

Herbert Hoover Library

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Opening January 25th at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Museum – The Hidden Works of Jay N. "Ding" Darling

West Branch, IA – The Herbert Hoover Presidential Museum in West Branch, Iowa will open a new temporary exhibit, *The Hidden Works of Jay N. "Ding" Darling* on January 25, 2014. This exhibit is presented in part by:

Andrea and Kip Koss
The Des Moines Register
Marvo Entertainment Group LLC
The Private Collection
The Herbert Hoover Presidential Library Association

and with Special Support by: Humanities Iowa Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation Iowa Public Television.

Jay N. "Ding" Darling was a leading political cartoonist in the 1900s and an important figure in the early conservation movement. He won the Pulitzer Prize twice (1924 and 1943) and reached America through more than 100 of the nation's leading newspapers while he was employed at *The Des Moines Register* and *Sioux City Journal*. Darling created cartoons through two World Wars and the terms of seven presidents. His cartoons covered important events in the 20th century, including the Great Depression, prohibition and the labor movement. Throughout his life Darling was also a supporter of the conservation efforts that lead to the creation of the national wildlife refuge system and other local and nationwide conservation projects and regulations.

The Hidden Works of Jay N. "Ding" Darling, January 25 – March, 23, 2014, will showcase a collection of artifacts that have never been displayed in this manner. The hidden works on display include personal and family objects, cartoons, sketches, and the newly uncovered original printing plates from *The Des Moines Register*. This exhibit has been dedicated to Kip Koss, Darling's only grandson and oldest living relative, who recently passed away. Many of these items have never been on display to the public and we ask that no photographs be taken to protect the items and to respect the lenders.

The exhibit also includes a recently discovered sketch that has been in a private collection for decades. The unfinished study was discovered in 2012 by filmmaker Samuel Koltinsky as he conducted research for a documentary on Darling. The work is thought to be one of the finest representations of Darling's pioneering studies of ducks in flight. The Herbert

Hoover Presidential Library Association (<u>www.HooverAssociation.org</u>) is being allowed to be the first to sell a limited edition of 300 numbered prints of this sketch.

The Herbert Hoover Presidential Museum is located in West Branch, Iowa, 10 miles east of Iowa City, Exit 254, Interstate 80. Museum hours are 9 am – 5 pm daily. *The Hidden Works of Jay N. "Ding" Darling* will be on display from January 25 – March 23, 2014.