



Ward Chesapeake Challenge Competition Delmarvalous Festival

Saturday, 10:30 a.m., August 13, 2022

The purpose of this challenge is to bring together decoy makers who still make their own decoys to compete with each other. It is for those people who still enjoy sharing the blind with their favorite retriever and watching the day pass while their decoys work in the chop of the bay, river, or pond. We are looking for good handmade decoys. Go to your shelves and dust off, wash off, your decoys. We encourage decoys that have a few seasons on the water.

SPECIES LIST – WARD CHESAPEAKE CHALLENGE

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ MARSH DUCKS - Black duck - Blue-winged teal - Cinnamon teal - Gadwall - Green-winged teal - Mallard - Pintail - Shoveler - Wigeon - Wood duck - All Others | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ DIVING DUCKS - Bufflehead - Canvasback - Common merganser - Eider - Goldeneye - Hooded merganser - Longtail duck - Red-breasted merganser - Redhead - Ring-necked duck - Ruddy duck | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scaup - Scoter - All Others <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ GEESE & CONFIDENCE - Brant - Geese - Swan - Coot - Grebe - Confidence & all others | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ SHOREBIRDS - Avocet, Oystercatcher, Stilt - Curlew, Whimbrel, Godwits - Plover - Yellowlegs/Willet - Peep - Turnstone, Dowitchers & Knots - All other shorebirds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ WOODPECKERS - All species | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ OTHER WILDFOWL - Egrets, Herons - Duck, Geese, Confidence - Owls, Crows - Doves - Seabirds: Terns, Gulls, Phalaropes - Misc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CONTEMPORARY ANTIQUE - Scoter (any 3 US species) |
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AWARDS:

■ Floating

- Ribbons will be awarded for First, Second, Third, and Honorable Mention in each Floating Classification (species).
- Rosettes will be awarded for First, Second and Third in Categories: Marsh Ducks, Diving Ducks, Geese & Confidence.
- Best of Show Floating will receive First Place rosette, \$100 and plaque.
- Second Best of Show Floating will receive Second Place rosette, \$50 and plaque.
- Third Best of Show Floating will receive Third Place rosette, \$25 and plaque.

■ Shorebirds— Sponsored by the Chincoteague Decoy Carver & Artist Association In memory of Walt Oler

- Ribbons will be awarded for First, Second, Third in Shorebird Categories. Ribbons will be awarded for Honorable Mention.
- Best of Show Shorebirds will receive First Place rosette, \$50 and plaque.
- Second Best of Show Shorebirds will receive Second Place rosette, \$25 and plaque.
- Third Best of Show Shorebirds will receive Third place rosette, \$10 and plaque.

■ Woodpecker

- Best of Show Woodpecker will receive a rosette, \$50 and plaque.
- Second and Third Best in Show Woodpecker will receive rosettes.

■ Youth - 17 and under

- The competition will be divided into five categories: Marsh Ducks, Diving Ducks, Geese and Confidence, Shorebirds, and Woodpeckers. The rules for each category will be the same as they are in the Chesapeake Challenge. First, Second, and Third Best of Show will be chosen from the categories.
- Best in Show will receive a rosette and plaque.
- Second and Third Best in Show will receive a rosette.
- Ribbons will be given to First, Second, Third in categories and to Honorable Mentions.

RULES:

1. Enter what you have made and what you use for hunting. Previously entered birds are not eligible for competition.
2. Decoys can be made of wood, cork, stretched canvas, palm fronds, or other local materials. **Plastic and foam are not allowed.**
3. Carving should be simple and without fragile areas. If you need an insert (example: tails of pintails and oldsquaws), hardwood, leather, or plastic will be allowed.
4. Painting should be simple and basic. Feathers should be simply applied brush strokes, with NO COMPLEX BLENDING. Scratch and comb vermiculation is allowed.
5. All decoys should be painted in winter plumage, except Shorebirds, which can be in any plumage.
6. When in question whether to "go too far," remember, SIMPLICITY TAKES PRECEDENCE.
7. Decoys will all be judged at a distance, with the final decisions made at that distance.
8. All floating decoys must have a means to tie an anchor line to. Shorebirds must have rod for standing. Woodpeckers must have a method to attach to a nail.
9. All Marsh Ducks and Geese & Confidence decoys should self-right from side position; Diving Ducks should do so from any position.
10. All types of Woodpeckers are admissible in the Woodpecker Category. No decorative carving or painting. Split wings are allowed. All entries will be hung on a plank for judging purposes.
11. Other birds that were historically used as decoys will be entered under Shorebirds, Misc. Decoys.
12. Decoys entered in previous Chesapeake Challenge Competitions are ineligible.

CONTEMPORARY ANTIQUE DECOY – 2022 SPECIES: Scoter (any 3 US species)

Entries are to emulate the appearance of decoys which were carved prior to 1950 and would have been used for hunting. Decoys will be judged in hand.

Each year there will be one species to be entered into the competition. – Sponsored by R.W. Smoker & R.K. Smoker in memorial of their dad R.B. Smoker

RULES:

1. Entries must be signed and dated.
2. Entries can be inspired by old decoys from geographic areas but must be the carver's original design and interpretation of an "old" decoy. Entries can be inspired by old decoys.
3. Decoys should be made to look old by the manner in which they are carved, painted and finished.

AWARDS: Best of Show will receive a rosette, \$50 and a plaque. Second and Third Best of Show will receive rosettes

WINNING DECOYS:

The three Best of Show Floating Decoys, three Best of Show Shorebirds, the Best of Show Woodpecker, Best of Show Contemporary Antique Decoy and Best of Show Youth will be exhibited in the Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art for a period of six months following the contest and then returned to the carver.

ENTRY FEE -----

Fees: \$10 for the first entry, \$2 for each additional entry. There is no limit on the number of entries. Maximum total fee is \$30.

MAIL-IN INFORMATION-----

Mail-in entries from the U.S. are welcome. A prepaid return shipping label must be included with your entries. Mail-in entries must be received no later than Tuesday, August 10, 2022. Walk-in registration hours are 8 - 10:30 a.m. Saturday, August 13, 2022. Please download a registration form and include with your entry fee. Checks can be made out to: Ward Foundation. Go to www.wardmuseum.org, then to Learn & Explore and the Delmarvalous Festival. There you will find a link to the registration form. If you do not have access to a computer, call 410-742- 4988, ext.106 for a form.



Mail To: Attn: Chesapeake Challenge, Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art, Salisbury University,
909 S. Schumaker Dr., Salisbury, MD 21804

For More Information: 410-742-4988, Ext. 106, www.wardmuseum.org

This event is sponsored in part by:
Knotts Knives, The Refuge Inn, Rich & Ross Smoker, Bennett Scott, Ed Rogan, Doug Fisher, and Friend of George R. Root,
Chincoteague Decoy Carver & Artist Association