

# The Wildfowler

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2009

## FROM THE DIRECTOR



Tom Beatty

Another summer season has come and gone. Traditionally, we see a considerable number of

visitors through December, especially if the weather stays mild. It's also a time when local residents return to the oceanfront. If you do come to the Cottage after normal working hours you will see that the porch is closed to visitors when the Museum closes at 5:00pm. I know this may be inconvenient to some who like to stroll on the boardwalk and then relax in the rockers on the porch. Because of the vandalism on the Museum grounds, trash and garbage left overnight, I had to limit access when staff members were not on site. I regret the inconvenience and I do not anticipate this will be a permanent policy.

I mentioned how successful the Kroghie Andresen exhibit of Back Bay and Currituck Sound decoys has been over the summer. I called Stan Van Etten, publisher of Hunting and Fishing Collect-

ibles Magazine and told him what a great exhibit we had. He asked me to write a short article about the display and Ira Abbott took some fantastic photos, and with any luck, we should have a nice article in his Nov/Dec issue. On a similar note, if you want to buy a copy of Kroghie Andresen's book, *Gunnin' Birds*, I think we have about a half dozen copies left. It's a great book any historian or wildfowl enthusiast will enjoy. **THINK CHRISTMAS GIFT!**

I will be sending in the next group of commemorative bricks and plaques by the end of October. Please get your request in as soon as possible. If the newsletter comes out after the cut-off date and you want a brick or plaque, I can send an addition to the original order.

Our annual Christmas Party and Auction will be held December 14th at the Museum, 6pm social hour, 7pm dinner. As always reservations will be required. I will not start Christmas preparations or take reservations until after the November auction.

Once again we will be hosting the Virginia Society of Ornithology during their annual visit to Virginia Beach on December 4th. We

*Continued on next page.*

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### Nov 2

General Guild meeting, AWHM, 6pm social, 7pm meeting/program, speaker; Al Henley (Horn Point, Cedar Island Club), Virginia Beach

### Nov 6

Set-up for 2nd Annual deWitt Cottage Auction, FOP Lodge #8, date tentative

### Nov 7

2nd Annual deWitt Cottage Auction, 6pm-10pm, FOP Lodge #8, Virginia Beach

### Nov 9

Board of Directors meeting, AWHM, 7pm

### Nov 11

Veterans Day

### Nov 26

Thanksgiving Day (Museum closed)

### Nov 30

Decorate Museum for Christmas (volunteers needed)

### Dec 5-6

22nd Core Sound Decoy Festival, Harkers Island, NC

### Dec 14

Annual Christmas Dinner & Auction, AWHM, 6pm social hour, 7pm dinner/auction

### Dec 16

Museum Management Committee meeting, 10:30am, AWHM

### Dec 25

Christmas day (Museum closed)

### Dec 31

New Years Eve (Museum closed)

### Jan 1

New Years Day (Museum closed)

### Jan 4

General Guild meeting, AWHM, 6pm social, 7pm meeting/program, speaker Nick Sapone, decoy carver, Wanchese, NC

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Back Bay Wildfowl Guild  
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**www.AWHM.org**

have hosted the organization for several years and each time we have enjoyed the birders from all over the state and their birding experiences through the year. This year we will provide coffee and desserts as refreshments. If you would like to help out call me and I will let you know what we need.

Thank you for all your help and support throughout the year.

—Tom

## DONATIONS

Gary Holt  
Fletcher Bryant (in memory of  
Emmette Skinner & Lonnie  
Clark)  
Jamie Champe  
Elaine Polizos (in memory of  
James Parish)

## MEMBERSHIPS

Herb & Carolyn Culpepper

## 2nd ANNUAL DEWITT COTTAGE AUCTION

November 7th is quickly drawing near and by the time you read this the deadline for donations has past and the program printed. If you have had a busy schedule and the auction just slipped your mind, we will still take donations and sponsorships. To reiterate, we are a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization and your gift would be tax deductible. Last year we had some very nice items donated and the

auction was a success. However, for ease of storage and transportation, we will not be able to accept furniture and large, heavy items. If you have items you would like to donate you can bring them by the museum or we can arrange for pick-up. If you don't have items to donate I would ask that you consider sponsorship in one of the following categories:

**CANVASBACK**  
\$1000 & above

Includes: plaque at Cottage sculpture, 8 auction tickets, program recognition  
**REDHEAD**  
\$500-\$999

Includes: brick at Cottage, 4 auction tickets, program recognition  
**PINTAIL**  
\$250-\$499

Includes: 4 auction tickets, program recognition  
**MALLARD**  
\$100-\$249

Includes: 2 auction tickets, program recognition  
**TEAL**  
\$50-\$99

Includes: program recognition

Remember, this is our ONLY MAJOR fundraiser for the entire year. If you want to help and have not been contacted, it's not too late. Call me and I will set you up with the right committee.

As a reminder, this year's auction will be held November 7, 2009 at the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #8 on S. Birdneck Road. Tickets will be \$15, guild members \$10. Check the museum website, [awhm.org](http://awhm.org), for additional information, directions and photos of some of the items to be auctioned.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

### Speakers



Herb Verhaagen

Wayne Waterfield, our speaker for the September 8th General Guild meeting, gave a painting demonstration using only Black & White to paint a yellow legs. Very impressive. Thank you Wayne.

Wade Johnson from Warsaw VA, was our speaker for the October 5th General Guild meeting, and gave us tips on working decoys that he hunts over and makes using buoy floats. A very durable, light and realistic working decoy. Thank you Wade.

It is with regret that I will not be returning as president and board member beginning in January

2010. Ann and I will remain guild members and will be as active as time allows. I want to take this opportunity to thank the guild membership and board for the support and encouragement you have given me as president for the last 5 years. The membership has always been supportive and stepped up when needed whether for a show, fund raiser, auction, dinner, picnic or donations. You are the backbone of this organization and what makes it work. We have made many good friends and look forward to future fellowship with you. It has indeed been an honor to serve as a board member and president.

I Look forward to seeing you all  
—Herb



Wade Johnson from Warsaw VA, was our speaker for the October 5th General Guild meeting,



Wayne Waterfield, was our speaker for the September 8th General Guild meeting,



**Beach without tourists!**