

The Wildfowler



MARCH/APRIL 2011

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Tom Beatty

As we enter the mid-point of what I describe as our "winter doldrums", the work around the Museum still

keeps us busy. We were able to complete about 99% of the Boat-house renovation with only some cosmetic work yet to be done. On a cold Saturday morning a few Museum members volunteered to help clean out the attic and recycle old electronic equipment. That opened up more storage area and also allowed us to purchase more modern office equipment. We went from dial-up internet to high speed connection. What a difference that makes. Along with the equipment change, also came an email address change. Starting now to email us at the Museum use: atlanticwildfowl@verizon.net. Two of the three projects I have slated to begin in Dec/Jan have virtually been completed. Work on the Virginia Beach History Room will commence shortly.

As you read on in the newsletter you will notice a large listing of members who have recently made

donations to the Museum. I can't begin to tell you how appreciative I am for your generosity. The extra income really helps Museum operations during this traditionally slow sales period.

On January 26th the Museum hosted a group from the Seniors Resource Center in Creeds. About thirty people toured the Museum and although they were on a tight schedule we were able to fill the hour they had allocated with some interesting history of the de Witt family and also the gunning clubs of Back Bay. Museum members, Councilwoman Barbara Henley and Fred Waterfield, were part of the group. Don Spitzli, also part of the group, signed up as a new member. I felt it was a very rewarding time for both the seniors and the Museum staff. We are looking forward to another tour scheduled for February 18th for about 20 students from the Menonite School in Kempsville. I always enjoy these tours and sharing the history of wildfowling in the area along with the unique history of the Cottage and the Holland and deWitt families.

Another Museum activity currently taking place is a decorative carving class. The class is comprised of six carvers who

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Mar 7

Monthly Museum meeting, AWHM, 6pm social, 7pm meeting/program, speaker/carver James Freeman, host Bill Walsh

Mar 14

Board of Directors meeting, 7pm, AWHM

Mar 13

Daylight savings time begins

Mar 15

Museum Management Committee meeting, AWHM, 1:30pm

Mar 20

Spring begins

Apr 4

Monthly Museum meeting, AWHM, 6pm social, 7pm meeting/program, speaker Bill Casto, host Reese Kelly Bridgman

Apr 11

Board of Directors meeting, AWHM, 7pm

Apr 18-22

Historic Garden Week

Apr 20

Historic Garden Week, Virginia Beach, Birdneck Point

Apr 24


Easter (Museum closed)

May 2

Monthly Museum meeting, 6pm, Lucky Oyster Restaurant (see article inside for details)

May 8

Mothers day

Printed on recycled paper

 Atlantic Wildfowl Heritage Museum
 Back Bay Wildfowl Guild
 1115 Atlantic Avenue
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Published by the Atlantic Wildfowl Heritage Museum at the deWitt Cottage
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 Virginia Beach, VA 23451
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 AWHM.ORG
 Under the auspices of:
 The Back Bay Wildfowl Guild, Inc.
 (A not for profit organization)

meet every Saturday in the Boathouse with instructor, Al Brandtner. When the class is complete each student will have a beautiful Pintail drake and the satisfaction of having hand carved and painted their own bird. We are also scheduling a novice decorative carving class, tentatively scheduled for the June time frame. If you are interested in the class call me at the Museum (437-8342) and I will put you on the sign-up list. A Bufflehead drake will be the bird carved in the novice class. Every April, usually the third week, Virginia celebrates Historic Garden Week. On April 20th Virginia Beach will be one of the areas highlighted with garden tours and related activities. The de Witt Cottage, an historic home, has always been featured on the tour and in the annual Historic Week booklet. This year we will take a more active role. The focus of the tour will be the homes/gardens in Birdneck Point. All the streets are named after birds and my wife and I were asked to lead a boat trip around the Lynnhaven River to spot, identify and discuss birds and birding in this area. We will also provide a carver that will demonstrate his skills at one of the garden homes or at the boat landing. Details are still sketchy at this point, but it should be an enjoyable day and opportunities to not only discuss birds but slip in a few comments about the Museum.

I received a couple of emails from John Miller of Ohio near Cincinnati late December and January. He was telling me of how much snow they had and how cold it was. He thought about the good ole summer days of Virginia Beach. I replied to inform him it wasn't exactly paradise here at the beach. We had more snow than I could remember and the temperatures seemed to be colder than usual. So for out-of-towners, especially to the West and North of us, I know it has been a really rough winter and I hope you all make it through safe and sound. We hope to see you at the Museum when you finally thaw out.

—Tom



Al Brandtner, carving instructor



Atlantic Wildfowl Heritage Museum in the snow and ice.

Wilson Hunt demonstrating fish carving at January meeting



BOATHOUSE SCHEDULE

Since the boathouse has been renovated, it is now suitable for not only carving classes, but meetings, painting classes & demonstrations and small community outreach programs. To preclude two groups trying to use the building at the same time the Museum Director will coordinate and schedule ALL activities.

DONATIONS

Al & Ann Henley
(in honor of Delores & Clarence Fentress, 60th anniversary)

Karen Young
(in memory of Bill Johnson)

Barbara Henley

Pete Taylor

Jamie Champe

C J & Carolyn Burns

Deborah & Addison Igleheart

Marian Childress

Timothy Schacht

Tom & Sharon Costello

Al Brandtner

Bill Walsh

Fletcher Bryant

Larry Lambert

Caroline Jacobsen

Gary Holt

Ann Smith

(in memory of

Anne Armstrong Hill)

NEW MEMBERS

Timothy Schacht
(Michigan)

Don Spitzli
(Virginia Beach)

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Ann Verhaagen

Hi Everyone,
One of our most popular events will held on May 2, 2011 6:00P.M. at the Lucky Oyster Restaurant on General Booth Boulevard. This

fun-filled evening helps raise money to help support our beautiful and educational Museum. We will have a great variety of items donated by our members for the raffles.

The Lucky Oyster Restaurant has created a special menu for us:

Fried Shrimp Dinner

Jumbo Shrimp-lightly fried, served with our famous fresh make Lucky Sauce

Classic Sirloin Steak

A tender 8oz., grilled to perfection Chicken Parmesan –Everyone's favorite Italian classics, lightly breaded chicken smothered in marinara And melted provolone over linguine

Fried Oyster Dinner

Fresh oysters, hand breaded and lightly fried to order

Shrimp n' Broccoli Alfredo

Tender shrimp sautéed with garlic and fresh broccoli in a creamy Alfredo Sauce

Fried Flounder Dinner

Fresh flounder- fried to crispy perfection

All entries served with:

House or Caesar salad
Dressings: Ranch, Honey mustard, Dijon, Raspberry Vinaigrette, Balsamic, Pepper Parmesan, Bleu cheese, French, Thousand Island and Caesar

Lucky Sides

Choice of one side:

Mashed Potatoes, Southern Deep Fried Corn, Mac n' Cheese, Cole Slaw, Beans n' Rice, Steamed Broccoli, Basket of French Fries, Sautéed Green Beans, Jumbo Baked Potato and Sweet Potato Fries

A sampling of Lucky's home-made desserts included

The cost for this fund raising event is \$30.00 per person.

Please come for a great evening out and to help support our museum.

To make Reservations please call the museum at 437-8432

See you there,
Ann Verhaagen, President

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It's that time of the year, memberships expire Dec 31st. You can mail your check to the Atlantic Wildfowl Heritage Museum, 1113 Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach, VA, 23451. Regular membership - \$25, Family - \$35, Corporate - \$200, Sponsor - \$500. Make check payable to AWHM. If you're at the Museum, we will certainly take cash or credit.

Parking is available at the Raven Restaurant across the street and the Newcastle Motel next door for members during meetings and gatherings at the cottage.