

# The Wildfowler

JULY/AUGUST 2009

## FROM THE DIRECTOR



Tom Beatty

Over the years we have had some outstanding wildfowl exhibits that visitors

still comment about. The Cobb Island exhibit featuring Tommy O'Connor's decoys, Factory Decoys from Ken Trayer's collection, exhibits featuring Horn Point Club, Whalehead Club, Cedar Island Club, to mention only a few. Our new exhibit ranks with these as one of the best we've had.

We have recently completed the installation of our 2009-2010 waterfowl exhibits. The Main Gallery, featuring rare antique decoys from the collection of Kroghie Andresen, contains the works of such well-known Back Bay and Currituck Sound carvers Lee Dudley, John Williams, Ned Burgess, Alvirah Wright and James Best.

The Contemporary section offers the visitor a view of award winning decorative carvings by Jack Dashiell, Dan Williams, Ray Whetzel and our own Guild members, Al Brandtner and Mike

Steed. Of special note is the unique piece titled "Black Gold, Black Death", a large wooden sculpture by Martin Gates of Gainesville, Florida. The piece was inspired by the grounding of the Exxon Valdez in Prince William Sound and is on loan from Tom Perry of Virginia Beach.

Original wildfowl artwork can be seen throughout the Museum, many featuring local artists such as William Redd Taylor, Mark Hartung, Paul Fisher and Tom Green.

In addition to the artwork, a pictorial history of Virginia Beach from the collection of the late Edgar Brown continues to be popular with visitors and locals. The current exhibits will be available for visitor viewing until May 2010.


I'd like to thank all members for visiting the Museum and supporting the Guild. Many local members bring family and friends and I do appreciate your visits. I'm seeing more "out of towners" coming by on a regular basis. I can count on at least an annual visit from Richard & Marsha Carpenter from Sterling, VA, Tom & Sharon Costello from Fond Du Lac, WI, Al & Jeanie Drescher from Point Harbor, NC, Cornelius deWitt Hastie (his annual

Continued next page

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- July 4**  
Independence Day
- July 13**  
Dinner at Lucky Oyster
- July 20**  
Board of Directors meeting, 7pm, AWHM
- August 10**  
Board of Directors meeting, 7pm, AWHM
- August 19**  
Museum Management Committee meeting, 10:30, AWHM
- September 7**  
Labor Day
- September 8**  
Guild meeting, 6pm social, 7pm meeting/program  
Speaker - Wayne Waterfield, Carving/painting demo
- September 14**  
Board of Directors meeting, 7pm, AWHM
- October 5**  
General Guild meeting, AWHM, 6pm social, 7pm Program  
Speaker - Nick Sipone Wanchese, NC  
Carving demo
- November 2**  
General Guild meeting, AWHM, 6pm social, 7pm Program  
Speaker - Al Henley, History of Horn Point & Cedar Island Clubs

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



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dip in the ocean) from Jamaica Plains, MA, Caroline Jacobson from Wheaton, IL, John & Janet Miller from Liberty TWP, OH, Charlie Stewart from Spotsylvania, VA, Jacqueline Stains from East Amherst, NY and Bill Woolen from Anchorage, AK. Keep coming folks, we really enjoy your visits!

—Tom

## BACK BAY BIRDING CLUB NEWS

The BBBC is still without a full-time Field Trip leader, however Tom & I are interested in planning a few informal birdwalks and inviting Guild members that have an interest in birding. We do not plan on making a schedule of planned walks as has been done in the past and would like to limit the walks to Guild members and friends. The only exception would be if a person happened into the Museum, expressing an interest in local birding when a birdwalk just happened to be planned. It is doubtful we would plan anything over a week or two in advance and notify interested people by email. We would begin this in the fall of this year. Also Ed & Glenda Morrison said they would like to plan a trip in the winter to Pettigrew State Park. I plan on keeping a list of Guild members that would like to be contacted via email that will be available to anyone wanting to plan a bird walk. If you are interested in being notified and have not already signed up, please call Tom at the Museum (437-8432) and give him your email address.

—Karen



*Contemporary Display*



*Dudley Canvasback*



*Gun Clubs & Ned Burgess display*

## DONATIONS

In memory of Don Ewell & Emmanuel Mechalas (Elaine Polizos' brother) Bill & Alice Walsh Tom & Karen Beatty

In memory of Don Ewell Bud & Julie Coppedge

Blair Ege  
Charlie Seidel  
Gentry Childress  
Addison & Deborah Igleheart  
Ola & John Krueger Fund of the Virginia Beach Foundation

## IN MEMORIUM

On a sad note, long time Guild member and well known carver, Don "Capt. Don" Ewell passed away in May. He will be missed, especially by the older Guild members and carvers who knew him well and appreciated his talent.



*Kroghie Andresen and Herb Verhaagen at the May Guild meeting*

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

## ATTENTION CARVERS!!

As announced in the May, 2009, News letter, 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, antique style ruddy duck carvings to the Guild via Tom Beatty for eventual DU auction—one (if 4 decoys are offered) or two decoys (if 8 decoys are offered) per DU chapter. If more than four decoys are presented, then all will be donated for auction, but only four (or eight) decoys will be presented as part of the series. The auction proceeds would be split by BBWG and DU. So far, we have five volunteer carvers, so we're looking for three more decoys to get to eight. The BBWG 2009 Series entry donations need to be carved, painted, and submitted to Tom not later than September 1, 2009. BBWG will then brand the decoys (already signed by the carver) with the Series name and number prior to submission to DU. Questions? Please call Jamie Champe 426-2277 or Jim Mehne 340-7702. It's time to get hot, Carvers—we sure could use your help!

## MEMBERSHIPS

Robert Anderson

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR JULY 13

We will be having our 2nd annual Lucky Oyster Fundraiser. Your participation last year made this fundraiser a great success. We were able to raise \$2,100.00 toward having our auction last November.

The Auction was held to raise money to help support the Atlantic Wildfowl Heritage Museum. This year we will be having our 2nd annual deWitt cottage auction so we need once again to raise money toward the auction expenses. We want to thank you for all the support you have shown in raising money for this worthy cause. The Lucky Oyster is by reservation only. Please call before July 7th as seating is limited to 60 people and reservations go very quickly.

Date July 13, 2009

Time 6:00 PM

Cost \$30.00 per person

Call 437-8432 the AWHM

Come to support the Guild and museum, for an evening of fun with your fellow member, and a chance to win either the raffles or the door prizes.

—Ann Verhaagen

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Speakers



*Herb Verhaagen*

Kroghie Andresen was our speaker for May. We have 25 pieces of Kroghie's extensive collection on display in

the main exhibit room all highly collectable and very nice pieces. These include works by Alvirah Wright, Charlie Waterfield, James Best, John Williams, Lee Dudley and Ned Burgess. "A must see exhibit".

Gentry Childress was our speaker for June. Gentry gave an educational and enjoyable speech on the methods he uses to antique replicas of old decoys. He gave quite a few decoys to the museum and supplied 3 pieces for door prizes that night.

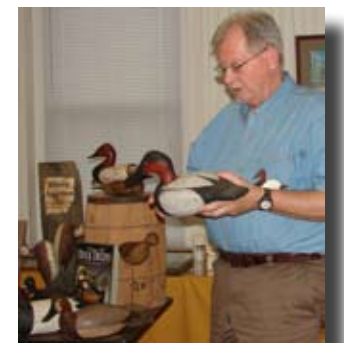
Our speaker for September 8th General Guild meeting, will be Wayne Waterfield, Carving/painting demo.

Our speaker for October 5th General Guild meeting, will be Nick Sapone, Wanchese, NC, Carving demo.

Our speaker for November 2nd General Guild meeting, will be Al Henley, History of Horn Point & Cedar Island Clubs.

Reminder, our Lucky Oyster fundraiser is an opportunity for us to get together, have a good time and support our fundraising efforts.

—Herb



*Gentry Childress, our speaker in June*

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