

Decoys Unlimited, Inc. Theodore S. Harmon

Ted and Judy Harmon
of
DECOYS UNLIMITED, INC.
presents
OUR ANNUAL
SPRING DECOY AUCTION

Friday, March 17, 2006

at the

Westlake Holiday Inn

Westlake, Ohio

Telephone: 1-440-871-6000 or call toll-free at 1-800-762-7416

www.decoysunlimitedinc.com

e-mail: theodores.harmon@comcast.net

SALE: Friday, March 17 • 12 PM

PREVIEW: Thursday, March 16 • 6-8 PM

Friday, March 17 • 9 AM - 12 PM

Friday morning to time of sale

Phone and Absentee Bidding Information
See Directions in Back of Catalog

For absentee or phone bidding please call Ted Harmon – (508) 362-2766

<p>TERMINOLOGY: XOP - Excellent Original Paint XOC - Excellent Original Condition OP - Original Paint T/U - Touch Up</p>

For more information contact: Ted Harmon, P.O. Box 206, West Barnstable, MA 02668 • (508) 362-2766

See Conditions of Sale – Inside Front Cover



*The late Harvey Pitt was a student of the American bird decoys and their place in our history. He was an avid waterfowler and accomplished taxidermist. His extensive decoy collection focused on American factory decoys as well as numerous hand made examples from the midwest and elsewhere. He welcomed decoy collectors and all interested parties to the decoy museum located in his home. Decoys graced the shelves, hung on the walls, and swam atop his refurbished Thompson 1936 mahogany 16 foot duckboat, which in retirement, served up food, drink, and a place for good conversation. On pages 475 to 496, in Carl Luckey and Russell Lewis's book, *Collecting Antique Bird Decoys and Duck Calls*, the authors interview Mr. Pitt in detail and his collection is prominently featured throughout their book. We are honored to have been chosen to disperse his collection to the decoy community. His presence will be missed.*

– Ted and Judy Harmon



SPRING DECOY AUCTION

Friday, March 17, 2006



1

1. **Mason Factory Detroit Grade Glass eye blue-winged teal drake decoy in virtually mint original condition.** Never rigged. Tiny indentation on top of the bill does not detract. We believe this is the Pitt collection decoy pictured on the bottom of page 163 in *Bird Decoys and Duck Calls* by Luckey and Lewis. 2000-2500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.



another view



2

2. **Number 1 smooth model Pratt Factory blue-winged teal drake decoy in unused, unrigged condition.** Bright strong paint and superb original condition. This example is in even better condition than the decoy on the bottom of page 179 in *Collecting American Bird*

Decoys and Duck Calls by Luckey and Lewis. Also see a similar example on the bottom of page 304 in *North American Factory Decoys* by Trayer. 1000-2000
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

3. **Mason Factory Premier Grade bluebill drake decoy in near mint condition.** They don't get much better than this decoy. Minor narrow stain on one side. A few very tiny surface rubs, left seam slightly open. Left front edge of the bill tip has a small 1/4 inch rub to wood. See "Collecting Antique Bird Decoys and Duck Calls" pg. 173, for photo of this decoy and also the bottom right on page 262. Coat of thin finish feeder protects virtually pristine surface. 2000-2500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.



4. **RARE PAIR OF PRATT BUFFLEHEAD decoys in near mint original condition.** So RARE we cannot find an example in either the Luckey and Lewis book or in the N A F D by Ken Trayer. A very narrow age check runs along the bottom extending about an inch or two onto the lower breast. 2000-4000
Provenance: Pitt Collection.



3 (top),
4 PR

4A PR

- 4A. **Pair of Deluxe Grade Evans Factory, Waseca, MN bluebill decoys in near mint condition.** Both are stamped with "Evans Decoy", and each has a collection tag that reads "#395 Evans Deluxe Grade Bluebill Hen (Drake). Absolutely mint, ca 1920's, Evans Stamp on

the bottom. Never Used. Acclaimed by many to be the best Evans Bluebill ever seen". Nicely carved bill detail and wonderful near perfect paint. Never rigged. Tiny rub on the bill of the hen. Pitt collection. 5000-7500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.



5

5. **Mason Factory Detroit Grade Painted Eye green-winged teal drake decoy.** Paint is restored to original style. Head may be mint original. See "Collecting Antique Bird Decoys and Duck Calls" pg. 165, for photo of this decoy. 500-1000
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

6. **Mason Factory Detroit Grade Glass Eye pintail drake decoy in strong original paint with light wear.** Neck filler replaced, shot holes, couple knots. Narrow age check on left side of the body and two narrow checks in the bottom. Original eyes are cracked. 1800-2400
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

7. **Mason Factory Detroit Grade Glass Eye pintail hen decoy in strong original paint with light wear.** Neck filler is cracked with some missing. Head has been reglued to body. Narrow age checks on right side and back of the body. 1800-2400
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

8. **Hays Factory bluebill drake decoy in XOC with light wear and a few minor surface rubs.** Neck filler cracked but not missing. Bill tip edge has slight roughage. Two grain line tight checks on lower right side. Knot on lower left side. Original weight. Great example. 500-1000



7 (above), 8 (below)



6

9. **EARLY Mason Factory Detroit Grade Glass Eye redhead drake decoy in outstanding bold original paint with very little wear.** Age check on the bottom, three shot scars on the body and a few minor chips to the paint. Tag on the bottom M103. 1200-1800
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

10. **Another very early Mason Factory Detroit Grade Glass Eye redhead drake with an original Raymond Lead Co. weight on the bottom.** In fine original paint with a few tight line age checks on the body and a few chips on paint surface. Neck filler cracked and most is missing. 800-1200
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

11. **Peterson Factory bluebill drake decoy with glass eyes and an original "Raymond Lead Co, Chicago" strip weight on the bottom.** In bold original paint with possible minor t/u on tail and a very small spot on the head. Few shot scars. Excellent example. 1000-2000
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

9
10



11 (below)



12



12. **RARE. ONE OF MASON'S BEST DESIGNS.** A Mason Low-Head Premier Grade bluebill hen in strong bold original swirl paint. Struck by a few shot. Minor paint wear to wood on the bill and top of the head.
Provenance: Pitt Collection. 3000-5000
13. **Factory green-winged teal hen decoy in superb unused condition.** Nicely grain painted, glass eyes. Possibly by the Reynolds Company. 300-500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.
14. **Pair of Animal Trap Company mallards with glass eyes and two sided hollowed out bottoms.** Both in XOC. Hen has a sliver of wood from the underside of the bill that occurred in the making. Never rigged. See "Collecting Antique Bird Decoys and Duck Calls" pg. 188-189, for photos of these decoys. 200-400
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

15. **Animal Trap Co. pintail drake decoy in fine original paint with "Animal Trap Co of Mississippi, Pascagoula, Miss" on the bottom.** Few chips to paint under the tail, bill edges and below the wing patches. Minor wear to the body ridges. \$1.45 written in pencil on the bottom. 200-400
Provenance: Pitt Collection.
16. **Pair of D-4 Standard blue-winged teal decoys with circular ink brand, "Animal Trap Co, Pascagoula, Miss" on the bottom.** In XOC. See North American Factory Decoys by Trayer P. 14 for similar examples. 200-400
Provenance: Pitt Collection.



14 PR
 (below)



13

15

16 PR





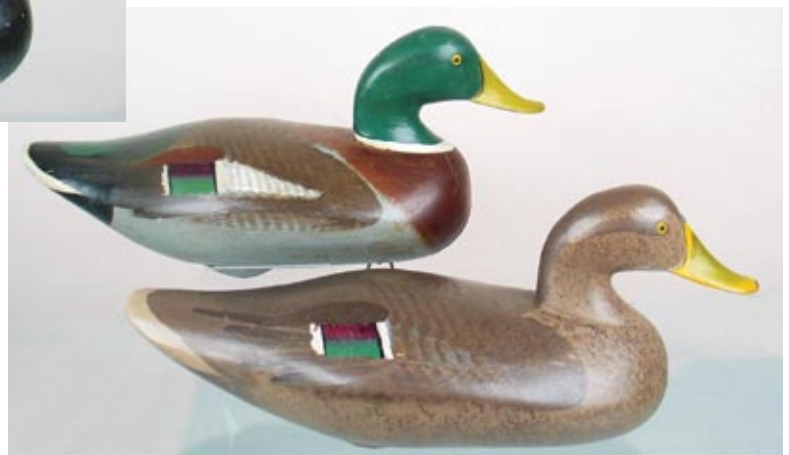
17 (left)



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21



22 PR

17. **Early Old Saybrook Wildfowler Factory black duck decoy with balsa body and pine head and keel.** OP with light wear and a few rubs. Bill has some minor paint loss. Original keel and weight. Glass eyes. 150-200
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

18. **Madison Mitchell redhead drake decoy with a slightly turned head.** In XOC. Weight removed, Large "S" in paint on the bottom. Thin coat of finish feeder on the surface. 300-500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

19. **Outstanding Madison Mitchell "High Head" bluebill drake decoy.** In XOC with light wear to tail and grain lines on the head. Thin coat of finish feeder on the surface. 300-500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

23



20. **Madison Mitchell black duck decoy in XOC with great scratch painting and original weight.** "JFG" brand on the bottom. 300-500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

21. **Madison Mitchell Canvasback Drake decoy in XOC with narrow age check in the bottom and weight removed.** 250-450
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

22. **Madison Mitchell mallard drake and hen decoys in XOC with original weights.** Drake has a narrow age check on the bottom and a sliver of wood from the top of the head with paint t/u. Hen has some wear, a grain check on the right side and 2 or 3 grain line checks on the left side with tiny chips of paint along the lines. Body also has a few knots. Both have turned heads. 400-600
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

23. **Madison Mitchell bufflehead drake decoy in virtually mint condition.** Original weight. Thin coat of finish feeder protects the surface. Pitt collection. 300-500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.



24



25
26 - 27

29
(right)



28



24. Chesapeake Bay canvasback drake decoy by James Currier, Havre de Grace, MD. in fine original paint with a few minor rubs. No weight, painted eye. Signed "Jim Currier, Havre de Grace MD" in pencil on the bottom. 300-400

25. Chesapeake Bay redhead drake decoy in the manner of Heinefeld or Glen, with painted eyes. Good old working paint. Some wear and a few shot scars. 200-400

26. Raised Wing Louisiana fresh water coot decoy in XOC. Never rigged, Made of cypress or tupelo. 150-250

27. Blue-winged hen teal decoy in good original paint. Light wear, back check, left side filled at the time the decoy was made has cracked with some loss of filler. Original weight. 200-400

28. Bold carving of a solid body canvasback drake decoy, ca 1880, attributed to John Graham (1822-1912) Charlestown, MD. Painted eyes with very old worn paint. Body paint appears original, some t/u to head and black areas. Great form. 500-1000

29. Elegant black duck decoy by noted folk artist from NC, Frank Finney. Made in the early Ward Brothers style with a turned head and delicate paint. XOC. 400-600

30. Lot of two bufflehead drake decoys branded "C. VanHeck" on the bottom. Nicely carved wings, glass eyes and sleepy heads. OP and working t/u. 300-500

31. Preening cork yellowlegs shorebird decoy in excellent condition with light wear on tail edge. Appears to be OP. 200-400

32. Turned head yellowlegs shorebird decoy with weathered unpainted surface and carved eyes. Wonderful sculpture. Narrow grain line check in body near neck. Carved "F" near the stick hole for Frank Finney, a noted folk artist from NC. 300-500

33. Delicate carving of a blue-winged teal hen decoy with pin head eyes and OP with light wear. Neck has two cracks and a section of wood missing from one side. 200-400

30 PR



31-32
33





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34. **Red-breasted merganser drake decoy with glass eyes and wonderful form by Doug Jester, Chincoteague, VA.** Paint has been restored in the original fashion and style. 300-500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.



35. **Herter Factory, Waseca, MN, "Ancient Wooden Decoy American Eider" eider drake decoy in XOP with a few surface rubs.** See "Collecting Antique Bird Decoys and Duck Calls" pg. 209, for photo of this decoy. 300-500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

37. **Bluebill hen decoy with inlet head and neck and glass eyes.** Raised wing and tail feather carving. Old working paint with wear, t/u and some over paint. Few chips to paint on the breast, neck check and blunting to the tip of the bill. 100-200

36. **Hollow bluebill hen from Quebec ca 1900 with very detailed heavy feather carving over the entire surface.** Glass eyes. OP with t/u to white areas. Rubs on surface. Chip of wood missing off the right side of the bill, see photo, will be restored. Minor roughage on tail edge. 800-1200

38. **High head bluebill hen decoy with carved wing and tail detail, glass eyes and mostly original paint.** Light wear to surface, heavier wear on lower sides. 100-200

39. **RARE Oversized American merganser drake decoy by Roy Conklin, Alexandria Bay, NY.** In fine original paint with professional removal of glue from a tight neck check which was tightened and touched up professionally by Steven Weaver. Very small chip off the tip of the underside of the bill restored. 19 1/2 inches long 8 1/2 inches tall at the head. See page 201 in Decoys of the Thousand Islands by Stewart and Lunman where a similar example is pictured. 1500-2500



Provenance:
Pitt Collection.

39



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40. **Bluebill hen decoy from upstate NY in good working paint, some original, with a few surface rubs and chips to area near the eyes.** Struck by shot. Grain painting on the back and on wing flashes appears to be original. 200-400
Provenance: Pitt Collection.
41. **Tack eye bluebill drake decoy by Frank Louis, Ogdensburg, NY with the typical “humpback” design.** Nice OP with a few puppy teeth marks on the bill and a clean neck check. 250-450
Provenance: Pitt Collection.
42. **Solid body turned-head goldeneye drake decoy from Upstate New York.** Repainted in the original working style. Neck seam loose with paint cracked. Glass eyes. 100-200
43. **Solid body turned head golden eye decoy that has been stripped and varnished.** Interesting construction detail, knots in body have been drilled and filled with dowels. Glass eyes. 75-150
44. **Solid body bluebill hen decoy from upstate NY with glass eyes and nice old working paint.** Wing flash and face patch appear to be original. Few tight age checks in the body. Nice form. 100-200
45. **Hollow bluebill hen decoy from Upstate New York.** Great head and bill carving, inlet weight and paddle tail. Numerous shot scars. OP with working t/u. 150-200
46. **Upstate New York bluebill drake decoy in good old working paint.** Some surface paint chipping on the body, glass eyes. Check along the right side has been doweled together before the bird was painted. 100-200

48

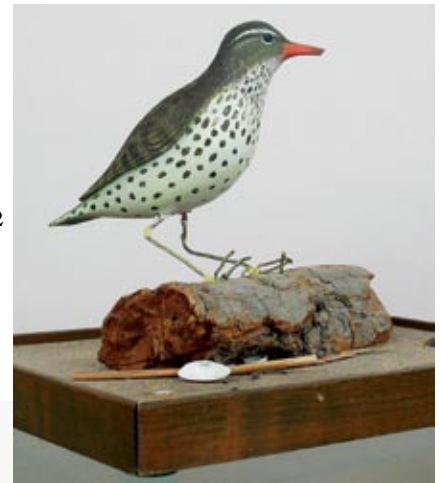


47. **Small bluebill decoy in good working paint with nice scratch paint detail on the back.** Glass eyes. A few checks in the body. Pegged repairs done before painting. 100-200

48. **Very folky solid body bluebill drake decoy with glass eyes and turned head.** Good old working paint with some OP. Possibly from Wisconsin. 200-400



49



52



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51



53

49. **Solid body, glass eye redhead drake decoy from the St. Clair Flats.** OP with t/u to areas on the body. Neck filler cracked, few line checks on the body with original filler dried out and flaking. Struck by shot. 250-450
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

50. **Hollow St. Clair Flats Canvasback drake decoy in well used working paint.** Glass eyes. Sliver of wood missing from the top of the head and an old tail chip. A Veteran. "Cris Smith" written on the bottom in ink. 400-600

51. **Crow decoy with two metal rods for legs.** Bill pieced in separately. The original paint is worn. 200-300

52. **Life sized sandpiper carving by Bill Weikert, New York City, mounted on driftwood in a rectangular frame.** Nicely carved bird with tack eyes and carved wing and tail detail. Tip of bill broken. 50-100

53. **Life Sized Black Capped Tern by Bill Weikert, New York City, mounted on driftwood.** Good OP. Carved eyes. One wing tip broken. 50-100

54. **Solid body reaching shoveler drake decoy with glass eyes.** Right side of body near neck has paint blisters with some chipping. Paint has been restored. 100-200

55. **Fresh water coot decoy by Louis Autin, Estelle, LA.** In XOC. 200-400



54

55



56

56. **Rare early widgeon hen decoy with slightly turned head by Benjamin J. Schmidt, Detroit and Centerline, MI.** In excellent original condition with deeply carved wing and tail detail and nicely impressed feathers over the body. Glass eyes. Few minor rubs on the surface. An excellent example. 6000-8000



58

57. **Pair of working ca 1940's redhead decoys by Benjamin J. Schmidt, Detroit and Centerline, MI.** In excellent original condition with original keels and rigging. Hen has a clean bill crack and a few shot holes on the body. Drake has a few tight age checks on the body. Both have slightly turned heads, wing and tail detail and are stamped "Bob Horner-Decoy Rack" on the bottom. 2000-4000
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

58. **Great bluebill drake decoy by Benjamin J. Schmidt, Detroit and Centerline, MI.** OP with impressed feather detail and wing carving. Keel removed. Signed on the bottom "Benj. J. Schmidt, Centerline, MI, 1950". See "Collecting Antique Bird Decoys and Duck Calls" pg. 122, for photo of this decoy. 800-1200
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

57 PR





59



61



60



63 PR

59. **Bold oversized hollow bob tail canvasback drake decoy by Benjamin Schmidt from MI.** Glass eyes and nice working paint. May have original underneath. Boldly carved head and bill. 300-500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

60. **Miniature mallard drake by Benjamin J. Schmidt, Detroit and Centerline, MI** in excellent original condition with "BJS" written in pencil on the bottom. Made like a small decoy. 400-600

61. **Miniature black duck by Benjamin J. Schmidt, Detroit and Centerline, MI.** In excellent original condition with "Benj. J. Schmidt Nov 59" and "Black Duck" written in pencil on the bottom. 400-600

62. **Pair of bluebill decoys from the Detroit, Michigan area.** Both are in excellent original paint with light wear. Nicely carved wings and tail. Hen has a tight check in the bill and a few rubs on the surface. Possibly by Walter Snow, Detroit, MI. 400-600
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

63. **Pair of perky cork bodied ring-bill decoys from Michigan.** Pine heads and bottom boards. Drake has neck reglued with a small chip to the cork near the neck. Glass eyes and fine original paint. 300-500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.



62 PR



64

detail



64. Rare and funky solid body bluebill hen decoy by James Buchman, Erie, PA. with a wide body, paddle tail, and fat jaws. Wonderful folk art detail in the carving on the body with an anchor shaped impression and impressed dots within. There is a chip on the right side of the tail and under the bill. Some surface wear to the paint, thin body checks and dents. Great folk art piece. 1500-2500



65

65. Rare early wide-bodied solid redhead drake decoy by James Buchman, Erie, PA with same wonderful carving detail as previous lot but with a tulip design on the top of the tail. Some original paint. A thin coat of white over white and possibly some in use touch up elsewhere. Glass eyes, a few chews on the tip of the bill, numerous age check on the body "ECKE-SPARKS" impressed on the weight. 500-1000

66. Solid body canvasback drake decoy with W. H. Harris branded on the lower left side. Harris was a punter for the Winous Point Club. Good OP with light overall wear, a few shot scars, and a knot with small amount of paint loss on the right side of the back. Tiny 1/8 inch sliver from the edge of the tail. Used at the Winous Point Club on Lake Erie. 1200-1800



66



67

67. **Bluebill hen decoy with “EAO” branded on the lower right side attributed to the Dodge Factory.** Good OP with some average wear. Filler missing from neck, tack eyes and nice wide bill. Few narrow checks, knots with flaking.
800-1200
Provenance: Pitt Collection.



68

68. **Balsa body canvasback drake by Ralph Reghi, Detroit, MI. with a pine head and keel and glass eyes.** Head appears to be OP with possible t/u to the black. Body is working over paint. Usual dents and scratches to surface with wear on the edges of tail and lower edges of body.
100-200



69
69A

69. **“Bob” tail canvasback drake from MI area by Ted Vandenboesch.** In excellent original condition.
200-400

- 69A. **Canvasback drake by Danny Scrivens. “S” and “Hall” branded on bottom.** In excellent original condition.
200-400

70. **Hollow bob tail “skunk” head scoter with glass eyes and old paint.** Tight old bill check. Maker unknown.
Provenance: Pitt Collection. 200-400



70

71 PR



71. **Hollow unused pair of early mallard decoys in excellent original condition by Ken Anger of Dunville, Ontario, Canada.** Both have glass eyes and turned heads. Hen has a tiny 1/8 inch sliver off the body. The drake has a thinly painted small area with a little light gray primer showing through on the lower right side. Outstanding pair of Angers for the serious collector. 4000-6000
Provenance: Pitt Collection.



72 PR

74
75

72. **Pair of hollow working bluebill decoys by Ken Anger, Dunville, Ontario, Canada.** Hen is in original paint with a few minor rubs and nicely rasped and grained surface. Drake is in OP with in use wear and t/u to white areas on the lower sides of the body. Thin bill crack and a few minor chips to the edge of the tail. Original AT Co. weight on the bottom.
800-1200
Provenance: Pitt Collection.



73. **RARE pair of Tuveson Company flying canvasback decoys.** Tuveson manufactured decoys from 1919 to 1942. The patent for the flying models was issued in 1927. The drake retains the original brass label on the bottom. Both are in OP with some overall light wear, glass eyes and canvas wings stretched over a wire frame. Canvas is in good condition. Hen has an original body check on the right side with the filler cracked with some missing.
2500-3500

74. **Dodge Factory canvasback drake with some old repaint on breast, neck, and head.** Numerous scrapes on the surface and overall wear. Neck re-glued, glass eyes and a few thin bottom age checks. Otherwise the paint looks original with some in use wear.
500-1000
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

75. **Dodge Factory bluebill hen in original paint.** Check on the left side of the face and wear to the edges of the bill. Glass eyes, coat of wax or finish feeder on surface.
300-500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

73 PR





76
77



79 PR

78 PR

80



76. Solid body bluebill drake decoy from the Herter Factory, Waseca, MN with the "Herter Inc. 1893" brand on the bottom. XOC, unused. Collection tag on the bottom reads "331 M Herter's Scaup, OP". 100-200

Provenance: Pitt Collection.

77. Oversized (14 inch) factory bluebill drake decoy. XOP with light wear. Glass eyes. 200-300

Provenance: Pitt Collection.

78. Wildfowler Factory, with Quogue, LI brand, pair of pintail decoys with balsa bodies and pine heads. XOC, hen has minor rubs on the bill. See "Collecting Antique Bird Decoys and Duck Calls" pg. 229 and 230, for photos of these decoys. 450-750

Provenance: Pitt Collection.

79. Wildfowler Factory pair of blue-winged teal decoys in near mint condition. Unused, no brand. Possibly from the Point Pleasant, NJ. location. 300-500

Provenance: Pitt Collection.



80. Mallard drake decoy by the Evans Factory, Ladysmith, WI, in XOC. Glass eyes, light wear to body and top of head. Weight removed. "Evans Decoy" stamp on the bottom. Nice example. 800-1200

81. Pair of mallard decoys by the Tru-Dux Factory (1938-1949). XOC with a few minor rubs and dents on the surface, light wear. See page 369 in N A F D by Ken Trayer for a similar pair. 600-800

Provenance: Pitt Collection.



81 PR

82



82. **Mason Factory Challenge Grade snakey redhead drake decoy in excellent original condition with light wear to edges of the bill, tail, and top of head.** Few surface dents and scrapes. Numerous tiny paint chips along a few tight grain line checks on the body. Narrow bottom check. 2000-2500

82A. **Mason Factory Challenge Grade redhead hen with a nice snakey head in good OP.** Few shot scars, light wear to the top of the head and the edges of the bill and tail. Rig mate to lot 82. 2000-2500



82A

83. **Rare green-winged teal decoy by the Victor or Pratt Company in good OP.** Wear to the top of the ridges on the body and edges. Glass eyes. Excellent example. *Provenance:* Pitt Collection. 500-1000

84. **RARE EARLY Mason Factory Detroit Grade Tack Eye blue-winged teal drake in near mint original condition.** Neck filler has a few tight line cracks but it is intact. Few grain line checks on the left side of body. See "Collecting Antique Bird Decoys and Duck Calls" pg. 164 for photo of this decoy. 2000-3000 *Provenance:* Pitt Collection.



83

84





85



87



86

85. Early tack eye blue-winged teal drake possibly by the Hays or Mason Factory with a circular inset weight in the bottom. Neck filler is cracked with some missing with touch up in that area. Knot on the left side of the body has cracked filler with about half missing. Old sealer or finish feeder on surface. 1000-1500

89. Mason Factory Challenge Grade bluebill hen in good OP with possible t/u to the mid section on the back and the white below the water line. Few line age checks on the body and a coat of wax or sealer on the surface. 800-1200
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

86. Dodge Factory blue-winged teal drake in XOP with a narrow slightly open check on the back. Glass eyes. "740" impressed into the bottom. Outstanding detail to the paint pattern. 4500-6500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

87. Hays Factory Glass eye redhead drake decoy in OP with possible t/u to black on breast and spot on cheek. Thin coat of finish feeder wax on surface. "M101" collection tag on the bottom. 500-1000
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

88. Mason Factory Premier Grade bluebill hen decoy with OP on the body and head and repaint and t/u to the face patch and white on the lower sides. Struck by shot, wear to edges of the bill and tail. 800-1200
Provenance: Pitt Collection.



88

89



89A

89A. **RARE HOLLOW** Mason Factory Challenge Grade Black in fine original condition with a few tight age checks on the body. Some wear on the lower sides and top of the head. Body seam visible. Neck filler cracked. Finish feeder on the surface. 1500-2500

90. Mason Factory Detroit Grade glass eye canvasback drake in OP with heavy soil and some wear to the edges of the bill, areas on the head, and tail. Numerous shot holes and a few scars. Very thin coat of wax or finish feeder on the surface. 500-1000
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

90
91



91. Mason Factory Detroit Grade Glass eye canvasback drake decoy in OP with possible t/u to white on the back. Soil visible on the surface and some wear on top of the head and edges of the tail. Age check on bottom extends under the tail, a few knots and a 1 inch by 1/4 inch sliver of wood missing from the top right side of the head. 500-1000
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

92
93



92. Mason Factory Standard Grade Glass Eye bufflehead drake decoy. Neck filler replaced, paint restored. See "Collecting Antique Bird Decoys and Duck Calls" pg. 168 for photo of this decoy. 1000-1500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

93. Mason Factory Detroit Grade Painted Eye mallard drake in OP with average in use wear. Slight roughage to bill tip. Knots visible on left side of head and front of body. Neck filler missing. 500-1000
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

94. **RARE** Early Mason Premier Grade golden eye drake in good OP. Line age check on the center of the back. Surface wear to body near neck and on lower sides and breast. Neck filler missing. Thin coat of wax or sealer on the surface. 1500-2500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

94





95



97



96

98. Early Mason Factory Detroit Grade glass eye bluebill drake in OP with wear overall, heavier on top of head and lower sides. Neck filler cracked and mostly missing. Grain line age check on lower right side and back. 300-500

Provenance: Pitt Collection.

95. Mason Premier mallard drake decoy in fine restored paint. Tail chip reglued with original wood. Neck filler cracked. A few body checks filled. 500-1000
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

99. Early Mason Detroit Grade Glass Eye bluebill hen in OP with light wear. Struck by shot, narrow check in bottom and right side. Knot on right side. 400-600
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

96. EARLY Mason Factory Premier Grade mallard hen decoy in good OP. Tail chip reglued with original wood. Neck filler is intact but seam is visible. Narrow check on back, grain line check on left lower side glued tight. Knot with some surface chips on left lower side of body. 1500-2500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

100. Mason Factory Detroit Grade glass eye bluebill hen in excellent original paint with sections of newsprint still visible on the bottom and both sides. Neck filler is intact save one tiny chip. There are a few minor dents and a shot scar at the end of the bill. Weight has been removed. 500-1000
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

97. Rare Sperry Factory (New Haven, CT. 1920-1930) solid body black duck in XOP. Very narrow check in the back, shot scar on the tail, neck filler missing, coat of finish feeder on the surface. 200-400



100



98
99

101
102



105

103
104



101. **Mason Detroit Grade Glass Eye pintail drake decoy in restored paint done in the original style.** There is an area of chipping paint on the tail and wear on the surface over the back. Structure is intact.
Provenance: Pitt Collection. 400-600

102. **Peterson Factory green-winged teal drake decoy with some original paint and restored paint done in the original style.** There is surface wear to paint with a few dents and rubs. Structure is intact.
Provenance: Pitt Collection. 800-1200

103. **Rare Benz Factory (1929-1945) solid body bluebill drake decoy in OP with nice feathering on the back and wings.** Glass eyes. Lathe turning marks are visible. See pages 61-66 in *North American Factory Decoys* by Ken Trayer. 300-500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

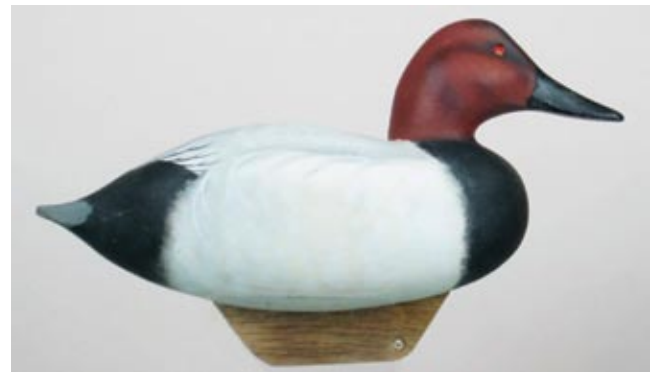
104. **Extremely rare M. C. Wedd Decoy Co. Rochester, NY, bluebill drake decoy ca 1880.** OP with possible t/u to some of the black areas. Wonderful condition considering the age. Matthew Chater Wedd was born in 1807 in Essex, England and died in 1901 in New York State at the age of 94. Decoys from this factory date from the 1870's and 1880's. He was a contemporary of George Peterson. See *North American Factory Decoys* by Trayer P. 385 for a similar example. 500-1000

105. **Sleepy shoveler drake decoy by one of Louisiana's finest decoy carvers, Roy Legaux, Sr. In XOC.** 300-500

106. **Half Size canvasback drake decoy by Roy Legaux, Sr. XOC.** 200-300

107. **Half Size redhead drake decoy by Roy Legaux, Sr. XOC.** 200-300

106



107





108

108. **Hollow carved ruddy duck drake decoy in XOC.** Weighted and rigged for use but never floated. 100-200
Provenance: Pitt Collection.



109

110

109. **Outstanding hollow carved high head pintail hen decoy from the Illinois River.** Great style. Beautifully repainted by the late Harvey Pitt. 300-500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

110. **Evans Factory decoy with glass eyes.** Beautifully painted as a shoveler hen by the late Harvey Pitt. 300-500
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

- 110B. **Outstanding gunning balsa black duck by the Ward Bros. in excellent original condition in all respects.** Original keel and weight. A shot mark behind the head may have touch up. 4000-5000

- 110A. **Turned-head bufflehead drake decoy custom made by the Ward Brothers of Crisfield, MD for Mr. Pitt.** In superb original condition and signed "Steve and Lem Ward, 1966" in ink on the bottom. 6000-8000
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

110A



110B





110C

110D PR

110C. Wonderful example of a turned head gunning balsa black duck decoy by the Ward Brothers, Crisfield, MD. In fine original paint with original keel and weight, pine head and tail. Signed on the bottom "Lem Ward" "Steve Ward". Light overall in use wear with a few rubs and dents. Great form. 2500-3500



110D. Pair of racy running miniature red-breasted mergansers by A. E. Crowell of East Harwich, MA. and so branded with the rectangular mark on the bottom. In pristine condition. Obviously kept under glass for many years. Quality pieces by this artist/decoy maker are commanding prices in the mid to high 6 figure range. Many consider him to be the finest commercial decoy maker in the world. 4000-6000
Provenance: Olson collection

111. Miniature split tail canvasback hen by A. E. Crowell, East Harwich, MA in XOC. Rectangular Impressed brand and number "14" written in pencil on the bottom of the base. 2500-3500

111A. Miniature split tail widgeon drake by A. E. Crowell, East Harwich, MA in XOC. Rectangular Impressed brand and number "24" written in pencil on the bottom of the base. 2500-3500

112. Miniature goldfinch by A. E. Crowell, East Harwich, MA in XOC. Rectangular impressed brand on the bottom of the base. 1800-2400



111 - 111A

113. Miniature wood thrush by A. E. Crowell, East Harwich, MA in XOC. Rectangular impressed brand on the bottom of the base. 1800-2400

114. Running ruddy turnstone by A. E. Crowell is one of the most colorful of all Crowell miniatures. In XOC with a minor bill tip restoration. Mounted on a small piece of driftwood. 3000-5000

112 - 113 - 114



115 - 116



116A

117 PR

117. Rare pair of tiny (approx. 3/4 inches) miniature mallards on a burl base by Charles Perdew, Henry, IL. Birds and mount in XOC. Felt on the bottom of the base has moth damage. 1500-2500

115. Miniature red-winged blackbird by A. E. Crowell, East Harwich, MA in XOC. Rectangular impressed brand on the bottom of the base. 1800-2200

116. Miniature Nashville warbler by A. E. Crowell, East Harwich, MA in XOC with minor imperfections. Rectangular impressed brand and "Nashville Warbler" written in ink on the bottom of the base. 1800-2200

116A. RARE Miniature decoy model of a drake mallard by Charles Perdew, Henry, IL. In XOC with a few very minor rubs. Great mellow patina. 2000-3000

117A. Black duck miniature by George Boyd of Seabrook, NH. Minor imperfections. In XOC with a couple of tiny flakes touched up professionally. Outstanding piece by one of America's most sought after artisans. Ca. early 1900's. 3000-4000

117B. Mallard hen miniature with typical crazing found on the work of George Boyd, Seabrook NH. Circa early 1900's. 3000-4000

117A - 117B





118 - 119 - 120



121 - 122 - 123



124 - 125 - 126

118. Meadowlark by Jess Blackstone, Concord, NH in XOC. Signed "JB" and #67 on the bottom of the base.
1400-1800

119. Killdeer by Jess Blackstone, Concord, NH in XOP. Signed "JB" and #7 on the bottom of the base. Small rub on the edge of the tail.
1400-1800

120. Rare miniature golden pheasant by Harold Gibbs, No. Scituate, RI. In XOC with "Golden Pheasant", "HNG" and "\$22.50" written in pencil on the bottom of the driftwood base.
750-950

121. Wonderful example of a Snow Bunting by Jess Blackstone, Concord, NH. In XOC. Signed "JB" and #20 on the bottom of the base.
1400-1800

122. Rare carving of a Lapland Longspur by Jess Blackstone, Concord, NH in XOC. No signature "Lapland Longspur" printed in pencil on the bottom of the base.
1200-1800

123. Wonderful example of a Grosbeak by Jess Blackstone, Concord, NH in XOC. Signed "JB" and #69 on the bottom of the base.
1200-1800

124. Great example of a Robin by Jess Blackstone, Concord, NH in XOC. Signed "JB" and #195 on the bottom of the base.
1200-1800

125. Black Capped Chickadee by Jess Blackstone, Concord, NH in XOC. Signed "JB" and #1343 on the bottom of the base.
800-1000

126. Colorful red-breasted Nuthatch by Jess Blackstone, Concord, NH in XOC. Signed "JB" and #284 on the bottom of the base.
1200-1800



127 - 128 - 129

130



131

127. **Kinglet by Jess Blackstone, Concord, NH in XOC.** Signed "JB" and #190 on the bottom of the base. "Golden Crowned" added in ink by another hand on the bottom of the base. 1200-1800
128. **Goldfinch by Jess Blackstone, Concord, NH in XOC.** Signed "JB" and #271 on the bottom of the base. T/u to a few rubs professionally done. 1000-1800
129. **Eastern Bluebird by Jess Blackstone, Concord, NH.** Signed "JB" and #298 on the bottom of the base. Professional t/u to fading and worn paint. 600-800
130. **Lot of five miniature carvings.** Mini mallard drake from Louisiana signed "Larry Cheramie, Cut Off" in XOC. A mini preening wood duck with glass eyes signed "Anne and Octave Monnier, Raceland, LA". XOC. A mini wood duck with raised wing and tail detail. Signed "Ray Vicknair, LaPlace, LA, 1999" XOC. A decorative feeding sandpiper from NC with painted eyes on a driftwood base. XOC. A decorative piping plover with glass eyes and a circular wooden base. Branded "R. J. Brown" on the bottom of the base. XOC. 200-400
131. **Bold double life-size plover in winter plumage by the Verity Family, Long Island, NY.** In XOC with a nail bill, and painted eyes. There is some wear with wood visible on the lower right side and two small holes drilled into the sides near the wings. Some staining on surface. Circa 1880. 1500-2500
132. **Split tail old shorebird on a long metal stake with a nail bill.** Struck by many shot, few surface dents. Consigner purchased from the A. E. Crowell house years ago on Cape Cod. 300-500

132



134 PR

133



133. Decorative black bellied plover in XOC and signed in pencil "Zack Ward, Crisfield, MD." under the tail. Tight check in the bill. 100-200

134. Rare pair of white wing scoter decoys by Ben Schmidt, Detroit, MI. In XOC. Hen has "SR9" painted under the tail, glass eyes, and a "Mike Ellis, Lemont, IL" Collection stamp on the bottom. Drake has white pearl eyes, "SR8" painted under the tail, a "Mike Ellis, Lemont, IL" and a Victor Bracher collection stamps along with "Velveteen Scoter" written in pencil on the bottom. Both are signed by the maker. 3500-5500



135 PR

135. Early pair of solid body canvasback decoys by Ralph Malpage, Detroit, MI. Both have nicely carved wing detail and good OP. Drake has a few chips on the edge of the tail. Bill check relined and glued. Very small chip under the bill tip restored. 400-600

136. Pair of solid body bluebill decoys by Al Wragg and Doug Burrell with the W.B. Brand on the bottom of both. Drake has a tucked head and the hen a turned head. XOP. Keels removed. 300-500

137. Pair of working bluebill decoys by Harvey Robbins, Lake St. Clair, MI ca 1951 in XOP with the original keels. Balsa bodies and wooden heads and mahogany tails. Used in Mr. Robbins personal hunting rig. 300-500

136 PR



137 PR



138

138. Hollow Delaware River bluebill drake decoy with tack eyes in good original paint with some blistering of the black paint on one side of the breast.

500-1000

139. Very folky small red-breasted merganser drake from Maine with an inletted head and neck. Professionally restored bill. Xray available.

1500-2000



139

140. Folky goldeneye drake from Maine in good old paint. Probably an old second coat. "Redfield" branded on the bottom.

300-500



140

141. Pair of black duck decoys by noted MI carver David Simandl, from Harsen's Island. In XOC with a few minor line checks. Carved wing outlines, glass eyes and original keels. One is a turned head preener. Marked on the bottom "True North Decoys, Caro, MI" and 004, 005, and SI.

800-1200

141 PR



142



142. Bold hollow white wing scoter decoy with glass eyes ca 1950's by noted CT carver Roswell E. Bliss, Stratford, CT. (1887-1967). In XOC with the typical teardrop shaped lead weight on the bottom. See Connecticut Decoys by Chitwood, Marshall and Knight, P63 for a photo of a similar decoy. 1200-1800



143



144



146
147

143. Hollow canvasback drake decoy by Bert Graves, Peoria, IL with original "Graves" strip lead weight on the bottom. "J. B. Black" owners stencil on the bottom. Mostly OP with some t/u to the black areas. Average in use wear to the surface with a few shot holes and scars. Wonderful form. 1200-1800
Provenance: Pitt Collection.

144. St Clair Flats bluebill drake decoy with a turned head, glass eyes and beautifully combed paint on the back. Bill tip restored. In original paint with minor t/u to the white on the wing patch and the face. Average wear to the entire surface particularly the lower edges. Struck by a few shot. 500-1000

145. Mason Factory Seneca Lake canvasback drake decoy with glass eyes and SV written on the bottom. OP with a fair amount of in use wear, a clean neck check, numerous line age checks and narrow seam separation along both sides. Neck filler missing, Struck by shot. Weight removed. 1200-1800

146. Oversized bluebill drake decoy with glass eyes by the Decoys Unlimited Co, Erie, PA. OP with nice comb painting on the back, heavy wear to paint on the tail and sides. Large stencil "Decoys Unlimited, R. D. #5 Wattsburg Rd. Erie, Penna" on the bottom. 150-250

147. Oversized black duck decoy with glass eyes by the Decoys Unlimited Co, Erie, PA. OP with nice feather detail and a turned head. Surface chipping to paint and a sliver of wood missing from the edge of the bill. Small stencil "Decoys Unlimited, Erie, PA, PH UX16-5911" on the bottom. 150-250

148. Victor Factory pintail hen decoy with two hollowed sections on the bottom. OP with heavy wear in places. Wood visible on the sides of the head. Glass eyes. 100-200

149. Fresh water coot decoy in XOC with a turned head and glass eyes. "Victor" impressed into the bottom. 100-200



145



148
149

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