

The Wildfowler

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2005

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Nov 14
Board of Directors meeting,
7pm, AWHM
- Dec 2
VSO reception 7pm
- Dec 12
Annual Christmas party & auc-
tion
- Dec 14
Museum Management Committee
meeting, 10:30, AWHM
- Dec 25
Christmas (Museum closed)
- Dec 31
New Years Eve (Museum closed)
- Jan 1
New Years Day (Museum closed)
- Jan 2
General Guild meeting, 6pm
social, 7pm meeting/program,
AWHM
- Jan 9
Board of Directors meeting,
7pm, AWHM

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Tom Beatt

I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and good spirits and ready for the upcoming holidays. Since this newsletter covers November and December there is some important business that needs to be addressed. Annual membership renewal is due December 31st. If you have recently joined the Guild you should have a BLUE membership card that expires December 31, 2006. If you have a YELLOW card the expiration date is December 31, 2005. It would be beneficial to Museum operations if we could collect all renewals in January. Remember membership brings you the opportunity to shop at the Museum gift shop with a 10% discount, the opportunity to join the Bird Club and take part in birding trips, receive the Guild/Museum newsletter and free admission to the 2006 Virginia Beach Wildlife Festival to be held October 7 & 8, 2006.

Our Christmas Dinner & Auction is coming up fast. Many of the volunteers and Guild members who frequently visit the Museum have asked to be placed on the list of attendees. Like other years seating is extremely limited due to the size of the Cottage. I will have a "stand-by" list once the seating is full. Please call early if you want to attend. This year's date is December 12th, 6pm social hour, 7pm dinner. The Auction will follow dinner.

In a future newsletter, you will receive raffle tickets for a full-size decorative Wood Duck carved and painted by Al Brandtner. We have never done such a raffle before but hope that you will support us in this effort. We intend to have the duck on display in the Museum and offer visitors the opportunity to purchase tickets also. We will draw the winning ticket at the Wildlife Festival in October 2006. It would be great if we had strong support for this fundraiser throughout the Guild.

I mentioned a few months ago that we completed a DVD entitled "Duck Carvers of the Tidewater". The project was done with the help of Archie Johnson, Bud Coppedge and a host of others including the video department from the City of Virginia Beach. We distributed

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Back Bay Wildfowl Guild
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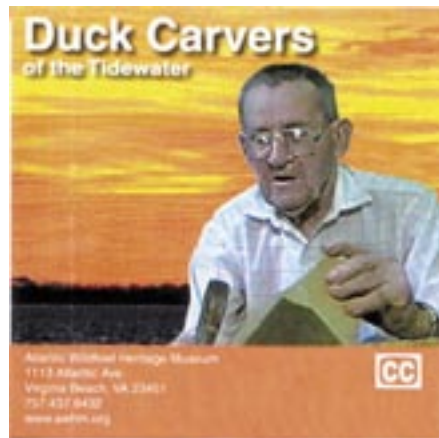
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the first batch of DVD's to those who participated in the event. It was so well received that we ordered more. So now you can buy the DVD in the gift shop for \$12.25 (including tax and your 10% members discount). If you're out of town or would like it mailed your cost will be \$13.50 (includes tax and 10% members discount). If you're interested in a copy to be mailed call (757-437-8432) or e-mail (atlanticwildfowl@rcn.com). Copies are limited so act early.

Finally, a group from the Fish & Wildlife Service visited the Museum Monday, October 24th. We're usually closed Monday's, but since they visit us every spring and fall we were able to let them tour the Museum and gift shop. The group is comprised of Fish and Wildlife Service members throughout the country and they spend a couple of days at Back Bay NWR, Eastern Shore NWR and Assateague NWR. It has always been an enjoyable visit, especially for them with a busy schedule. We'll look forward to their spring visit.

—Tom



"Duck Carvers of the Tidewater" DVD in the gift shop for \$12.25 (including tax and your 10% members discount). If you're out of town or would like it mailed your cost will be \$13.50 (includes tax and 10% members discount). If you're interested in a copy to be mailed call (757-437-8432) or e-mail (atlanticwildfowl@rcn.com).

NEW MEMBERS

Richard & Jacklyn Bergstresser,
Virginia Beach
Leroy Cox, Virginia Beach
Tom Parker, Chesapeake
John Orehover, Williamsburg
Jim & Sandy Bolcar,
Virginia Beach
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Baird,
Austin, TX
Joseph May, Walkerton, VA



Raffle tickets for a full-size decorative Wood Duck carved and painted by Al Brandtner will soon be available

GUILD MEMBER OF THE MONTH

For November & December I would like to recognize Beverly Abbot as the Guild Member of the Month. Bev has been a long time Guild member and supporter. As an artist she has regularly participated in Guild and Museum events. She was recently informed that her artwork entitled "Resting Wolf", was awarded first place in oil by the Art Gallery of Fells Point in Baltimore, MD at the 22nd annual North American Miniature Art Exhibition. Congratulations Bev! Some of Bev's artwork can be purchased at the Museum gift shop.

DONATIONS

Tommy Deary – monetary
(Museum operations)
Harvey Ackiss
(glass eyes for carving class)
Pete Taylor – monetary
(Museum operations)
Gentry Childress
(decoys for gift shop)
Al Brandtner – monetary
(carving class proceeds to Museum operations)
Mary Lou Johnson
(reference books for library)



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Hats of to Tom Beatty and the "Birds on the Beach" committee for the show that ran concurrently with the Neptune festival. The committee, planned the format, and coordinated the volunteers. Most of the participating artist broke even and made money. The Museum had a better than average day and gained more exposure because of the activity in and around the cottage.

John Orehovec gave an excellent presentation on Nature Photography at our October meeting. John's presentation "What Makes a Good Photograph" was well delivered and well received. He also showed us some of his favorite pieces and gave us a list of his favorite places to "DO" photography. Thank you John.

The 2006 show gets more exciting every month as we are in the planning stages and although a little less than a year away time is very critical. We have done a lot of planning and have a large group of volunteers; we have more planning and need more volunteers. Folks these are fun times and one of the most enjoyable for our membership, if you would like to get involved I can assure you that you won't be disappointed.



John Orehovec

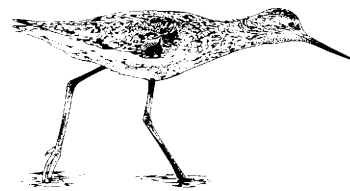
—Herb

BACK BAY BIRDING CLUB

In October the BBBC was planning on attending the Eastern Shore Birding Festival. This year the Festival took place in the pouring rain and our birders wisely decided to stay home and keep their tail feathers DRY. On October 18th the BBBC had its quarterly meeting and we entertained by Barbara Gipson of the VBSPCA Wildlife Response. We also began planning our 2006 birdwalk schedule. This coming year BBBC members each get a chance to plan on of our 9 birdwalks that we offer during the year. At press time dates and places were still being selected for the 2006 schedule so you will have to visit the Museum website and click on the BBBC button to find out what trips you want to sign up for. We still have open dates and trips yet to be planned...so PLEASE contact Karen (bbbcbirdwalks@aol.com) to plan YOUR exciting trip for the BBBC!

On November 5th Janet Schmitt is leading a trip to Henricus/Dutch Gap for the BBBC. The trip report will be posted on the Museum website.

On Friday, December 2, 2005 the BBBC invites the VSO (Virginia Society of Ornithology) to the Museum for a reception to kick off the VSO's annual Virginia Beach weekend. We need YOUR help! Please call Gentry or Marian no later than November 25th to see how YOU can help with this event (422-0125). If you are interested in attending the birdwalks offered by the VSO (Dec 2, 3 & 4) you need to contact Clark White by phone 757-875-7649 or e-mail cwbirds@cox.net no later than November 18th as there are restrictions to some of the birdwalks. For more information about the birdwalks go to the VSO's website (www.virginiabirds.net)



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