

The Gathering

www.perhamshow.com

Supported shows for 2024 through 2025.

Bejou - Spears, Beers, & Decoy Show

Nov. 23rd, 2024

Park Rapids

TBA

ClearWater Decoy Show

Dec. 21st, 2024

Bob Johnson Memorial Decoy Show

March 1st, 2025

Falls Ballroom, Little Falls

26th Annual -The Gathering

April 11-13th 2025

Perham, MN

26TH ANNUAL SHOW

THE GATHERING 2025

CONTEST INFORMATION

April 11, 12, 13th

Featured Events

- Saturday and Sunday Sporting Collectibles Show
 - John Jensen National Fish Decoy Contest
 - Bob Johnson Memorials
 - **Midwest Nationals Gunning Bird Contest**
 - **GLFDA.com Invitational**
 - **North Dakota Nationals**
 - North American World Cup/ Fish Decoy
 - **Youth Duck Decoy Midwest Nationals**
 - NFDA Awards Banquet

Please watch the website for details and announcements at

www.NFDAdecoys.org

www.PerhamShow.com

Info: Carvers

Registration fees will be \$5.00 per decoy, capped at \$50.00.

****You must tag your own decoys before registration, and you must write the class number you wish the decoy to compete in on the tag.**

Use blue tape at your own risk.

If you enter the contests, you get free admission armbands for the buying floor for all three days; tell the girls taking admission.

Registration is:

Friday 10 am to 2 pm

Saturday from 7 am to 8 am.

NEW RULES

Any entries into PURCHASE AWARD classes must be signed with a legible full name. If this bothers you, you can cover your name with 3M painter's tape.

Initials and stamps are not enough.

MOTELS IN PERHAM

We suggest you book your rooms directly and very early.

*****Much cheaper rates if you book directly and mention the decoy show!**

Grand Stay - 1.218.346.2033

Super 8 -- 1.218.346.7888

NORTH AMERICAN WORLD CUP OF FISH DECOYS

- Class 1 – Bluegill (open paint) 9-10 inches
Class 2 – Tiger Trout (open paint) 11-12 inches
Class 3 – Walleye (open paint) 11-12 inches

\$800.00 purchase award- 1st place /in each class.

Decorative working fish decoys

Swim tested.

**WORLD CUP ---- FOR 1ST PLACE IN EACH CLASS
RIBBONS AND CERTIFICATES THRU 5th PLACE/EACH CLASS**

NATIONAL RULES ALSO APPLY

QUALIFICATIONS- CARVER MUST ENTER AT LEAST **3 CLASSES IN THE
JOHN JENSENS NATIONALS CLASSES 4-11, DESIGNATED**

JOHN JENSEN NATIONALS

THE GATHERING 2025

DESIGNATED CLASSES 4-11

DECORATIVE WORKING FISH DECOYS

CLASS	DECOY	LENGTH	PAINT	PURCHASE AWARD
4	Northern Pike	10-11	Open	1 st \$400.00
5	Crappie	8-9	Open	1 st \$400.00
6	Sockeye Salmon	9-10	Open	1 st \$400.00
7	Bullhead	9-10	Open	1 st \$400.00
8	Brook Trout	9-10	Open	1 st \$400.00
9	Peacock Bass	9-10	Open	1 st \$400.00
10	Cisco	9-10	Open	1 st \$400.00
11	*Carvers Choice	9-11	Open	1 st \$400.00

*Decoy, must follow all the rules and swim, decorative, folk art, or critter

Purchase award for first place in each class.

Ribbons and certificates through 5th place

Qualifying classes for the World Cup, the carver must enter at least 3 of these classes.

**** Please note Best of Show on classes 4-11 is \$500.00**

The NFDA Nationals

The National Fish Decoy Association sponsors the following classes:
12 --- through—37.

In order to enter these classes, you must enter Class 12, eBay Class, at least once.

(The spear class and any Juniors are the exception)

You may enter the eBay class **up to 3 times**, and each entry gives you a chance at a free Friday night motel stay for the next Gathering.

Please support the industry. We sell these decoys on eBay and use the proceeds to help pay for contest, show, and banquet costs, which seem to increase yearly.

We also want to keep the non-purchase award money going for the Juniors.

We should be getting 100 decoys. Let's see how we do.

As a carver, we need you to attend the NFDA Awards banquet every year, even if you didn't enter decoys. If you don't, we lose the Banquet and the whole show. We will raise prices before we let the Banquet go.

Carver recognition is important. -The banquet is important

In the works:

We are restructuring, so we will be here for the next 25 years. This includes:

501c3 non-profit registration

NFDA Carver Accreditation Program:

Level 1 - Single A

Level 2 - Double A

Level 3 - Masters

Membership program- For both carvers, collectors, spear fishermen, and makers.

N.F.D.A. Ambassador/advisor program for new revenue and marketing programs

Perham seminars for the 2025 show—sign up now with Rod if you have a seminar idea. The back contest gym is open for all three days.

CLASS – 12

NFDA – EBAY SERIES CLASS – (JUDGED 50/50 AS ONE CLASS)

SEGMENT		SIZE	PAINT	AWARD
E1	CHOICE	6-15	OPEN	1 - 5

***** New Rules for 2025**

- **CARVER MAY ENTER THIS CLASS 3 TIMES, PROVIDED EACH ENTRY IS A DIFFERENT SPECIES.**
- **ALL ENTRIES ARE DONATIONS TO THE NFDA AND WILL BE SOLD ON EBAY AS A FUNDRAISER**

RIBBONS AND CERTIFICATES THROUGH 5TH PLACE

***THE FIRST DRAWN NAME WINS A FRIDAY NIGHT STAY AT THE GRAND STAY HOTEL IN PERHAM IN 2026.**

***2ND DRAWN NAME WINS A FRIDAY NIGHT STAY AT SUPER 8 IN PERHAM IN 2026**

Please note: We will be drawing for the Hotel Friday night stay. Each entry gets one name in the hat. Enter three fish for three chances to win.

This qualifies you to enter all NFDA National classes.
(Juniors and spear makers are exempt.)

BOB JOHNSON MEMORIAL

JUNIOR DIVISION

(JUDGED 50% SWIM – 50% CLEAN CRAFTSMANSHIP)

CLASS	DECOY	LENGTH	PAINT	AWARD
13	Black Crappie (decorative)	Min. 4.5 inch	OPEN	1 ST – 5 TH

NATIONAL RULES APPLY
RIBBONS AND CERTIFICATES TOP 5 PLACES

Non-purchase award

Paying out \$100.00/ea. To the top 5 in the Crappie class.

Non-purchase award

(We could use some sponsors)

CLASS – 14

TEENAGE
Dark House Heritage

Open to ages 13 to 18

(At the time of carving)

Purchase Award

1st place -- \$150.00

Decoy – Your Choice

Minimum size – 8 inches

Decorative

Sponsored by.

Cambridge, Minnesota's East Central Dark House Association

Join a Dark House Association today!

www.eastcentralmdaa.org

Ribbons and certificates to 5 places

(The winning decoy will be a top prize at their annual banquet)

CLASS – 15

KIDS

Dark House Heritage

Open to ages 12 and under

(At the time of carving)

Purchase Award

1st place -- \$150.00

Decoy – Your Choice

Minimum size – 8 inches

Decorative

Sponsored by;

Cambridge, Minnesota's East Central Dark House Association

Join a Dark House Association today!

www.eastcentralmdaa.org

Ribbons and certificates to 5 places

(The winning decoy will be a top prize at their annual banquet)

Class 16

Dark House Heritage

Purchase Award

Northern Pike

Minimum size – 10 inches
Decorative working decoy

1st place \$300.00

Sponsored by.

Cambridge, Minnesota's East Central Dark House Association

Join a Dark House Association today!

www.eastcentralmdaa.org

Ribbons and certificates to 5 places

(The winning decoy will be a top prize at their annual banquet)

Class – 17

Great Lakes Fish Decoy Association

Cadillac Invitational

Purchase Award

Cadillac Style – Minimum 8 in.

1st Place – \$150.00

2ND Place –100.00

Ribbons and Certificates through 5th place.

Sponsored by GLFDA.com Annual Carving and
Collecting Show, Home of the World Championships
of Fish Decoy Carving

www.gflda.com

2025 CLASS- 18

Wolverine World Championships

PURCHASE AWARD

DECOY—RED-BREASTED MERGANSER DRAKE

(FISH DECOY- HORIZONTAL)

DECORATIVE WORKING

SIZE – 8 -12 INCHES LONG

1ST PLACE -- \$500.00

2ND PLACE-- \$400.00

Ribbons and certificates from 5 places

2025 CLASS-19

Wolverine

Mini Series - #1

PURCHASE AWARD

DECOY – MINI RAINBOW TROUT

(decorative fish decoy)

SIZE – 3 INCHES OR LESS

1ST PLACE PURCHASE AWARD --- \$100.00

Ribbons and certificates through five places.

2025 CLASS - 20

Wolverine

Mini - Series - #2

PURCHASE AWARD

DECOY – MINI CUTTHROAT TROUT

(decorative fish decoy)

SIZE – 3 INCHES OR LESS

1ST PLACE PURCHASE AWARD --- **\$100.00**

Ribbons and certificates through five places.

2025 CLASS - 21

Wolverine

Mini - Series - #3

PURCHASE AWARD

DECOY – MINI YELLOW PERCH

(decorative fish decoy)

SIZE – 3 INCHES OR LESS

1ST PLACE PURCHASE AWARD --- \$100.00

Ribbons and certificates through five places.

CLASS -- 22

4 th ANNUAL

SPEAR OF THE YEAR

8 - TINE METAL SPEAR

**PURCHASE AWARD
WINNER TAKE ALL**

1ST PLACE \$1000.00

PLUS, SPEAR OF THE YEAR CUP, RIBBONS AND CERTIFICATES

THRU 5TH PLACE

(JUDGED ON CRAFTSMANSHIP, FUNCTIONALITY, AND ORIGINALITY)

SPONSORED BY

Authority Fence and Deck-- Minnesota's Vinyl Fence Experts since 1994

CLASS - 23

NEW-

SPEAR OF THE YEAR
WEENIE ROASTER

Minimum 36 inches in length

Minimum 3 tines

\$200.00

NON-PURCHASE AWARD

Ribbons and certificates THRU 5TH PLACE

Sponsored by Thin Ice Decoys

CLASS- 24

Shallbetter's "Better" Decoy

Decoy - Black Crappie

Style - Decorative Working Fish Decoy

Minimum Size ---- 10- inches long

Paint - Open

Swim Tested

Purchase Award-

\$550.00 - 1st place

Ribbons and certificates through 5th place.

Sponsored by: Shallbetter Decoys

Purchase Award

Qualifications- must enter at least 2 decoys in the John Jensen
Nationals

Class - 25

**6th ANNUAL
RICK WIRTH DECOY CHALLENGE**

WORKING DECOY

10 – 12 INCHES FOLK ART FISH DECOY

JUDGED

50% SWIM – 50 % CLEAN CRAFTSMANSHIP

PURCHASE AWARD

1ST — 150.00

2ND - 125.00

3RD – 100.00

DECOY MUST BE MADE AFTER- APRIL 2024

**ALSO, RIBBONS AND CERTIFICATES THRU 5TH
SPONSORED BY RICK WIRTH**

**** This is the class for the new “I ENTERED” National
Button!!!!**

Class – 26

Michigan

4th Annual

Lake St. Clair

Invitationals

PURCHASE AWARD

Northern Pike

Fish Decoy

Size 7 – 9 inches

Open paint

1st - \$350.00

2nd – 300.00

3rd – 250.00

4th – 200.00

5th – 200.00

Ribbons and certificates through 5th place

Judged on clean craftsmanship and swimming ability.

Class # 27

**4th Annual
Wisconsin Challenge**

While Wisconsin doesn't have the pike spearing culture like some states, they do have a lake sturgeon spearing season like no other. These dinosaurs are notoriously hard to get, with some spearers going decades without ever getting one. What kind of decoy do you think it'd take to draw a sturgeon into view from the murky depths of Lake Winnebago? Something bright and folky, a natural looking sturgeon, flashy copper fins, maybe it doesn't even resemble a fish....?

Let's see what lurks in the backs of your creative minds!

**Working Fish Decoy
70% swim, 30% craft/creativity
Minimum 10 inches, no max length**

**Non-Purchase Awards/Prizes
1st Place — \$50 & the "Dairyland" Trophy
2nd Place — \$40
3rd Place — \$25
4th Place — 12 Pack Spotted Cow
5th Place — 6 Pack Spotted Cow**

**Ribbons and certificates 1st thru 5th
Co-Sponsored by Ryan Ebert & Nick Grode on behalf of the
Wisconsin Darkhouse Angling Association**

***** This is the NFDA Button class for 2025**

Class 28

Otis Lael

Memorial Folk Art

Decoy—folk art sunfish

Minimum size – 4.5 inches

Specials—**Must have glass eyes.**

Theme- folk art

Type—working decoy, must swim.

Ribbons and certificates to 5 places

How we define folk art- --- example- when you carve a perch but do not paint it like a perch.

***** This is the SHOW LOGO class for the Gathering 2025**

CLASS -- 29

ANYTHING BUT WOOD

(DECORATIVE)

FISH DECOY - ANY SPECIES

LENGTH 6 - 14 inch

ANY MATERIAL EXCEPT WOOD

ANYTHING GOES

JUDGED 50-50

SWIM TESTED

DECOY MUST BE MADE AFTER- APRIL 2024

RIBBONS AND CERTIFICATES TO 5 PLACES

AWARDS AT SAT. NIGHT BANQUET

Sponsored by COLLEEN DUFNEY

CLASS -- ---30

ANYTHING BUT WOOD

(FOLK ART)

FISH DECOY - ANY SPECIES

LENGTH 6 – 14 inches

ANY MATERIAL EXCEPT WOOD

ANYTHING GOES

JUDGED 50-50

DECOY MUST BE MADE AFTER- APRIL 2023

SWIM TESTED

RIBBONS AND CERTIFICATES TO 5 PLACES

AWARDS AT SAT. NIGHT BANQUET

Sponsored by COLLEEN DUFNEY

CLASS 31

Memorial Challenge

(Remembering Larry Lange and Ron Hamm)

Decoy

Any Sucker Fish Decoy

Minimum 8 inches, with Metal Tail

Swim tested.

Certificates and ribbons through 5th place

CLASS -- 32

4th ANNUAL

NORTH DAKOTA NATIONALS

Minimum size - 8 INCHES –

Sauger

**RIBBONS AND CERTIFICATES THRU 5TH
SPONSORED BY RICK WHITTIER DECOYS**

CLASS 33

**RUSTY JESSE
LURE CONTEST**

Surface frog- jointed

MINIMUM LENGTH - 7 INCHES

MINIMUM -3/0 HOOKS

AT LEAST 2 HOOKS

ALL HAND-CARVED WOOD

Non-purchase award

\$100.00 -1st

**Ribbons and certificates to 5 places
Sponsored by Rusty Jesse Premium Lures**

DOUG DAVIS
Memorial
Service Working Challenge

Class -- 34 ----- min. 10" long -- Walleye style

*Class -- 35 ----- min. 25" long -- Folk art Sturgeon
coaxer

Class -- 36 ----- min. 6" long -- Any wobbler

All decoys judged 90% on swim and 10% on clean
craftsmanship.

*Sturgeon coaxer judged on level hang, folk art style,
paint, and overall looks!

Ribbons and certificates through 5 places in each class

One Best of Show also Awarded.

Class 37

1st Annual

Lakes Café Breakfast Club

(novice class)

For carvers that did not enter the top 14 classes!

Fish house decoy!

Smoothie Perch

Minimum of 8 inch

Wood tail

Painted eyes

Top 5 carvers get free breakfast at Lakes Café the next morning,

(Sunday)

plus ribbons and certificates to the top 5 places at the NFDA Awards
Banquet

BONUS -- \$100.00 non-purchase award to 1st place.

MIDWEST NATIONALS

Junior Duck Decoys

Purchase Award Bird Classes

Original Art Paintings

Class-38

Shorebird Decoy

Ruddy Turnstone

(working decoy)

Purchase Award

1st place--- \$300.00

Ribbons and certificates from 5 places

Sponsored by Joe Malakowsky

Class 39

Original Art

Subject:

A stable of BARN OWLS on a limb from a gnarled old-growth tree.

It should be in color.

On paper, canvas, or wood.

Any medium

Size minimum – 14” by 24”

No frame is required.

Must be signed legibly.

Purchase Award

1st place - \$300

Ribbons and certificates through 5th place

Sponsored by LongView Carbon Farms

www.LongViewCarbonFarms.org

Class- 40

**8TH ANNUAL
SCHWICHTENBERG CLASSIC**

Dead Mount Greenwing Teal

DEAD MOUNT DRAKE, HANGING BY ONE LEG, OLD BARN
WOOD PLAQUE, SIGNED ON BACK, ABLE TO HANG ON A WALL
Hand Carved from Wood

Purchase award!

1st place -- \$1000.00

Ribbons and certificates through 5th place



CLASS – 41

4th ANNUAL Genes Sport Shop

WORKING DUCK DECOY

Drake Merganser

(Mason style Snaky-head Challenge Grade or Premier)

PURCHASE AWARD
(Must be wood)

WINNER TAKE ALL

1ST PLACE - \$300.00

RIBBONS AND CERTIFICATES THROUGH 5TH PLACE

Swim tested.
Winning decoys will be on display at Genes Sport Shop,
downtown Perham,

Class 42

3rd-- Annual

Lake of The Woods Legacy

Purchase Award - \$250.00 Winner Take All

Ringneck Drake

Working Decoy

Details- Any head position, hollow wood, or cork, or stretched canvas over wire. Decoy must be well made, hunt-ready, self-righting, and have no fragile parts. Swim and tank tested.

Ribbons and certificates thru 5th place

Sponsored by Matt Gau and Family

2025 - Class 43

Canvas Classic

Purchase Award - \$250.00 Winner Take All

Any MN species or migratory duck

Working Decoy

Details-

Must be stretched canvas over wire. Keeled, self-righting, and hunt ready.

Swim and tank tested.

Ribbons and certificates thru 5th place

Bonus-- \$50.00 non-purchase award to 2nd place.

Sponsored by Matt Gau and Family

MIDWEST NATIONALS

GUNNING BIRD COMPETITION

CLASS	BIRD	SIZE	AWARD
44	Killdeer	FULL	\$50.00
45	Coot -alert	FULL	\$50.00
46	Owl- any	FULL	\$50.00

(Wood or cork)

****NOT PURCHASE AWARDS**

Working decoys only – Judges expect field-ready birds; ducks are swim-tested. Calls are tested. Ribbons and Certificates for 1st through 5th place at the NFDA awards banquet.

\$5.00 ENTRY PER BIRD

Best of Show on the above 3 classes of \$100.00

Class 47

MIDWEST NATIONALS
YOUTH DUCK DECOY CONTEST

DECOY -- BLACK DUCK ----DRAKE

COMPOSITION CORK OR WOOD

Age 18 and under

Cash Award

1ST PLACE	\$200.00
2ND PLACE	100.00
3RD PLACE	50.00
4TH	50.00
5TH	50.00

PLUS RIBBONS AND CERTIFICATES THRU 5TH PLACE
(non-purchase award cash)

SPONSORS

DAVID JACOBS, MN- - ROD OSVOLD, MN
KLN FAMILY BRANDS OF PERHAM
MN DECOY & WILDFOWL CARVING CLUB
www.mdwcc-carving-club.com

MORE INFO? CONTACT US
Dave Jacobs djhomeinspect@gmail.com
Rod Osvold perhamshow@gmail.com

BEST OF SHOW AWARDS

DIVISION	CLASS	AWARD	RIBBON	CUP
Designated Classes	4-11	500.00	X	1
NFDA Overall	12-37	100.00	X	1
DOUG DAVIS	34-36	100.00	X	1
Midwest Nationals	44-46	\$100.00	X	1

NFDA AWARDS BANQUET

The NFDA Awards Banquet will be held at **The Cactus** on Ft Thunder Road, south side of the freeway.

The banquet is Saturday evening, April 12, 2025
(218-346-2554)

This banquet is open to the public, collectors, carvers, dealers, and press, with advance ticket purchases. Ticket price includes a meal, door prizes and awards to contestants of all the Perham contests.

The banquet is fun for everyone, including the carvers, who have no idea if they were winners until their name is announced at the award ceremony. If you have not attended the banquet before, you miss half the show.

This is our annual fundraiser event.

RULES & REGULATIONS FOR 2024– 2025

FISH

All decoys must be working decoys that swim. Swimming is defined as the forward and down movement of the decoy when pressure is released on the line while the decoy is suspended in the tank.

1. All decoys are swim-tested in 6 ft tanks.
2. Any decoy that does not swim, sink, list to one side, swim backward, or noticeably fall apart in the water will be disqualified and not judged.
3. You can only enter one decoy per class UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
4. Decoy registration fees are \$5.00 per entry in any NFDA-sanctioned event. Capped at \$50.00
5. All decoys and fish plaques in all classes must be made from wood unless otherwise noted.
6. **Another person may register your decoys at any event.**
7. Airbrush classes mean 98% airbrush, 2% hand touch-up.
8. Hand-painted means 100% hand-painted with a brush or paint pens—no airbrush touch-ups are allowed.
9. No Bondo, putty or body fillers are allowed to mold any body parts except teeth/unless noted.
10. Filler may be used to cover lead cavity or fin gaps.
11. If one person carves and another paints, they must register under both names.
- 12.
13. Juniors are considered anyone STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL AT THE TIME OF THE EVENT.
14. Decoys must be tagged before registration, which is Friday from 11 – 2 pm, and Saturday from 7 – 8 am. Late entries are NOT accepted. ALL DECOYS MUST BE REGISTERED AT THE SAME TIME AND IN ORDER OF CLASSES.
15. No plastic fins/tails allowed in any classes unless otherwise noted.
16. All judges' decisions are final.
17. Judges and officials accept no liability for any damage to entries.
18. If you do not agree with the rules, then do NOT enter.
19. We are not responsible for stolen decoys from the contest area, including the carvers or cash sponsors. We accept no liability for purchase award sponsors that do not pay in any class.
20. All work must be full name signed before registering for any purchase award classes.
21. NFDA Nationals require you to enter the eBay class at least once.

Rules are subject to change before posting on the web. Any changes, modifications, or adjustments to the rules will be posted on the website at www.nfdadecoys.org www.perhamshow.com

Contact – Rod Osvold 218-841-3566 or perhamshow@gmail.com

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