

# Collectors Might Want a Duck

By Jacquelyn Meyer

You can call it "Ducky," but collectors take note, a Celebriduck is floating in a tub near you! Celebriducks, Inc. is the original creator of the first ever collectible celebrity rubber duck. The ducks were first developed in 1998 as a fun project of the art business "Name That Toon," by owner Craig Wolfe and daughter Rebecca.

According to Wolfe when the Philadelphia 76ers read about Celebriducks, "They asked us if we could create a duck of superstar Allen Iverson complete with cornrows, tattoos, and earring. It would be used for a stadium give-a-way."

NASCAR, NHL, NBA, MLB and college sport fans have flocked to similar stadium give-a-ways ever since. To date, over 200 different Celebriducks have pioneered a whole new collectible. Celebriducks include: Elvis Presley, Bill Clinton, The Gorton Fisherman, James Brown, The Blues Brothers, Shakespeare, Moses and more. New lines include Cheese Quaker for the Wisconsin Cheeseheads and Bubbles, the cow mascot for Canada's Cow Ice Cream Co. Wolfe's goal is to always be adding new ducks and retiring others to enhance the collectibility.

Each rubber duck comes in its own individual container," says Wolfe. "And, all new ducks since 2005 have our new Hollywood themed box to beautifully show off our little creations. We seal up the bottom of each duck and actually put in an internal squeaker. It's costly, but it makes for a much better product. All ducks have the edition number written on the bottom and since 2005 are individually numbered," he adds.

A recent look on eBay found 91 Celebriducks including Betty Boop Biker, University of Iowa Hawkeye, Sheryl Swoopes of the WNBA, Elvis, and The Three Stooges. Bids ranged from 99 cents for a collegiate mascot to \$19.98 for a three-piece celebrity set.

California-based Celebriducks, Inc. has an active Web site where collectors can view the ducks, read about them, subscribe to the newsletter, or make a purchase. Prices vary. Check out [www.celebriducks.com](http://www.celebriducks.com).

What could be more fun to collect. And, they float! 🦆



Wolfe was pleased to provide ducks for the gift bags for the American Music Awards this past November. They were also asked to provide Celebriducks for TBS Earth to America Comedy Extravaganza.



Above: Carol Conners is pictured with an Elvis Celebriduck at the Beverly Hills hotel Spago's. Conners, a prolific singer and songwriter, was the lead singer for The Teddy Bears and sang perhaps one of the most memorable songs ever, "To Know Him is to Love Him." Elvis Presley heard her voice, and (to make a long story short) he became her first boyfriend! And now you know the rest of the story.

Left: Everyone is familiar with the Cheeseheads of Wisconsin. This cute duck, Cheese Quaker, has the same look.

