

# THE WILDFOWLER

OCTOBER 2018

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

## ***Back Bay Wildfowl Memories*** ***“Ozone” and The Holland General Store*** ***(1906-1945)***

Ozone with Lake Holly in the distance



Bernard Holland started building a new home for Emily in 1906 on property that was between the existing “Holland Cottage” and Lake Holly. While Bernard was disappointed to leave the existing oceanfront cottage, he was excited about moving closer to his duck hunting “honey hole” at the lake. Emily named the new cottage “Ozone”.

Bernard would finish the new home just in time for the birth of his youngest son, John. John would be the last of the Holland’s five children. The house was larger than the original “Holland Cottage” with much larger rooms allowing Emily to furnish the house with large ornate pieces of furniture her father would ship to her from New York for the house.

Bernard was now dabbling in politics and became a strong advocate to incorporate Virginia Beach into a town. In 1907 he successfully led the effort to get the town chartered. He served as the City’s first Mayor (1907-1909). It was about this time in 1909 that they sold the “Holland Cottage” to Cornelius deWitt.

The sketch on the right is of “Ozone” as Ann Holland (granddaughter of Emily and Bernard) remembered it in the early 1970’s. It was demolished in the 70’s.

After completing his second term as Mayor (1913-1916), Bernard fell ill with an intestinal sickness that nearly killed him.



Emily took him to New York where the Gregory's owned a hospital room. Doctor's diagnosed his disease as an inflamed cecum (first chamber of the large intestine). The Doctor's told Emily an operation was too risky. They returned to the Beach and Emily changed Bernard's diet to bland foods and no caffeine which he hated. The diet turned his illness around

Because of Bernard's illness he had resigned his job with the railroad. This put great financial pressure on the Holland Family. The Gregory (Emily's Parents) fortune had also hit some hard times. Emily's father David had made some bad investments and lost a lot of money, so Bernard and Emily opened a general store in the 200 Block of 17<sup>th</sup> Street. See photo to the right. Bernard operated the hardware and dry goods part



of the store and Emily ran a yard goods section. She took in knitting and sewing jobs for customers of the store. She also operated a small lending library in a corner of the store. It was about this time that the three oldest boys, Walton, David, and BP, Jr., began preparing to go to college. Emily sold some pieces of her valuable jewelry. They would spend their summers living in the attic of "Ozone" while they rented out the bottom floors of the house to vacationers coming to Virginia Beach for short stays. They continued this practice until all of the boys had all graduated from the University of Virginia.

Cornelia (Nini), the Holland's only daughter, never had the opportunity to attend college. Instead she stayed home and took care of her younger brother John so that her mother could work.

Around 1933 the Holland Store was relocated to the 300 block of 17<sup>th</sup> Street and included the installation of gas pumps. See picture above.

The picture on the right was taken on the occasion of the Holland's 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary with the entire family gathered at "Ozone".

Top row, left to right: Emily Holland, Hester Holland, Cornelia Holland, Bernard Holland Jr, Mildred Holland, Ann Holland, Bernard III Middle row, left to right: Walton Holland, Lyndelle, Bernard Sr, Emily, Wrennie, David Floor: Vida Mae, baby JLTH Jr, JLT Holland II, Dora-Cornelia.





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

10/01, 8, 15, 22, 29/2018: de Witt Garden Club

10:00 am, at the museum

Meets every Monday

Bring your work gloves and tools

10/06/2018 Lynnhaven River Now Festival

Williams Farm Park

5962 Learning Circle, VB 23462

11:00am – 3:00pm

**Volunteer Carvers and Docents needed**

10/14/2018 AWHM Fall Barbeque

Beer, Wine, and spirits will be available

Bring a comfortable chair for sitting outside

Weather Permitting!

10/16/2018: Board Meeting

6:00 pm

11/05, 12, 19, 26/2018: de Witt Garden Club

10:00 am, at the museum

Meets every Monday

Bring your work gloves and tools

11/20/2018: Board Meeting

6:00 pm

## **Save these Dates**

12/04/2017 Christmas Party 6:00pm – 9:00pm

FOP #8 961 S. Birdneck Road – Potluck Supper

Dine Out for The de Witt 01/29/2018; 02/20/2018; 03/26/2018 & 04/24/2018

Lucky Oyster May 7, 2018





# 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.*

## ***Understanding Waterfowl: What is wrong with Eastern Mallards?***

*By John M. Coluccy, Ph.D. (reprinted from Ducks Unlimited Website)*

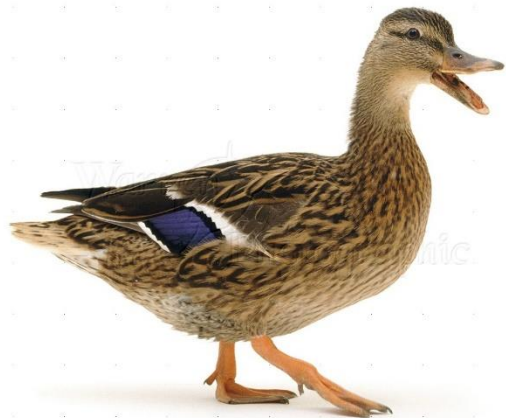
### **Declining numbers of this popular species will likely result in changes to hunting regulations in the Atlantic Flyway**

The mallard is far and away North America's most abundant duck, and this highly adaptable species is found year-round throughout almost the entire continental United States. Historical accounts suggest that breeding mallards were once rare in eastern North America, although they were common seasonal visitors along the Atlantic coast during migration and winter. Today, nearly 1 million mallards breed in the northeastern United States and eastern Canada, but surveys indicate that this population has been declining in recent years. How did mallards gain a foothold in the East? During the 20th century, millions of captive-reared mallards were released in eastern states to supplement wild populations. Coupled with changes in habitat conditions caused by farming and urbanization, breeding mallards became well established from the mid-Atlantic states north to New England and across much of eastern Canada. Recent advances in genetic techniques have confirmed that eastern mallards are more closely related to Old World mallards (the source of captive-reared stock) than are their counterparts in other flyways.



The Status of Mallard Populations Overall, continental mallard populations have been doing well. In 2017, breeding mallards in the traditional survey area (including the Prairie Pothole Region, Western Boreal Forest, and other breeding areas) numbered 10.5 million birds (a level 34 percent above the long-term average), and have been trending upward over the long term. Mallards are counted separately in the eastern survey area (encompassing eastern Canada and parts of Maine) and in the northeastern United States from Virginia to New Hampshire. Over the past 20 years, this population—which numbered just under 900,000 birds in 2017—has

been gradually declining at a rate of about 1 percent per year. While breeding mallard numbers have been largely stable in eastern Canada, they have decreased by about 38 percent in the northeastern United States. Data from the independent Breeding Bird Survey also suggest that breeding mallards have been declining in this region.



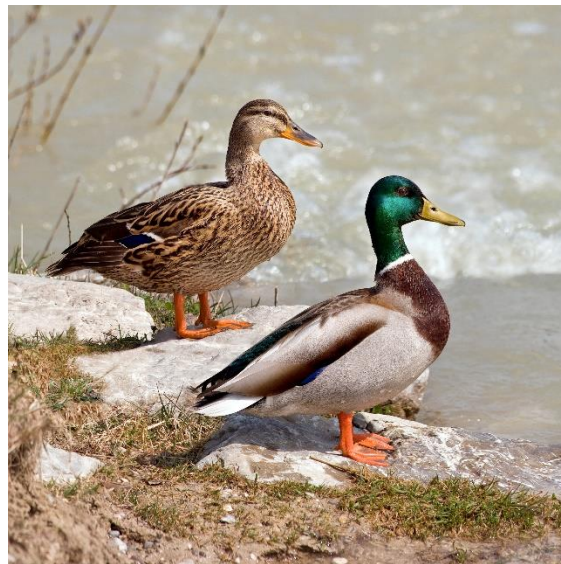
©Warren Photographic

If mallards are doing so well continentally, why should we be concerned about the status of the eastern population? To answer this question, we must examine how source populations contribute to the mallard harvest in different areas. This is accomplished by calculating harvest derivation using data from mallards banded on specific breeding areas, band recovery data from mallards harvested in different states, and breeding population data. In the northeastern

United States, an estimated 79 percent of the mallards harvested by hunters are produced in that region. In Pennsylvania, 75 percent of harvested mallards are raised in the state, while in New York, 69 percent of harvested mallards are homegrown. As you move south in the Atlantic Flyway, the proportion of locally raised mallards in the harvest decreases. For example, in the mid-Atlantic region only 39 percent of harvested mallards are produced locally, although 72 percent are derived from the eastern mallard population.

## Why Are Eastern Mallards Declining?

Waterfowl managers are not sure what has caused the decline of the eastern mallard population. There are many theories, including the loss and degradation of breeding and nonbreeding habitat, lower survival and fitness caused by winter food shortages, and the adverse effects of hybridization between wild birds and released game-farm mallards. But none of these hypotheses have been formally tested. The size of the annual mallard breeding population is largely influenced by two factors: adult survival and production of young. The long-term decline in eastern mallards suggests that there is a problem with either survival or production, or perhaps both. However, survival estimates from banding data have changed little since the 1990s, when the population was stable. Over the same period, estimates of mallard production obtained by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Parts Collection Survey have not decreased either. This suggests that there might be an issue with the accuracy of one or both of these data sources.





## Proposed Changes to Hunting Regulations

Since 2000, the status of the eastern mallard population has been used to set hunting seasons and bag limits for ducks in the Atlantic Flyway. Given that mallards make up only 20 percent or less of the total duck harvest in the flyway, this is no longer considered an optimal strategy. As a result, the Atlantic Flyway Council and USFWS have developed a new approach to harvest management based on the status of four other common species (wood ducks, American green-winged teal, ring-necked ducks, and common goldeneyes). Moving forward, hunting regulations for eastern mallards will be developed like other species that are currently below their population objectives, such as northern pintails and scaup. Based on our current understanding of eastern mallard population dynamics, recent harvest rates for these birds may no longer be sustainable. Consequently, waterfowl managers have recommended a reduction in the mallard bag limit from four birds to two (in the Atlantic Flyway only), beginning in the 2019–2020 waterfowl season. Hen restrictions within the two-bird mallard limit are still being considered. Managers are hopeful that a bag-limit reduction will stabilize the eastern mallard population while a new harvest strategy is developed using the best available science.



Final decisions regarding the change in the mallard bag limit and a new multispecies harvest management approach will be made this fall. The Atlantic Flyway Council will make a final recommendation to the Service Regulations Committee following their September meeting. The USFWS will then make a recommendation to the assistant secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior, who makes the final decision on the regulations. (See "How the Seasons Are Set" on page 48 of the printed magazine for more information about this process.)

## Assisting the Recovery of Eastern Mallards

A crucial first step toward the recovery of the eastern mallard population is evaluating potential bias in banding and Parts Collection Survey data to help pinpoint the cause or causes of the decline. Specific research can then be conducted to evaluate what's potentially impacting survival or production. If research shows that habitat loss is significantly influencing the decline of eastern mallards, DU will work with our state and federal partners to develop conservation strategies to help stabilize and increase the population.

---

*Dr. John Coluccy is director of conservation planning in DU's Great Lakes/Atlantic Region.*

### MUSEUM HOURS CHANGING

**BEGINNING ON MONDAY OCTOBER 1, 2018 THE ATLANTIC WILDFOWL HERITAGE MUSEUM  
WILL BE CLOSED ON SUNDAYS AND MONDAYS UNTIL SUNDAY MAY 26, 2019**





Jack Cox, from Elizabeth City, NC, was our guest speaker at our September Membership meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup>. He did a feather painting demonstration. Jack is a world champion carver and an amazing painter.

Sunday  
**October**  
14th

Silent Auction  
Oysters  
Barbecue

**YOU'RE INVITED TO PARTY**

Beer  
Wine

**BBQ**  
*party*

Beef Brisket

**1-5pm**

deWitt Cottage  
1113 Atlantic Ave. Virginia Beach, VA







The poster features a festive autumn theme with a banner of colorful leaves and berries at the top. Below this, a logo shows a green turtle swimming in a blue pond with reeds. The main title 'LYNNHAVEN River NOW Fall Fest 2018' is prominently displayed, with 'LYNNHAVEN' in blue, 'River NOW' in a mix of blue and green, and 'Fall Fest 2018' in green. The location 'at WILLIAMS FARM PARK' is written in green. The date and time 'Saturday, October 6, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.' are in red, followed by the address '5269 Learning Circle, Virginia Beach, VA 23462' and 'Located near Newtown Road Elementary School' in blue. Three small photographs show people at various festival booths. A list of activities is provided in two columns, and the Lynnhaven River Now logo with the tagline 'Restoring a legend.' is at the bottom left. Contact information is at the bottom right, and the website 'LRNow.org' is centered in a red bar at the very bottom.

**LYNNHAVEN River NOW**  
**Fall Fest 2018**  
**at WILLIAMS FARM PARK**

**Saturday, October 6, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.**  
**5269 Learning Circle, Virginia Beach, VA 23462**  
**Located near Newtown Road Elementary School**



- Children's Activities
- 50+ Fun and Educational Booths
- Native Plant Sale
- Eco-Friendly Vendors
- Demonstrations on Healthy Living
- Free and Open to the Public
- Local Artisans and Crafters
- Games, Crafts and Prizes
- Yummy Food and Drinks
- Community Fun
- Give Aways
- Plenty of On-site Parking

**LYNNHAVEN River NOW**  
*Restoring a legend.*

For more information,  
 visit [LRNow.org](http://LRNow.org) or email [Terri@LRNow.org](mailto:Terri@LRNow.org).

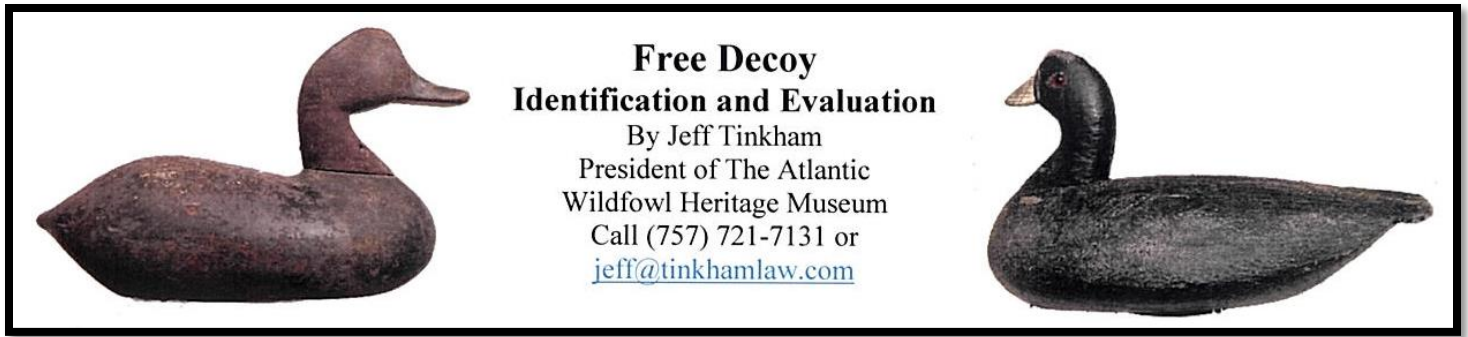
**LRNow.org**

### LYNNHAVEN RIVER NOW FALL FESTIVAL

The Lynnhaven River Now Fall Festival will be held on Saturday, October 6, 2017 from 11:00am until 3:00pm. It will be held at the Willams 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).







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

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Fall Barbeque which will be held on Sunday, October 14, 2017 from 1:00pm until 5:00pm. It will be held at the Museum, 1113 Atlantic Avenue and catered by Donkey Dawgs and H. M. Terry Oyster Co. They will be providing pork barbeque, beef brisket and Eastern Shore Oysters at our event along with all of the trimmings. Tickets are available from any Board Member or at the Museum. You also can purchase tickets online at COVATIX.com. They are \$50.00 each. There are also two 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.

### FROM THE MUSEUM DIRECTOR

I want to thank the deWitt Cottage Garden Club for their tireless efforts to improve and beautify our gardens. They have embarked on a new mission to have the deWitt Gardens certified as an Ocean Friendly Garden. This is the result of our recent partnership with Surf Rider Foundation. We will be planning some additional initiatives with Surf Rider Foundation in the very near future.

I need to thank Dominion Energy for the \$2500.00 grant that they recently provided to us to help us open the First Freestanding Library in Virginia Beach as a museum attraction.

We are in the process of raffling off a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Box Set of the Endless Summer Book and Movie. The Box Set retails for \$395.00. You can purchase a raffle ticket for just \$5.00. We will only be selling 200 tickets. When all the tickets have been sold we will have the drawing. Stand by for a drawing date.

We also have Endless Summer 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Posters for sale in the museum and in our online gift shop. Our online gift shop will also be undergoing some renovation and many new products will be added, so please visit us regularly at [awhm.org/Gift Shop](http://awhm.org/GiftShop).

We are now only 14 days to our Fall Barbeque and Oyster Roast Silent Auction, I will ask each member (that means you) of our organization, who has not contributed a silent auction item to please obtain just one (1) silent auction item. If everyone does this simple task we will have a great Fall Barbeque and Oyster Roast Silent Auction! Please contact the museum Director at (757) 437-8432 or email him at [director@atwildfowl.org](mailto:director@atwildfowl.org) to arrange for the transfer of any donated items.

I want to give everyone who has already donated to the silent auction a very heart felt "THANK YOU!"



## 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: Joe Leo 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

### 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) !**

**January 1, 2018 will kick off our Annual Membership Campaign. A lot of changes in the dues structure have been approved by the Board of Directors for the coming new year. Each of you were mailed a brochure outlining the changes for the coming year. If you have any questions about the changes please call the Director at (757) 437-8432 or email him at [director@atwildfowl.org](mailto:director@atwildfowl.org) .**

### 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 will kick 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!***

