

# S O U T H   S H O R E WATERFOWLERS

A S S O C I A T I O N , I N C .



JUNE 2014

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

P.O. BOX 217

BRIGHTWATERS, NY 11718

## *Attention Shooters*

I have a few tentative dates for the next couple of months shoots at Peconic Sportsmans Club. A round of sporting clays costs \$40.00 and then lunch afterwards \$10.00 (either BBQ on site or at the Triangle Pub). Mark Sunday June 28th, July 19th, and August 24th on your calendar. We start promptly at 9:30 so arrive a little early to get ready. Bring 100 rounds for the sporting clays shooting, and eye and ear protection. This is for SSWA members, but call me to see if space is available for you and your guest (I mean future SSWA member). Call Curt at 631-661-0379 to get on the list. It's a lot of fun!

## *Fluke Fishing Trip Set for July 20th*

The SSWA is having a club fishing trip on Sunday, July 20th aboard the FISH ON II. It will be from Noon to 4 pm. The cost of the trip is \$30 for adults and \$25 for the kids. The boat leaves from the WindSwept Marina, 215 Atlantic Ave., East Moriches, NY. Rods and bait are included. We will have a 6 ft. hero sandwich.

Call Curt to reserve a spot and send a check made payable to **SSWA** for the number of people that are coming to: Curt Matzinger, 32 Magro Drive, N. Babylon, NY, 11703. To lock in this price, I need to have the checks sent to me before July 15th so I can pay for the boat the day of the trip. Call NOW!

## *SSWA Annual BBQ is Set for August 16th*

The club is having its 2nd Annual BBQ at the WindSwept Marina, 215 Atlantic Ave., East Moriches, NY. It is **FREE** and it is open to members in good standing and their immediate family members. It will start at 12:30 pm. You must call Curt (631-661-0379) with the number of people coming from your family. Then send a check for \$20 payable to **SSWA** to Curt Matzinger, 32 Magro Drive, N. Babylon, NY, 11703. Yes, I said it was free. So when you show up the day of the BBQ, I will give you back your check. If you don't show up, I will deposit it to the clubs account. The club is willing to pay for it, but we don't want to waste food on people who say they are coming and don't show up. By sending the check, you are committing to come.

WindSwept will again have their Pig Roast going on as well as their marine flea market. Come early and see all the vendors and what they are selling. We had a really good time last year and we want to have a bigger and better one this year. It was a super get together. Call now and put it on your calendar. We are supplying the food, but if you have a special dish you would like to bring, that would be great. Also please bring a chair for each person. See you there!!



Jon Swezey

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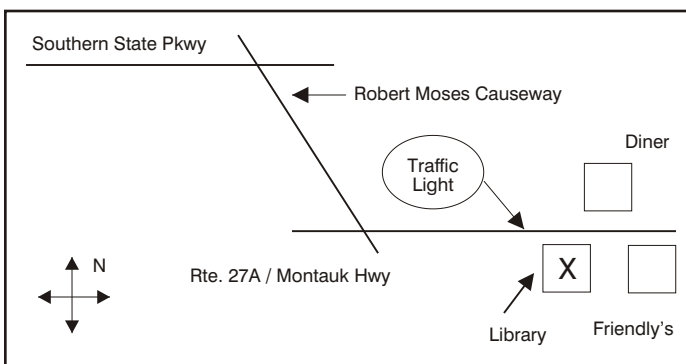
# South Shore Waterfowlers

## Voice of the Long Island Waterfowler

The South Shore Waterfowlers meet at 7:30 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) 862-8518.



### South Shore Waterfowlers Association — Officers —

- President . . . . . Ron Sineo  
631-862-8518
- 1st Vice President . . . . . John Adams  
631-618-5728
- 2nd Vice President . . . . . Erik Tallbe, Jr.  
516-799-6613
- Secretary . . . . . Ron Pliszak  
631-902-2220
- Treasurer, Newsletter Editor,  
Duckboat Show Chairman, Historian,  
Club Dinner & BBQ Chairman. . . . . Curt Matzinger  
613-661-0379
- Sergeant at Arms . . . . . Erik Tallbe  
516-799-6613
- Membership . . . . . Bob Dasch  
631-472-0683

## Spring 2014 Waterfowl Task Force

by Ron Sineo



On April 12, 2014, the Waterfowl Hunter Task Force for the Long Island Zone met at the DEC building in Stony Brook to make recommendations for next season's calendar dates. While these are only recommendations, they are usually approved by the NYS DEC. Below is a list of the calendar dates for the coming season:

**Youth Weekend** . . . . . November 22–23

**Regular Duck Season** . . November 27–January 25

### Regular Canada Goose Season:

*Western Long Island Zone:*

October 11–19 and November 27 – March 4

*Central Long Island Zone:*

November 27 – February 4

*Eastern Long Island Zone:*

December 3 – January 31

**Special Late Canada Goose Season,  
North Shore, Central Zone** . . . . . February 5 – 10

### Brant Season:

November 27–30 and December 10 – January 25

### Sea Duck Season:

October 17 – January 31

### Snow Goose Season:

November 24 –March 10

## Attention Members

It has come to our attention that the DECALS licensing system has been having many problems. It is either down in many locations, at town halls that are only open Monday to Friday bankers hours, or not in many of the big chain stores (Dicks, Walmart, or Sports Authority). The officers have been trying to get answers as to why there are these issues. We will keep you informed of what we find. If you plan on going fishing or hunting, make sure you plan ahead to get to a town hall to get your license and not wait till the last minute. You might be S.O.L. I know that Camp-Site has a machine.

## *Talking About Dogs — Get the Right Start*

by George Grivas

Are you getting a puppy? This is my favorite time of the year to get a puppy. Let's get the right start.

I like to have a very clear idea as to what my adult dog will be. He will be a good citizen and will be well socialized around people, dogs, boats, road noise, and other environmental factors. My dog will also be obedient with off lead obedience as my goal. He will be kept in working condition and will be a good water dog. He will have to sit when I give one blast of the whistle—often at great distances. He will be steady. He will take a directional hand signal (cast) for blind retrieves.

These are some issues that I consider "Preliminaries":

- A. *Housebreaking*: I use a crate for this
- B. *Name recognition*: Call his name and treat him when he looks
- C. *Nipping – Cry out "ouch"*: This is what puppies do. Change tactics if needed.
- D. *Collar*: Get him used to wearing a puppy collar. No choke collar until 6 months.

Next is puppy obedience. This is taught with treats. Use very small pieces for training treats. You can teach:

- A. Sit
- B. Here
- C. Heeling
- D. Down

At 6 months my obedience changes from puppy style to formal obedience. This is obedience with the use of a little pressure in order to insure compliance. Pressure is in the form of a quick tug on the leash while the dog wears a chain choke collar. The sequence is to give the command first and then a tug on the leash if necessary.

### **The Basic Retrieve**

You can throw a rolled up sock in a hallway and have the puppy bring it back to you. When the puppy is maybe 10-12 weeks old you can start using a puppy bumper for retrieving in the yard. Flat buckle collar and short leash will help you control the dog.



At 14 weeks you can use a helper to throw bumpers and fire a starter pistol from a distance of at least 50 feet. The dog will learn that the gunshot means retrieve. You can gently restrain the dog to encourage steadiness.

At 6 months the pup should be able to do simple single marks up to 100 yards. Since this will be a duck dog I would avoid having the dog quarter and hunt for game right now. You want to emphasize marking ability.

At about 6 months the puppy will start teething. This is time to stop the retrieving because the puppy's gums will be sore and bleeding and you will probably get sloppy retrieves.

Somewhere during the first 6 months you will want to introduce the puppy to feathers—a duck wing, a pigeon, a duck—any of these is good. Also, the puppy should be gently introduced to water. Make sure that the water is relatively warm and you have a gradually sloping shoreline.

Some don'ts: Don't throw endless retrieves, don't throw sticks for your dog, and don't play tug of war with the dog (some may argue with me about this).

Yes, this is my favorite time of the year to get a puppy. I must admit that I thoroughly enjoy training my dogs. Patience is a must but I know that my dog is more than a pet. My dog is a working dog, a duck dog, a dog that lives to retrieve.





## *The President's Corner*

by Ron Sineo



- On April 5th we had our annual SSWA "Curt" Dinner. It was the 10th anniversary for this great event, and was perhaps bigger and better than any in our past. As always, the food was delicious, and the company was top notch! Toward the end of

the evening, on behalf of the SSWA, it was my honor to present Curt with something that was long overdue. Here he is, pictured holding the outstanding service plaque that he was awarded. Congratulations, Curt! Well Deserved!

- The last meeting of the season was held Monday night, April 7th. It was also SSWA Annual Election night. The elections were held, and the results are as follows: Ron Sineo, President; John Adams, 1st Vice President; Erik Tallbe Jr., 2nd Vice President; Ron Pliszak, Secretary; and Curt Matzinger, Treasurer. This year's advisors to the Board are: Bob Dasch, Tom Gresser, Steve Jendricks, and Kate Sohm. Congratulations to those elected.
- There has been some progress on our proposal to partner with Suffolk County Parks to create a handicap-access blind at Hubbard County Park in Flanders. As a result of the May 6th meeting with the County Parks Sporting Advisory Council, I was encouraged to move forward by sending a letter to the Suffolk County Parks Commissioner requesting his approval for work to begin. I am now awaiting his response.
- The May 18th Sporting Clays Shoot at Peconic was a big success. We had some 15 members and 3 member guests (soon to join SSWA) and some PRSC/SSWA members who acted as hosts and Squad leaders for the shoot. They were John D'Avino, Warren Busch, Joe Leggio, and yours truly. Special thanks to PRSC member Tom Winsper who helped us out by hosting a SSWA squad as well. When the shoot was over, there was plenty to eat at the barbeque, with our very own Curt Matzinger acting as the **grillmeister** for the event. Check out the website under "Galleries" to see the great candid photos of the shoot!
- The next shoot will be Saturday, June 28th at 9:30 sharp. If you haven't signed up yet, call Curt (631-661-0379) and get your name on the list!
- The SSWA Board will conduct its annual summer meeting on July 12.
- I will be in Charleston, West Virginia the week of July 20th to attend the Summer Atlantic Flyway Meetings. (Yes, hard to believe, but West Virginia is one of the "Atlantic Flyway" states!) Look for my report in the next issue of our newsletter.
- Our Annual Summer Picnic is set for Saturday, August 16. Mark your calendar, and let Curt know how many will attend.

Enjoy your summer, have lots of fun, and stay safe. We hope to see you at some of SSWA's events in the coming weeks!

## *Camp-Site Turns 50*

On May 31, 2014 the **Camp-Site Sport Shop** celebrated its 50th birthday. Jon and gang had a really nice event. There was a great BBQ, DJ, raffle, and games for the kids. It was a really good turnout of loyal customers, family, and friends. Jon is a great supporter of the SSWA, and whenever you need any hunting, fishing, or camping goodies, come down to the store and show your support. Congratulations and here's to another 50 years.

Best of Luck Jon!

## *Characters You Never Want to Meet in Your Duck Blind*

by Ron Sineo

If you have ever travelled to another state or province to do some guided duck hunting, you may have been coerced into hunting in a blind with one or more strangers (and we are not talking about the guide here). I have had this happen more than once, and I hated it. Even though I always “insist” on no strangers hunting with me when I am booking the hunt, it can happen anyway. Sadly, some guides are not true to their word. You enter into an agreement for a hunt in good faith. You mail off a sizeable deposit, spend hundreds on air fare, car rental, and accommodations, and have some expectation that your wishes will be followed. So you arrive at the “lodge” and meet the guide, who tells you there has been an unavoidable change in plans and now 1 or 2 other hunters have to join your hunt. At this point, you are between a rock and a hard place. Sure, you can put your foot down and refuse the hunt. In that case, it’s good bye deposit, not to mention the hundreds you have already spent travelling. So you say to yourself “how bad can it be?” Well, a recent article I read answers this question better than I ever could.

There is a very talented and humorous outdoor magazine story writer by the name of Bruce Cochran. His article in the spring 2014 issue of Delta Waterfowl is definitely entertaining to read. The title is “Oh No, Not Him!” and it describes six characters you never want to meet in your duck blind. For any and all of you who can get your hands on that article, I recommend that you read it.

For all of you who do not have access to Delta’s magazine, I will try to paraphrase and give you the highlights. The author suggests that the guide or outfitter puts you in a duck blind or goose pit with a total stranger. You don’t know if he is a safe gun handler. Hell you don’t even know if he is sober! As the title description indicates, Bruce Cochran describes 6 hunter stereotypes to avoid, and I think many of us have encountered each of these. Since I mentioned safety concerns, let’s start with the **Loose Cannon**. This is the guy who does scary things with his shotgun. For example, he doesn’t pay attention to where it is pointed, and if you step out of the blind (because nature calls or to fix the pose on some decoys) you hear the tell-tale Ker-clunk of his

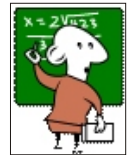


semi-auto being loaded, or you look over at him in the blind and you see that the safety is off.

A second type is what he calls the **Chatty Cathy**. This guy has not shut up since he got into the blind! You haven’t even witnessed him take a breath, but he has been rambling on for a half-hour. And he is loud. His voice carries in the quiet of nature. Maybe he talks just to hear himself talk. How blunt do you have to be before he gets the hint?



Next is **the Instructor**. This is the guy who wants to correct all your shooting mistakes. “Next time try giving it more lead” or “you need to shoulder the gun correctly” or “do you know why you missed that shot?”



How about the **Shot Hog**. There are 2 ducks coming straight in, and as you raise your gun to take the bird closest to your side of the blind, he shoots it down before swinging onto the duck on his side. Then he sticks his hand up for a congratulatory “high five.”

Ever meet up with the **Rambunctious Retriever Guy**? He has good ol’ Buster with him. Five minutes in the blind with Buster tells you that Buster (all 120 lbs. of him) needs more than just a “little work.” He needs an electronic collar. No, make that a nuclear collar. You are working a pair of mallards with your call when Buster leaps out of the blind and flairs the birds . . . could be how Buster got his name. Back in the blind, ol’ Buster starts entertaining romantic notions about your leg.



My favorite, though, is the **Duck Claimer**. This guy claims he shot every bird that hits the water. If you challenge his claim, he asks, “Oh, did you shoot too?” When a bird is falling, he shouts “I got it” before it splashes down.

These are all fun examples of some hunter stereotypes. It is not too much fun, however, when it’s really happening on your dream hunt.

### Quack's Tips

Scouting in the off season can produce potential new places to hunt. When choosing new locations, keep in mind that you never want to be forced to position your blind facing the morning sun. Coping with light in your eyes is (at the very least) a hassle, and will prevent you from seeing some approaching birds. Also, the sun on your face will allow passing ducks to spot you.

So when the season arrives, and you head out to the new spot for the first time, try to put the sun at your back. Also be sensitive to the wind conditions. Birds land *into* the wind. Arrange your decoys close enough to the blind to allow for easy gunning (no more than 25-30 yds.). Give the birds a landing zone – an opening in the spread 20-30 yards across. Very often, the birds will head directly for this “hole.” This can provide ideal shooting opportunities if the opening is placed right out in front of your blind.

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— *South Shore Waterfowlers Association* —

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

- June 28** — Sporting Clays Shoot, Peconic Sportsmans Club (see p. 1 for details)
- June 28** — Ducks Unlimited Family Day Flanders Property  
Call Wayne Roberts at 484-553-7088
- July 12** — SSWA Board of Directors Meeting
- July 19** — Sporting Clays Shoot, Peconic Sportsmans Club (see p. 1 for details)
- July 20** — Fluke Fishing Trip aboard the FISH ON II, WindSwept Marina,  
215 Atlantic Ave., East Moriches, NY (see p. 2 for details)
- August 14** — Pattersquash Fundraising Gala (see flyer insert)
- August 16** — SSWA Annual BBQ – Pig Roast – Flea Market, WindSwept Marina,  
(see p. 6 for details)
- August 24** — Sporting Clays Shoot, Peconic Sportsmans Club (see p. 1 for details)
- September 6, 7**— Gun Show IBEW Hall, Hauppauge



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