



## *Marvo Entertainment Group LLC*

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*"We Bring Extraordinary Stories To Life"*

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### ***Happy Birthday, Jay N. "Ding" Darling! – October 21, 2014***

MADISONVILLE, KENTUCKY AND NAPLES, FLORIDA – October 15, 2014 -- October 21 marks the celebration of the birth of a man who lived a great American story—Jay N. "Ding" Darling. As Marvo Entertainment Group LLC continues to champion Darling's legacy, we are excited to share our news about events, exhibits, and the featured film about a man whose vision and leadership influenced generations.

"Ding" Darling's spirit was alive and well on September 17, 2014, at the official rededication of Lake Darling State Park in Brighton, Iowa. Iowans along with guests from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources celebrated Lake Darling's restoration in an afternoon program at the beautiful outdoor pavilion. At an earlier July event, the Lake Darling Reopening Ribbon Cutting, Marvo Executive Producer Sam Koltinsky presented the Brush of Excellence Award to the Friends of Lake Darling State Park, a non-profit group of volunteers whose mission is "Make the Great Park of Lake Darling Extraordinary."

Recently featured in an article in the September 3, 2014, issue of *The Wildlife Society News*, Marvo's traveling exhibit, *The Hidden Works of Jay N. "Ding" Darling*, will be on display at The Wildlife Society's 2014 Annual Conference on October 25-30 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Marvo's Sam Koltinsky extends his heartfelt invitation to "come and visit our booth to view some of our most extraordinary Darling treasures. Also, join us for a special screening of the documentary, "America's Darling: The Life of Jay N. 'Ding' Darling," that will be shown during the conference."

Additional opportunities to view *The Hidden Works* exhibit will be available at The Milton R. Owen Nature Center in Osage, Iowa, on October 24 - December 31, 2014. Also scheduled is The Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art in Salisbury, Maryland, from January 16 – May 10, 2015. This collection of Darling's work and artifacts supports the Ward Museum's vision to lead the way for advancing the understanding of wildfowl art and the interrelationships of art, nature and culture.

Our *Darling is Back!* coproduction with Iowa Public Television has yielded many important discoveries along the way. Historian Fred Robinson is loaning his 1870 Robinson Family Diary that describes the land surrounding Lake Darling...what a treasure! Other surprises and treasures from our research on Lake Darling may be viewed on our Marvo website: [www.marvoentertainmentgroup.com](http://www.marvoentertainmentgroup.com).

No surprises here...Madisonville, Kentucky, is the recipient of the Outstanding Achievement Award in Environmental Efforts presented at the 2014 America in Bloom Symposium and Awards Program recently held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Nearly 200 people celebrated how communities are planting pride in America. Madisonville is home to Mahr Park at Hidden Hills Farm, a testament to the land stewardship advocated by "Ding" Darling.

Let's Go Outside! Celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Ding Darling Days will be held on October 19-25, 2014, at the J. N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel Island, Florida. Congratulations on your silver anniversary!

As we have recently announced on our website, Marvo Entertainment Group LLC has begun preproduction on its featured film, "*Ding*." Screenwriter Joanna Louise Johnson comments, "I'm honored to write Ding's story for the screen. It goes so far beyond entertainment—it's a healing journey that transcends politics and time. And he's so darn funny. How often do you get to evolve and laugh at the same time?"

Happy Birthday, "Ding" from the entire Marvo team!

Marvo Executive Producer Samuel Koltinsky's work is inspired by a passion for stories, history, preservation, and the environment. Over the past twenty-three years, he has produced numerous documentaries in Europe and the United States and has worked with PBS, the History Channel and the Documentary Channel.

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