

# SOUTH SHORE WATERFOWLERS

ASSOCIATION, INC.



December 2018

Web site: [sswa.org](http://sswa.org)

P.O. BOX 217

BRIGHTWATERS, NY 11718

## Happy Holidays to All Our Members and Their Families

### *Atlanta Flyway Update on Brant*

*by Ron Sineo*

We have enjoyed a 60-day season, 2 per day bag limit for 2 years already, and this fall will be the same once again! The 2019-2020 season and bag limit will wait for the mid-winter survey in February of 2019 before the Brant season is set.

Ted Nichols, chief waterfowl biologist for NJ DEP spent some time up near the Arctic circle this summer. He was working with Brant, and he reported some really distressing news. The arctic thaw happened so late that many of the Brant that breed on Baffin Island, and Southampton Island arrived last spring to find the ground still frozen, and sub-zero temperatures. There was very little available food supply, and many Brant were in trouble there. Those that did survive were not inclined to begin nesting right away. Nest production happened incredibly late there this summer. He left on August 8th, reporting that some Brant goslings were only 10 days old. Who knows if they will even feather up in time to migrate?

During February 2018, the NJ DEP division of fish and wildlife kicked-off a 5-year collaborative Atlantic Brant migration and breeding ecology study with The New York Department of Environmental Conservation and the Canadian Wildlife Service. Crews have been marking Brant with g.p.s. backpack transmitters and tiny red and white geolocators. Some birds get both, but there are many more red-and- white geolocators than backpack transmitters.

It is important to recover these transmitters and geolocators. The only way the data can be retrieved is if it is physically removed from the tags and bands.



**If you shoot a Brant that has a  
TRANSMITTER  
GEOLOCATOR**



**contact Kelly Hamilton at the DEC office in Stonybrook!**

These units need to be turned in. It is the only way that the data can be collected. Even if you think the unit is damaged, they may still be able to retrieve the data. Also, they can put the unit on another bird after they collect the data it contains. The geolocators will store 5 years of data, and the transmitters can work indefinitely, with a battery change.

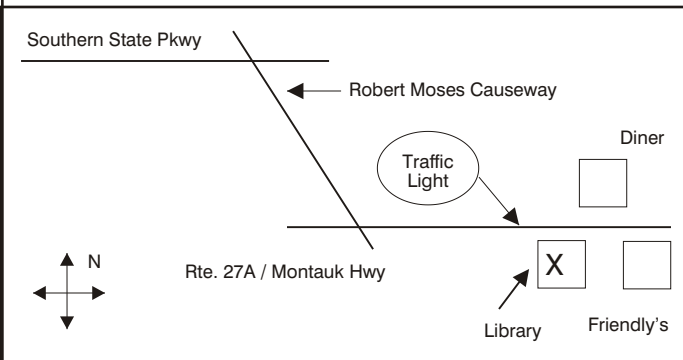
## South Shore Waterfowlers

### Voice of the Long Island Waterfowler

The South Shore Waterfowlers meet at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st Monday of each month from September through April. If the 1st Monday falls on a holiday, the meeting will take place on an alternate date (to be announced). (A library holiday is the same as a U.S. Postal holiday.)

Meetings are held on the first floor conference room of the Brightwaters/Bayshore Library located on Montauk Highway (Rte. 27A) in Brightwaters/Bayshore (see map below).

For additional information, please call John (631) 874-7459 or Ron (631) 902-2220.



## South Shore Waterfowlers Association — Officers —

- President . . . . . Ron Pliszak  
631-902-2220
- 1st Vice President . . . . . Kate Sohm  
516-413-8476
- 2nd Vice President . . . . . Erik Tallbe, Jr.  
516-799-6613
- Secretary . . . . . Dani Karam.  
631-921-3633
- Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Duckboat  
Show Chairman, Membership, Historian,  
Club Dinner, BBQ Chairman, Feed  
Fund, and Fundraising . . . . . Curt Matzinger  
631-661-0379
- Sergeant at Arms . . . . . Erik Tallbe  
516-799-6613

## President's Corner

With the holidays upon us and the year coming to an end I just wanted to take a moment to thank all of the members for making our club a success. Without your continued support and efforts we would not be able to continue to be the voice of the Long Island waterfowler.

I want to thank the board members whose tireless efforts have kept things going. Vice President Kate Sohm and her husband Ben who have been mentors to many with the "Buddy Program" and for the gracious use of their home for the summer board meeting. 2nd Vice President Erik Tallbe Jr. and his father Erik Sr. who are involved in all SSWA fundraisers and are available at all times with a simple phone call. Secretary Dani Karam who along with Erik have helped introduce all of us old goats into something called social media. Treasurer Curt Matzinger, who without him there probably would be no SSWA. Curt and his wife Jean have dedicated countless hours in keeping things going. In addition I would like to thank past president's John Adams and Ron Sineo who have continued to be involved and have helped me with their guidance and support.

There are just too many more individuals to name but you are all greatly appreciated. Hopefully this coming year will be one of our best. The more people involved the better that we become as a club. New ideas are welcome from all, this years Pheasant trip put together by Steve Pliszak is a perfect example.

In closing I would like to wish everybody a healthy and happy holiday with great hopes for the upcoming year

*Ron Pliszak*



**Jon Sweezey**  
1877 New York Ave., Huntington Station, NY 11746  
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*Your Source to the Outdoors Since 1964*

## *Indian Island County Park / Town of Babylon: An Update & An Opinion*

*by Ron Sineo*

I'm sure by now many of you have heard or read something about the recent events concerning waterfowl hunting on or near Indian Island County Park, which is located just North of the East-West Channel and situated in Town of Babylon waters. Local residents are making claims that hunters have shot towards the mainland. Hunters say differently. This might be a case of he said – she said. Over the years I have been actively involved in trying to help mitigate these types of access conflicts, and one thing has become abundantly clear. In the end, the hunting community almost always loses. We have less access to hunting areas today than we did 20 years ago, and it is likely that 10 years from now we will have less access than we do today. In trying to hold on to what access we do have, we must be smart. It is my experience and my opinion that sometimes it is better to cut off a limb than to lose a life. (If the tape measure reads 501' it may be "legal" but it may also not be wise to hunt that close to the antagonist!)

I am not going to get into the details of the recent Newsday article concerning the Town of Babylon Town Board meeting on this issue where the residents aired their ongoing complaints. You can research that for yourself, it is a matter of public record.

Instead, I am going to tell you that the Commissioner of Suffolk County Parks has gone the extra mile on behalf of Sportsmen to keep public hunting open on Indian Island even in the face of continued pressure from the town and its residents. The South end of Indian Island is posted in 2 locations. There is signage on the SE and SW shores stating that hunting between the signs is permitted. The easy way out for the Parks Dept. would have been to simply post the Island as a no-hunting area.

That said, it will not support a whole lot of hunters. (Maybe 3 parties of hunters at most, at any

one time.) Hunters who go to Indian Island to hunt waterfowl need to be aware of the town restrictions. The TOB has a no-discharge ordinance which it enforces on any town waters North of the East-West Channel. In simple application, this means that if you hunt the Island, you must be shooting FROM the Island, not from the water. If you are hunting out of a boat, that boat should be beached on the shore of the Island. If your boat is floating and you shoot your gun from the boat, you are in TOB waters and you have committed a violation. This is serious because the violation is a "firearms infraction". If you are a licensed pistol owner, it is compounded by the fact that once you pay the fine for the no-discharge, you have also pled guilty to a firearms infraction, which must then be reported by you to the Police or Sheriff's departments, depending on where your license was issued. At this point, your pistol license may be suspended!

So, you intend to hunt from the Island anyway? But then what happens if you have a cripple in the water? My advice to you is: bring a retriever with you hunting, or don't hunt Indian Island.

Just because it is 6:30 a.m. doesn't mean that you have the Bay to yourself. The residents and the town are looking for more reasons to make their case to stop the hunting there. Anyone who ventures out will probably be in a 'fishbowl'. You must presume that there are eyes on you at all times. Remember that this is the era of the cell phone video etc. I think that anyone who ventures out to Indian Island to waterfowl hunt needs to be very aware of these facts and should take care to follow the rules. That said, there is a piece of me that wonders how long it will take before there is a documented incident which will lead to yet another hunting access point being just a memory of things past.

## *Atlantic Flyway Report . . . Some Interesting Things*

by Ron Sineo

According to Paul Padding, USFWS, staffing at the top level is lacking..many assistant directors, and chiefs of departments have retired over the past 2 years, and most are being staffed by “acting” positions. This means that current projects are being continued, but new ones are on hold. The “Trump” budget has cut a hole in spending. If the Congress does not authorize additional funding, many projects will be in jeopardy.

Last year I reported that federal banding projects were in trouble because ... the propellant they had been using for years in their net rocket launchers (m6) was federal surplus from the Vietnam war era, and was provided to the wildlife service for free. That supply had run out, and there was no money to replace it. Thankfully, there is a little good news!! The service was authorized to purchase the equivalent of 15,000 individual rocket charges in this current budget. All 50 states will have to make do with this supply. These charges are a necessary consumable for just about all the pre- and post-season banding that takes place.

Federal duck reports – in comparison to last year at this time, current blue wing and green wing teal numbers are down 18% and 16% respectively, black ducks stayed about the same, both redheads and canvasbacks have not changed, and northeastern mallards continue their slow 11-year decline. Scaup, Ringneck ducks, and Goldeneyes counts are all similar to last year, but Pintails are down 18%.

E-stamp ... 25 of the 50 states now participate in the federal e-stamp program. Please be advised that by state regulation, NY State requires the stamp to be on the person of the hunter.



The e-stamp receipt is printable the instant it is purchased online, but it often can take 3-4 weeks to receive the stamp in the U.S. Mail. NY State will not accept the receipt alone as proof of purchase!!

Multi-stock management – I have been reporting about the development of this AHMS which has been proposed for the past 3 years now, to replace the eastern mallard model. The SRC has finally published the multi-stock management model in the federal register. This means that moving forward into the 2019-2020 season, the multi-stock management model will be the prescription followed to decide future duck seasons in the Atlantic flyway. For the past 4 years they have been tweaking a process that looks at wood ducks, green wing teal, ring necks, and common goldeneye as a total package. The good news is that under this model, the projections are that we will be able to continue with either liberal or moderate seasons for some time into the future.

The bad news is that there is a Flyway reduction in bag limit on mallards:

From the current 4 birds with a 2-hen restriction, we will move to 2 birds, with a 1-hen restriction. So, the big change in the 2019-2020 duck hunting season is that mallard bag has been cut in half. 2 per day, no more than 1 hen. The only other duck change is that pintail limit has dropped back to 1 per day.

Brant – we have enjoyed a 60-day season, 2 per day bag limit for 2 years already, and this fall will be the same once again! The 2019-2020 season and bag limit will wait for the mid-winter survey in February of 2019 before the Brant season is set. Please see the article on **Atlantic Flyway Update on Brant** (on page 1 of this Newsletter).

The Atlantic Flyway has been awarded a 25% increase in tundra swan permits for 2018, Delaware will become the 3rd state in the flyway to hold permits for tundra swans.

In 2019, a total of 7,000 permits will be available to hunters. This is broken up as follows: Delaware (84), Virginia (801), and North Carolina (6115).

If you are interested, you have to start early. You must apply for a permit in the state you want to hunt in. It is issued by lottery. Applications are taken from @ July thru September. The procedure for awarding the permit is different in each state.

## *The NYS Conservation Fund Advisory Board*

*by Tim Huss, Region One Rep*

In 1925, under the authority of the NYS Finance Law, the Conservation Fund was created. The law required that **one half** of all monies collected from the sale of sporting licenses be spent exclusively for fish and game related purposes. In 1933, the law was amended to require that **all** the monies from license sales be used for these purposes. As a result, for over 80 years licensed sportsmen and women have been the principal source of Conservation Fund revenue, ensuring the stewardship of New York's fish and wildlife. Today, over **40 million dollars** is generated by sporting license sales in New York. Additionally, federal monies based upon a formula related to the number of sporting license sales, generates **over 20 million dollars each year**. To oversee this fund, in 1982 the New York State Conservation Fund Advisory Council was established by law as a branch of the State Executive Department. In 1994 the Council was reestablished as the Conservation Fund Advisory Board (CFAB) to be comprised of eleven appointed voluntary members; one from each of the nine regions of the state, and a representative from the NYS Conservation Council and the NYS Fish and Wildlife Management Board. After the passing of Region One's long standing representative and dedicated defender of sportsmen's rights Charlie Bevilaqua in 2016, the region one position remained vacant. Last year I accepted a nomination to replace Charlie on the Board.

The primary purpose of CFAB is to provide licensed sportsmen and women with information about how Conservation Fund money is spent, the status of the fund, to make recommendations to the DEC Commissioner on fiscal needs for the state's conservation programs and how these needs can be met, promote ideas to expand available sources of funding for fish and wildlife programs, and finally, to encourage public participation in fishing, hunting, and trapping thereby promoting conservation and the sound management of this state's natural resources. CFAB also weighs in on conservation issues that impact management of fish and wildlife and the habitat that supports this important resource. From all of this it is evident that you, as NYS licensed sports-persons, are the most important ingredient in the state's recipe for managing New York's fish and wildlife.

The Conservation Fund is always under siege. Factors that can impact the fund can include an aging and ever decreasing number of licensed sportsmen and women, increasing numbers of free licenses and discounted senior licenses, hiring freezes that prevent filling positions in DEC thereby impacting federal monies that might otherwise be granted to NYS, and the reorganization of the types of sporting licenses available to the public. One example of this latter issue is the fallout from the elimination of the combination sportsman and super sportsman license several years ago. When these combination licenses were eliminated, hunters who once purchased freshwater fishing licenses as part of their combination license, now were failing to do so, often without realizing it. **As a result, the number of freshwater fishing license sales in New York has decreased by 60,000 to 70,000 licenses per year.** At \$25 per license that's close to two million dollars, not to mention the impact on federal Wallop-Breaux funds that come to NY based upon fishing license sales.

It is issues like these that impact the fish and wildlife management programs you all support. CFAB however, cannot remedy these issues without participation by you, the sportsmen and women of New York. There are approximately two million of us. I'd venture to say that, organized sports-persons like the members of the South Shore Waterfowlers aside, only a very small percentage of us are vocal or get involved in conservation issues impacting fish and wildlife management. In part it is a cultural problem; many of us just want to be left alone to hunt and fish, politics be damned. Understandable. However, the old saying that the squeaky wheel gets the grease is very true when it comes to conservation, and fish and wildlife management programs. If you all go unheard, no one is going to pay attention. In this time of increased scrutiny and controversy over firearms, hunting, and even fishing (did you know that in the past there have been bills from the NYS Assembly introduced to ban fishing derbies?) every single sporting license holder needs to be heard. And it's not difficult. Every legislative rep has a website. On those websites is a link on "How to Contact". When an issue is of importance to you send a comment. Request a response. Request communication to your legislators through organizations like SSWA. There is strength in numbers.

Finally, as your CFAB representative I will do my best to make you aware of the issues associated with the Conservation Fund and conservation issues CFAB is involved in. You may also contact me for matters you would like me to bring to the Board. It works. In my short time on the Board I had one local hunter raise his concern over the fact that after he purchased his hunting license online it was not until after he paid that he realized that he would not receive that license for close to two weeks. I brought it to the attention of DEC and they are currently working to improve that. One small example, but together we can affect change and become a positive and powerful voice for New York Sportsmen and Women.

To contact members of CFAB you can write to the NYS Conservation Fund Advisory Board, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4750, or e-mail [fw.information@dec.ny.gov](mailto:fw.information@dec.ny.gov). You can also contact me directly at [husshawkeye@aol.com](mailto:husshawkeye@aol.com) (which has less with the way I shoot but more with the fact that it was the only e-mail address I finally got AOL to accept years ago).

**SSWA is a great organization. Get involved!**

## ***Talking About Dogs Conversation About Health Concerns***

*by George Grivas*

Did you know that raisins and grapes are poisonous to dogs? If a dog eats them they could get kidney failure. My dog Thor recently ate a warm apple strudel which contained raisins. I rushed him to the emergency vet. Thor had probably eaten half a cup of raisins. Treatment included inducing vomiting, IV fluids, blood tests, activated charcoal, and a two-day stay at the E Vet. Cost was \$4,000.00. It is better to be careful.

Flea and tick medicines come in different forms. They include collars, topical, and dips. Each product has its own pros and cons. My own vet recommends Vectra3D, a topical. Other products include Bravecto Chew, Seresto collar, and various flea and tick dips. It is best to discuss this with your vet.

Pythiosis is a fungal disease that seems to be expanding its range. It is also known as swamp cancer but it is not a cancer. It is a terrible disease that can be misdiagnosed. It occurs most commonly in horses, dogs, and humans. The disease is contracted after contact with stagnant water. I know of two dogs that have this. One has undergone surgery to remove the obstruction and the other is undergoing treatment with antibiotics. Source was a farm pond. The fungus attacks tissues and causes perforation and blockage. It can affect other body parts as well.

Tick borne diseases are not uncommon. My female Buffy tested positive for Anaplasma, caused by a rickettsia. Another dog I know of has Ehrlichiosis and yet another dog has Lyme disease. It is best to get your dog tested by a vet. Many do this as part of a routine exam. Follow-up tests are available.

Of course there are other health concerns but these came up in a conversation I had this past weekend. It is best to be well informed. We want to do our best for our dogs.

## ***You And Your Scattergun: How to Double Up on Birds – With Class.***

*by George Grivas*

“Bang – Bang” – two dead birds. I rarely try to double up on birds but when everything looks perfect I will do it. So, how to start.

A friend of mine asked me to start shooting trap. Part of my education was learning to shoot Doubles Trap. I didn't even know this game existed. So, one day we set up the trap to throw doubles. The angles of the targets are set; they travel at the same angles each time up say pull. Both targets are thrown at the same time. What changes is your position. You shoot five doubles from each position. It is a fast moving game and you shoot 100 targets in no time.

Technique is as follows. You hold your muzzle above the house close to where one of the targets will come out. You say pull, two targets come out. You shoot the first bird; it should be a dead bird. You immediately move your eyes to the second target, focus on it, and then swing your gun to it and pull the trigger at the right time.

At this point you might be asking yourself “So how does this apply to shooting ducks?” Well this game teaches you to use your eyes, to move your eyes. The eyes should see the target before you swing on it.

The last time I doubled on ducks was just like how I shoot doubles trap. Birds passed over the decoys. First bird was right over my barrel. As soon as I pulled the trigger, I knew it was dead, and I immediately moved my eyes over to the second bird, while keeping my cheeks on the stock and dropped the second bird – two dead birds.

At home practice would be to point at an object with your gun, move your eyes to a second object and then swing on it. It is all about your eyes. So you say you double up on birds your own way! Hey, don't change anything. However I did say double up – with class.

## *Some Thoughts on The Eastern Mallard Issue*

by Ron Sineo



Given that the Atlantic Flyway is imposing a reduction of 50% on Mallard bag limit beginning with the 2019-2020 hunting season, (2 birds/day, only 1 hen) it follows that the population of Eastern Mallards in our Flyway is a cause for concern. The mallard has been an important part of the hunter's bag for decades. It doesn't take an Einstein to know that: ***the more mallard ducklings hatch each year, the better the chance that the mallard population will***

***improve.*** This is supported by the notion that we have had some kind of a hen restriction on mallards for decades now. It was prudent of the Atlantic Flyway Council to recommend a further hen restriction to just 1 per day moving forward. This restriction/allowance will keep hunters from violating the regulations if there is an accidental kill of a hen while shooting at a group of mallards, or in the case of mistaken identity between a black duck and a hen mallard. **It is by no means an endorsement or a recommendation that the hunter should strive to put 1 hen mallard in his bag each and every time he is hunting ducks.** Quite the contrary. I believe that as hunters, we have a responsibility to do our part whenever we can. I suggest that in the case of the mallard, hunters should voluntarily give up shooting hen mallards for the foreseeable future.

Statistically, for the past 5 years, **over 250,000 mallards per year** have been harvested in the Atlantic Flyway during the 60-day regular season with a bag limit of 4 birds (only 2 hens). Even supposing that the actual harvest is greater than a 2 drake to 1-hen ratio, this still suggests that well over 100,000 hen mallards are shot by hunters in the Flyway each season. It is not rocket science to imagine that if 100,000 more hens were alive each spring to nest, well..you can do the math.

It seems to me that as a responsible hunter organization, we at SSWA should do what we can to promote a voluntary no-hen mallard restriction. Those hunters who live in areas of the flyway with very early seasons may have some difficulty with this because the drake mallards may still be in eclipse plumage. Also, I think beginning hunters will have a bit more difficult time with this, but...let's face it, here on Long Island the regular season starts very late in the Fall. There is hardly a drake duck more recognizable than the drake mallard, and by contrast to the hen, should be easy to single out. Granted, there are times when weather, low light conditions, or a single bird in flight might make a positive I.D. difficult. Still, in the majority of cases, seasoned hunters should be able to harvest mallard drakes, and avoid hens.

It may be that, regardless of what measures are taken to regulate the hunting of mallards, in the end the population will not rebound. Disease, bad genetics, lack of habitat, competition with other species, environmental factors and a host of other ills may be contributing causes. Hunter harvest regulation is one of the very few options that wildlife managers have to address declining populations. I feel we as responsible hunters should do our part as well. Volunteering to only shoot drake mallards may actually do some good.

### **Fisherman's Catch Restaurant**



Tel: (516) 570-9717  
111 BAYSIDE DRIVE  
POINT LOOKOUT, N.Y. 11569

DANA LARSON  
Catering Manager



### **GAME DINNERS**



*Specializing In:*  
Deer • Elk • Antelope • Rabbit  
Duck • Pheasant • Turkey  
and Other Game Meats Available

Peter Fazio  
(631) 926-3353  
P.O. Box 781 • Ocean Beach, NY 11770  
*References Available*

## *Argentina Dove Hunt Raffle*

(Retail Value \$9,960.00)

It is a hunt for 4 guests for 3 days at David Denies Cordoba Lodge. Includes: 3 nights lodging, 3 days hunting (2 half and 2 full days), ALL meals, ALL beverages including open bar and a wonderful Argentine wine list, ALL transportation during the hunts, also to and from airport.

NOT included and is the winner's responsibility: transfer and lend fee 350 pp, hunting license fee 250 pp, gun rental and ammo, airfare. Funds raised will be used on our next veteran's project. This is a terrific opportunity to hunt at one of the top lodges in Argentina. It is for 4 people, so get 3 of your buddies to share the cost of the ticket, or each buy their own. Only 100 tickets being sold. \$50 each or 3 for \$100.00. (Due to an earlier misprint, previous purchasers will receive 4 tickets - 1 extra for our mistake). Get yours now. Make a check payable to **SSWA** and mail to: Curt Matzinger, 32 Magro Drive, North Babylon, NY 11703. For more info call Curt at 631-661-0379. Ticket drawn January 29, 2019 or when sold out.

## *SSWA First Photo Contest*

We are trying something different this year – A Photo Contest. We are trying to get our members to record some of their memories from this season. Here is how we are going to do it this year.

**First** – Take a picture (pick one of these categories):

- A – Best Hunt – Harvest of birds, hunting group, retriever.
- B – Nature – Sunrise/set, marsh, water scene.
- C – Funny – Please keep it clean.

**Second** – Text it to me at: 631-355-6258

Include your name and phone number,

**Third** – We post it on our Instagram page and Facebook. We will only post the photo with a number (example: Nature 19, Hunt 3, or Funny 6). On March 1<sup>st</sup> we count up the # of Likes and Comments for each picture. Likes get 1 point, Comments get 2 points.

Prize for each category is a free one-year membership to the SSWA. This contest is for fun and we hope to involve our members and friends to take pictures on their hunts, and get them to visit our social media pages.

Instagram – southshorewaterfowlersassoc  
Facebook – South Shore Waterfowlers

**Good Luck – Have Fun – Visit our sites**

## *Youth Day Hunt Recap*

I was happy to be a mentor for the 21st time at the DEC Youth Day program. It has been going on for 21 years with thanks going out to the DEC, Suffolk County Parks, Ducks Unlimited, and the SSWA. The number of kids was light, but they all had a good time at the educational days and even more the day of the hunt. At Southaven 7 kids got 5 birds, fun was had by all, and thank you to Bob Dasch for setting up the lunch the SSWA always provides. Thanks Kelly & Mary – Terrific Job.

## *Thanks SSWA Members*

At the December 3rd SSWA meeting/holiday party, we held a 50/50 Raffle for a donation to St. Jude Childrens Research Hospital. \$380 was collected. \$190 went to winner George Rigby and \$190 was for St. Jude. An anonymous couple matched the amount, so \$400 was donated to St. Jude on behalf of SSWA. Thank you and Happy Holidays.

## *Black River Valley Outfitter – New Sponsor*

Great news members! Captain Ben Roggie, the owner, has offered to give SSWA members a break on hunting and fishing trips. They are up by Lake Ontario. Hunting website is [www.BlackRiverValleyOutfitters.com](http://www.BlackRiverValleyOutfitters.com) and fishing is [www.RiverValleyCharters.com](http://www.RiverValleyCharters.com). Phone is (315) 783-6679.

You must be an SSWA member in good standing to book at these rates (hunting or fishing buddies don't have to – but should be).

Ducks – Oct. thru Dec.: 150 pp Deposit 50

Ducks & Geese – January: 525 Deposit 100  
(Full Boat) weekdays only party of 3

Canada Geese – March: 150 pp Deposit 50  
Weekdays only party of 4 or more

Spring Snow Geese – 150 pp Deposit 50  
party of 6 or more 125 pp

Fishing – Half Day Lake Ontario \$500 (6 hrs fishing) 4 people 50 each additional person up to 6

Full Day Lake Ontario – \$600 (8 hrs fishing)  
4 people 50 each additional person up to 6

Lodging – They can get you discounted rates at local hotels.

Go to the websites and check it out. And thank you Ben for hooking up our members.



***Quack's Tips***

Some guys hunt out of marsh boats (grass boats). These are the type which can be homemade or not, but are usually made from wood, fiberglass, or a combination of both. These boats can easily be concealed with grass and local materials, and can be easily hunted out of. Then there are those commercial aluminum boats also called Jon boats. If you are using this second type of boat to hunt the marsh, here are 2 tips that may help.

1. Aluminum boats are noisy boats. They make unmistakable metallic thuds when they are struck with anything solid. This is a very unnatural noise in the marsh. If you are in low water, try polling the boat to the hunting area. Wrap some burlap on the gunnels so that it doesn't make that metallic clang when it comes in contact with oar or pole. Placing those home depot black rubber shop mats on the floor of the Jon boat can also quiet another potential unwanted symphony.
2. If you have not gone to any great lengths to turn your Jon boat into a "grass boat" you are probably better off not hunting anywhere near your boat. Once you reach the likely hunting spot in the marsh, walk the boat a good distance away from where you intend to set up. It is probably better to have to walk 150 feet or more to get your boat for a water retrieve, than to wonder why the birds are not finishing into your decoys.

**Waterfowler's Classifieds**

**FOR SALE:**

**SBE2 BARRELS — \$200**  
Call Curt at 631-661-0379

**DECOYS – DUCKS & GEESE  
FIELD AND FLOATERS + ACCESSORIES**  
Call Butch at 631-924-5249

**DECOYS**  
Geese and Ducks floating and full-body  
Mallards and Black Ducks  
Call Bill Groom at 516-796-6491

**DECOYS**  
8 L.L. Bean Coastal Decoys  
Glass eyes, Portuguese cork & carved heads  
\$25 each  
Call Ed Olsen at 516-375-1946

**Members Receiving Paper Newsletters**

To receive the password for the MEMBERS ONLY section of the [sswa.org](http://sswa.org) website, call Curt at 631-661-0379 and give him your e-mail address so he can add it to the mailing list so you can receive your newsletters electronically.

**— South Shore Waterfowlers Association —**

P.O. Box 217 Brightwaters, NY 11718

*Membership Enrollment / Renewal Card (please print legibly)*

Address Change       Address Correction       New Member       Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Dues: 1 year . . . . . \$30.00

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ **(Mandatory to receive e-newsletters)**

Telephone No.: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Membership expires in Sept.

— *South Shore Waterfowlers Association* —

**CALENDAR OF UP-COMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

- January 7** — SSWA meeting, Brightwaters Library, 7:00 pm  
**January 18** — Faz's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Sportsmens Dinner (call 631-926-3353 for more info)  
**January 29** — Fishermans Catch 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sportsmens Game Dinner  
(Call Curt 631-661-0379)  
**February 2** — DU North Shore Shoot and Chili Cook-Off  
(Call Stephen Molbinger 516-429-9951)  
**February 4** — SSWA meeting, Brightwaters Library, 7:00 pm  
**February 8** — DU South Bay's Dinner (Call Alan Pearsal 631-833-8196)  
**February 16** — DU Four Harbors Hockey Night (Call Donna Cappuccio 631-804-2114)  
**March 2** — LIDCA Decoy Show  
**March 3** — DU Shoot Mallards – Spring Fever (Call David Schellinger 631-725-0038)  
**March 4** — SSWA meeting, Brightwaters Library, 7:00 pm  
**Mid-March?** — TBA SSWA 15th Annual "Curt M" Dinner at Fisherman's Catch  
**April 1** — Final SSWA meeting, Brightwaters Library, 7:00 pm

??? – E-mails will be sent any time a date is confirmed.

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References Available