

THE WILDFOWLER

JULY 2022

A PUBLICATION OF THE ATLANTIC WILDFOWL HERITAGE MUSEUM

Back Bay Wildfowl Memories ***Back to Julia deWitt's Journals***

We thought you might be interested in hearing what the deWitts we're doing on the 4th of July in 1917 and 1918.

Thursday, July 4, 1917 (Julia is still just 14 years old)

"Independence Day" this was a holiday so there were lots of special cars. Hity made more candy and made about \$0.60. I cooked all the meals. One awful thing happened as I was taking the lids off of the dishes and placing them on a waiter. Elizabeth got up for some more milk and over went the waiter with all the dishes creating a big mess too. It broke a cut glass dish, a big platter, two dishes, and a gravy boat.

Thursday, July 4, 1918

"Independence Day" there was a large crowd of people down in the area where no fireworks were allowed to go off. Our cousin Louis DeWitt and his wife came to see us. Aunt Carrie fixed a lot of dresses and brought them over for me. The children went bathing three times. Harriet and Sarah went and sold candy. She has been elected secretary of the Red Cross for Princess Anne County, but, it is a little bit too much for her to do. Mrs Billingsley, the lady John works for sent me a lovely card as she often does because she is so fond of him. I sewed some. We had a game of cards, Aunt Carrie, Cornelius, Elisabeth, and I and the prize was \$0.25 and I won it. Aunt Carrie cut the rest of my hair off.

Fast forward again to June 1923. Cecile's (Mama) health has continued to decline.

Monday, June 18, 1923

There is no entry in Julia's journal for this date or for the 19th of June. In fact, the entries for these two dates were torn from the journal. Either Julia could not find the correct words to express the loss of her dear mother or she was very dissatisfied with the words she had written. The page was replaced with this picture of her mother. Cecile Amelie Mottu deWitt had died at the age of 49.

Julia was the third oldest daughter of Cecile at age 21. Now she and her older sister, Elizabeth age 22, were left to care for the remaining seven children ranging in age from 20 to 10 years old. Amelie, the oldest of the dewitt children at age 24 had married and was living in West Point, New York





Upcoming Guild Events:

07/04/2022: July 4th Holiday

07/11, 18, 25/2022: de Witt Garden Club
10:00 am, at the museum
Meets every Monday
We are a hands-on Garden Club
So, bring your gloves and tools.

07/19/2022: Board Meeting
6:00 pm at the Museum

08/01, 08, 15, 22, 29,/ 2022: de Witt Garden Club
10:00 am, at the museum
Meets every Monday
We are a hands-on Garden Club
So, bring your gloves and tools.

09/05/2022: Labor Day

09/06/2022 Back Bay Wildfowl Guild
Membership Meeting 7:00pm, Social 6:00pm
Speaker: TBA

09/12, 19, 26/2022: de Witt Garden Club
10:00 am, at the museum
Meets every Monday
No meeting Monday, September 5th
We are a hands-on Garden Club
So, bring your gloves and tools.

09/20/2022: Board Meeting
6:00 pm at the Museum

Save these Dates

Sunday, 10/16/2022 AWHM Fall Barbeque & Oyster Roast
This will also be a Back Bay Wildfowl Guild Homecoming and Reunion

Tuesday, 12/06/2022 5:00pm until 9:00pm
AWHM Christmas Party
Location to be Announced

12/10/2022 - Photos with Santa & the Red Truck,
and Holiday Craft Fair – 12/2/2022 Gingerbread Extravaganza



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
Charles William Perry
Kitty Hawk, NC
May 21, 1892 – July 26, 1964



Charles was the son of Bob Perry who was a veteran market hunter. By 1905 Charles and his younger brother Herbert were also involved in market hunting with their father. Together they became known as the “Perry threesome”.

The men continued market hunting together until 1918 and they also guided sportsmen for many years. The Perrys’ used sink boxes in Kitty Hawk Bay and would use approximately 300 decoys per sink box that were made by Charlie and Bob. The brothers went to East Lake, NC to buy juniper wood for making the decoys. A local decoy carver in Kitty Hawk stated that Charles made some of the finest looking decoys around.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Friends of the AWHM,


Happy July 4th to all! Be safe and enjoy your friends and family over this holiday weekend.

The cottage and the gardens are looking great and I encourage you to stop by and see how things are going at **YOUR** museum.


There are two upcoming events scheduled which I hope everyone will attend. On September 6 at 6:00PM there will be a general membership meeting at the cottage. On October 16 we will have our Oyster Roast in the garden area. More details regarding times and tickets will be forthcoming

Thank all of you for your continued membership.

Phil Davenport
President



**Free Decoy
Identification and
Evaluation**
By Jeff Tinkham
Past President of The Atlantic
Wildfowl Heritage Museum
Call (757) 724-7131 or
jeff@tinkhamlaw.com





On Sale now in the Museum Gift Shop



Sunrise Over The de Witt Cottage

Photograph mounted on a Canvas Wrap

Retail 8X10 \$40.00	Museum Members \$20.00
Retail 11X14 \$50.00	Museum Members \$30.00
Retail 16X20 \$100.00	Museum Members \$50.00

Great Blue Heron

Photograph mounted on a Canvas Wrap

Retail 8X10 \$40.00	Museum Members \$20.00
Retail 11X14 \$50.00	Museum Members \$30.00
Retail 16X20 \$100.00	Museum Members \$50.00





Golf Club Head Covers
All Animals and wildfowl
Come visit or go to awhm.org/shop
To see our wide selection
\$30.00 each

FROM THE MUSEUM DIRECTOR

First of all, I want to invite everyone back to the museum on September 6th 2022 for our first in person Guild Membership Meeting in more than two years! Hallelujah! Please plan to attend. The social starts at 6:00pm with hors d'oeuvres and beverages; followed by a business meeting and a guest speaker.

We have now been operating the museum and its grounds as a venue for weddings, concerts, parties, reunions, or business retreats. Please be ready to recommend the museum as a venue for any event. For more information you may visit the de Witt Cottage Website at thedewittcottage.org or the museum website at awhm.org. You may also contact Martha Davenport at thedewittcottage@gmail.com or Lynn Hightower at director@atwildfowl.org. Martha has done a wonderful job of booking up our venue for the rest of the 2022. Please check out the save the date section of the upcoming events in this newsletter.

The Atlantic Wildfowl Heritage Museum's online gift shop is four years old! Please visit awhm.org and browse our collection of items for sale. We will be adding new items daily throughout the summer. Ten Percent of every online purchase goes to help rescue injured wildfowl or protect environmentally sensitive wetlands. Shipping on every purchase is **FREE!** You can also come shop in person at the Museum Gift Shop. Please support your museum.

The museum gardens are in full bloom and absolutely gorgeous; please come by and visit with us soon! Our garden club has worked diligently to rearrange and build new gardens all winter long. Special thanks to Jacky and Tom Richards and Martha and Larry Davenport.

Thanks, Lynn Hightower, Director





BACK BAY WILDFOWL GUILD

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Phil Davenport, President	Parke Atkinson, Vice President
Jim Mehne, Secretary	Larry Davenport, Treasurer
Jim Briggs	Mark Cromwell
Tom Richards	Jason Seward
Jeff Tinkham	William Walsh, Jr., Curator
Aimee Rhodes	Fletcher Bryant, President Emeritus

MUSEUM CARVERS

Monday	Open
Tuesday:	Open
Wednesday:	Roy Carlson & Ed Morrison
Thursday:	Open
"The Boathouse Boys" Carving Club:	Jamie, John, Pete
Friday:	Open
Saturday:	Susan Moritz
Sunday:	Open

MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS

Tuesday:	OPEN
Wednesday:	OPEN
Thursday	OPEN
Friday:	OPEN
Saturday:	OPEN
Sunday:	OPEN

Museum Grounds: Jacky & Tom Richards, Martha Davenport

MUSEUM STAFF

Lynn Hightower, Director Joe Leo, Operations Mgr.

MUSEUM CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Telephone: 757.437.8432
Facsimile: 757.437.9055
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 yet paid your 2022 dues, please give serious consideration to sending them into the museum right away. Beginning January 1, 2022, Membership cards will have an expiration date. Each member will receive an invoice from the museum director requesting payment of their annual dues after the expiration date. Memberships run for 12 consecutive months from the date annual dues are paid

2022 DUES

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

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



BACK BAY WILDFOWL GUILD 2022 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

NAME: _____ AMOUNT PAID _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____ [CELL] _____

January 1, 2022 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

