

The Wildfowler



JUNE 2005

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

June 3-5
BBBC birdwalk, Blue Ridge Parkway

June 6
Last Guild meeting of the season, AWHM, 6pm social, 7pm program
(Brian Hostetter, cork decoys)

June 14
Museum Management Committee Meeting, AWHM, 1:30pm

July 4
Independence Day

July 11
Board of Directors meeting, AWHM, 7pm

July 19
Guild/BBBC picnic (by RSVP), Redwing Park, 5 pm social, 6pm cookout

Aug 17
Museum Management Committee meeting, 10:30am, AWHM

Sept 3
BBBC birdwalk, Back Bay NWR

Sept 6
First Guild meeting of the new season, 6pm social, 7pm meeting/program

Sept 12
Board of Directors meeting, 7pm, AWHM

Sept 23-26 (tentative)
Museum 10 Years Anniversary

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Tom Beatty

May has been an exciting and busy month at the Museum. The exhibits throughout the Museum have been changed, two of our members, Ann Smith & Gentry Childress, represented the Museum at the annual National Tourism Luncheon and we also participated in the International Migratory Bird Day at the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center.

We also have other activities in the works on other projects. We are actively looking at times to increase the number of times we offer youth carving classes, a summer picnic is being planned for July at Redwing Park, we're planning to hold Birds on the Beach again this year and also celebrate 10 years since the Museum has been in operation. October, Al Brandtner will begin his decorative carving class and Fletcher Bryant has been working tirelessly to get work on the wildfowl sculpture started. At this point he made significant progress and we hope to start work this Fall. We will keep you posted on all the future activities and projects and hope we can count on your support to ensure their success.

We're once again looking for volunteers for the summer season. Last year's summer help enabled us to keep open the library and boathouse nearly every day of the week and the gift shop volunteers enabled Ann and I to concentrate on summer projects around the Museum.

Our display at the Norfolk International Airport appears to be doing well. We've had some out-of-town memberships come in and had to send nearly 2000 new brochures to replenish the ones we initially put in April.

Every month I say I'm going to take the Edgar Brown exhibit down and return all the pictures to him. But ever since we put up the exhibit so many locals and out-of-towners have had such positive comments, I feel it would really be a shame not to have these photos and artifacts available to visitors to see. Edgar has allowed us to keep his materials on display as long as the interest remains. Interest has not declined and we're fortunate to have such photos available for visitors to see how Virginia Beach and surrounding area looked several decades ago.

As I mentioned earlier the events planned for the near future will require volunteers to come forward if we expect to be successful. Our organization is not as large as many, so we do rely on volunteers to help with the planning and active involvement in activities. I know we all have busy schedules, but if you can find time to volunteer your services at the Museum or help out assisting in some events it would truly be appreciated.

Tom

Printed on recycled paper



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

Board of Directors

Herb Verhaagen, President	587-7281
Ken Wilson, Vice President	427-0516
Herb Videll, Treasurer	363-2722
Ira Abbott, Secretary	596-0159
C.J. Burns	587-2303
J. Fletcher Bryant	422-5025 (W) 422-5111
Jamie Champe	426-2277
Charlie Hurd, Newsletter Editor	460-0551
	(email: acehurd@cox.net)
Jim Mehne	340-7702
Ed Morrison	463-0891
Pete Taylor	467-0299
Ann Verhaagen	587-7281
William M. Walsh, Jr.	498-9410

Staff

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

www.AWHM.org



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

BACK BAY BIRDING CLUB

Late April the BBBC migrated south to Gates County, NC to the beautiful Merchant Millpond State Park. The "Gem of the Millpond", Floyd Williams, led us through several trails where we were able to feast our eyes on 63 different species of birds. Floyd not only pointed out birds to us but also identified many frogs, turtles, snakes, spiders, bees and plants. Migrating warblers are always such a thrill to see and hear in the spring and we identified a whooping 14 species that day (Blue-winged, Northern Parula, Magnolia, Black-throated Blue, Yellow-rumped, Yellow-throated, Pine, Prairie, Black & White, American Redstart, Prothonotary, Ovenbird, Louisiana Waterthrush and Common Yellowthroat). Other non-warbler yet very exciting sights to see were: Red-shouldered Hawks, 3 vireos, Wood Thrush, Summer & Scarlet Tanagers, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and an Orchard Oriole.

Our last birdwalk until fall will be in the Blue Ridge mountains of Virginia. As always the BBBC would love to have YOU join us on birdwalks. The birdwalk schedule is available on the Museum website (www.awhm.org) and in the BBBC notebook located in the Museum gift shop. Because YOU are a guild member there is no fee for you to join the BBBC. All you have to do is notify Marian Childress by calling 757-422-0125 or e-mail (mgchildress@aol.com). Now...lets go birding!

—Karen



Prothonotary Warbler

NEW MEMBERS

Robert & Mary Walker
(Glen Allen, VA)

DONATIONS

Thomas Costello
(money for youth carving classes)

Gentry Childress
(decoys for gift shop)

Fletcher Bryant
(wildfowl book for Museum library)

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.

Published by the
Atlantic Wildfowl Heritage Museum
at the deWitt Cottage
1113 Atlantic Avenue
Virginia Beach, VA 23451
(757) 457-8432
email: atlanticwildfowl@rcn.com
Under the auspices of:
The Back Bay Wildfowl Guild, Inc.
(A not for profit organization)

DECORATIVE CARVING CLASS

Al Brandtner will conduct a decorative carving in October. The bird will be a Wood Duck drake. Cost for the class will be \$250 and will be limited to six persons. Four people have already signed up for the class, so if you are interested, call the museum and get your name on the list.

GUILD MEMBERS OF THE MONTH

This month I'd like to recognize Herb Videll (Guild Treasurer) and Gentry Childress (Bird Club President) for their help in promoting the Museum, Guild and Bird Club. Both members are volunteer carvers on a weekly basis at the Museum and are excellent representatives of our organization. Most recently Herb and Gentry were on hand at the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center all day Saturday representing the Museum & Bird Club during International Migratory Bird Day. Because of volunteers like Herb and Gentry our organization is becoming better known within the community and our membership is increasing. Thank you Herb and Gentry for your continued help. We all appreciate it.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Thanks to Gentry and Marian for an entertaining and informative meeting in May. I look forward to seeing each of you at our June meeting featuring Brian Hostetter on working decoys. Brian will make a working decoy of cork and expand on his choice of material. He is an enjoyable speaker and has years of experience in wildlife management and forestry.

Tom Beatty, Jamie Champe, T.J. Henning, Roger Lee, Jim Mehne and Ken Wilson are working on our "Birds on the Beach" show which is centered in and around the museum to coincide with the Neptune Festival. The intent is to create interest, in the show, the museum and guild, and is an opportunity for our members to display and sell their work. If you have an interest in this please contact Tom or one of the above committee members.

Tuesday July 19th @ 5 o'clock at Redwing Park off of General Booth Blvd. That's the time and the place for our (covered dish) picnic. These events are always a great way to get to know and socialize with other guild members. Elaine Polizos (340-3811) will coordinate the covered dishes. Please call her to tell her what you plan to bring so we will have a balance of dishes. Our covered dish events are my favorite as there is always great food and friends. Come out and see your friends and meet new people.

Herb Verhaagen



Marian Childress at the May Meeting speaking about the Stranding Program at the Virginia Aquarium.



Left to right, Tom Beatty, Gentry Childress, Herb Verhaagen, and Herb Videll