

Duck Issues: Now All PSA; Plate Blocks That Aren't

Better late than never, we are getting to the subject of the 2018-2019 Duck Stamps, as more urgent news from the U.S. Postal Service on postage stamp issues took precedence last month.

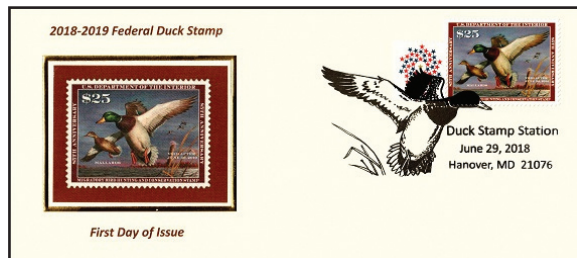
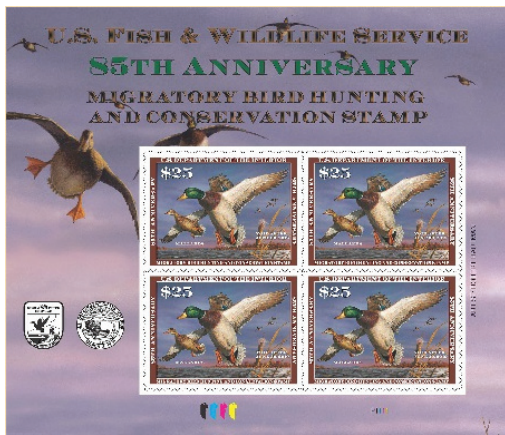
In any event, we now have information on this year's issues in a field that continues to be very popular among stamp collectors. Even though they are not postage stamps, they are a leading revenue stamp specialty, based on their eye-appeal, their mission and their value—and they are available from the USPS at the usps.com store.

Shown here are:

- Singles of the Federal Hunting Permit stamp—now a PSA stamp rather than with 'lick & stick' gum—and the Junior Duck stamp.
- The single-stamp sheetlet and FDC, same as with previous issues.
- Shown above, a "Plate Block" in the form of a souvenir sheet with the plate numbers in the lower right of a pictorial margin, and not attached to the stamp portion of the sheet.

The annual Federal Duck Stamp design contest was won by Bob Hautman of Delano, Minn., with an acrylic painting of a pair of mallards in flight—his third Duck Stamp Contest win.

Rayen Kang, a student from Johns Creek, Ga., took top honors in the 2018 National Junior Duck Stamp Contest with an acrylic painting of an emperor goose.



The issues, in their various forms, were released on June 29 at Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World in Hanover, Md.

For additional information, go to www.fws.gov/birds, the Federal Wildlife Service. There also is www.ndscs.org the website of the National Duck Stamp Collectors Society, Chapter 210 of the American Philatelic Society.