



JOIN US IN

San Diego

MAY 29 - JUNE 1, 2024

MANCHESTER GRAND HYATT







YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO

THE 87TH DUCKS UNLIMITED NATIONAL CONVENTION

MANCHESTER GRAND HYATT, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA



DEAR FRIENDS OF THE DUCKS,

It's my pleasure to invite you to Ducks Unlimited's 87th National Convention in beautiful San Diego! Ocean breezes, spectacular sunsets and postcard-perfect weather are calling all DU supporters to migrate west. We've had a BIG year and have much to celebrate with you.

We kick-off San Diego's convention with our opening night party aboard the USS Midway in the San Diego Harbor. Great food, awesome music, and DU friends from across the country will gather on the deck of this historic naval aircraft carrier. Thursday is the President's Council Dinner or dinner-on-your-own; and Friday is our Wings Over Wetlands Celebration reception and dinner. Our week wraps up with our energetic Saturday evening gala featuring cocktails, dinner, and an auction.

We have been hard at work creating our business session content for Friday and Saturday morning. From duck reports to conservation topics, or our interesting and informative panel discussions to our keynote speakers, we have it all!

The best way to experience San Diego is to step outside the hotel and enjoy the California sunshine. The Manchester Grand Hyatt is a jewel on the San Diego Harbor coastline, steps from the Embarcadero Marina, the shops at Seaport Village and miles of coastal walkways.

San Diego is also home to some unique tours. Take a below deck private tour of the USS Midway or jump aboard the Legacy, San Diego's number one rated whale watching tour with naturalists onboard helping identify all types of sea life. Join an open-air trolley tour of the city created just for DU through some of the iconic San Diego sites. Take in the city from the water by climbing aboard a harbor or sunset sail.

This is just a glimpse of what San Diego has in store for DU – I can't wait to see you there!



FOR THE DUCKS,

**CHUCK SMITH
PRESIDENT
DUCKS UNLIMITED**



**MARK MAY 29 – JUNE 1, 2024 ON YOUR CALENDER
AND MAKE PLANS TO JOIN US.**

**WE HAVE SO MUCH FUN IN STORE!
MANCHESTER GRAND HYATT**

“We are busy putting the finishing touches on what we believe will be a memorable convention in San Diego. Our business sessions will inform and educate, and our events will remind you of why you come back. DU’s 87th National Convention is an opportunity to re-engage with old friends and meet new friends.”

Pattie Kempka, DU’s Managing Director of National Meetings & Conferences

HOTEL & AIR INFORMATION



HOST HOTEL

Manchester Grand Hyatt
1 Market Place
San Diego, California 92101

Room rate: \$235, no resort fee

Self parking: \$45 per day **Valet parking:** \$65 per day

Cancellation Policy: Reservations must be cancelled at least 72 hours prior to arrival to avoid a one night's room and tax charge.

Reservations must be received by Monday, May 6, 2024



Visit
convention.ducks.org
for booking link
or call
619-232-1234

Group Code: G-Duck



AIR TRAVEL

Delta is proud to partner with Ducks Unlimited for flights to our National Convention in San Diego, California. Fly into San Diego (SAN) and take advantage of a 2-10% discount. Go to Delta.com, enter your travel destination and dates and select Advanced Search to enter DU's meeting event code, **NM3EZ**. You may also call the Delta Meeting Network® at 1-800-328-1111 Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 6:30 pm (EST) and refer to the meeting event code .

AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION

The San Diego Airport is less than three miles from the Manchester Grand Hyatt. Uber, Lyft and taxis are readily available from the San Diego Airport.

**For all hotel and air questions, contact:
Convention Central at 901.758.3843**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



TUESDAY, MAY 28

Pre-Convention Sportfishing
Gathering and DU pin trading - Cash bar

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

Tours
Committee Meetings
Opening Night Party aboard the USS Midway
presented by Cox Communications
Hospitality

THURSDAY, MAY 30

Tours
Committee Meetings
DU Board Luncheon*
DU Board of Directors Meeting
Presidents Council Reception & Dinner*/Dinner on your own
Hospitality

FRIDAY, MAY 31

Morning Coffee and Pastries
General Business Session I
Tours
Committee Meetings
Wings Over Wetlands Celebration
Reception & Dinner
Hospitality

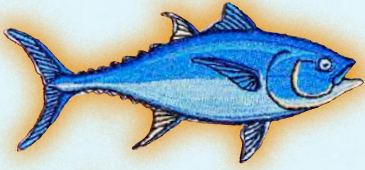
SATURDAY, JUNE 1

Morning Coffee and Pastries
General Business Session II
87th National Convention Reception and Gala



* By Invitation Only

PRE-CONVENTION



Sportfishing

TUESDAY, MAY 28 6:00 AM – 4:00 PM | \$250

Join your DU friends as we charter an offshore sportfishing vessel for a day on the Pacific. The Old-Glory is an 85-footer that is perfect for group off-shore fishing. The boat is typically after yellowtail, ling cod, and rock cod during this time of year. Should the 2024 season be anything like 2023, the most-prized fish, bluefin and yellowfin tuna, could be within reach! Rest assured Captain Kley will put us on the best fishing possible.

While onboard the deck crew is prepared to assist you with anything you need. Whether you are a seasoned pro or it's your first time out, the crew is there to help. The boat fishes 36 anglers, but we will cap the boat at 30 for our outing. Old Glory has open berthing accommodations, air-conditioning, freshwater makers, a galley and two restrooms. Lunch and beverages will be provided with ample galley seating. Captain Kley is a DU supporter and runs a very professional operation with special attention to anglers.

For those interested in fish processing arrangements, information will be supplied closer to our date for needed reservations.



Tours

USS MIDWAY PRIVATE BELOW THE DECK TOUR | \$80

Wednesday, 8:30 am – 10:30 am

Thursday, 8:30 am – 10:30 am

Experience Midway through the eyes of the Midway's world-famous docents. On this tour you will have an opportunity to experience the **Flight Deck** and listen to Midway pilots describe what it was like to take off and land on this floating airport. You will walk the **Hangar Deck** which housed the enlisted sailors' bunks and go **Below Deck** to see the engine room, laundry, sick bay, galley, as well as many other spaces that you can explore. It is hard to imagine this floating city housed over 4,000 sailors for extended operations at sea! Your tour price gives you access to the Midway for the entire day. For those interested in staying longer, you can take a short half mile walk along the bay to the Grand Hyatt.

**To assist those with accessibility issues, the Midway has added elevators and additional access routes. There are tight quarters and stairwells on the tour, but modifications could be made by request prior to the tour date.*



PACIFIC OCEAN WILDLIFE BOAT TOUR | \$75

Wednesday, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Thursday, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

With a focus on whales, this trip will open your eyes to a variety of sea life off the Pacific coast. Late May provides a good chance to see fin whales, humpback whales, and minke whales. The supporting cast, and real stars, are the pods of entertaining dolphin species that surf on the boat's wake. With sea birds, migratory land birds and sea lions rounding this trip out, the ocean is full of unexpected encounters. The knowledgeable captain and naturalist onboard will answer questions and point out wildlife and other points of interest! The Legacy, an 80 foot vessel, is well equipped with two decks, three restrooms, ample seating and a fully stocked beverage and snack bar.



• Tours •

BAY LUNCH CRUISE OR A SUNSET DINNER CRUISE | \$125/\$150

Wed., 11:00 am – 2:30 pm Thurs., 5:30 pm – 9:00 pm

This is what daydreams are made of! Cruise the calm waters of San Diego Bay two ways aboard a private luxury catamaran yacht with your DU friends. You have two options to select from: **Day cruise** - For the day cruise, kick back and relax and take in the gorgeous views of the San Diego skyline. Catered lunch and non-alcoholic beverages are provided and cash bar is available. **Sunset cruise** – For those who want to enjoy a San Diego sunset, this cruise is for you! We will provide a catered Mexican dinner with hosted bar. **Space is limited on both cruises. Don't delay!**



OPEN-AIR TROLLEY CITY TOUR | \$55

Wednesday, 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Thursday, 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Jump on board this DU only trolley tour. Sit back as the guide shares the best of the best of this beautiful city. Your narrated journey will take you through the Gaslamp District, on to beautiful Balboa Park, and over to Old Town San Diego. Then you will head North to Mt. Soledad, the highest point in San Diego, with commanding 360 degree views. After a stop and photo opportunity, you will travel down the mountain to La Jolla and drive along the beautiful San Diego beaches on your way back to the hotel.

BALBOA PARK TOUR | \$50

Wednesday, 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Friday, 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm

The magnificent Balboa Park was created in 1868 by San Diego civic leaders and encompasses over 1,200 acres. In 1915 the park was greatly enhanced in the Spanish Colonial-revival style. It is a cultural oasis that includes 17 museums, gardens galore and the world-famous San Diego Zoo. During your private walking tour, you will learn about the history, architecture, gardens and horticulture of this beautiful park.

San Diego



Must be able to walk a mile. Should you wish to stay after the tour, Uber and Lyft are readily available.

☆ Super Duck Package ☆

THE SUPER DUCK PACKAGE IS \$300 AND LIMITED TO THE FIRST 225 BUYERS.

Reserve your tickets online today. Remaining packages will be for sale at the raffle desk or Hospitality starting Wednesday while supplies last.

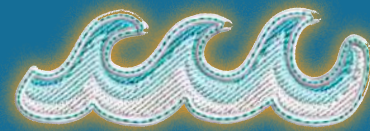


WIN A SAILING TRIP ON A PRIVATE YACHT!!

SUPER DUCK buyers who reserve and pay for their package prior to 10:00 am on Friday, May 24 will be entered into a special early bird drawing for a **PRIVATE YACHT SAIL IN SAN DIEGO BAY SATURDAY, JUNE 1 FROM 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM!**

Invite a few friends - this sail is for up to 10 people. We will have cocktails and appetizers onboard! We cannot imagine a better way of capping off convention!

SUPER DUCK buyers who purchase their package prior to 1:00 pm on Thursday, May 30 will receive additional Lucky Duck gun tickets.



★★★ **INCLUDED IN THE SUPER DUCK SWEEPSTAKES:** ★★★

Ten Tickets for the Convention Raffle

Winner receives an all-expense paid trip to the 2025 National Convention in Baltimore, Maryland at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront.

Nine Tickets (three each day) for the Ducks Unlimited Lucky Duck Gun

Four lucky winners each day (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday).

One Ticket for the Grand Prize

1 in 225 chance for winner's choice from our dream vacation package.

Convention Merchandise

SHOW YOUR DU SPIRIT AND ENSURE YOU GET THE MERCHANDISE YOU WANT BY PRE-ORDERING NOW.

Our convention store has the perfect mix for everyone and don't forget to stop by the merchandise room at convention because we'll have some special items that will not be available in advance.

Items pre-ordered are available to be shipped to your home for a nominal fee or can be picked up in the merchandise room at no charge. **The deadline for pre-orders is April 15, 2024** and all merchandise that is being shipped will go out after the deadline.



[HTTPS://GO.DUFUNDRAISING.COM/NATIONALCONVENTIONMERCHANDISE](https://go.dufundraising.com/nationalconventionmerchandise)

BUSINESS SESSION



Overview

DUCKS UNLIMITED IN 2023 WENT BIG: Record numbers in conservation, dollars raised and member engagement. This year's Business Session dives into these achievements and closes with a milestone announcement for 2024.

- **INTRODUCTION OF BOB SPOERL, DUCKS UNLIMITED'S 47TH PRESIDENT**

Bob has been a proud DU volunteer for more than thirty years. A native Wisconsinite, Bob is a passionate conservationist and an avid waterfowler, angler, and deer and elk hunter. A member of the WAT, DUC, and DUMAC boards, Bob also serves as a member of several national committees.

Bob is the retired President/Owner of Premium Brands, a Miller distributor. Bob and his wife Kim split their time between Waupaca, Wisconsin, and Scottsdale, Arizona. Bob actively manages his Wisconsin properties for maple syrup and wood production and is a member of the Ne Pee Nauk Duck Club in Wisconsin.

- **PACIFIC FLYWAY STATUS**

Iconic waterfowling and beautiful landscapes define the entire Pacific Flyway. But drought, human impacts on the landscape and other factors are creating conservation challenges for Ducks Unlimited. Learn how our team and our partners are using creative solutions to deliver quality habitat and benefits to critical habitat areas.

- **THE PINTAIL PREDICAMENT**

The majestic pintail is king in California and heavily reliant on quality habitat. Pintails once were one of the most abundant ducks in North America but have suffered a disturbing decline since the 1950s. See how your support is helping DU understand the needs of this crucial species.

- **DU NATION: BEHIND THE SCENES**

Go behind the camera to see how episodes of Ducks Unlimited's hit web video series, DU Nation, get produced. DU Nation goes beyond waterfowl hunting, exploring a range of outdoor pursuits. Through captivating episodes, it celebrates the rich tapestry of outdoor lifestyles and the passionate individuals behind them. See how DU's team assembles these videos for the enjoyment of thousands of viewers.

- **THIRD TERM: BUILDING OUR FUTURE**

DU's annual leadership summit for collegiate members continues to grow. Hundreds of university chapter members gather each year at National Headquarters to network, learn new skills and talk to DU leadership about the future of conservation. This presentation will feature Third Term members talking about the exciting program.



Convention Registration

ONLINE

Submit Convention Registration Form with credit card information at: convention.ducks.org

MAIL

Send Convention Registration Form with payment information to:

Pattie Kempka

Ducks Unlimited

One Waterfowl Way, Memphis, TN 38120-2351



CANCELLATION POLICY

A full refund of registration and tours will be given with written notice received by Monday, May 20, 2024. Please contact Pattie Kempka, pkempka@ducks.org with additional questions.

ACCESS

A full convention registration (\$450.00/adult, \$200.00 young adult) with credentials grant you access to:

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

Opening Night Party aboard the USS Midway, Reception, Dinner & Entertainment
presented by Cox Communications
Hospitality

THURSDAY, MAY 30

President's Council Reception & Dinner*
Hospitality

FRIDAY, MAY 31

Morning Coffee & Pastries
General Business Session I
Wings Over Wetlands Celebration Reception & Dinner
Hospitality

SATURDAY, JUNE 1

Morning Coffee & Pastries
General Business Session II
87th National Convention Reception and Gala



* By Invitation Only

detach here



REGISTRATION FORM

87TH ANNUAL DUCKS UNLIMITED NATIONAL CONVENTION

Registrant Information

First Convention

First _____

Last _____

Nickname _____

Street _____

City _____

State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Cell Phone _____

Office Phone _____

Email _____

Dietary Restrictions _____

Current DU Position(s) or Contribution Level
(Maximum of two, for your name badge)

1. _____

2. _____

Spouse, Guest, or Child Information

First Convention

Spouse Guest Child

First _____

Last _____

Nickname _____

Cell Phone _____

Age (if child) _____

Dietary Restrictions _____

Current DU Position(s) or Contribution Level
(Maximum of two, for your name badge)

1. _____

2. _____

**NOTE: For children 14 years of age and younger, convention registration is complimentary. Fees for tours are the same as adults and are listed below. Gala meal options are \$125 for a child or \$35 for a kid's meal.*

Guest or Child Information

First Convention

Guest Child

First _____

Last _____

Nickname _____

Cell Phone _____

Age (if child) _____

Dietary Restrictions _____

Current DU Position(s) or Contribution Level
(Maximum of two, for your name badge)

1. _____

2. _____

FULL CONVENTION REGISTRATION WITH CREDENTIALS INCLUDES

All scheduled meals, social events, hospitality, convention reception, and gala. Gala-only credentials will be available Saturday.

Adult Registration \$450

I plan to attend the:

Opening Night Reception & Dinner (Wed., May 29) . Y / N

Wings Over Wetlands Dinner (Fri., May 31) Y / N

Gala (Sat., June 1) Y / N

Saturday Gala Only (not registering for convention) \$175

Young Adult Registration (ages 15-24)

D.O.B. _____ \$200

FULL CONVENTION REGISTRATION WITH CREDENTIALS INCLUDES

All scheduled meals, social events, hospitality, convention reception, and gala. Gala-only credentials will be available Saturday.

Adult Registration \$450

I plan to attend the:

Opening Night Reception & Dinner (Wed., May 29) . Y / N

Wings Over Wetlands Dinner (Fri., May 31) Y / N

Gala (Sat., June 1) Y / N

Saturday Gala Only (not registering for convention) \$175

Young Adult Registration (ages 15-24)

D.O.B. _____ \$200

FULL CONVENTION REGISTRATION WITH CREDENTIALS INCLUDES

All scheduled meals, social events, hospitality, convention reception, and gala. Gala-only credentials will be available Saturday.

Adult Registration \$450

I plan to attend the:

Opening Night Reception & Dinner (Wed., May 29) . Y / N

Wings Over Wetlands Dinner (Fri., May 31) Y / N

Gala (Sat., June 1) Y / N

Saturday Gala Only (not registering for convention) \$175

Young Adult Registration (ages 15-24)

D.O.B. _____ \$200

Super Duck Raffle Ticket(s) Qty ____ \$300/each
(Reserve now, we will contact you for payment.)

Pre-Convention Sportfishing \$250

Tuesday, May 28 (All Day)

USS Midway Tour \$80

Wed., May 29 (am) Thursday, May 30 (am)

Wildlife Boat Tour \$75

Wed., May 29 (am) Thursday, May 30 (am)

Bay Cruise or Sunset Dinner Cruise \$125/\$150

Wed., May 29 (am) Thursday, May 30 (pm)

Trolley City Tour \$55

Wed., May 29 (pm) Thursday, May 30 (pm)

Balboa Park Tour \$50

Wed., May 29 (pm) Friday, May 31 (pm)

Super Duck Raffle Ticket(s) Qty ____ \$300/each
(Reserve now, we will contact you for payment.)

Pre-Convention Sportfishing \$250

Tuesday, May 28 (All Day)

USS Midway Tour \$80

Wed., May 29 (am) Thursday, May 30 (am)

Wildlife Boat Tour \$75

Wed., May 29 (am) Thursday, May 30 (am)

Bay Cruise or Sunset Dinner Cruise \$125/\$150

Wed., May 29 (am) Thursday, May 30 (pm)

Trolley City Tour \$55

Wed., May 29 (pm) Thursday, May 30 (pm)

Balboa Park Tour \$50

Wed., May 29 (pm) Friday, May 31 (pm)

Super Duck Raffle Ticket(s) Qty ____ \$300/each
(Reserve now, we will contact you for payment.)

Pre-Convention Sportfishing \$250

Tuesday, May 28 (All Day)

USS Midway Tour \$80

Wed., May 29 (am) Thursday, May 30 (am)

Wildlife Boat Tour \$75

Wed., May 29 (am) Thursday, May 30 (am)

Bay Cruise or Sunset Dinner Cruise \$125/\$150

Wed., May 29 (am) Thursday, May 30 (pm)

Trolley City Tour \$55

Wed., May 29 (pm) Thursday, May 30 (pm)

Balboa Park Tour \$50

Wed., May 29 (pm) Friday, May 31 (pm)

Total for Registrant \$

Total for Registrant \$

Total for Registrant \$

CHECK PAYABLE TO: Ducks Unlimited-Convention 2024

Total for Entire Party (USD) \$

CHARGE: Discover Visa MC AMEX

Card #: _____ Expiration Date: Month _____ Year _____

Signature: _____ Security Code _____

Thank You to Our Sponsors:

COX



CONVENTION.DUCKS.ORG