

Decoys Unlimited, Inc. Theodore S. Harmon

Ted and Judy Harmon
of
DECOYS UNLIMITED, INC.

presents our

***Annual
Wisconsin Auction***

Saturday, December 13, 2008

at the

Country Springs Hotel

Pewaukee, WI (near Milwaukee)

Telephone: 262-547-0201 • Call 800-247-6640 for Reservations

www.decoysunlimitedinc.net

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DECOY SHOW and ROOM-TO-ROOM TRADING: Starting on Thursday, December 11

PREVIEW: Friday, December 12, 6-8pm and Saturday, December 13, 8am - 9:45am

SALE: Saturday, December 13, 10am

**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 – Back of Catalog

Decoys Unlimited Inc. would like to thank the Waddell and Powell families for the opportunity to sell the remainder of their collections. We would also like to thank the late Harvey Pitt's good friend "Corky" Swain for letting us disperse his collection. We would be remiss if we did not thank our friends from the Milwaukee Decoy Collector's show for all their help putting on our 3rd annual event with a special thanks to Bob Bradley and Jim Wierzba. To all our friends we wish you a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season.

Ted & Judy Harmon



Jean and Howie Waddell



Anne and Dr. Leon W. Powell

Saturday, December 13th, 2008
10am



1. **Exceptional hollow canvasback drake by Gus Moak, Tustin, WI. ca. 1920's.** Quite possibly the finest Moak decoy to exist. This canvasback drake is one of nine from the famous St. Valentine's Day rig which surfaced in Milwaukee in the late 1990's. These decoys possess outstanding original paint with unique tail patterns and a very "classic" style. Very slight rub to the paint on the tip of bill.

14,000-18,000

2. **Rare, standard grade redhead drake by the Evans Factory.** Some minor wear to original neck filler. Very strong original paint with some light rubs to bill and tail tips and light gunning wear overall. One small nick on left side of head. Lightly hit by shot. Some factory filler loss to original small check in bottom. Retains strong "Evans Decoy" stamp and the "B" hot brand.

2500-3500



3 (PR)



4

3. Rig mate pair of hollow carved challenge grade bluebills by the Mason factory. Neck filler missing on both and heads may have been glued to the seat. A few very small tight checks on both. Separation of body seam on hen has been repaired and there may be a small area of possible touch up on the left side of bill. Knot visible on rear back of drake. Original paint except as noted with moderate gunning wear.

1500-2500

4. Rare Mason Premier Magnum Atlantic Coast Model black duck. It appears to have been on a wooden platform or the large weights were removed. As a result there is a shallow channel of wood missing that runs about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the length on the bottom. There is a narrow open 2 inch age check in the lower breast and a narrow open age check under the tail that originates on the bottom. There is a one inch shallow sliver out of the left side of the bill. Minor rub on the left speculum which looks like a cord scrape. The decoy has seen little use and been carefully handled and in remarkable as found excellent original condition. See the middle plate on page 28 in "Mason Decoys" by Goldberger and Haid for a similar example.

2500-4500



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5. **Challenge grade redhead drake by the Mason Decoy Factory.** In fine original paint with typical Mason swirled paint. Moderate wear with rubs to primer or wood. Head a little loose with a small crack in the front of neck. In as found in rig condition. 1500-2500

6. **Mason Factory standard grade glass eye black duck.** Most of neck filler missing. Very strong original paint with areas of paint loss to wood on breast and under tail. Scattering of small in use rubs on bill, tail tip, and edges. Small nick in tail. Knot becoming visible on back. Line wrap marks on lower half and some minor discoloration to bill. 600-900

7. **Mason Factory standard grade glass eye black duck.** Some neck filler missing. Strong original paint with a uniform light scattering of surface scuffs and some rubs to wood on tail. One ½" shallow ding to wood on back with two small knots becoming visible. Some line wrap marks on base and some minor discoloration to bill. 600-900

8. **Mason Factory Challenge brant decoy with some original paint and old in use t/u.** Two narrow checks on both lower sides. Glass eyes, very nice form. Old collectors tag on the bottom reads "Brant, Mason Factory, Nantucket, from the rig of Geo E. Andrews". 1500-2500

9. **Mason Factory standard grade mallard drake in OP with moderate wear.** Heat crazing to right side of head and most of neck filler missing. Thin tight crack in bottom. "GS" and possibly "OC" brands on bottom. Neck filler replaced. Overall very good condition. 600-800

The following two Mason shorebirds are from the Powell collection and were acquired from Howard Waddell many years ago by the late Leon and Anne Powell.



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11

10. **Wonderful, glass eye red knot by the Mason Factory.** Iron nail bill. Exceptional original paint with extremely light gunning wear. A few very minor and light rubs on the tail edge and a short thin scuff on the right tail edge. Two tiny dents on the left side that may be original to the decoy. A very desirable example.

7500-9500

Provenance: Powell Collection

11. **Mason Factory tack eye yellowlegs with a typical iron nail bill.** Excellent original paint with light wear on back and slightly more moderate uniform wear to breast. Very tiny dent and minor rubs to tail tip. Minor oxidation around both eyes. Excellent structural condition. Illegible pencil notation in front of stick hole.

6500-8500

Provenance: Powell Collection



12



13



14

12. **Rare Mason tack eye willet with a nail bill.** See the color plate on the upper right on page 105 in "Mason Decoys" by Haid and Goldberger for a nearly identical example. In excellent original paint. There is drip of some substance near the eye on the left side of the head which may be original factory paint. The bottom is hot branded H H Stevens and ink stamped with Hillman collection next to the hot brand.
Provenance: Purvis collection. 4500-6500

13. **Massachusetts split tail shorebird ca 1900 in a very unusual plumage.** Bill has a clean break which has been strengthened with glued. Both eyes are missing and large holes exist. Original paint shows very heavy wear with numerous areas of raw wood showing. Hit by shot. 600-800

14. **Flattie shorebird ca 1900 with an old original iron bill.** Tail carving reminiscent of Virginia style. Original paint with light to moderate wear. Hit by shot with one hole going completely through (perhaps a screw hole). 200-300



15

15. **Split tail flat sided shorebird ca 1900 with a replaced bill.** Some original paint with heavy wear and numerous areas of raw wood showing. Nice lines. Baptized by shot with one grazing shot mark on left neck. 400-600



16



17



18



19



20



20A

16. **Thin split tail yellowlegs ca 1900 from Cape Cod.** Original wooden bill and carved eyes. Original paint with light to moderate wear on body and possible T/U to white. Heavy wear on bill. Hit by shot, mostly on right side. 400-600

17. **Brant by the Wildfowler Factory.** All original paint with some small rubs or "bleed through" on right wingtip area. Minor rubs on left edge of wing. Minor separation on one or two vertical seams on back. Overall condition is very appealing. Retains the Wildfowler stamp and original keel. 250-500

18. **Balsa pintail drake by the Wildfowler Factory.** Excellent original paint under a thin coat of sealer or finish feeder. Keel removed otherwise excellent structural condition. No stamp. 300-500

19. **Early Atlantic coast model redhead drake by the Wildfowler Factory.** Textured feather finish. Excellent, dark original paint with very minor wear. Excellent structural condition. A rare, small, early, almost invisible "Wildfowler – Saybrook" rubber stamp becomes visible under a black light (see pg. 182 in Cowan and LaFountain). Original keel. *Provenance:* Fairbank Collection 250-450

20. **Canvasback hen by the Wildfowler Factory.** Excellent original paint with very light overall wear. Some mildew and/or flyspeck on rear and sides. Heavy balsa construction in excellent structural condition except for a miniscule hole in tail tip where a screw eye may have once been attached and a few very tiny dings/dents. Original keel but no visible stamp. *Provenance:* Fairbank Collection 250-350

20A. **Canvasback drake by the Wildfowler Factory.** Hollow pine construction. Apparently their superior grade and it appears to be a rig mate to lot 20. Mostly original paint with probable in use strengthening to the black on the breast. Moderate gunning wear overall with a few small rubs or flakes to wood. Very good structural condition with minor dents/dings. No stamp and original keel. 250-350



21. Wildfowler green-winged teal drake decoy made as a presentation item. In XOC. Has a coat of sealer with some yellowing. Glass eyes. 500-1000

22. Canvasback drake by the Wildfowler Factory. Hollow pine construction, apparently their superior grade. Mostly original paint with "possible" in use strengthening to the black on the breast. Moderate gunning wear overall with a few small rubs or flakes to wood. Very good structural condition with minor dents/dings. No stamp and original keel. *Provenance:* Fairbank Collection 200-400

23. Mallard drake by the Tuveson Manufacturing Co., St. James, Minnesota. Original paint with moderate to heavy gunning wear overall with numerous small rubs to the finish. Rear portion of original neck filler missing. Very good structural condition keel weight removed. Carved "H" in bottom. 200-300

24. Mallard hen by the Wm. E. Pratt Manufacturing Co., Joliet and Chicago, Ill. Number 1 smooth grade. Strong original paint with light to moderate overall gunning wear. Some rubs to wood on bill and tail edges. Very thin separation at neck seam. Right glass eye missing. 250-450

25. Bluebill drake in the style of the Wildfowler Factory attributed strongly to the late Phil Fairbank of Old Saybrook, Connecticut. Dense cork body with pine head and plywood bottom. XOP which has darkened somewhat with age. Excellent structural condition. Intended as a gunning bird but never rigged. Mr. Fairbank was a good friend of Ted Mulliken and Joel Barber, founders of the Wildfowler Co. *Provenance:* Fairbank Collection 200-300

26. Bluebill drake by the Wildfowler Factory. Hollow pine or cedar. Fine original paint with very light overall gunning wear. A scattering of very small and minor scuffs. Original keel and no stamp. Mr. Swain acquired his collection from his good friend, the late Harvey Pitt. 200-400 *Provenance:* Swain Collection



27



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31



32

27. **Small brant by the Wildfowler Factory made of dense balsa.** Original paint shows light overall wear with two or three small dents to wood on back and a few tiny scuffs to wood on sides. Original keel and deep "Point Pleasant" stamp. 200-400

Provenance: Swain Collection

28. **Green-winged teal drake by the Wildfowler Factory.** Pine or cedar construction. Slightly darkened original paint with practically no wear. Excellent structural condition with original keel. 300-500

Provenance: Swain Collection

29. **Balsa body mallard drake by the Wildfowler Factory.** Original paint with moderate wear. Scuffs and rubs to wood on tail edges and lower left edge. Wear to head from handling. Significant separation along two vertical body seams and evidence of where head has been glued to body. Original keel and no stamp. Numerous "SGH" stamps in bottom.

Provenance: Swain Collection

200-300

30. **Sperry Factory (New Haven, Conn.) black duck.** The Sperry Company's A. E. Crowell model. Wear with chips to head area and sides. Tail chip. Unusual in that it appears to be made of balsa rather than their more typical cedar.

150-250

31. **Red-breasted merganser drake with head turned slightly to the right by Wildfowler Factory, New Jersey Model.** Original paint with very light shelf wear. Numerous tiny spots or "bubbles" that may be sap bleed through. Written on bottom: "Drake merganser - W Teim Rt 35 - Neptune City, N.J. - 1974." 200-400

32. **Freshwater coot decoy by the "Rasp master", Ken Anger of Brockville, Ontario.** The head is turned sharply right with body and head rasping very visible. Moderate wear to body with rubs to grey and a light spattering of white dots. Some wear to head and neck with areas worn or flaked to wood. Excellent structural condition. 400-800



33. **Partially hollow bluebill drake with raised and separated wings as well as some stamped back feathering.** Head turned slightly to the left. Heavy rasping apparent as are the raised grain lines. Paint appears to be all original with very minor in use wear. Very light spattering of white paint on right side. Two 3" holes drilled deeply into the bottom. Collector tag indicates that the bird was carved by Bill Simpson of Peterborough, Ontario ca 1939. Tag also indicates that Simpson was a close friend of Bud Tully. 200-400

34. **Canvasback hen by Charles Reeves from the "Long Point Company" gunning club.** Old gunning repaint with moderate wear. Some small tight checks and shot marks. Bottom has the large "O" brand. Possibly Oliver Payne ca 1920. 400-600

35. **Hollow redhead drake by Addie Nichol.** OP with some gunning wear. Head slightly loose. Otherwise in excellent physical condition. 600-900

36. **Early St. Clair flats bluebill.** Old gunning paint with heavy wear and some rubs to wood. Lightly hollowed from below with bottom board missing. Nail driven through top of head to allow head to swivel. Old repair marks visible on base of neck. 200-400

37. **Early bluebill drake by Ken Anger.** Classic rasping and carved detail on the body. Old repair and touchup to bill. Head slightly loose. Mostly original paint with heavy wear. Roughness to edge of tail as well as numerous rubs and shot scars. Keel a probable replacement. 200-400

38. **Flying bufflehead drake.** Unknown maker or area but possibly New York. Old darkened paint appears to be original under a thin finish feeder. Seems to have been exposed to a degree of dirt or smoke possibly from hanging in a Michigan gunning lodge. Few small chips and dings with a small, old, tight check in back. 400-600

Provenance: Purvis collection



38A. Atlantic Coast Model canvasback drake by the Mason Factory. Original paint with possibly minor touch up to the red on the head and to a small ding on back. Light to moderate overall wear with some light swirling still visible. Small areas of rubs and/or flaking to wood. Head slightly loose and thin crack in bottom. 1200-1600

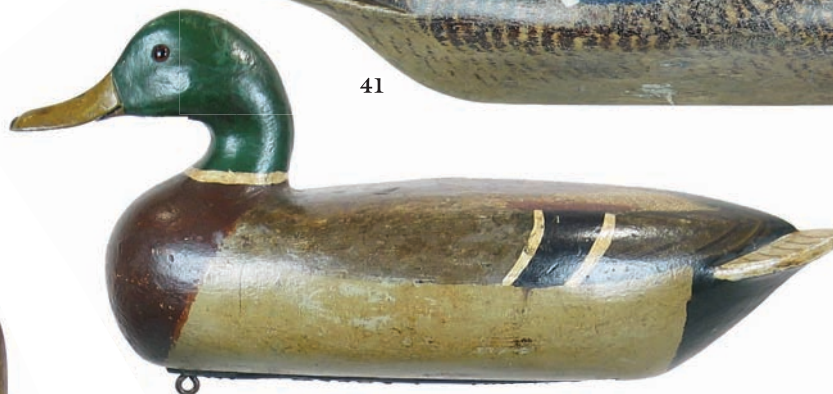
38B. Atlantic Coast Model canvasback hen by the Mason Factory. Head turned lightly to the right. Mostly repaint with some original. There is a uniform scattering of small rubs to primer. Thin tight check in bottom. 400-600

38C. High head canvasback drake from the Seneca Lake region of New York by Seymour Smith. Worn and aged gunning paint on body with some original and repaint probably by Smith. The head may be all original. Flaking to wood on both sides with some shallow dents and dings. Chip missing from right rear tail and bill tip. Thin crack in center of back and grain check on right side. 400-800

38D. Black duck from the Alexandria Bay, NY. In near mint original paint with very light wear and rubs. A few very tiny flecks of white paint on back. Excellent structural condition. Made in the style of the "Holland St. Whittlers". 500-1000

38E. Black duck by Thomas Chambers. Hollow carved with tucked head. Original paint with light to moderate overall wear and a uniform scattering of small rubs to wood or primer. Small area of paint loss around left eye. Numerous small, shallow dents on breast and both forward halves of the bird where the decoy may have been used as a hammer at one time. Sunken knot or dent behind right eye. Old hairline crack on top of head. Branded twice on bottom: "J.T. McMillan". 1200-1800

38F. Black duck from upstate New York. All original paint with light gunning wear and a few small rubs to wood on head, bill and tail tip. Hit by shot on left side. Tight check on left rear side. 200-400



42 (PR)

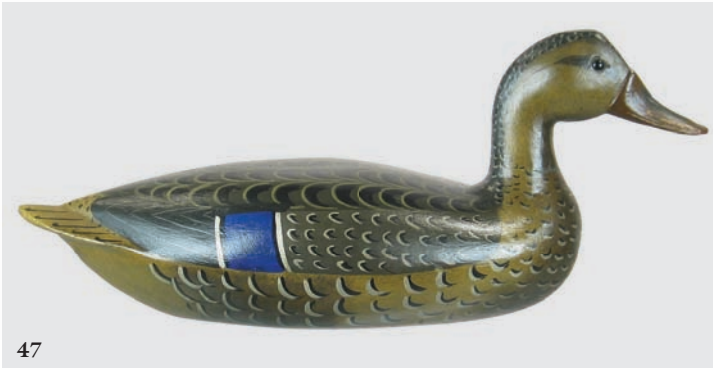
39. **Hollow redhead drake in the manner of George Warin ca 1890 from the St Clair Flats.** Old OP is well worn. Areas of white may have been an in use strengthening many years ago. Chip to left side of bill tip and plugged knot repair in back. Lightly hit by shot. 500-800

40. **Hollow carved tack eye St. Clair flats mallard drake.** Nicely detailed paint may be original. Minor wear. Surface may have been waxed. 300-500

40A. **Mallard drake decoy made by M. L. Brown and painted by Charles Walker, Princeton, IL in the 1940's.** Branded "MLB" and "Share 28 at the Princeton Club" on the bottom. Slightly turned head, moderate wear with a few rubs to wood. Structurally sound. 700-1000

41. **Illinois river mallard hen by Hiram "Hy" Hotz (1886-1879).** In good original paint with a little wear, line marks, and dings from use. An area at the base of the neck has a repair with t/u. Weight removed and screw holes filled. Finish protected with a clear finish as is typical of Illinois River decoys. See page 151 in "Top of the Line Hunting Collectibles" by Tonelli for examples and information about Hotz. 2000-3000

42. **Pair of hollow mallards by Charles Perdew (1874-1963).** Hen is in good original condition with a very tiny separation along the body seam and some areas worn to primer. Edge of tail worn and small rubs to top of head. Drake has light to moderate in use wear to original paint as well as a few small dings and rubs to the surface. Two small dents or scratches on back. Typical coat of sealer has yellowed. *Provenance:* Swain Collection, Pitt Collection 3500-5500



43. **Mallard drake by Perry Wilcoxen (1862-1954).** Fine original paint with a light coat of finish feeder. Light gunning wear. Small chip out of left edge of tail. 400-600
Provenance: Swain Collection, Pitt collection

44. **Bluebill drake, from Berlin, Wisconsin, ca 1940's.** Crazy old paint is covered with a coat of sealer. 100-200
Provenance: Swain Collection, Pitt collection

45. **Delicate high-head blue-winged teal hen decoy.** Bold OP with deeply dish-down wing separation. Old tight check in upper neck. Interesting weight/keel on the bottom. In excellent original paint with some in use wear. 800-1200

46. **Hollow pintail hen decoy by Charles Shoenheider Sr. (1854-1944), Peoria, IL.** Appears to be old dry original paint with wear. Slight separation at body and neck seam. Small tight check in back. Struck by two or three small shot. 500-900

47. **Hollow mallard hen by Mike Vallero of Spring Valley, IL.** Expertly restored paint in the original manner with a few minor small flakes and dings. Some light puppy chews to the base of the bill have been touched up. Overall very good structural condition. 400-800

48. **Hollow carved mallard hen from the Illinois river.** Paint may be the original and is protected by a heavy coat of varnish or sealer. Very light wear to the paint with some flaking to the sealer. Thin crack through bill otherwise excellent structural condition. 300-500



49. **Hollow carved black duck.** Collector info indicates that the bird was carved by John Biccum of Prescott, Ontario ca 1940's. See page 171 of "Decoys of the Thousand Islands" by Stewart and Lunman for additional information on this carver. Original, scratch feather paint with light gunning wear. Painted "TL" on bottom. 400-600

50. **Very folky black duck in original paint with light gunning wear and small rubs.** Head has been re-glued to body with some minor paint loss in this area. Small, thin, tight crack in bill. Some roughness to edge of bill. 200-400

51. **Bluebill hen ca early 1900's by Benjamin Schmidt of Centerline, Michigan.** In good original paint with in use gunning wear. Retains glass eyes and weighted keel. 400-600

52. **Redhead drake by Ben Schmidt.** Overall light to moderate wear to mostly original paint. Breast and front of head have dried and there are numerous tiny checks in these areas. Two tiny cracks in tail. 700-900

53. **Wonderful example of a "bob tail" canvasback drake.** Collector information on bottom indicates that the carver was "D Scrivens from Lake Erie, ca 1930". Exceptionally well carved head. Body exhibits a nice hard chine line on forward half. Crazed original paint with light gunning wear. A few small thumb prints on tail area. Balance weight inlet into keel. Exceptional form for this style of decoy. 400-600

54. **Canvasback drake by Ben Schmidt ca mid to early 1900's.** Nicely carved head with detailed wing tips and primaries. Stamped feather detail on shoulders. All original paint with very light wear. Rigged but possibly never hunted. Written on bottom: "Ben Schmidt - Detroit, Mich". 500-750



55. **Redhead drake** ca 1950 by Frank Schmidt, Centerline, Michigan. Typical wing tip detail. Excellent original paint with practically no wear. Excellent structural condition. Very nice example of this makers efforts. 200-300

56. **Sleeping canvasback drake** by Ben Schmidt. Head arched gracefully back over left wing. Carved and delineated wing tips and primaries. Fine original paint with minimal shelf wear. A thin tight check on left side. Collectors notation on bottom indicates that it is "one of a kind". Never rigged. *Provenance:* Purvis collection 500-750

57. **Canvasback drake** by Frank Schmidt. Head turned slightly to the right with typical wing tip carving. Minor paint loss at front base of neck and an old knot or plug visible on left cheek. Overall excellent original paint and condition. 200-300

58. **Redhead drake** by Lacombe (info on old collectors tag on bottom). Old crazed paint appears to be the original over a coat of light primer. Comb painting detail on back. Old repair to underside of bill. 75-125

59. **Bluebill pair from Canada.** In good original paint. Rig mates, yet made with two different size eyes. Light to moderate wear. One has tight neck crack with shot hits. Other bird has "puppy chew" marks to head. 750-950



59A



60



61



62

59A. Special order bluebill drake by J.R. Wells ca 1890. Hollow with a thin bottom board. Head turned very slightly to the right. Original paint with light wear. Some small rubs to wood on tail and top of head as well as some smudges on rear of head. Strong combed vermiculation on back. 2000-3000

60. Extremely rare redhead drake, one of only two known, by Gus Moak of Tustin, WI. Head turned to the right. Hollow carved with classic beveled bottom board. Fine original paint with very light gunning wear. Minor crazing to some paint on lower quarter of bird. Few very minor rubs to tail edge. Old, tight crack in neck and an approximately 1/2" shallow gouge on left center back. Thin separation at bottom board seam. Lightly hit by shot with one small glancing

shotmark on left head and one imbedded shot on right cheek. Deep "SK" carved into bottom. Overall an exceptionally appealing example and a highly desirable Wisconsin decoy. 6,000-9,000

61. Wisconsin bluebill drake by Gus Nelow in XOC. Original check on lower left side has been filled possibly during the making of the decoy. 500-700
Provenance: Swain Collection

62. Canvasback drake by "Swede" Swedesky, Neenah, WI. Original paint with light wear and some small rubs and chips to bare wood, especially on breast. Plumage pattern cut into body to facilitate painting. 800-1200



63(PR)



63(PR)



64



66



65(PR)

63. **Pair of Wisconsin ringbills or bluebills.** Collector information indicates that the maker is Joseph Kempinger ca 1950-54 from Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Drake is in original paint with moderate to heavy wear to wood or primer, especially on the sides. Tight hairline crack on back and a small crack in tail. Knot visible on right side. Hen is in original paint which shows moderate wear to wood or primer in spots. Neck seam visible and a few small gouges on back and breast. Tight hairline check on back. Knot visible on left rear side. Both have minor rubs to bill and tail edges.

600-1000

Provenance: Swain Collection

64. **High head canvasback hen.** Paint is a combination of mostly original and some in use touch up. Head is slightly loose on elevated seat. One or two light shot marks with small tight checks in breast. Conjoined "TF" brand on bottom. Collector info indicates that the decoy was "actually found on the shores of Seneca Lake".

200-400

65. **Pair of canvasback decoys by James Walton, Milwaukee, WI. ca. 1940's.** Drake is the low head or tucked head style. Both exhibit carved wingtips and wing primaries. Thickly applied paint is all original and shows no wear. Area of fly specks to rear of drake. Both retain original pad weights. Collector info on bottom indicates that Mr. Walton was the "Headmaster of the Sherwood Opportunity School".

1200-1800

Provenance: Drake X Markham rig, Hen X Willis Pennington

66. **Redhead drake by the C. V. Wells Co. of Milwaukee, WI.** Head turned to the right. Typical canvas covered construction with detailed wing tips. Fine, thickly applied original paint with very light gunning wear. Light rubs to top of head and very tiny break in canvas on right edge of tail. Small chip on left front of bill. Retains strong "Life Like Decoys" stamp on bottom. Remarkable state of preservation for this type of decoy.

300-450



67. **Outstanding pair of bluebills by Edgar Shaw (1886–1955) of Oshkosh, WI.** All original paint with very minimal gunning wear. A few tiny dings or rubs to the paint on both heads. Classic Shaw tool marks clearly visible on both birds. Excellent structural condition. Both retain their original early brass swivels and rigging. A desirable pair of decoys.

500-1000

68. **Broadbill hen decoy ca 1930 from upstate NY by James Jourden, Cape Vincent, ca 1920's-30's (collector information supplied on bottom).** Mostly original paint with possible in use touch up to the white on the sides. A number of small dings and rubs to the primer or wood with moderate wear overall. Few shot hits on right side as well as a tight grain check.

200-400

69. **Folky bluebill decoy with a wide beaver tail from the Traverse Lake area (collector information supplied on bottom).** Original paint with moderate gunning wear and numerous small rubs or dings to primer or wood. Lightly hit by shot. Partial crack in bottom extends slightly onto underside of breast.

200-400

70. **Very rare Gus Nelow green-winged teal hen.** Original paint with light overall wear. Some rubs to wood on breast and tail edges as well as bottom edges. Dowel protrudes slightly on top of head. Lightly hit by shot. Balance weight removed.

800-1200

71. **Mallard decoy from the Wisconsin area.** Head turned slightly to right. Original paint with very light wear and fairly heavy, yet tight, crazing to breast area. Light rubs to tail and bill edges. Small, tight grain check on top of tail.

200-400

Provenance: X Hansen collection



71A



71B(PR)



71B(PR)



71C

71A. Early blue-winged teal hen by Robert Elliston ca 1890. All original paint with deep swirls and light gunning wear. There are a few small shallow blemishes on left side. Original weight. An outstanding highly desirable decoy by this noted carver.

20,000-25,000

71B. Exceedingly rare pair of high head canvasbacks by Bert Graves. Early oversized square body style. Hen's head turned slightly to the right. Strong original paint with a few small scuffs to the surface. Small area of rubs under the tail of the drake. Original weight on hen. An outstanding pair of decoys by this important carver.

12,000-14,000

71C. Outstanding, early style, mallard drake by Robert Elliston ca 1890. Light crazing to wonderful original paint. An old coat of sealer was removed from the bottom of the bird and there are a few shot hits on the lower left side.

10,000-12,000



71D. Mallard drake by Charles Perdew. Head turned slightly to the right. Mostly original paint by Edna Perdew with some overpaint on the sides and bottom. Small rubs to wood on bill and tail edges as well as a rub to wood over right wing splash. Few faint old line wrap marks on neck. Excellent structural condition. Finish protected with a coat of sealer which may be original. 3500-4500

71E. Pintail drake ca 1940 by George "Skippy" Barto. Head turned slightly to the right. Nice combing to original paint which shows light to moderate overall wear. Small crack on lower right neck and a slight separation along body seam. Few small rubs to wood under a protective coat of sealer. "RGS" stamped on weight. 1500-1800

71F. Mallard drake by Charles Walker. Early round bottom style with the "DAN" rig mark on bottom. Mostly original paint with some working repaint on the black in the tail area and on the neck ring and bottom. Few small rubs and dings under a coat of sealer. Excellent structural condition with the original Walker weight. 3500-4000

71G. Mallard drake silhouette by Charles Walker. These unique decoys are highly prized and the rarest of all Elliston decoys. Body is hinged to floating bottom board with anchor rope notches. Excellent original paint with light overall wear. Tight crack in neck and a few minor rubs. Couple of small knots are beginning to bleed through. 3500-4500

71H. Very rare pair of mallards by Roy A. Patterson, East Peoria, Ill., 1946 and so carved on bottom by the maker. These are only the second pair by this maker ever to come to auction. Both birds have turned heads. Crazed original paint with elaborate feather detail and very light gunning wear. Old repair to chip in left base of hen's neck. Two small pieces of cork have been hot glued to base of hen to allow it to sit flat on a shelf and these can easily be removed. 6000-8000



72



73



75



74(PR)



76

72. **Fantastic Milwaukee school mallard hen with head turned almost 90 degrees to the right.** Carved wings, tail and shoulders with a shallow ice groove. Five piece laminated construction. Very nicely carved head and bill detail. All original paint with light gunning wear. A few small rubs on top of head. Weight set off center to counterbalance head position. 900-1200

73. **Redhead drake by Madison Mitchell.** Fine OP with light gunning wear and a 1" dot of yellow paint on bottom near keel, presumably a rig marking. Old tight check on right side of neck. Bottom has pencil signature "Madison Mitchell – Havre de Grace, Md." 300-500

Provenance: Althans Collection

74. **Pair of upper Chesapeake blue winged teal.** Excellent original paint under a thin coat of sealer. Sealer is slightly thicker on hen and drops and runs are visible on lower right side and under tail. Outline of old label on lower left side of hen as well as a light spattering of tiny white dots. Both are in fine structural condition. Never rigged. 400-600

75. **Redhead hen by Madison Mitchell.** Very good, all original condition. Signed on bottom in electric pencil. 200-400

76. **Canvasback drake by Madison Mitchell ca. 1940's in old gunning paint, much of it original.** Finish shows moderate wear. Chip missing from bill tip. Old sliver of wood missing from bottom, tight check in neck. 200-400



77



78



79



80



81



82

77. **Redhead drake by Charlie Joiner.** Excellent original paint with no appreciable wear. Rigged but apparently never used. One small, faint hairline on breast. Remnants of a signature (now practically illegible) on bottom. 400-600

78. **Early bluebill drake by Madison Mitchell.** Very good original paint with a few minor rubs and dings. One small white rub on breast and a small wooden plug. Thin check in neck. Description on bottom reads: "This duck belongs to Jeanette to (Illegible)". Also has the signature in pencil: "Madison Mitchell". 200-300

79. **Early style, flat bottom redhead drake by Madison Mitchell.** Fine original paint with no appreciable wear. Tight crack in bottom does not detract. Never rigged. 300-500

80. **Black duck by Madison Mitchell of Havre de Grace, Md.** In fine original paint with scratch feather detail and very light wear overall. Tiny rub to top of head and tail as well as an almost invisible small dent on top of tail. 300-500

81. **Madison Mitchell preening redhead hen.** Bird is signed and dated (1957 or 58). All OP which is in very good condition. There is a tight irregular check which extends down the right side almost entirely around the tail. 600-900

82. **Cork bodied seagull by unknown maker.** Wooden head and neck, bottom board, and applied wooden wingtips. Very good original paint and condition. The numbers "80" are on the bottom. 200-400



83



84



85



86



87(2)



88



89



90



91(4)

83. Unusually flat fish decoy may be a catfish. 8 ½" L X 5 ½" W including fins. Interesting tack eyes. Original paint with some light loss on metal fins. Three inlet weights. 200-400

84. Brightly colored fish decoy by Leroy Howell, ca 1940's (collector info supplied). Glass eye model. Approximately 11" long. Original paint with no significant wear. Not weighted. 500-1000

85. Half mount carving of a brook trout by Paul McNeal. Made as a wall mount. Approximately 14" inches long. Signature on back. Excellent original paint and condition. 250-450

86. Ear of paper mache corn for use as a decoy. Approximately 9 ½" long overall with a ¼" X ½" hole or dent on one side. Minor staining. 25-35

87. Lot of two shot tins. A black one lb. powder can, "Hazard Kentucky Rifle Gunpowder", "FF G" mnfg by E. I. Dupont De Nemours Co. 5 ¾" h X 4 1/4" w X 1 ¾" deep. Pitting on front with a large hole and heavy pitting on rear. Cap missing. Red, one lb. can of "Dupont superfine FFg Gunpowder" with older style cap. Tiny dent on bottom edge word "rifle" written on label in pencil. Overall excellent condition. 100-200

88. Red, pear shaped, powder can. "Curtis's, Harvey's Gunpowder, Hounslow and London HF" on black paper label. Both Labels have portions of the top section missing. Can has small dents with some light rust and flakes to metal. Wooden stopper. 100-200

89. Miniature model of "The Little Old Decoy Carver" made in 1986 by Wendall Sheerman. Depicts a carver at a horse with all of the tools of the trade along with both partially completed decoys and finished examples. Measures approximately 11 ¾" wide by 7" deep by 5 ¼" high. 200-400

90. Rubber Owl decoy ca. 1940 by an unknown maker in excellent original condition with a few very small rubs. Holes in tail and ears for mounting. See article "Crow Hunting with Decoys and Calls", Decoy Magazine, Jan/Feb 1996. 200-400

91. Lot of (4) miniature birds. A quail by K. Dunn, bill and crest damaged, signed "K. Dunn". A pheasant by Hall and signed "Hall". A black duck all original, and a mallard with roughage to tail from Orr's Island, Maine. 100-200



92



92A



93



94(PR)



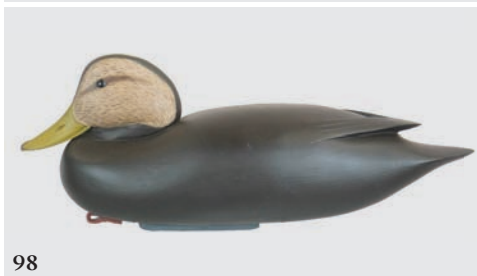
95



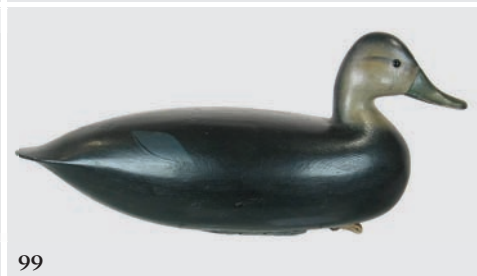
96



97



98



99

92. Robin by "J. Gillis" and so signed on bottom. Applied drop wing form, reminiscent of the style of Maine's Gus Wilson. Original paint with light overall shelf wear and a scattering of tiny rubs. Excellent structural condition. 75-125

92A. Well executed carving of a life size purple finch by Randy and Elaine Fisher. Head turned to left. Carved wings with delicately raised wing tips. Major feather groups delineated. 250-450

93. Hollow black duck by Hurley Conklin. Deep shoulder groove and delineated wing tips. Good original paint with light wear and a few small grain lines showing to wood on left tail edge. Possible small area of touchup on breast and under head. Old check in neck has been repaired. Deep "H. Conklin" hot brand on bottom. 300-500

94. Pair of pintails by the Scott Cork Decoy Co., Oakland and Stockton, Ca. (1927 - 1954). Original paint with light overall gunning wear. Some rubs t canvas on breast, tail tip and along lower edges - more significant on hen. One or two tiny, finish nail size, breaks in the canvas on both birds. Drake retains the "Scott Cork Decoys" stamp on bottom. 200-300

95. Blue winged teal drake swimmer by Robert "Mad Dog" Billings, Montana. In XOC. Carved wings and deep shoulder groove. Original paint with a uniform light scattering of tiny rubs to primer or wood. Conjoined "RB" brand on bottom. 300-500

96. Green-winged teal hen from Tulsa, OK. Ca 1930-1940. Painted information on bottom of decoy indicates that it was made by "H. M. Russell - 1939 - Tulsa, Okla.". Original paint with some loss on breast and left side with light rubs and tiny dings elsewhere. Some puppy chew to tip of bill. Keel removed. 400-500

97. Delaware River pintail decoy in unused condition. Two piece body and possibly hollow carved. Raised and separated wing tips. Original paint with moderate shelf wear and some minor darkening from time. A few tiny dings to wood. Never rigged. 300-500

98. Resting Delaware River style black duck by Jim Birch. Classic raised wings. Excellent original paint with no shelf wear. Excellent structural condition. Bottom has "Jim Birch" signature. 200-400

99. Hollow black duck by George Strunk. Fine original paint with light rubs and dings which may have been intentional by the maker or the result of light to moderate shelf wear. Excellent structural condition. Pad weight stamped "GS" and bottom of bird has "G. Strunk" signature. 600-800



100. **Hollow pair of oldsquaw by Jim Holloway.** Carved in the New Jersey style. Fine original paint with no noticeable shelf wear. Tail on drake had a clean crack which has been professionally repaired. 300-400

101. **Hollow redhead hen in a content pose by John Holloway.** All original paint with some crazing on breast. Tiny nail plug visible on rear of head. Excellent structural condition. Retains the "Honorable Mention" ribbon from the "Old Time Barnegat Bay Decoy and Gunning Show". 200-400

102. **Wonderful example of a working cork and pine black duck by Charles E. "Shang" Wheeler, Stratford, CT, ca 1936.** Body is made of darkened dense cork with an inlet wooden tail and a turned wooden head with glass eyes. In use wear to the cork with missing pebbles on the breast and back. Wear on the top of the head and a sliver of wood missing under the bill. Great scratch painted head detail. Considered one of the finest working decoys from this area. Sold with a letter of authentication dated December 13, 1972 and signed by Tom Marshall, a contemporary of Wheeler. Letter reads:

"To Whom It May Concern". This is to certify that this is one of 18 black duck decoys made for Tom C. Marshall by Charles E. Wheeler (Shang), Stratford decoy maker in 1936." 1500-2500

103. **Preening or sleeping mallard hen by New England's Premier craftsman Keith Mueller.** Fine original paint with a few small rubs and very minimal shelf wear. Excellent structural condition. Bottom has Mueller hot brand. 500-1000

104. **Unusual brant decoy.** Decoy was acquired from Bobby Richardson who attributed it "probably to the New York -Staten Island area". Decoy also has strong similarities to the Stratford, Connecticut area as well. Paint appears to be a second coat with possibly some original. Tight crack in tail edge. Dowel or screw plug visible on top of head. Illegible name painted on bottom. Retains Mackey stamp. 300-500
Provenance: X Richardson collection, X Mackey collection

105. **Bluebill hen ca 1900 with glass eyes from the Stratford School of carving.** Hollow with pegs in old paint. Some flaking and an old bill check. 300-500



106



107(PR)



108(2)



109(PR)



110(PR)



111(PR)



112(PR)



113(PR)

106. **Brant decoy by talented decoy maker Rob Capriola of Chico, CA.** Originally from Connecticut, he moved to California in the early 80's and mentored under Bill Pinches, a full time carver and hunting guide. In XOC in all respects. 400-500

107. **Pair of bluebills by Rob Capriola in XOC in all respects.** 400-600

108. **Lot of two wonderful folk carved undersized mallard drake decoys ca early 1900's.** Two-piece vertically joined heads and four piece horizontally joined bodies. Small seam separations. Original paint with overall moderate to heavy in use wear. One head has large areas of wear to wood and roughness to bill. Unique pair of decoys. Outstanding primitives. 500-1000

109. **Pair of mid-west mallard decoys ca early 1900's.** Another folk pair of small tucked head decoys with carved cheeks and bills nodding towards breast. Hens head turned slightly to left. Original paint with light overall gunning wear and a few small scuffs and dings. Some crazing on both heads, especially on drake. Thin, tight checks under paint. 500-1000

110. **Pair of pintails by the late Canadian decoy maker Torry Ward.** Carved in the style of the Ward Bros. Both heads turned. Good original paint with lightly antiqued finish. Small sealant drip on the side of the neck of the drake. 500-750

111. **Pair of folk eye oldsquaws. Possibly from Maine and made mid to early 1900's but maker unknown.** Bodies are three piece horizontal laminated construction. Moderate shelf wear to what appears to be original paint. Never rigged. 800-1200

112. **Pair of high head canvasback decoys by Wisconsin's Frank Strey.** Both have deep, detailed carving to the base of the bill and distinctively carved and scalloped wing tips. Lower half of bill on hen is a replacement and there is an old tight crack in the neck. Original paint shows moderate gunning wear with some rubs to wood. A few tight checks run the length of the back and a knot is visible on the left wing area. Drake has head turned to the left and has similar checks running the length of the back and sides. There is a gouge to the left wing area. Paint appears mostly original with the white having received a wash in some areas. 500-1000
Provenance: Swain Collection

113. **Pair of working, hollow blue-winged teal by Davison Hawthorn.** Both heads turned slightly to the right. Beautifully carved wings, wing tips and primaries. Fine original paint with very light wear. **Tiny chip on very tip of tail on drake has been professionally restored.** Signed on bottom: "Dave Hawthorn – From my Rig – 1974". 500-750



114(PR)



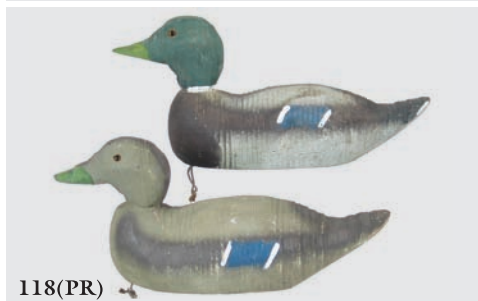
115(PR)



116(PR)



117(PR)



118(PR)



119(PR)



120

114. **Rig mate pair of green-winged teal by Nelson Riley, Oceanville, N.J. ca 1940's (collectors info written on bottom).** Bold OP shows light gunning wear. 400-600

115. **Pair of red-breasted mergansers.** Period and maker unknown. Very folky. 400-600

116. **Pair of Mason premier grade mallards.** Both are in original paint with varying degrees of wear. Hen has strong original swirling visible in paint with generally light wear. Some flyspeck on back and mildew on breast. Filler missing on left neck and left eye missing. Extremely slight separation at body seam with a tiny hairline check on left side. Small knots visible on right side. Drake has some swirling visible in original paint that exhibits moderate wear with rubs to wood, especially on left side. Hit by shot on left as well as some dry rot on lower left edge. Tight check in back and typical small chip in top of tail. Both have small "Mello" collection brand. In as found condition from the Merriman rig which was used on the Palmer River in Swansea, MA. 2500-4500

117. **Pair of Pratt Factory mallards in XOC with glass eyes.** Both may have neck filler replaced. Drake has a few surface dents and a check in the bottom with filler. Hen has a bit of roughage on the left edge of the bill. Filler cracked on the neck and there is a filled check on the bottom. 800-1400

118. **Pair of hollow mallards by the Animal Trap D-4, Vac Sta model mallards.** Original paint with light to moderate gunning wear – slightly more on the hen than the drake. Rubs to high points on lathe turned textured finish. Excellent structurally. 300-500

119. **Pair of lathe turned factory bluebills with applied bottom boards.** Hollowed from breast with plug. Mostly original paint with possible touch up to the white on the drake. Moderate to heavy wear which is more noticeable on the drake. Numerous rubs to wood. Most glass eyes missing. 200-300

120. **Standard size canvasback drake ca 1920 by the Evans Decoy factory of Ladysmith, Wisconsin.** Original paint with moderate wear. Rubs to wood on top of head and right side with smaller rubs and dings to the finish scattered uniformly about the bird. Knot visible on right wing tip area. Appears that a solvent may have dripped on the left side of the head but this may be original. Factory replaced wood visible on left side. Underside of bill shows evidence of restoration in this area. Strong "Evans Decoy" stamp on bottom. 400-600



121. **Mammoth size canvasback drake ca 1920 by the Evans Decoy factory.** Original paint with moderate to heavy wear. Lower sides of white may have received a wash. Fairly uniform light rubs to primer and/or wood. Areas of roughness, similar to ice damage are on both lower sides. Small sliver missing from left base of neck and a small sliver has been applied to the right side. Good "Evans Decoy" stamp. 300-450

122. **Extremely Rare Dodge Factory Barrows goldeneye drake ca late 1800's.** Weathered original paint with the original pattern remaining vivid. One eye missing and two small very tight checks in back. Small dent in back between wings may or may not have been done at the factory. Slight roughness to edge of bill and discoloration on base of neck. Lightly hit by shot. In a remarkable state of preservation considering its age and obvious repeated exposure to the salt elements. 1000-2000

123. **Early Mason or Peterson mallard drake.** Head paint may be strengthened. Neck filler replaced. Body in good original paint with light to moderate wear. Struck by shot. Has a Raymond, Chicago, IL. lead strip balance weight on the bottom. 200-400

123A. **Extremely rare and possibly unique one-of-a-kind oversize early hooded merganser hen ca 1880 by the Dodge Factory.** Measures approximately 16 inches from bill tip to tip of tail. Early carved eyes with fabulous crest carving. In a combination of well worn original paint on body with some gunning repaint much of which has worn to expose original. Most of lower half of decoy worn to wood. Some original neck filler remains. Thin tight check on left back. Hit by shot with some skipping shot marks on head. 1500-2500

124. **Dodge Factory hooded merganser drake.** Surface taken down to reveal remnants of original. Old in use crude bill repair, left eye missing, old replaced neck filler and hit by shot. Branded "JHS" and "WP" (for x collection "Bud" Prescott). 500-1000

125. **Pintail drake from the Midwest.** May be hollowed from breast with a 1 1/2" plug in that area. Lightly worn paint may be original under a coat of sealer. Some of the white has seen in use touch up. Brass/bronze line tie recessed into inlet weight. 500-1000

126. (2) **Mason hollow carved Mason Premier canvasbacks.** Drake has heavily worn original paint on the main portion of the body with numerous rubs to primer and/or wood. Bill has been over painted and black areas on body may have received some old, in use touchup. Crack in neck with head slightly loose. Tight hairline check in right side of head as well as factory check in back. Has a partial brand on bottom that appears to read "Rich - - - con". Hen is in original paint which is heavily worn with numerous rubs to primer and/or wood from use. Filler missing from neck. Large chip missing from underside tip of bill. Number of small dings and dents in body. Lightly hit by shot. Branded twice "G.M. Laughlin". 400-600



127



128



129



130



131



132



133



134



135



136

127. **Mallard duck, probably by either the Pratt or Tuveson Factory.** (St James, Minnesota) Original paint with light wear. Minor flaking at right base of neck and small rubs to bill tip. Decoy had been made into a lamp and the hole on back has been repaired. Probably never rigged. 150-250

128. **Mason standard grade glass eye bluebill hen with an MB brand.** Nicely combed gunning repaint with light wear and small dings. Thin cracks in left side of head and body. 75-125

129. **Mason Premier bluebill hen ca late 1900's by the current Mason Decoy Factory owned by a direct descendant of William Mason.** In unused superb condition. 250-450

130. **Whistler duck by the Pratt factory.** Fine original paint with a few small rubs to wood on top of head, tip of bill and usual high spots. Some "glue type" drips along edge of left wing and on breast. Never rigged. Not a common species for Pratt. 150-350

131. **Bluebill duck by the Gundelfinger factory.** Original paint with rubs to wood on top of head, edge of bill and usual high spots. Moderate overall wear. Very good structural condition. 150-250

132. **Mallard duck by Ken Harris.** All original paint has darkened slightly from age. Minor flyspeck on back and a few knots bleeding through on left side. Light shelf wear and never rigged. Minor rough spot to right edge of bill has been professionally repaired. 200-400

133. **Brant by the Wildfowler factory.** Original paint with light overall wear on majority of body and head. Some moderate wear with rubs to wood on white rear areas. Factory seam on back slightly visible. Original keel and no stamp. 200-400

134. **Round body Canada goose decoy.** Holes drilled in bottom so bird could also function as a field stick up. In a combination of gunning repaint and some original. Paint exhibits heavy wear and flaking. A number of grain checks in body and head. Crack in bill has been glued. Old chip in tail seems to be original to the carving. 200-300

135. **Sentry Canada goose made from four thick laminations of wood.** Hollowed from below with an interesting method of turning the bird into a stick up bird decoy. Original paint with light overall gunning wear. Possible small areas of in use touchup to some of the white. Minor separations along some of the vertical seams between laminations. Thin, tight crack in neck. 400-800

136. **Extremely sculptural Canada Goose.** Cork body with wooden head, inlet tail and keel. Original paint with light to moderate wear. Small rubs to wood on bill and tail tip as well as larger rubs on top of head. Old tight crack on underside tip of bill. Bottom of keel has carved "Van Valkenburg". 200-300



136A



137



138



139



140



141



142



143

136A. **Balsa Canada goose similar to decoys by the Herter Co.** Laminated from five pieces of wood. Possibly of Connecticut origin. All original paint with light wear and small rubs to wood on tail, bottom edge and bill tip. Small area of touchup just below neck seam. Old tight hairline crack in neck. 200-400

137. **Hollow carved Canada goose by J. G. Downs.** Carved with a prominent ice groove. Small chip from right tip of bill and an old repair to mid neck region. Attractive old gunning repaint with some original. 500-1000

138. **Swimming goose possibly from the Virginia/Carolina area ca early 1900's.** Two piece construction at base of neck to achieve the swimming posture. Small chip from tip of bill otherwise good structural condition. Dark areas are mostly original paint while most of white is a gunning over paint. 300-450

139. **Hollow Delaware river bluebill drake ca 1890 with fluted tail by John or Dan English.** In gunning repaint with some small rubs to wood on back. Old break in bill has in use re-glue and is off line. Small sliver missing from lower right edge of bill. Wax or sealer on surface. 2000-3000

140. **Hollow New Jersey bluebill drake.** In attractive old gunning repaint with some small rubs to wood on back. Old breaks in neck have been glued. Two filed holes on left body seam and left eye cracked. Tight crack on right side. Finish protected with a coat of sealer. 300-500

141. **Hollow New Jersey bluebill drake.** Possibly by Henry Grant. In gunning repaint with several small rubs to wood. Slight separation on left body seam and old minor puppy chew to bill tip. Hairline cracks in neck. Bottom has "C.G." brand. Finish protected with a coat of sealer. 500-750

142. **Hollow, New Jersey style bluebill drake.** In gunning repaint with light to moderate wear and crazing. Small ding on right bill edge with some roughness beneath. Carved "X" under bill. Finish protected with a coat of sealer. 500-750

143. **Hollow, New Jersey style bluebill drake ca early 1900's.** In gunning repaint with moderate to heavy wear. Some slivers of wood missing and some rubs to wood. Lightly hit by shot. Finish protected with a coat of sealer. 500-750



144. **Attractive red breasted merganser drake by H. V. Shourds Jr. in the family tradition.** Original paint with minor rubs to bill and tail tip. Overall very good to excellent condition. Bottom has "H.V. Shourds" on it. 500-750

145. **Well carved hollow New Jersey black duck ca 1900.** Found recently in a Cape Cod home. Attributed to the Dorset or Birdsall family from Lovelandtown, NJ. Deeply carved eye grooves. See the bottom two plates on page 29 in "New Jersey Decoys" by Henry Fleckenstein Jr. for similarly carved decoys. Slight separation at seam between body halves. Fine original paint with a lightly textured surface and very light wear. Small rub on lower right edge. 300-500

146. **Hollow bluebill hen by H. V. Shourds with painted eyes and an old bill repair.** Check in the tail. Old working paint ca 1880 according to an old collectors tag. 200-400

147. **Early Hurley Conklin New Jersey hollow brant.** Combination of original paint with light to moderate shelf wear and some repaint to black on front of bird. Scattering of small rubs. Repair to break in neck. Crack in left bill and sliver of wood missing from underside. 300-500

148. **Swimming New Jersey bufflehead drake by Rick Brown.** Hollow carved. Very good original paint that appears to be intentionally distressed to approximate the appearance of use. Excellent structural condition. Signed lightly on base. 300-500

149. **Bufflehead drake by John Holloway in the Delaware river style.** Hollow carved. Content head position. Original paint with minor shelf wear. Conjoined "JRH" on bottom. 300-500

150. **Hollow carved goldeneye snugglehead by John Holloway.** Branded. Original paint with some light crazing, a few dings and light rubs. A little sealer or sap bleed through on front and rear of bird. Conjoined "JRH" on bottom. 300-500

151. **Unknown low head black duck ca late 1800's.** Old collector tag on bottom indicates that the bird was found in Maine. Paint appears to be a combination of some original and some in use repaint. Body has a scattering of small rubs to wood and the head shows heavier wear. Old inlet weight. Two piece body. Possibly a Delaware River decoy influenced by the low profile decoys carved by John Blair. 300-450

152. **Bluebill drake from Crisfield, Maryland.** Good original paint with combed vermiculation on back. Light overall wear with a few small rubs to wood, especially on head. White stain or drip on left cheek. Thin end grain check runs across back and there is an area of dry rot or grain separation on lower and middle right side. 400-600



153



154

153. Exceptional “split tail” plover ca 1910-1912 by Anthony Elmer Crowell. This is a very desirable early period decoy. This style was carved during the period when he was making the so called “dust jacket” black bellied plovers. Original paint is in fine condition with areas of fine crazing. One very small rub to very tip of tail. Faint discoloration where some substance has dripped on the back of the neck many years ago. Bill is original and larger at the tip as it should be. This a classic shorebird decoy for the advanced collector.

20,000-30,000

154. Early yellowlegs ca 1915 by George Boyd of Seabrook, New Hampshire. All original paint with a warm darkened area on the breast and some paint loss on the bottom in the area of the stick hole. Small rub on right side. Light wear overall and very attractive. Excellent structural condition with original bill.

8,000-12,000

Provenance: Powell collection



154A



155

154A. Early black-bellied plover decoy "runner" in emerging spring plumage. Ca early 1900's by George Boyd of Seabrook, NH. Typical tack eyes. There is a minor sliver off the underside of the bill. Very little is missing as you can see in the photo. This will be restored professionally prior to the auction.

10,000-14,000

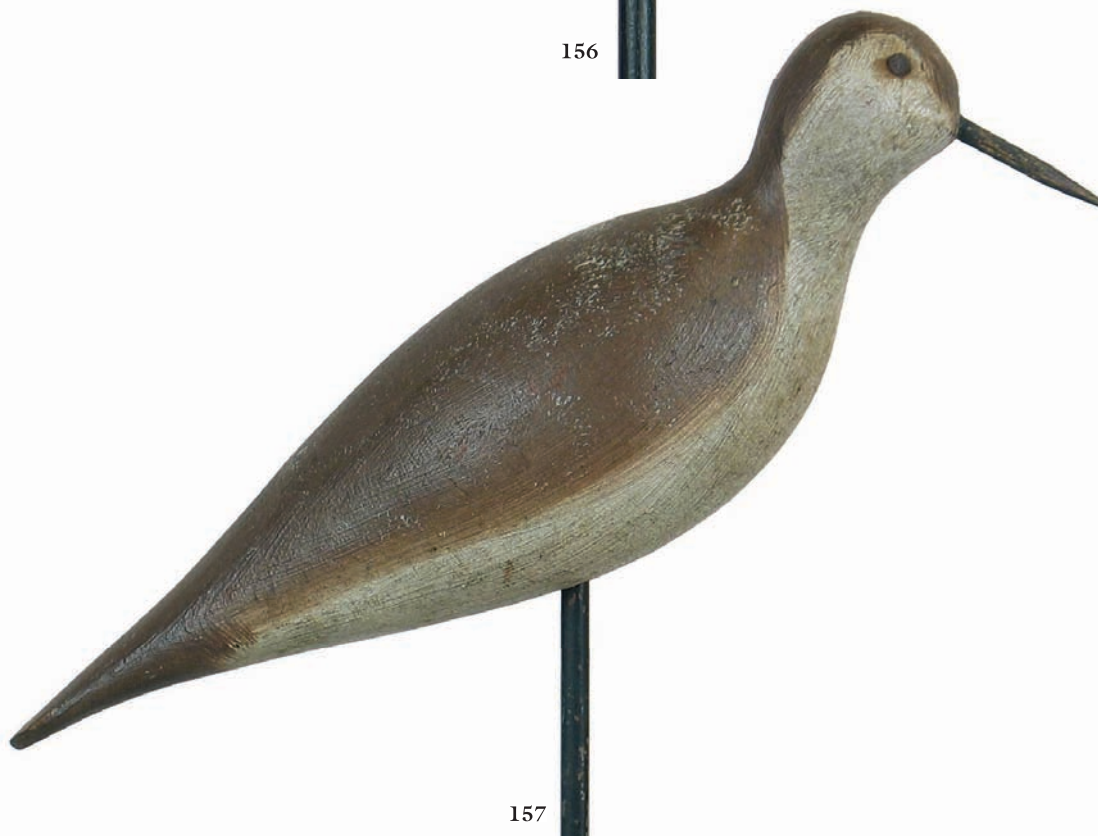
155. Outstanding New Jersey carved wing yellowlegs ca 1890-1910. Delightful yellowlegs, probably from the New Jersey shore. Well carved wings, shoulders, and eyes. Delicate, elongated tail. Strong original paint with light overall wear on left side. Few flakes and/or rubs to white area. Right side has a 1/4" knot visible on the wing with a small area of associated paint loss. Rub to right side of head has been professionally touched up. Original bill with a clean break in center which has been professionally glued together. Branded "GEW".

4500-6500

The following two Mason shorebirds are from the Powell collection and were acquired from Howard Waddell many years ago by the late Leon and Anne Powell.



156



157

156. Mason Decoy Factory tack eye dowitcher in spring plumage ca 1910. This is the exact bird pictured on page 109 of the authoritative Goldberger and Haid reference. Thick original paint with a very tiny flake to primer on left side of head and a few small rubs to primer on tail edge. Small factory chip at stick hole and tight factory grain check on left wing. Very desirable example. 6500-9500
Provenance: Powell collection

157. Early mourning dove by the Mason Decoy Factory ca 1910. Tack eye with original wooden bill. Thick original paint with sponge detail on back. White areas have patina from time and handling. Tiny area of flaking under bill. Very small dent and scratch on left side. Old paint drip on bottom near stick hole appears to be original to factory. Overall in superb excellent original condition. 7500-10,000
Provenance: Powell collection



158



158A



159



160

158. **Mason factory crow decoy ca 1910 with glass eyes and incised bill detail.** Tip of bill slightly blunted. Light gunning wear. In very good original paint. 1500-2500

158A. **Herter Factory owl decoy in XOC.** Natural claw beak, glass eyes are cracked, few light rubs. 1200-1500

159. **Exceptionally oversized yellowlegs by Charles Thomas of Assinippi, MA. ca 1900.** Measures approximately. 15" overall. Carved raised separated wings. Original bill and tack eyes. Original paint with light crazing and minimal gunning wear except for a few small flakes to wood. Thin partial check in back and a slightly thicker one on top of head. Surface protected with a thin coat of finish feeder. 8500-12,500

160. **Cobb Island curlew with classic tail detail.** Paint appears to be moderately worn original under an old coat of sealer which also demonstrates some light wear and flaking. Some old roughage to surface which results from the maker's choice of wood for the carving. A few dings and shot hits. Bill is professionally replaced by Steve Weaver with some additional repair to a small area on top of the head. 5500-8500



161



162



163



164

161. Split tail black-bellied plover decoy ca early 1900's by Clarence Boyd, Seabrook, NH in XOC. Few surface rubs and a 1 in shallow dent on the left side of the body. Original bill, small hat pin glass eyes set inside carved eye notches. Unique tail split vertically and horizontally. 4500-6500

162. Long-billed dowitcher from Massachusetts ca 1890's (possibly Nantucket) origin. Two piece head and body construction with semi rocking horse shape. Hole in tail for stringing. Old crack in what appears to be the original bill. Original paint is very heavily worn with large areas of wood showing. Very small check in lower breast. 1500-2500

163. Feeding sanderling or peep with painted eyes, carved wings, and a split tail in good original paint with a fair amount of wear with wood showing. Possibly from Massachusetts but also similar to New Jersey shorebirds. Provenance: Powell collection 400-600

164. Running yellowlegs by David Ward of Essex, CT. Split tail with carved wings and shoulders as well as delineated primaries. In excellent original condition. Dave Ward and Mark McNair were great friends and carved birds together back in 1970's when both were living in CT. Dave Ward is a direct descendant of Ted Mulliken who co-founded the Wildfowler Decoy Factory with Joel Barber back in the 1940's. Stamped "DBW - 85". 600-900



165. **Raised wing willet by Rick Brown.** Wings are carved separately and are designed to be removable and pinned to the body. Excellent original paint and condition. Indecipherable hot brand on bottom. 500-750

166. **Running split tail yellowlegs by Will Kirkpatrick.** Rusted, square nail bill. Excellent original paint and structural condition. Bottom branded: "WEK". 100-200

167. **Black-bellied plover ca. 1960's/70's by the late Phil Fairbank of Old Saybrook, CT.** Phil did an article in an early Hal Sorenson quarterly about shooting "photos" over his shore stool. This golden plover with a nail bill is one of the decoys he would use for his photography sessions. Excellent original condition. 300-450

168. **Whistler hen by Rosh Douglas of upstate New York.** Thin check runs down right back and thin crack in neck has been professionally repaired. In a combination of mostly overpaint and wash with possibly some original showing. 300-500

169. **Whistler drake possibly by a member of the Paquette family, Quebec.** Classic deep carved wings and gouged feather and tail detail. Thumb tack eyes. Craze original paint with numerous rubs to high points on feather detailing as well as to tail and bill edges. Some small white areas possibly touched up. Heavier rubs on breast and left rear edge. Few thin checks in breast and left side. 200-400

170. **Alert black duck decoy with carved wings by Dr. Woods, Orillia, Ontario.** Exemplifies his somewhat unique treatment of the base of the decoy to increase stability. In excellent original condition. 900-1100

171. **Folky hooded merganser drake with carved eyes.** Probably from the Michigan area or Canada. Carved raised wings. In XOC, never rigged or used. 750-950

171A. **Pair of Mason Factory 3rd Grade mallard decoys.** Drake has 3/4 neck filler missing, few paint flakes and factory checks on the back. Hen has strong OP. Neck filler is missing. A tight factory filled check that extends through the body from the breast is visible and neck filler is cracked. Both have a few minor rubs and dings. 900-1300



172. Collector information indicates this canvasback drake was used as a wing duck. Very old crazed paint with possible touch up to some of the black areas. Very good structural condition. 300-500

173. Bufflehead drake decoy from Alexandria Bay. Solid body with glass eyes. In excellent original paint with a few flakes missing along the edge of the tail. Carved in the manner of Chauncey Wheeler and the Holland St. carvers. 600-900

174. Bluebill drake from upstate New York. Some original paint on back while most of black has been touched up at various points in time. Some small flakes and chips. Neck loose and thin check runs down right side and under tail. 100-200

175. Turned head whistler drake by Robert J Miller. Well carved bill with ice groove and lightly carved wings. Very good OP with a few small rubs to head and back. Signed on bottom "Robert J. Miller" with two conjoined "RM" stamps. Keel removed. 300-600
Provenance: Althans Collection

176. Primitive bluebill drake decoy ca early 1900's with a head carved from a 3/4" board. Worn original paint under a flaking coat of varnish or sealer. Areas of wear to wood. Chips missing at base of neck. Painted eyes. 75-125

177. Early ruddy duck ca 1910, in old paint with flaking. Tack eyes, inlet tail with break on the right edge, inlet paddle tail. Well worn paint is a combination of original and gunning touchup. Large sliver missing from right edge of tail. 300-450

178. Primitive bluebill drake ca 1910, with tack eyes. Heavily worn and crazed original paint with numerous rubs to wood. Neck check with chip missing on right side. 100-200

179. Well carved bluebill hen ca early 1900's from upstate NY with head turned to the right. Original paint with a few small chips, flakes and dings. Overall very good condition. 100-200

180. Lowhead bluebill drake ca early 1900's from the St. Clair flats or upstate NY. Some original paint on head with gunning repaint elsewhere. Minor wear and rubs. Small chip missing from left edge of bill. Several holes drilled in bottom to partially hollow the decoy. 100-200



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181. **Sleeping black duck ca early to mid 1900's.** Chunky bird with carved bill and tail. Original paint with sponge feather detail and little wear. Multiple brands of "JRB" and a single "MB" carved into bottom. 150-300

182. **Freshwater coot by Marvin Strahota, Marquette, WI.** Excellent structural condition. Original paint or possibly a second coat by Strahota which was not uncommon for him (See page 149 in *Decoys of the Winnebago Lakes* by Koch). 400-600

183. **Swimming mallard drake decoy with slightly turned head possibly from the Michigan or Wisconsin area.** Deeply carved wing detail. Good OP with a few rubs to head and otherwise light wear. Tight age check in head and right side of the body. Visible $\frac{3}{4}$ " knot on back. 500-1000

184. **Hollow carved canvasback drake from the St. Clair region carved in a swimming pose.** Typical construction with a bottom board. In use repaint and original with light gunning wear. Few shot hits on the right side. Scratched into bottom: "B. Sampier 1890 – Harsens Island, Mich." Nice form. 300-500

185. **Canvasback drake by John and Mike Duchenski with their initials stamped twice into the bottom.** Head turned slightly to the left. A few small gouges at base of neck and on breast. Textured surface with original paint that exhibits slight wear. Tight crack in neck with a nail repair. 200-300
Provenance: Swain Collection

186. **Mallard hen from the Wisconsin or Minnesota area.** Head turned slightly to the left. Well executed original paint with light wear and a few small rubs to wood on bill and tail edges. Some minor flaking on breast and under tail. Few tight checks in body. Overall very good condition. 200-400

187. **Bluebill hen by Willie Hubbs of Wellington, Ontario.** Hollow carved with a thin bottom board. Moderate wear to paint with most of the rubs to the head with a few marks on the body. Initials scratched on top of tail possibly read "EB".
Provenance: Arthur Hansen Collection 300-400

188. **High head mallard hen from Wisconsin.** Head turned to left. Cork body with wooden head, inlet tail and bottom board. Fine original paint with practically no wear. Excellent structural condition. Branded "REG". 150-250

189. **Lowhead canvasback drake. Balsa body, pine head.** May be by Jim Kelson but is very likely a Kelson/Ralph Reghi collaboration (see page 33 in *Walsh and Jackson*). Lightly carved wings with some feather stamping. Light to moderately worn paint may be original or some of white may be old in use touchup. Head carved from two piece lamination. Hit by multiple shot on right side. Original keel. Bears multiple Colburn Wood collection stamps. 250-350
Provenance: Joe French collection