



FEBRUARY 2010

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MEMBERS MEETING

This month's meeting we will have Tom Leiffield to give a general overview of the dove and duck results. If you have any questions about this past season come on out and join the fun!

FISH FRY

The MVDHA annual fish fry will be held on April 14th. The cost is going to be like last year, for members and immediate family members, it is FREE! For all others, \$10.00. Raffle tickets, the cost is one for a dollar or six for five dollars and 15 for ten dollars. If you sell fifty dollars or more of tickets, you will receive a one year free membership to the MVDHA. So if you sell \$25 dollars worth of tickets and you buy \$25 dollars worth of tickets, you not only get thirty six chances at winning any of the prices, but you will also get a free membership, with the combined selling of \$50 dollars worth of tickets, a GREAT deal!! We are also looking for helpers during the fish fry. If you see some-

thing/someone that needs help, help out! This is our big event and we will need all the help we can get. A sign up sheet will be going around at the member's meeting, so sign up!

There will be many items auctioned off. Speaking of auctioned items, if you would like to volunteer a duck hunt, bass fishing trip, turkey hunt, quail hunt, pheasant hunt, deer hunt or a crappie fishing outing. All of these areas bring in more money than any thing else. So if you would like to volunteer your time and take one of our members out for a great time in the outdoors, let one of the board members know to add your trip to the items to be auctioned off. If you have anything that you are going to donate for the auction or the prize tables contact a board member so that they will know what to expect and please, either arrive early with your items, or give them to a board member to place on the tables BEFORE the event begins.

MVDHA ITEMS

If you are in possession of anything that belongs to the association please contact one of the board members or email me at mvdha@mvdha.com with what item you have. We are taking inventory of everything the association owns, from tents, guns and decanters, if you have something, let the board know!

URGENT MESSAGE

Rumors are circulating on the internet and throughout the waterfowling community that a new protocol for the waterfowl reservation system will be implemented for next season. I have placed a phone call to Tom Lieffield for further information, and have also spoken to another MDC employee. Both have indicated that some change is apparently coming. Tom did so in a message left on my answering machine, and I'm supposed to get more details from him on Monday after the newsletter has already gone out.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

MEMBER'S MEETING	1
FISH FRY	1
MVDHA ITEMS	1
URGENT MESSAGE	1
HUNTS	2
WING BOARD	2
SPEAK OUT	2
BANQUETS	2
TROUT FISHING	3
DELTA FUNDRAISER	3
HOME BOUND	3
MEMBERSHIP	3
ESCRIPTS	3
UPCOMING EVTS	3
GENERAL INFO	COV

Sell Those Tickets!!

I don't want to speculate too much, but the rumor I'm hearing goes something like a complete elimination of the poor line system except when a reservation holder doesn't show up. (So 50 people show up for 2 spots at Otter Slough???) Reservations would be made throughout the season, and you would have to call in or use the computer each and every

week that you would like to be entered into the computer drawing system. The rumor goes on to say that you'd only be able to hunt 3 times in a year.

The bottom line is that if ANY change to the system is made prior to receiving feedback from hunters, it's a bad idea and should be dropped immediately. Someone has suggested that this is Dave Erickson's brainchild and he wants it passed through before he retires. Let's give him the benefit of the doubt and hopefully they monitor our newsletter to keep a pulse on what we're doing and saying.

You will certainly be asked to pick up your pen and cry outrage if any of this is true.

HUNTS

if you have any pictures that you would like to share with your fellow members of these hunts you can email them to me at mvdha@mvdha.com or bring them to me at the members meetings and I will scan them or take them off of your media and post them on the web site and get them back to you.

WING BOARD

SAVE YOUR WINGS!

We are trying to create a wing board like we had in the past. Save your wings of the different birds you harvest this year, especially the odd ones! Bring them to the members meeting and give them to me, Brad Douglass, or email me at mvdha@mvdha.com and I will see what I can do to get them from you. Tony, you can donate the Spoonie Wings! So far all we have are drake wings of Mallard, Blue Wing Teal, Black Duck, Green Wing, Gadwall and Red Head wings. Bring only duck wings, both drakes

and hens. So bring them on in!

SPEAK OUT

From Tony Wolf:

I just looked through my mail today and what to my wandering eyes did appear, but an add for the evil Wal-Mart. The back page of the flier featured four items for sale from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals--ASPCA. Just in case any of you didn't realize their whacko positions, allow me to enlighten you with a quote from their website on hunting: "Hunting-- Because there is no guarantee that wildlife taken in sport hunting will be killed outright or spared the distress of pursuit and possible wounding and escape, the ASPCA is opposed to hunting animals for sport, even if the animals killed in this way are subsequently consumed. The ASPCA does recognize that wildlife management may be necessary in situations where animal and human interests collide, but urges that management strategies be nonlethal wherever possible and never include avoidable suffering or distress.

So what would Sam Walton think? He and his heirs have sold a boat load of Ol' Roy dog food, named after his trusted bird dog, but now they've pulled gun sales out of many stores and have put ASPCA merchandise in their stores. Maybe you should reconsider where you choose to shop?????

BANQUETS

St Louis Delta Waterfowl

Mark your calendar, the St. Louis Delta Waterfowl Banquet will be held Saturday, February 20th, 2010. Buck Gardner will be the master of ceremony. This year the

MVDHA BOARD

President: Art Wende

First V. Pres.:

Scott Combs

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Jerry Mercurio Jr.,

Ken Libel,

James Edwards,

Tony Wolf,

Dale Westerhold

Dave Hamilton

and Tim Koehler

banquet will be held in south county at the Two Hearts Banquet Center, 4532 South Lindbergh Blvd, Sunset Hills, MO 63127. (on the corner of Gravois and South Lindbergh) Cost is \$50 a person, \$75 a couple and \$20 for youth or \$500 for a corporate table. Tom will have tickets available.

Tom Biggar 314-846-2165

For more info you can go to their web site at:

www.stldelta.com

Trout Fishing:

Mark your calendars now and reserve your rooms and boats early. Our annual trip to Lake Taney-como will be from 26 thru 28 of February where we will be staying at the Trout Hollow lodge by Branson Mo. There are eight condos available that can room up to six people. There are some boats available to rent and boat slips to park your boat in if you need to. You will need to make reservations for the nights of the 26th and the 27th. If you are in need of a room Contact Bob Combs at 314-348-4188 for more info. Rooms are going to fill fast so call early! See you on the water!

DELTA FUNDRAISER

Working Retriever Test

St Louis River City Chapter

When: April 18, 2010

Location: The Dawg Trainer

Time: Registration starts at 8:00 AM test starts at 9:00 AM Donation: \$25 per dog Call: 636-828-5538 for info Check www.TheDawgTrainer.com for a map to location. The Dawg Trainer proudly sponsors the Delta Water-

fowl Working Retriever Test. This test will give you the chance to show off your skills and relationship with your working retriever and help raise funds for Delta Waterfowl. This test will consist of 1 land triple up to 100 yards distance and a 1 water double with a blind retrieve. Ribbons will be handed out for the best all around retrievers and handlers. Feel free to modify the test to work for you and your retriever. The goal of this test is to help raise funds, work with your dog and find what areas you need to work on before hunting season begins. A BBQ will be available for purchase provided by Delta Waterfowl St. Louis River City Chapter. Please bring chairs and water for you and your dog. There will be an "Ask The Vet" and "Ask The Dawg Trainer" booth on site.

HOME BOUND DUCK HUNTERS

I know this list is possibly incomplete, so if you see somebody who is a member and not on this list, please email me at mvdha@mvdha.com with the person's name and why they are home bound. If you get a chance, give them a call or drop them a line, I am sure they would appreciate it.

John Engle Alzheimer's, Emphysema

Lymon Bergmanis Lovingly taking care of his wife who is home bound.

Membership

NOTICE: On your mailing label is your expiration date. If the date is in the past, please consider rejoining us on the mailing. Family memberships are only \$25.00

eScripts Contribution this past month: 12.76

EScripts is proven to be a fantastic resource for fundraising where participating business partners contribute a percentage of your grocery loyalty cards, credit card, and debit/ATM card purchases to the school, group or organization of your choice.

Here's How it Works

- You register any one or all of your existing grocery loyalty, debit and credit cards for use in the program.
- Participating merchants will make contributions to your chosen group, based on purchases made by you, just by using the cards you have registered.
- Your purchases are tracked and available to you online, allowing you to see just how much you are earning.

Bottom line, it costs you nothing. All you have to do is do your normal shopping at listed stores like, Schnucks, Macy's, Orvis, OfficeMax, Pepboys or even American Airlines. This is a no brainer in helping to raise money for your MVDHA with no effort at all, except to hand your eScript card to the check out person. Chris has over 200 cards just waiting for you to call at 314-330-3846 or you can email him at cryptologist3@yahoo.com

Up Coming Events

Mar 10: Joel Brice - Director of Conservation Programs from Delta Waterfowl will be speaking.

Apr 14: Annual Fish Fry

General Information

This newsletter is distributed to our active members. For members, check your mailing label for when your membership expires. For non-active members check the website for the current newsletter. We have our general meeting the second Wednesday of every month and our Board of Directors' Meeting every fourth Monday. All meetings begin at 7:30 at the American Legion Post Goff – Moll Post 101, at 2721 Collier, Brentwood, Mo. 63144. In case of bad weather call the Post at 314-961-3263 or Tony Wolf at 636-441-3793 or Jerry Mercurio at 636-296-4799.

Visit YOUR web site at <http://www.mvdha.com/> to get the most recent news, events and updates. There you will find this newsletter and other helpful information concerning conservation and the great outdoors that we love. If you would like to be added to the email listing of important news and updates you can do that through the web site through the contact us link, fill out the form and make sure you add your email address.

Any comments or suggestions concerning the newsletter or the website can be sent to mvdha@mvdha.com. I am always looking forwards to suggestions concerning content and what you would like to see or be presented in these publications.

Next members meeting: **February 10, 2010**

Next Board Meeting: **February 22, 2010**

Members are invited to the Board Meeting

All meetings start at 7:30

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DUCK HUNTERS ASSN. INC.

"A Nonprofit Association of, by, and for the Duck Hunters"

"ST. LOUIS' NONPROFIT ASSOCIATION"

P.O. BOX 6, VALLEY PARK, MO 63088

