



Minnesota Decoy & Wildfowl Carving Club

Monthly Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 3

March 2010

February Meeting Minutes

The February meeting was called to order by Vice President Frank Beery and a motion was made and passed to accept the minutes of the January meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Balance of \$XXXX.XX.

Librarian's Report: He's still waiting!

New Business:

Tom Flemming has been contacted by Game Fair 2010. We will once again participate in this August outdoor extravaganza.

Old Business:

The MDWCC will have two display tables at the Mn. Decoy Collector Show this February. Steve Froelich will spend a lot of time at the show and would really appreciate some membership help manning the tables. Members who participated in the 'coot project' are encouraged to enter their work in the show's decoy contest.

Program:

Tom Flemming will head up the evening program on the subject of "keels and weighting decoys". Tom has entered many shows that require decoys to float very realistically. It can often knock a great carving out of the competition if the judges aren't convinced it 'rides' the wa-

ter like a real bird. (see p. 4).



Tom Flemming

The **March Program** will look at 'add-on' carving features such as wood inserts and PVC uses. Steve Froelich and Donn Mattsson will talk and demonstrate about the different uses of wood and plastic in their carvings.



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MDWCC Officers 2010

President

Steve Stortz 763.360.8123

Vice President

Frank Beery 612.724.4188

Treasurer/Membership

Bruce Bauer 952.471.9084

Secretary/Editor

Donn Mattsson 952.935.6910

Librarian

Todd Moucha 952.233.4038

Program Chairs

Tom Flemming 952.446.8226

Steve Froelich 612.859.8836

MDWCC website:

www.mdwcc-carving-club.com

Next Meeting: 7:00 PM

March 2

Program: Inserts

Steve Froelich,

Donn Mattsson

Hope Lutheran Church
5728 Cedar Ave. So.



Show & Tell

Jupe Houman -Coot, basswood head

Frank Beery- Coot, acrylics

Dave Jackson-Coot, 'rocking head' antique style;Coot-cedar, oil paint

Vern Ryti -Coot 'mud hen'

Steve Froelich- Coot, oil paint

Donn Mattsson-Coot, acrylics

Tom Kerr- Coot, 'aggressive',acryl.

David Maxfield-Canvasback drake, basswood ; Pike fishing decoy

Matt Gouette-Canvasback hen, hollowed basswood, unptd.

Curt Soine-G.W. Teal, basswood, oils

Tom Flemming- Common Goldeneye, tupelo, acrylics. rosewood keel
Long-Tailed Duck- sleeper, tupelo, gessoed

Ed Senninger- Eastern Bluebird, unpainted, feathers burned

Bill Cedarleaf- Coot,'tipped', unpainted

Hooded Merganser drake working decoy, 5 yrs old, oils

Rich Bistodeau-Coot (2), w. cedar, acrylics

One nice thing about egotists: They don't talk about other people.

January Show and Tell



Tom Kerr



Steve Froelich



Dave Jackson



Rich Bistodeau



Frank Beery



Vern Ryti

Paul

Ed Senninger
John Kavernas
Marv Meyer

Vern Ryti
Donn Mattsson
d Paul
Steve Spatz

Jupe Houman
Ma
Dennis Finden
Mark Bystodeau



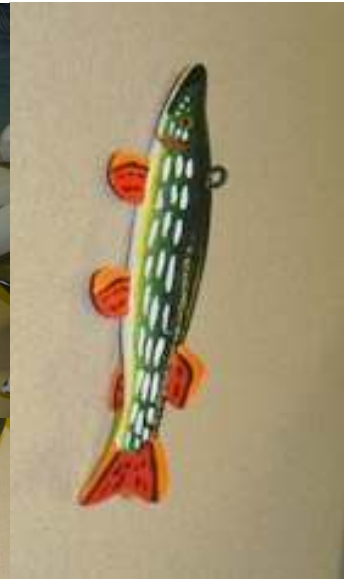
Show and Tell con't.



Bill Cedarleaf



Jupe Houman



Matt Gouette



Mattsson



Curt Soine



Tom Flemming



Ed Senninger



David Maxfield



Tom Kerr





Once upon a time a young woodcarver from Minnesota courageously ventured out to Chesapeake Bay where the Ward World Championships are annually held every April.

Cradled in his arms were three exquisite life-sized Canada Geese decoys. He proudly entered his creations in a contest against some of the best decoy carvers from all over North America. Looking at his beautifully carved and painted masterpieces, the young lad confidently knew they would look just as great floating in Chesapeake Bay as they had in his back yard wading pool . However.....he soon



realized that he wasn't "in Kansas" any more. The constant rolling surge of the Chesapeake waves were soon flopping his birds from side to side in a very unnatural thrashing motion. His beauties were doomed! Our hero was mortified. Swallowing his injured pride, he resolved to correct this painful lesson in the future.

Fast forward to February, 2010. Tom Flemming shared this career lowlight with MDWCC members in order to show us how important it is to make your hunting/competition decoys float "right". Using a plastic tub, Tom showed how he weights his birds to float at the correct depth and level. Lead weights, and keels placed correctly, insure that the birds will stay steady and ride the waves without flopping back and forth. The depth of the keel is crucial



in rough water. Birds like the sleeping L.T. Duck may need to be adjusted to account for any asymmetry. Trial and error weight placements would be necessary. Diver tails should float at water level. Hopefully Tom's shared embarassment may be a lesson for us all.

