

The Wildfowler



SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2010

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sept 7
General Guild Meeting, 6pm social hour, 7pm meeting/program, Speaker: Travis Morris, wildfowler and author.

Sept 7
"BBWG/DU Classic Series" decoys due. (See newsletter note)

Sept 22
15th year anniversary of Museum grand opening.
Oct 4
General Guild Meeting, 6pm social hour, 7pm meeting/program, Speaker: Roe Terry, carver from Chincoteague, VA

Oct 23
3rd Annual de Witt Cottage Auction, 6pm, FOP Lodge, South Birdneck Road.

Nov 1
General Guild Meeting, 6pm social hour, 7pm meeting/program, Speaker: Bill Casto, interpretive carver.

Nov 8
Board of Directors Meeting, 7pm, AWHM
Nov 11
Veterans Day
Nov 25
Thanksgiving (Museum closed)

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Tom Beatty


If you didn't notice in the calendar of events, September 22, 2010, marks the 15th year since the Atlantic Wildfowl

Heritage Museum held its grand opening. My thanks to the numerous Guild members who, over the years, have made the Museum one of the highlights for locals and visitors alike. In those fifteen years, ten of which I have had the pleasure of serving as the Director, the Museum has become one of the most visited historic homes in Virginia Beach and a favorite place to visit for many out-of-towners vacationing at the oceanfront. It is not uncommon now to have visitors return to the museum on their annual trip to Virginia Beach.

In the last newsletter I feel I didn't give enough space to our new exhibit in the main gallery featuring decoys from the collection of Mark and Margie Cromwell. The decoys on exhibit are some of the oldest and rarest ex-

amples of Back Bay and Currituck Sound. Decoys are carved by some of the lesser known, but certainly some of the most talented carver from this area. You will miss a great experience if you pass up the opportunity to visit the Museum and this exhibit.

We are now working on two major events for the Guild and Museum. The first event will be the 3rd Annual de Witt Cottage Auction. This year we will hold the event at the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge on South Birdneck Road. This is the same location as last year's auction. The festivities will begin at 6pm with a silent auction followed by the live auction. Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served along with a cash bar. Raffle drawings and other gift give-aways will be held at various times during the night. I hope you will be once again generous in donating items for the auction. We have already received some items but would really like to get as many items as possible to attract not just our members but a large section from the general public. Items can be brought by the museum or we can arrange for pick-up. October 11th is the cut-off date to

Printed on recycled paper

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

 **peter kwick, inc.**
PRINTING • Copying • Graphics
SERVING THE TIDEWATER AREA SINCE 1967.
Stop by today and let our sales staff help you with:
• Business Cards • Letterhead & envelopes
• Wedding Invitations • Brochures
• Carbonless forms • High speed copying
• Engineering copies • Color copies
... and many, many more services.
In addition to our friendly, professional sales staff, we have state-of-the-art equipment
3253 VIRGINIA BEACH BLVD. • VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23452
486-3011
www.peterkwick.com / Email: pkwickink@yahoo.com

Published by the
Atlantic Wildfowl Heritage Museum
at the deWitt Cottage
1115 Atlantic Avenue
Virginia Beach, VA 23451
(757) 437-8432
atlanticwildfowl@rcn.com
AWHM.ORG
Under the auspices of:
The Back Bay Wildfowl Guild, Inc.
(A not for profit organization)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tom Beatty, President	437-8432
Ken Wilson, Vice President	427-0516
C.J. Burns, Treasurer	587-2303
Ira Abbott, Secretary	596-0159
J. Fletcher Bryant	422-5025 (W) 422-5111
Jamie Champe	426-2277
Gentry Childress	422-0125
Charlie Hurd, Newsletter Editor	460-0551 (HurdsWordsandBirds@cox.net)
Jim Mehne	340-7702
Ed Morrison	463-0891
John Mazach	428-2878
Kelly Bridgman	673-4786
Roy Carlson	486-7686
Herb Videll	363-2722
William M. Walsh, Jr.	498-9410

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

drop off items. So I ask you to act early and again be as generous as possible with your donations. For those not familiar with the location of the FOP Lodge all you need to do is go the Museum website, awhm.org, and click on the "Auction" button. You will see information about the auction and in blue lettering, "Driving Directions". Click on the "Driving Directions" and a map with the location of the lodge will appear. To the left of the map, again in blue lettering, will be "Directions". Click here and you will be able to insert any address and it will provide you directions from that location to the lodge.

The other major event is our annual Christmas Dinner Party and Auction. In previous years we have had to limit the number of people we could safely accommodate inside the Cottage. This year we are going to try something different. We are going to hold the Christmas Dinner at the FOP Lodge on December 9th. It will be a covered dish event as in the past, with the Guild picking up the tab for the main course, hors d'oeuvres, and beverages. Basically, it will be the same style event except at a different location, where parking will not be a problem and stairs will not be an issue. So to ALL Guild members I extend an invitation to join us on December 9th at the FOP. Reservation will still be REQUIRED so we know how many people to expect and what covered dishes will be available. Please don't jump the gun to make reservation. We should have plenty of room and I do not anticipate having to turn down any active member. We have to complete the October 23rd Auc-

tion and all the follow-up administrative work. Therefore, we will begin accepting reservations for the Christmas Dinner November 1st. When making reservations ask for Ann. She will be tracking the covered dishes to ensure a nice variety. Donations for the Christmas Auction likewise will be accepted anytime after November 1st.

—Tom

FACEBOOK FOR THE MUSEUM

The Museum is now on Facebook! Please visit us. Go to the website (www.awhm.org) and click on the Facebook logo above the Google driving directions. If you are a Facebook member make sure you click the "Like" button and get on our Fan Page. This is a great way to get the word out to the public about the Museum and all it has to offer. Encourage your friends on Facebook as well.

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.

GUILD ACTIVITIES

Thanks to Sharon Meade and Wayne Jarman for taking time out of their busy schedules to serve as guest speakers at our May & June General Guild meetings. The June Guild meeting was the last one for the summer. The next General Guild meeting will be Tuesday, September 7th. Be sure to make that note on your calendar. A new group of guest speakers for the next year will begin with the September meeting.

Our annual auction is scheduled for October 23rd at the FOP Lodge on Birdneck Road. I hope you and your friends are making plans to attend. We're looking for NICE items to auction and if you have items to donate let us know.

NEW MEMBERSHIPS

Dr. Ashby & Sandra Taylor, III
(Belle Haven, VA)
Fred & Madeleine Winfree
(Virginia Beach)
Joe & Tammy Byrum
(Newport News)

DONATIONS

Thomas J. O'Connor, III
(in memory of Bill Johnson)
Herb & Ann Verhaagen
(in memory of M. Peebles, W. Johnson & R. Radcliff)

HELP NEEDED

Anybody with carpentry skills that can help fabricate display cases.....call the Museum 437-8432

FALL 2010 ROAD TRIP

This fall the Guild would like to offer the opportunity for our members to take a bus trip up the Eastern Shore and into Maryland with the destinations being The Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art and Chesapeake Classics, LLC. We would reserve a charter bus and are looking at a Saturday at the end of September or first of October. The itinerary for this day trip would be to leave from Virginia Beach early on a Saturday morning with the first stop being the Ward Museum which is located in Salisbury, Maryland and features the world's largest and finest public collection of decorative and antiques decoys, check out www.wardmuseum.org. We would then head over to Cambridge, Maryland to Chesapeake Classics, LLC (www.Chesapeake-Classics.com) which is located in the downtown area. This store is not only a blast from the past but it would interest anyone in waterfowling and wooden decoys.

We would also plan on stopping for lunch and would plan on being back in Virginia Beach late afternoon. There would be a charge for transportation and each participant would be responsible for their meals and museum entry fee. At this time we would like to find out if there is an interest and if we could fill a bus. Please give you feedback to Kelly Bridgman by September 1st at rkbridgman@aol.com or call 673-4786. Once we determine if we have enough interest we can provide more specifics.

ATTENTION CARVERS

In partnership with Ducks Unlimited, the Guild will continue the 'BBWG Classic Series' of decoys. Carvers are invited to donate a decoy for this special fund raising endeavor by September 7, 2010.

Decoys should be "working style" and rigged to self-right in the water. Decoys should also be equipped with a means with which to attach an anchor line, should the purchaser desire to actually hunt over a unique, hand-carved work of art. Carvers may submit any species or style as long as it approximates life size.

The decoys will be specially branded and auctioned at local Ducks Unlimited dinners. Just like last year, all proceeds will be split 50/50 between the Guild and Ducks Unlimited. This partnership increases not only visibility but also good will for the museum throughout the state. Additionally, it produces revenue for the museum and for the benefit of waterfowl conservation throughout North America.

Please contact Jim Mehne (340-7702) or Jamie Champe (426-2277) for more details.

GIFT SHOP NOTE

The gift shop has been restocking in anticipation of the end of the season sales. Embroider cap and T-shirts with the Museum logo have been selling well and there a still some available. Jewelry, books, artwork and of course, decoys are available. Now is the time to come in and get something nice and use your membership discount.

GUILD NEWS

More valuable information concerning the upcoming Auction

This year there is a wonderful opportunity for you. There will be advertising space available in the auction program. The way you can take advantage of this advertising opportunity is to submit your business card and \$25.00 dollars. We then will place your business card in the advertising section of the program. This will be a great source of advertising for you and the money will help support the Museum and our continuing mission of preserving the wildfowl heritage of the region. Checks should be made payable to AWHM and sent to the Atlantic Wildfowl Heritage Museum, 1113 Atlantic Ave., Virginia Beach, VA 23451 Please tell others about this opportunity to advertise.

WWW.AWHM.ORG