



WATCHGANDER

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 1 JANUARY 2002 JOHN L. CLAYTON JR. EDITOR

NJDCA HOT NEWS AND REMINDERS

DON'T MISS THE UPCOMING MEETING ON JANUARY 22ND AT THE MANAHAWKIN ELKS AT 7:00 P.M. THIS WILL BE OUR FIRST MEETING OF THE NEW YEAR. THE CLUB WILL PROVIDE PIZZA WITH BEER, WINE OR SODA TO ALL MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING. PAST PRESIDENT, BOB SEA BROOK, HAS COME UP WITH A GOOD IDEA. MEMBERS ARE ENCOURGED TO BRING A FAVORITE DESERT OR HORSD-OEUVRE. IF ENOUGH MEMBERS PARTICIPATE WE COULD HAVE A NICE SPREAD. A FRIENDLY REMINDER THAT DUES ARE DUE , AND A SHEET IS ENCLOSED FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE . I KNOW A LOT OF MEMBERS PAY AT THE JANUARY MEETING, PLEASE BRING YOUR FORM ALONG FILLED OUT, AS IT WILL MAKE OUR JOB A LOT EASIER . I LOOK FORWARD TO ANOTHER YEAR OF DECOYING AND SEEING YOU ON THE 22ND.

THIS MONTHS DECOY CONTEST WILL BE **MINIATURES, any species.**

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE NEAR FUTURE

FEBRUARY 2 & 3RD 2002 18TH ANNUAL OCEAN COUNTY WILDFOWL ART AND DECOY SHOW. AT BRICK HIGH SCHOOL 346 CHAMBERS BRIDGE ROAD, BRICK, NJ

FEBRUARY 24, 2002 31ST ANNUAL LONG ISLAND DECOY SHOW AT THE PATCHOGUE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LODGE 9-11 RAILROAD AVE, PATCHOGUE, NY

2002 MEETING DATES

JANUARY 22, FEBRUARY 26, MARCH 26 , APRIL 23, MAY 28, JUNE 25 JULY AND AUGUST (NONE) SEPTEMBER 24, OCTOBER 22, NOVEMBER 26 AND DECEMBER NONE 7 PM AT THE MANAHAWKIN ELKS

**the newsletter is looking
for anyone interested in
contributing to it.
we would like to have any
information you have found
about decoys or carvers.
we will even help
you write it.**

**JOHN CLAYTON EDITOR
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SHOW REPORT

I, LIKE MOST OF YOU, USE THIS TIME TO REFLECT BACK ON THE PAST YEAR, AND TO MARK MY CALENDER FOR THE UPCOMING DECOY EVENTS.

LOOKING BACK ON 2001, IT PROVED TO BE VERY GOOD IN ALL RESPECTS. THE DECOY MARKET WITHSTOOD THE RECESSION AND SEPTEMBER 11TH., AND AT ALL THE EVENTS, I ATTENDED LAST YEAR, INTEREST WAS HIGH. THE ONLY DISAPPOINTMENT, FOR ME, WAS THE LACK OF THE AMOUNT OF QUALITY NJ DECOYS AT AUCTION IN RECENT YEARS. I KNOW THINGS WORK IN CYCLES AND HOPEFULLY 2002 WILL GIVE US A FEW MORE OPPORTUNITIES.

IN A RECENT CONVERSATION WITH A FELLOW COLLECTOR, HE POINTED OUT BECAUSE OF THE MARKET'S STRENGTH A LOT OF DECOYS NEVER MAKE IT TO AUCTION. IF THEY HAVE QUALITY, AND ARE PRICED FAIR, THEY ARE BOUGHT UP WITH LITTLE HESITATION, BY KNOWLEDGABLE COLLECTORS.

IT SEEMS TO GET HARDER EACH YEAR TO PUT A GOOD DECOY ON THE SHELF BUT WITH WORK, A LITTLE LUCK AND HELP FROM YOUR COLLECTING FRIENDS IT CAN BE DONE.

I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO 2002 AND IF IT RIVALS 2001 WE SHOULD HAVE LITTLE TO COMPLAIN ABOUT.

For sale

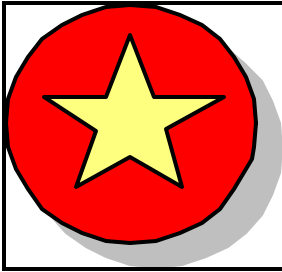
OUTBOARD MOTOR

1994 70 hp Evinrude
\$2,050.00

Long shaft, Ex. Condition
Just spent \$1,400 on upgrade
Call Dick Jessen
609-597 9284

**WANTED
GUN POWDER TINS
Shot shell boxes
Old photos
CALL
JOHN CLAYTON
732-255-6291**

**Wanted
Any information on
Grover Clevel and
Regarding
hunting and fishing
John Clayton
732-255-6291**



DECOY CONTEST RESULTS

OCTOBER : SHOREBIRDS

Pre 1920

First: John Clayton with and unknown curlew from the Newark Meadows

Second: John Clayton with the same carver in another style

Third Bill Doggert with a Harry Gale Plover

After 1920

First: John Clayton with a Cameron McIntyre Cobb Island Curlew

Second: Clarence Boorman carved by Mike Regic

Third: Clarence Fennimore carved by Jim Slack

Decorative:

First: Clarence Boorman carved by William Gibian

Second: Brian Hartman carved by himself

Third: Tie Robert Vanicsko carved by Ed Bailey and Robert Vanicsko carved by himself.

NOVEMBER: WIDGEON

Pre WWII

First: Robert Vanicsko by John English

Second: Bill Cordrey with a Dodge Factory

Third: Robert Vanicsko by John English

Post WWII

First: Len Friscia with a John Holloway

Second: Len Friscia with a John Holoway

Third: Tie Bill Doggert with a William Cranmer and Pete Butler with a William Cranmer

Decorative:

First: Pete Butler with a Oliver Lawson

Second: Clarence Boorman with a Hurley Conklin

Third: Robert Vaniscko with a Hurley Conklin

NEWS ITEMS OF INTEREST:

I WAS VERY PLEASED WITH THE RESPONSE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP OF PEOPLE WILLING TO HELP OUT .

THE BY-LAWS COMMITTEE WILL BE JIM DEEVY, ROBERT VANICKO, CLARENCE FENNIMORE, BRIAN HARTMAN AND MYSELF. I HAVE RECEIVED A COPY OF THE BY-LAWS FROM THE LONG ISLAND DECOY COLLECTORS ASSOC. AND RATHER THAN REINVENT THE WHEEL, WE WILL REVIEW THEM AND USE THEM AS A GUIDE. WE PLAN ON HAVING A PRESENTATION TO THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING.

JOHN MAITA HAS VOLUNTEERED TO WORK ON SHIRTS AND HATS.

TIDBITS FROM THE POTOMOC FLYER:

SHANG- WHEELER'S NICKNAME IS A BIT OF A STRETCH FROM CHARLES E. WHEELER, WHOSE HAND CARVED DECOYS ARE CONSIDERED BY MANY TO RANK AMONG THE FINEST EVER PRODUCED. HE HAD A NICKNAME PINNED ON HIM AT AGE 13 THAT LASTED MORE THAN 60 YEARS. WHEELER ENROLLED IN WESTON MILITARY INSTITUTE (WMI) IN THE MID 1880'S, AROUND THE SAME TIME THAT ONE OF THE TALLEST BREEDS OF CHICKENS WAS KNOWN AS LANGSHANG. ALSO, CIRCUS ICON P.T. BARNUM WAS TOURING DURING THIS ERA, AND HIS ENTOURAGE INCLUDED CHANG, A SIDESHOW GIANT. YOUNG WHEELER, WAS SIX FEET TALL AND THIN AS A RAIL. HIS CLASSMATES AT WMI GAVE HIM THE NICKNAME CHANG OR LANGSHANG.

THE MONIKER WAS EVENTUALLY SIMPLIFIED TO SHANG, A NAME RECOGNIZED BY DECOY COLLECTORS EVER SINCE WHEELER'S MALLARD DRAKE WON THE GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP AT THE FIRST AMERICAN DECOY SHOW IN 1923, AT BELLPORT, LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK. WHEELER, WHO CARVED HIS FIRST DECOY AT AGE 8, WAS ALSO SOMEWHAT OF A POLITICAL ANIMAL, FOR A TIME SERVING AS A STATE SENATOR FROM CONNECTICUT.