

The Wildfowler

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2008

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Tom Beatty

We have concluded another summer season and we're getting ready for some fall visitors and but seating is limited to 50. If you call and we're full, we'll put you on the stand-by list. And if you do have reservations and you are unable to attend, let us know as soon as possible so those on the stand-by list will have time to make plans to attend. In the past we have asked for donations for the auction and traditionally this event has helped the Museum through the period where visitors are few and far between. So if you can donate a nice item for the auction it would certainly be appreciated. As in previous years I'll take care of the auction items and Ann will take care of what side dishes will be needed for the dinner. We will close the upstairs, Sunday December 7th to set up for the party. Volunteers will be needed to set up. Call Ann to volunteer.

early Christmas shoppers. Beginning in October we started our winter hours. The Museum will be closed on Mondays but remains open Tuesday-Saturday 10am-5pm and Sunday noon to 5pm. It still is a terrific time to visit the Museum. I mentioned to members at the last Guild meeting that we have restocked the gift shop for fall and Christmas. We have a new selection of jewelry, beautiful artwork, new gunning club posters, antique & contemporary decoys, a nice assortment of books for birders and a variety of unique gifts for all ages. Keep us in mind when shopping for family and friends.

This is an early reminder that the annual Christmas Party & Auction will be held on Monday, December 8, 2008. Only a few seats remain available, so contact me to ensure you have a reservation. The Christmas Party has always been a well attended event,


A reminder to all that annual membership renewals are due the first of January. You can pay your dues anytime before then or wait for your renewal notice in the Jan/Feb newsletter. I hope you will renew for 2009.

I wrote in the last newsletter about a variety of people that visit the Museum. In late September we were surprised by a visit by Shirley Lamb Walke. Shirley was born in

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Nov 1
1st Annual de Witt Cottage Auction, 6 pm, Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church
- Nov 3
Guild meeting, 6pm social, 7pm meeting/program, AWHM
- Nov 10
Board of Directors meeting, 7pm, AWHM
- Nov 27
Thanksgiving Day, Museum closed
- Dec 5
Host Virginia Society of Ornithology, 6:30, AWHM
- Dec 7
Christmas Party set-up
- Dec 8
Christmas Party Dinner/Auction, 6 pm social, 7 pm dinner/auction
- Dec 17
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 5
Guild meeting, 6pm social, 7pm meeting/program, AWHM
- Jan 12
Board of Directors meeting, 7pm, AWHM

Don't forget the 1st Annual Auction November 1st!!!

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 Atlantic Wildfowl Heritage Museum
 Back Bay Wildfowl Guild
 1113 Atlantic Avenue
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STAFF

Tom Beatty, Director	437-8432
	(atlanticwildfowl@rcn.com)
Ann Smith, Business Manager	437-8432

Back Bay Birding Club BackBayBirdClub@aol.com

www.AWHM.org

1905 and was the cook for the de Witts for many years. She visited with family and a friend. She told us that when the de Witt sisters took in boarders that quite a few guests came down all the way from the Cavalier Hotel to visit the Cottage just to eat her cooking. It was a nice visit and she really enjoyed reminiscing about the de Witts while looking at the family pictures upstairs.

A final reminder, don't forget about your 2009 dues and please make sure you have a reservation prior to coming to the Christmas party. I want to avoid embarrassing moments.

—Tom



Shirley Lamb Walke (former cook for the deWitts) came to visit the DeWitt Cottage in September.

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1115 Atlantic Avenue
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(757) 437-8432
atlanticwildfowl@rcn.com
AWHM.ORG
Under the auspices of:
The Back Bay Wildfowl Guild, Inc.
(A not for profit organization)

DE WITT COTTAGE ANNUAL AUCTION UPDATE

COME to the de Witt Cottage Annual Auction, Saturday, November 1st at 6:00pm at Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church located at: 621 First Colonial Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23451.

AMPLE PARKING is available behind the church, please use this lot.

TELL all your friends, family, neighbors and business associates. COST - \$8.00 per Guild member, \$15.00 adults including friends and extended family, \$6.00 under 15 years of age. Tickets include food, coffee & soft drinks. Also available for purchase: beer, \$2.00 and wine \$3.00.

TIMES – Silent Auction – 6pm to 7:30pm
Raffle – 6pm to 7:35pm
Live Auction – 7:45pm until.....

AUCTIONEER – Tom Perry,
V.A.A.R. 1045

DRESS - casual

ENTERTAINMENT – 6pm to 7:40pm

Pianist: Rachel Bradshaw
Carvers: Gentry Childress,
Ed Morrison, Elaine Polizos,
Jackie Bergstresser,
Spencer Tinkham
Artist: Bev Abbott

PLEASE purchase raffle tickets at the auction: 1 for \$5.00 or 3 for \$10.00.

The raffle includes:

1. Extra large king-size quilt, 90x120 with hand-embroidered birds and

2. flowers of the 50 states \$300.00 gasoline card from WaWa
3. \$180.00 gift certificate from Moonrise Bay Vineyard in Knotts Island, NC – with winery tour & tasting for two and 12 bottles of wine of your choice

BRING CASH, CHECK, VISA or MASTERCARD to pay for silent and live auction items you purchase.

BIG VARIETY in auctions - including antiques & collectables, art, children's items, decoys, silk flowers, garden & plants, food, hardware, jewelry, luggage, photographs, prints (framed & unframed), sports items, vintage Christmas, vintage magazines – also – more than 44 gift certificates to 14 restaurants, 6 massages, 2 car detailing, baskets from Cullipher Farm Market, Hellspoint Golf Course 4-some, 1 month at Inlet Fitness Center, partial week in Corolla, NC for 8, week in Duck, NC for 8, passes to Aquarium and Imax, College Board Prep Courses – and – 25 gift baskets from: Wild Birds Unlimited, Fresh Market, Forbes Candies, Norfolk Coffee & Tea, U.VA and Virginia Tech – way too many to list! CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE at www.awhm.org. Click on the auction button for more information and pictures of some of the items being auctioned.

STATS – Approximately 90 contributors, 140 silent auction items, 60 live auction items

SPONSORS – total of \$2,520.00 as of mid-October

**COME AND SUPPORT
YOUR MUSEUM
THANK YOU**

BACK BAY BIRDING CLUB

The BBBC went to Back Bay NWR for a tram ride on September 13th that took us into False Cape State Park. Our tram drivers, Tim & Doug, taught us many things about our surroundings and were happy to stop and let us photograph and observe birds. The Great Egrets, Snowy Egrets, White Ibis and Great Blue Herons posed for pictures. We identified 39 species that day. A full report and pictures are available on the Museum website.

—Karen



White Egret and White Ibis at Back Bay

SPECIAL NOTE FOR GUILD MEMBERS

Frank Smith, long-time member of the Guild and one of the original members, passed away October 13, 2008 following an automobile accident in Norfolk. His participation in many of the Guild functions will be remembered by many of the "old" members.

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.

DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME!!

Billy Barker, a Sacramento sportsman, found almost a constant pastime in duck hunting and smoking. These two diversions seemed to be compatible, and, with a pipe in his mouth and a gun on his shoulder, he wore out many pairs of boots tramping through the woods and marsh. Once upon seeing a duck near the tules preparing to fly away, he hastily took aim. But the tobacco smoke obscured his sight, so he stuck the pipe in his pocket where his powder flask was. Four things went off in order: the bird, the gun, the flask, and Mr. Barker's leg.

(The following is from the 27 March 1875 issue of *The American Sportsman*.)

HELP SAVE \$\$ FOR THE MUSEUM

If YOU are reading your newsletter that was delivered to your mail box and would like to help us save money, you can now choose to have your newsletter emailed and save us printing and mailing costs. All you need to do is contact the following email address : atlanticwildfowl@cox.net and state your name, email address (if different from the one you sent the message with) and tell us to begin sending your newsletters electronically.

****Make sure you also put our newsletter email address into your contact area so your newsletter doesn't end up in your spam folder.**



White Egret in tree.

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