



Schedule of Events



April 25-27, 2025

Roland E. Powell Convention Center
Ocean City, MD





Are You a Member?

Join online: wardfdn.org

Individual \$30

Membership for one

Limited Discounts on programs, classes, and seminars

Pairs \$60

Membership for two

Limited Discounts on programs, classes, and seminars

Ward Goose \$150

Membership for a Household

Discounts on programs, classes, and seminars

Two Tickets to the Ward World Championships in Ocean City, Maryland

Save the Date

Sam Dyke Memorial “Old Bird” Antique Decoy Contest

June 1, 2025 in Annapolis, Maryland

Chesapeake Challenge & Sam Dyke Memorial “Old Bird”

Antique Decoy Contest

September 27, 2025 in Crisfield, Maryland

Ward World Championship

April 24-26, 2026 in Ocean City, Maryland

Watch our website for more events!

JEFF BOUNDS
MARG BOUNDS
HABBART DEAN MEMORIAL FUND
GARY & PAM STENGER
EMILE & SANDRA BROUSSARD
PAT & JESSICA GODIN
JETT BRUNET
MICHAEL PETRIE
JOSH & LAURA GUGE
DR. KENT KIMMEL
DAN & PAT BURGETTE
JACK COX
ROBERT KROESE
CAPT. TOMMY CORNICELLI
TOM CHRISTIE
EUGENE MERRITT
KARL & DEB YANKEY
C JOHN SULLIVAN
TOMMY STEWART
KATHY MARCHUT
LYNN BRANSON
RICHARD & KATHY SNYDER
DEL HERBERT
PAUL RHYMER
JEFF & MARNA KRETE
RICH SMOKER
ANTHONY DONATO
TOM MATUS
TOM FLEMMING
JAMES VAN NESS
KEN JEWELL
IN MEMORY OF ERIC BEAUCHAMP

*Thank you
Sponsors!*

OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND
MARYLAND STATE ARTS COUNCIL
MARYLAND FOLKLIFE NETWORK
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS
WORCESTER COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL
TIDALHEALTH
CHINCOTEAGUE DECOY CARVERS
AND ARTIST ASSOCIATION
BENELLI USA
DELMARVA DECOY COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION
DELAWARE MUSEUM OF NATURE & SCIENCE
DELMARVA UNIVERSITY OF MAKING BIRDS
THE WASHINGTON BRANT FOUNDATION
G&E HARDWARE
GUYETTE AND DEETER
MDI WOOD CARVERS SUPPLY
OCEAN CITY ACCOMMODATIONS
SHARP GAS AND ENERGY
A & M AUCTIONEERS & APPRAISERS
VAN NUYS FOUNDATION
THE PAPER PEOPLE
LOUISIANA WILDFOWL
CARVERS & COLLECTORS GUILD
INDIAN RIVER HIGH SCHOOL
CONSTRUCTION CLASSES
SHORE PROOF ACCOUNTING SOLUTIONS, LLC
SMOKER'S SHOP NORTH
HUMES CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
PARK PLACE JEWELERS
WARD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP CARVERS AND
SUPPORTERS WHO DONATED ITEMS TO THE
BENEFIT AUCTION

Thursday

- 11:00 AM- 8:00 PM
 - Wildfowl Competition Registration at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center
 - Class: Composition and Design with Josh Guge (Class filled)
 - Class: Carving the Eyes and Bill on a Shorebird Bust with Tommy Stewart (Class filled)
- 2:00 – 4:00
 - Free Lecture: A Discussion of the Design and Creation of Several World-Class Pieces with Pat Godin
 - Room 217B

Friday

Show Hours 10:00 to 5:00. All Judging in Hall A/B unless otherwise noted

- 7:00 - 9:00
 - Wildfowl Competition Registration
- 9:30
 - Judging - World Divisions
 - Decorative Life-size Wildfowl
 - Decorative Miniature Wildfowl
 - Interpretive Wood Sculpture
 - World Shootin' Rig Division - Assawoman Bay
 - Note: Judging time on the Bay may be changed at the discretion of the judges
- 9:30 - 11:00
 - Panel: Collecting History with C. John Sullivan, Rod Benjamin, Chris Pusey, Burt Campbell
 - Upstairs Room 217B
- 10:00
 - Judging - Advanced, Intermediate, Novice Divisions
 - Decorative Life-size Floating Waterfowl
 - Decorative Life-size Wildfowl
 - Interpretive Wood Sculpture
 - Decorative Miniature Wildfowl
- 10:00- 12:00
 - Demo: Youth Carver Jack Revie
 - AB Hall Demo Booth
 - Please note demo times are subject to change
- 10:00 - 5:00
 - Golden Feather Hunt - Ocean City, Maryland
 - Photo Studio with Alan Wycheck
 - Art Corner - Featured art activities. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
 - Carving Demonstrations
- 11:00
 - Judging - World Division
 - Decorative Life-size Waterfowl Pair
 - World Single Gunner Decoy (When Shootin' Rig is done)
 - Note: Judging times on the Bay may be changed at the discretion of the judges
 - Judging - Masters Divisions
 - Decorative Life-size Wildfowl
 - Decorative Miniature Wildfowl
 - Interpretive Wood Sculpture

Friday

Show Hours 10:00 to 5:00. All Judging in Hall A/B unless otherwise noted

- 11:15 - 12:15
 - Lecture: Creating a Winning Waterfowl Pattern with Tom Christie
 - Upstairs Room 217A
- Noon
 - Judging- Masters Division
 - Decorative Lifesize Floating Waterfowl
- 1:00
 - Judging - Lem & Steve Ward Competition
 - Single Gunner - Assawoman Bay*
 - *Note: Judging times on the Bay may be changed at the discretion of the judges
- 1:00 - 2:00
 - Lecture: Bill Detail and Support with Tommy Stewart
 - Upstairs Room 215B
- 1:30
 - Judging - Advanced Decorative Miniature (may be judged as early at 10 am)
- 2:00
 - Judging - Sculpture Other Than Wood
 - Judging - Feathers
 - Judging - Fronds
- 2:15 - 3:15
 - Lecture: Owl Anatomy: Applying the Intricacies to Your Carving with Al Jordan
 - Upstairs Room 217A
- 2:30
 - Judging - Lem & Steve Single Gunner (**may start after lunch at clerk & judges choice**)
- 2:30
 - Demo: Jeff Rechin and Larry Barth
 - AB Hall Demo Booth
 - Please note demo times are subject to change
- 3:30 - 4:30
 - Panel: The Backgrounds of Sculpture with Paul Rhymer, Dan Burgette
 - Upstairs Room 217B
- 4:30
 - Judging - Intermediate, Novice Divisions
 - Best in Show
- 5:30
 - Living Legends Reunion Dinner (Advance Ticket Required), [The Grand Hotel](#)



Saturday

Show Hours 9:00 to 5:00. All Judging in Hall A/B unless otherwise noted

- 9:00 - 5:00
 - Art Corner - Featured art activities. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
 - Carving Demonstrations
 - Golden Feather Hunt - Ocean City, Maryland
- 9:00
 - Judging - Lem & Steve Ward Divisions
 - Contemporary Antique
 - Contemporary Decoys & Champion
 - Shorebird Decoy
 - Decorative Smoothie Waterfowl & Champion
 - Judging - Bench Divisions
 - Judging - Lem & Steve Ward Divisions on the bay
 - Gunning Pair
 - Gunning Pair Champion (after GP)
 - *Note: Judging times on the Bay may be changed at the discretion of the judges
- 10:00 - 5:00
 - Photo Studio with Alan Wycheck
- 11:00
 - Judging - Lem & Steve Ward Divisions:
 - Decorative Smoothie Shorebirds & Wading Birds
 - Champagne Divisions
 - Youth Competition
 - Youth Gunning Pairs - Tanks
- 11:15 - 12:15
 - Lecture: Challenges of Carving Miniatures with Dick Snyder
 - Upstairs Room 215B
- 1:00
 - Champagne Waterfowl Silent Auction starts (goes until noon Sunday)
- 1:00 - 2:00
 - Lecture/Workshop: Critiques with Peter Palumbo
 - Upstairs Room 217A
- 1:00 - 2:30
 - Demo: Al Jordan
 - AB Hall Demo Booth
 - Please note demo times are subject to change
- 1:00 - 4:00
 - Class: Beginner Carving Class with Ross Smoker
 - Sign Up Required
- 2:15: 3:15
 - Lecture: Color Theory 101 with Peter Palumbo
 - Upstairs Room 217A
- 2:30
 - Demo: Scott Belote
 - AB Hall Demo Booth
 - Please note demo times are subject to change

Saturday

Show Hours 9:00 to 5:00. All Judging in Hall A/B unless otherwise noted

- 3:30 -4:30
 - Lecture: From the Field to Finished with Larry Barth
 - Upstairs Room 217B
- 5:00 - 7:00
 - Around the Worlds Mixer - AB Hall
 - Cash Bar and Hors d'oeuvres
 - World Division Winners Announced (6:00)

Sunday

Show Hours 10:00 to 3:00

- 8:00 - 10:00
 - Carvers and guest (with a badge) special photo session - A/B Hall
- 10:00 - 2:00
 - Carving Demonstrations
 - Art Corner - Featured art activities. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
 - Golden Feather Hunt - Ocean City, Maryland
 - Turn in your tally sheet at the Info Desk by 3 PM
 - **Champagne Waterfowl Silent Auction continues until noon
- 10:30 - 11:30
 - Panel: Carving for 150 Years and Counting with Larry Barth, Pat Godin, Jett Brunet
 - Upstairs Room 217B
 - Demo: Art Leonard
 - AB Hall Demo Booth
 - Please note demo times are subject to change
- 12:00
 - Awards Presentations
 - Living Legends
 - Special Awards
 - People's Choice
 - Youth
 - Sculpture
 - Divisions: Lem & Steve, Novice, Intermediate, Advanced
 - Special Memorial Awards
 - Masters
 - Worlds
- 3:00
 - Carving Check Out

Times and events are subject to change.



Golden Feather Hunt



A City-Wide Scavenger Hunt

In celebration of Ocean City's 150th Anniversary

April 25-27, 2025

Ocean City Business locations participate in this community-wide scavenger hunt the weekend of April 25-27, 2025.

Sponsored by the Ward Foundation as part of its Ward Ward Championship.

Spot a Feather? Take a Photo

Track it on your Tally Card

Find More Feathers Via Google Maps

Find 20 or more by April 27, 2025 and

you will be eligible for prizes offered by our participating business

Share Your Finds #OCMDGoldenFeatherHunt

More info at wardfdn.org.



**The 2025 Benefit Auction will be held this
SUMMER**

Online with Guyette & Deeter.

Thank you to Guyette & Deeter for hosting
our Benefit Auction!

Thank you to our Supporting Artists who
donated art to the 2024 Benefit Auction and to
those donating to the 2025 Benefit Auction!