

The Wildfowler



JULY/AUGUST 2011

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Tom Beatty

In our last newsletter I briefly mentioned that we were about to change out our main exhibit area as well as the art gallery. I was very enthused with our plans to have Canadian decoys on display for the first time and a nice selection of artwork. In early May we met to assemble the exhibit and when I saw the decoys and the artwork, I knew then we were going to have one of the best exhibitions in the last decade. This is not to degrade previous exhibits, but with the combination of extremely

fine decoys, beautiful artwork and a variety of bronze sculptures from Turner Sculpture, everything just seemed to come together to make a presentation second-to-none. I am very pleased with the entire exhibit and hope Museum members will bring their family and friends to see it. The decoys are on loan from the collections of Larry Lambert, Bill and Alice Walsh, Joe Pacini and Julie White. They range in age from 1900 to the mid-1950's. These classic pieces are made by such well known carver as Davey Nichol, Reginald Bloom, Ken Anger, Orel LeBoeuf and even a pair carved in the Kingston, Ontario Penitentiary. Complimenting the decoys in the main gallery is artwork by Rob Leslie, Eldridge Hardie, Brett Smith and David Maass. They are really outstanding, especially a painting titled "Shooting from a sinkbox on Back Bay" by Brett Smith and "The Wildcat, Cork MacGee's blind in Chincoteague" by Chet Resnon. Sprinkled throughout the main gallery and gift shop are bronze sculptures of otters, a Bufflehead in flight, a Kingfisher, blue crab and a life-size Great Blue Heron titled "Taking Flight". I guarantee you will not be disappointed when you make the trip and see first-hand what we have put together. Likewise, we have made a complete change-out of the artwork in the art gallery on the second floor. Tommy O'Connor was kind enough to loan us original artwork by Louis Schifferl. For those not familiar with Lou, he was born in Chicago in 1931, is now retired and resides in a small town south of Green Bay, WI. He spent most of his career as a commercial artist, but became known for his outdoor-related art, especially those with a wildfowling theme. We have dedicated the entire art gallery to Lou's work. You can see some of his earlier black and white sketches from the 1970's to his more recent and larger

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

July 9

Decorative carving class begins (novice)

Sept 6 (Tuesday)

Monthly Museum meeting, 6pm social, 7pm meeting/program

Sept 12

Board of Directors meeting, 7pm, AWHM

Oct 3

Monthly Museum meeting, 6pm social, 7pm meeting/program

Oct 15

Pig Roast, 4pm, AWHM, \$30 per person

Nov 7

Monthly Museum meeting, 6pm social, 7pm meeting/program

Nov 14

Board of Directors meeting, 7pm, AWHM

Dec 13

Annual Christmas Dinner/Auction, 6pm social, 7pm dinner, FOP #8 on Birdneck Road



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Back Bay Wildfowl Guild
1115 Atlantic Avenue
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23451



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Under the auspices of:
The Back Bay Wildfowl Guild, Inc.
(A not for profit organization)

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color pieces. Whether black and white or color, each of the paintings tells its own story. Come and see for yourself.

The Museum carving classes continue to be popular with Museum member and have also attracted new members. Al Brandtner just completed a decorative Pintail class and will begin a novice decorative class on July 9th. This class will carve a Bufflehead drake. Additionally, Gentry Childress and Herb Verhaagen completed a traditional carving class and will hopefully be able to conduct another novice class for those beginners interested in carving. If you or someone you know is interested in taking a class, contact me at the Museum and I will provide you with the necessary information.

—Tom



June speaker, Reese Lukei

NEW MEMBERS

Bill & Will Evans (Virginia Beach)
Lennon Smith (Portsmouth)



Canadian decoys on display for the first time in Main Gallery

EARLY REMINDER

The Christmas dinner/auction is scheduled for Tuesday, December 13, 2011 at the FOP Lodge 8 located on Birdneck Road in Virginia Beach. Mark your calendars now and make plans to attend.

FACEBOOK

If you have not already done so, please go to our website www.awhm.org and click on the decoy on the left that says "Facebook". When you get to our facebook page....click **LIKE**

MEMORIAL PLAQUES AND PAVERS ARE AVAILABLE

Over the years we have held several fund-raising activities designed to support the Museum and bring more attention to our mission of preserving the wildfowl history of this area. To date we have been pretty successful in accomplishing this goal. Another way that we can raise funds for the museum and also benefit the donor at the same time, is to purchase a memorial plaque or brick paver near the wildfowl sculpture in front of the Museum. We only have one \$ 2,000 & thirty \$1,000 plaques remaining and basically an unlimited amount of space available for \$ 100 brick pavers. If you are interested in making a purchase, call, visit or email me at the Museum and I can provide all the information and materials required.

—Tom

DONATIONS

In Memory of Myrtle Wilson
Ken & Nancy Wilson
Archie Johnson
Ann Smith
Tom & Karen Beatty
Herb & Pat Videll
In Memory of Anne Whitmore
Ann Smith

In Honor of Gary Holt
Bill & Will Evans
C.J. Burns
Roy Carlson
Robert Storms
Jerry Harris
Larry Lambert
Deborah & Addison Igleheart



"Shooting from a sinkbox on Back Bay" by Brett Smith



"The Wildcat, Cork MacGee's blind in Chincoteague" by Chet Reneson.



Green Winged Teal

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Ann Verhaagen

Hi everyone, I can't believe that it is June (summertime). It seems like just yesterday that we were having snow storms and

freezing. This year is really flying by. We won't be having any more meetings until September. No meeting in July and August. The date of our next meeting is Tuesday, September 6th social Hour 6:00pm - 7:00pm, meeting 7:00pm - 8:30pm.

Thank you all for your support at the Lucky Oyster fund raiser. The food was delicious and the fellowship was great. A special thanks to Alice Walsh, Gentry and Marian Childress, Linda and Skippy Margiotta, Jamie and Sandy Champe, Tom and Karen Beatty, Bev and Ira Abbott, Bud and Julie Coppedge, Kelly and Reese Bridgeman and James Freeman for their contributions.

October 15th we will be having a Pig Roast at the Museum. It will start at 4:00pm and will be catered by the Malbons. The food should be delicious. The tickets will be \$30.00 per person. Mark your calendars for that Date. Come and help support our museum.

Ken Wilson our Vice President for many years, tendered his resignation effective at the June BOD meeting. Ken has done an outstanding job and he will truly be missed on our board.

—Ann