

AUCTION!

OPEN TO ALL FWS RETIREE ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

ARTWORK BY KENT OLSON

Many of you are aware of former FWS employee Kent Olson and his nationally recognized cartoon artwork promoting conservation and wetland preservation. Kent, a champion of wildlife and wild places, retired in 1990 and passed away in 2017, but his legacy lives on through his many pieces of artwork. For those of you who didn't know Kent, his obituary is in the February 2018 Newsletter. Recently, we received three of his pieces from Bea (Mrs. John) Cornely to use in a fundraising auction to support our Association. John passed away in October of 2023. We have decided to make these pieces available to as many of our members as possible by having an online auction before the May 2025 Madison Reunion and meeting, followed by open bidding as described below. We have not had the artwork appraised and cannot state for certain whether or not they are originals or reprints. Beside the picture of each piece shown below is the information we have along with a picture of the same, or similar piece as shown in the book "National Wildlife Refuges – Wildlife's Best Friend: A half Century of Kent Olson Cartoons" published in 2016.

All members of the Fish and Wildlife Service Retirees Association are eligible and encouraged to bid by email before the Madison reunion. Remote bidding will begin at 9:00 a.m. MST, April 15th 2025 and end at 5:00 p. m, MST May 5th, 2025. Bids shall be submitted to Conrad Fjetland at conradfjetland2@gmail.com. Priority of bids will be determined by the time of the email. A minimum opening bid amount is stated for each piece below. Each bidder will be notified if their bid is highest or they have been outbid. Once outbid, you may submit a higher bid as long as it is within the email open bidding timeframe. For example, bidder A submits \$625 as his bid. Bidder B submits a bid of \$575. Bidder B will then be notified he has been outbid and the current high bid is \$625. Bidder C then comes in at \$720. Bidder A will then be notified that he has been outbid and the current bid is \$720. Bidder C will be notified that his bid is currently high. Once the email bidding closes, there will be one high bidder for each piece. The high bidder for each piece will be offered the opportunity to submit a higher reserve bid to be represented at the live auction. Bidder C decides to submit a reserve bid of \$850.

At the reunion final bidding will take place during the Thursday evening program. Bidding will be opened with a starting bid of the current high email bid (\$720 in the above example). If the email bidder has a reserve, a board member will be assigned to represent that person. The reserve of the email bidder will not be disclosed. If the email bid amount is outbid, but is still within bidder C's reserve, his bid will be advanced to \$5 above the live bid. On the floor, there will be no incremental bidding once the email bidders are outbid. In the above example, bidder D shouts out \$800.00. The representative of C will bid \$805.00. Then bidder E says, \$900.00. That is the current bid and the email bidder is out. Association will pay for shipping to winner.

A PLACE CALLED HOME

Framed size about 27" X 24

Opening bid is \$200.00

This artwork may be an original. There are several differences between this piece and the one shown in the book. First, Kent's printed name is not in the same location and there is no date under the name in the framed version we are auctioning. There is a pronghorn by the refuge sign instead of a bighorn sheep. The duck on the right is a mallard vs. a plain brown duck. The grass is also different. On the other hand, there are a lot of similarities and it has not been taken out of the frame to determine if it is an original. If you want a full screen photo of this piece, let me know and I will email you one.

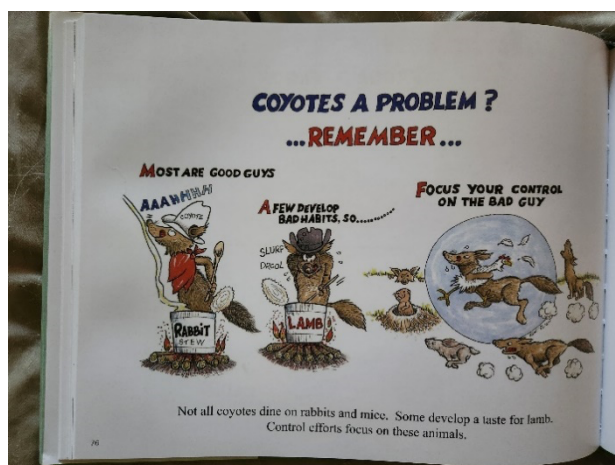


COYOTES A PROBLEM?

Framed size about 14" X 17"

Opening bid is \$100.00

The only difference we see in this piece from the book is that Kent has a second printed signature bottom center of the piece up for auction. This may be a reprint that he signed for John Cornely.



PELICAN ISLAND NO. 1

Framed size about 14" X 17"

Opening bid is \$100.00

The only difference we see in this piece from the book is that Kent has a second signature, in this case signed, not printed, just below the egg. This may be a reprint that he signed for John Cornely.

