

THE WILDFOWLER

APRIL 2018

A PUBLICATION OF THE ATLANTIC WILDFOWL HERITAGE MUSEUM AND THE BACK BAY WILDFOWL GUILD

Back Bay Wildfowl Guild Memories



1976 Mid-Atlantic Waterfowl Festival organizational meeting. Can you recognize any of these teenagers?

Answer key on page 5





Upcoming Guild Events:

04/07/2018 Gathering of The Guilds
Historic Frances Land House
3131 Virginia Beach blvd
Virginia Beach, VA 23452
Need Volunteers to man table
And Carving demonstrations

04/11/2018 Dine Out for The de Witt
5:30pm – 8:30pm Beach Pub
1001 Laskin Road

04/17/2018: Board Meeting
deWitt Cottage 6:00 pm

04/20/2018: Bizconnect Morning Coffee
deWitt Cottage 8:30am-9:30am

05/01/2018 Back Bay Wildfowl Guild
Membership Meeting 6:00pm
Lucky Oyster Celebration
Fall and Winter Raffle Drawing

05/15/2018: Board Meeting
6:00 pm

05/28/2018: Memorial Day
Museum begins opening on Mondays & Sundays



DECOYS WANTED

WE BUY WOODEN OR CANVAS DUCKS, GEESE, SWANS & SHOREBIRDS...
WHAT IS YOUR DECOY WORTH? IT COULD BE WORTH THOUSANDS!

WE WILL PAY YOU **CASH** FOR ANY OLD DECOYS AND HUNTING ITEMS



FREE DECOY IDENTIFICATION
AND EVALUATIONS
of Single Decoys or Entire Collections
BY MARK CROMWELL
(757) 721-2746
Member North Carolina Decoy Collectors Assoc.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Board of Directors had our retreat for the year this past Thursday evening at Virginia Wesleyan University. The purpose of the retreat was to focus on the museum's future and becoming more solvent, allowing the directors to "Think Outside of The Box" and develop strategies to benefit its members and the museum. My main goal is to develop committees where members of the board will perform certain tasks such as Finance, Development / Fundraising, Membership / Marketing, Meeting/Social and Executive. Lynn Hightower, Director, has taken on the challenging task of doing all of these, including this newsletter. We should no longer allow Lynn to take on these tasks while the rest of us sit back as members or BODs and not be part of this effort. All of the committees were not filled, however we had two directors who stepped up to the plate and agreed to serve on two committees; this is a beginning for the betterment of the museum and I personally thank Tom Richards and Jason Seward for their commitment. As members we should become more involved by volunteering in the day-to-day activities. As a member of the Board of Directors, there comes a more important role of responsibility and dedication; if you are willing to serve as a BOD, you must show your dedication by action and not just words and lead by example.

Mark Cromwell is rather new on the board, however his dedication has been unbelievable. Mark is a local businessman and works 6-7 days a week; how he finds time to dedicate time to the museum is tremendous; he has been a "Rainmaker" for the museum. Mark is a serious decoy collector since elementary school; his collection is remarkable. A small portion of his collection is on display at the museum; please take the time to see this beautiful collection whose carvers were considered the best in decoy carving and sought after by renowned collectors.

We have a new member on the Board of Directors; his name is Park Atkinson, a local businessman who has come on board to bring new, exciting, and refreshing ideas to the museum. I am happy to say he is not on Social Security or Medicare! He will be replacing Dan Neveu, a board member who had to step down due to personal reasons. We wish Dan well; he will be missed and hopefully we will continue to see him at regular meetings.



Lynn has been a lifesaver for this museum and he is performing well. Ann Smith is another wonderful dedicated employee, her main responsibility is managing the gift shop, including purchasing and maintaining inventory. She along with Lynn also serve as docents for the museum. Joe Leo will also be returning as a part time employee to assist Ann and Lynn during the busy tourist season. Everyone who knows Joe will agree he has a special wit that can capture ones attention by not only being informative but also comical and personal with our guests. We also have our dedicated volunteers who arrive each week to carve at the museum and make the de Witt Cottage a wonderful and exciting destination for our guests. As a member you may feel you do not have much to offer, that is the farthest thing from the truth. Members enjoy the fellowship and guest speakers who share their experiences in the field and the water but also their connection to hunting, decoy carving and collecting.

Members have the ability to share this information with your friends, family and neighbors. Please ask your friends to come as your guest and enjoy the history and experiences at the historical de Witt Cottage. Share the newsletter with them as well and hopefully they also will become a member. Become a docent at the museum, it can be very rewarding to provide historical information of the Old Virginia Beach ocean front and Princess Anne County. Engage in conversation with our out of town visitors, where they are from, what brought them to our city, how are they enjoying their stay and by all means provide recommendations on the good places to dine and (where the locals hang out). At the end of the day you will be rewarded by knowing you have been an intricate part of supporting the museum, leaving an impression with our visitors, making their visit informative, enjoyable, and they will encourage their friends to visit .

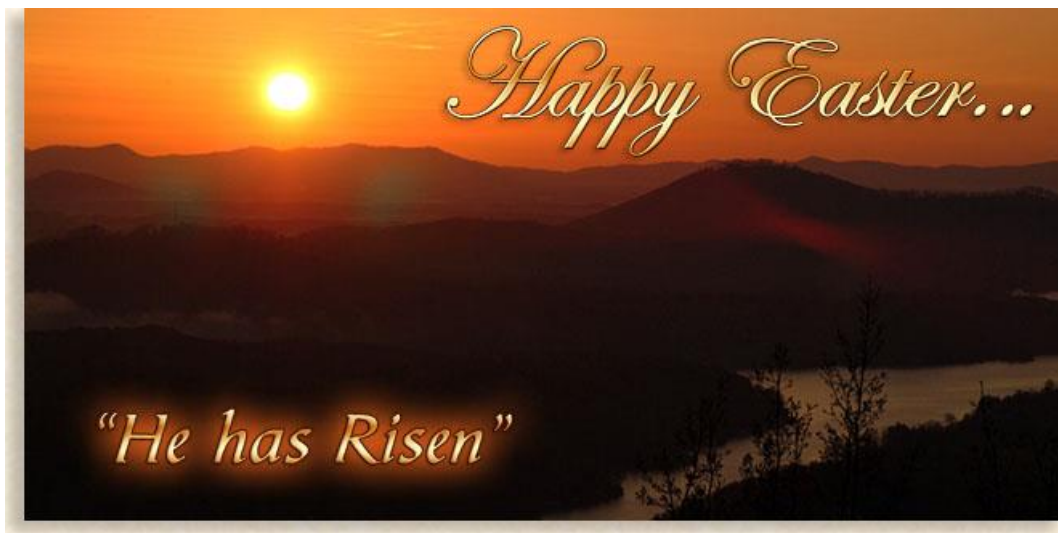
We will be adding a Recipe section in our newsletter, if you have a well-worn recipe passed down through you family, please share and it will be included in the newsletter so everyone may enjoy.

I hope you all enjoy spring and see Mother Nature unfold her many colors, what better feeling is there than to go out in the morning with a cup of coffee feeling the sunshine, hearing the birds singing and feeling that gentle breeze. It's good to be alive.

God Bless you all

Al Henley

President



ROAST WILD DUCK OR GOOSE

1 duck or goose	2 to 3 onions
Salt & Pepper to taste	flour, to thicken gravy
6 to 8 potatoes	

Soak fowl in salt water, if necessary to remove blood. Season well with salt and pepper inside and out. Place in a roaster with 1 inch or more of water; cover and bake at 350 until tender. Ducks take 1 to 2 hours usually and geese a little longer.

Potato and Onion Gravy

Potatoes with duck seasoning are to be cooked after the duck is done. Slice potatoes about ¼ inch thick. Put the desired amount in pot; add onions, drippings from the cooked duck, salt and pepper to taste. If not enough drippings from the duck cover the potatoes and onions with water, boil until potatoes are cooked, then thicken with flour.

From Piney Point Hunting Club

HORN POINTER COCKTAIL

4 – 5 oranges	4 oz. whiskey
2 – 3 lemons	2 oz. dark rum
12 oz. lemonade	2 oz. grenadine or juice of maraschino cherries
1 oz. Maple syrup	1 oz. triple sec.

Squeeze lemons and oranges, add other ingredients and mix. Maple syrup is the secret ingredient.

From Horn Point Club

Al Henley

DINE OUT FOR THE DEWITT

Our next “Dine Out For The deWitt” will be at the Beach Pub, 1001 Laskin Road on Wednesday, April 11, 2018 from 5:00pm until 8:30pm. This is the program where you take your spouse out to dinner and the restaurant donates a percentage of what your meal cost to the museum. Easy peasy; you go out to dinner with your friends, family, or **potential new museum member** and the museum receives a nice donation. What a great opportunity to introduce potential new members to our organization. Please invite your friends and family to join you! So let’s see how many people we can pack into Beach Pub. Please help us make this a very successful event!

LUCKY OYSTER SPRING CELEBRATION

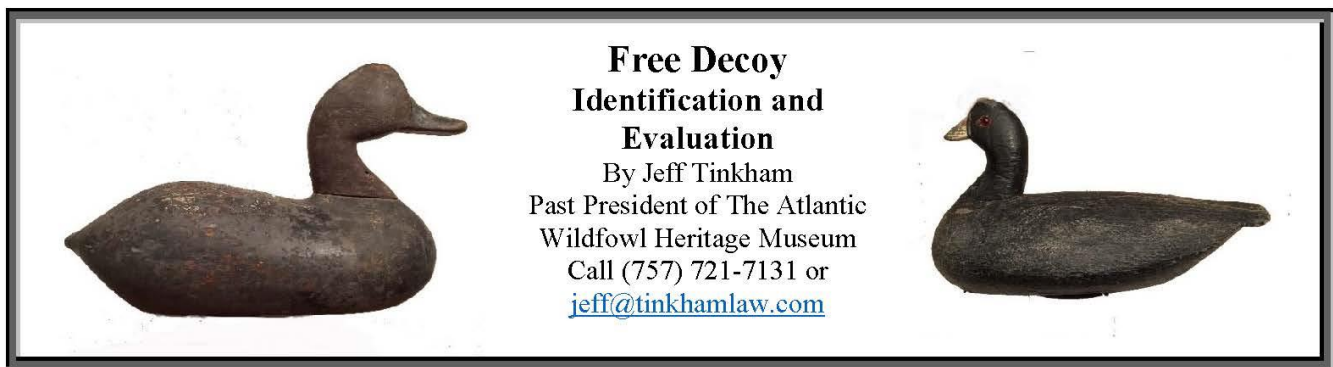
We will gather May 1, 2018 from 5:00pm until 8:30pm at the Lucky Oyster, 2165 General Booth Blvd for our annual Spring Celebration. Cocktails from 5:00pm until 6:00pm. Dinner will be served promptly at 6:00pm. There will be a membership raffle and we will draw and announce the winners of Annual Fall Raffle. Dinners are \$30.00 per person, include dinner, beverage, dessert, tax and gratuity. Reservations can be made by calling the museum at (757) 437- 8432 or by emailing the Director at director@atwildfowl.org .

Cover Picture

Sitting from left to right: Larry Lambert, Roy Bull, Bill Walsh

Standing from left to right: Alison Drescher, Fletcher Bryant, James Savin, Jimmy Bolten.





FROM THE MUSEUM DIRECTOR

First of all I want to thank the carvers who assisted with the Back Bay Knotts Island Waterfowl Festival and the Ruritan Barbeque and Craft Fair during the Month of March. Please see the attached pictures of these great volunteers in action. April is a very busy and active month for the museum. We will continue to “Dine out for The de Witt” on Wednesday night April 11th at the Beach Pub, 1001 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23451. That will be followed up by our Spring Celebration at the Lucky Oyster, 2165 General Booth Blvd Virginia Beach, Virginia 23454 on May 1, 2018. During the Spring Celebration we will draw and announce the winners of our annual Fall Raffle. On Friday April 20, 2018, we will host the BizConnect Hampton Roads Networking Community for coffee from 8:30 to 9:30am. BizConnect is a large network of local businesses, approximately 260, working to support one another and help them be successful. We expect about fifty of these business leaders to attend the coffee and tour the museum. On April 28, 2018 Coastal Virginia Magazine will have its annual “Battle of the Burgers” at the Military Aviation Museum from 12:00 noon until 5:00pm. The Atlantic Wildfowl Heritage Museum has been invited to be a featured vendor. I need volunteers to work our booth for this event. You can volunteer by calling the museum at (757) 437- 8432 or by emailing the Director at director@atwildfowl.org.

We have changed out the exhibits in our main gallery. Mark and Margie Cromwell have so graciously agreed to allow us to exhibit a small portion of their wonderful collection of decoys. There are some very special decoys in this exhibit like “The Dudley Ruddy” and several remarkable carvings by Eastern Shore resident Mark McNair. We plan to have an open house in May for all of our members. Please take some time and come by to see the new exhibit.

The ladies of the de Witt Cottage Garden Club were at the cottage this past week preparing the gardens for spring. If you enjoy gardening then you will not want to miss this opportunity to garden by the sea! Please contact the Director at Email director@atwildfowl.org or call (757) 437-8432 if you are interested. You can help them have another award winning garden this year!

Thank You Ladies (and Tom)!



COLLECTOR'S SHELF



Just about every decoy collector has several “unknowns” in his or her collection. No expert has been able to identify the maker of this juniper coot. Does that matter? Not to me. It is highly likely that it was used on Back Bay or Currituck Sound, and I like its cocky attitude. The maker also gave this decoy an extra flourish by carving channels in its tail (a “fluted” tail). While decoys made by the famous carvers can sometimes be valuable, a collector should also consider adding a specimen such as this to a collection. These “unknowns” tend to be affordable. Bottom line....buy what you like. The “decoy community” is always looking for unloved decoys that have been stored in a closet, shed or garage for years. For those of you who are not collectors, but nevertheless have some decoys that don’t mean that much to you, please consider selling them to those of us who will cherish them! We like old wooden decoys in good condition, regardless of who made them!

For a free evaluation or identification of your decoys, contact:
Jeff Tinkham at 757-724-7131 or jeff@tinkhamlaw.com.





Page 7 Gentry Childress, Mack Sawyer, Ed Morrison, and Roy Carlson got some wood chips flying! Werner Seibel is hawking those raffle tickets. Top of this page, Gentry Childress, Sue Moritz, Mack Sawyer, Ed Morrison. Bottom Picture of crowd at Back Bay Knotts Island Waterfowl Festival and our “Dine Out for the deWitt at Rudee’s Restaurant.



BACK BAY WILDFOWL GUILD

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Al Henley, President Wayne Jarman, Vice President
Jim Mehne, Secretary Roger Shope, Treasurer
Mark Cromwell Jeff Tinkham
Parke Atkinson Jason Seward
Tom Richards William Walsh, Jr., Curator
Fletcher Bryant, President Emeritus

MUSEUM CARVERS

Tuesday: Pete DiPietro
Wednesday: Roy Carlson & Ed Morrison
Thursday: Hank Grigolite
"The Boathouse Boys" Carving Club: Al, Jamie, John, Pete & Charlie
Friday: Susan Moritz
Saturday: Gentry Childress & Ben Purvis

MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS

Tuesday: OPEN
Wednesday: Archie Johnson 10a-2p
Thursday: Joe Leo 10a-2p
Friday: OPEN
Saturday: OPEN
Sunday: OPEN
Museum Grounds: Nancy Lekberg, Lori Bagley, Lois Stickles, Jacky Richards, and Lena Lindsay

MUSEUM STAFF

Lynn Hightower, Director Ann Smith, Gift Shop Manager

MUSEUM CONTACT INFORMATION

ATLANTIC WILDFOWL HERITAGE MUSEUM
1113 Atlantic Avenue
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Telephone: 757.437.8432
Facsimile: 757.437.9950
Website: www.awhm.org
Email: director@atwildfowl.org

You can now pay your dues online at awhm.org !

Please understand that we depend on every dollar to operate the museum. If you have not paid your 2018 dues, please give serious consideration to sending them into the museum right away. Beginning March 1, 2018, any listed member who has not paid their dues will receive an invoice from the museum director requesting payment of their annual dues

2018 DUES

\$35/YR INDIVIDUAL
\$100/YR BRONZE
\$500/YR GOLD

\$50/FAMILY
\$200/YR SILVER
\$1,000/YR PRESIDENTS CIRCLE



BACK BAY WILDFOWL GUILD 2018 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

NAME: _____ AMOUNT PAID _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ [CELL] _____

January 1, 2018 kicked off our Annual Membership Campaign. Each member is encouraged to find one new member to join the Back Bay Wildfowl Guild. Our very existence depends on growing the membership of the Guild. Please encourage everyone you know to become a member!

Please pass this newsletter on to any potential new member!



***The Atlantic Wildfowl Heritage Museum would like to
Thank the following people for their generous donations
During the first quarter of 2018!***

Jill C. Albright
Eric Anderson
Bruddy Baillio
Beach Municipal
Holly Borrelli
Al & Rita Brandtner
Jim & Lynda Briggs
Fletcher Bryant
L. Clay Camp
James H. Capps
Jamie Champe
Warren Chauncey
Gentry & Marian Childress
John Childs
Jimmy & Kelly Coppedge
Mark & Margie Cromwell
Herb & Carolyn Culpepper
Jeanie Drescher
Evergreen Landscaping
Paul Fisher
ESG Corp.
Eddie Garcia
Michael Gelardi
Thomas & Sandra Giroux
Hank & Donna Grigolite
Stephen Harris
Joseph Hawa
Winston & Barbara Henley
Lynn & Sheila Hightower

Jim & Martha Jacobs
Wayne & Linda Jarman
Brittany Jefferies
Bobby & Brenda Jones
Joshua Kellam
Andrea Kilmer
Barry & Paula Knight
Land & Coates
Frank Leo
Chris Ludford
Jo & Bobby Mallard
John & Mary Mazach
John & Janet Miller
Ed & Glenda Morrison
Dan Neveu
Sandra Parsons
Anthony Poluso
Elaine Polizos
Ann Reed
Tom & Jacky Richards
Werner & Marianne Seibel
Select Group
Anthony Scarcelli
Roger & Barb Shope
Ann Smith
Bill & Alice Walsh
Wilson & Linda Widgeon
Willard Insurance Agency
William Williard

