



WATCHGANDER

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 8 OCTOBER 2001 JOHN L. CLAYTON JR. EDITOR

NJDCA HOT NEWS AND REMINDERS

DON'T MISS THE UPCOMING MEETING ON OCTOBER 23RD AT THE MANAHAWKIN ELKS AT 7:00 P.M. A NUMBER OF ITEMS WILL BE UP FOR DISCUSSION SO PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING.

WORD HAS COME THAT MEMBER BILL CARR HAS PASSED AWAY.

THIS MONTHS DECOY CONTEST WILL BE **SHOREBIRDS**, NOVEMBER WILL BE WIDGEON. A LITE TURNOUT COUPLED WITH THE UNFORSEEN ABSENCE OF OUR CONTEST CHAIRMAN. SHOREBIRDS WERE CARRIED OVER TO THIS MONTHS MEETING. SO EVERYONE HAS ANOTHER CHANCE TO BRING IN THAT WINNER.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE NEAR FUTURE

31st Annual Easton Waterfowl Festival: The Guyette & Schmidt annual fall decoy auction that kicks off the Waterfowl Festival for the most of us will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, November 7 & 8, at the Talbot Community Center, just outside of Easton. The Talbot Community Center will again sponsor the buy- sell -swap held in conjunction with the G & S Auction. Last year there were 108 spaces taken up with old decoys. The Waterfowl Festival, which is held throughout the town of Easton, opens Friday the 9th, and runs through Sunday the 11th. The Waterfowl Festival's decoy auction will be held at the high school on Saturday the 10th. The high school is also the location for the waterfowling artifact exhibit and the vendor tables of old decoys.

2001 MEETING DATES

OCTOBER 23, NOVEMBER 27 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

Rain was the order of the day for the last two recent shows. Tuckerton was bearable on Saturday with blustery winds, chilly temperatures and late day showers. The crowds were very subdued, no doubt aided by the weather and the recent terrorists attacks.

Sunday morning dawned with heavy rain and Dick Gove's tent blown down (no damage done), followed by reports of a cruise missile attack late Saturday night. Many thought the attack was justified due to the suspicious band of characters seen frequenting his tented bazaar earlier in the day. Having been warned of the possible attack, and fearing collateral damage, Russ Allen folded his tent Saturday. George Elmer removed his tin roof, both survived without a scratch.

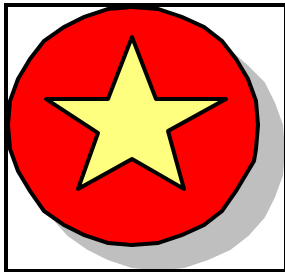
The Chesapeake Wildlife Expo saw small crowds and a few dealers on Friday. Saturday's heavy rain kept all inside with no tailgate. Highlight was the Antique decoy contest, on Saturday afternoon. A fair number of great decoys were in each category.

For sale

Model 870
Remington Magnum
Shotgun with 28" full
barrel, 24" Hastings barrel
with all screw in chokes,
Slug barrel in good shape.
Dick Gove 609-652-1906

**WANTED
GUN POWDER TINS
Shotshell 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**



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I AM USING THE DECOY CONTEST SPACE THIS MONTH TO ADDRESS THE CONFUSION THE HAS COME UP CONCERNING OUR DECOY SHOW, AND NUMEROUS OTHER ISSUES THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE FUTURE.

CLARENCE FENNIMORE HAS WRITTEN A REPORT THAT DETAILS THE CONVERSATION WITH JOHN GORMLEY, AND THE SHOW COMMITTEE MEMBERS, (SEE ATTACHED) THAT TOOK PLACE IN MAY. AT THAT TIME FRANK AND FRANK AUCTION WAS ALSO PLANNING TO MOVE ITS AUCTION TO THE MUSEUM AND HAD SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WITH THE MUSEUM.

SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE THE SEPTEMBER CLUB MEETING I BECAME AWARE OF THE LOSS OF SPACE IN THE YACHT CLUB BUILDING, DUE TO THE MUSEUMSTORE'S MOVE TO THE SECOND FLOOR. WE DID NOT KNOW IF THIS WAS TEMPORARY, AND OTHER RUMORS AS TO SPACE WERE CIRCULATING. AT THE MEETING NO CONCRETE FACTS WERE KNOWN TO PROPERLY ADDRESS THESE ISSUES. CONVERSATIONS TOOK PLACE OVER THE COURSE OF THE TUCKERTON SHOW, AND IT BECAME CLEAR WE HAD POTENTIAL PROBLEMS, AS TO SPACE. JON FRANK ALSO TOLD ME, HE HAD PULLED OUT OF THE SEAPORT LOCATION FOR HIS MARCH 2002 AUCTION, DUE TO UNCERTAINTIES AS TO SPACE.

CLARENCE FENNIMORE ATTENDED THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING TO ADDRESS THE NJDCA CLUB CONCERNS AND NEEDS. AS STATED IN HIS LETTER, OUR CLUB NEEDS COULD BE MET THIS MARCH, BUT SPACE WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR THE NEXT YEAR, UNLESS A NEW EVENTS BUILDING WERE BUILT. THIS BUILDING IS NOT PRESENTLY FUNDED, AND THE LIKELIHOOD OF IT BEING READY BY MARCH 2003 IS DOUBTFUL. AFTER CLARENCE'S REPORT BACK FROM THAT MEETING, A SHOW COMMITTEE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ADDRESS THIS ISSUE., AND THE FRANK AND FRANK ISSUE.

WE MET WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 10TH, IN ATTENDANCE WERE CLARENCE FENNIMORE, CLARENCE BOORMAN, DICK GOVE, BILL DOGGERT, BILL CORDREY AND MYSELF. MARK JOHNSON AND MIKE LARKIN COULD NOT ATTEND, BUT WERE AWARE OF THE SITUATION AND WERE CONFIDENT WE WOULD MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION. WE DECIDED TO WITHDRAW FROM THE SEAPORT AND TO STAY AT THE ELKS FOR ANOTHER YEAR, AS THERE WAS JUST TOO LITTLE TIME LEFT TO LOOK FOR ANOTHER LOCATION. THIS WE FELT WOULD ONLY ADD TO THE CONFUSION. WE ALSO DECIDED TO KEEP THE SAME DATE, AFTER HAVING A FULL DISCUSSION ABOUT FRANK AND FRANK'S PLANS FOR A HUNTING AND FISHING COLLECTIBLES SHOW ON MARCH 23RD 2002, AT THE BELMAR FISHING CLUB. THE CLUB WAS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SHOW, BUT TABLE LIMITATIONS AND LOSS OF IDENTITY ISSUES FOR OUR SHOW FORCED US TO DECLINE. FRANK AND FRANK IN THE INTRIM HAS CANCELED ITS MARCH 23RD 2002 SHOW DATE DUE TO A CONFLICT WITH OUR SHOW. WE TRUST WHATEVER CONFLICT EXISTS AS TO FUTURE DATES, CAN BE WORKED OUT FOR THE MUTUAL BENEFIT OF ALL.

OUR SHOW IS IN ITS 10TH YEAR AND IS PUT ON FOR ONE PURPOSE ONLY, TO PROVIDE A VENUE FOR OUR MEMBERS TO BUY-SELL-SWAP COLLECTIBLE DECOYS. IT ALSO PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR MEMBER CONTEMPORARY CARVERS TO SELL THEIR CREATIONS. EACH YEAR WE HONOR A CARVER WHO GRACIOUSLY DONATES A CARVING TO BE CHANCED OFF FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CLUB, THIS SHOWCASES HIS WORK AND HELPS CARRY ON THE CARVING TRADITION. OUR OLD BIRD DECOY CONTEST IS GROWING EACH YEAR AND PROVIDES A NICE ADDITION. OUR SHOREBIRD CONTEST GIVES THOSE INTERESTED A CHANCE TO COMPETE. THE NEW JERSEY WATERFOWLERS PROVIDE ADDED INTEREST WITH THEIR GUNNING RIG COMPETITION.

OVER THE YEARS THE SHOW COMMITTEE HAS SUGGESTED AND MADE NUMEROUS CHANGES TO PROVIDE A BETTER SHOW FOR ALL. SEVERAL THOUGHTS HAVE REMAINED STEADFAST. WE HAVE KEPT COSTS, DIRT- CHEAP, NO SHOW IN THE COUNTRY PROVIDES \$10.00 TABLES, AND ANY MODEST AMOUNT WE HAVE RAISED HAS BEEN DONATED TO PROMOTE OLD DECOYS. WE HAVE ALSO KEPT OUR SHOW FOCUSED ON **DECOYS** BECAUSE WE ARE A CLUB FOR **DECOY** COLLECTORS. I REPEAT **DECOY** COLLECTORS; DECOY MAGAZINE SAID IN A RECENT ARTICLE, WE WERE THE BEST DECOY SHOW IN NEW JERSEY. THINK OF ALL THE NEW JERSEY SHOWS THAT HAVE FALLEN BY THE WAYSIDE, AND THE REASON FOR FAILURE. THEY BECAME WATERED DOWN WITH FEWER AND FEWER DECOYS, AND MORE STAINED GLASS AND PILLOWS.

I STRONGLY FEEL THE FUTURE OF OUR NJDCA CLUB SHOW BELONGS AT THE TUCKERTON SEAPORT. IT WOULD CREATE A GREAT ATMOSPHERE FOR OUR SHOW, HOWEVER IT IS NOT THE PROPER LOCATION FOR US NOW, UNDER THE PRESENT CONDITIONS. HOPEFULLY IN THE FUTURE THESE CONDITIONS WILL CHANGE.

IT IS THE INTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE TO LOOK FOR A LOCATION THAT WILL IMPROVE OUR SHOW, AND ANYONE WISHING TO BE INCLUDED BY BECOMING, AN ACTIVE MEMBER, PLEASE STEP FORWARD. I FEEL VERY CONFIDENT WE WILL HAVE ANOTHER SUCESSFUL SHOW THIS YEAR.

I HAVE HAD THE HONOR OF BEING CLUB PRESIDENT FOR 4 YEARS AND HAVE MADE IT KNOWN THAT IT IS TIME FOR ME TO STEP DOWN. WE NEED NEW BLOOD TO COME FORWARD AND HELP WITH POSITIONS SUCH AS MEMBERSHIP, BY-LAWS COMMITTEE, CLUB PRESIDENT AND NEWSLETTER. EDITOR.. THIS IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CLUB, AS IT CONTINUES ITS VIABILITY. I DO NOT WANT TO LEAVE UNTIL I FEEL MY JOB IS COMPLETE AND THE MEMBERSHIP IS CONFORTABLE WITH THE NEW LEADERSHIP. I ENCOURAGE ANY MEMBERS, WHO FEEL THEY CAN CONTRIBUTE TO STEP FORWARD. WHATEVER TIME IS NECESSARY TO MAKE A SMOOTH TRANSITION WILL BE TAKEN, SO THAT THE CLUB WILL ONLY BE ENHANCED. PLEASE COME TO THE NEXT MEETING WITH CONSTRUCTIVE WAYS THAT YOU CAN HELP, YOUR SUPPORT WILL BE WELCOMED.

JOHN CLAYTON