

Coastal Jersey birds and contemporary carvings bring top dollars at Frank & Frank's sporting auction

A WILLET with paint restoration by Charles Sumner Bunn of Southampton, Long Island, New York sold for \$5750, the top lot at the Frank & Frank Sporting Collectibles annual spring auction on April 3, 2016 at the Shark River Yacht Club in Neptune, New Jersey. It was an auction that was otherwise focused on coastal New Jersey decoys and contemporary decoratives.

Three of the top lots in the auction were hollow-carved decoys by Harry V. Shourds of

By Decoy Magazine
photos courtesy Frank & Frank
Sporting Collectibles

Tuckerton, New Jersey: brant at \$4715, black duck at \$3680 and red-breasted merganser pair at \$2530. A hollow-carved black duck by Capt. Jesse Birdsall of Barnegat sold for \$2875. A hollow-carved black duck by Willis Johnson of Point Pleasant sold for

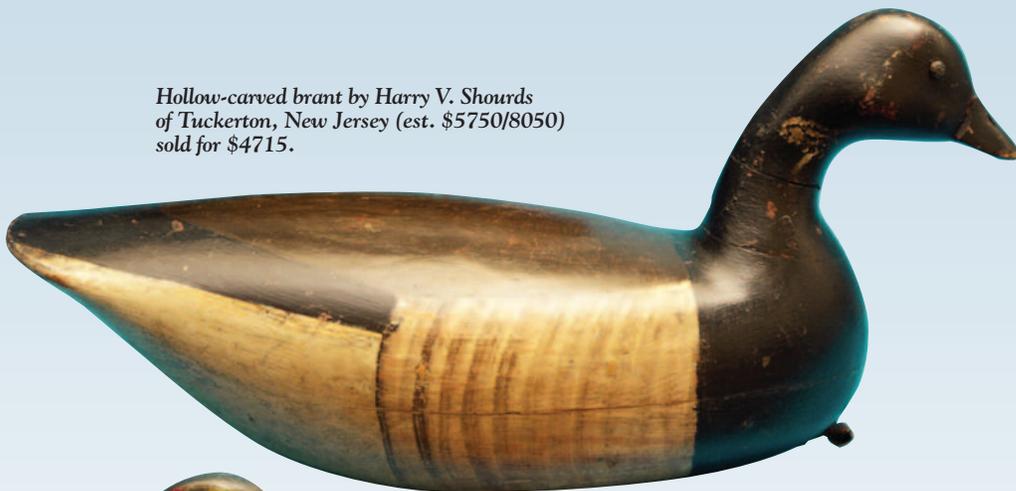
\$1035 while a bluebill by his father Taylor brought \$978.

There were two lots of note by Lloyd Johnson of Bay Head, New Jersey: decorative sandpiper at \$3565 and surf scoter at \$2070. A hollow-carved Canada goose was the best of a group of birds by Bob White of Tullytown, Pennsylvania, selling for \$2300. Others included a pair of buffleheads at \$2185, pair of canvasbacks at \$1955, mallard at \$1610 and blue-winged teal pair at \$1320.

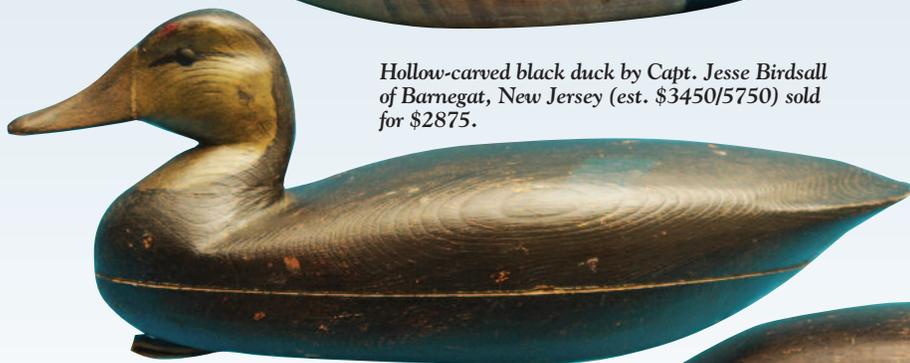
A redhead by Jim West of Chesterfield, New Jersey sold for \$1093. A pair of hollow-carved blue-winged teal by George Strunk of Glendora brought \$920. A pair of hollow-carved buffleheads by Jode Hillman of Mullica Hill sold for \$920.

A pintail by Cameron McIntyre of New Church was the best of the Virginia decoys, selling for \$1725. A decorative carving of a yellowlegs in flight by Bill Gibian of Onancock brought \$1150. A red-breasted merganser by Mark McNair of Craddockville sold for \$1035.

Hollow-carved brant by Harry V. Shourds of Tuckerton, New Jersey (est. \$5750/8050) sold for \$4715.



Hollow-carved black duck by Capt. Jesse Birdsall of Barnegat, New Jersey (est. \$3450/5750) sold for \$2875.



Hollow-carved black duck by Harry V. Shourds (est. \$4600/5750) brought \$3680.



Pintail by Cameron McIntyre of New Church, Virginia (est. \$575/920) sold for \$1725.



Other contemporaries included a pair of buffleheads by Keith Mueller of Connecticut at \$1150, cinnamon teal by Roger Barton of San Francisco at \$920, black duck by Jim Sprankle of New York at \$920 and pair of ringbills by Rob Capriola of California at \$805.

From New England, a pair of wigeon in old gunning repaint by Elmer Crowell of Cape Cod sold for \$1495 and a Canada goose in worn paint by Joe Lincoln of Accord, Massachusetts brought \$1380. A black duck by Ira Hudson of Chincoteague, Virginia sold for \$748.

Two lots of note by the Mason decoy factory of Detroit included a pair of Premier Chesapeake Bay style canvasbacks at \$1495 and a pair of standard Premier canvasbacks at \$920. A rare speckled belly goose by the Wildfowler decoy factory of Pt. Pleasant, New Jersey sold for \$1035.

In summary, of 421 lots offered 19 failed to sell, leaving 402 lots that sold for \$151,242 for an average of \$376 per lot. All prices include a 15% buyer's premium. Bill Barron served as auctioneer.



D E C O Y

R E S T O R A T I O N

before



Evans Mammoth Mallard

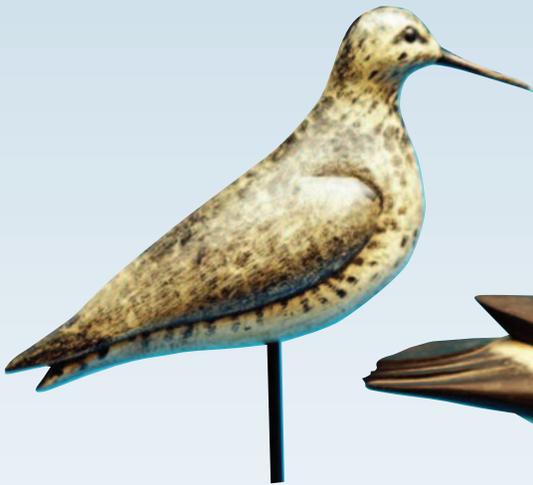


after

Restoring the common and the RARE

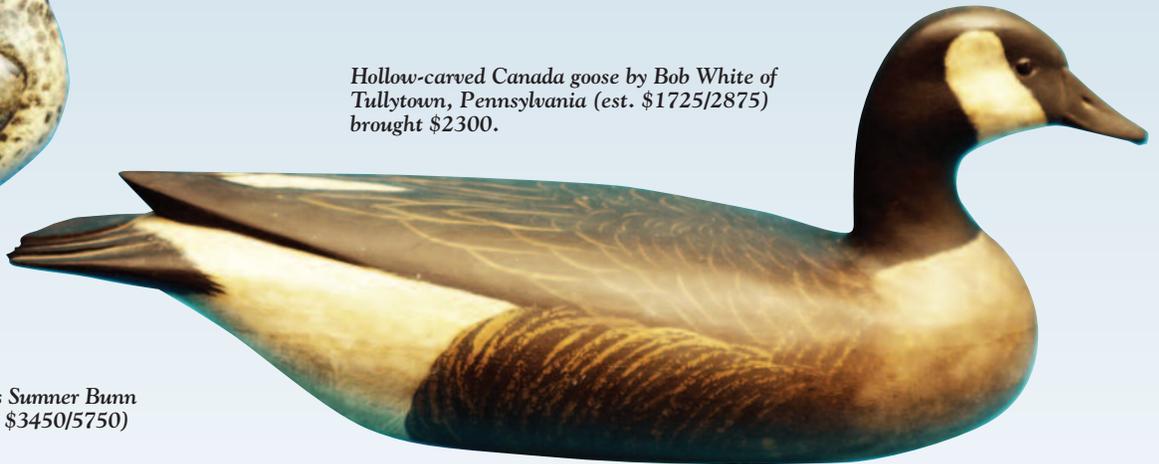
Paul Fortin

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Willet with overpaint by Charles Sumner Bunn of Southampton, New York (est. \$3450/5750) sold for \$5750.

Hollow-carved Canada goose by Bob White of Tullytown, Pennsylvania (est. \$1725/2875) brought \$2300.



Pair of Premier Chesapeake Bay model canvasbacks by the Mason decoy factory of Detroit (est. \$460/690) brought \$1495.