

April 4, 2017 DCCE conference call

Attendees:

Don Kirby

Eric Urben

Mike Pierce

Joe Porten

Bruce Urben

Joe and Mike gave a brief overview of their time spent at the Ohio Decoy carving contest. Mike did put together notes and recommendations. Following is a summary of review of a number of those recommendations and action being taken on critical issues. Mike lists a number of logistical needs for event management and should be reviewed as we get closer to the event. Thanks Mike for taking the time to document your findings.

1. Facebook Page

Social media seems to be used more and more. It is recommended that a facebook page be initiated to advertise the DCCE in addition to our website.

The current WWA facebook Administrator is uncomfortable leading the DCCE effort on facebook. Eric Urben volunteered to serve as the DCCE facebook administrator. Don confirmed that he has given Administrative permission to post on the current WWA facebook page. Thanks Eric for volunteering to take this on.

2. Chip Chats magazine advertising

Mike will research the cost for advertising in the Chip Chats carving magazine and update the committee at the May meeting. There is some concern from the committee that there will be a short time window to get any advertisement in to reap rewards. Considering costs, it may be advisable to rely on other options? More in May.

3. WWA Press Release

Don is working on finalizing the WWA press release for the DCCE event. The release should be ready to go by the end of this week. The release will be routed to the major sports writers outlets. Mike volunteered to research the Outdoor Writers Asso. and forward that information to Eric who in turn will forward the press release to more outlets.

4. Eric reported on feedback he has received from over 60 contacts he has made with woodcarving clubs around the nation. One Club, Minnesota Decoy and Waterfowl Carving Club, has interest

in providing some Youth activity (carving or painting of decoys) at the event. The Committee agreed that their interest certainly meets our objectives for the event. The Minnesota Club is meeting to discuss the potential to provide this at the event. Eric was approved to discuss their involvement with an area at the event reserved for them. Don indicated that we should have room to accommodate a Youth hands on experience.

5. The Committee discussed the ability to have IWCA reimburse up to \$200 to have a IWCA carver provide a carving/painting demonstration at the event. We have had contact with one experienced carver/Teacher who is willing to provide the demo's. Bruce will get contact and IWCA member number information to Mike to provide to IWCA for reimbursement. The Carver intends to donate any reimbursement to WWA for the event. We do need to plan for space for this activity.
6. There was discussion about the tank that will be made available by UWSP for the decoy judging. Mike provided some recommendations for tanks which will be reviewed again in year 2 of the event. Currently UWSP has agreed to provide a judging tank. Bruce will try to arrange a meeting at UWSP in several weeks to review the current planned tank arrangements as well as to review the space and layout needs in the Laird room. Mike, Don and Bruce should attend this meeting to discuss logistics.
7. Mike provided information about tagging of decoys as done in Ohio. The Ohio show used colored zip ties (with space to write on the tie) to recognize the decoy class and carver information. The zip tie is attached to the keel of tank judged decoys and attached around the neck for the Antique division. Mike will obtain vendor information, colors needed and numbers needed for the zip ties and forward to Don for purchase. Use of zip ties will eliminate the need to provide a waterproof tape method on the decoy.
8. Admission buttons were used at the Ohio show for all those entering the event and for viewing visitors. There was discussion about the use of these buttons and the committee agreed that this should be investigated. Bruce had done some initial research and found costs to be in the .30-.50 cent range for 100 buttons. Cost is reduced as you order more. Don recommended we utilize the existing logo (with no date) and obtain cost and ordering information to bring back to the May meeting. Recommended to look at obtaining 500 buttons with the silicon wristbands to be used as a back up if we have over 500 visitors. The buttons would not be dated so they could be reused the following year! Bruce and Eric will complete this research and report back to the committee.
9. Mike volunteered to obtain cost and vendor information for the ribbons and rosettes needed for the judging. Rosettes are a fixed number and will have Show, class, category and carver level information but ribbons can be with event name and other information can be written on the rear of the ribbon. There will be an unknown quantity of ribbons needed, unused ribbons could be used in the future! Mike will report back at the May meeting.

10. Volunteers

The committee discussed the number of volunteers needed for the event. We will plan to develop team leaders (committee members) for groups of volunteers needed by task at the next meeting. The WWA Board meets in April and we will plan to get commitments from directors willing to volunteer. This should be an agenda item for the May meeting.

11. Vendor booths/Layout of Laird room

Don put together a draft vendor agreement and forwarded to all members of the committee. Please review the contract and provide any comments directly to Don by next week! Rates will be from \$75 (simple table) to \$150 (for a larger booth). Don estimates that there is room for 6-8 more vendor spaces available considering that we already have space needs for IWCA carver, WWA booth, Minnesota Decoy carver Youth area (potential). If you have vendor interests please forward those contacts to Don as soon as possible.

12. Judges

Bruce sent DCCE information to 3 of the judges (non IWCA Judges) he recruited to update them as to the event logistics and remind them of hotel needs if they plan to stay overnight. Two other judges have been confirmed and Mike is working on obtaining the third. Please be sure to stay in contact with the judges and the logistics planned.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 2nd. 6:30-8 pm. An agenda will precede the call.