

9 September 2003

Mr. Bubba Wood
Collectors Covey
P.O. Box 561203
Dallas, Texas 75356-1203

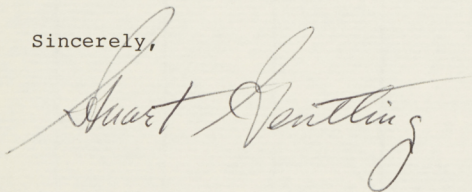
Dear Bubba:

Although I already told you the other day on the telephone that Scott and I would like to do the Texas Duck Stamp, I thought it might be a good idea to formally accept the commission and the terms of your letter of August 29th 2003.

As we also discussed, My brother and I have decided to depict a pair of American Goldeneyes. We have already chosen what I think will be suitable poses and a composition which will be in keeping with the tradition of past duck stamps. Our image however will have a certain Audubonesque, artsy look that you suggested some time ago after you had seen some of our illustrations from our book "Of Birds and Texas." We will be sending you a study in a few days, and, if you approve, we will have the finished painting in your hands by October 15th.

I would like to discuss the size of the painting. I know that you recommend the dimensions of 13 inches by 18 inches. We would prefer, if possible, to paint the Goldeneyes life-size and, of course, to the proportions dictated by the 13" by 18" format. We have had a lot of experience reproducing images. The elements of our proposed painting are broad and simple and the patterning of the ducks is not striated or complicated. The image will, I'm sure, reduce beautifully to duck stamp size without loss of pictorial vitality. I do hope that you will agree when you see the small study that we will be sending you in a few days.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Stuart Gentling". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".