

# THE WILDFOWLER

AUGUST 2018

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

## *Back Bay Wildfowl Memories Bernard Peabody Holland (March 13 1867-January 1960)*

The “Brickhouse” was built in 1895 by Bernard P. Holland, the Town of Virginia Beach’s first postmaster and mayor, for his bride (Emily) as a wedding present and year round home. The structure was the only oceanfront cottage constructed with brick. It is the oldest remaining private structure on the City’s oceanfront built during the City’s initial development period.

Bernard Holland was the son of John Lytleton Tazewell Holland and Emma Alice Walton. John and Emma resided on the Walton Family Plantation “Osceola” with Emma’s parents in Fluvanna County, Virginia. John was a circuit riding preacher, traveling each week to a different church for Sunday services. Shortly after Bernard was born in 1867; the Walton Family plantation was taken by carpetbaggers for unpaid taxes owed on the property. The Hollands were forced to move to more modest accommodations in Goochland County, Virginia. In 1885 Bernard and his younger brother, Walton, moved to Virginia Beach where Bernard had been hired as a clerk by the Virginia Beach and Cape Henry Railroad.



Bernard’s first career assignment was as a clerk in the Princess Anne Hotel between 14<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Streets on the oceanfront. The railroad owned 90% of Virginia Beach and the Princess Anne Hotel. Bernard and Walton both lived in the Princess Anne Hotel. Walton passed away at the age of 23 from a disease called “Galloping Consumption” (most likely Tuberculosis) he contracted from a maid at the Princess Anne Hotel.

It was customary for wealthy New Englanders to spend at least part of the winter season in Florida. Trains were the primary means of transportation in the late 1800’s. It was a very long trip from New York to St. Augustine; so the railroads owned several lavish stop overs on the trip South. The Princess Anne Hotel was one of these favored stops. It was during one of these stop overs that Bernard Holland met Emily Randall Gregory. They instantly fell in love.





Emily Gregory was born into wealth. Her father was a textile manufacturer in New York City. Her family lived a very lavish life-style. She had a personal maid to pick up after her. She hated her life-style finding it to be boring and superficial. She often commented, "We sat and sat and sat; then we sat some more!" She was well read and highly intellectual. A gifted musician playing the piano, violin, viola, and singing. Emily's Parents resisted the attraction between Emily and Bernard. They felt like she could do much better for a husband than a railroad clerk.

While Emily's Parents discouraged her relationship with Bernard they were not completely opposed; relenting after a two year engagement to allow Emily and Bernard to wed. They were married in 1895 in Cooperstown, NY with a lavish wedding and reception.

The house eventually became known as the "Holland" cottage. It still has its integrity of location, design and workmanship. The oceanfront's first significant development period was between its foundation in 1883 and its incorporation as the Town of Virginia Beach in 1906. The Hollands had four of their five children in the Holland cottage and resided in it for almost fourteen years. Mrs. Emily Holland did not like the sound of the pounding surf; she claimed that it prevented her from sleeping at night. She also was not fond of the cottage's "small" size. She asked her husband to relocate. He built a new and larger home directly across what is now Atlantic Avenue and called the new house "Ozone". They subsequently sold the Holland cottage to the de Witt family in 1909.



**BERNARD P. HOLLAND-1945 AT 78 YRS OLD**





## ***Upcoming Guild Events:***

08/06, 13, 20, 27, 29/2018: de Witt Garden Club  
10:00 am, at the museum

Meets every Monday  
Bring your work gloves and tools

08/14/2018: Board Meeting  
6:00 pm

09/03/2018: Labor Day

09/04/2018 Back Bay Wildfowl Guild  
Membership Meeting 7:00pm, Social 6:00pm  
deWitt Cottage 1113 Atlantic Avenue  
Speaker: Jack Cox from Elizabeth City, NC  
Bring an item for show and tell!

09/10, 17, 24/2018: de Witt Garden Club  
10:00 am, at the museum  
Meets every Monday  
No meeting Monday September 3rd

09/19/2018: Board Meeting  
6:00 pm

10/14/2018 AWHM Fall Barbeque  
deWitt Cottage 1113 Atlantic Avenue  
1:00pm until 5:00pm

## **Save these Dates**

10/06/2018 Lynnhaven River Now Festival  
**Saturday, October 6, 2018 from 11 am - 3 pm**  
Williams Farm Park located at  
5269 Learning Cir, Virginia Beach, VA 23462  
**Volunteer Carvers and Docents needed**


10/14/2018 AWHM Fall Barbeque

12/04/2018 Christmas Party


Dine Out for The de Witt January, February, March, and April 2019

Lucky Oyster May 7, 2019





**Free Decoy  
Identification and  
Evaluation**  
 By Jeff Tinkham  
 Past President of The Atlantic  
 Wildfowl Heritage Museum  
 Call (757) 721-7131 or  
[jeff@tinkhamlaw.com](mailto:jeff@tinkhamlaw.com)



### REMINDER - NEW EXHIBIT TO BE ADDED TO THE MUSEUM



We are going to turn one of the upstairs rooms in the deWitt Cottage into a bedroom similar to a bedroom that might have been shared by the deWitt sisters or used as a boarding room when the sisters were offering bed and breakfast to visitors. The deWitt children rented rooms in the cottage during the depression to enable the family to survive and help make ends meet. We are looking for period pieces of furniture from the late 1800's to 1930 to display in this room. If you have any furniture from this period that you would like to donate or loan to the museum, please contact the museum director at (757) 437-8432 or email: [director@atwildfowl.org](mailto:director@atwildfowl.org).

### LYNNHAVEN RIVER NOW FALL FESTIVAL

The Lynnhaven River Now Fall Festival will be held on Saturday, October 6, 2018 from 11:00am until 3:00pm. It will be held at the Williams Farm Park, 5269 Learning Circle, Virginia Beach, VA 23462. We have rented space at this festival to demonstrate wood carving and other wildfowling arts. It is an opportunity to tell a couple of thousand people about the Atlantic Wildfowl Heritage Museum. If you or someone you know would like to demonstrate a wildfowling art or simply inform people about our museum, please contact the museum Director at (757) 437-8432 or email him at [director@atwildfowl.org](mailto:director@atwildfowl.org).





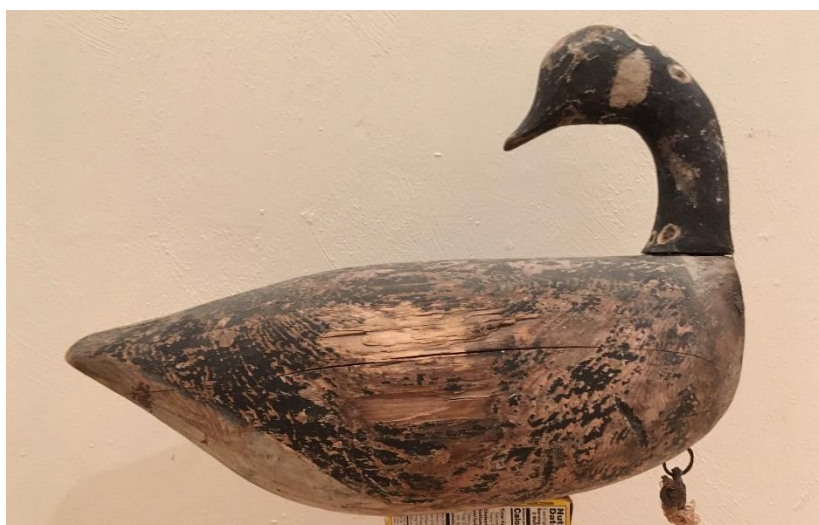
# DECOYS WANTED

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.*



## COLLECTOR'S SHELF

As a collector of NC decoys for over 40 years Captain Wayland Baum is one of my all-time favorites. Captain Baum was born and raised in Wanchese NC 8/16/04 - 10/15/07 and died at 103 years old. As a young boy Wayland learned to fish and hunt near the Long Shoal Lighthouse where his father was the lighthouse keeper. When he was a teenager Wayland started to guide for hunting clubs and he made decoys in the off season. The decoy in the photo is one of Capt Baum's brant decoys from the 1930s with a very unusual head position and is made from a

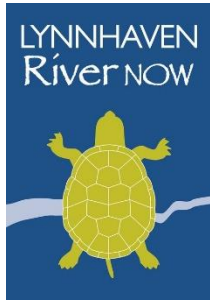
juniper log. At 73 years old Wayland had stored a group of approximately 2 dozen decoys in his barn loft and when I asked him about purchasing them he said "Mark, I may need to use them again. I visited my friend Wayland over the years and I was lucky enough to purchase his personal rig of 24 decoys including ducks, geese and brant. These decoys are amongst my favorites in my collection.

For a free evaluation or identification of your decoys, contact Mark Cromwell at (757) 721-2746

## 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL FALL BARBEQUE

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Fall Barbeque which will be held on Sunday, October 14, 2018 from 1:00pm until 5:00pm. It will be held on the historic deWitt Cottage grounds at 1113 Atlantic Avenue. Tickets go on sale August 15, 2018. They will be \$40.00 each or \$65.00 for a couple. There are also four sponsor packages available. If you or someone you know would like to be a sponsor, please contact the museum Director at (757) 437-8432 or email him at [director@atwildfowl.org](mailto:director@atwildfowl.org). We are also in need of volunteers to help with setup before the event and take down after the event.





# LYNNHAVEN RIVER NOW FALL FEST 2018

WILLIAMS FARM PARK, 5269 Learning Cir,  
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

Saturday, October 6, 2018 11 am - 3 pm

For more information please contact the museum Director at (757) 437-8432 or email him at [director@atwildfowl.org](mailto:director@atwildfowl.org).

## FROM THE MUSEUM DIRECTOR

On June 23, 2018 The Atlantic Wildfowl Heritage Museum launched its "Online Gift Shop!" You can now purchase items from the gift shop without having to leave the comfort of your own easy chair. Please take some time to browse through the items that are on sale. . 10% of every online purchase goes to help rescue injured wildfowl or protect environmentally sensitive wetlands. Shipping on every purchase is **FREE!** You can access the gift shop by going to [awhm.org](http://awhm.org) and then selecting Gift Shop. Because we are now online we are able to expand the number and variety of items we offer in the gift shop. In the photographs that follow you can see just a few of the new items that are available.



MUSEUM LOGO MUG



CELL PHONE CASES



CUTTING BOARDS



BEAUTIFUL JEWELRY

Your support and generosity is always appreciated!





# Please Don't Feed the Ducks!



Reprinted from the ActiveBeat By: Emily Lockhart on Thursday, June 11, 2015

Before you toss your day-old crusty bread to the ducks, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation would like you to know that what you see as “helping the ducks” is actually doing them more harm than good.

Ducks and geese are meant to eat a variety of natural grains, aquatic plants, and invertebrates, which are high in the types of vitamins and nutrients they require. However, bread and popcorn are full of empty calories (and mostly void of protein), which can cause malnutrition, drooping wings, and weight gain.



When humans feed ducks and geese on a regular basis, it creates an artificial feeding ground that waterfowl become dependent upon. For instance, you'll notice when feeding a large group of birds that the larger ones compete better for food. This also leaves younger ducklings and goslings unable to compete for scraps and prone to starvation and losing the ability to fly. Most ducks and geese forage by ducking their heads to pull plant life from the bottom of ponds and lakes. However, if waterfowl become dependent on handouts from humans they also never learn to forage on their own.



Another drawback of creating an artificial feeding ground where waterfowl become dependent on humans to feed them is delayed or stalled migration patterns. You'll notice in public parks where ducks, geese, and other birds are accustomed to being fed, birds will migrate later and later until they stop migrating altogether.

Why would ducks and geese fly south when they've come to expect the bread buffet to continue? As more and more waterfowl opt to stick around during the winter months, they become prone to starvation and freezing in sudden cold temperatures.



If you feed your green, moldy bread to ducks and geese at the park, you could be introducing them to dangerous diseases, like lung disease, severe bacterial illnesses, and even death.

Representatives at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation caution that when ducks and geese are fed a scattered meal of bread—they eat in the same place they poop, creating an unsanitary and overcrowded environment prone to diseases not typical in the wild—such as *Spergillus*, Avian Botulism, parasites, and Duck Virus Enteritis. Many of these diseases and parasites can also live in ponds and infect humans.

In addition to causing great harm to ducks, geese, and other birds, an artificial feeding ground can also pose a grave danger to the surrounding environment. Steve Carr, a Biologist at Memorial University of Newfoundland's Laboratory Department of Biology, points out that unconsumed bread and table scraps will typically sink to the bottom of a nearby water source and rot, leading to all types of bacteria.

Overcrowding of birds defecating in one area can also damage water quality, cause algae blooms, increased *E.coli* levels, and parasitic diseases, like Swimmer's Itch, which can be transmitted to humans.



We've all heard horror stories of geese gone wild or swans attacking humans. This poor bird behavior can be blamed largely on artificial feeding. As waterfowl become dependent on scattered bread—they also lose their fear of humans and develop unusual waterfowl attitudes.

Aggressiveness in geese and swans is largely thanks to well-meaning visitors with an old slice of bread or a few French fries to share. Dependent on these nutritionally void handouts, birds become sick, starving, and aggressively compete with other birds for food. Many will even resort to aggressively attacking humans, including children, because they've come to associate humans with food.



The best thing you can do to help the ducks and geese in your local park is to STOP feeding them. Although some biologists claim that wild bird seed is fine to scatter once in a while, artificial feeding of any kind creates an unnatural dependency that threatens waterfowl.

Do your part to share what you've learned and educate others on the negative effects of artificial feeding in natural habitats. Don't worry, the birds will stick around even if everyone stops feeding them. Instead, learn to enjoy ducks, geese, and swans for visual enjoyment.





Sunday  
**October**  
14th

Silent Auction  
Oysters

**YOU'RE INVITED TO PARTY**

Beer  
Wine

**BBC**  
**Party**

**1-5pm**

deWitt Cottage

1113 Atlantic Ave. Virginia Beach, VA



## BACK BAY WILDFOWL GUILD

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

, 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

Monday: Elaine Polizos  
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  
Sunday: OPEN

## MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS

Tuesday: OPEN  
Wednesday: Archie Johnson 10a-2p  
Thursday: OPEN  
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  
Joe Leo      Dorian Stewart

### 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](http://www.awhm.org)  
Email: [director@atwildfowl.org](mailto:director@atwildfowl.org)

**You can now pay your dues online at [awhm.org](http://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/YR 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!***

