

Wildfowl Sculpture

Second Annual Competition



**LOUISIANA
WILDFOWL CARVERS AND COLLECTORS
GUILD**

October 2 & 3, 1976
Grand Ball Room
Fontainebleau Hotel
New Orleans, Louisiana

For additional copies of this booklet,
send \$3.00 per copy to:
Louisiana Wildfowl
Carvers & Collectors Guild
615 Baronne Street
New Orleans, La. 70113
Printed by Harvey Press

Wildfowl Sculpture

Second Annual Competition

LOUISIANA WILDFOWL CARVERS AND COLLECTORS GUILD

Grand Ball Room
Fontainebleau Hotel
New Orleans, Louisiana

October 2 & 3, 1976

HOURS

10:00 - 5:00	Saturday Judging and Exhibits
6:30	Saturday Cocktails
7:15	Saturday Dinner
10:00 - 5:00	Sunday Exhibits and Awards

Contents

	Page
Exhibition Committee	3
Officers	3
President's Message	4
Dedication	6
Participating Artists	7-25
Membership	26-27
1975 Awards	28-30
Advertisements	31-32



Exhibition Committee

William Hanemann—Chairman

Glenn Bishop	Henry Gueringer
J. O. Bishop	David Hall
Charles Blaise	Jimmie Hanemann
Tan Brunet	Dr. Robyn Hardy
Stephen F. Church	Charles Hutchison
Joseph Crout	Roy LeGaux
Peter Eaves	Clay Roberts
Frank Ehret, Jr.	Jack Sands
Charles Frank	Donald Weaver, Sr.

Officers

Louisiana Wildfowl Carvers and Collectors Guild

Edward Alba—President
Roy LeGaux—First Vice-President
William Hanemann—Second Vice President
Henry Gueringer—Secretary
Jack Sands—Treasurer



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In October, 1974 our first president Charles Blaise and several others met to discuss forming an association of those interested in wood sculpture. Within a very short period, the result was an organization numbering 130 members!

During the following two years, many exhibits were held, in Shopping Center Malls, Banks, and Homesteads, exposing our work to many. During this period, two major commercial outlets, Adlers and Sports Art, specializing in wildfowl art, created an even greater interest for the general public by displaying works of our members.

Decoy collecting throughout the country led many to collecting decorative wildfowl carvings, encouraging artists to devote full time to this art form. Two of our present members carve professionally.

In the fall of 1975 our first annual competition was held, with 40 pieces entered by 15 artists. This year we expect double these figures.

Credit for the great interest in carving is due the many who are taking the time to assist the newcomer in this field and encourage the experienced to regain and keep his interest.

Many carvers of wooden duck decoys who hadn't carved in the last 30 years are back at it and it is leading them to the more decorative, sculptured works that you see exhibited.

A number of our members have done very well in the National shows in both 1975 and 1976 and due to that exposure we may expect some national interest in our own 1977 competition.

It has been a genuine pleasure to serve as president this last year and see the membership stabilize with at least 50 actively carving.



You have expressed a greater interest in demonstration of carving, burning, painting and restoring at our monthly meetings and I believe we have responded. The reaction has been rewarding and therefore you can expect more of the same.

Our committee is most indebted to the encouragement and support of our membership and particularly to the many carving artists listed as participants who have generously made their works available to us.

We offer very special thanks to those who offered their services as judges and who at this time must remain anonymous.

William J. Pitts, M.D., Chairman, Ad Hoc Committee on Bird Sculpture, Birmingham Museum of Art, best expressed our feeling for this competition when he wrote:

"The exhibit itself, "Bird Sculpture—A Native American Art Form, Refined," offers spectacular material for the pleasure of all families in this community and for visitors from everywhere. The art form is young and will continue to reach new levels of excellence. We hope those becoming first exposed to it will follow its growth with eager anticipation. Who knows, some of our youth may be attracted to add their talents to its bright and limitless future."

EDWARD M. ALBA
President

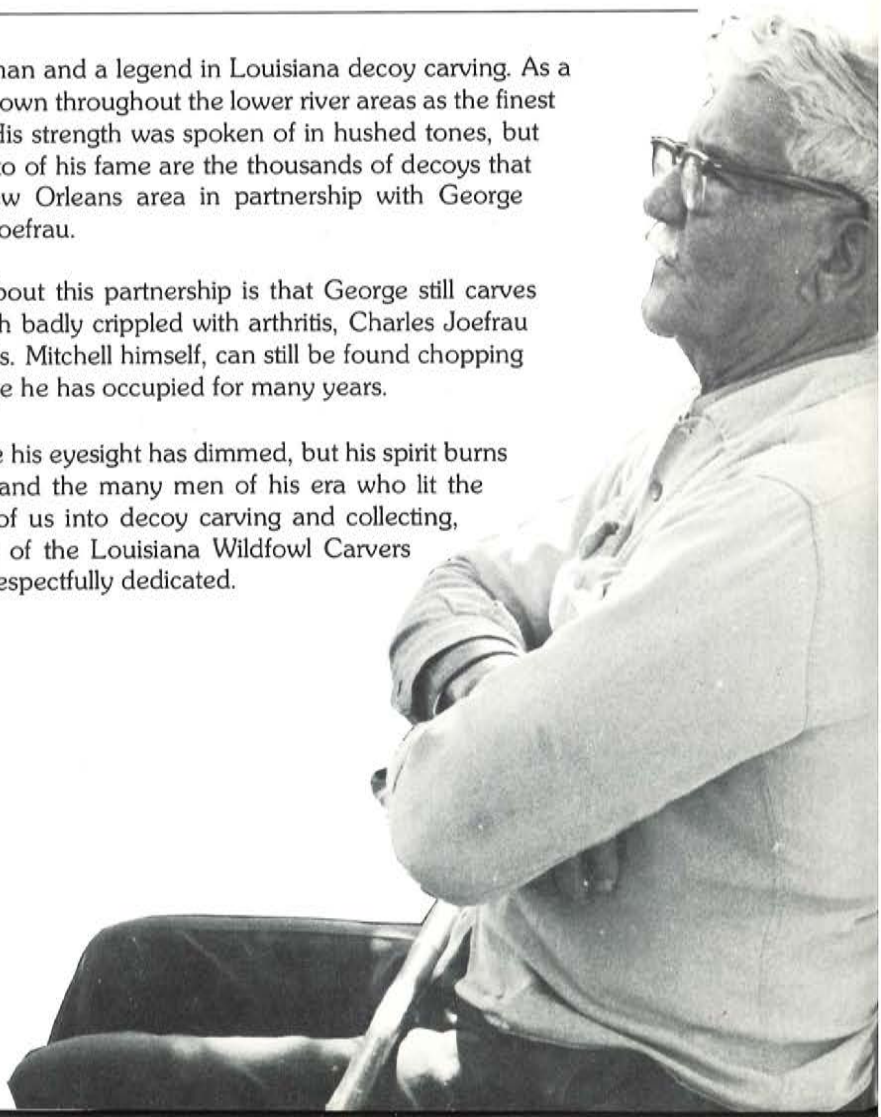


DEDICATION

Mitchell LaFrance, is a man and a legend in Louisiana decoy carving. As a younger man, he was known throughout the lower river areas as the finest of guides and hunters. His strength was spoken of in hushed tones, but the most lasting memento of his fame are the thousands of decoys that he marketed in the New Orleans area in partnership with George Frederick, and Charles Joefrau.

The astonishing thing about this partnership is that George still carves in Phoenix, and although badly crippled with arthritis, Charles Joefrau still carves in Los Angeles. Mitchell himself, can still be found chopping away in the frame cottage he has occupied for many years.

At ninety-six years of age his eyesight has dimmed, but his spirit burns unquenchably. To him and the many men of his era who lit the beacon that guided all of us into decoy carving and collecting, this second competition of the Louisiana Wildfowl Carvers and Collectors Guild is respectfully dedicated.



Participating Artists

Edward Alba	William Hanemann
Tan Brunet	Charles Hutchison
Steve Church	Louis Jobert
Allen Dufrene	Eric Hutchison
Russell Dufrene	Rudolph Hutchison
Frank Ehret	Jacob Kraemer
Michael Frady	Roy J. LeGaux
Charles Frank	Clay Roberts
Henry Gueringer	Chris Weaver
Donald Weaver, Sr.	



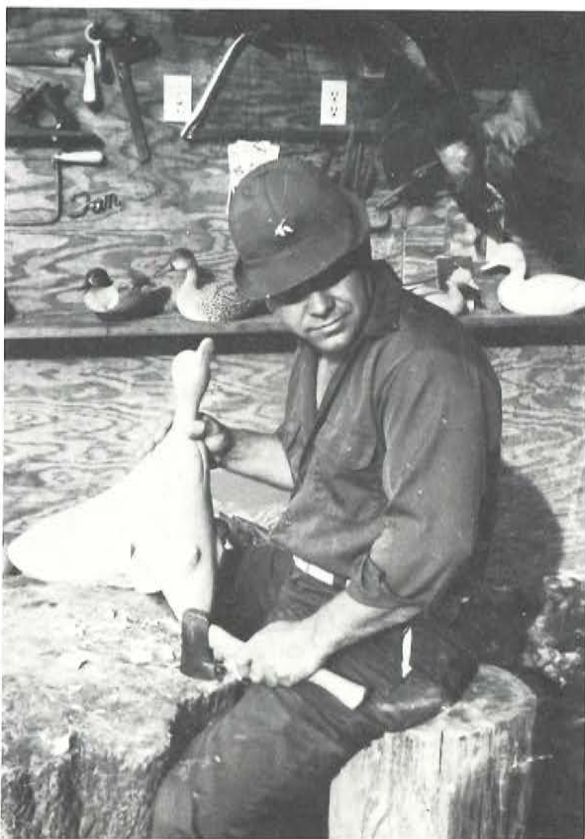
Edward Alba

The smiling face above belongs to one of the nicest gents in our club. Ed Alba, Second President of the Louisiana Wildfowl Carvers and Collectors Guild, is not only a dedicated carver of considerable talent, but one of the hardest working presidents our club will ever find. His untiring efforts on behalf of others will be a tough act to follow. Ed, a Consulting Engineer, always finds time to work out the club's many problems. He is a new carver, a fine painter, and has already demonstrated great talent in creating full size decorative decoys.



Tan Brunet

Tan Brunet of Galliano, a lumberyard operator is a most unique traditionalist. Tan carves and roughs his birds with nothing but ax and pocketknife. The rapidity with which he shapes his birds is simply amazing. His detailing, on the other hand, adapts the latest techniques of individual feather inserts, and burning techniques. A fine craftsman with a very delicate feel for the subject.



Steve Church

Although Steve Church would like to be considered an amateur, he is another novice turned professional overnight. A fantastic painter, Steve won a number of awards and ribbons at the World Championship of Carving as a novice last year. An avid hunter, Steve's birds reflect his knowledge of the wildlife he so delicately portrays.



10



Frank Ehret

Frank Ehret, another new carver, is not new to the outdoors. Frank, who lives in the vicinity of Lafitte, Louisiana, has long been a dedicated conservationist. He has fought political odds to establish the Bayou Barataria Recreational Park. A tough competitor, whose work has improved dramatically with each addition to his growing collection of his own works. Frank is a student of Roy LeGaux and would certainly have to be classed as one of the most improved of the new carvers.

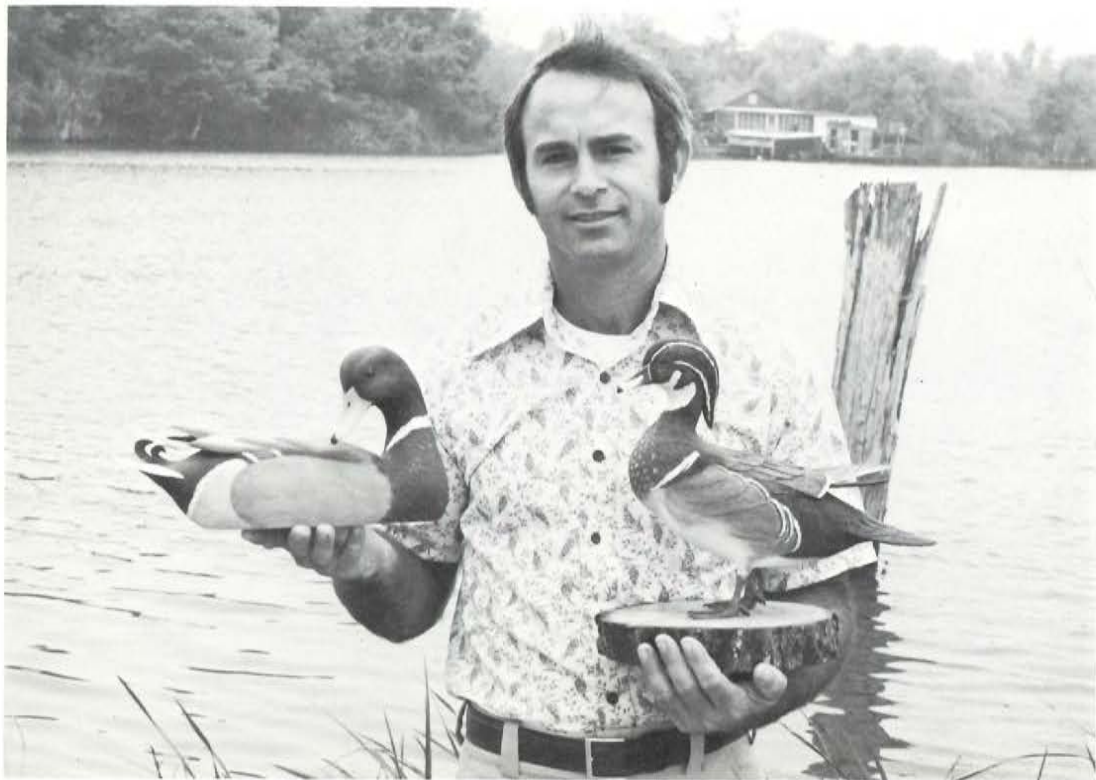


Allen Dufrene

The Dufrene Family of Bayou Des Allemands are becoming better known everyday, as the decoy carving Dufrenes. Russell, Allen, and Gerald were born and reared on a Bayou which for generations has been one of the finest hunting areas in the State. These men in their own style are portraying in wood, the birds they have hunted since birth. All three men had carved working decoys when first introduced to the burning tools, and techniques of 1975-76 carving. It didn't take long before all three men were turning out wood carvings that could compete anywhere in the United States. Their work is so in demand, that Russell complains he scarcely has a bird left for exhibit. If you notice a rather strange smile as Allen Dufrene holds the two teal he has carved, it's because I had asked him to stand still in the midst of a bed of fireants. When I completed posing him, he very calmly asked me if he could move, and then proceeded to do the Bayou Des Allemands stomp.



Russell Dufrene



Michael Frady

Mike Frady is a man who has influenced a tremendous number of Louisiana's decoy carvers. An art professor at Delgado Trade School. Frady has for years encouraged his students to participate in decoy carving and painting. An excellent teacher, a fine craftsman, a dedicated artist. Frady's works, especially the older ones, are eagerly sort by collectors from one end of the country to the other. His miniatures are mounted on driftwood with some floral background, executed in painstaking detail and beautifully painted.



Charles Frank

Charles Frank, author, collector, lecturer, carver, is responsible for many old time decoy carvers coming out of retirement, much to the delight of collectors, and for encouraging newcomers to the Art. Charles is most generous with his time, and a visit to his workshop will always find someone getting a helpful tip or information on where to obtain material or equipment. Because of his full schedule in placing portions of his vast collection in museums (four simultaneous exhibits in three states), editing his first book "Louisiana Duck Decoys" for new data and satisfying the demand for his slide-lectures, Charles has been forced to innovativeness in the selection and use of carving tools which will permit speed. His carvings and paintings are distinctive and have rewarded him with many ribbons.



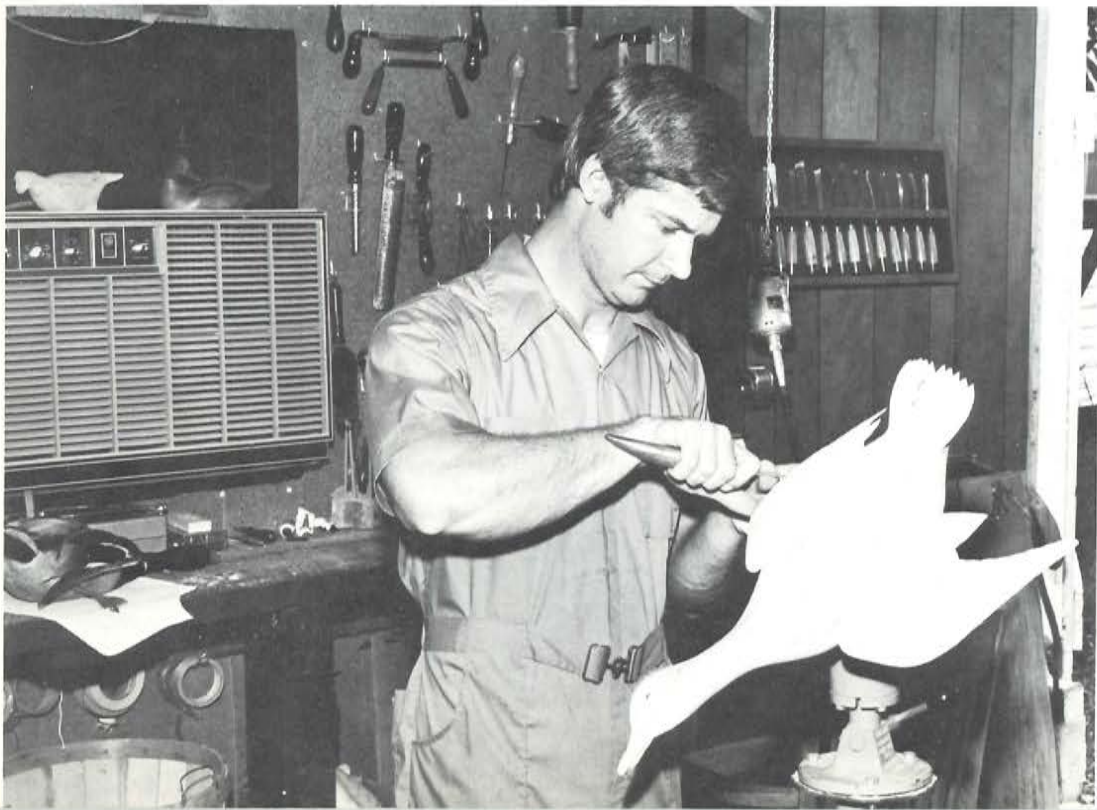
Henry Gueringer

Hank Gueringer is a relatively new carver, but in the last two or three years, his work has progressed from simple hunting decoys to birds of the caliber of this magnificent canvasback with which he is photographed in his workshop. Fantastic craftsman, and a protege of Charles and Rudolph Hutchison, he frequently consults with them, but his work shows an individuality and a talent that is helping to make his name a byword amongst Louisiana's woodworkers.



William Hanemann

Billy Hanemann is probably one of Louisiana's first fulltime carving professionals. A relatively young man, Billy's ambition has kept him at woodworking against what a few years ago were almost insurmountable odds. Today orders for Billy's works are backed-up for better than a year; and his work continues to improve. A very innovative craftsman and always quick to lend a helping hand. He specializes in "trompe d'oeil," or visual trickery. This art form, developed in the Mid-nineteenth Century from the European style, attempts to display extremely realistically a bird or grouping against a simple wooden background.



Rudolph and Charles Hutchison

Charles, Rudolph and Eric Hutchison must be written of as one of Louisiana's "carvingest" families. These three men, each in their own distinctive style has contributed greatly to Louisiana's decorative wild fowl carving renaissance. Eric (Charles' son) at seventeen, has completed the jumping pintail with which he is photographed, and will definitely leave his mark on Louisiana's carving heritage. Charles and Rudolph work together, with Rudolph the master of the woodwork, and Charles the master of the brush. They are a tough combination to beat.



Eric Hutchison



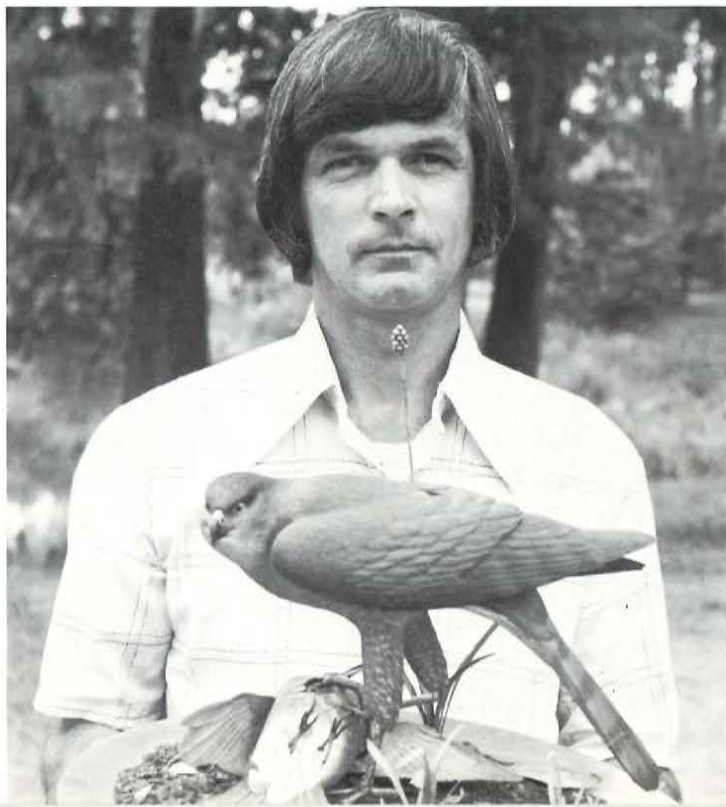
Jacob Kraemer

The City of Kraemer straddles beautiful Bayou Blue. Most of the habitations are on the western edge, while the eastern side is still a magnificent untouched cypress and tupelo swamp. As you cross the bridge into Kraemer, you feel as if you're back about fifty or sixty years. In a neat cottage with an old cypress workshop and shed in the back yard, you can usually find Jacob Kraemer, a spry octogenarian, chopping away at blocks of tupelo, still making the decoys just like he made them as a younger man. His eyesight has failed somewhat, and he no longer attempts to paint the bird, but he proudly states that as fast as he can carve them people come from all over his area to buy them. What a warm feeling to sit there and listen to Mr. Jacob tell of the bands of canvasback that darkened the sky in the days of his youth.



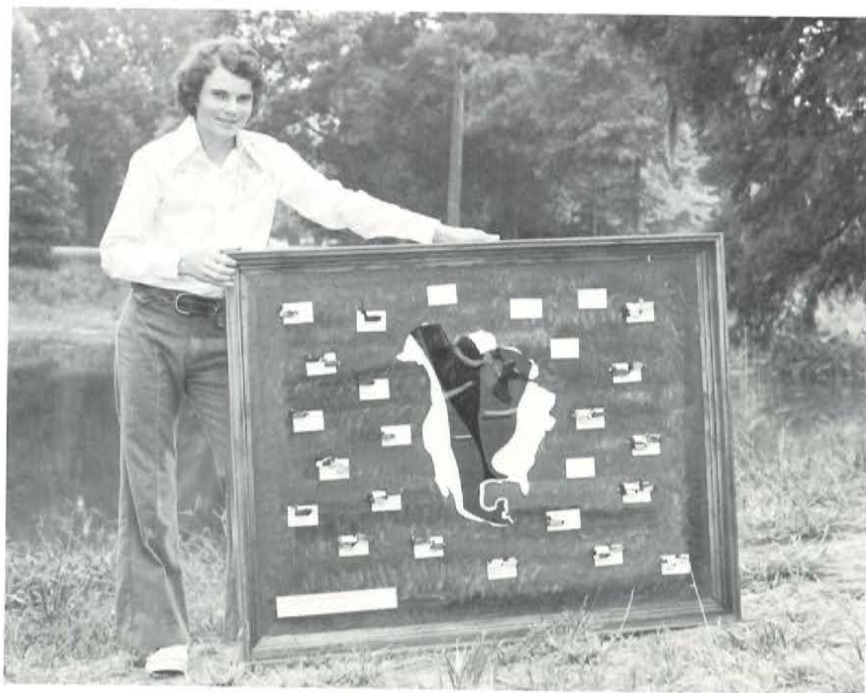
Roy LeGaux

Roy LeGaux of Meraux, Louisiana lives in a neat, brick cottage situated on what was once a tremendous stand of Louisiana's bald cypress. His work reflects the affinity he has always felt for the outdoors, and his birds show a sensitivity for the most intimate detail of color. Originally, a professional illustrator, Roy is now one of Louisiana's full-time decoy carving professionals. At last year's World Championship Carving Contest, he picked up seven awards as an artist. A fine craftsman! Roy was one of the founders of our organization and has offered classes for the past two years in carvings and painting to beginners and advanced students.



Chris Weaver

Donald Weaver and his boys are another remarkable Louisiana family of carvers. Don, a dental technician by trade, is a chip carver. This is an old carving method in which sanding does not remove the cut marks of the knife. He and his sons love nothing better than to find a huge piece of cypress root, drag it out of the marsh, and start to work on a mammoth goose or swan. They are always looking for roots that lend their basic structure to the bird they wish to represent. Chris, the youngster posing with the magnificent sign of the Louisiana migratory birds and their flight path, is a carver of miniatures, which are used as decorative pins and adornments by all who can get him to make them. His stated ambition is to win recognition in the World Championships this year. The miniatures he carved of the ducks of our flyway are proof it is not an impossible dream.



Donald Weaver, Sr.



Clay Roberts

Clay Roberts, is a young man with an avocation that is rapidly becoming a full time activity. Clay is a part time game warden, whose knowledge of the swamps surrounding the New Orleans area is being put to a practical use. Besides being a splendid carver, with a great deal of imagination, Clay is the source for most New Orleans decoy carvers' tupelo gum wood. Clay cuts this from the bottom four to five feet of the buttressed bole of the water tupelo, blocks it on a large band saw, and dips the ends in tar to prevent cracking during the drying process. Clay has been greatly influenced by the work of his friend, William Hanemann.



Louis Jobert

Louis Jobert is another example of our Club's multiplicity of talents. A long time semiprofessional hunter, trapper, and fisherman, Louis went from carving working decoys in early 1975 to the elaborate decorative wood carvings as shown in the accompanying photograph. Louis is not only talented with knife and brush, but combines the skill of a typical Cajun "can do" mechanic with his skills as a carver to modify and improve the tools of the trade. His most recent accomplishment was extending the cut on a small band saw to a twelve inch capacity at the throat. His work has progressed from simple hunting decoys to decorative hunting decoys, and fully detailed birds in flight, and preening models, which occupy more and more of his time.



MEMBERSHIP

Adler, Coleman
Alba, Edward M.
Alba, Edward M., Jr.
Albin, P. C.
Badinger, August J.
Biguenet, Michael P.
Bilbray, Charles
Bishop, Glenn
Bishop, J. O.
Bishop, Flint
Blaise, Charles
Bosch, Charles
Breux, Richard
Bretz, Dean
Brewer, Willis H., Jr.
Brockway, William R.
Brown, Bill W.
Brunet, Tan
Bryan, Richard W., Jr.
Calamari, Mike
Callahan, Howard J.
Carlos, Gregory
Carpenter, Ben A.
Carver, Harold

Chauvin, Curtis
Chauvin, Willard
Cheever, Byron
Church, Stephen F.
Cooper, Irwin N., Jr.
Crout, Joseph, Jr.
Culbertson, John C.
Danos, Joe
Davies, Rhys
Dinwiddie, Malcolm
Duchin, Gen. Charles F.
Dufrene, Allen J.
Dufrene, Gerald
Dufrene, Russell
Eaves, John Peter
Ehret, Frank, Jr.
Forschler, Geo. M., Jr.
Frady, Mike
Frank, Charles
Frederick, Ingrid
Frederick, Archie
Frederick, August
Frederick, Harold
Frederick, Jules E.

Frerie, Lloyd, Jr.
Frischhertz, Roy
Fritscher, Michael J.
Gaba, Morton J.
Galatas, Peter
Gannuck, Donald
Glaser, Robert
Glenn, Kay
Goldman, Edward
Goodwin, John M.
Gueringer, Henry A.
Hall, David
Hammerli, Ed
Hammond, John P.
Hanemann, Jimmie
Hanemann, William C.
Hardy, Dr. Robyn
Hayden, Frank
Home, Dorothy
Home, William
Hutchison, Charles
Hutchison, Eric
Hutchison, Rudolph
Huttner, Joe



MEMBERSHIP

Jackson, Alan
Jacobs, Louis E.
Jobert, Louis
Johnson, Albert
Johnson, Mary
Jones, Mr. & Mrs. C. Keith
Kearney, George
Kiene, Paul C.
Kleinpeter, D. Ben
Knoblock, C. J., Jr.
La France, Mitchell
Laine, Raymond
Lautenschlaeger, L. J., Jr.
Lautenschlaeger, L. J. III
LeBlanc, Carroll A.
Lee, Judge Harry
LeGaux, Roy
Mabry, Walter
Mariani, Leo
Marshall, John F.
Mason, Dr. James W.
Mathews, Marion U.
Meric, John L.
Meyer, Al.

Mitchell, William
Muller, Al
Ory, Gerald
Pape, Adam
Pellegrin, Roy
Perez, Irvin J.
Pichon, J. J.
Pleyel, C. H.
Preston, James
Puccio, Vero B.
Redmann, Stephen M.
Rhodes, James E.
Richards, John J.
Roberts, Clay
Roberts, Todd
Rodrigue, LeRoy A.
Russell, Lanny J.
Salvato, Lawrence
Sands, Jack
Schmit, Earl G.
Schoenborn, Edward
Schulz, Grant A.
Scioneaux, Ned
Sigure, Tim

Simon, Joseph
Spongia, Anthony
Sulzer, Ben A.
Taylor, James
Thomas, Harold A.
Treitler, Dennis
Tschirn, Charles
Turlich, Ken
Turner, Lourell A., Sr.
Udstad, Sig
Vacant, Emile Jr.
Vaughn, William
Vidacovich, Ernest
Viguerie, Kevin
Villere, Jarreau
Viola, John
Weaver, Chris
Weaver, Donald T., Sr.
Weaver, Donald T., Jr.
Welles, John E.
White, John F.
Williams, Dr. Jerry
Yuratich, Merle



1975 WINNERS

“UNTOUCHED” OLD DECOY

Judge James Hanemann

1st Place Clovis Vizier

2nd Place Nicol Vidacovich

3rd Place Mitchell LaFrance

4th Place Jules Frederick

Honorable Mention Donewar

Teal Drake owned by Brian Cheramie

Mallard Drake owned by Al Muller

Mallard Hen owned by Ed Alba

Pintail Drake owned by Al Muller

Mallard Drake owned by Frank Ehret

NEW WORK

Judges General Charles Duchin; Mr. McIlhenny, Sportsman and Decoy Collector; and Bill Brockway, Architect

MINIATURE

1. Stephen Church

2. Stephen Church

3. Donald Weaver

4. Donald Weaver

Honorable Mention—Bob Glaser

Canvasback

Half Mallard

King Rail

Hawk

Mallard

WORKING DECOY

1. Tan Brunet

2. Tan Brunet

3. Donald Weaver

4. Clay Roberts

Honorable Mention—Roy LeGaux

Pintail Drake

Pintail Hen

Pintail Hen

Poulet de Eau (Coot)

Mallard Hen



1975 WINNERS

JUNIOR

1. Eric Hutchison
2. Lester Lautenschlaeger, III
3. Chris Weaver

Pair of Ruddy Ducks
Blue Wing Teal Drake
Hanging Pintail

AMATEUR

1. Edward Alba
 2. Stephen Church
 3. Jack Sands
 4. Edward Alba
- Honorable Mention—Jack Sands

Greenwing Teal Drake
Spoonbill
Cattle Egret
Canvasback Drake
Ivory Bill Woodpecker

SEMI-PROFESSIONAL

1. Charles Frank
 2. John Culbertson
 3. Hank Gueringer
 4. Hank Gueringer
- Honorable Mention—Charles Frank

Hanging Green-wing Teal Drake
Upland Plover
Quail
Blackbird
Hanging Yellow Leg

PROFESSIONAL

1. Frank Ehret
2. Donald Weaver

Preening Pintail Drake
Canada Goose Drake



1975 WINNERS

3. Donald Weaver

Standing Canvasback

4. Eric Hutchison

Jumping Pintail Drake

Honorable Mention:

Russell Dufrene

Preening Mallard Drake

William Hanemann

Poulet de Eau (Coot)

SCULPTURE

1. Kay Glenn

Hibachi

2. Charles Blaise

Bicentennial Logo

3. Robert Glaser

Miniature Pirogue

4. Kay Glenn

Japanese Vase

BEST OF SHOW

PROFESSIONAL AND SEMI-PROFESSIONAL

Frank Ehret

Preening Drake Pintail

AMATEUR AND JUNIOR

Eric Hutchison

Pair of Ruddy Ducks

SCULPTURE

Kay Glenn

Hibachi

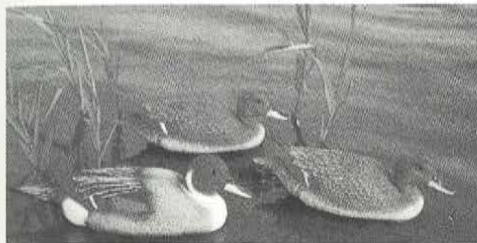


 **Steinberg's** SPORTS
CENTERS

SPORTING GOODS and
DECOY HEADQUARTERS
in CENTRAL LOUISIANA

- Finest quality firearms
- Complete selection of accessories
 - Gift departments
- Handcarved antique decoys

BON MARCHE &
CORPORATE MALL



 **Steinberg's** SPORTS
CENTERS

in Baton Rouge ● 832 St. Philip St. ● Bon Marche ● Corporate Mall
in Lafayette ● Oil Center Shopping Village





32



Sports Art was established in 1968, the first retail outlet to handle carvings by well-known local artists, such as Billy Hanemann, Tan Brunet and Roy LeGaux. Managing Director Peter Eaves has been with Sports Art for six years and says, "I couldn't ask for a better and more interesting place to work."

SPORTS ART

THE SOUTH'S FINEST AND
LARGEST SPORTING GALLERY

A COMPLETE SELECTION OF
WILDLIFE PAINTINGS, PRINTS,
CARVINGS, BRONZES, AND GIFTS

"IN THE QUARTER"

633 TOULOUSE ST.
NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70130

525-3846

OR

525-2467

"IN THE HYATT"

HYATT-REGENCY HOTEL
500 POYDRAS PLAZA
NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70130

561-8182

MONDAY - SUNDAY 10:00 - 6:00

CALLING ALL DUCK LOVERS.

Adler's Gallery Invites The World's Duck Lovers And Decoy Collectors To Browse Through Its Works By Perez, Weaver, Gueringer, Pape, Hutchinson, Church and Fredericks. Also Available, *Louisiana Duck Decoys* By Charles W. Frank, Jr., The Most Comprehensive Book On The Subject Of Wooden Decoys Ever Written.

adler's

ART GALLERY
722 CANAL, 523-5292

