General Business Session I & II

Friday, July 15 & Saturday, July 16, 2022
New Orleans, Louisiana
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  Chairman of the Board of Directors, Ducks Unlimited

Introduction of Officers ............................................... Rogers Hoyt, Jr.

National Anthem & Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome and Roll Call ................................................ Rogers Hoyt, Jr.

Approval of the 2019 Council Meeting Minutes .... Rogers Hoyt Jr.

President's Report ..................................................... Doug Schoenrock
  President, Ducks Unlimited

Treasurer's Report ...................................................... Wendell Weakley
  Treasurer, Ducks Unlimited

Proof of Notice,
Nominating Committee Report & Elections ............ Rex Schulz
  Secretary, Ducks Unlimited

Chairman's Farewell ................................................... Rogers Hoyt, Jr.

President's Farewell ................................................... Doug Schoenrock

New President's Remarks ............................................. Chuck Smith
  46th President, Ducks Unlimited

BREAK

DUTV 25th Anniversary Season Preview

Awards ................................................................. Rich Smith
  National Director of Development, Ducks Unlimited

Celebrating 85 Years of Conservation ...................... Dan Thiel
  Executive Secretary, Ducks Unlimited

Wetlands America Trust Report ................................. Joe Sivewright
  Director, Wetlands America Trust

Ducks Unlimited Sustainability Efforts ............. Karen Waldrop, Ph.D.
  Chief Conservation Officer, Ducks Unlimited

Keynote Speaker Q&A ........................................... Archie Manning
  Former NFL football player and Outdoor Enthusiast
  Sponsored by Chuck Smith

  Chuck Smith
  President, Ducks Unlimited

Announcements ........................................................... Doug Schoenrock
Call to Order ............................................................... Doug Schoenrock

Artist of the Year Presentation – Adam Grimm ............................................................. Doug Schoenrock

Louisiana Coast Presentation ........................................ Jerry Holden  
Director of Operations, Ducks Unlimited – Southern Region

Ducks Unlimited de México Report .................................. Bill Ansell  
President, Ducks Unlimited de México  
Eduardo Carrera  
National Executive Director and C.E.O., Ducks Unlimited de México

Agriculture and Conservation Presentation ................... Ryan Taylor  
Director of Public Policy, Ducks Unlimited-Great Plains Region

Corporate Achievement Award ................................ Clark Lauritzen  
President, First National Bank Omaha

State Excellence Awards ........................................... David Schuessler  
National Director of Event Fundraising, Ducks Unlimited

President, Gustaf W. McIlhenny Foundation

BREAK

DUTV Films Preview

Awards .................................................................................... Rich Smith

Drought, Data, and Ducks ................................................... Steve Adair, Ph.D.  
Chief Scientist, Ducks Unlimited

Ducks Unlimited Canada Report .............................. Scott Stephens, Ph.D.  
Director of Regional Operations (Prairies), Ducks Unlimited Canada  
Kevin Harris  
Chairman of the Board of Directors, Ducks Unlimited Canada

Chief Executive Officer’s Report ................................. Adam Putnam  
Chief Executive Officer, Ducks Unlimited

2023 Convention Presentation - Las Vegas ..................... Joe Mazon  
Senior Vice President of Development, Ducks Unlimited

Adjournment ........................................................................ Doug Schoenrock
Archie Manning

Former NFL football quarterback, College Football Hall of Fame Inductee, Philanthropist, Outdoor Enthusiast

Archie Manning’s name is synonymous with football, but his appeal goes well beyond his athletic achievements. Known for a warm personality, his drive and sense of humor, Archie, is also a commercial spokesperson for numerous national companies.

Born in Drew, Mississippi, Archie attended University of Mississippi where he was named an All-American Quarterback. As the second player drafted to the NFL in 1971, Archie spent his career playing for the New Orleans Saints where he received numerous honors throughout his professional career.

He and his wife Olivia reside in New Orleans and have three sons, Cooper, Peyton, and Eli. They are the proud grandparents of four boys and five girls. Cooper’s son, Arch, recently committed to the University of Texas.

Archie and his boys have enjoyed many sunrises from the duck blind and are frequent visitors at Fighting Bayou Hunting Camp in Leflore County, Mississippi.

Edwin R. “Rod” Rodriguez, Jr.

President, Gustaf W. McIlhenny Foundation

Originally from New Orleans, Louisiana, Rod spent over five decades working with institutions, foundations, individuals, and families to manage their wealth, cash flows, and estate planning. He currently serves as President of The Gustaf W. McIlhenny Foundation and has been highly active in the leadership of Tabasco and the McIlhenny family holdings on Avery Island, Louisiana. A leading foundation partner in Ducks Unlimited’s conservation program in Louisiana, the McIlhenny Foundation is recognized as a Legacy Sponsor.

Rod is a member of the board and recent past chair of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and serves on the board of the National WWII Museum. Rod is a member of the historic Louisiana duck hunting lodge, the Bayou Club, and has pursued fish and game around the world.
**Dr. Stephen “Steve” E. Adair**  Chief Scientist, Ducks Unlimited Inc.

Steve is Ducks Unlimited’s Chief Scientist, a role he assumed in March 2021, and serves as the organization’s leader on waterfowl and habitat science, providing vision and direction for DU’s science needs throughout North America and maintaining DU’s standing as a scientific authority in wetlands and waterfowl conservation. A longtime wetlands biologist, Steve was most recently DU’s National Director for Conservation Strategy. He also served as Director of Operations for the Great Plains Region. Steve began his tenure with Ducks Unlimited, Inc. in June 1997 at the national headquarters where he helped lead the development of Ducks Unlimited’s carbon sequestration, land protection and contract compliance programs. Steve received his Ph.D. in Wildlife Ecology from Utah State University, his M.S. in Wildlife Management from Texas A&M University, and his B.S. in Biology from the University of Texas.

**William “Bill” C. Ansell**  President, Ducks Unlimited de México

Bill is an Assurance and Tax Partner with Ham, Langston & Briezina, LLP. A practicing CPA for over 35 years, he has extensive experience in individual and estate tax planning. He is a graduate of The University of Texas at Austin.

Bill's passion for wetlands and waterfowl conservation has called him to serve as a Ducks Unlimited volunteer for more than three decades. In June 2019 at the Annual Convention in Hawaii, Bill was elected President of Ducks Unlimited de Mexico. He also continues to serve as an Assistant Treasurer on the Ducks Unlimited Inc. Board and as a Director on the Ducks Unlimited Canada Board. Previous volunteer leadership positions include Vice President and Treasurer, DUMAC; Regional Vice President; At-Large Director; State Chairman; State Recruitment Chairman; State Treasurer; and Area Chairman. Bill and his wife Libbie are Ducks Unlimited Legacy Sponsors, Silver Feather Society members, Grand Slam Diamond Life Sponsors, Ducks Unlimited de Mexico Gold Legacy Sponsors and Ducks Unlimited Canada Diamond Life Sponsors. They are also current members of DU’s President’s Council, DUC’s President’s Council and DUMAC’s John E. Walker President’s Society.

**Eduardo Carrera**  National Executive Director and CEO, Ducks Unlimited de México

Eduardo joined Ducks Unlimited de México in 1984 and in 2012, his title with the organization was upgraded to National Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer. A biologist who specializes in wetlands and waterfowl, Eduardo collaborates with national and international organizations to develop wetland projects and build capacity in Mexico. He also spearheads international partnerships to support waterfowl management and research. Eduardo also serves as the Chairman of the National Advisory Subcommittee for the Conservation, Management and Rational Use of Waterfowl and their Habitats, and as a member of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan Committee, National Wetland Committee, National Commission of Protected Areas, and multiple state wildlife councils. In 2018, Eduardo was honored with the North American Waterfowl Management Plan’s International Canvasback Award.

**Kevin Harris**  Chairman of the Board, Ducks Unlimited Canada

After spending more than 20 years with Irving Oil Limited, Kevin is self-employed in real estate, construction, and property management. He also has several A&W Franchises throughout Eastern Canada. Kevin has been a DUC member for more than 30 years, volunteering on several dinner and fundraising committees. Elected in 2019 as Ducks Unlimited Canada’s 44th President, Kevin currently serves as the organization’s Chairman of the Board and as a member of Ducks Unlimited Inc.’s Development Committee. Kevin and his wife Marilyn are Ducks Unlimited Canada Heritage Sponsors and Ducks Unlimited de Mexico Life Sponsors.

Kevin has served on the Boards of Hammond River Angling Association and is a former Chair of the New Brunswick Wildlife Trust and the Wildlife Habitat Canada National Board. Kevin and his family reside in Rothesay, New Brunswick, where they enjoy hiking, kayaking, hunting, and fishing.
**Jerry Holden**  *Director of Operations, Southern Region, Ducks Unlimited Inc.*

As a Director of Operations, Jerry oversees Ducks Unlimited conservation programs in the 13-state Southern Region. In addition to maintaining more than two million acres of wetland habitat, the programs enhance, restore and/or protect 50,000 acres of wetland habitat annually. Jerry joined DU in 1999 as a remote sensing and GIS analyst working on conservation planning in the Southern Region. He served as GIS and Remote Sensing Manager from 2001-2005 and worked to evaluate the status of waterfowl habitats in the Region. In 2005, Jerry was promoted to Director of Conservation Programs for Louisiana. In 2008, he became the Director of Conservation Programs, South Mississippi Flyway (AR, LA, MS, TN, KY, and AL), and in 2012 his responsibilities shifted to cover LA, TX, NM and OK. Prior to joining DU, he worked for the USAF as a GIS Manager and the State of Kansas on NASA-funded research on greenhouse gas emissions. He is a member of the Wildlife Society and received his B.S. and M.A. from Kansas State University.

**Rogers “Rog” S. Hoyt, Jr.**  *Chairman of the Board, Ducks Unlimited Inc.*

A Texas rancher by profession, Rog was elected Ducks Unlimited Inc.’s 44th President at the 80th National Convention in June 2017. A member of the DUI Board since 1996, Rogers now serves as Chairman of the Board and as a member of multiple national committees, as a Wetlands America Trust Trustee and on the boards of both Ducks Unlimited Canada and Ducks Unlimited de Mexico. Over the last three decades as a DU volunteer, his prior appointments include: President, Ducks Unlimited de Mexico; Senior Vice President, Membership; Senior Vice President, Event and Volunteer Management; Flyway Senior Vice President; Regional Vice President and State Chairman.

Rogers and his wife Camille have one son, Tres, an artist. They are recognized as Ducks Unlimited Inc. Gold Benefactors, Silver Feather Society members, Grand Slam Diamond Sponsors in Perpetuity, DUC Diamond Sponsors in Perpetuity, and DUMAC Diamond Heritage Sponsors. They are also current members of DUMAC's John E. Walker President's Society.

**Clark D. Lauritzen**  *Chairman and President, First National Bank of Omaha*

In 2017, when he became First National Bank of Omaha’s Chairman and President, Clark Lauritzen became the sixth generation of his family to helm the organization, as well as one of the youngest heads of a U.S. financial institution. Previously, Clark served as President of First National Investment Banking and prior to that as a commercial lender for First National Bank of Omaha. Before joining First National, Clark worked at Goldman Sachs in New York and Chicago in the Investment Banking Division's Financial Institutions Group. Clark serves as a director of FNN and First National Bank of Omaha. He received his M.B.A. from Harvard Business School and his B.A. from Princeton University. Clark is an avid sportsman, conservationist and DU supporter and First National Bank of Omaha (FNBO) is a strong philanthropic partner. In 2015, DU welcomed FNBO to its Corporate Partner Program when it announced the launch of the new FNBO Ducks Unlimited Visa Card, the only card that allows members, with every card purchase, to provide automatic financial support to DU’s waterfowl and wetlands conservation program. FNBO is recognized as a Diamond Legacy Sponsor.

**Adam Putnam**  *Chief Executive Officer, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.*

Ducks Unlimited CEO Adam Putnam is a hunter, angler, and lifelong advocate for conservation and agriculture. Prior to joining DU, he was elected to two terms as Florida’s Commissioner of Agriculture and five terms in the U.S. House of Representatives representing the Central Florida-based 12th Congressional district. Adam is a fifth-generation Floridian and a graduate of the University of Florida where he obtained a bachelor's degree in Food and Resource Economics. He has also been awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree and served as a Rodel Fellow at the Aspen Institute.

A native of Bartow, Adam is a fifth generation Floridian who grew up among the citrus groves and cattle on his family’s ranch in the central part of the state. Adam and his wife Melissa reside in Memphis with their four children.
Douglas “Doug” Schoenrock  
President, Ducks Unlimited Inc.

Doug is the Director of Foodservice Sales and Marketing for Savannah Food Company and a graduate of the University of Tennessee. A native Tennessean, outdoorsman, waterfowler and turkey, elk and deer hunter, Doug was elected Ducks Unlimited’s 45th President at DU’s first-ever ‘virtual’ Board of Director’s meeting in May 2020. A member of the Ducks Unlimited Board since 2002, he previously served as First Vice President, At-Large Member, Senior Vice President for Corporate Relations, Senior Vice President for Marketing and Communications, and Senior Vice President for Youth and Education. Doug is also a Wetlands America Trustee and member of the Ducks Unlimited Canada Board.

Doug and his wife Linda, a former Ducks Unlimited staff member, are recognized as Ducks Unlimited Inc. Diamond Heritage Sponsors, Grand Slam Sponsors in Perpetuity, and current members of both DU’s President’s Council and DUMAC’s John E. Walker President’s Society. The Schoenrocks reside in Huntsville, Alabama, and have two daughters.

David Schuessler  
National Director of Event Fundraising & R3 Programs, Ducks Unlimited Inc.

As the National Director of Event Fundraising & R3 Programs, David oversees all operational components of DU’s event fundraising system and youth-based engagement objectives, including the organization’s Scholarship, Varsity, University and DU TRAP programs. On staff since 1999, David started as a Regional Director in North Carolina and moved on to supervisory roles that took him across the entire southern part of the United States, central Great Lakes, and national event marketing and media relations responsibilities. Prior to joining the ducks, David was a sales and operations manager for Royal Cup Coffee. He received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Marketing from Auburn University.

Dr. Rex Schulz  
Secretary, Ducks Unlimited Inc.

A longtime resident of Quincy, Illinois, Rex is a pathologist with Blessing Health System. He earned his medical degree from Southern Illinois University School of Medicine.

Rex and his wife Lori are Ducks Unlimited Inc. Benefactors, Silver Feather Society members, Ducks Unlimited de Mexico Diamond Life Sponsors, and current members of DU’s President’s Council. A longtime volunteer leader, Rex has served as DU Board Secretary since 2020 and sits on the Executive, Personnel Policy, Management, Nominating, Enterprise Risk Management and Marketing/Communications committees. He is a former At-Large Member, Advisory Senior Vice President for Event and Volunteer Management and Membership, State Chairman and State Council Chairman. Additionally, Rex is a past recipient of Ducks Unlimited’s "Wings of Innovation" award for his assistance designing and implementing a successful fundraising technique to compliment the event fundraising program.

Joseph “Joe” Sivewright  
Director, Wetlands America Trust

Joe Sivewright recently retired as Chairman of St. Louis-based Nestle Purina PetCare for the Americas. During his more than three decades with the organization, Joe served in numerous marketing and leadership roles including Chief Executive Officer from 2015-2020. During his tenure, Nestle Purina PetCare has become a philanthropic leader to Ducks Unlimited. Recognized as Diamond Legacy Sponsors, Purina supports several key initiatives, including Iowa’s Prairie Pothole Program, and are a member of the USA Rice-Ducks Unlimited Rice Stewardship Program. In October 2020, Nestle Purina was awarded the Ducks Unlimited Corporate Conservation Achievement Award, which recognizes corporations from the U.S., Canada or Mexico that have made remarkable contributions to wetland conservation and environmental stewardship in North America.

Longtime supporters of Ducks Unlimited, Joe and his wife Susie are Heritage Sponsors. Joe was elected as a Trustee of Wetlands America Trust in 2017 and is a member of the famed Dardenne Duck Club and Waterhen Lodge in Canada.
Chuck was elected First Vice President of Ducks Unlimited’s Board of Directors in 2020, WAT Trustee in 2018 and is a member of the Ducks Unlimited Canada Board. He now also serves on the Executive, Personnel Policy, Board Governance, Management, Nominating, and Corporate Relations Committees and is Chair of the Audit Committee. Prior Board positions include Secretary, At-Large Member, Regional Vice President, and Assistant Treasurer, as well as state-level appointments to State Chairman and State Council Chairman. He also played a key role in bringing Ducks Unlimited’s headquarters to Memphis. Chuck and his wife Susan are Ducks Unlimited Inc. Diamond Legacy Sponsors, Grand Slam Life Sponsors, Ducks Unlimited de Mexico Diamond Life Sponsors and Ducks Unlimited Canada Life Sponsors. They are also current members of DU’s President’s Council, DUC’s President’s Council and DUMAC’s John E. Walker President’s Society. Chuck is the Founder and Chairman of National Guard Products. An avid waterfowler and angler, he is also the owner of Circle T Duck Club near Stuttgart, Arkansas - a property protected in perpetuity through a conservation easement held by Wetlands America Trust – and a member of the historic Menasha Hunting and Fishing Club in Turrell, Arkansas. Chuck is also a member of St. Hubertus, an international hunting fraternity.

Scott is Director of Regional Operations for DUC’s Prairie region where he works with DUC staff to deliver conservation programs and policy work across Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. He has a Bachelor’s degree from Northwest Missouri State, a Master’s degree from Mississippi State, and a Ph.D. from Montana State University. Scott has been employed with DUC since 2010 and previously spent 15 years with DUI overseeing research and conservation planning across the Great Plains of the U.S. Scott has conducted research across the Canadian prairies, the Dakotas, Nebraska, Missouri, Mississippi, and Maryland. His research focused on the landscape influences on demographic rates for grassland nesting birds and predictive models of landscape change.

Dan Thiels serves as Executive Secretary of Ducks Unlimited, Inc, and Executive Secretary of Wetlands America Trust, posts he has held since 2008. Dan began his tenure DU in 2000 as National Director of Development following several years in philanthropy at Purdue University, Indiana State University, Arkansas State University, and the University of Memphis where he served as Vice President for Development. Dan studied Archaeology at the University of Tennessee, Purdue, and Indiana State and conducted field research in Honduras, Utah, Louisiana, and Indiana. Dan and his wife Ann Felice are Ducks Unlimited Inc. Benefactors, members of DU’s President’s Council and DUMAC’s John E. Walker President’s Society. Their sons, Daniel and William, were founding members of the DU Varsity Chapter at Christian Brothers High School.
**Dr. Karen Waldrop**  
*Chief Conservation Officer, Ducks Unlimited Inc.*

Dr. Karen Waldrop is DU’s Chief Conservation Officer. In addition to being a member of DU’s executive leadership team, Karen is also Staff Liaison for the Conservation Programs Committee and a member of the Strategic Planning Committee. She received her Ph.D. in Wildlife Biology/Forest Sciences from Clemson University and both her M.S. in Wildlife Biology/Forest Resources and B.S. in Forest Resources from University of Georgia. Most recently, Karen served as the Deputy Commissioner for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. She also has years of professional experience with waterfowl and migratory bird conservation and served as Kentucky's representative to the Mississippi Flyway Council and on the Executive Council of the North American Bird Conservation Initiative. In November 2021, Karen was appointed to the North American Wetlands Conservation Council and the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act Advisory Committee.

**Wendell W. Weakley**  
*Treasurer, Ducks Unlimited Inc.*

Wendell was elected Treasurer of the Ducks Unlimited, Inc. Board of Directors in May 2015 and stepped into his role as Secretary and Treasurer for Wetlands America Trust at that same time. Wendell served as an Assistant Treasurer from 2010-2015. Wendell and his wife Sue are recognized as Ducks Unlimited Inc. Benefactors, Gold Feather Society members, Grand Slam Diamond Life Sponsors, and current members of both DU’s President’s Council and DUMAC’s John E. Walker President’s Society.

Wendell is the President and CEO of the University of Mississippi Foundation. Prior to this position, he had a 29-year career with PricewaterhouseCoopers as an audit partner working with numerous large corporations. The Weakley’s have three adult daughters and reside in Oxford, Mississippi. An avid duck hunter, angler, golfer and dedicated volunteer, Wendell also enjoys spending time at his hunting property in Arkansas.

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**Welcome to New Orleans!**

Welcome to New Orleans! And, welcome to a long-overdue gathering of Ducks Unlimited's most dedicated, generous, and informed leaders. We are excited you chose to be part of our historic 85th National Convention in a city and state so connected to the soul and mission of our organization.

It is hard to believe we have not gathered for a national convention since May 2019 in Hawaii. We are proud to share our story of not only surviving the pandemic but thriving during a time of great uncertainty. During the convention business sessions, you will hear incredible stories about DU’s resolve, creativity, austerity, efficiency, and determination. Incredibly, the past two years have seen record fundraising and record conservation success.

We have much to be thankful for and much to celebrate. We are grateful for the dedicated volunteers who transitioned from in-person events to online fundraising events. Likewise, we appreciate our major sponsors who increased their philanthropy to record levels. In the spirit and culture which has defined Ducks Unlimited for 85 years, DU staff shouldered significant increases in workloads and endured all manner of work conditions to achieve our mission. We truly appreciate the efforts of our volunteers and staff.

DU’s national convention plays a critical role in the life of our organization. This is DU’s premier national event and the most anticipated gathering of the continent’s most dedicated conservationists and waterfowlers. This is your opportunity to be informed, inspired, and celebrated. Thank you for elevating Ducks Unlimited to family-status and thank you for being in New Orleans.

*For the Ducks,*

*Rogers Hoyt, Chair    Doug Schoenrock, President    Adam Putnam, CEO*
## 2022 Council of State Trustees and National Delegates

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DUCKS UNLIMITED’S

LOUISIANA

CONSERVATION STORY
Louisiana is known for its Creole and Cajun cultures, jazz music and abundant wildlife. The terminus of the Mississippi Flyway, Louisiana provides important winter habitat for waterfowl. The coastal marshes have historically provided reliable, high-quality habitat for migrating pintails, gadwalls, wigeon and green-winged teal, and other Mississippi Flyways species. However, Louisiana also has the highest coastal wetland loss rate of any state in the U.S., losing about 17 square miles each year. Since the 1950s, Louisiana has lost over 1.2 million acres of coastal wetlands and is expected to lose an additional 1.4 million acres over the next 50 years without restoration.

These coastal wetlands are critical natural resources and the region’s economic driver. Coastal wetlands protect infrastructure from storms, support industries including the oil and gas industry and commercial fisheries, sustain Louisiana’s unique culture, provide nursery grounds for fish and shellfish, and provide critical habitat for millions of waterfowl and other migratory birds.

Ducks Unlimited’s wetland conservation projects along the gulf coast of Louisiana provide economic, ecological, and societal benefits which ripple across the country. Coastal wetlands provide community resilience and support navigation, tourism and the seafood and energy industries, as well as improve quality of life associated with nature for residents.

To date, DU and partners have helped conserve more than 559,427 acres across the state for the benefit of wildlife and people. This includes working with rice producers on innovative ways to conserve water and provide winter habitat for migrating waterfowl, partnerships with Louisiana State University and Nicholls State University helping to address questions regarding waterfowl species such as the mottled duck and conservation project success and working with our energy partners to conserve and restore coastal marshes.

For example, DU’s Raccourci Bay Terracing Project is improving coastal resilience while helping to provide critical habitat for wildlife. This project includes 53,000 linear feet of marsh terraces, which, when fully vegetated, will become long segments of marsh. The marsh will reduce wave action and shoreline erosion and create prime conditions for submerged aquatic vegetation growth, which is the foundation of the food chain for ducks, fish and other wildlife in the area.

The Gulf Coast of Louisiana is a critical piece to the conservation puzzle. Coastal wetlands protect infrastructure from storms, provide community resilience and critical habitat for wildlife and sustain Louisiana’s unique culture. DU and partner organizations will continue to work to help conserve and restore this critical habitat, providing economic, ecological and social benefits to Louisiana and beyond.

Since the 1930s, Louisiana has **lost over** **1.2 million acres** of coastal wetlands and is expected to lose an additional 1.4 million acres over the next 50 years without restoration.

To date, DU and partners have helped **conserve more than 559,427 acres** across the state for the benefit of wildlife and people.
Call to Order | Welcome | Roll Call

Chairman Paul Bonderson, Jr. called the meeting to order at 8 a.m. and announced that based on convention registrations, a quorum of State Trustees and National Delegates was established for the May 31, 2019 meeting. The following members were present and participating:

**Alabama**
- Henry Gaulden
- Stanley C. Huner
- Tom Jernigan
- Jeremy Morris
- Nickie Purser
- Josh Ruuder
- Doug Schoenrock
- Carol Sutfin
- Steve Whatley
- Karen Wood

**Alaska**
- Travis Burks
- Jaimie Kassman
- Dr. Lew Pagel
- Annie Staudenmaire
- Jerry White

**Arizona**
- Todd Stoa
- Gayle Swarbrick
- John Swarbrick

**Arkansas**
- Steve Cook
- George H. Dunklin, Jr.
- Gynne Hamill
- William O. Hamill
- Bryan Hearn
- Gene M. Henry
- Robert E. Henry
- Amy Kersey
- Jarrod Kersye
- Mary Jane Lytle
- David Martin
- Michele Martin
- Brandy Robinson
- Matt Robinson
- Jason Stewart
- Kimberly Stewart
- Angela Swanner

**California**
- Pepper Snyder
- Paul Bonderson
- Adam Buddell
- Veronica Buddell
- Claudia Caudle
- John Faires
- Andrew Foraker
- Frank Ginotti
- Anne Green
- Dave Hinman
- Eric Johnson
- Brian Klassen
- Jane Low
- Mark Low
- Al Montna
- Jim Pleau
- Toni Pleau
- Jennifer Wills
- Jon Wills
- Hannah Young
- Jan Young

**Colorado**
- Mikkel R. Anderson
- Tom Brossia
- Pete Coors
- Nate Farley
- Dylan Fleischer
- Doug Hanleman
- Jimmy Kopp
- Jeanne Larson
- Sam Wigand

**Connecticut**
- Charles Blaisdell
- Brian Brown
- Cindy Brown
- Louis A. Caputo, Jr.
- Scott Crawford
- Raymond Harp
- Linda MacGaffin
- Peter MacGaffin
- Michael Scuse
- James Vachris, Jr.

**Delaware**
- Larry Davis
- James Evans
- John Kovarik

**Florida**
- Marolyn Acomb
- Robert Acomb
- Chuck Bohac
- Don Bork
- Steve McDaniel
- John Pope
- Ralph Putnam
- Timothy Sanders

**Georgia**
- Matt Dubnik
- Katie Dubnik
- Sarah Tonsmeire

**Hawaii**
- Jim Geiger

**Idaho**
- Drew Allen
- Rich Fehringer
- Brandon Miller
- Jeremy Nesset
- Gene Tracy

**Illinois**
- Jonice Avey
- Rod Avey
- Bob Caplinger
- Sandy Caplinger
- Dale Doubler
- Linda Doubler
- Brent Hasenauer
- Kendra Hasenauer
- Christie Hetterman
- Scott Hetterman
- Galen Johnson
- Marsha Johnson
- Bob McDonald
- Cathy McDonald
- Diane A. Oberhelman
- Sally Sarafin
- William J. Sarafin
- Lori Schulz
- Rex Schulz
- Pauline Tomlinson
- Tom Tomlinson

**Indiana**
- Debbie Casper
- Tab Casper
- Jim Franz
- Sharon Franz
- Kelley Hall
- Don Rollins
- John A. Tomke
- Judy Tomke

**Iowa**
- Carol Copeland
- Kerman Copeland
- Kevin Copeland
- Tabetha Copeland
- Catherine Crow
- Brian Garrels
- Tammi Kircher
- David Kudej
- Laura Kudej

**Kansas**
- Adam Bradshaw
- Beth Bradshaw
- Mike Bulk
- Natasha Bulk
- Becky Irvine
- Jeff Irvine
- David Paul
- Lynne Rozine
- Michael Simpson
- Ruth Ellen Simpson

**Kentucky**
- Carol Hough
- Mike Hough
- Bruce Jasper
- Linda Jasper
- Dr. Brian Pridde
- Mary Lou Pridde
- Kevin Wright

**Louisiana**
- Stephen Babcock
- Mike Benge
- E.J. Deubler
- Troy Dubois
- Beto Elizondo
- Ellis Guibbeau
- John Harris
- Nick Lichenstein
- L. J. Mayeux, Jr., M.D.
- Gabrielle McKellar
- Mickey McMillian
- Chad Moncrief
- Jay Owen
- Gary Salmon
- Gunther Spore
- Joe Strough
- Andy Thomson

**Maine**
- Midge Denham
- Susie Konkel
- David Poll

**Maryland**
- Shane Atkinson
- Jerry Harris
- Scott Jasion
- John Notarangelo
- Billy Price
- Jason Vaszil
- Jack Wallace

**Massachusetts**
- Bill Aldinger
- Rebecca DeHaan
- Carol Demgen
- Jim Demgen
- Dave Fink
- Shari Fink
- Ruth Hoefs
- Deanna Klint
- Russ Klint
- Benita Paul
- Tony Paul
- Scot Storm
- Donna Thaemlitz
- Kyle Thaemlitz
- Gordon Winstanley
- Loree Winstanley

**Michigan**
- Marilyn Albrecht
- Michael Albrecht
- Peter Albrecht
- Sandy Albrecht
- Mary Bluschke
- Mike Bluschke
- Jeanne Brakhage
- David Steinbach
- Dennis Steinbach
- Shannon Steinbach
- James Toth

**Minnesota**
- Ron Rich
- Brian Dillon
- Richard Riccio
- Fran Rich
- Ron Rich

**Mississippi**
- Loree Winstanley
- Jack Wallace

**Missouri**
- Carol Demgen
- Jim Demgen
- Dave Fink
- Shari Fink
- Ruth Hoefs
- Deanna Klint
- Russ Klint
- Benita Paul
- Tony Paul
- Scot Storm
- Donna Thaemlitz
- Kyle Thaemlitz
- Gordon Winstanley
- Loree Winstanley

**Mississippi**
- Steven Bridwell
- Scott Forrest
- Kevin Goodrum
- Dwight Jones
- Bruce Lewis
- Ronal F. Roberson
- Rea Taylor
- Bonnie Morris Thames
- Keith Thames
- David Victory
- Wendell Weakley
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APPROVAL OF THE 2018 MEETING MINUTES
Chairman Paul Bonderson, Jr. waived reading the minutes from the 2018 General Business Session meeting in Indianapolis and moved for their approval. The minutes were approved by a voice vote.

OFFICIAL PROOF OF NOTICE AND NATIONAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT
Secretary Chuck Smith read the official Proof of Notice and presented the National Nominating Committee report for the 2019-2020 Ducks Unlimited Board of Directors.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS
Secretary Smith asked for a vote by acclimation for all nominations from the National Nominating Committee slate. The nominees were elected by a voice vote.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT
Ducks Unlimited President Rogers Hoyt, Jr. began his report reflecting on a great week in Hawaii for the 2019 National Convention.

President Hoyt announced a huge milestone in his time serving as president: the successful search and hiring of a new Chief Executive Officer. He announced Adam Putnam as the sixth C.E.O. of Ducks Unlimited. This was one of the milestones that he announced had been reached, as well as the completion of the Rescue Our Wetlands campaign.

In terms of Public Policy, President Hoyt thanked Gildo Tori for his assumption of responsibilities of the Chief Policy Officer on an interim basis. He thanked Al Montna, John Tomke, and the many volunteers who help Ducks Unlimited remain successful in Washington, D.C. Hoyt highlighted the approval of a new Farm Bill that should be beneficial to conservation.

Hoyt went on to share that NAWCA had been reauthorized at $42 million for the fiscal year 2019.

President Hoyt announced that he would be staying on the board as president for a third year and thanked the other board members who would be staying for an additional year. He also thanked Dale Hall for his time at Ducks Unlimited, as he had announced his coming retirement at the previous convention.

Hoyt then shared some statistics of Ducks Unlimited’s accomplishment during Dale’s time. He announced that under Dale’s leadership, DU had achieved over $528 million in fundraising income, and membership numbers had increased by 50,000. Varsity chapters, University chapters, President’s Council, and major donor and Feather Society income all experienced growth. Finally, he announced that since Dale became CEO, DU had conserved more than 2 million acres.

To conclude his report, Hoyt thanked the many individuals who provide unwavering support to Ducks Unlimited.

TREASURER’S REPORT
Treasurer Wendell Weakley provided his annual update on DU’s financial progress and its budgetary plan for the upcoming year. Weakley indicated that we had made great financial progress in recent years and have built a solid foundation for ensuring the long-term viability of the organization.

Weakley announced the approval of the fiscal 2020 budget by the finance committee and the entire board. This budget reflected an increased revenue expectation of more than 8 percent over the fiscal 2019 budgeted revenues of $206 million. He provided the estimate that the current year would be finished with revenues of more than $224 million, more than 9% above our plan for the year.

He then shared the 80/20 metric that is critical to Ducks Unlimited’s efforts. This means that 80% of every dollar raised goes towards our mission. He explained that he expects this metric would end at 82% for the fiscal year 2019. He praised the organization for being mindful of this annual benchmark.
Weakley concluded his report by noting that the funds generated for conservation and acres conserved is a testament to the dedication of Ducks Unlimited members to target and support critical areas of conservation.

**DUCK’S UNLIMITED CORPORATE CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD PRESENTATION**

Chairman Bonderson took the stage to announce the winner of the Ducks Unlimited Corporate Conservation Achievement Award for 2019. The purpose of this award is to recognize corporations from the U.S., Canada, or Mexico that have made exceptional contributions to conservation in North America. He noted that the work Ducks Unlimited does on the ground throughout North America would not be possible without the continued support of their partners.

The recipient of this year’s award, Axalta, is no stranger to Ducks Unlimited’s efforts. They joined DU in 2015 and have remained an integral partner since. They have partnered with DU on several conservation projects. They have not only benefitted on-the-ground conservation work but have also supported the expansion of DU’s Third-Term collegiate leadership event by sponsoring this event and sending staff to present.

The Chief Executive Officer of Axalta, Robert Bryant, graciously accepted this award on behalf of the company. Chairman Bonderson thanked Axalta and Robert Bryant for their dedication in furthering Ducks Unlimited’s mission.

**SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR DAVID BERNHARDT**

Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt provided an overview of his goals and objectives as Secretary of the Interior. He has a deep interest in the wild places in the United States and considers the National Parks the crown jewels of the United States. He thanked DU for our work to protect and conserve wetlands and waterfowl. Bernhardt said DU is the model of conservation delivery other organization strive to emulate.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT**

CEO Dale Hall provided a review of the year for Ducks Unlimited, focusing on the efforts and progress of staff. Hall thanked the staff and volunteers for supporting him in his years as CEO of Ducks Unlimited. He will continue to be involved in Ducks Unlimited after his retirement, and he promised his full support to Adam Putnam, the incoming CEO.

**DUC PRESENTATION**

DU Canada Chief Executive Officer Karla Guyn and DU Canada Chairman Jim Couch reported on marquee projects that demonstrate inspiring wetland conservation. Chairman Couch noted the easement of 3,100 acres of intact native prairie land. CEO Guyn reported on the success of establishing the first-ever Indigenous Protected Area in Canada. The pair continued to highlight more successes of DUC in the past year, such as the total restoration of the Thames River Wetland and the creation of a DUC Endowed Chair in Wetland and Waterfowl Research position at the University of Saskatchewan. Guyn and Couch closed their report by praising the teamwork of DU and noting their high hopes for the future.
DUMAC PRESENTATION
President, Bill Ansell, and Chief Executive Officer, Eduardo Carrera, of Ducks Unlimited de México took the stage to report on the successes of DUMAC as they reached their 45th anniversary. They shared the success of DUMAC in that time with impressive statistics. In 45 years, DUMAC completed more than 260 wetland conservation projects, conserved over 1.9 million acres, established federal and state protected areas, and gathered critical information on all wetland ecosystems in Mexico. They developed two National Strategies for Waterfowl and Shorebirds, both of which were adopted by the Mexican federal government. CEO Carrera also announced the 30th anniversary of RESERVA, an international program through which they have instructed more than 600 natural resources staff from 23 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. After sharing the success of DUMAC, Ansell and Carrera advised on upcoming projects, such as the restoration of the Celestun Estuary. They concluded their report by thanking everyone for their continued support.

WATERFOWL AND WETLANDS RESEARCH REPORT
Ducks Unlimited’s Director of Conservation Planning, Dr. Mark Petrie gave a report on examples of the waterfowl science being done in the western region. He discussed a study on the overabundance of geese in the Central Valley of California. He explained the study and their findings. He closed his report by explaining that this type of scientific research is used by Ducks Unlimited to support their conservation work across North America and thanked the audience for their philanthropic support.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER JIM KENNEDY
Former Wetlands America Trust President and current Trustee, Jim Kennedy delivered the keynote presentation celebrating the success of the Rescue Our Wetlands campaign. During Friday’s Business Session, Rogers Hoyt, Jr. announced that Kennedy would be providing additional information about the completion of this campaign. Kennedy began his presentation by his family’s history with Hawaii and his childhood here. He explained Hawaii’s natural land were once pristine, but over-development and degradation have greatly impacted this once thriving ecosystem. He went on to discuss hunting and conservation heritage, which is a major component of Ducks Unlimited’s success and will continue to be. He also noted his belief that hunters are the nation’s best conservationists. Kennedy discussed his reasons for his belief and support of Ducks Unlimited. He noted many of Ducks Unlimited’s successes but stressed that there is no time to rest, and DU will still face challenges down the road. To close, he thanked all of Ducks Unlimited supporters for their contribution to its success. Kennedy closed the business session by announcing the success of Rescue Our Wetlands campaign, 2.34 billion critical dollars raised for the protection of wetlands and waterfowl.
2021 - 2022
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DUMAC
John Tomke
Bill Ansell

DU CANADA
Kevin Harris
Roger d’Eschambault
Patrick O’Connor

WAT CHAIRMAN
Steve Maritz
Ducks Unlimited honors individuals who have made an important contribution to the success of Ducks Unlimited on a national or international scale. These individuals may be artists, philanthropists, volunteers, and government officials, among others. Ducks Unlimited’s Honorary Trustees are nominated by the panel of past presidents of Ducks Unlimited and are elected by the Council of State Trustees and National Delegates each year at the annual meeting. This is Ducks Unlimited’s highest honor for individuals who are not serving as staff or members of the Board of Directors.

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2021

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