

April 4, 2017



WINGTIPS

Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp

Mr. Duck Stamp Contest



1946-47 Stamp with Bob Hines artwork

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The Contributions and Legacy of Bob Hines

By John D. Juriga

Robert W. ("Bob") Hines (1912-1994) was a self-taught artist who specialized in wildlife and sporting art. He began his career at the Ohio Division of Conservation and Natural Resources in 1939. While living in Columbus, his Redhead design was chosen to grace the 1946 Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp. Hines later joined the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as staff artist in 1948.



Bob Hines
photo: Walter Lauffer

Already a Federal Duck Stamp artist himself, he was eager to observe the selection process for the annual stamp design. He was appalled at the casual, subjective manner then in place at the Service. Hines proposed a formal competition with stated guidelines and impartial judges, a format that remains in use today. He coordinated the yearly event for over thirty years, earning him the nickname of "Mr. Duck Stamp Contest."

Hines entered wildlife art in an effort to educate the public. He became the vehicle through which millions of Americans learned about their natural heritage. He illustrated such high profile publications for the Service as *Ducks at a Distance*, *Waterfowl Tomorrow*, *Birds in Our Lives*, *Sport Fishing USA*, and *Migration of Birds*. Hines also illustrated Rachel Carson's 1955 book *The Edge of the Sea*. He designed the first four US postage stamps depicting American wildlife in the mid-1950s. Hines is the only person in the history of the Service to hold the title of National Wildlife Artist.

In recent years, the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge in northwest Ohio, close to Hines's boyhood home in Fremont, has opened a Bob Hines gallery as well as a Bob Hines Refuge Ranger Station. However, there is no tribute to Hines in the U.S. Department of Interior building in Washington, DC. I propose that the title of the Federal Duck Stamp contest be officially named the Bob Hines Memorial Federal Duck Stamp Contest to honor the shepherd of the annual event in its early years.

As Hines himself once wrote, "[T]he revenues from the stamp sales are all for the birds--the restoration of waterfowl. It does not matter which of us, hunter or birdwatcher, will benefit the most. What does concern us is that wildlife artists and technicians are using their skills to maintain the high aims of this unique series--to keep the flocks flying. May the artists and the ducks both flourish."

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John D. Juriga is the Hines biographer, author of *Bob Hines: National Wildlife Artist* (2012, Beaver Pond Press)

JR. DUCK STAMP CONTEST HELD LATER THIS MONTH

The 2017 Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest will be held Friday, April 21 at the [Charleston Music Hall](#) in lovely Charleston, S.C. Join young artists, parents, and fans to see whose waterfowl artwork will appear on the 2017-2018 Junior Duck Stamp and raise money for conservation education.

The judging and art viewing is free and open to the public.

A panel of five judges will review the "Best of Show" artwork from all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and several U.S. territories to choose one winner to appear on the 25th Junior Duck Stamp. Judges will also choose a winning conservation message, and second and third place artwork.

Here is the 2016-2017 Junior Duck Stamp, featuring a pair of Ross's Geese painted by Stacy Shen, 16, of Fremont, California.

Details:

2017 National Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest
Friday, April 21, 2017
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Charleston Music Hall
37 John Street, Charleston, SC 29403

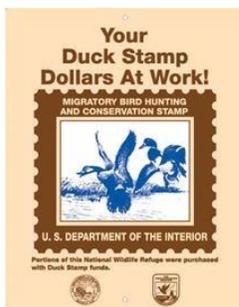


The current Jr. Duck Stamp

Support the Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp

The Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to two fundamental goals:

1. To increase promotional and educational efforts among various target audiences concerning the stamp and the National Wildlife Refuge system.
2. To increase the regular, voluntary purchase of the stamp among hunters and non-hunters alike.



Join or renew your membership. Our membership is annual, corresponding to the year of validity for the Federal Duck Stamp, namely from the beginning of July to the end of the following June. Our "Regular Friend" fee is modest, only \$15, but all Friends are also asked to *pledge to buy TWO stamps per year*, joining with other organizations across the country in that effort.

You can access a secure online form to join the Friends - or to make a contribution - [via Razoo](#). Or you can access our simple mail-in [membership form](#).

We encourage you to commit yourself to the promotion of the Stamp program, the Friends, and smart conservation through the sales and promotion of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation [Duck] Stamp.

And don't forget support for the Jr. Duck Stamp Program which reaches tens of thousands of youngsters. One way to help is described here, on the right, through AmazonSmile.

Shop at AmazonSmile

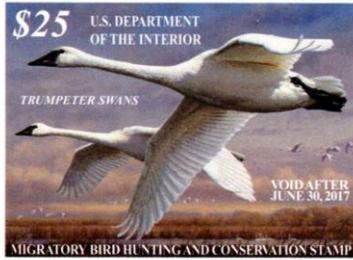
and Amazon will make a donation to:

The Junior Duck Stamp Program
through our Friends

Get started

amazon smile

You can still get your 2016-17 Federal Duck Stamp



So, you don't have your 2016-2017 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp? Or you haven't bought your second stamp yet? We do have some extra stamps on hand. Just send us a \$25 check (made out to "Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp") *along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope*, and we'll send your stamp to you:

Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp
P.O. Box 2143
Columbia, MD 21045

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