

Robert Bealle and Francis Edwards Sweet Among The Artists at the Community Foundation of Charles County's 2nd Annual Potomac Wildlife Art Show and Auction

For Immediate Release

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POTOMAC WILDLIFE ART SHOW AND AUCTION – MEET DUCK STAMP WINNER ROBERT BEALLE

Waldorf, MD April 2008 – The Community Foundation of Charles County is proud to announce this year's Duck Stamp Winner, Robert Bealle, as one of many sought-after artists returning for this year's Potomac Wildlife Art Show and Auction.

Melvin A. Smith established his private foundation in 1955 after accumulating wealth from several successful business ventures. Giving back, he is reported to have said, was a family value taught to him by his parents. For decades, The Smith Foundation distributed grants in support of education, public recreation and care for the elderly.

Before making the decision to transfer assets to the community foundation, Nancy Smith and brother Darren met with Joan Giddings of Rockford Community Foundation. "Nancy and Darren were perfect candidates for a Donor Advised Fund," says Giddings. "Both cared about playing a role in the grantmaking process, but neither had the time and interest in doing the paperwork and managing the hassles involved in maintaining a private foundation."

Donor Advised Funds provide an easy way for donors to get involved in grantmaking and leave the administration, legal and tax-related responsibilities up to the community foundation. The Smiths plan to get together twice a year to discuss possibilities for the Smith Advised Fund. Then, they'll make grant recommendations to the Rockford Community Foundation board of trustees.

"We're thinking about supporting the local summer camp and the home for seniors with our first recommendations," says Darren. "Dad cared a great deal about people in the early and latest stages of life—when they are most vulnerable." Darren adds, "We are busy people, including the time we spend on our own personal giving ventures. It's assuring to know that the community foundation can provide us a way to honor our Dad and continue his work without taking on more than we can handle. I think he would be happy with the decision we've made."

Rockford Community Foundation was founded in 1968 to help people in the tri-city area give back to their community in a lasting way through endowment.

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