of life and parts of the country. I've had the opportunity to discuss the ways our states do things and network with others in order to improve the work we do. Also exchange hunting stories and even get together to enjoy hunting in several states.

Let's celebrate once again the 80 years of conservation and make a solemn commitment to continue our support of one of the greatest environmental enhancement efforts of all time with Ducks Unlimited.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the district meetings we will be having this summer.

Bill

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Make a Difference as a Major Sponsor



By becoming a Major Sponsor, you're leading the charge to secure our continent's wetland and waterfowl habitat for future generations. Ducks Unlimited's vision is a world of wetlands sufficient to fill the skies with waterfowl today, tomorrow, and forever. That's what DU's founders envisioned in 1937, and it's still our mission today.

You can join the ranks of DU's Major Sponsors by making a gift or pledge of at least \$10,000. Your lifetime membership contributions may be counted when you make a new Major Sponsor commitment or upgrade to the next level. In general, pledges are paid within a five-year window. At higher pledge levels, payment schedules may be tailored to best fit your personal situation.

A Major Sponsor pledge may be designated to support the priorities and [conservation initiatives](#) of [Rescue Our Wetlands](#). As a Major Sponsor, you have the opportunity to designate your gifts to any of our priority areas – from the wooded wetlands of the Boreal Forest to the breeding grounds of the prairies, to the wintering habitat of the Gulf Coast.

Major Sponsor are recognized in several ways:

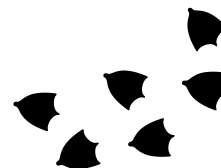
- A hand-crafted lapel pin or pendant

- A special DU Major Sponsor decal and membership card

- Listed in DU's [Annual Report](#) to recognize annual support

- A personalized plaque upon completion of your pledge

- Know you are helping to leave a legacy of wetland conservation for your children and grandchildren



For details or questions about becoming a Major Sponsor please contact:

Marshal Anderson, Chairman for Major Gifts Ohio, at mfanderson@att.net or (734) 755 - 0374

Todd Fox, Ducks Unlimited Director of Development for Ohio, at tfox@ducks.org or (616) 446 – 8721.



Recipe of the Quarter

Mallard with Bourbon Butter Sauce

Ingredients

- 4 mallards, split in half
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 teaspoon brown sugar
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 teaspoon cracked black pepper

Instructions

Combine kosher salt, pepper and sugar and rub over ducks.

Heat oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat and place ducks, breast side down, in skillet.

Cook until browned, flip over and continue cooking until medium-rare, about another 4 minutes.

For medium-rare, internal temperature at the breast is about 130 – 135 degrees. Arrange on plates and spoon sauce over.

Bourbon Butter Sauce

- 1/4 cup butter
- 1/4 cup onion, minced
- 2 garlic cloves, minced

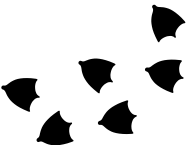
- 2 teaspoons fresh rosemary leaves, minced
- 3 tablespoons bourbon
- 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
- 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
- pinch brown sugar
- dash Tabasco

Melt butter in a medium skillet over medium heat.

Add onion, garlic and rosemary and cook until onions are translucent.

Remove pan from heat and away from any flames. Stir in remaining ingredients.

Return to heat and simmer for 4 – 5 minutes.



Want to be a Life Sponsor?

Submitted by Bill Ebert

Would you like to become a life sponsor but \$10,000 isn't in your near future?

How about the next best option? Would you be willing to contribute \$100 and be a part of the "canvasback society"?

Many years ago the state committee started the Canvasback Society to mirror several other states that have done a "group life sponsor" such as the "Old Coots" or the "Gray Goose". It enables those who are willing, to make a group effort for a "life sponsorship" at the national level.

It takes 100 individuals a \$100 pledge to complete a life sponsorship. Recognition is as a group instead of each persons' contribution. You will receive a lapel pin that you can proudly display to show your commitment.

We implemented our pledge many years ago and through the changes of chairpersons, the downturn of the economy, and whatever other excuse we can think of, it slipped through the cracks.

It was brought up at a recent district meeting this fall if we had ever completed it or not. Just the mention of it at that meeting prompted five of those attendees to contribute to the completion of our said pledge.

I made a personal commitment to see this to fruition in my time as state chair. We currently lack \$5700 to meet our goal. My personal goal, is to finish it this February at the annual awards celebration. If you would like to help us meet this number please contact: John Murphy, 5084 Garrett Dr. North Ridgeville, Oh. 44039 or murph@oh.rr.com

Ohio chapters make President's Roll of Honor

President's Roll of Honor is one of the most highly coveted recognition



Photo courtesy of David Bowers

SIDNEY, OHIO – April 12, 2017 – DU's President's Roll of Honor is one of the most highly coveted recognition awards Ducks Unlimited offers its local chapters. Each year, the list is comprised of the chapters in the United States that raise between \$65,000 and \$100,000 through fundraising activities in their communities. Through the efforts of these volunteer committees, DU is able to pursue its mission of conserving, enhancing and restoring North America's wetlands. In 2016, Ohio had two chapters on the President's Roll of Honor

list: Shelby County chapter from Sidney and Geauga County chapter from Chardon. "These fundraising events are the backbone of DU's habitat conservation efforts, and the volunteers who make up these chapters are the force driving DU and helping make a difference for North American waterfowl populations," said DU President Paul Bonderson. "It takes a great deal of effort to break into the President's Roll of Honor, and these chapters deserve to be congratulated by every person who enjoys the outdoors."

Shelby County and Geauga County chapters earned spots on the President's Roll of Honor list out of the more than 2,600 DU chapters nationwide that host more than 3,900 fundraising events throughout the year. DU's event fundraising system has become a model for other conservation organizations around the world and has funded a significant portion of the more than 13.8 million acres of wetlands and associated habitat DU has conserved since 1937.

The 2016 President's Roll of Honor chapters also have the distinction of being honored during DU's 80th National Convention in San Antonio, May 31 – June 4, with many chapter representatives in attendance.

"DU chapters across the country are showing that the future of waterfowl populations and the wetlands that filter our water and protect us from flooding are important to them and to their communities," Bonderson added. "The more money we raise, the more habitat we can conserve and the closer we are to preserving our waterfowl hunting heritage. I would like to personally thank all our President's Roll of Honor chapters for their achievement and look forward to seeing them among our distinguished chapters again next year."

Visit www.ducks.org to see the full President's Honor Roll list for this year.

A Call to the Women of DU

Greetings Ladies of DU!

We are pleased to announce the launch of a new DU initiative, **Women of Influence**. Our goal is to explore opportunities for more women to become actively engaged in DU, and opportunities for those women who are already actively engaged to be even more influential within our organization. Our belief is that there are no limitations to what women can accomplish, particularly if we work together to support and encourage one another.

To that end, we are beginning a listening campaign to identify the different roles women currently play within DU, and to better understand women's interest in greater levels of involvement and influence. We envision developing an online forum or other such mechanism for women to discuss the role they have or would like to play in DU, and the level of influence they would like to have in our organization. We hope to have this initiative established sometime in early summer.

We would like to invite you to participate in this initiative by joining the growing network of women, both volunteers and staff, who want to participate in this network. Joining is easy. Simply send an email to duwomen@ducks.ca, and we will add your name to our distribution list.

We realize this is a small first step, but we believe that reaching out and starting an inclusive dialog will generate enthusiasm for future action to support women leaders in our organization. Please feel free to share this invitation with other DU volunteers and staff who might be interested in being part of the network.

Thank you in advance for your support with this initiative. We welcome your feedback and hope all of you will join the future dialog as it unfolds. We believe *any* woman can be a Woman of Influence; sometimes she simply needs to be invited to participate. Imagine what we can do collaboratively.

Please contact Jan or Peggy if you have any questions about this initiative.

Peggy Sundstrom

peggy@sundstromandassociates.com

303/627-4525

Jan Young

janyoungducks@gmail.com

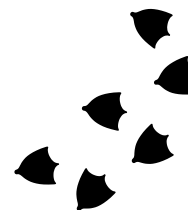
503/577-5497

Very ably assisted by Ashley Lewis, DU Canada

Ashley Lewis

a_lewis@ducks.ca

204-467-3252



Four Simple Ways to Leave a Legacy

If you've ever considered leaving a legacy but thought you couldn't afford to, think again. All planned gifts are meaningful and most 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 the Feather Society, DU's gift planning program:

- Name DU in your will or trust.

- Name DU as the beneficiary of your existing retirement plan, IRA or 401k.

- Open a life insurance policy and add DU as a beneficiary.

- Donate your land, home or personal property.

For more information on how to leave wildlife in your plans contact :

Sarah McCallum, Director of Gift Planning, Great Lakes/Atlantic Region at (734) 623-2031 or smccallum@ducks.org

Please visit the DU Website to find information on your local chapter events! www.ducks.org

The Ohio Conservation Federation was formed three years ago with the mission "To serve as the leading voice for sportsmen conservationists promoting the wise use and stewardship of Ohio's wildlife and natural resources." Ducks Unlimited was one of the founding members of the Ohio Conservation Federation (OCF) and today is one of eight organizations that are members of the federation. The other seven organizations are: Buckeye Big Buck Club, Buckeye Firearms Association, Ohio State Trappers Association, Pheasants Forever/Quail Forever, National Wildlife Federation, National Wild Turkey Federation and the Ruffed Grouse/American Woodcock Society.

Just last month OCF became the Ohio affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation (NWF). NWF was founded 80 years ago, about the same time DU was founded. NWF was started by Ding Darling, the head of the U.S. Biological Survey - which later became the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Duck hunters and waterfowl enthusiasts also know Ding Darling as the person who started the Federal Duck Stamp Program and was the artist for the first Duck Stamp in 1934.

Each year OCF establishes a set of initiatives to work on for the coming year. Ducks Unlimited employees Gildo Tori and Kyle Rorah sit on the OCF board of directors and help select the initiatives. Listed below are the OCF Initiatives for 2017. You can also keep up with OCF by visiting the web site at: ohioconservation-federation.org.

2017 Initiatives

Protect Ohio Water Quality – Encourage local, state, and federal programs, practices, and legislation that will increase, restore, and enhance wetlands, grasslands, and woodlands resulting in better water quality for people, fish, and wildlife within the Western Lake Erie basin watershed and throughout the state. In addition, encourage multi-jurisdictional and public/private collaborations to address this issue.

Legislation – Partner with the Sportsmen's Alliance, the Ohio Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus, and our member organizations to pro-actively support legislation beneficial to sportsmen's heritage and natural resource conservation in Ohio and to oppose legislation that is harmful.

Support the Division of Wildlife – (a) Protect the wildlife fund and support the federal Sport Fish and Wildlife restoration funds (P-R, D-J, W-B) to ensure that Ohio's apportionment is used to maximum benefit, avoids reversion, and is not misused or diverted, (b) ensure the county wildlife officer system in Ohio is bolstered, maintained, and not transferred into natural resource officers, conservation police officers or another branch of state government, (c) strive for professionally trained, conservation core educated administrators for Ohio's natural resources, and (d) support an increase in hunting, fishing, and fur taker license fees.

Habitat Conservation Programs – Promote federal and state habitat programs such as the North American Wetlands Conservation Act, Farm Bill Conservation Programs, Land and Water Conservation Fund, Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, State Wildlife Grants Program, Clean Ohio Fund, and other programs to ensure they are available and utilized throughout Ohio.

Recruitment, Retention & Reactivation – Support the Division of Wildlife and other conservation organizations' efforts that encourage recruitment, retention, and reactivation of hunters, anglers, and trappers and reduce or remove barriers to hunting, fishing and trapping.

Sustainable Forestry – Support and promote sustainable forestry policies, programs and management that focus on young, intermediate, and mature forests, outdoor recreation, and plant and wildlife diversity on state, private, and Wayne National Forest lands. In addition, support increased funding and educate the public and decision makers on the benefits of sustainable forest management.

Wildlife Council – Support the time-tested, successful wildlife council system in Ohio.

Wildlife Diversity – Support science-based conservation efforts by the Division of Wildlife for threatened, endangered, and other wildlife species that have led to the recovery of wildlife such as bald eagles, bobcats, wild turkeys, and river otters.

Invasive Species -- Support prevention, management, and elimination of invasive species to protect habitat and wildlife diversity. In addition, we support efforts to reach out to and educate the public on ways to prevent the further spread and impact of invasive species. (cont'd next page)

Capitol Report

Submitted by Kyle Rorah

In a move that will help address the looming funding crisis facing Ohio's fish and wildlife management agency, the Ohio General Assembly sent a two-year budget to Gov. John Kasich that includes increases in non-resident hunting and fishing license fees. The increases, which will be phased in over three years, are estimated to produce \$4 million per year in funding for the Ohio Division of Wildlife.



Photo courtesy of David Bowers

The Division of Wildlife, which oversees hunting, fishing, trapping, endangered species work and habitat management throughout the state, is projected to need \$220 million over the next ten years to meet its current obligations. The increases contained in Ohio's Biennial Budget Bill (House Bill 49) will produce approximately \$35 to \$40 million toward that need.

Ducks Unlimited joined forces with 41 hunting and fishing groups in support of the modest fee increases. The effort was led by the Sportsmen's Alliance, who worked closely with the Ohio Conservation Federation (OCF), which DU is a founding member of.

To learn more about OCF and the organization's initiatives, please visit ohioconservationfederation.com. If you have questions about the recently passed fee increase, please contact DU's Regional Director of Public Policy Gildo Tori or DU's Government Affairs Representative Kyle Rorah.

Gildo Tori, gtori@ducks.org, (734) 623-2000
Kyle Rorah, krorah@ducks.org, (734) 623-2000

Thank you to all the Ohio DU members and volunteers who made phone calls to their elected officials to help passage of this important legislation!

(cont;d from page 6)

Public Access and Land Acquisition – Encourage the State of Ohio, the Department of Natural Resources and other entities to increase the amount of land for hunting, trapping, and fishing available through purchase, easement, or agreement. Encourage the state to increase access to existing public and private lands and waters. Support management and enhancement of wildlife habitat on state and federal lands through public/private partnership.

Ohio's Deer Population – (a) Oppose legislation permitting deer sanctuaries, (b) support regulation of captive deer to control chronic wasting disease and other diseases, and (c) encourage the Division

I wanted to take a little bit of space in the newsletter to introduce myself. Several years ago, I became involved with DU as a way to meet new people in a new town. Early last year, I accepted a promotion in my "day" job and moved to Ohio. After a few years on a local committee, I raised my hand to do more because I believed in the Mission DU stood for. During my time I have been served as a local chair, State Convention Chair and the State Secretary, where parts of my duties were to publish a quarterly newsletter. I have so enjoyed my time, made some amazing and lifelong friendships, and learned so much! I want to encourage all of you reading this to consider raising your hand to become more involved in DU with the State. I guarantee, if you do, not only will you not regret your decision, you will get more than you give. Volunteering for DU has truly been one of the best decisions I have ever made. There are open positions in the State. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact your Regional Director or State Chair, Bill Ebert.

I look forward to meeting you at a DU Event soon! *Diana Anderson*

State Chairman- Bill Ebert
State Treasurer—Mike Walker
State Secretary- Jessica Jones
OH DU State Council Chair- John Patterson
Feather Society Chairs- North- Brent Bunnell
South- John Calder
Major Gifts/Campaign Chair- Marshal Anderson
Special Projects /State Sponsor Chair- Brian Rees
Region Recruitment Chairs- North- Steve Seedorf
State Calendar Raffle Chair- Shane Riley
Web Administrator- Jeremy Brandenburg

Duck Tales Needs You!

Duck Tales is a semi-annual newsletter put out by the volunteer group of Ohio 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 publishing month. June for July publication and December for January publication.

