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WINGTIPS

Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp

Winning Artwork by Eddie LeRoy



First Place at the Contest - Eddie LeRoy

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NEW STAMP ART FOR 2020-2021

After two days of competition, Eddie LeRoy of Eufala, Alabama, emerged as the winner of the Federal Duck Stamp Art Competition on 29 September. He did it with his painting of a pair of Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks. (View his winning work, above.) There were 190 qualified entries in the competition. Of these entries, only 13 made it to the final round of judging. The eligible species for this year's Federal Duck Stamp Contest were the Black-bellied Whistling-Duck, Emperor Goose, American Black Duck, Bufflehead and Northern Shoveler. You can still view the [online gallery](#) with all the 2019 Federal Duck Stamp Art Contest entries.

LeRoy's acrylic painting will be used for the 2020-2021 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, or "Duck Stamp," which will go on sale in late June 2020. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, of course, produces the Stamp, which sells for \$25 and raises approximately \$40 million

in sales each year. These crucial dollars are deposited into the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund, and they go toward the acquisition or lease of habitat in the Refuge System from willing sellers.



Second Place - Cory McLaughlin

In addition to LeRoy, Cory McLaughlin of Wells, Texas, placed second with his oil painting of another Black-bellied Whistling-Duck pair, and Frank Mittelstadt of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, took third place with his acrylic painting of a Bufflehead pair. Curiously, Mittelstadt placed second last year with his rendition of a perched male Wood Duck accompanied by a hunter with dog collecting decoys.

The judges for this year's Federal Duck Stamp Contest were: Walter Matia, artist; Brian K. Schmidt, biologist; David Elwing, conservation partner and philatelist; Wayne Knight, artist; and Peggy Watkins, artist.

Since 1949, the artwork for the federal duck stamp has been chosen in a such a juried competition, originally in Washington, D.C., but now held at a different location each year. This year, the contest was held at the Patuxent Research Refuge in Laurel, Maryland, outside of Washington DC.

Eighty-five years after the Stamp was established, sales of the Duck Stamp to hunters, bird watchers, outdoor enthusiasts, and collectors have raised more than \$1 billion. This amount has gone to conserve over six million acres of wetland and grassland habitat for birds and other wildlife, providing meaningful opportunities to enjoy our National Wildlife Refuge System.



Third Place - Frank Mittelstadt

ORDER A STAMP THROUGH US

You can get your own current Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp at most large Post Offices, at many National Wildlife Refuges, and through a number of vendors.



If you want another easy way to get a current Stamp, send a check for \$25 made out to Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp, along *with a self-addressed stamped envelope* to us (at P.O. Box 2143, Columbia MD 21045), and a note with your phone number and your e-mail address in case there are any problems.

We'll send you the current stamp ASAP.. as long as our supply lasts!

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.



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 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

amazonsmile

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