



MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DUCK HUNTERS ASSOCIATION
A NON-PROFIT ASSOCIATION OF, BY, AND FOR THE DUCK
HUNTERS.



NOVEMBER 2009

VOLUME 53 ISSUE 11

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MEMBERS MEETING

If you missed last months members meeting you missed out on the annual forecast. Dave Graber, Tom Liefeld and Frank Nelson gave us a great presentation of all the work going on in MDC plus our annual waterfowl forecast, it was a great presentation. To note, Dave is retiring Jan2010 and Tom is also retiring next spring. Both of these fine gentlemen are going to be sorely missed as our contacts with the MDC, congratulations to both of them!

This months member's meeting we will be having our own crew of Rob Mueller, Jimmy Hoerr, Jerry & Chris Wymer, James Edwards and Don Thoele giving us the ins and outs of hunting up in North Dakota. So come on out it's sure to be a great time!

DUCK SEASON

Youth Duck Hunt
North Zone Oct. 24-25
Middle Zone, Oct. 31-
Nov 1

South Zone, Nov. 21-
22

Regular Duck Season:

North Zone, Oct. 31-
Dec. 29

Middle Zone, Nov. 7-
Jan. 5

South Zone, Nov. 26-
Jan. 24

The daily limit on ducks is six, including no more than:

-- Mallards, 4 (no more than 2 females)

-- Black ducks, 1

-- Mottled ducks, 1 (new)

-- Pintails, 1

-- Scaup, 2 (new)

-- Wood ducks, 3

-- Redheads, 2

— Canvasbacks 1 (new)

-- Hooded mergansers, 2

-- Other species may be taken in any number up to the daily bag limit of six ducks total.

HUNTS

With the new season upon us, 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 and Gadwall wings. Bring only duck wings, both drakes and hens. So bring them on it!

ALL CANADA SHOW

Though we will not be supporting this event this year, if you would like to go here is the info:

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Jan 8-10, 2010

St. Charles Convention Center
 One Convention Center Plaza
 St. Charles, MO 63303-
 (636) 669-3000

Hours: Friday 5 p.m.- 9 p.m.
 Saturday 10 a.m.- 6 p.m.
 Sunday 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Ticket Prices:
 Adults \$10 Seniors(60+) \$8
 Children(13-16) \$8
 12 & Under Free

You can go to:

<http://www.allcanadashow.com/html/stLouis/>

To get a \$2.00 off coupon.

SNOW GOOSE HUNT

Currently the plan is that the annual Snow Goose hunt is going to take place on the first weekend of February, the 5th, 6th and 7th. Contact Bob Richard's for more info. Remember, if you go, a Conservation Order Permit (except for persons 15 years of age and younger) is required to participate in the spring 2010 Conservation Order. Cost is \$5 for residents and \$40 for nonresidents. You will be staying at the Super 8 Motel in Marston. It is located at:

501 South East Outer Rd I-55 and EE Hwy, Exit 40 Marston, MO 63866 US

For two double beds it will cost you 62.50 a night for two people.

You can reserve these on line or by phone. The phone number is:

573-643-9888

Board Members

Ever had or thought there was a problem with the association? Ever complained about one thing or an-

other on why this association does this or that and should do it this way? Ever thought about becoming a solution to these problems instead of just complaining about them? Here is your chance! This month there will be board member elections. If you are interested in becoming a board member, or if you have questions on becoming a board member, email your questions or interest to mvdha@mvdha.com or mail them to the address on the back of this newsletter and they will be forward to Jerry. If you want to make a change, here is your chance.

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 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 in the near future.

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 Taneycomo 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

MVDHA BOARD

President: Tony Wolf

First V. Pres.:

Scott Combs

2nd V. President:

Chris Wymer

Fin. Secretary:

Bernie Urbas

Rec. Secretary:

Bill Truebe

Correspondence

Secretary: Bill Hilgeman

Membership Chairman:

Bob Richards

Board of Directors:

Jerry Mercurio

Directors:

Don Thoele,

Jim Hoerr,

Terry Moran

Jerry Wymer,

Jerry Mercurio Jr.,

Ken Libel,

James Edwards,

Art Wende,

Dale Westerhold

Dave Hamilton

and Tim Koehler

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!

FOR SALE

1950 Winchester Model 12, 12ga., 32" barrel, Full

It is a 1950, Winchester Model 12, 12ga., 32" barrel, Full. This gun just has a plain barrel, in good condition. It is a one owner gun, who hasn't hunted in a number of years & wants to get what he can out of it. You can contact Bernie Urbas at 314-497-7144 for more information.

DAVE GRABER

(From the DU's web site)

This year's recipient for the Research/Technical award is Missouri's own David Graber.

"These individuals have each had a tremendous impact on North

America's waterfowl habitat," said DU Executive Vice President Don Young as he presented the awards. "DU is proud to recognize their contributions and hopes their personal achievements inspire others to engage in conservation."

David A. Graber's passion for waterfowl can be seen through his 30 years of dedication to improving waterfowl and wetland resources. As an employee of Missouri Department of Conservation, Graber has used comprehensive and practical knowledge of waterfowl biology, land management and hunting to bring credible science to resource managers, resource users and policy makers.

"Dave has served on a number of Mississippi Flyway committees including Regulations, Wood Duck and Environmental. His collaborative efforts with the University of Missouri have resulted in a number of prominent professionals that will serve waterfowl conservation for years to come. He is a model of professional collaboration," said DU Manager of Conservation Programs, John Coluccy, who nominated him for the award.

Graber has worked tirelessly to advance waterfowl conservation and knowledge. He has been a significant force in a variety of areas including wood duck conservation, waterfowl nutrition, snow and white-fronted goose management, harvest strategy and many other complex waterfowl and wetland conservation issues.

"Throughout his three decades of professional contributions, wildlife managers have sought David's counsel on management issues, researchers have relied on his translations of their science into practical solutions and administrators have depended on him to provide balanced and science-based recommendations for their policy decisions. He is most deserving of this recognition," Coluccy said.

CANOPY MISSING

The association is missing one of those tent canopies that we use in all of our outdoor functions. If you have it in your garage or house email me at

Great news, duck numbers are up!!!

2009 Estimates of May Ponds and Breeding Ducks (in millions)

Species	2008	2009	% Change From 2008	% Change from Long-term Avg.
May Ponds (U.S. & CAN)	4.431	6.434	+45	+31
Total Ducks	37.276	42.005	+13	+25
Mallard	7.724	8.512	+10	+13
Gadwall	2.728	3.054	+12	+73
American wigeon	2.487	2.469	-1	-5
Green-winged teal	2.980	3.444	+16	+79
Blue-winged teal	6.640	7.384	+11	+60
Northern shoveler	3.508	4.376	+25	+92
Northern pintail	2.613	3.225	+23	-20
Redhead	1.056	1.044	-1	+62
Canvasback	0.489	0.662	+35	+16
Scaup	3.738	4.172	+12	-18

mvdha@mvdha.com or contact Jerry or Tony so we know who has it so that it is accounted for, no questions asked.

DUCK LEASE

Duck lease available, St Charles-Dewit area, Arkansas, next to White River NWR. He wants three groups of five hunters at \$7,500 each, per group or \$1,500 a person and he will pair you up with a group. You will share three rice fields, four ponds, some private timber, if White River floods. Lodging is only \$20.00 a night. These are guided hunts with everything provide. Don says this is a premium place to hunt, so if you are interested in a GREAT lease in Arkansas see Don Thoele or call Phil Horton 1-870-946-3480.

CANADIAN NEWS

A private member’s bill to repeal the federal long-gun registry passed its first hurdle Wednesday as the House of Commons voted to scrap the controversial measure that requires Canadian citizens to register all firearms—including shotguns and rifles used for hunting.

“This has been a long, uphill battle, but we’re finally getting closer to seeing the registry being repealed, and that’s good news for hunters and other law-biding gun owners,” said Delta Waterfowl Executive Vice President Dr. Bob Bailey.

The bill (C-391), sponsored by Manitoba Conservative Member of Parliament Candice Hoepfner, now moves to an all-party committee for public hearings before it returns to the House of Commons for a final vote and then heads to the Senate, according to published reports. If passed, the bill would

eliminate the requirement to register hunting rifles and shotguns but would maintain the registry for prohibited or restricted weapons such as handguns.

Since 2006, Dr. Bailey has coordinated pro-gun and -hunting efforts through the Canadian Outdoors Network, a national coalition of 26 hunting, trapping, shooting and other outdoor groups. All totaled, the network represents more than 500,000 Canadians.

“Canadians have a strong hunting and shooting heritage, and we will continue to voice our concerns on issues affecting our way of life, including seeing the long-gun registry repealed, once and for all,” said Dr. Bailey.

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: 12.57

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 636-333-2251 or you can email him at cryptologist3@yahoo.com

Up Coming Events

Nov 11 : Our very own Rob Mueller, Jimmy Hoerr, Jerry & Chris Wymer, James Edwards, Don Thoele and crew speaking on their recent outing to North Dakota.

Dec 9 : Our annual Christmas Party

The President's Corner

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I hope all of you have had an opportunity to get out and bust a few caps these past few weeks between the ark building and all. It wasn't 40 days and nights, but it sure did seem like it. Personally, I've watched my son do all the shooting, but I can't complain at all.

We headed up to Ted Shanks for the youth opener, and could have had a limit of coots in an hour if we so desired. Instead, we saved our money and looked for shovelers. Actually, I don't think there were many of those flying around. The area managers said they were holding around 9500 ducks. I think that was 9400 coots and some others thrown in for good measure. Shanks is looking great, though, and I encourage you to take a gander up there if your schedule permits. They've worked hard during the off-season and it shows.

Needless to say, member Bob Corcoran and I enjoyed hunting with our charges and did our part in passing the love of waterfowling on to our youngsters in tow. I hope some of you had the opportunity to do so as well. I hear the Combs youngster bagged a few more birds. Maybe we'll see some pics at the meeting?

We're left with just two meetings for 2009. Our November meeting will feature our very own Rob Mueller, Jimmy Hoerr, Jerry & Chris Wymer, James Edwards, Don Thoele and crew speaking on their recent outing to North Dakota. I'm sure we'll hear some lively discussion on this one, and I can't wait to hear from our resident swan killer, Mr. Purple Lizard himself. I hear they taste delicious, Jimmy.

Earlier this year I had the opportunity to take hunter education with my son. One of the things that we both received in the mail upon completion of the course was a hunting plan tear-off pad. Please keep in mind that friends and loved ones are depending upon you to have a safe hunt, and look forward to your return once you've spent your day(s) in the field. At the very least, make sure your spouse, girlfriend, mom, neighbor, etc. knows where you're heading (blind A-9 on the Alton Pool) with whom (Art W. and Terry M.) a contact number(s), who's driving and what, and when you'll return. Plans change, so provide a plan B. For example, if we don't draw out at MTC we'll head to the blind. Above all, stick to the plan, wear a coast guard approved pfd, tether your kill switch, and BE SAFE!

I see in the paper that the Spanish Lake Casino proposal was accepted by the county council. There are still plenty of hurdles in their way so keep your fingers crossed.

Laslty, congrats goes out to Mr. and Mrs. Brad Douglass. I can't believe Missy got the guy to tie the knot during hunting season. She's a great lady, Brad. Best wishes to both of you.

Stop by later this month to share a few stories with your buddies.

Until next time.....

Tony

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: **November 11, 2009**

Next Board Meeting: **November 23, 2009**

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

