

# The Wildfowler

MAY/JUNE 2009

## FROM THE DIRECTOR



Tom Beatty

Summer is rapidly approaching and I for one will be glad to see some warm weather. As

the weather begins to improve so has the number of visitors to the Museum. We traditionally see that spike in attendance during the Easter holiday season. During the slow months we were able to arrange some partnering events with the City of Virginia Beach. April 18th we conducted a bird-walk for the Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation Department for Rec Center members at Little Island Park near the Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Our next walk will be at Stumpy Lake on May 16th. We have also volunteered our services in assisting the Parks & Recreation Department in developing an annual birding festival. The tentative date for the first one is set for January 2010. On June 27th, between 10am and 12:30 pm, we will be part of the "Summer Fun Information Festival" at Princess Anne Area

Library. The festival is designed to show families some interesting and inexpensive ways to enjoy time together by showcasing local attractions and services. Our booth will feature birding and decoy carving. We had a pleasant surprise late March when members of a Springfield, MO High School visited the Museum and conducted an interview with me and volunteer, Bob Bishop. I have to admit it went well and was available for viewing on the school website – www.htvmagazine.com. A little extra exposure never hurts! We also had several groups visit recently, the most energetic had to be the Brownie Troop from Star of the Sea Elementary School. If you are planning a trip and are leaving from Norfolk International Airport, be sure and check out our display in Concourse "B" during April through June. Our next exhibit change out at the Museum will be May 2-4. We will change our main exhibit, contemporary section and all artwork. Our incoming displays will be worth a trip in and by all means bring a friend on your next visit or the next meeting.

—Tom

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- May 2-4**  
Set up new Museum exhibits
- May 4**  
General Guild meeting, 6pm social, 7pm meeting, program speaker: decoy collector, Kroghie Andresen
- May 6**  
Museum Management Committee meeting, 10:30am, AWHM
- May 10**  
Mother's Day
- May 11**  
Board of Directors meeting, 7pm, AWHM
- May 25**  
Memorial Day – Museum begins summer hours
- June 1**  
General Guild meeting, 6pm social, 7pm meeting/program Gentry Childress is our speaker
- \* NOTE NEXT MEETING- SEPT 7th**
- June 8**  
Board of Directors meeting, 7pm, AWHM
- June 16**  
Museum Management Committee meeting, 1:30pm, AWHM
- June 21**  
Father's Day
- June 30**  
End of fiscal year 2009
- July 4**  
Independence Day
- July 13**  
Board of Directors meeting, 7pm, AWHM

Atlantic Wildfowl Heritage Museum  
Back Bay Wildfowl Guild  
1113 Atlantic Avenue  
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23451



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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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[www.AWHM.org](http://www.AWHM.org)

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## FINAL AUCTION NOTE

The de Witt Cottage Annual Auction held, November 1, 2008, made a profit of \$16,390.00.

Please support the businesses who contributed so generously to our auction! If you visit these folks, please let them know that you are a member of Back Bay Wildfowl Guild which hosted the auction.

### Contributors

Adventure Parasail  
Alissage Massages  
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Bakers Fine Jewelry & Gifts  
Bayside Tackle & Bait  
Beach Gallery  
Beach Pub  
Blue Ridge Mountain Sports  
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Coastal Kayak Touring Co.  
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Inlet Fitness Center  
Glen Laferriere's -24 Hundred  
Longhorn Steakhouse  
Lucky Oyster  
Lynnhaven Fish House  
Malbon Bros. Corner Mart  
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Ocean Palm  
Office Max (Red Mill)  
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Ragged Robin  
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The Heritage Store  
Virginia Aquarium &  
Marine Science Center  
Virginia Zoo  
Washington Redskins  
Wave Riding Vehicles  
WaWa  
Wild Birds Unlimited  
Woodcraft (Janaf)

Thanks again to all members and friends who participated in our auction!

—Alice Walsh

## ATTENTION CARVERS!!

The Guild has an opportunity to join with Ducks Unlimited in presenting a Back Bay Wildfowl Guild Series of hand carved life size decoys for auction by DU at four of their chapters. This year, 2009, would be the first of an ongoing annual series of a minimum of four decoys that the Guild would present to DU for auction. It is requested that interested Guild carvers provide new, decoy style carvings to the Guild via Tom Beatty for eventual DU auction—one decoy per DU chapter. If more than four decoys are presented, then all will be allotted to the four chapters for auction. The auction proceeds would be split by BBWG and DU. It is envisioned that the BBWG 2009 Series entry donations would need to be carved and painted before September of this year, but times of auction are not yet firmed up. Request that donation carvings be submitted this summer if possible. The bottom of the birds would need to be burned/engraved thusly: "Carved exclusively for the BBWG Decoy Series No. One, month and 2009, by (carver's name)". Next year, 2010, will be Series No. Two, etc. Questions? Please call Jamie Champe at 417-6608 (work) or 426-2277 (home). Email: jchampe@dpatraining.com.

**C'mon, Carvers—we sure could use your help!**

Published by the  
Atlantic Wildfowl Heritage Museum  
at the deWitt Cottage  
1113 Atlantic Avenue  
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)



Grayson Chesser was our guest speaker for the April Guild meeting



"Another Happy Visitor"



Brownie troop from Star of the Sea

## DONATIONS

Ann Reed  
Pete Taylor  
Tom & Sharon Costello  
Jamie Champe  
Bill & Alice Walsh  
(in memory of Theresa Cook  
John Forrest & Steve Mundy)  
Elaine Polizos  
Marian L. Croonenbergh Blair  
(in memory of de Witt family)

## MEMBERSHIPS

Patricia Mangan

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

### Speakers



Herb Verhaagen

Kroghie Andresen for May. Kroghie has written and published Gunnin' Birds, a book about working decoys, carvers and their

work, from the North Carolina coast and the Back Bay, Virginia area. His book features his extensive collections from the area mentioned. The Museum will feature selected decoys from his collection starting in May. Hear Kroghie and see his collection at Our May 6th meeting.

Gentry Childress is our speaker for June. Gentry is a retired teacher, member of the Virginia Museum Stranding team, past president of the Guild, past president of the Birding club, a very accomplished carver having won several awards at recent shows. He is an excellent speaker and always well received.

—Herb

## IN MEMORIAM

Our condolences to Jaque Mundy on the loss of her husband, Steve. Steve was a long-time Guild member, past president of the Guild and avid hunter. He shared many fine moments with Guild members and will be missed.

WWW.AWHM.ORG